

The Great Battle of Badr

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In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful

All thanks be to Allah the Lord of the worlds, and peace and prayers be upon His slave and Messenger Muhammad.

Brothers in faith and Islam,

Ramadan is considered to be the month of fasting and worship and closeness to Allah, yet it is the month of victory and patience. And victory is associated with patience, and with difficulties always come relief. And also the 17th day of Ramadan will always remain a shining star in the sky of existence, and it will remain a badge of honor on the chest of humanity and the faithful nation.

The Messenger (ppbu) was inflicted by much harm and he remained patient. He ordered his companions to be patient up until the first revelations commanding the fighting of the infidel. Allah says: **{Sanction (to fight) is given unto those who fight because they have been wronged; and Allah is indeed Able to give them victory; (39) Those who have been driven from their homes unjustly only because they said: Our Lord is Allah - For had it not been for Allah's repelling some men by means of others, cloisters and churches and prayers and mosques, wherein the name of Allah is mentioned, would assuredly have been pulled down. Verily Allah helps one who helps Him. Allah is Strong, Almighty}** 22:39-40. The command here is meant for the Messenger (ppbu).

When the messenger (ppbu) heard about a camel train traveling from the Sham region to Quraish under the leadership of Aby-

Sufian he told his companions that Allah has given permission to seize and confiscate the camel train. Some of the men responded and others slacked behind. The messenger (ppbu) said **{anyone with a horse available, let them ride with us}**. That was in the second year after Hijra. He marched with 313 men, with two horses and 70 camels. There were three men sharing a camel which they ride in turns. The messenger (ppbu) was offered by his companions extra turns to ride rather than walk, but he used to say: **{You are not more capable to walk than I am, and I am not in less need for reward than you are}**

When Abi-Sufian knew that the messenger (ppbu) was out seeking him and the camel train, he changed his rout and sent a message to Quraish for help. Quraish came out for the rescue of their money and trade in 950 men. Allah says: **{And when Allah promised you one of the two bands (of the enemy) that it should be yours, and ye longed that other than the armed one might be yours. And Allah willed that He should cause the Truth to triumph by His words, and cut the root of the disbelievers; (7) That He might cause the Truth to triumph and bring vanity to naught, however much the infidel might oppose}** 8:7-8

The camel train managed to escape but the two groups met at Badr water well. The messenger (ppbu) consulted with his companions. The answer he received was: "O Messenger of Allah, go ahead towards what Allah has commanded you, we are with you. By Allah we shall not say to you as the children of Israel said to Mosa when they said: (go you and your Lord and fight we are staying here) but we say (go you and your Lord to fight, we are fighting with you". Allah turned their fear into security, and turned their weakness into power, and turned their few numbers into many, and turned their patience into victory.

They marched to the area in Badr, but guides from Quraish ahead of the army got to the water first. Thirst started affecting the

Muslim army and tensions were getting high. Allah sent upon them calmness in the form of sleep. Allah also sent down rain upon them from which they drank, and washed by doing *wudo*, their camels and horses were able to drink, and the earth beneath their feet with the rain became more stable. That state removed doubts which Satan started to spread in the minds of the few, and it helped to hold firm their hearts. The rain was much heavier on the side where the Quraish army was moving, to the point that they were getting stuck in the mud and slowed the army advances. The Muslim army got to Badr first.

The messenger (ppbu) put his hands up and made duaa to Allah saying: **{Lord, here is Quraish came out with its pride and nights seeking to challenge you and disbelieve your prophet, and wish to destroy this faithful gang. Dear God give us the victory you promised me. If this faithful gang is destroyed then you shall not be worshiped after today}**

The messenger (ppbu) spoke urging Muslims to fights, and arranged the men and inspected their lines. He passed by sawad ebn ghazia (سواد بن غزیه) who was out of line. The messenger (ppbu) hit him on the stomach saying: **"straighten up Sawad"**. Sawad said: "you hurt me messenger of Allah, and yet Allah had sent you with truth and justice, let me have the same chance at you". The messenger (ppbu) uncovered his stomach and said: **"compensate your self"**. But Sawad hugged the messenger (ppbu) and started kissing him. The messenger (ppbu) asked: **{what made you do all that?}**. Sawad said: "things are coming to a head, and I wanted the last thing for me would be to touch your body". The messenger (ppbu) made duaa for him and the messenger (ppbu) took a handful of dust and through it towards the Quraishy army and said: **{tranquillise those faces, Allah, put the fear into their hearts, and shake the earth beneath their feet}**. Allah says: **{You (Muslims) did not kill them, but Allah killed them. And you (Muhammad) did not throw when you did throw, but Allah threw, that He might test the**

believers by a fair test from Him. Allah is Hearer, Knower} 8:17.

The messenger (ppbu) said to the men: **{It is an oath to Allah, that if any man fights the enemy today and gets killed while believing, and advancing not retreating then Allah shall take him into paradise}**. Omeir ebn Hamam (عمير ابن الحمام) at that moment was eating a few dried dates, he said: "eating theses dates is what is between me and paradise, I can't wait all it takes to eat them in order to go to paradise". He threw them out of his mouth and he went into the battle field. He fought until he was killed and he was the first to die.

The fight got tough, and dust rose, and Allah sent down angels to fight along side the faithful. Allah says: **{When your Lord inspired the angels, (saying): I am with you. So make those who believe stand firm. I will throw fear into the hearts of those who disbelieve. Then slash the necks and slash of them each finger}** 8:12

By the time the sun went down on that day the 17th of Ramadan the battle had finished with Muslims victorious and the infidel defeated. Seventy of the infidels were killed and seventy were captured as prisoners of war. Allah says: **{Allah had already given you the victory at Badr, when ye were weak. So observe your duty to Allah in order that ye may be thankful. (123) When you did say unto the believers: Is it not sufficient for you that your Lord should support you with three thousand angels sent down (to your help)? (124) indeed, if ye persevere, and keep from evil, and (the enemy) attack you suddenly, your Lord will help you with five thousand angels sweeping on. (125) Allah ordained this only as a message of good cheer for you, and that thereby your hearts might be at rest - Victory comes only from Allah, the Mighty, the Wise}** 3:123-126

The messenger (ppbu) consulted the companions in the matter of the captured prisoners. AbuBakr suggested taking ransom from them and send them back to their people. "After all", he said, "they were relatives and clan". While Omar suggested execution. The messenger (ppbu) said to AbuBakr that his opinion is like that of Prophet Abraham as in the Koran: **{My Lord! they have led many of mankind astray. But whoso followed me, he is of me. And whoso disobeyed me - Still you are Forgiving, Merciful}** 14:36. The messenger (ppbu) said to Omar that his opinion is like that of Prophet Noah as in the Koran: **{And Noah said: My Lord! Leave not one of the disbelievers in the land. (26) If You should leave them, they will mislead Your slaves and will beget only wrong doers and disbelievers. (27) My Lord! Forgive me and my parents and him who enter my house believing, and believing men and believing women, and do not increase the wrong-doers except with destruction}** 71:26-28.

The messenger (ppbu) took AbuBakr's opinion. Yet the Koran later came in support of Omar's opinion when Allah says: **{It is not for any prophet to have captives until he has made slaughter in the land. You desire the lure of this world and Allah desires (for you) the Hereafter, and Allah is Mighty, Wise}** 8:67.

Jazakum Allah Khairan