

Q: Elucidate how the Prophet of Islam (P.B.U.H.) exemplified him as the greatest peace maker in the world by making reconciliation with pagans, Jews, and Christians.

## Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.): The Greatest Peace-Maker in the World

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) was an exemplary figure as a peace maker. The foundational principles of Prophetic peace model include sanctity of life, conflict resolution through diplomacy, and pluralism and co-existence. The clearest evidence of Prophetic peace model is his efforts of reconciliation with pagans, Jews and Christians. Treaty of Hudaibiya, Charter of Madinah and Treaty of Najran clearly show that he

was the greatest peacemaker in the world.

## 1. Foundational Principles of Prophetic Peace Model

### i. Sanctity of Life

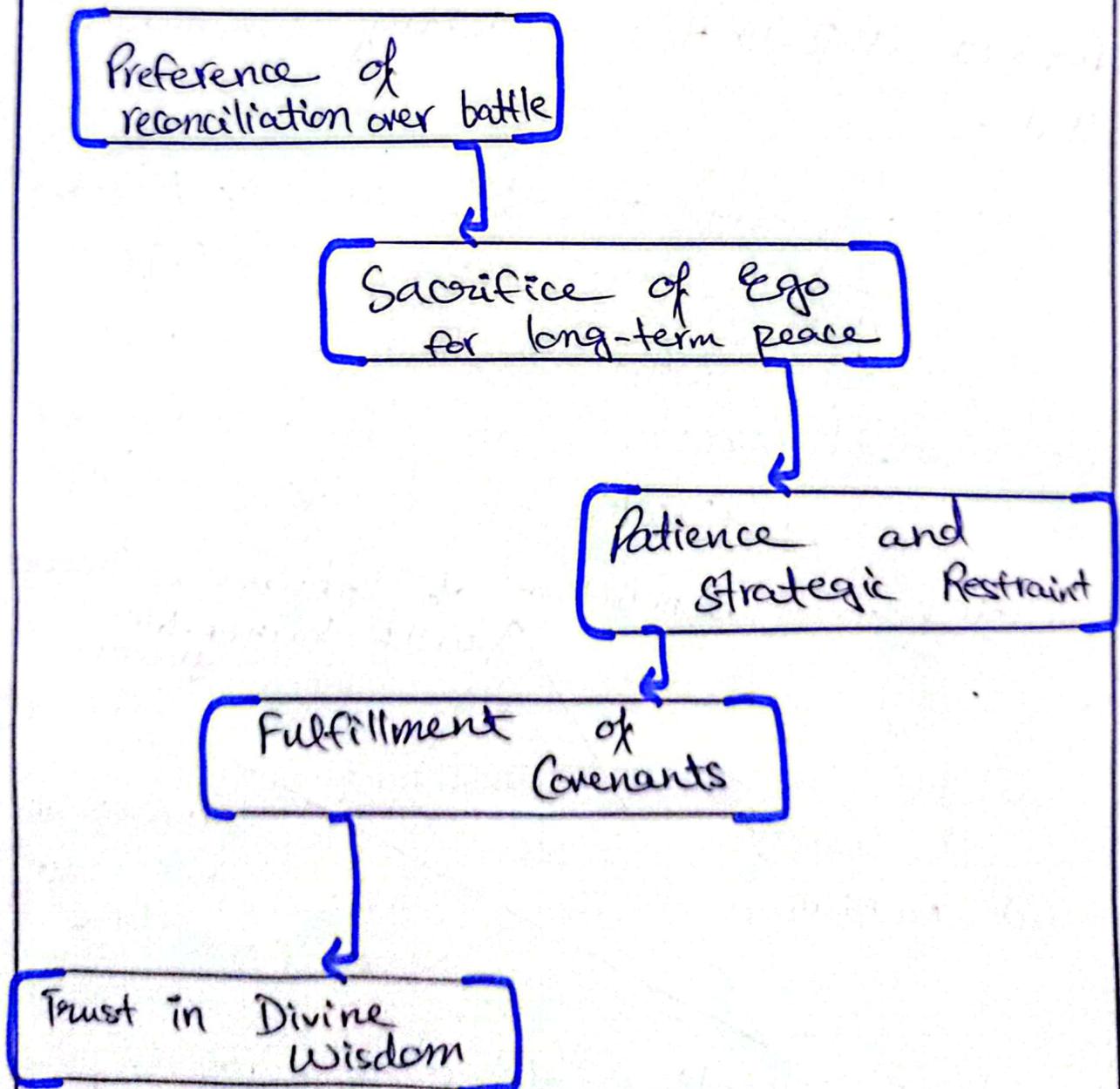
This principle is quite evident from the ethical constraints imposed by Holy Prophet during warfare. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) explicitly commanded that:

“Move forth in the name of Allah and fight in the way of Allah with those who disbelieve. But do not commit excess, do not betray, do not mutilate and do not kill children.”

## ii. Conflict Resolution through Diplomacy

Treaty of Hudaibiyah is the strongest evidence of the above mentioned foundational principle of Prophetic peace model.

Fig: Quranic Principles followed in Treaty of Hudaibiyah that reflect peace oriented nature of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.)



### iii. Pluralism and Co-existence

Madinah accord is the best example that reflects this principle of Prophetic peace model. Through this accord one of the best pluralist Islamic state was established. This covenant provided foundation for Dhimmi System which provided protection of life, property, honour and religious freedom to non-Muslims under Islamic state in exchange for loyalty and payment of tax called Jizya.

## 2. Expounding the Role of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) in making reconciliation with Pagans

The Treaty of Hudaibiyah clearly shows that Holy Prophet was the greatest peace-maker in the world. Through this treaty Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) reconciled Muslims with pagans. It was a ten-year truce of peace between Muslims and Quraysh.

## i. Background of Treaty of Hudaibiyah

When Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) and his companions arrived near Makkah for pilgrimage, Quraysh blocked them. Although Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) had 1400 battle field experienced companions with him in his military force, the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) preferred reconciliation over battle and he sent envoys like Uthman ibn Affan (R.A.) to Quraysh.

## ii. Pledge of Tree (Bayt-e-Ridwan): A Significant Incident that Reflects Peace oriented Nature of Treaty of Hudaibiyah

During Treaty of Hudaibiyah negotiations, a false rumor was spread that envoy of Holy Prophet sent to Quraysh i.e. Uthman ibn Affan (R.A.) was killed by Quraysh. This would have justified immediate retaliation. <sup>However,</sup> The Holy Prophet

(P.B.U.H.) showed strategic restraint and gathered companions under a tree to take pledge of patience and steadfastness instead of pledge of revenge. This demonstrates the peace oriented nature of treaty of Hudaibiyah.

iii. Factors showing Treaty of Hudaibiyah was greatest effort of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) to make reconciliation with pagans

a- Patience and Strategic Restraint

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) and other Muslims accepted <sup>apparently</sup> unequal terms such as: concession in treaty's wording, postponement of pilgrimage (Umrah), return of Makkan emigrants to Quraysh and no reciprocal return for Muslims who left Madinah. All these terms were accepted for making reconciliation with pagans and ensuring long-term

peace.

## b. Fulfillment of Covenants

Allah Almighty says in Glorious Quran

“And fulfill every commitment. Indeed, it will be questioned.”  
(Al Quran)

This treaty exemplified this principle. For instance, when Hazrat Abu Jandal (R.A.) escaped from Quraysh and reached Madinah, the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) despite intense grief returned him to Quraysh for maintaining reconciliation with pagans.

## 3. Elucidating the Role of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) in making Reconciliation with Christians

The Treaty of Najran is the strongest example that shows the role of Holy

Prophet (P.B.U.H.) in making reconciliation with Christians.

## a. Background of Treaty of Najran

When a Christian delegation of Najran visited Madinah to discuss theological differences with Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.), Instead of confrontation they were allowed to offer prayers in Prophet's mosque, and a treaty of Najran was concluded.

## b. Key Provisions of Treaty of Najran

Under this treaty, the Christians of Najran were recognized as a protected allied community under Islamic state of Madinah. It was <sup>explicitly</sup> mentioned in this treaty that

“ No Christian could be forced to change his religion. ”

They would be governed by their religious laws. They would be granted

protection of life, property, honour and places of worship under Islamic state of Madinah.

#### 4. Role of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) in making reconciliation with Jews

Charter of Madinah is the magnificent example that shows the role of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) in making reconciliation with Jews. One of the principles of this charter was "social cohesion, pluralism and co-existence."

Under Article 16 of this Charter

"The Jews who follow us shall have aid and parity. They shall not be wronged nor shall their enemies be aided against them."

(Dr Hameedullah, The First Written Constitution in the World, 1941).

Fundamental Principles Rights granted to Jews under Charter of Madinah that reflect Holy Prophet's (P.B.U.H.) role in making Reconciliation with Jews

i- Right to Safety

~~Under Article 25~~ According to Dr. Hameedullah, the following clause of this charter

غَيْرِ مَظْلُومِينَ

They shall not be Wronged.

(Article 16)

This clause mandates right to safety for Jews under Islamic state of Madinah.

ii- Equal Political Status with Muslims

Under Article 25:

“The Jews of Banu Auf are one community with believers.”

iii- Absolute Religious Freedom  
Under Article 23:

“For Jews their religion and for Muslims theirs.”

iv- Social Dignity  
Under Article 40:

“The protected neighbor (Jews and other non-Muslims of Madinah) are equal to that of original party (Muslims), neither being harmed nor committing crime.”

This article mandates the right of Jews to social dignity same as that of Muslims.

v- Equality before the law  
Under Article 47

“This covenant will not protect anyone who is unjust or commits crime.”

This article ensured that Muslims can not use his religion to escape punishment and Jews will be guaranteed protection that would end immediately

upon committing crime. This clearly shows that Jews and Muslims were equal before the law.

## Concluding Thoughts

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) was the greatest peace maker in the world. The foundational principles of Prophetic peace model include sanctity of life, conflict resolution through diplomacy, and pluralism and co-existence. The Treaty of Hudaibiyah, Charter of Madinah and Treaty of Najran clearly shows the role of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.) in making reconciliation with Non-Muslims.