

Question

Discuss the diplomatic role of the holy prophet in resolving conflicts and establishing peaceful relations with other tribes and nations?

Answer

INTRODUCTION

Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) stands as a beacon of diplomat, ensured peace and justice through his visionary and diplomatic strategies. It reshaped the political and social order in Arab. He was not just a prophet but a peacemaker, diplomat, leader, statesman that resolved conflict and unite tribes and religions. His diplomatic strategies formed treaty of Hudaibiyyah, charter of Madinah, conquest of Makkah and wrote letters to world rulers. His vision was to spread Islam through communication and alliances not forceful conversion. He preferred peace and negotiation over war and conflict.

Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) as a Diplomat

He was not just a prophet, but a peacemaker, diplomat, leader, ruler for all

seasons and all ages.

Treaty of Huddabiyah (6 AH)

Treaty of Huddabiyah was a treaty signed between Muslims and Qureish

Background

Prophet (p.b.u.h) with his companions were going to Madinah to perform pilgrimage but the people of Madinah stopped them and did not allow them to enter in Madinah. Instead of conflict he preferred to signed a treaty to resolve conflict

Provision

- Treaty signed between Muslim and Quresh
- Prophet and his companions did not perform umrah at that time.
- A ten year peace agreement
- Seemed a treaty that was in loss for Muslims but it was for long-term benefits.

Impact

- Prophet far-sightedness and Political maturity was proved
- Quresh recognized Muslims as separate Political entity
- Within two years, the number of Muslims doubled

- later on Makkah was conquest without bloodshed

"Indeed, we have given you
a clear victory"
(Al-Quran)

→ Charter of Madina (622 AD)

Charter of Madina, the first constitution in the world history. Charter was drafted by Prophet for as a social contract between Muslims, Jews, polytheists, local tribes to prevent conflict over religion or issues to maintain peace.

Points

- Religious freedom for all religions
- Protection and freedom of rights for all citizens
- Mutual military cooperation in case of attack
- Social Justice system under Prophet leadership

Impact

- Rule of Muslim leader
- show Islam is a religion of peace

- and Justice
- Trust build up among pluristic society
- Prophet ensured peace and harmony among different religion groups and manifests how a diverse society can live together.

These treaties and constitution building shows the diplomatic strategies and skills of Prophet, that how he managed different tribes and communities under his leadership, not forcefully but peacefully.

→ Letters to World leaders

Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) wrote letters to governors, ruler, emperor, kings. He invited the world rulers to understand and accept Islam as a religion. In the letter he mentioned about Islam as the best religion that ensure Justice and equality. Also offered Peace relations

Letters to

Heraclius (emperor of Rome)
 Chosroes (emperor of Persia)
 Najashi (king of Abyssinia)
 Muqawqis (Ruler of Egypt)

Key Points in Letter

- > Respectful Greeting
- > Invitation to monotheism
- > Promise of peace and safety for those who accepted
- > Promote diplomatic relations and maintaining peace over war.

Letter to Heraclius (Emperor of Rome)

"Embrace Islam and you will be safe. Allah will double your reward. But if you reject, you bear the sin of your subjects"

Shahih Bukhari

→ Conquest of Makkah (BAH)

When Quresh violated the treaty, Muslims marched towards Makkah with 10,000 army. Makkah was conquered by Muslims without any bloodshed, this proved the diplomatic strategies of Prophet. Even after the people's behaviour, Prophet forgave the Makkah people and said you

all are free and did not take any revenge of previous behaviour. Instead of ruling cruelly he treated everyone with Justice, kindness and equality.

“No blame will be upon you today. Go you are all free”

(Ibn hisham's Seerah)

→ Incident of Placement of Blackstone

During the reconstruction of Kaaba, a conflict occur in the placement of Blackstone (Hajwa Aswad) in its position. Everyone was saying I will put it. Prophet solved the conflict by saying, Put the black stone on cloth and the tribal leaders will hold it from the corners and as all the leaders will hold it and put it on its position.

This example shows that how Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) solved the problems easily and provide solutions that were in favour of all.

Western scholar words for Prophet

→ Karen Armstrong (British scholar)

He said:

"Muhammad was a prophet and a statesman whose policies ~~and~~ ~~decisions~~ ensured peace in an age of war"

In his book Muhammad's A Prophet for our times, he highlighted the social and political wisdom of Prophet and mentioned that he was not just a prophet but a statesman that worked for peace in an age of war.

→ William. E. Shephard

He said:

"In his lifetime, he was prophet, arbitrator, political leader and moral explainer"

He mentioned in his book Introducing Islam about holy prophet, his life and he was not just a prophet but a political leader and example for whole people to follow.

Conclusion

Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) not only delivered the message of Allah and teachings of Quran but became a leader, peace maker, diplomat, and many more to solve problems and promote peace. He done multiple work in his Diplomatic careers including Charter of Madina, Treaty of Hudaibiyah, conquest of Makkah, Incident of Black Stone and British scholars accept him as a leader, diplomat, moral exemplar etc.