

Ghazwat Tabook: Fifty Days in the Harsh Desert

& Honesty Saves: The story of the three who Missed
Tabook

Grade 11 G

Vocabulary

Nifaaq - hypocrisy

Munafiqeen - the hypocrites

Jaysh-ul-Usrah - The Army of Hardship

The Great Threat from the North

- After the battle of Hunayn, the only threat that remained for the Muslims came from the Roman Empire.
- Rumours spread claiming that the Roman Emperor was planning a campaign against Muslims.
- According to the rumors, Arab tribes on the Syrian frontier had joined forces with the Romans in preparation for confrontation with the Muslims
- Reports carried to Madinah by traders coming from Syria told of an enormous well-equipped army with 40,000 soldiers along with allies which had reached Al- Balqaa' (Jordan).
- This new brought memories of a previous war called Ghazwat Mu'tah in which Romans and their Arab allies in Syria assembled around two hundred thousand soldiers. Many muslims leaders who were martyred during the battle were not forgotten.



Swift Action

- Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) started the largest army ever because he didn't want to take chances and because he was worried that the Byzantines would attack the Islamic regions with their huge army.
- If this happened it would have horrific effects on Islam and Muslims.
- Prophet kept what was at stake at mind, and proceed up north to face the Byzantines and fight a decisive battle at their own borders.
- The battle of Tabook was to be the last of the Prophet's military expeditions.



Jaysh-ul-Usrah: The Army of Hardship

- It was in Rajab in the ninth year of Hijrah which was in summer and the heat discouraged people from travelling.
- Allies of the muslims arrived in thousands to join the Muslim Army, wealthy muslims contributed large amounts of army.
- Uthman Ibn Affan donated enough money to equip ten thousand troops. The army consisted of thirty thousand men and ten thousand horses.
- Abdul- Rahman Ibn-ul-Khattab: “the prophet was encouraging the Sahabah to pay charity and fundraise for this Ghazwah battle. ‘Uthman Ibn Affan donated nine hundred saddled- camels, a hundred horses, two hundred ounces of gold as charity, and a thousand dinars. The Messenger of Allah looked at them and said ‘Uthman regardless of what he does.’”
- Abdur- Rahman Ibn Awf: have two hundred silver ounces and gave all his money to the campaign and left nothing for his family. When questioned “I left for them Allah and his Prophet.” People raced each other to donate large amounts of money or goods. Women would give jewelry and other times they owned. Everyone donated the most they could except for the hypocrites.
- Despite such generosity, the army still fell short of being perfectly equipped. There was a serious shortage of money, equipment and mounts. Eighteen men shared one camel. Hence why its called “The Army of Hardship”

The Muslim Army Heads North

- Prophet (PBUH) set up his camp in Thaniyyat el-Wadaa'.
- He had a huge army of 10,000 horsemen and 20,000 other soldiers on camelback or on foot.
- Prophet never discussed where he was going for battles except when he went to Tabook because of the great distance and the long duration of the trip. He wanted everyone to be physically and mentally prepared for the trip.
- Before his travel, the prophet assigned Muhammad Ibn Maslamah Al- Ansari to be amir over Madinah in his absence.
- This was the greatest army that existed during the time of the Prophet. The thirty thousand strong arm marched towards Syria under the blistering Arabian sun.
- Despite the hardship, the hearts of the Muslims were filled with love and dedication to the service of Allah and his Messengers



The Hypocrites

- The hypocrites were a group of people that lived in Madinah.
- They claimed to be Muslims, but they were disbelievers in their hearts
- Since the prophet's arrival in Madinah, the munafiqeen were against the Muslims and had shared an alliance with Muslim enemies
- The hypocrites tried to scare the Muslim army away from fighting the Roman Empire and because of this, the Muslims knew who was sincere among them and who wasn't.
- The Prophet kept tolerating the hypocrites, hoping that God would guide them to the straight path.
- Some hypocrites planned to join the Muslim army for evil plans

Continued...

- While in Northern Arabia, the muslim army were passing through the ruins of Thamood.
- Allah destroyed Thamood because they did not believe in God and Prophet Salih (AS).
- When the muslims were near this place, the Prophet (PBUH) told his people not to eat or drink in the place of disbelievers

The Muslims in Tabook

- Halfway between Madina and Jerusalem, the muslim army set a camp in Tabuk
- The army stayed there for 20 days, searching for information about the Roman army, who never showed up
- The Romans found out about the Prophets arrival and preparation for war.
- Upon hearing the Muslim march, the Byzantine's and its allies were terrified and so the Romans had retreated



Continued...

- The prophet (PBUH) then realized that the threat from the Romans were over. He also made his enemies realize that they could not defeat the muslims very easily
- After he had achieved this, the Prophet (PBUH) decided to travel back to Madinah.
- The Prophet had no desire in invade Syria, but he had come to defend Arabia, he was prepared for either war or peace.
- The Byzantine's found out that the Muslim army had become more stronger after they allied with The Arab tribes.

The Return Journey to Madinah

Before the Prophet (PBUH) entered Madinah he called some tribes to Islam and wanted to establish alliances with them

Some of them were munafiqeen and tried to kill the Prophet by pushing him off of the cliff he was standing on

Though Allah had told the Prophet this beforehand and he had Ammar Ibn Yaser and Huthayah Ibn-ul Yaman protecting him

When the munafiqeen were intercepted, instead of killing them the Prophet said “I don’t want the Arabs to think that I kill my companions”

Miracles on the Way

- 1) Thirst of the people being quenched
- 2) The missing she-camel
- 3) Scarcity of water



Abu Tharr Al-Ghifari: A Role Model in Faithfulness

- Abu Tharr was the leader of the Ghifar Tribe
- He was the 4th or fifth convert to Islam and also converted much of his tribe to Islam
- Muhammad loved him for his truthfulness, clean heart, and diligence
- He was not a man to hold a grudge, because when Abu Tharr asked the Prophet (PBUH) to appoint him as an amir, the Prophet declined and explained that it was a job with a lot of responsibility, that he felt he could not handle. Abu Tharr was not angry with him and never asked him again.
- Abu Tharr continued to be a sincere and faithful follower of the Prophet
- After 20 days in Tabook, the Prophet (PBUH) headed south back to Madinah. The Muslims during the month of Ramadan after a long trip that had lasted 50 days

A Lesson in Fiqh

- The prophets and the Muslims prayed **Salat-ul-Musafir (The Traveller's Day)** during the campaign to Tabook
- The Prophet combined Thuhr and Asr prayers during the time of Thuhr
- The Maghrib and Isha' prayers were also combined during the time of Maghrib- This is called **Jami' Taqdeem (Advanced Combination)**
- A Muslim can also pray the same 2 combination of prayers during the time of the later one- This is called **Jami Ta'kjeer (Delayed combination)**
- The Prophet also shortened the four-rakaat prayers. (Thuhr, Asr, and Isha'a) to two rakaat during travel. This shortening of prayer is called **Qasr**.



Prophet Muhammad Calls All Muslims For Tabook

- The Prophet (PBUH) made a long journey at a time of intense heat through a waterless desert.
- However, that didn't stop the Prophet (PBUH) from facing his great enemy.
- The Prophet (PBUH) made the journey clear to the Muslims so they could make necessary preparations for the expedition.
- The Prophet (PBUH) showed the Muslims the direction of travel.



Ka'b Fails to Travel with the Prophet and the Muslims

- Anyone wanted to avoid the expedition believed that they would go unnoticed.
- Ka'b said, "The Messenger of Allah was to make the expedition when the fruit was ripe and there was plentiful shade. Because of this, I really wanted to stay at home."
- The Prophet (PBUH) and the Muslims made their preparations and began the journey, however, Ka'b had not completed any of the preparations.
- Once the Prophet (PBUH) reached Tabook, he mentioned Ka'b's name.

He said, "What has Ka'b ibn Malik done?" A man replied, "O Rasoolullah, he has been held back by his two cloaks and self-conceit." Mu'ath ibn Jabal said to him, "What an evil thing to say! By Allah, O Rasoolullah, we only know good things about him!" Rasoolullah remained silent.

The Prophet Returns to Madinah and Ka'b Tells Him the Truth

- “When I heard that the Prophet, was on his return journey from Tabook, I became very upset and began to think up lies. But I resolved to stick to the truth.” said Ka'b.
- “Those who had stayed behind went to him making their excuses, swearing they were telling the truth to him.” said Ka'b. The Prophet (PBUH) accepted their apologies and asked Allah's forgiveness.
- “When I greeted him, he gave an angry look and said, ‘Come here. What kept you back? Didn't you buy a camel?’ I said ‘Oh Messenger of Allah, by Allah, if I was sitting with anyone else in the world I would think that I could escape his anger by making some excuse.’” said Ka'b.
- Ka'b was seeking a good outcome and forgiveness from Allah, the Almighty, and the Prophet (PBUH) if he spoke the truth.

The Prophet Returns to Madinah and Ka'b Tells Him the Truth

- “By Allah I do not have any excuse. By Allah, I have never been stronger nor wealthier than when I remained behind you.” said Ka'b.
- The Prophet (PBUH) deemed that Ka'b has spoken the truth and therefore has forgiven him.
- “By Allah, we have not known you to commit a wrong action before this! You could have offered an excuse... like the other who stayed behind? The Prophet's prayer for forgiveness would have erased your wrong action.” Rasoolullah said.

The Prophet and the Muslims Ostracize Ka'b

- The Prophet (PBUH) forbade people from speaking to Ka'b. So the people avoided him.
- Ka'b believed the Earth felt strange and it wasn't the same Earth that he used to know about.
- Ka'b would attend the prayer with the Muslims, however, no one would speak to him. The boycott lasted for 50 days.
- "I would pray near him and sneak a look at him and he would look at me while I attended my prayer, but when I turned towards him, he would turn away from me." Ka'b said about the Prophet (PBUH).
- As the silence went on for too long, Ka'b climbed into Abu Qatadah's, his dearest cousin, garden.
- "Abu Qatadah, I ask you by Allah, do you not know that I love Allah and His Messenger?" said Ka'b. Abu Qatadah remained silent so Ka'b repeated the question two more times. Abu Qatadah finally replied by saying, "Allah and His Messenger know best."

A Great Test

As we know, Ka'b had been ostracized. One day, when he was walking in the market, a Syrian farmer delivered a letter from Northern Arabia to him.

A Great Test

This letter was to entice him to betray the Prophet (SAW) and go to the Tribe of Ghassan. K'ab burned this letter, and said it too was part of the test.



The Situation Worsens

The Prophet (SAW) also commanded Ka'b to stay away from his wife. He obeyed. It had been 50 days of this boycott.



Good News: Allah forgives Ka'b

One morning, Ka'b prayed Fajr, and was informed that he was forgiven.

He was overjoyed! He even gave the person who told him his garments. Ka'b then had to borrow garments to meet the Prophet (SAW). Many congratulated him, especially Talhah Ibn Ubaydullah

What came of the real munafiqeen?

The leader of the munafiqeen died after the Prophet (SAW) and his army returned from Tabook.

The Prophet (SAW) asked Allah to forgive him, but Allah said in the Quran that he would not.

Ka'b to Give Sadaqah

Ka'b was to give his property in charity as part of his repentance.

The Prophet (SAW) told him to keep part of it for himself.



Honesty Helps!

Honesty

Ka'b was saved by Allah because he was honest, even though he went through a great test.

He prayed that Allah would protect him for the rest of his life.

Allah then sent down the following Ayaat.

Surah Tawbah Ayat 17

9:117

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لَقَدْ تَابَ اللَّهُ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ وَالْمُهَاجِرِينَ وَالْأَنْصَارِ
الَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوهُ فِي سَاعَةِ الْعُسْرَةِ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا كَادَ يَزِيغُ
قُلُوبُ فَرِيقٍ مِّنْهُمْ ثُمَّ تَابَ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّهُ بِهِمْ رَءُوفٌ
رَّحِيمٌ

Transliteration

Laqad taba Allahu AAalaannabiyyi walmuhajireena wal-ansariialatheena
ittabaAAoohu fee saAAati alAAusrati minbaAAadi ma kada yazeeghu quloobu fareeqin
minhumthumma taba AAalayhim innahu bihim raofun raheem

Sahih International

Allah has already forgiven the Prophet and the Muhajireen and the Ansar who followed him in the hour of difficulty after the hearts of a party of them had almost inclined [to doubt], and then He forgave them. Indeed, He was to them Kind and Merciful.

Surah Tawbah Ayat 18

9:118

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وَعَلَى الثَّلَاثَةِ الَّذِينَ خَلَفُوا حَتَّىٰ إِذَا ضَاقَتْ عَلَيْهِمُ الْأَرْضُ بِمَا
رَحَبَتْ وَضَاقَتْ عَلَيْهِمُ أَنفُسُهُمْ وَظَنُّوْا أَن لَّا مَلْجَأَ مِنَ اللَّهِ إِلَّا
إِلَيْهِ ثُمَّ تَابَ عَلَيْهِمْ لِيَتُوبُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيمُ

Transliteration

WaAAala aththalathatiallatheena khullifoo hatta itha daqatAAalayhimu al-ardu bima
rahubat wadaqatAAalayhim anfusuhum wathannoo an la maljaamina Allahi illa ilayhi
thumma tabaAAalayhim liyatooboo inna Allaha huwa attawwabuarraheem

Sahih International

And [He also forgave] the three who were left behind [and regretted their error] to the point that the earth closed in on them in spite of its vastness and their souls confined them and they were certain that there is no refuge from Allah except in Him. Then He turned to them so they could repent. Indeed, Allah is the Accepting of repentance, the Merciful.

Surah Tawbah Ayat 19

9:119

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يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَكُونُوا مَعَ الصَّادِقِينَ

Transliteration

Ya ayyuha allatheena amanooittaqoo Allaha wakoonoo maAAa assadiqeen

Sahih International

O you who have believed, fear Allah and be with those who are true.

Surat Tawbah Ayat 20

9:120

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مَا كَانَ لِأَهْلِ الْمَدِينَةِ وَمَنْ حَوْلَهُمْ مِنَ الْأَعْرَابِ أَنْ يَتَخَلَّفُوا عَنِ
رَسُولِ اللَّهِ وَلَا يُرِغِبُوا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ عَنْ نَفْسِهِ ۗ ذَٰلِكُمْ بِأَنَّهُمْ لَا
يُصِيبُهُمْ ظَمَأٌ وَلَا نَصَبٌ وَلَا مَخْمَصَةٌ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَا
يَطْئُونَ مَوْطِئًا يَغِيظُ الْكُفَّارَ وَلَا يَنَالُونَ مِنْ عَدُوِّ نَيْلًا
إِلَّا كُنِبَ لَهُمْ بِهِ ۗ عَمَلٌ صَالِحٌ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُضِيعُ أَجْرَ

الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٢٠﴾

Surat Tawbah Ayat 20

Transliteration

Ma kana li-ahli almadeenatiwaman hawlahum mina al-aAArabi an yatakhallafooAAan rasooli Allahi wala yarghaboo bi-anfusihimAAan nafsihi thalika bi-annahum la yuseebuhumthamaon wala nasabun walamakhmasatun fee sabeeli Allahi wala yataoonamawti-an yagheethu alkuffara walayanaloona min AAaduwwin naylan illa kutiba lahumbihi AAamalun salihun inna Allaha layudeeAAu ajra almuhsineen

Sahih International

It was not [proper] for the people of Madinah and those surrounding them of the bedouins that they remain behind after [the departure of] the Messenger of Allah or that they prefer themselves over his self. That is because they are not afflicted by thirst or fatigue or hunger in the cause of Allah , nor do they tread on any ground that enrages the disbelievers, nor do they inflict upon an enemy any infliction but that is registered for them as a righteous deed. Indeed, Allah does not allow to be lost the reward of the doers of good.

Miracles on the Way

- 1) Thirst of the people being quenched
- 2) The missing she-camel
- 3) Scarcity of water

