

Q Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a Peacemaker

1. Introduction

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a role model for the entire globe and every generation. He (PBUH) stands as a luminous candle that guides mankind in every aspect of life. The quality of being a peacemaker has always been a significant part of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) character, even before he was given prophethood by Allah Almighty. From him (PBUH) playing a mediating role during the sacrilegious wars to creating an alliance named Hif al Fudul, the Prophet (PBUH) has done everything. Even after receiving prophethood, he made sure everybody lives in peace and prosperity. The essay will further analyze different instances where the Prophet (PBUH) created grounds for peace as a peacemaker.

2. Before Prophethood

(a) Peaceful negotiations in Harb-ul-Fijar

Harb ul Fijar was one of the first instances where the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was able to achieve peace through dialogue at a very young age. In Harb ul Fijar, a war was being fought between

two clans; the Quraysh and the Hawazin.

This was not the first war that the two clans were involved in. They had gone through several wars that stretched several years. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) mediated between the two parties through a pragmatic approach. He collected all the arrows from the battlefield and placed them before both the clans.

This made the clans realise the price of war, which resulted in peace. Allah says in the Holy Quran:

"We have not sent you but as a mercy to all worlds" (21:107)

(b) Establishment of Hilf al Fudul

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) believed in justice for everyone. For instance, he (PBUH) established an alliance named Hilf al Fudul with the intention of providing justice to everyone through peaceful measures. The reason for establishing such an alliance was an incident that occurred in the market place between al-As ^{ibn} ~~ibn~~ wali and a Yemeni merchant named Zubaid.

al-As ibn wali ~~and~~ had taken some goods from Zubaid but did not pay him. This led to Zubaid making several appeals to the Quraysh for justice, but his appeals went in vain. Even though, Hazrat Abu-Talib had paid his dues, the establishment

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of such an alliance was important for the Prophet (PBUH), in order to prevent such incident from happening in the future.

(c) Placement of the Black Stone

During the reconstruction of the Kaaba, there was an altercation between the four clans regarding the placement of the Holy Black Stone. Hazrat Muhammad[ؐ] calmly intervened and placed the stone between the cloak, which was held ^{from} by each corner by the clan. This move helped avert serious conflict by allowing each clan to have a part in the placement of the stone.

This shows how the Prophet Muhammad[ؐ] give quick thinking helped in averting a serious situation.

3. After^{relieving} Prophethood

(a) Constitution of Medina

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) always advocated for peace and prosperity. A clear example can be taken from the constitution of Medina or the charter of Medina after the prophet (PBUH) and his companions migrated there in 622 CE. This document gave rights to not only Muslims but also to the Jews and the Pagans. This document guaranteed religious freedom, collect security, and the rule of law.

(b) Treaty of Hudaibiyah

As the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) approached Mecca with 1400 muslims, the Meccans misinterpreted the movement as an act of war. As the Muslim were resting at Hudaibiyah, a Meccan delegation met the Prophet and his companions. There were chances of violence but it was averted by the Prophet (PBUH) through peace. Eventually, both parties came to a truce in the form of treaty of Hudaibiyah. Eventhough, the conditions were set against the Muslims, the Prophet (PBUH) agreed so that peace could prevail. Allah says in the Holy Quran:

"Indeed, we granted you a clear triumph,
'O prophet'."
(Surah al Fath, 48:1)

(c) The conquest of Makkah

After the conquest of Makkah in 8AH, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) promoted general amnesty. Eventhough, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was treated very poorly by the people of Makkah, he chose peace. He (PBUH) provided general amnesty to all who were defeated and forgave those who took refuge in the kabah and in

the house of Abu-Sufyan. This shows how Prophet (PBUH) preferred peace over vengeance.

(d) Using Least Violence in Wars

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) participated in 27 wars, where he led from the front and overlooked 77 sarayas. In all 104 wars, he assured that that number of casualties remained minimum and the non-combatants remained unharmed. That is the reason why only 2~~4~~⁵⁹ muslim embraced Shahadat and 759 infidels died during combat. He also prohibited the killings of non-combatants. He (PBUH) gave clear instructions not to attack any women, children, and old people. Additionally, he also banned the destruction of crops and killing of animals. Most importantly, he diminished the gruesome culture of mutilating bodies of the opponents. According to a hadith, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

"Do not break promises and never mutilate".

(e) Human Right on the basis of equity

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) preached Peace, even in his Last sermon,

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he said:

"all the mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a Non-Arab nor a Non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab except by Piety and good action".

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) also advocated for the rights of women, children, Parents, orphan, and every other possible Creation of Allah.

4. Conclusion

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) stands as a beacon of light for the entirety of humanity. Indeed, he was certainly sent as a mercy for all mankind. As a peacemaker, he show^{ed} the world the importance of peace over conflict. From the constitution of Medina to the conquest of Makkah, these instances have eloquently presented the role of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a peacemaker. The leaders of the contemporary world should learn from the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and apply them in their respective situations to promote peace through treating others with dignity and respect and through promoting human rights and security.