

Role of Prophet Mohammed (P.B.U.H) as a Peace Maker.

Ans **INTRODUCTION:**

The fabric of Islam spreads the concept of peace, as the word Islam has been derived from another word 'SALAM' which means 'peace'.

Commitment to peace was a way of life for our beloved Prophet Mohammed (P.B.U.H). He was known for reconciling people and individuals in conflict, among muslims as well as non-muslims. That is why it is mentioned in the Quran;

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

we have sent you (O Mohammed) as a mercy for all mankind.

كُلٌّ مِّنْ آيَاتِ الْكُرْآنِ (Al-Anbiya: 107)

1) Prophet (P.B.U.H) strived for peace throughout his life:

The prophet led a life of peace and harmony and ordered his followers to be just and kind with all mankind. Through his entire life, Prophet (P.B.U.H) strived for peace. Be it 13 years spent in Makkah in preaching, or be it battles fought once settled in Madinah.

2. Avoiding Confrontation and establishing a Pluralist Society:

The charter of Madinah established a pluralist society, that even the modern world lack today. The Jews and Muslims came to common terms, at least for the time being, and there was an environment of peace after a long period of hostility, and scorches. Strong implication was imposed after signing charter of Madinah, as the Prophet Mohammed (Pbuh) stated:

Those who are allies of the Muslims must not be killed, and he who kills any ally of the Muslims, be it a Muslim or not, won't go to heaven.

3. Diplomatic and friendly ties with neighbouring states:

Prophet Mohammed (Pbuh) sent out a number of letters through diplomatic channels to several heads of states. These include King of Abyssinia, emperor of Persia, and Rome. Resultantly, King of Abyssinia accepted Islam, but the others did not. The rulers of Yemen, Oman, and Bahrain also accepted Islam, owing to great diplomatic and peacemaking skills of Prophet (Pbuh).

4. Emphasis on Equality of humankind to restore peace:

The Prophet (Pbuh) spread the teachings of Islam regarding human being are equal. Islam does not distinguish between two races or two groups of people, or even on the basis of color. This is evident from the address of Prophet (Pbuh) during last pilgrimage sermon: O people! Your God is One, No preference of an Arab over non-Arab, neither preference of non-Arab over an Arab; or white over black, and black over white; except for the most righteous.

5. Fixation of Blackstone:

During his youth, when the clans of Quraysh had a disagreement over right to fix the Blackstone in the Holy Kaabah, and it was feared that a civil war would break, the Holy Prophet (Pbuh) have resolved the issue in such a peaceful manner, that till now there is no such example exists. He, Prophet (Pbuh) put the stone in a piece of cloth, and asked representative of each clan to hold one of the edge, and raise

It is close to its place. Then the Prophet (PBUH) picked it up with his noble hands, and placed it to its original place.

6. Preferred Dialogue over Confrontation:

The Prophet (Pbuh) always preferred the course of dialogue over war and fighting. One such example is signing of Treaty of Hudaibiyah between Muslims, and Quraysh. Both of them abide by the conditions of the treaty, which proved vital to avert the war.

7. Reconciliation and Restoration:

The Prophet, Mohammed (Pbuh) have put forth immense focus on the concept of reconciliation, and restoration of ties. According to hadith, Prophet (PBUH) said: Anyone who goes to make peace between two persons, the angels of Allah said blessings upon him until he returns, and he will be given the reward of the 'Night of Dabiq'. Also with enemies, the Prophet (Pbuh) chose to be placate, and conciliatory.

8. Hilf-al-Bidul:

The Prophet (PBUH) created an alliance; Hilf-al-Bidul, with the people, chief members of tribes of Makkah. They pledged in the alliance to:

- i) Respect the principle of justice.
- ii) Collectively intervene in conflicts to establish justice.
- iii) To make the pact imperishable and sacred.

9. Policy of migration instead of war in Makkah:

The Prophet (PBUH) had to endure twelve years of brutal adversity in the form of Calamity when he got to know about the plan of his killing, he decided to migrate to Medina, instead of fighting the people of Makkah.

This shows that the Prophet (PBUH) even in difficult times, opted for peaceful solution than to opt for war.

10. Preferred Defensive War:

It is evident from his lifetime that, not for once a war was waged by the Prophet (PBUH) himself. Rather, every war, which

The Prophet Mohammed (Pbuh) and his companions fought, was a defensive war. He only engaged in wars either the beliefs were violated, or there was no option left beside battling his enemies. The example of which is Treaty of Hudaibiyah, reflects to which extent the Prophet (Pbuh) preferred peace over war, even if that treaty had little advantage for them.

11. No retaliation against aggressors of Taif:

When the Prophet Mohammed (Pbuh) was in Taif, and conveyed the message of Islam to them, in hope that they will be receptive, unlike people of Makkah. But the people of Taif proved as cruel as that of Makkah, they stoned the Prophet (Pbuh), he was bleeding from his head to toe, and people of Taif continued such mockery. Then an angel was sent to him, asking him to allow the whole town to be destroyed. The Prophet Mohammed (Pbuh) told the angel to not destroy them, and also prayed for their salvation.

12. Distinction between combats and non-combats:

During any war, the Prophet (Pbuh) said: Do not kill any old person, any child or any women. Along with that he also ordered not to mutilate the corpse, or burn the enemy alive. The Prophet (Pbuh) made just laws, and he was very concerned to protect the due rights of Muslims, as well as non-Muslims.

CONCLUSION:

The Holy Prophet Mohammed (Pbuh), through his teaching, as well as actions, spread the true message of Islam; which is peace. In every walk of life, with every human-being, the Prophet (Pbuh) only promoted to maintain peace, and harmony. Till date, Prophet (Pbuh) continue to be a true example, and ideal of a genuine peacemaker, the world needs to follow.