

Question

Describes the characteristics of military strategist in the light of Seerah of Muhammad (PBUH) with arguments

Introduction

Holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a role model for human beings across the globe. He is considered the history's greatest military commander and war strategist.

During his whole life, the Holy prophet (PBUH) took part in almost 26 wars.

He fought these wars for the propagation of divine message and for the defense of nascent

Islamic polity. ~~in~~ prophet (PBUH) conquered Arabian

peninsula in a short span of ten years due to dynamic

military strategies.

Military strategies of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)

A Military Tactics before the war

1 Espionage and surveillance of enemy

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) took practical steps to find out the enemy's plan, the strength of their forces and the nature of their weaponry by deploying his companions all over the Arabian peninsula.

2 Economic blockade of enemy

The tribe of Makkah tried to prevent Muslims from migrating from Makkah to Madinah. Holy prophet (PBUH) countered their moves by threatening an economic blockade.

4 Inclination towards reconciliation

Prophet Muhammad PBUH gave education about adjustment and reconciliation towards the enemy if he wants to get reconciliation. Came in point is the treaty of Hudaibiyah 6th A.H.

And if they incline to peace, then incline to it also.

Al-Quran.

5 Training of Army

Holy prophet PBUH sent his soldiers to neighbouring states of Syria & Ethiopia to learn different military tactics and fighting skills.

Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into enemies

(Al-Anfal 8:60)

B. Strategies During the war

1. Positioning of the army

Holy prophet (PBUH) always arranged different groups of army persons at different points and advised them not to move away from it. There were five parts of the army.

2. Innovative war strategies

The prophet (PBUH) adopted new war techniques in order to thwart the plans of enemy. Such as, digging of trench in Khandaq and use of catapult during the siege of Taif.

3. Division of battalions

The Holy prophet PBUH divided battalions into five groups. These include infantry, cavalry regiment, archers, luggage carriers and security personnel.

4 Prohibition of night assault

The Holy prophet did not invade the enemy at night. In the war of Khyber, he approached the hostile people at night but he did not attack them till dawn.

5 Extremely Secretive

Holy prophet (PBUH) was full conscious of the military strategy and of need for secrecy. He never described his route except to the closest of his companions due to which he won all his wars.

6 A staunch believer in meritocracy

Holy prophet (PBUH) appointed commanders those who had expertise in military expeditions. Even if they accepted Islam late such as Khalid bin Waleed R.A and Aamir Bin Aas R.A.

7 Effective strategies in the battlefield

Holy prophet (PBUH) ~~took~~ selected a better place for fighting. In the battle of Badr he selected higher place and sandy land so that in case of rain earth would be leveled.

8 Ban on destruction

Holy prophet (PBUH) forbade his companions from burning houses, crops, killing animals and massacre of population.
And

9 Mutilation of dead bodies

The Holy prophet PBUH advised his companion not to mutilate dead bodies.
Do not break promises and never mutilate

Al-Hadith

10 Minimizing Collateral damage

Holy prophet PBUH is history's first major figure to condemn collateral damage.

After war principles of Holy prophet PBUH

1 Ban on the Killing of prisoner of war

The Holy prophet (PBUH) treated the prisoner well. He banned the killing of prisoners.

In the battle of Badr, seventy pagans were captured. Muhammad PBUH advised his companion to treat them well.

Do not kill any prisoner of war (Al-Hadith)

2 Ban on the killing of envoy

The Holy prophet (PBUH) prohibited the killing of

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ambassadors. When Ubaidah bin Harith, the emissary of Munayman Kzab delivered his message. The prophet (PBUH) observed:

Had it not been unlawful to kill the emissaries, I would ~~be~~ have beheaded you
(Al-Hadith)

3 Prohibition of breach of treaty

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) declared breach of treaty as the worst crime. He condemned making and assault on the partners.

Indeed, the commitment is even about which one will be questioned
Al-Quran

4 Principle of general amnesty

The Holy prophet PBUH announced general amnesty after winning the war. Such as, during conquest of Makkah he announced amnesty to Quraysh, forgave those who took refuge in Kabba and house of Abu Sufyan.

Conclusion:

To conclude, Holy prophet (PBUH) exhibited excellent military skills in all his wars. He always led the Muslims from the front and preached that martyrdom was better than turning back on the battlefield. He fought many wars with minimum human life losses. due to his tremendous skills.