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Islamic Studies.

Answers 2

Introduction

Diplomacy is the art of managing relations through wisdom, negotiation, patience and foresight to achieve long-term objectives without engaging in any unnecessary conflict. The life of Prophet (SAW) presents one of the finest model of diplomacy in human history. The Prophet (SAW) employed dialogue, treaties, alliances, reconciliation and moral persuasion to transform a fragmented tribal society into a disciplined and principled civilization. His diplomatic effort is divided into phases: The Makki era and the Madani era. In both periods, the Prophet (SAW) demonstrated exceptional diplomatic skills.

Diplomacy in the Makki Era

1. Migration to Abyssinia

Though Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) was safe from persecution of Quraysh due to protection

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from his uncle Abu Talib, some of his followers were mistreated by the Quraish. Therefore, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) directed fifteen Muslims in 615 to emigrate to Abyssinia to receive protection under the Christian rules, the Negus, Ashama bin Abjar. Emigration was a mean through which some of the Muslims could escape the difficulties and persecution faced at the hand of the Quraish. It was an early success of Islamic diplomacy.

② Journey to Taif (619)

In early 619, the Prophet (SAW) set out from Makkah to travel to the town of Taif. The reason behind this was that, he (SAW) directed his effort toward Taif due to the lack of positive response from the people of Makkah to his message. This was the Prophet's diplomatic effort in personal capacity to convince the Taif chieftains. They incited people of Taif

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to pelt him with stones. Despite this mistreatment, he (SAW) forgave them on the conquest of Makkah when Tribal chieftains sought audience from the Prophet (SAW) after the conquest of Makkah. Inspired by the Prophet's nobility, they embraced Islam. It shows the prophetic foresight of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW).

③ Pledges of Aqabah

In 620, during the pilgrimage season six men travelling from Medina came into contact with the Prophet (SAW). They were from the tribes of Aws and Khazraj. They secretly met with Prophet (SAW) at a place called Aqabah. They pledged to adhere to principles of Islam and worship one God. This was the 1st pledge of Aqabah. It was only a religious pledge.

2nd Pledge of Aqabah

Following the first pledge, another group of newly converted Muslims came for pilgrimage. They secretly met with

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the Prophet (SAW). They pledged to protect the Prophet (SAW) like their families. They pledged to obey Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) in all circumstances and take up arms on the call of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW). Anas questioned Hazrat Muhammad (SAW), "If we protect you, what will be our reward?" The Prophet (SAW) replied, "Paradise." It was the second pledge of Aqabah. Through these pledges, migration to Medina was paved. The pledges of Aqabah were masterstrokes of diplomacy and statesmanship by the Hazrat Muhammad (SAW).

Diplomacy in the Madani Era.
After Hijrah, the Prophet (SAW) emerged as a head of state, a lawgiver, a military commander, and a chief diplomat. He (SAW) resolved the long standing dispute between the Banu Aws and Banu Khazraj. Through his diplomatic foresight, he formed

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a united community out of a heterogeneous community. In the following passages, his diplomatic foresight has been discussed.

1. The Charter of Medina.

It is one of history's earliest written constitutions.

Key features of the Charter

- a. Religious freedom for all.
- b. Collective defence was pledged for the security of all.
- c. Muslims and Jews formed one political community.
- d. Separate tribunals for justice to all the sects of the new state of Medina.

This charter transformed tribal rivalries into civic unity.

2. Treaty of Hudaibiyah

In 628, The Prophet (SAW) with the intention of performing Umrah ^{Umrah} set out with a group of around 1400 companions. On hearing of Muslims' Umrah, Quraysh sent out a force of 200 fighters in order to halt the approaching party. Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) did not start war with them. He (SAW)

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negotiated with them. The terms of negotiation were unfavorable to Muslims. However, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) accepted them and postponed Ummah. This pledge became known as the "pledge under the Tree." This treaty led to the Makkans to recognize the Prophet (SAW) as Prophet (SAW), cessation of military activity. Thus the Prophet (SAW) was able to win the hearts of the Makkans with his diplomatic effort.

3. Letters to World Rulers

After Hudaibiyyah, the Prophet (SAW) sent letters to Egypt, Byzantium, Persia and Abyssinia to persuade them to accept Islam. This marked Islam's entry into global diplomacy.

4. Conquest of Makkah: Diplomacy through forgiveness

The blood conquest of Makkah stands as a powerful diplomacy of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW). He

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(SAW) granted general amnesty to all his enemies. Therefore, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) was able to reach his heart through diplomacy and prevented insurgency.

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Answer 2

The Holy Migration to Medinah

Introduction

The Holy migration to Medinah is one of the most momentous events in Islamic history. It was not an act of escape but a strategic, religious and political necessity. The Hijrah represents the patience and strategic foresight of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW). It laid the foundation of the first Islamic state. There were several factors responsible for this.

Factors leading to Migration

1. Severe Persecution in Makkah
Muslims were subjected to physical torture, economic oppression and psychological harassment. The Quraysh leadership

aimed to crush Islam. This made peaceful ~~teaching~~ a distant reality.

2. Threat to the Prophet's life. The Quraish plotted to assassinate the Prophet (SAW) by selecting one young man from each tribe to strike him together. This imminent danger made migration essential for the survival of Islam.

3. Failure of Peaceful Efforts in Makkah

Despite patience and dialogue, Quraish refused to lay down arms. Therefore, Makkah was no longer ~~pro~~ a conducive environment for Islam.

4. Invitation from the People of Madinah.

The tribes of Aws and Khazraj accepted Islam. They took the pledge of Aqabah and invited Hazrat Muhammad SAW to Madinah as leaders. They ^{promised to} give political and religious to Hazrat Muhammad (SAW).

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5. Need for a safe center to preach Islam

Medina's people offered a secure base for the preaching of Islam. Therefore, the (SAW) migrated to Medina.

6. Divine Permission

Hijrah was part of a divine plan. The Prophet (SAW) migrated only after Allah's command.

Conclusion

The Prophet (SAW) migrated to Medina to protect Islam, ensure the safety of Muslims, establish an Islamic state and fulfill Allah's command.

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The Significance of the Treaty of Hudaibiyah.

Introduction

The Treaty of Hudaibiyah was a landmark agreement between the Muslims of Medina, led by Hazrat Muhammad (SAW), and the Quraysh of Makkah.

Though its terms appeared unfavourable to Muslims at

at the time, the treaty proved to be a diplomatic triumph and is described in the Quran as a "clear victory."

Significance of Treaty of Hudaibiya

1. Recognition of the Islamic State
Quraish recognized Muslims as a legitimate political entity. They negotiated with the Prophet (ﷺ) as an equal authority.
2. Establishment of Peace
It established 10 years of peace and ended the hostility between Muslims and Quraish.
3. Expansion of Islam
More people accepted Islam in two years than in the previous period.
4. Prelude to the Conquest of Makkah
Quraish later violated the treaty. This gave Muslims

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legal and moral justification to conquer Makkah peacefully. This ultimately led to the bloodless conquest of Makkah.

5. Strengthening of Muslim Confidence in Unity

After Hudaibiyah, they all became a united front to thwart any misstep of Quraysh. This fostered their unity. Therefore, trust in the Prophet (SAW) leadership was reinforced.

Conclusion

The treaty paved the way for the peaceful spread of Islam. It established 10 years of peace and then ultimately led to the conquest of Makkah.