

Question

Explain the strategies employed by the Prophet (PBUH) in his military expeditions.

Answer:

Introduction:

Holy Prophet (PBUH) is regarded as the best military strategist. According to Napoleon Bonaparte, a great conqueror, "Holy Prophet is a great man and best military strategist as he defeated the mightiest armies". It validated the fact that Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a good military commander. He employed certain strategies during wars due to which he came out victorious. These strategies includes; use of modern warfare techniques, spying and espionage, secrecy and trickery. In addition, he would personally

arranged the army, and would make distinction between combatant and non-combatant during war. Likewise, he employed meritocracy during selection of the soldier for leading the muslim army. Furthermore, he (PBUH) would appreciate the bravery of soldiers during war. Moreover, Holy Prophet (PBUH) would aim for minimum human loss during war and incline to reestablish peace with enemy to avoid large scale war.

Strategies Employed by Holy Prophet (PBUH) during Military Expeditions:

Holy Prophet (PBUH) employed the following strategies during military expeditions:

- ① Use of Modern Warfare Techniques:
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would employ modern warfare techniques to defeat enemies. For instance, during the "battle of Khandaq" trenches were dug to protect against enemies with the suggestion of Hazrat Salman Farsi. Similarly, catapults were used during the siege of Taif.

② Spying and espionage:

Spying and espionage were used to find out about the plans of enemies. For example, during the "battle of Badr" Holy Prophet (PBUH) acted as a spy to find about the caravan of Abu Sufyan. Similarly, Hazrat Khuzaima and Noain acted as a spy during the battle of Trench.

③ Maintaining Secrecy during attack on the enemy:

Holy Prophet (PBUH) would

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try to keep the plans of Muslims a secret. So that enemies could not get the air of it. To illustrate, at the time of the conquest of Makkah a woman tried to convey to Makkans regarding the Muslims plans. However, Holy Prophet got the information regarding the intention of the women and Holy Prophet stopped her from executing her treacherous plan through Harat Ali (RA).

① Use of Trickey:

Trickey was used to catch enemies off guard and defeat them. For instance, during conquest of Makkah, Holy Prophet asked Muslim soldiers to lit fire. As a result, the pagans of Makkah got the impression that Muslims are coming with the army of 20,000 instead of 10,000. This trickey of Holy

Prophet (PBUH) weakened the spirits of enemies.

⑤ Personally arrayed the army during Battle:

Holy Prophet would personally array the Muslim fighters. For example, during the battle of Uhud, Holy Prophet asked 50 archers to take position at the elevated place. This strategy would have proven beneficial, had the Muslims did not disobey the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

⑥ Make distinction between combatants and non-combatants

Holy Prophet would follow rules even during war. He would make distinction between combatants and civilians. As Holy Prophet said: "Do not kill the women, children and old people. Do not kill the injured and the fleeing one and those

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who ~~last~~ lay down arms" Moreover, Holy Prophet told his companions not to kill the religious people."

⑦ Meritocracy during selection of soldiers for leading the battles:

Soldiers would be selected based on meritocracy not personal affiliations. For example, Holy Prophet selected Hazrat Khalid Bin Waleed and Amr bin Alias, for leading the battle, who had recently converted to Islam compared to Hazrat Usama bin Zaid who entered the fold of Islam 18 years ago back then.

⑧ Reaching the battle ground before enemies and take the advantageous positions:

Holy Prophet along with his companions would

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reach the battle ground before the enemies and take advantageous positions.

For example, during the battle of Badr Muslims reached before the enemies and took elevated places with sandy soil. After rainfall, the enemies were in trouble as their feet would stick in mud.

⑨ Appreciate the bravery of his soldiers:

Holy Prophet (PBUH) would appreciate the bravery of his soldiers during battles. As a result, they would fight with tooth and nail till they defeat the enemy. For example, Holy Prophet told Harraat Saad: "O Saad, throw arrows, let my mother and my father be sacrificed for you". Similarly, he gave Harraat Ali the title of "Asad-ullah", "Lion of God" during the battle of Uhayd as he fought with great valour.

⑩ Minimum human losses

Holy Prophet would always try to minimize human loss. As it has been validated from the book, "Prophet at Madina", "Holy Prophet fought battles with much restraint. As a result there were only 1057 casualties in the 100 battles that he fought and led."

⑪ Inclination to Peace:

Holy Prophet would always incline towards peace to avoid battles. As he is rightly called the "Prophet of Peace". For example, during treaty of Khudibiya, Holy Prophet accepted all the strict terms of Maldeans to maintain peace and avoid battle.

CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, Holy

Prophet (PBUH) was a great military strategist as he would employ strategies like the use of modern warfare techniques, spying and espionage, secrecy, trickery and mentoracy. These strategies act as guiding principles for all the people, especially Muslims, around the world. Muslims can employ these strategies to defeat their enemies.

Good attempt!!!

Question:

Write a comprehensive note on Saum and explain its individual and social impacts.

Answer

Introduction:

Saum is one of the five worships of Islam. It was made obligatory during 2 A.H. It has several spiritual impacts like purification of soul, closeness to God, purgation of sins, obedience to God and rejuvenation of faith. Similarly, it has several moral impacts like character building, spirit of charity, feeling pain of others and gratitude towards the bounties of Allah. Moreover, it has social impacts including the creation of ideal society, spirit of brotherhood

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and fraternity, social gathering and unity, conducive environment for collective training and its inculcates the spirit of charity and generosity.

Literal meaning of Saum:

The literal meaning of Saum is "to restrain"

Definition of Saum by Maulana Sadruddin Ishahi:

Maulana Sadruddin Ishahi is his book "Islam at a Glance" explained fast in the following words:

"Fast is not to eat, drink and copulate from dawn to dusk"

Definition of Saum by Imam Ghazali:

"Fast means not only to refrain from drinking and eating but also to refrain from evil looking, evil thinking and evil hearing."

Importance of Fasting in the Light of Quran

"Fasting is for me and I will give its reward"

"There is charity of everything and charity of body is fasting"

"Fasting is free from hypocrisy"

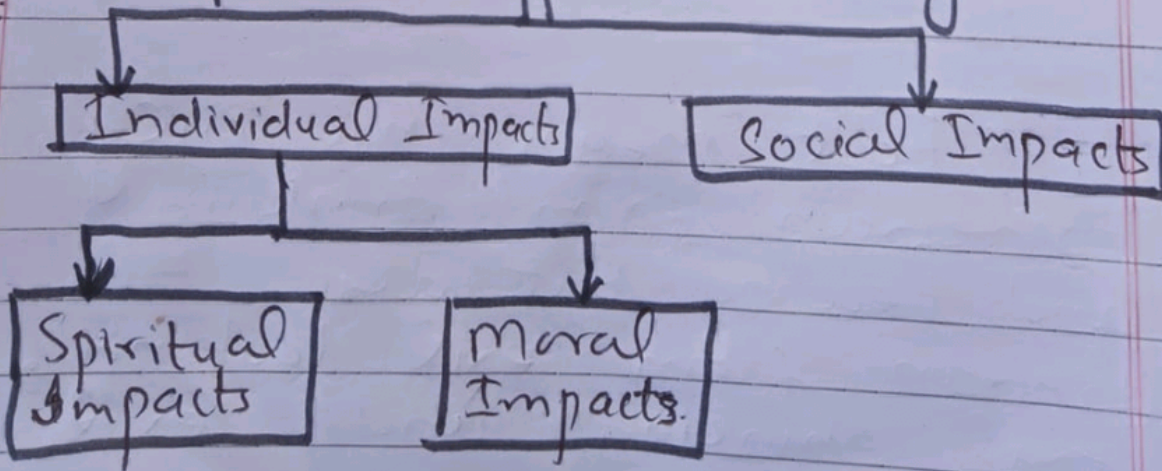
Try to add the Arabic of quranic ayats

Importance of Fasting in the Light of Hadith

"Fasting act as a shield"

"Those who fast in the month of Ramadan, Allah will forgive all his previous sins"

Impacts of Fasting



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(A) Individual Impacts

(i) Spiritual Impacts

(i) Purification of Soul:

Fasting helps in the purification of soul. Muslims often forget to perform worships and get lost in the worldly life. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims from all around the world observe fasts and perform other worships which help in the purification of their souls.

(ii) Closeness to God:

The month of Ramadan provides opportunity to Muslims to get close to God by observing fasts and refrain from all sins.

Add and highlight references/examples against these arguments

(iii) Obedience to God:

By acting upon the commands of Allah and refrain from good and vices, Muslims show their

obedience to God.

(iv) Purgation of Sins:

By observing fasts and refrain from all vices, Allah forgives all the previous sins of people.

(v) Rejuvenation of Faith:

Fasts help in the rejuvenation of faith. As people re-banded back to God and follow his commandments.

(vi) ^{Inculcate} Patience

Fasting inculcates patience in Muslims. As they can not eat and drink, despite hunger and thirst, until permitted by Allah.

② Moral Impacts of Fasting:

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Moral impacts of fasting are as follows:

① Character building:

Fasting helps in the character building of Muslims. They refrain from all the things abhorred by Allah and perform activities permitted by Allah. Thus, fasting inculcates good qualities in people.

② Feel pain of others:

While fasting, Muslims feel the pain of fellow Muslims who could not afford food to eat even in normal days. Thus, Muslims realize the pain of hunger of the fellow Muslims.

③ Spirit of charity:

Fasting inculcates the spirit of charity as people realize the pain of hunger and thirst. As a result,

Muslims give a lot of money in charity to poor people.

④ Grateful to the bounties of Allah:

During fasting, Muslims get more grateful to the bounties of Allah which they underestimate in normal circumstances. They realize that the availability of two square meals is a great blessing of Allah.

⑤ Social Impacts of Fasting:

① The spirit of brotherhood and fraternity:

Fasting creates the spirit of brotherhood and fraternity as Muslims from around the world observe fasts. They do not eat from dawn till dusk as Allah refrain them from doing so.

(ii) Social gathering and unity:

Observing fasts together and offering prayers in mosques result in social gathering and unity of Muslims. Thus, saum creates the spirit of unity and solidarity among Muslims.

(iii) Conducive Environment for training:

The observance of fasts and prayers creates a conducive environment for the training of Muslims. Even after Ramadan, Muslims continue with their worship and cooperate with each other in difficulty.

(iv) Spirit of charity and Generosity:

Fasting fosters the spirit of charity and generosity. Muslims help the fellow Muslims with money and food.

⑤ Ideal Society:

Fasting helps in the creation of ideal society where muslims are tied together with the spirit of brotherhood and they help one another through charities. This help in the reduction of hunger and crimes in society.

CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, Saum has several positive impacts on an individual. It includes purification of soul, closeness and obedience to God and spirit of charity. Moreover, it has beneficial impacts on society like the inculcation of the spirit of brotherhood and generosity. Thus, by observing fasts, muslims can reap its benefits.

Improve the references and the paper presentation part