

Q:1 Discuss the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) as a Model for Military Strategy.

Introduction

The life of Holy Prophet (ﷺ) is a complete manual for human being. He set a successful example in every domain of life whether it is individual or collective. As he was great ambassador of peace, similarly he was great military strategist. In short span, he defeated the mightiest forces of that time and not only defeated but also established the foundation of success for the coming generations. It was Holy Prophet (ﷺ) who introduced the art of war and prepared his follower physically and mentally. The superior military strategies of holy prophet which was based on defence, attack, patrol, intelligence and psychology not only defended the newly established welfare state of Madina from Pagans of Makkah but also protected the state of Madina from the foreign invasion of Romans and Persians with minimum casualties.

vi)

Military Strategies of Holy Prophet as a role Model for Modern Military field

(i) Strategy of self defence

It was Holy Prophet ﷺ who introduced the defensive military strategy from upcoming aggression. For example, In Qazwa Badr Prophet defended state of Madina with 313 companions from the aggressors of Makkah. Throughout life, Holy Prophet didn't go for unjustified aggression. Now, following the military strategy of Holy Prophet International law gave right to every state to protect from its enemy.

(ii) Minimum Human Casualties

Holy Prophet was avid supporter of Human Rights. Holy Prophet has had always tried to avoid Human Casualties in each battle. Holy Prophet participated in 27 Qazwat and 77 Sariyya and ^{because of} his great leadership only 257 companions died. On other side, 759 infidel went to hell. It shows

how much Holy Prophet was concerned about lives of soldiers. due to legacy of Holy Prophet, Now international law bound the states only go for proportionate response and to respect the lives of human.

iii) Consultation Council for wars

it was Holy Prophet which initiated the concept of Consultation for warfare. Holy Prophet ﷺ always consulted its companions before or during the war. He not only consulted but also respect & act on their suggestions. For example, when 3000 well-equipped army of Quraysh of Makkah decided to attack Madinah, Holy Prophet called its advisory Council that whether we defend Madinah from inside or outside. Mostly companions was in favour to resist them from outside of Madinah and Holy Prophet acted it. Now, From this legacy Each state has defence Council for the Consultation purposes.

iv) Use of innovative war strategies

Pagans of Makkah were used various as great

warriors but they were practising same centuries old war techniques. it was Holy Prophet and his followers who brought innovative war strategies in the land of pagans. For example, the idea of digging during Gazwa of Khandaq was new for arabs. with the help of Hazrat Sulaiman (R.A). Muslims defended the state of Madina from ^{30,000} huge Army of Arabs of Makkah.

v) Encouragement for Preparation of war

Holy Prophet always encouraged its followers to be prepare for war. He ordained its followers that never rule out the possibility of next war. Therefore, the best way to tackle it that Muslim should always prepare themselves for war. As Allah said;

“Prepare against them whatever force you can and trained horses so that you can frighten Allah enemy and own enemy (Al-Anfal-60)

Therefore, now all states tried to acquire

vi) Large Armies doesn't ensure victories.

Earlier in Arab, it was considered that Numerical strength of armies decide the outcomes of wars. If any Army had huge army then it was certain that army will achieve victory. But Prophet (s.a.w) outrage the notion that empirical strength is not only factor to achieve victory but it is about leadership and the strong will of soldier that decide the outcome of victory. For example, in every Gazwa, Muslims were in minority but still managed to defeat Infidels. In Badr Muslims were only 313 and infidels were 1000. Similarly, in Uhd Muslims were 750 and infidels were 3000. Therefore, strength and having large armies doesn't mean that you will be on victory side. We have example of Vietnam, 1965 war b/w India & Pakistan and Afghan Taliban versus mightist empire forces of America. Minority forces won aforementioned battles.

vii) Secrecy in war Planning

During war times, it is really difficult to maintain secrecy. If any plan get leaked, its impact can be the end of century old empire. Therefore, Holy Prophet had knowledge about importance of keeping and maintaining secrets. Holy Prophet ^ﷺ never told his followers about the war planning or the route of forces except few advisors.

viii) Inclusion of Intelligence

Hazrat Muhammad ^ﷺ inducted concept of intelligence and espionage for war purposes. Even, He given tasks to specific companions to gather information and they kept Holy Prophet informed with every moment. For example, Holy Prophet sent Hazrat Huzaifa (R.A) as a spy during the Khandaq to get information about enemy strength.

ix) Good Treatment with Prisoner of wars

Now, International law stressed

that state should treat prisoners of war but with the Holy Prophet ^ﷺ led by has had always treated POWs with kindness and humanity. For example, POWs of Badr were released on condition that each one of them teach to Muslims that how to read and write. Therefore, Prophet never ever in whole life violated the fundamental principles of humanity.

X) Inclusion of Psychological warfare

In Islam, it is totally acceptable to deceive enemy during the war. As Holy Prophet said;

"War is a deception (Bukhari)"
Conquest of Makkah was happened with deception technique. Holy Prophet ordained its warriors to make their own food rather than sharing a communal kitchen. As a result, 10 thousand fires were visible from afar. The Quraysh examined the scene and concluded that big

force was preparing to attack
Makkah, which demoralized
them and they decided to
surrender.

Xi) Leading Battles from Front

Holy prophet ﷺ was great
leader. He led his forces from
front. He was the one who
turned the defeats into victories.
He made the strongest undefeatable
army from the pagans of
Arabia. Holy prophet was not like
other commander who just
passed the instruction but he
fought with his soldiers. (X)
For example, while fighting in
Gazwa Uhud, Prophet lost his
two teeth but remained firm
and not left the battle.
Therefore, Holy Prophet was brave
soldier who never left his
people alone in war or during
peace.

Xii) Acknowledgement of Martyred

It is believed that nations who
forget their martyrs has usually
dark futures because if they
don't know how to cherish their
past heroes, then how will be
they successful in future.

Therefore, Holy Prophet ^ﷺ had never forget his martyres. He always used to pray for them and strickly prohibited the people to not call them a dead. Even when Holy Prophet was passing from UHD (Gazwa-e-uhd), He stayed and prayed for them.

Xiii) A staunch believer in Meritocracy

Holy prophet had devised only criteria for the appointment of Military Commander was the Merit. The commanders appointed by him were always those who had expertise in military expeditions. For example, Holy prophet had appointed usama bin Zaid (R.A) as commander for extremely important battle even, he was just 18 because prophet had an idea about the leadership qualities of Hazrat usama (R.A)

Conclusion

In history, The most famous men created arms, laws and empires only. But Holy Prophet ^ﷺ moved not only armies, legislations, empires, people and dynasties but also million of men and one third of then inhabited world.

As American Philanthropist Arthur Gilman
said about Holt Prophet;

"The great prophet was perfect
man, brave and undaunted
fighter, an iconoclast, breaker of
360 idols, a wise administrator
or an elevator of women
and a purifier of faith!"