

journeying

with Rasulullah ﷺ

Summarising our Prophet ﷺ's Virtues
Through his Life's Pivotal Moments



Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

The Sirah is a Love Story.

aaplus



aaplus

سيرة

Sirah

س-ي-ر

associated
with
movement,
or travel

eg: Sayyara
(سيارة)
means car

conveys the
idea of "going,"
"proceeding,"
or "following a
path."

relates to
the act of
moving or
journeying

**This means that the
Sirah of Rasulullah ﷺ
is a "path" for us to
follow and walk along
on. It's not just a
story, but a roadmap
for our lives.**

Start of
Prophethood

Pre-Prophethood

The Boycott +
Year of Sadness

The Hijrah

Establishment
in Madinah

Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

————— BIRTH TO 40 —————

Pre-Prophethood

Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

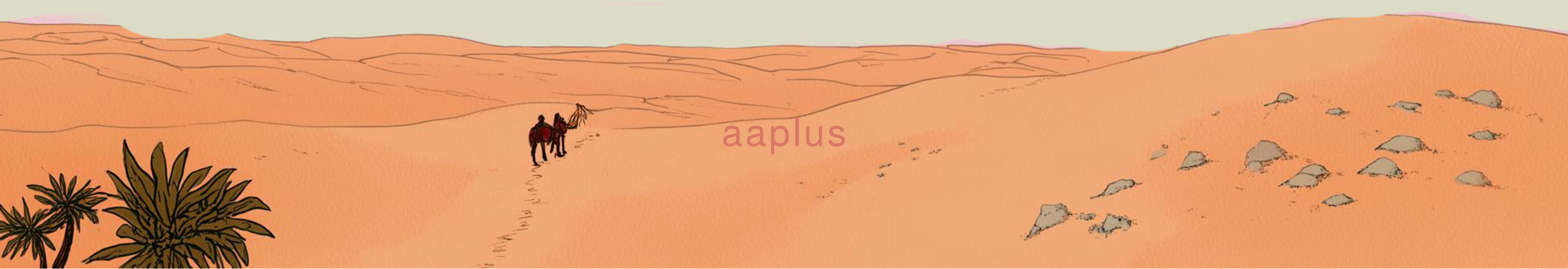
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Sayidatina Amina bint Wahab RA & Sayidina Abdullah ibn Abd al-Muttalib RA

She RA was a woman of exceptional piety, beauty, and grace, while he RA was the son of Abd al-Muttalib, the influential custodian of the Ka'bah in Mecca. They wed when she was 18 and he was 25. Shortly after their marriage, Sayidina Abdullah RA undertook a trading caravan to Syria, where he fell ill and died en route to Medina, just months before Rasulullah ﷺ was born. During Sayidatina Amina RA's pregnancy, she experienced divine signs, including dreams foretelling her son's prophethood, ﷺ, and she carried him with much **ease**.

Rasulullah ﷺ's Early Childhood

It was customary for the Quraish to entrust their sons to the care of **Bedouin** foster-families who lived a freer, healthier, and nobler lifestyle, in contrast to city-dwellers in Mecca who were unnaturally confined to places of sickness, sloth, greed and decline.



To Reflect:

Why is relationship with nature important?

This relationship with nature was so present in Rasulullah ﷺ's life from his earliest childhood that one can easily conclude that **living close to nature, observing, understanding, and respecting it, is essential for deep faith.**

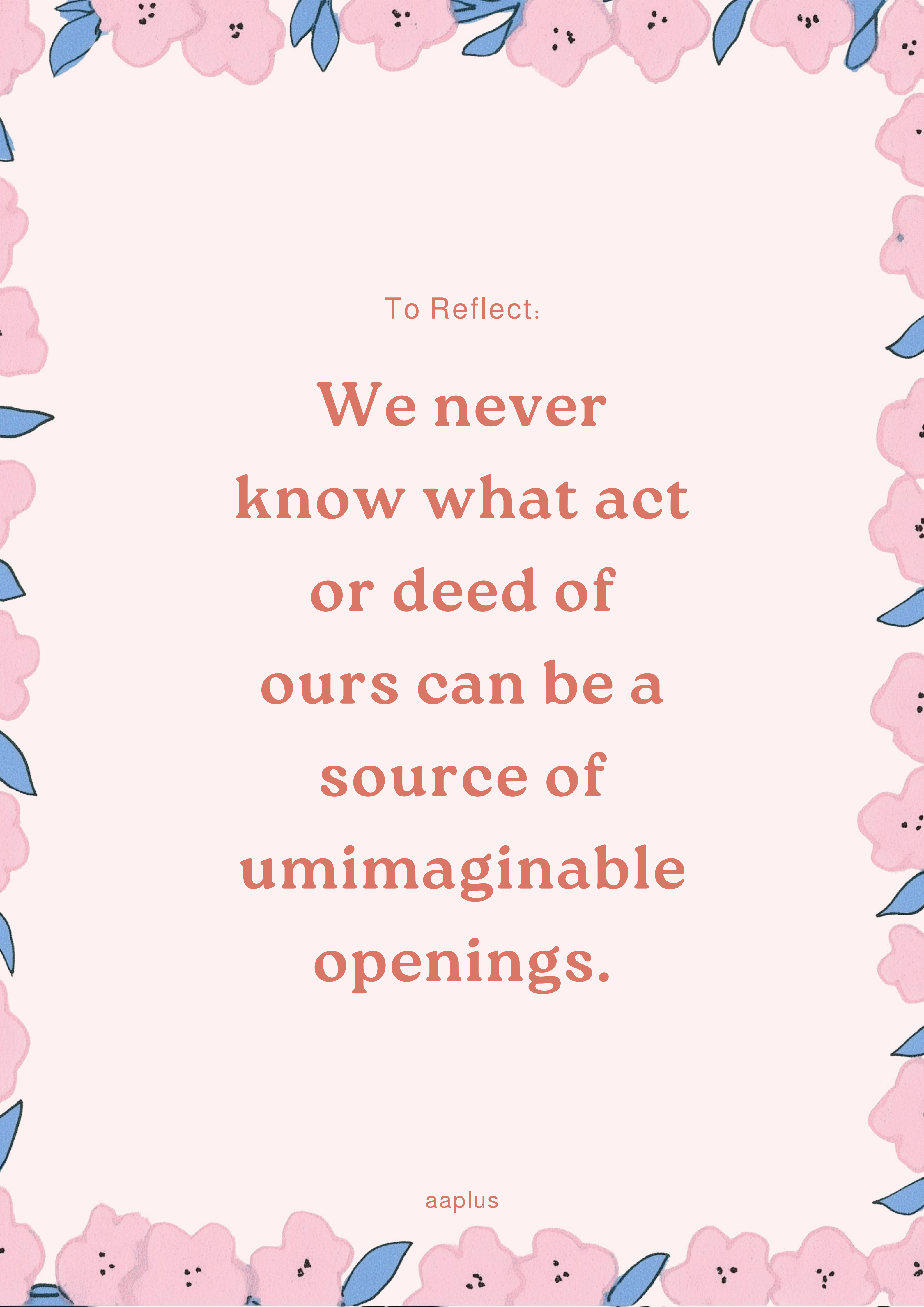
Divine Destiny: Sayidatina Halimah RA's Role in Rasulallah ﷺ's Journey

Halimah bint Abi Dhu'ayb RA and her husband Harith ibn Abdal Uzzah RA belonged to a Bedouin community and had come to Mecca looking for a nursling to take back with them. They were the poorest from their clan and were unable to persuade a single Quraysh family to entrust them to care for their child. In an equally desperate situation, Sayidatina Amina RA could not find any Bedouin foster couple willing to take care of her orphaned son, Muhammad ﷺ. Halimah RA knew a young widow like Amina RA could not afford her services, but agreed to take Rasulallah ﷺ because she did not want to return empty-handed.

حليمة

H A L I M A H

The name itself means someone who shows compassion, patience and kindness. Sayyidatina Halimah RA, though poor, took in the orphaned Prophet ﷺ, without expecting material reward. **Her selfless act demonstrated her belief that doing good brings divine blessings, as seen in the barakah that enriched her family's life during the years Rasulallah ﷺ's was in her care.** She RA noticed an immediate improvement in her family's fortunes. For example, her previously dry she-camel began producing abundant milk, their barren land became fertile, and their livestock flourished.

A decorative border of pink flowers with blue leaves surrounds the text.

To Reflect:

**We never
know what act
or deed of
ours can be a
source of
unimaginable
openings.**

aaplus

The First Washing of Rasulullah ﷺ's heart

Sayidina Anas ibn Malik RA narrated that Jibril A.S came to Rasulallah ﷺ while he was playing with his playmates. He took hold of the young Rasulallah ﷺ and lay him ﷺ to prostrate on the ground. Jibril AS tore open his breast, ﷺ, and took out his heart, ﷺ. **Jibril AS then extracted a blood-clot out of it and said: That was the part of Shaitan in you.** And then he washed it with the water of Zamzam in a golden basin and then it was joined together and restored to its place. The boys came running to Sayidatina Halima RA, and said: Verily Muhammad has been murdered. They all rushed toward him ﷺ (and found him all right). His color was changed, Anas said. I myself saw the marks of needle on his breast.

(Muslim)

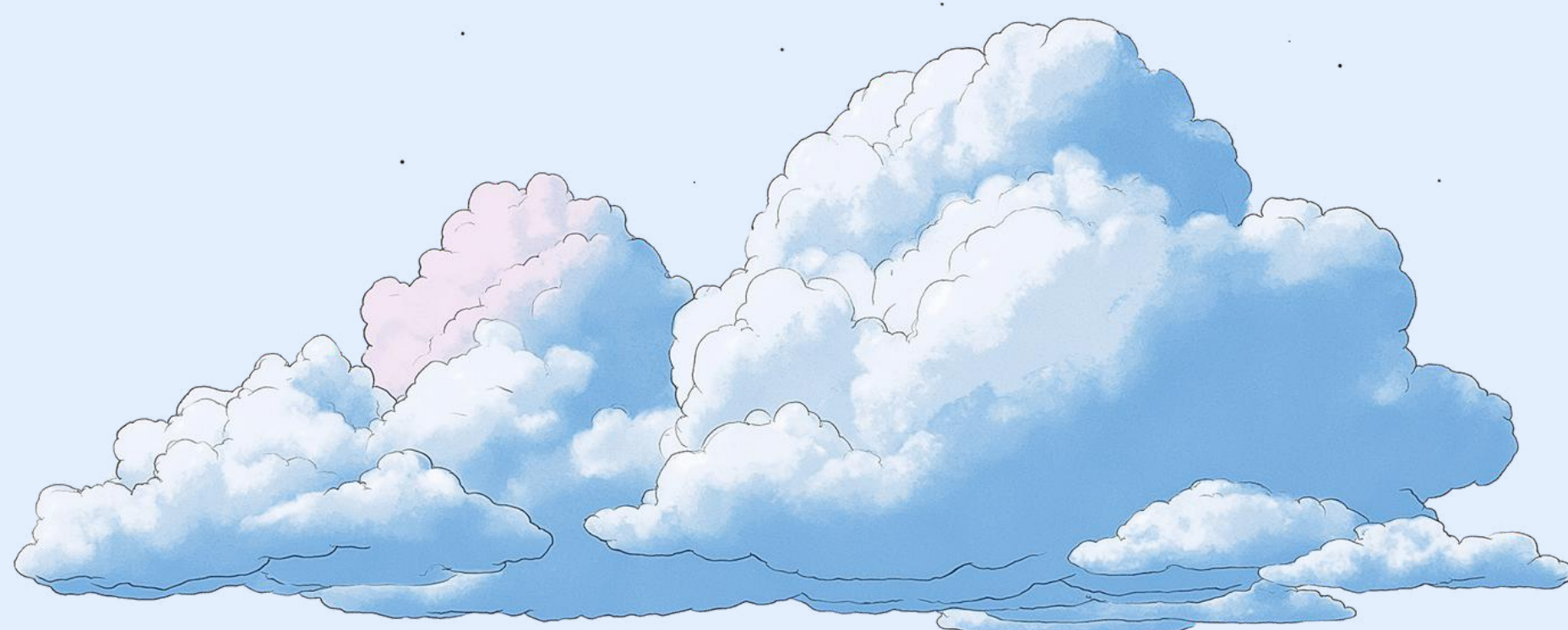
Rasulullah ﷺ's Early Childhood

On a return journey from
Yathrib (Madina), Sayyidatina
Amina RA fell sick and passed
away. Rasulullah ﷺ returned to
Makkah where his adoring
grandfather, 'Abd al-Muttalib,
was waiting to care for him.

And they became
inseparabale, until he too
passed away 2 years later.

To Reflect:

**Could Allah SWT
have willed for
Rasulullah's ﷺ
orphanhood at such
an early age to teach
us detachment from
worldly ties and
deeper attachment to
Him alone?**



Early Signs of Prophethood

When Rasulallah ﷺ accompanied his uncle on a trade caravan to Syria, a Christian monk named Bahira observed signs of Prophethood in the young Muhammad ﷺ. Wherever Rasulallah ﷺ moved, the clouds and trees followed him ﷺ to give him shade.

The Alliance of Justice

Rasulullah ﷺ supported the Hilf al-Fudul (The Alliance of Justice), which was formed in Makkah to defend the oppressed and ensure justice was served, even against members of one's own tribe. **He ﷺ was chosen because of his absolute truthfulness, trustworthiness and integrity, his sense of justice and compassion for the poor, oppressed and downtrodden.** Al-Amin, the Trustworthy, the Honest, al-Sadiq, the Truthful, were the titles on everybody's lips for Rasulullah ﷺ.

The Alliance of Justice

He ﷺ said, “I witnessed a confederacy in the house of ‘Abdullah bin Jad’an. **It was more appealing to me than herds of cattle.** Even now in the period of Islam I would respond positively to attending such a meeting if I were invited.”

(Ibn Hisham)

Proposal of Sayyidatina Khadijah bint Khuwaylid RA

Rasulullah ﷺ was engaged in trade and commerce for years, **never entering into a dishonest transaction. Those who had business dealings with him had full confidence in his integrity, ﷺ.** Even his enemies left their precious belongings with him for safe custody, and he scrupulously fulfilled their trust, ﷺ.

Meanwhile, he ﷺ was asked to take charge of Sayidatina Khadijah RA's caravan to Syria. On this trip, the servant Maysarah (who FYI is a man) accompanied Rasulallah ﷺ and reported to Sayidatina Khadijah RA the prediction of a Christian pastor, who observed signs of Prophethood in Rasulallah ﷺ.

Sayidatina Khadijah RA, who saw and believed in the virtues of Rasulallah ﷺ, sent her friend, Nufaysah RA to propose Rasulallah ﷺ. She was 40, and he, ﷺ was 25.

Marriage to Sayyidatina Khadijah bint Khuwaylid RA

Rasulullah ﷺ's uncle, Sayyidina Hamzah RA accompanied Rasulullah ﷺ to ask for Sayidatina Khadijah RA's hand in marriage. On his wedding day, Rasulullah ﷺ freed a servant named Barakah, whom he ﷺ inherited from his father.

Khadijah RA gave Rasulullah ﷺ a servant, a 15-year old boy named Zayd ibn Harithah RA, as a wedding gift.

Between 25-40 years

Before the first revelation, Rasulullah ﷺ was busy raising his family and working as a trader during the first 15 years of his marriage to Sayyidatina Khadijah RA. Together, they had six children - 2 boys and 4 girls. Do you know the names of Rasulullah ﷺ's children with Sayidatina Khadijah RA?

Before Prophethood

Al-Qasim (~28 years old)

Zaynab (~30 years old)

Ruqayyah (~32 years old)

Umm Kulthum (~33 years old)

Fatimah (~35 years old)

After Prophethood

Abdullah (~41years old)

**The ages represent the estimation of Rasulullah's
ﷺ age at the time each blessed child was born.*

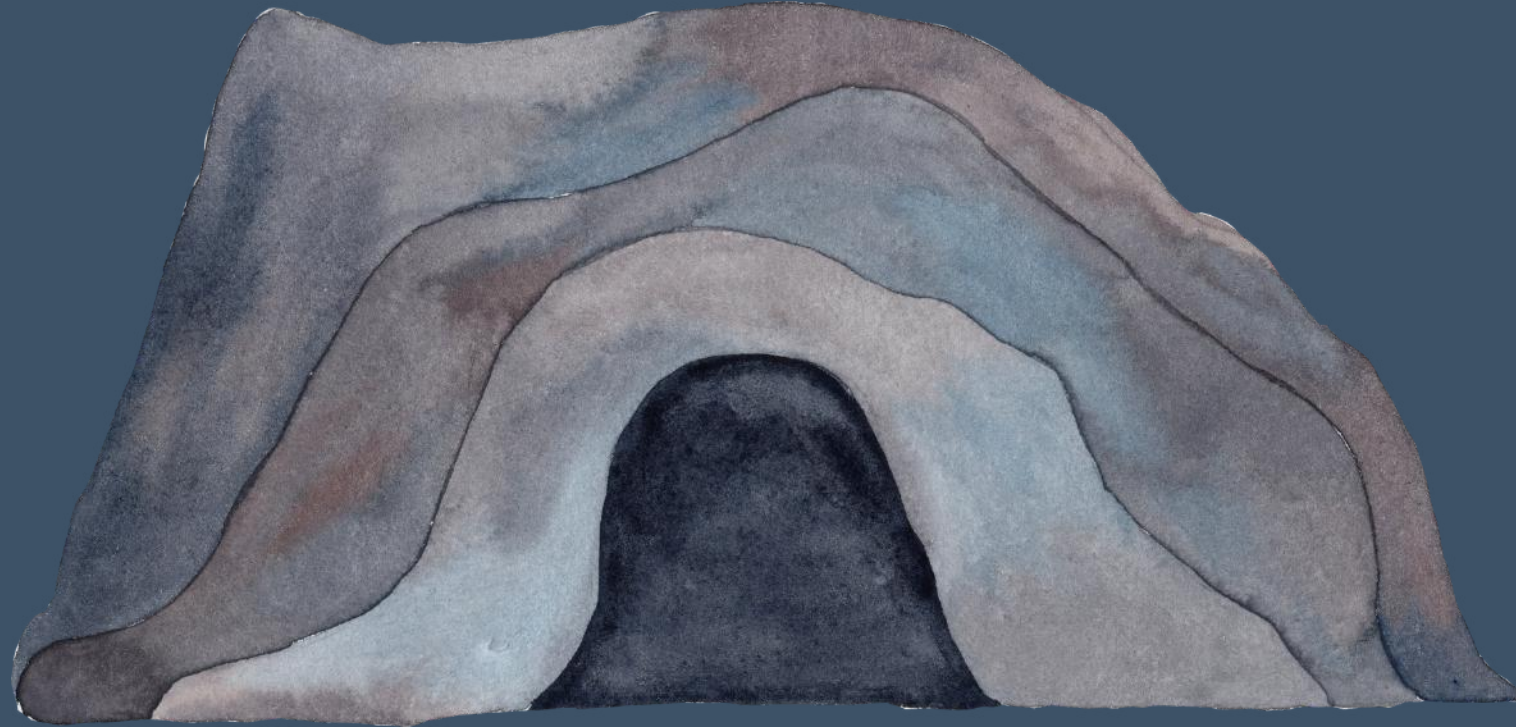


Conflict of the Black Stone

When Rasulullah ﷺ reached 35 years of age, a dispute arose among the Quraysh tribe during the reconstruction of the Kaabah over which clan deserved the honor of placing the Black Stone back into its position. Rasulullah ﷺ proposed a solution where the Black Stone was placed on a cloth, and each clan leader lifted a corner, ensuring collective participation. He ﷺ then set the stone in place himself, resolving the dispute peacefully.

40-46

Start of Prophethood



His Meditating Routine ﷺ

As Rasulallah ﷺ approached his 40s, he found success in his worldly affairs, but these achievements do not calm the restlessness in his heart. He ﷺ sought solace and meaning in the cave of Hira, away from the chaos of city life. This meditation practice at that time was known as **Tahannuth**.

It was during one of these retreats, during the month of Ramadan, that he ﷺ **received the first revelation sent through Jibril AS.**

The First Revelation

Jibril AS appeared to Rasulullah ﷺ on the horizon in the form of a man and commanded him to read. He ﷺ narrated, “Then he took me and squeezed me vehemently and then let me go and repeated the order ‘Recite.’ ‘I cannot recite,’ said I, and once again he squeezed me and let me till I was exhausted. Then he said, ‘Recite.’ I said, ‘I cannot recite.’ He squeezed me for a third time and then let me go and said:

أَقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ

Read, 'O Prophet,' in the Name of your Lord Who created—

خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ

created humans from a clinging clot.

أَقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ

Read! And your Lord is the Most Generous,

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ

Who taught by the pen—

عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ

taught humanity what they knew not.

(Al-Alaq 96:1-5)

The Early Stages

Rasulullah ﷺ shared the newest revelations with his closest family members, like Sayidatina Khadijah RA and Sayidina Ali RA and taught them how to pray* and perform Wudu’.

What Prayers did they perform?

The prayers that existed before the Isra and Miraj were less structured than the five daily prayers that were mandated during Isra and Mi'raj (in year 11 of Prophethood).

Scholarly Interpretations:

- Some scholars believe the prayers at that time were in the form of **general Du'as** (invocation).
- Others suggest it involved the **recitation of the Quran**.
- A third group indicates that the prayers were performed as **two rak'ahs (units of prayer) in the morning and another two in the evening**.

WHO ARE THE FIRST CONVERTS?

1. Rasulullah ﷺ 's wife, **Sayidatina Khadijah RA**
2. Rasulullah ﷺ 's young cousin, **Sayidina Ali ibn Abi Talib RA** (then a child)
3. Rasulullah ﷺ 's freed slave, **Sayidina Zayd ibn Harithah RA**
4. Rasulullah ﷺ 's close friend, **Sayidina Abu Bakr RA**, who was the first adult free man to convert

These individuals, spanning a woman, a child, a freed slave, and a free man, formed the earliest foundation of the Muslim community.

They were also from the firsts:

- **Umm Ayman (Barakah) RA**

(She RA took care of Rasulullah ﷺ after the death of Sayidatina Amina RA)

- **Sa'd ibn Abi Waqqas RA**

(He was a teenager at the time, around 17 years old, introduced to Islam by Abu Bakr RA)

- **Uthman ibn Affan RA**

(A wealthy Quraysh merchant, also introduced to Islam by Abu Bakr RA)

- **Abdur Rahman ibn Awf RA**

(Like Uthman and Sa'd RA, he was brought to Islam by Abu Bakr's efforts. A very wealthy merchant too!)

The Early Stages

Despite their very secret gatherings, Rasulallah ﷺ and his Companions started to feel the pressure from the outside. Surah Al Muddathir and Al Muzzammil were revealed, conveying a sense of urgency and warnings, but were later followed by Surahs with a gentler tone that reassured Rasulallah ﷺ of his mission and Allah SWT's all-encompassing Mercy.

Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

Surah Al Muddathir *"The One Wrapped Up"*

يَا أَيُّهَا الْمُدَّثِّرُ

O you covered up 'in your clothes'!

قُمْ فَأَنْذِرْ

Arise and warn 'all'.

وَرَبَّكَ فَكَبِّرْ

Revere your Lord 'alone'.

وَتِيَابَكَ فَطَهِّرْ

Purify your garments.

وَالرُّجْزَ فَاهْجُرْ

'Continue to' shun idols.

وَلَا تَمْنُنْ تَسْتَكْثِرُ

Do not do a favour expecting more 'in return'.

وَلِرَبِّكَ فَاصْبِرْ

And persevere for 'the sake of' your Lord.

(Al-Muddathir 74:1-7)

Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

Surah Ad-Duha

“The Morning Brightness”

وَالضُّحَىٰ

By the morning sunlight,

وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا سَجَىٰ

and the night when it falls still!

مَا وَدَّعَكَ رَبُّكَ وَمَا قَلَىٰ

Your Lord 'O Prophet' has not abandoned you,
nor has He become hateful 'of you'.

وَلَلْآخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ لَّكَ مِنَ الْأُولَىٰ

And the next life is certainly far better for you than this one.

وَلَسَوْفَ يُعْطِيكَ رَبُّكَ فَتَرْضَىٰ

And 'surely' your Lord will give so much to you that you will be
pleased.

أَلَمْ يَجِدْكَ يَتِيمًا فَآوَىٰ

Did He not find you as an orphan then sheltered you?

وَوَجَدَكَ ضَالًّا فَهَدَىٰ

Did He not find you unguided then guided you?

وَوَجَدَكَ عَائِلًا فَأَغْنَىٰ

And did He not find you needy then satisfied your needs?

فَأَمَّا الْيَتِيمَ فَلَا تَقْهَرْ

So do not oppress the orphan,

وَأَمَّا السَّائِلَ فَلَا تَنْهَرْ

nor repulse the beggar.

وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ

And proclaim the blessings of your Lord.

(Ad-Dhuha 93:1-11)

Private Invitation to Rasulullah ﷺ's Extended Family

After a few years of private gatherings, Rasulullah ﷺ was instructed to expand his invitation to his extended family through Surah Ash-Shu'ara': **And warn 'all, starting with' your closest relatives, and be gracious to the believers who follow you.**" Rasulullah ﷺ called together 45 men from the clan of Hashim and Muttalib for a feast of mutton and milk. Before he could explain the reason for the gathering, his uncle, Abu Lahab, dispersed the crowd. Rasulullah ﷺ renewed his invitation the next day and promptly addressed his family before his uncle could intervene.

To Reflect:

**Da'wah with
Family can
be hard,
but we
should never
give up!**

aaplus

The First Public Encounter

During the early Meccan period, the Companions prayed in secret, far from watchful eyes. On one occasion, however, several Meccans discovered a small congregation of Muslim worshippers and began harassing them. Despite the intensifying opposition, Surahs Al-Muzammil and At-Tariq strongly urged the Companions to patiently endure the assault: **Be patient 'O Prophet' with what they say, and depart from them courteously. And leave to Me the deniers—the people of luxury—and bear with them for a little while.** (Al-Muzzammil 73:10-11)



The First Public Quran Recitation

The first public recitation of the Quran was when Abdullah ibn Mas'ud RA boldly stood before the Ka'bah and recited Surah _____ (guess the Surah!) aloud to the Quraysh. He RA did this despite warnings from his fellow Muslims about potential violence. The Quraysh attacked him, beating him until his face swelled, but he persisted until he finished, marking a pivotal act of dawah in the early years.

The Start of Public Invitation in Makkah

The Quraysh felt increasingly threatened by Rasulullah ﷺ's growing influence, and asked Abu Talib to intervene. Rasulullah ﷺ responded to his uncle's coercion, "By Allah, if they put the sun in my right hand and the moon in my left hand on condition that I abandoned this course, I would not abandon it until Allah has made it victorious, or I perish therein."

Rasulullah ﷺ was determined to carry out his God-given task and continually encouraged the Quraysh to embrace the faith. Rather than heed Rasulullah ﷺ's words, they repeatedly challenge him to prove himself as God's Prophet.

Hijrah to Abyssinia

Over the past 4 years, Rasulallah ﷺ and his followers barely survived the rising tide of persecution in Makkah. Surah Az-Zumar was revealed to hint at the possibility of emigrating from their homeland in search of religious asylum. Hoping the benovelent Negus, from Abyssina will protect the small community of Muslims, Rasulallah ﷺ instructed a number of his Companions to emigrate, including notable Companions 'Uthman and Ruqayyah, Ja'far ibn Abi Talib and his wife Asma', and Mus'ab ibn 'Umayr.

Trivia:

**Which Surah
did Ja'far ibn
Abi Talib RA
recite in his
pleas before
the Negus?**

Conversion of Hamzah RA

Sayyidina Hamzah RA was the most formidable of the Quraysh. When he confronted Abu Jahl for taunting Rasulallah ﷺ, Abu Jahl confessed to mistreating Rasulallah ﷺ and quickly dispersed the astonished crowd who witnessed him being struck by Hamzah RA. During this confrontation was when Hamzah RA converted: **“Ah! You have been abusing Muhammad; I too follow his religion and profess what he preaches.”**

Conversion of Sayidina 'Umar RA

On his way to 'eliminate' Rasulullah ﷺ, he was diverted to his sister's house, where he overheard the melodic recitation of Surah Ta Ha. He was infuriated by her betrayal and attacked both his brother-in-law and sister, but his rage quickly became remorse when he saw her sister bleeding. He read the first few verses of Surah Ta Ha and was swept away by its nobility, **"It is truly I. I am Allah! There is no god 'worthy of worship' except Me. So worship Me 'alone', and establish prayer for My remembrance."** (Ta Ha 20:14)

He then headed directly to Rasulullah ﷺ's house, where Hamzah was armed and ready to defend Rasulullah ﷺ.

Undeterred, Sayidina 'Umar RA marched past Sayidina Hamzah RA and declared his wholehearted conversion to Rasulallah ﷺ. Without a minute to spare, he immediately went to Abu Jahl's house and defiantly proclaimed his new affiliation with Rasulallah ﷺ.

Sayidina 'Umar RA's defiant attitude immediately strengthened Rasulallah ﷺ's cause.

So great and instant was the effect of his conversion that the believers who had until then worshipped Allah SWT within their four walls in secret, now assembled and performed their rites of worship openly in the Holy Kaabah! This raised their spirits, while anxiety and uneasiness began to seize the Quraysh.

Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

BEFORE HIJRAH

The Boycott + Year of Sadness

By Aamir Ali

aap.us

The Start of Boycott

Sayidina ‘Umar RA’s conversion highlighted the Quraysh’s inability to halt the growth of Islam in Makkah. In desperation, the Quraysh leaders arranged a meeting to draft crippling sanctions against Rasulallah ﷺ’s clan. They forbade all inter-clan trade and marriage with Bani Hashim until the clan outlawed Rasulallah ﷺ or he ﷺ abandoned his movement. With the exception of Bani Muttalib, 40 men of Quraysh endorsed the ban.

Second Year of Boycott

The ban was strictly enforced in Makkah, and the clans of Hashim and Muttalib were near starvation. It was a horrible and deadly siege.

The supply of food was almost stopped and the people in confinement faced great hardships; they had to eat leaves and skins of animals. Cries of little children suffering from hunger used to be heard clearly. During this difficult period, several non-Hashimites smuggled food and necessities to the starving families.

**Does this sound
familiar?**

: (

**Compare this to
what is happening in
Gaza, where aid and
food is obstructed
from reaching the
people, and
volunteers' efforts to
'smuggle' necessities
into the city.**

End of Boycott

The clans of Hashim and Muttalib endured nearly three years of hunger and hardship. Fed up with the cruelty inflicted on their fellow tribesmen, five Meccans led by **Hisham ibn ‘Amr**, challenged the Quraysh to drop the ban. Despite Abu Jahl’s opposition, most of the Quraysh finally conceded. When they entered the Kaabah to remove the document on which the sanctions were written, all that was left of the parchment ar the words, “In The Name, O God”.

With the ban lifted, soon many of the Muslim emigrants, including Sayidina ‘Uthman RA, returned from Abyssinia.

Mut'im ibn 'Adi

Other than Hisham ibn 'Amr, Mut'im ibn 'Adi is one of the five Meccans who persuaded the Quraysh to end the ban on Hashim. Shortly thereafter, he agreed to protect Rasulullah ﷺ after Taif, when no one else would. Just a year ago, he dissolved his son's engagement to Sayidatina A'ishah RA so Rasulullah ﷺ could marry her.

**‘The Messenger of Allah
(ﷺ) said concerning the
prisoners of war taken at
Badr, “If al-Mut’am bin ’Adi
had been alive and spoken
to me about those filthy
ones (as they were
polytheists), I would have
freed them for him.”**

(Bukhari).

The Year of Sorrow: Death of Abu Talib & Khadijah RA

Several months after the lifting of the economic ban, Abu Talib fell gravely ill. With his health flailing, Rasulullah ﷺ pleaded for him to testify to the Oneness of God, but Abu Talib still refused. When his uncle died, Rasulullah ﷺ continued to pray for his forgiveness until Surah At-Tawbah instructed him otherwise.

Three months after Abu Talib's death, Rasulullah ﷺ's beloved wife, Sayyidatina Khadijah RA passed away during the month of Ramadan at the age of 65. The couple had been married for 25 years and was blessed with 4 surviving daughters.

Journey to Taif

After Abu Talib's death, the Quraysh intensified their opposition. Dirt and excrement were repeatedly thrown on Rasulullah ﷺ. When the abusive treatment brought Sayyidatina Fatima RA, who was not yet ten at that time, to tears, Rasulullah ﷺ gently reassured her, "Do not weep, my daughter. Allah will verily protect your father."

Facing grave danger, Rasulullah ﷺ and Zayd RA fled to the nearby oasis settlement of Taif. Upon their arrival, their messages were swiftly rejected by the sons of 'Amr ibn Umayyah. After 10 days of rejection and humiliation, Rasulullah ﷺ and Zayd were chased out of the city by a mob of servants and children.

Rasulullah ﷺ's Du'a

On the outskirts of Taif, Rasulullah ﷺ collapsed in a state of complete exhaustion. In the past several months, he ﷺ has lost his outward protection from Abu Talib and inwards security from Sayyidatina Khadijah RA. Then he was forced out of his home only to be rejected by outsiders as well. In a state of complete humility, he ﷺ turned to his only remaining Protector:

O Allah! I complain to you of my weakness, my scarcity of resources and humiliation before the people. O Most Merciful! The Lord of the weak and my Lord too! To whom have You entrusted me? To one who does not care for me? Or have You appointed my enemy as master of my affairs? So as long as You are not angry with me, I care not. Your favor is abundant for me. I seek refuge in the light of Your Face, by which all darkness is dispelled and every affair of this world and the next is set right, lest Your anger or your displeasure descend upon me. I desire your pleasure and satisfaction until You are pleased. There is no power (to do good) and no might (to refrain from evil) except with You.

(Ar-Raheeq-Al-Makhtum)

aaplus

Pre-‘Aqabah Pledge

With the annual pilgrimage to Makkah approaching, Arab pilgrims from all over the peninsula began arriving to visit the Kaabah. Rasulullah ﷺ, who until now had been rejected by Bani Quraysh and Thaqif, approached six Khazraj pilgrims from Yathrib and explained his message. The pilgrims conferred with one another, saying, “Know surely, this is the Prophet with whom the Jews are ever threatening us; so, let us make haste and be the first to join him.” And they accepted Islam without hesitation.

These six men were As'ad ibn Zurarah, 'Awf ibn al-Harith, Mu'adh ibn al-Harith, Rafi' ibn Malik, Dhakwan ibn 'Abd Qays, and Yazid ibn Tha'labah.

The Night Journey (Isra')

Abu Talib's wife, Fatimah bint Asad, had entered Islam sometime before or after the death of her husband. Her daughter, Umm Hani, remained close to Rasulullah ﷺ, and in the year after Abu Talib's death, she invited him over to lead the evening prayer in her house. Rasulullah ﷺ accepted his cousin's invitation, and after the prayer, rested at her home. Like his grandfather 'Abd al-Muttalib, Rasulullah ﷺ used to enjoy spending nights in the Hjr, near the tomb of Hajr and Ismail.

After a short nap at Umm Hani's house, he stepped out to visit the Kaabah and fell asleep in the Hjr. In the midst of his sleep, he was greeted by Jibril AS who led him to a mounted winged beast named Buraq. Then as described in Surah Al Isra', Rasulullah ﷺ was carried to Jerusalem, where he encountered other prophets and led them in prayer.

سُبْحَنَ الَّذِي أَسْرَىٰ بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِّنَ الْمَسْجِدِ
الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَا الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا
حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنْ ءَايَاتِنَا إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ
الْبَصِيرُ

Glory be to the One Who took His servant
‘Muḥammad’ by night from the Sacred Mosque to
the Farthest Mosque whose surroundings We
have blessed, so that We may show him some of
Our signs. Indeed, He alone is the All-Hearing,
All-Seeing.

(Al-Isra 17:1)

The Ascension (Mi'raj)

After the congregational prayer, Rasulullah ﷺ ascended through the seven heavens. At each level, he ﷺ encountered different Prophets, who collectively endorsed his prophethood.

1st Heaven - Prophet Adam AS

2nd Heaven - Prophet Yahya and Isa AS

3rd Heaven - Prophet Yusuf AS

4th Heaven - Prophet Idris AS

5th Heaven - Prophet Harun AS

6th Heaven - Prophet Musa AS

7th Heaven - Prophet Ibrahim AS

After the 7th Heaven, Rasulullah ﷺ finally met his Rabb.

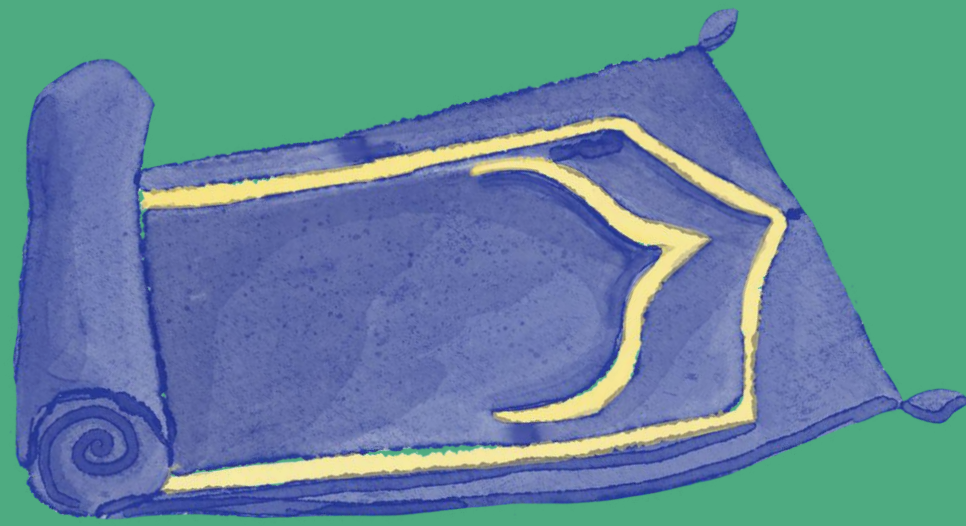
The Creed of Faith

At the height of the ascension, Rasulullah ﷺ was commanded to instruct his followers to perform 50 prayers daily. He ﷺ also received revelation that contains the creed of his faith:

ءَاَمَنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ
ءَاَمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ
مِّنْ رُّسُلِهِ ۚ وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا ۚ غُفْرَانِكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ
الْمَصِيرُ

The Messenger 'firmly' believes in what has been revealed to him from his Lord, and so do the believers. They 'all' believe in Allah, His angels, His Books, and His messengers. 'They proclaim,' "We make no distinction between any of His messengers." And they say, "We hear and obey. 'We seek' Your forgiveness, our Lord! And to You 'alone' is the final return."

(Al-Baqarah 2:285)



The Commandment to Pray Five Times a Day

As Rasulullah ﷺ descended through the heavens, he ﷺ was approached by Prophet Musa AS who persuaded him to return to Allah SWT and asked Him to make worship easier for his community by decreasing the number of obligatory daily prayers. When Rasulullah ﷺ returned a second time, Prophet Musa AS reiterated his recommendation. **They**

repeated this several times more until the number of daily prayers is reduced to five.

Even then, Prophet Musa AS encouraged Rasulullah ﷺ to seek a further reduction. Rasulullah ﷺ responded, **“I feel ashamed now of repeatedly asking my Lord for reduction. I accept and resign to His Will.”**

The First Aqabah Pledge

Five of the six Khazraj men who had pledged their loyalty to Rasulullah ﷺ one year earlier returned to 'Aqabah along with seven other men, including two men from Aws named Abul Haitham bin At-Taihan and 'Uwaim bin Sa'idah. They gathered around Rasulullah ﷺ and intently listened to his words. All 12 men from Yathrib agreed to follow Rasulullah ﷺ's moral code and pledge their loyalty to him ﷺ in an event known as the First Aqabah.

The First Aqabah Pledge

1. Not to join anything in worship along with Allah.
2. Not to steal.
3. Not to commit illegal sexual intercourse.
4. Not to kill your children.
5. Not to accuse an innocent person (to spread such an accusation among people).
6. Not to be disobedient (when ordered) to do good deed."

Rasulullah ﷺ added, "Whoever among you fulfils his pledge will be rewarded by Allah. And whoever indulges in any one of them (except the ascription of partners to Allah) and gets the punishment in this world, that punishment will be an expiation for that sin. And if one indulges in any of them, and Allah conceals his sin, it is up to Him to forgive or punish him (in the Hereafter)."

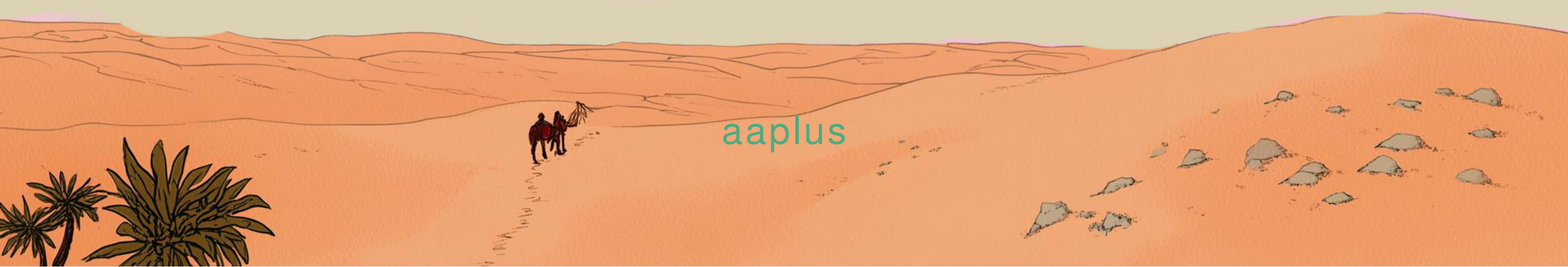
(Bukhari)

Preparing Yathrib

Rasulullah ﷺ accepted the pilgrims' allegiance and sent one of his dearest Companions, Mus'ab ibn Umayr RA, to Yathrib to teach them the Quran and lead them in prayer. By this point, it is possible that 75% of the Quran has been revealed.

11 months after leaving Makkah, Mus'ab RA returned to report on his progress. Though not perfect, Yathrib's sociopolitical climate appeared better suited to cultivating the loyal community of Muslims.

With Yathrib ready for his arrival, Rasulallah ﷺ told 'Abbas RA and his wife Umm al-Fadl RA of his plans to emigrate.



PS: Yathrib VS Madina

Yathrib, the pre-Islamic name for Madina, was said to carry a neutral / negative meaning such as "blame," "corruption," or "stirring up trouble."

But after Rasulallah ﷺ's migration, it was renamed to Madina meaning, "The City". Now it's known as Madina al Munawwarah, meaning "The Illuminated / Radiant City" symbolizing its transformation into a unified, enlightened Islamic centre.

The Second Aqabah Pledge

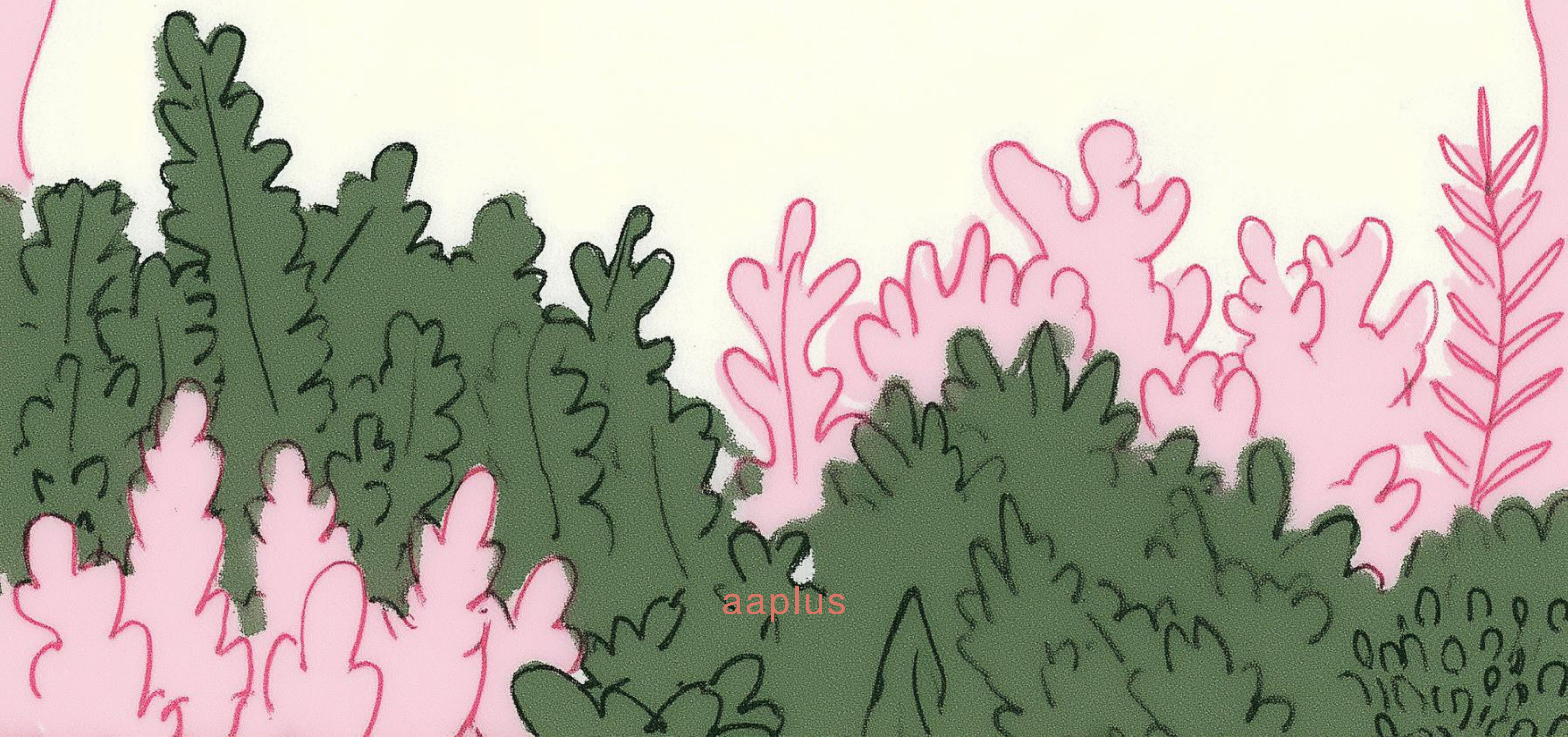
Shortly after Mus'ab RA's return, 73 men and 2 women (!!!) travelled to Makkah for the annual pilgrimage. Upon their arrival, they agreed to meet with Rasulullah ﷺ in secret and help plan his escape.

Once again, the pilgrims affirmed their allegiance to Rasulullah ﷺ.

The Second Aqabah Pledge

1. To listen and obey in all difficulties and ease
2. To spend in plenty as well as in scarcity
3. To enjoin good and forbid evil
4. In Allah's service, you will fear the censure of none
5. To aid Rasulallah ﷺ when he ﷺ comes to them, and protect him ﷺ from anything they protect themselves, their spouses and children from.

(Abd Al-Malik ibn Hisham (1955), Al-Seerat Al-Nabawiyah)



Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

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The Hijrah

Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

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Rasulullah ﷺ said:

“I saw in a dream that I was migrating from Mecca to a land where there were date palm trees. I thought that it might be the land of Al-Yamama or Hajar, but behold, it turned out to be Yathrib (i.e. Madinah).”

(Sahih al-Bukhari 7035, Sahih Muslim 2272)

Beginning of Migration

When Jibril AS informs
Rasulullah ﷺ of a **murder
conspiracy** led by Abu Jahal,
Rasulullah ﷺ goes straight to
Abu Bakr RA's house and
informs him that **the time has
come to leave for Yathrib.**

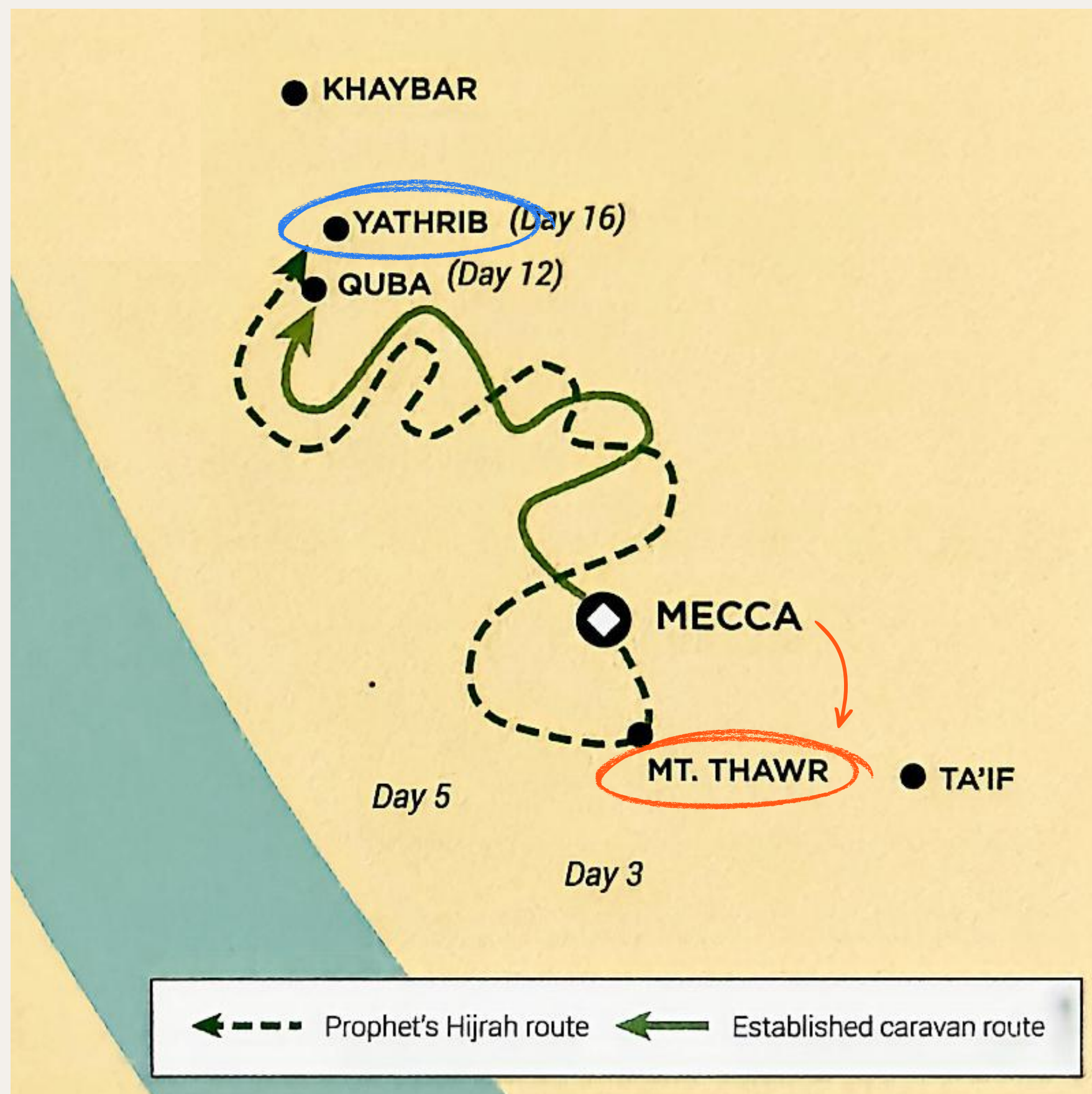
Narrated 'Aisha RA:

“One day, while we were sitting in Abu Bakr RA's house at noon, someone said to Abu Bakr RA, "Rasulullah (ﷺ) with his head covered coming at a time at which he never used to visit us before."...

Rasulullah (ﷺ) said, "I have been given permission to migrate." Abu Bakr RA said, "Shall I accompany you? May my father be sacrificed for you, O Allah's Messenger (ﷺ)!" Rasulallah (ﷺ) said, "Yes."

(Sahih al-Bukhari 3905)

Rasulullah ﷺ had instructed Sayyidina ‘Ali RA to sleep in his bed ﷺ, which left the assassins who was surrounding Rasulullah ﷺ’s house completely bewildered when it was Sayyidina ‘Ali RA who came to the door the next morning.



Hoping to confuse the Meccans, Rasulullah ﷺ and Sayyidina Abu Bakr RA first headed south to the Mount of Thawr.

Soon enough, one of the Quraysh search parties ascended Mount Thawr and approached the cave where the two were hiding.

Sayyidina Abu Bakr RA whispered **his concern for the safety of Rasulullah ﷺ**.

He ﷺ then responded:

**"What do you think
of two, the third of
whom is Allah?"**

(Sahih al-Bukhari 4663)

The tense moment was also captured in
Surah At-Tawbah:

"It does not matter if you 'believers' do not support him, for Allah did in fact support him when the disbelievers drove him out of Mecca' and he was only one of two. While they both were in the cave, he reassured his companion, "Do not worry; Allah is certainly with us." So Allah sent down His serenity upon the Prophet, supported him with forces you 'believers' did not see, and made the word of the disbelievers lowest, while the Word of Allah is supreme. And Allah is Almighty, All-Wise."

(At Tawbah 9:40)

To Reflect:

**What does this
teach us about
cultivating
tawakkul when
we feel isolated
or overwhelmed?**

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To Reflect:

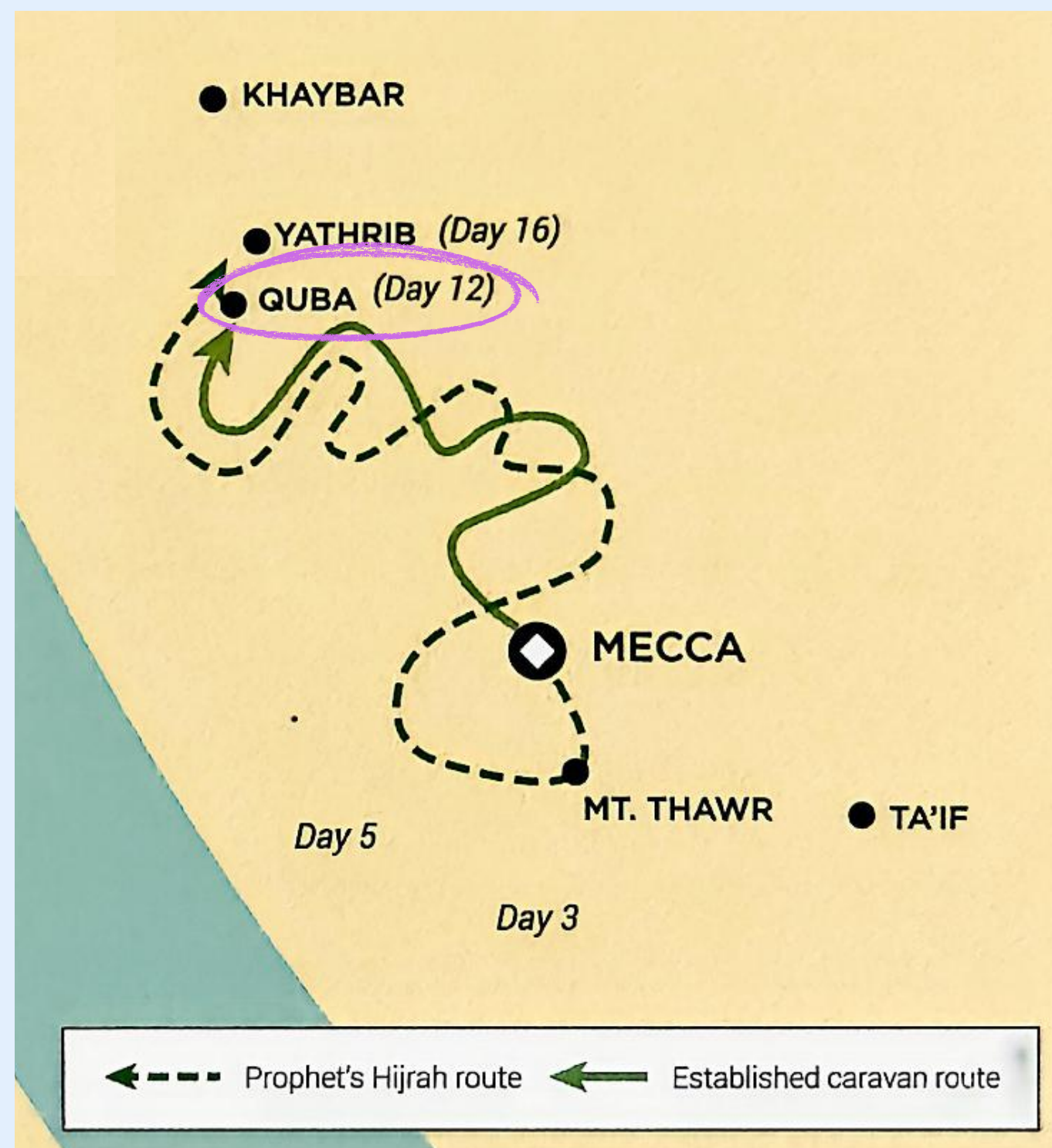
**How can
we seek
Sakinah
(Serenity)
in our daily
challenges?**

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To Reflect:

Allah SWT supported them with “forces you did not see”. How does this inspire us to trust in Allah’s unseen help when human support seems absent?

The Very First Mosque



Twelve days after leaving Makkah, Rasulullah ﷺ and Sayyidina Abu Bakr RA reach the village of Quba on the southern outskirts of Yathrib.

Before departing Quba three days later, Rasulullah ﷺ lays the foundations for the very first mosque.

Rasulullah ﷺ said:

**“Whoever purifies
himself in his house,
then comes to the
Quba’ Mosque and
offers one prayer
therein, will have a
reward like that for
‘Umrah.”**

(Sunan Ibn Majah 1412)

Journeying with
Rasulullah ﷺ

AFTER HIJRAH

Establishment in Madinah

Volume 1
Part 1

aaplus

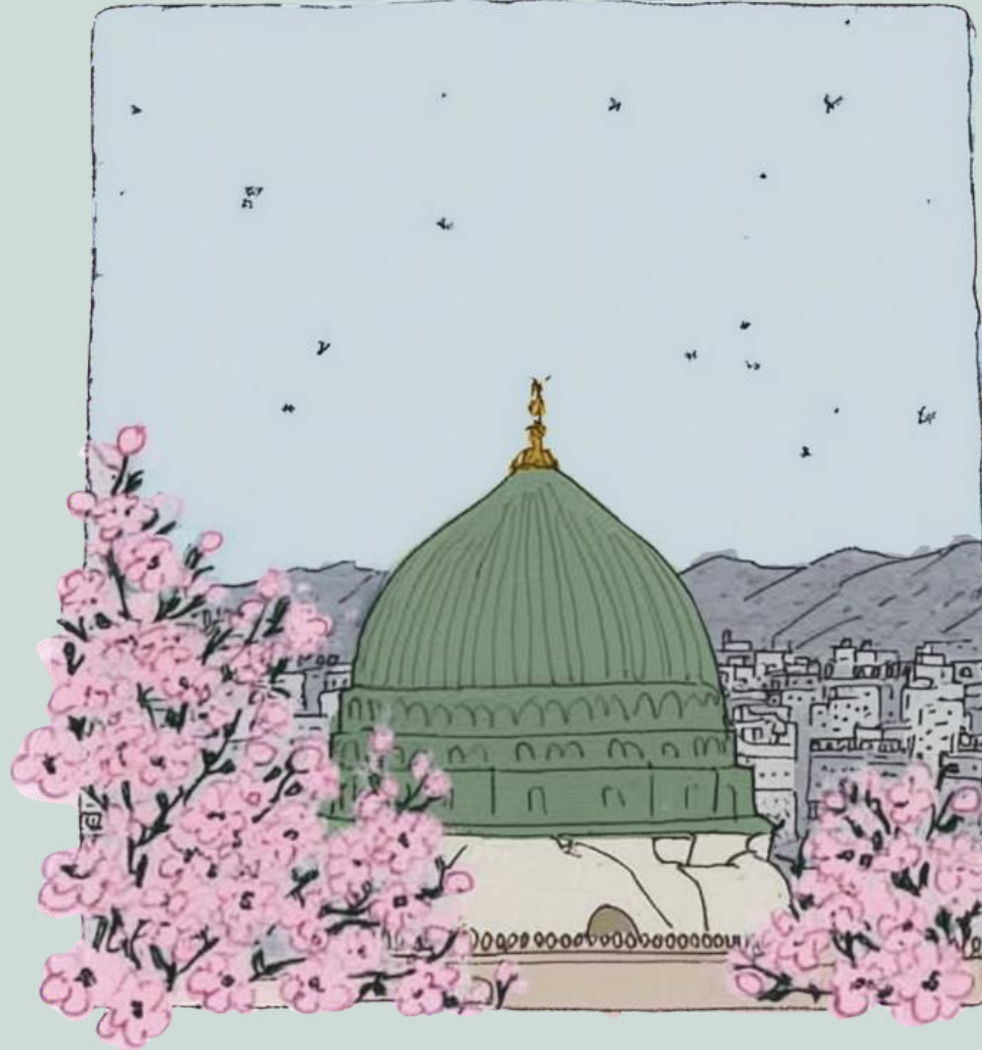
The Blessed Pairings

Upon his arrival, Rasulullah ﷺ immediately sets out to unify the community. Each Muhajirin was paired with an Ansar. One of the pairings that was made by Rasulullah ﷺ was between **the two companions that we should learn the Quran from; Abdullah Ibn Mas'ud RA (Muhajirin) and Muadh Ibn Jabal RA (Ansar).**

Rasulullah ﷺ said:

“Take (learn)
the Qur'an from four:
Abdullah bin Masud, Salim,
Mu`adh bin Jabal and
Ubai bin Ka`b.”

(Sahih al-Bukhari 4999).



The Prophet ﷺ's Mosque

Construction of Rasulullah ﷺ's house begins immediately after his arrival ﷺ. The adjoining courtyard becomes a mosque made of stone and mudbrick or sun-dried brick, and a roof of palm leaves.

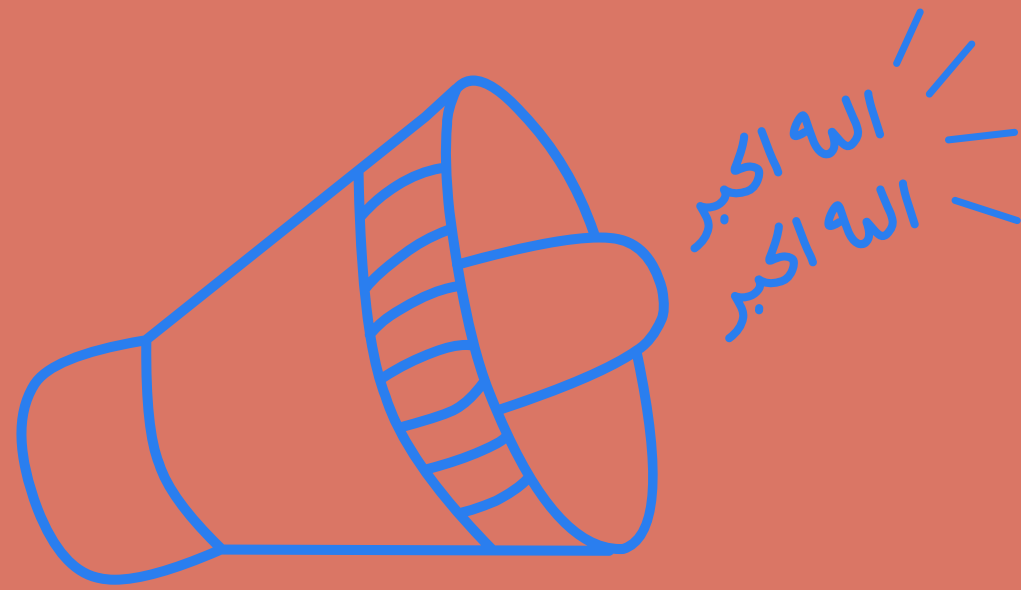
The Qiblah (direction of prayer) is still set toward Jerusalem.

Revelation of Surah Al Baqarah

Shortly after the Hijrah, the first few installments of Surah Al Baqarah was revealed.

The Surah begins with the definition of the **Muttaqeen (the God-fearing)**. Then the Surah warns Rasulallah ﷺ that although the **Hijrah distanced him ﷺ from the Mushrikeen (polytheists)** in Makkah, he ﷺ will soon confront a more insidious problem; **the Munafiqeen (hypocrites) in Madinah.**

Over the next
several months,
the Muslim
community
establishes
its daily routine...

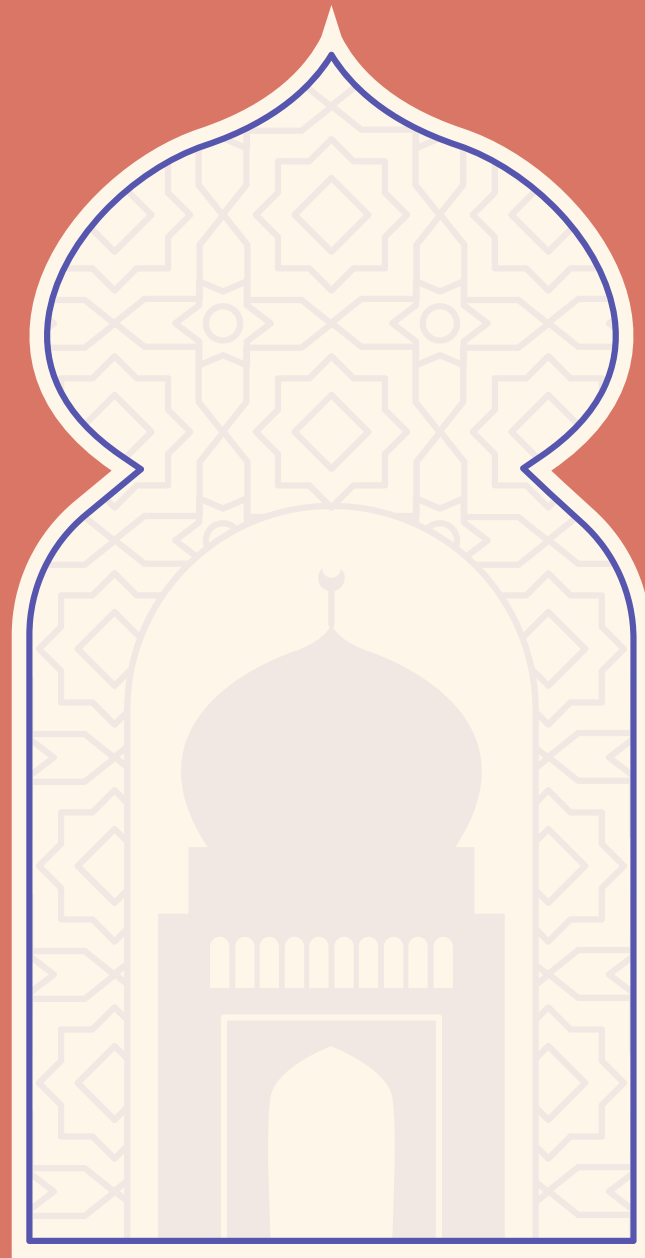


Sahabahs had dreams about
the **Adhaan**, and Rasulullah
ﷺ established Bilal ibn Rabah
RA as the first Muaddhin.

Rasulullah ﷺ said:

“Your companion has had a
dream (about Adhaan). Go
out with Bilal to the mosque
and teach it to him, for he
has a louder voice than you.”

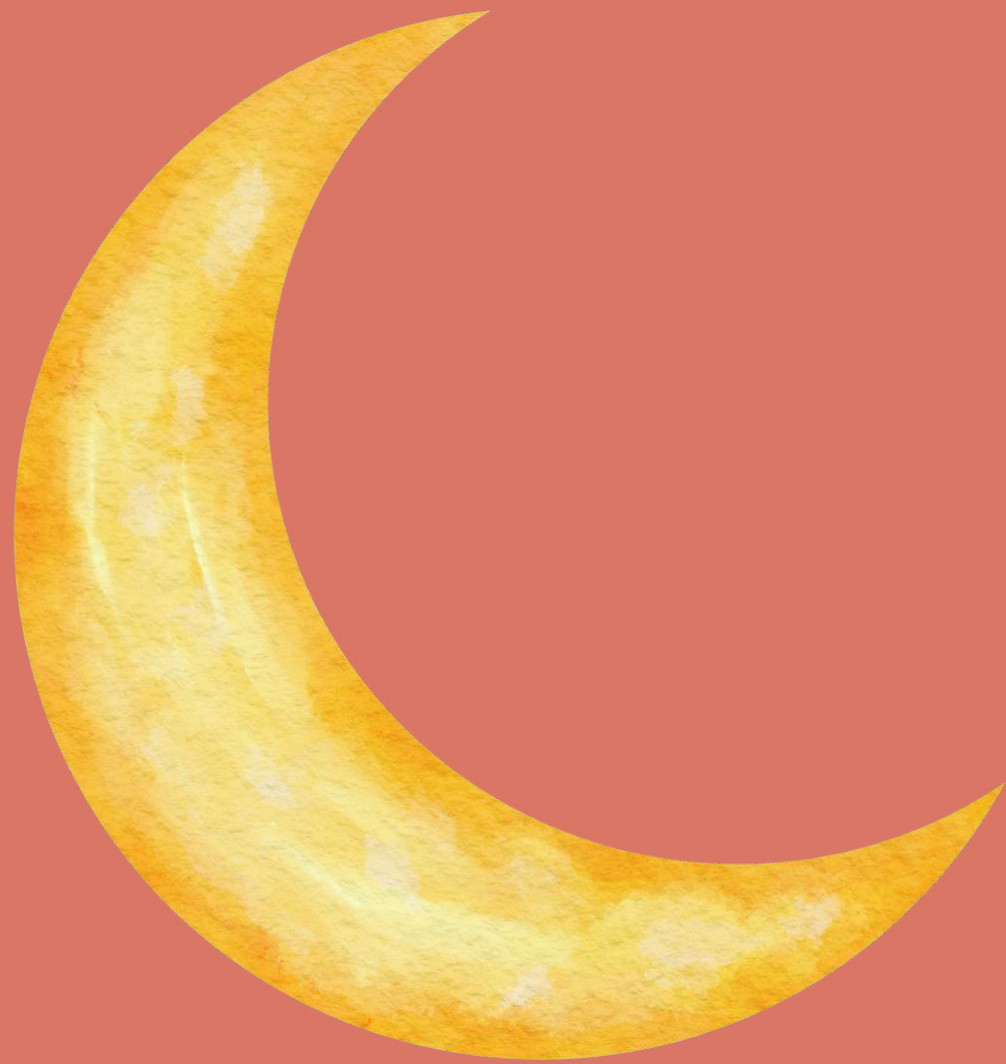
(Sunan Ibn Majah 706)



Prayers are conducted
five times every day.

"Maintain with care the
[obligatory].prayers and
[in particular] the
middle [i.e., 'aṣr] prayer
and stand before Allāh,
devoutly obedient."

(Al Baqarah 2:238)



Fasting is prescribed during
the month of Ramadhan.

"O you who have
believed, decreed upon
you is fasting as it was
decreed upon those
before you that you may
become righteous -"

(Al Baqarah 2:183)



And many injunctions of what is **halal** (permitted) and **haram** (prohibited) are revealed in the Quran.

"O you who have believed, eat from the good [i.e., lawful] things which We have provided for you and be grateful to Allāh if it is [indeed] Him that you worship. He has only forbidden to you dead animals, blood, the flesh of swine, and that which has been dedicated to other than Allāh.

But whoever is forced [by necessity], neither desiring [it] nor transgressing [its limit], there is no sin upon him.

Indeed, Allāh is Forgiving and Merciful."

(2:172-173)

"They ask you about wine and gambling. Say, "In them is great sin and [yet, some] benefit for people. But their sin is greater than their benefit." And they ask you what they should spend. Say, "The excess [beyond needs]." Thus Allāh makes clear to you the verses [of revelation] that you might give thought"

(Al Baqarah 2:219)

The Reunions

The mosque becomes the center of community affairs in Madinah, and soon after its construction, two rooms are added to the side for the Rasulullah ﷺ's second and third wives; Sayyidatina Sawda RA and Sayyidatina A'ishah RA.

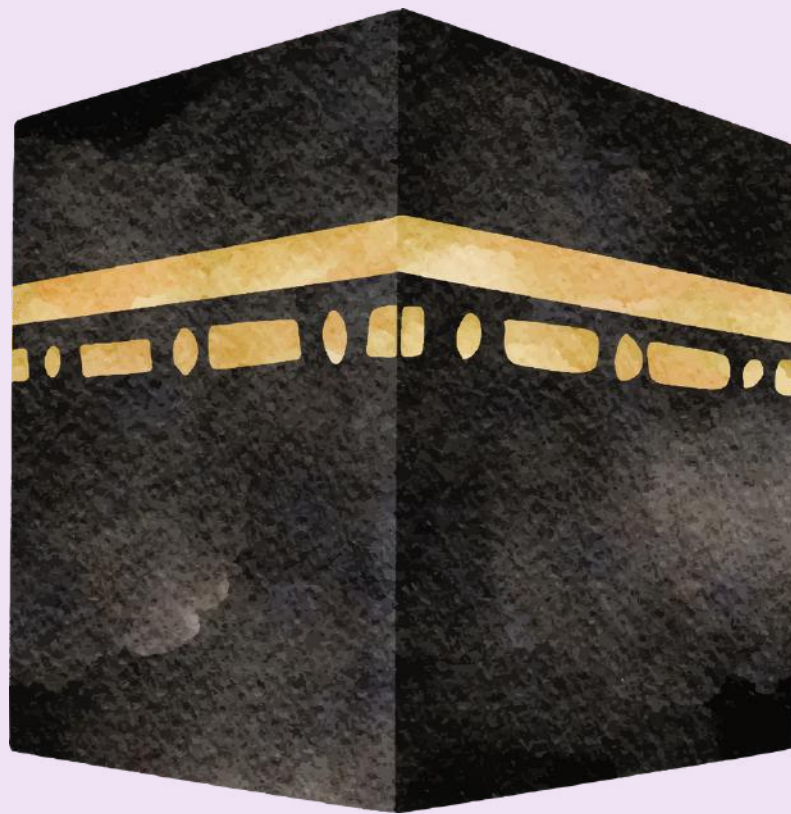
Rasulullah ﷺ sends Sayyidina Zayd RA to Makkah to escort Sayyidatina Sawda RA and Rasulullah ﷺ's daughters; Sayyidatina Umm Kulthum RA and Sayyidatina Fatima RA to Madinah.

Sayyidina Abu Bakr RA sends his son 'Abdullah RA to bring his wife and his daughters; Sayyidatina Asma' RA and Sayyidatina A'ishah RA.

52 years old / Year 13 of Prophethood / 0 AH

Upon their arrival,
Rasulullah ﷺ
marries
Sayyidatina A'ishah
RA in a very simple
ceremony.

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The New Qiblah

Throughout the Meccan period, Rasulullah ﷺ had faced Jerusalem whenever he led the prayer. Ever since the Hijrah, however, he ﷺ longed to return to his birthplace, and more importantly, the Kaaba that had been erected by Prophet Ibrahim AS and Prophet Ismail AS many years ago.

"We have certainly seen the turning of your face, [O Muḥammad], toward the heaven, and We will surely turn you to a qiblah with which you will be pleased. So turn your face [i.e., yourself] toward al-Masjid al-Ḥarām. And wherever you [believers] are, turn your faces [i.e., yourselves] toward it [in prayer]. Indeed, those who have been given the Scripture [i.e., the Jews and the Christians] well know that it is the truth from their Lord. And Allāh is not unaware of what they do."

(Al Baqarah 2:144).

And the (love) story continues....

(Part 2 of this journey will be coming soon!)