

Sirah, a Love Story

Journeying through the Prophet ﷺ's
Blessed Life (Part 2 of 3)



A Quick Recap of Part 1:

- *Rasulullah ﷺ migrated to Medina for the Hijrah*
- *The Kiblah had changed from Jerusalem to Mecca*
- *The 5 Daily Prayers, Zakat & Fasting were prescribed*
- *The Prophet's Mosque in Medina was built!*

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53 years old / Year 14 of Prophethood / 1 AH

The Household of Rasulullah ﷺ

Wives

Sayyidatina Sawda RA

Sayyidatina A'isha RA

Children

Sayyidatina Zaynab RA (Stayed in Makkah)

Sayyidatina Ruqayyah RA

Sayyidatina Umm Kulthum RA

Sayyidatina Fatima RA

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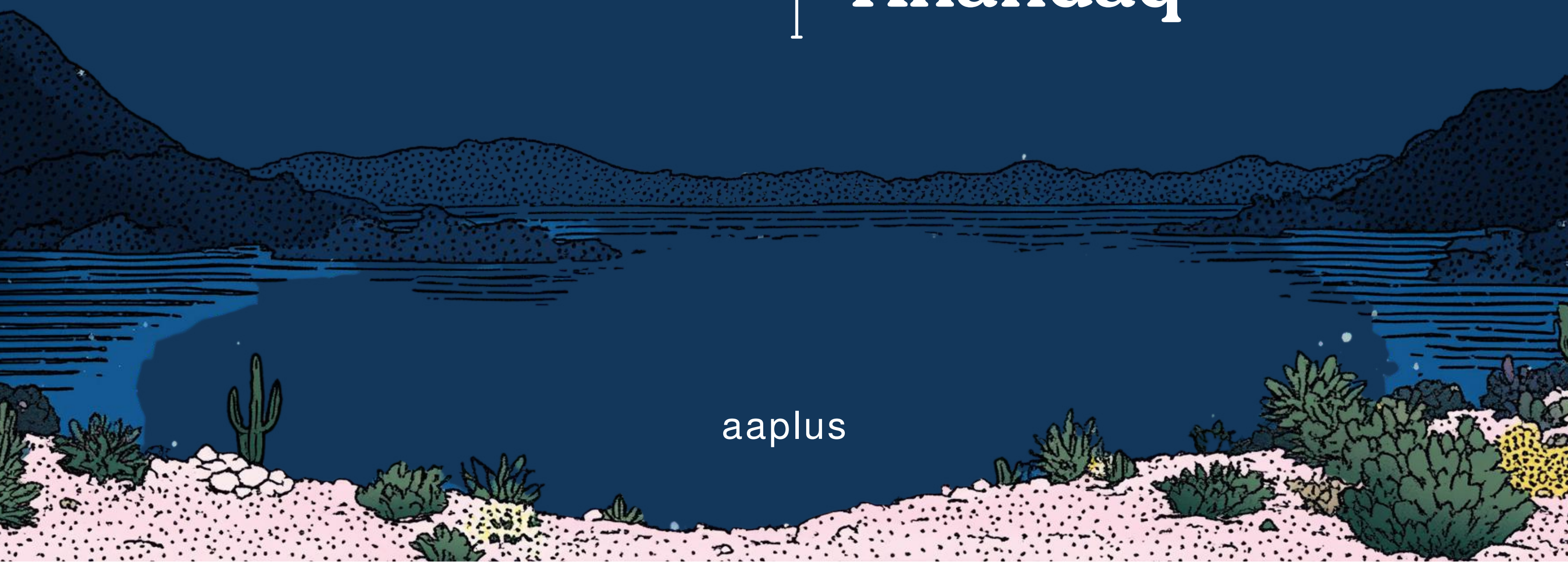
Battle of Badr

**Blessed
Marriages in
Early Medina**

**Battle of
Uhud**

**Battle of
Ahzab /
Khandaq**

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54 years old / Year 15 of Prophethood / 2 AH

The Battle of Badr

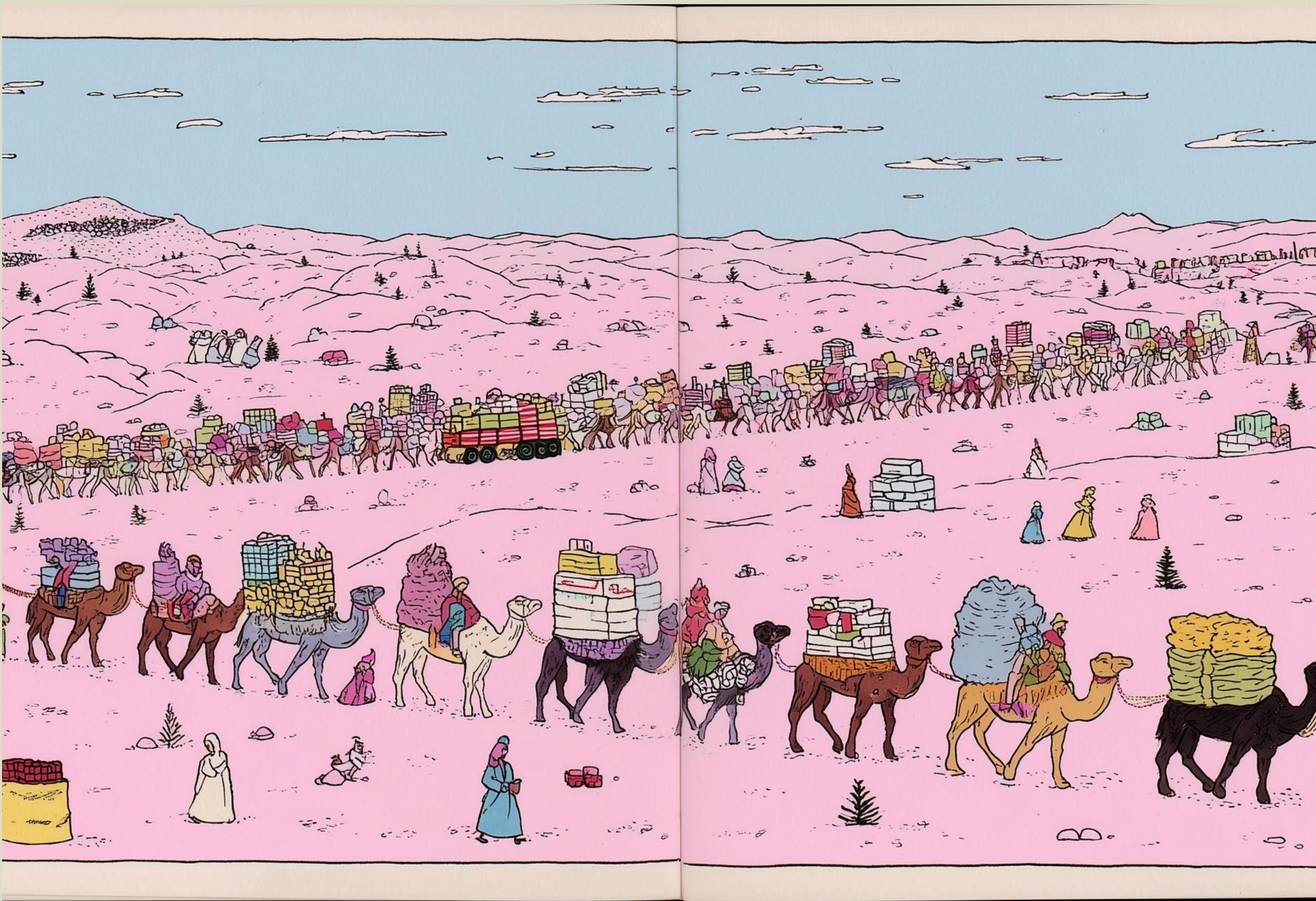
(It was not meant to be a battle)

**The believers
primary intention
was to intercept
the Caravan of Abu
Sufyan which was
on the way back from
Shams to Mecca.**

**Hold up.
What's the
big deal
about this...
caravan?**

- It was carrying a **LARGE** quantity of **goods** that most of the Qurasyh clans had a share in.
- The intention was **to recover the wealth** that the Qurasyh seized when the believers migrated.
- The other reason was also to **demonstrate power** to the inhabitants of Mecca, who were increasingly plotting against them.

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- **Rasulullah ﷺ intended to intercept the Caravan at Badr, but Abu Sufyan, who had also been warned of the impending attack by his own spies, also sent news to the Qurasyh leaders asking for help.**
- **Abu Sufyan changed his route, and once he was sure that he had managed to avoid the attack, he sent another message to the Quraysh leaders to tell them that he no longer needed help.**

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BUT OF COURSE,
BY THEN IT IS
TOO LATE!

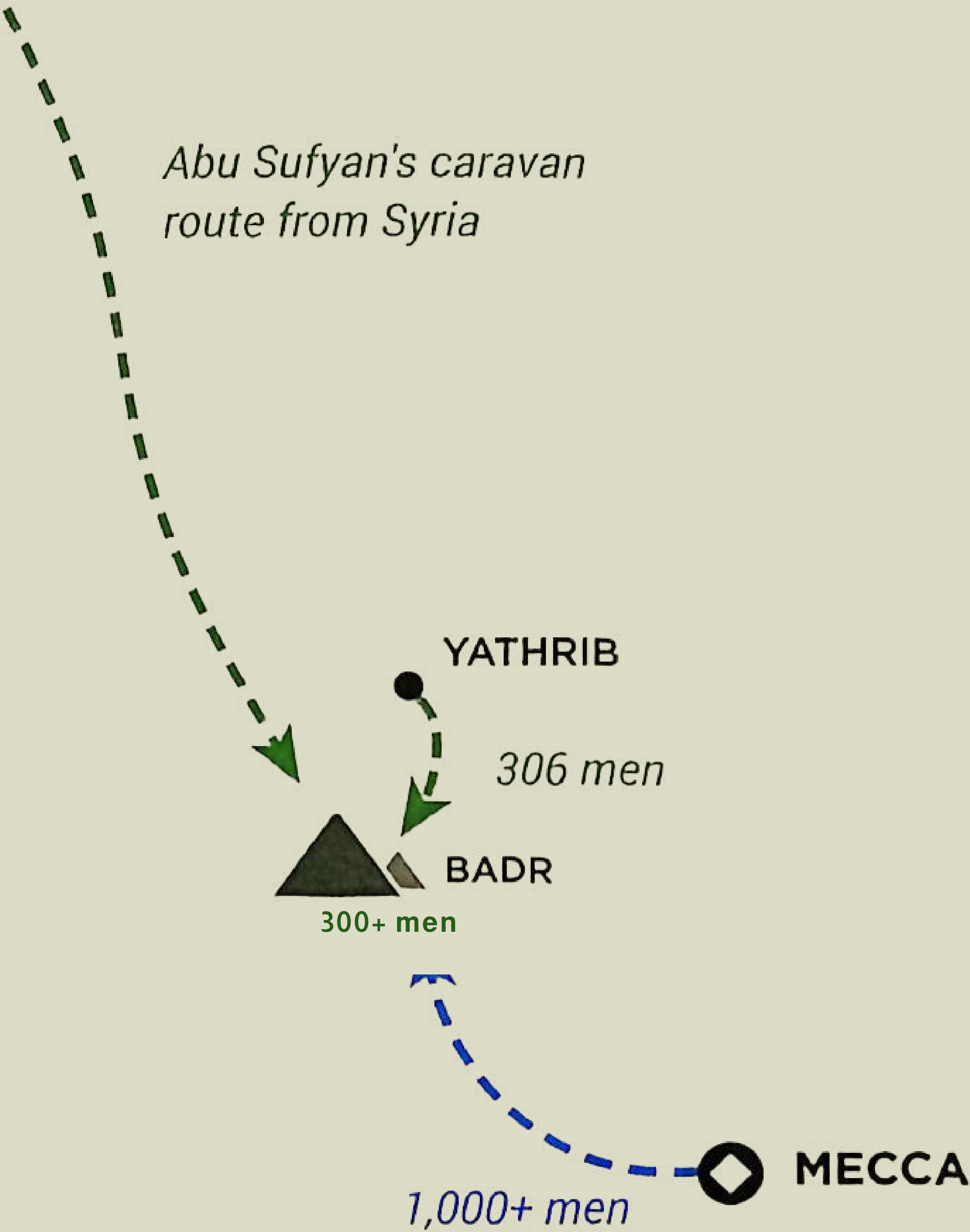


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**By this time, the
Quraysh leaders had
already set off with 1000
men, and they decided,
at Abu Jahl's insistence,
that they must go on.**

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TA'IF

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Meanwhile,
at the
believers'
side...

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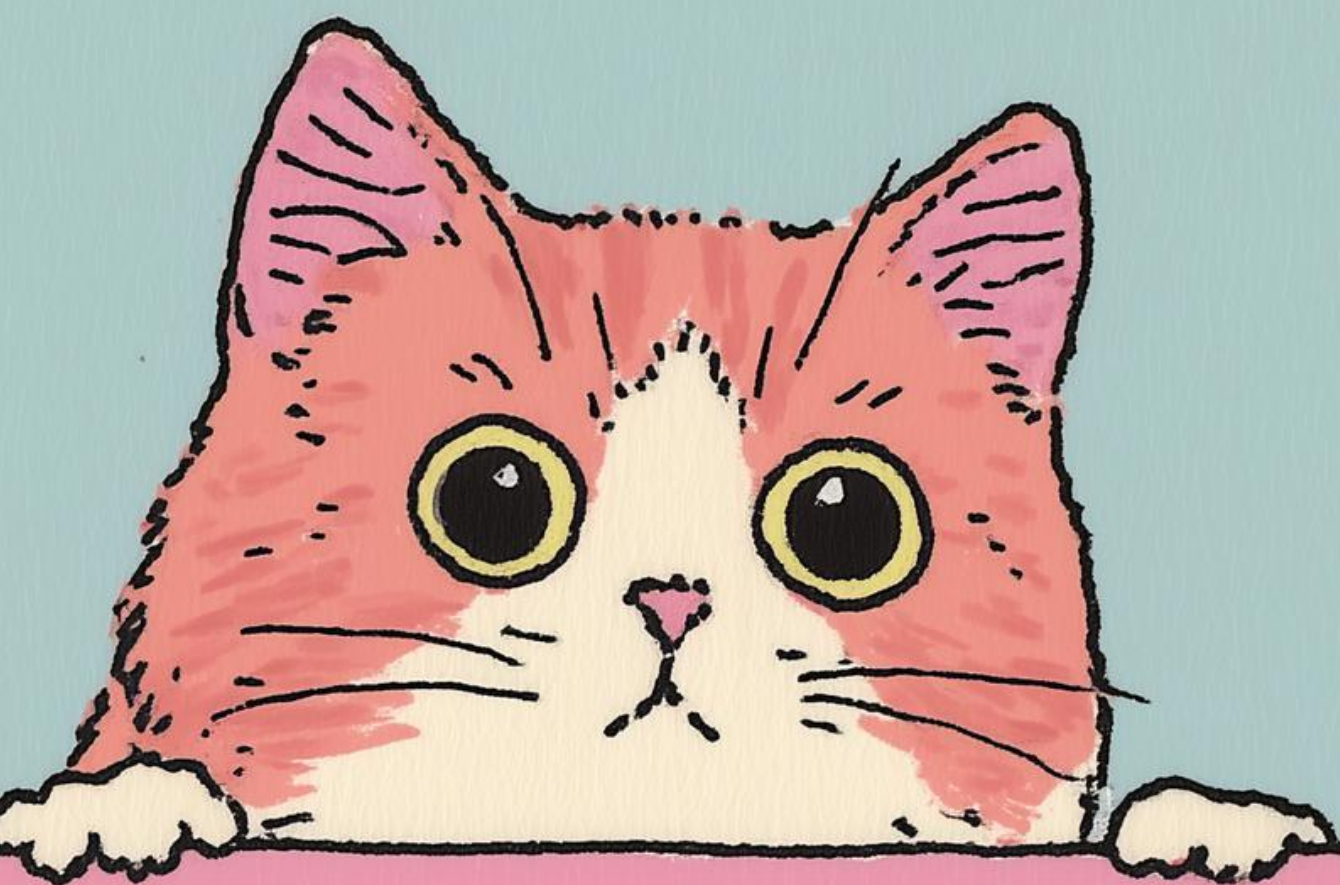
Rasulullah ﷺ
consulted his
companions about
whether they should
attempt to capture the
caravan, confront the
army, or go back to
Medina.

He ﷺ didn't have to, but he did <3

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*What would
you do???*
Fight or run?



Rasulullah ﷺ
asked up to
4 times
“Advise me,
O People!”.

Of course Sayidina Abu Bakr RA and Sayidina Umar RA spoke first and confirmed their readiness. Then another Muhajirin, Al-Miqdad b Amr RA followed suit.

Narrated `Abdullah bin Masud:

On the day of Badr, Al-Miqdad said, "O Rasulullah (ﷺ)! We do not say to you as the children of Israel said to Moses, 'Go you and your Lord and fight you two; we are sitting here, (Quran 5:24) but (we say). "Proceed, and we are with you." That seemed to delight Rasulullah (ﷺ) greatly.

(Sahih al-Bukhari 4609)

These comforted Rasulullah ﷺ, but this was what was naturally expected of the Muhajirun. It was from the **Ansars** that Rasulullah ﷺ needed explicit support, as they were not directly involved in the conflict with the Quraysh. Which was why Rasulullah ﷺ repeated the question, **“Advise me, O People.”**

**Sayidina Sa'ad ibn
Muadh RA, the great
leader of the Ansars,
finally stood and said,
“Perhaps you are
waiting for us, Ya
Rasulullah.” And
Rasulullah ﷺ said,
“Yes.”**

**And so Sa'ad RA gives
this eloquent speech:**

“Ya Rasulullah, go forth!

**And do as you see fit, and we
are with you. For I swear by
The One who has sent you
with the truth, were you to
take us into the ocean, and
charge us galloping into the
ocean, then we would go
right behind you!”**

(And note, these are people who
cannot swim, look at their faith!)

Rasulullah ﷺ
exercised a type of
leadership that
always allowed the
companions to speak,
to assert themselves,
and to take initiative!

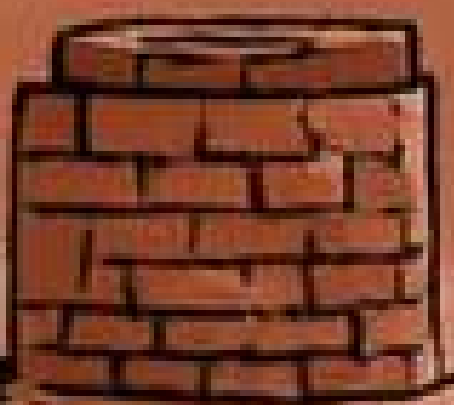
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The Advice of Hubab ibn al-Mundhir RA

When Rasulullah ﷺ arrived at Badr, he set up his camp near the first wells he found.

Seeing this Hubab ibn al-Mundhir came to him ﷺ and asked, “Was this place revealed to you by Allah or an opinion and a strategy of yours?” Rasulullah ﷺ confirmed that it was his own personal opinion and Hubab RA then suggested to camp nearest to the **biggest** well instead, facing the way the Qurasyh would arrive, then blocking the other wells in the area so that the Quraysh could not get water. Rasulullah ﷺ carefully listened to Hubab RA and accepted it straightaway!



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Rasulullah ﷺ gave his companions, **men and women alike**, the means and confidence to speak up. He ﷺ showed how he valued and respected their intelligence **and** their hearts. And the companions responded to this love so beautifully as well, by always being so comfortable towards him ﷺ, and always wanting to genuinely be with, and around him, ﷺ!

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The Night Before the Battle

It was narrated that ‘Ali RA said:

**...I could not see any of us who
was not asleep, apart from
Rasulullah (ﷺ) who remained
praying beneath a tree and
weeping until morning.**

(Musnad Ahmad 1023)

Rasulullah ﷺ was the
only one who was awake
with his best weapon of
choice ﷺ - Du'a

إِذْ تَسْتَغِيثُونَ رَبَّكُمْ فَاسْتَجَابَ لَكُمْ أَنِّي
مُمِدُّكُمْ بِأَلْفٍ مِّنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ مُرَدِّفِينَ

‘Remember’ when you cried
out to your Lord for help, He
answered, “I will reinforce
you with a thousand angels—
followed by many others.”

(Surah al-Anfal 8 : 9)

**Meanwhile,
the Sahabahs
had a restful
night before
the battle.**

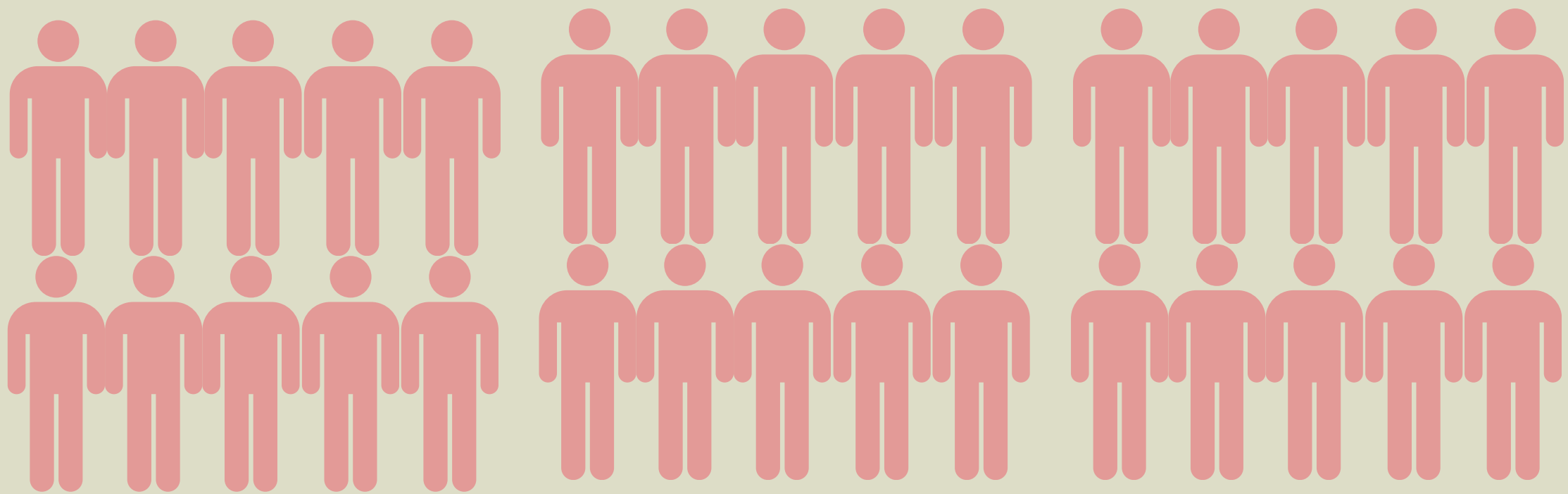
إِذْ يُغَشِّيكُمُ النَّعَاسَ أَمَنَةً مِّنْهُ وَيُنْزِلُ
عَلَيْكُم مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً لِّيُطَهِّرَكُم بِهِ
وَيُذْهِبَ عَنْكُم رِجْزَ الشَّيْطَانِ وَلِيَرْبِطَ
عَلَى قُلُوبِكُمْ وَيُثَبِّتَ بِهِ الْأَقْدَامَ

‘Remember’ when He caused
drowsiness to overcome you,
giving you serenity. And He sent
down rain from the sky to purify
you, free you from Satan’s
whispers, strengthen your hearts,
and make ‘your’ steps firm.

(Surah al-Anfal 8 : 9)

The Stats of Badr

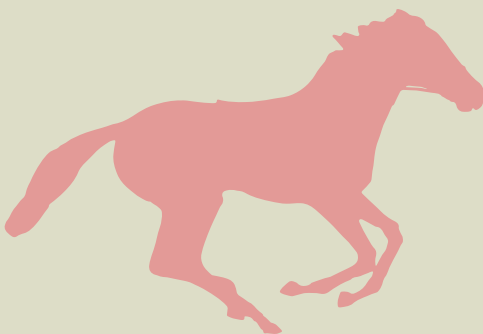
1000 Quraysh



700

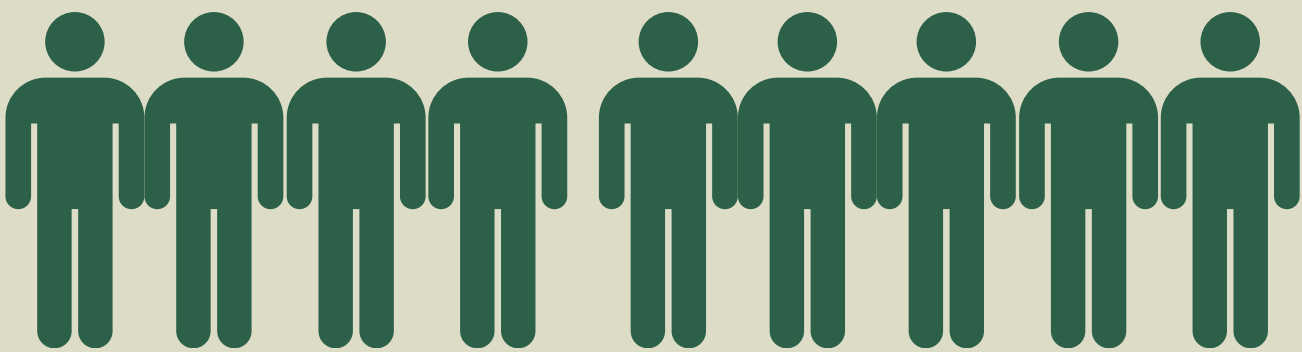


200



313 Muslims

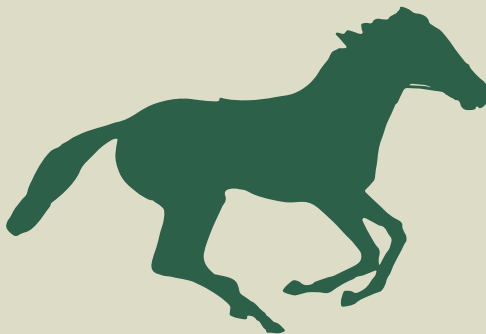
(82 Muhajirin, 231 Ansars)



70



2



**The Battle of Badr took place
on the 17th of Ramadhan.**

**Rasulullah ﷺ reminded the
Muslims who wished to fast
that this was NOT compulsory.
Rasulullah ﷺ also drank water
conspicuously on that occasion
to set an example to his
Companions.**

The battle started with duels which defeated the uncle, father and brother of Hind bint Utbah (the wife of Abu Sufyan).

Shaybah ibn Rabi'ah
(Hind's uncle)

VS

Hamzah ibn Abdul Mitalib
(Rasulullah ﷺ's uncle)

Utbah ibn Rabi'ah
(Hind's father)

VS

'Ubaydah ibn Harith
(Rasulullah ﷺ's cousin)

Walid ibn Utbah
(Hind's brother)

VS

'Ali ibn Abu Talib
(Rasulullah ﷺ's cousin)

This fueled Hind bint Utbah's hatred for the Muslims and Sayyidana Hamzah RA in particular, even more.

The Muslims showed such determination that the Quraysh were fairly rapidly defeated. Although they were 3x as numerous, they could not hold back the Muslim's onslaught. Revelation also later mentioned Allah's constant protection at the heart of the fighting, how He sent His angels, and the fulfilment of His promise.

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A Love Story

54 years old / Year 15 of Prophethood / 2 AH

Lessons from Badr's Victory

Victory is Only from Allah

Despite being vastly outnumbered and out-equipped, the Muslims' victory stemmed from unwavering trust in Allah's promise. Rasulullah ﷺ prayed through the night, and Allah SWT sent down rain, providing tranquillity, steadying their camp while hindering the enemy.

وَمَا جَعَلَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَّا بُشْرَىٰ وَلِتَطْمَئِنَّ بِهِ
قُلُوبُكُمْ ۚ وَمَا النَّصْرُ إِلَّا مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ
إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

And Allah made this a sign of victory
and reassurance to your hearts.

Victory comes only from Allah.

Surely Allah is Almighty, All-Wise.

(Surah al-Anfal 8:10)

Preparation Meets Divine Aid: Strategy + Faith

The Muslims didn't just pray; they seized the wells at Badr, blocked enemy access to water, and positioned strategically on al-Hubab's advice. Yet, Allah SWT reminded us all in the Quran: “It was not you ‘believers’ who killed them, but it was Allah Who did so. Nor was it you ‘O Prophet’ who threw ‘a handful of sand at the disbelievers’,¹ but it was Allah Who did so, rendering the believers a great favour. Surely Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.”

(Surah al-Anfal 8:17)

Steadfastness in Adversity: You'll be honoured!

The ranks of the companions who remained steadfast and fought in the Battle of Badr, despite all odds against them, were elevated and honoured. Jibril AS asked Rasulullah ﷺ, "How do you look upon the warriors of Badr among yourselves?" Rasulullah ﷺ said, "As the best of the Muslims." On that, Jibril AS said, "And so are the Angels who participated in the Badr."

(Sahih al-Bukhari 3992)

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Practicing Humility & Mercy in Victory

Post-battle, Rasulullah ﷺ
treated captives kindly,
ransoming some and freeing
others, refusing vengeance
despite years of abuse -
exemplifying Islam's ethic of
humility, mercy and justice.



**Before we talk about
the captives, the
jubilant mood of
winning Badr was
quickly dashed by the
news of Sayidatina
Ruqayyah RA's death.**

#daughterofRasulullah

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**A constant
reminder that
nothing in
this life is
permanent.**

#daughterofRasulullah

aaplus

The Martyrs, The Slains & The Captives

By the end of the battle, 14 of the believers were martyred, and the Quraysh had 70 dead and another 70 captives.

A few notable Meccan captives:

- Suhayl ibn Amr (prominent leader among the Quraysh tribe)
- ‘Abbas ibn Abdul Muttalib (uncle of Rasulullah ﷺ)
- **Abu I-’As ibn Rabi’** (son in law of Rasulullah ﷺ)
- Walid ibn al-Walid (brother of Khalid ibn al-Walid)

**Rasulullah ﷺ again,
in his wisdom,
asked the
Companions
for their opinion.**

It has been narrated on the authority of
`Umar b. al-Khattab who said:

Rasulullah (ﷺ) said:

**“What is your
opinion about these
captives?”**

Abu Bakr said:

**“They are our kith and kin. I think you
should release them after getting
from them a ransom. This will be a
source of strength to us against the
infidels. It is quite possible that Allah
may guide them to Islam.”**

(Sahih Muslim 1763)

Rasulullah (ﷺ) said:

**“What is your
opinion, Ibn
Khattab?”**

I said:

**“Messenger of Allah, I do not hold the
same opinion as Abu Bakr. I am of the
opinion that you should hand them
over to us so that we may cut off their
heads... They are leaders of the
disbelievers and veterans among
them.”**

(Sahih Muslim 1763)

The ultimatum?

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ)
approved the opinion of Abu
Bakr and did not approve what
I said.

(Sahih Muslim 1763)

Several Meccans came to Madinah to ransom their captured relatives according to what their families could afford. Any captive who did not have the resources to buy his freedom is instructed to teach 10 Madinians how to read and write before returning to Makkah.



Rasulullah ﷺ demonstrated
the importance of knowledge.

Whether in peace or in war,
knowledge - reading, writing,
learning - provides people
with essential skills and gives
them dignity. The knowledge
some captives possessed was
their wealth and it thus
became their ransom.

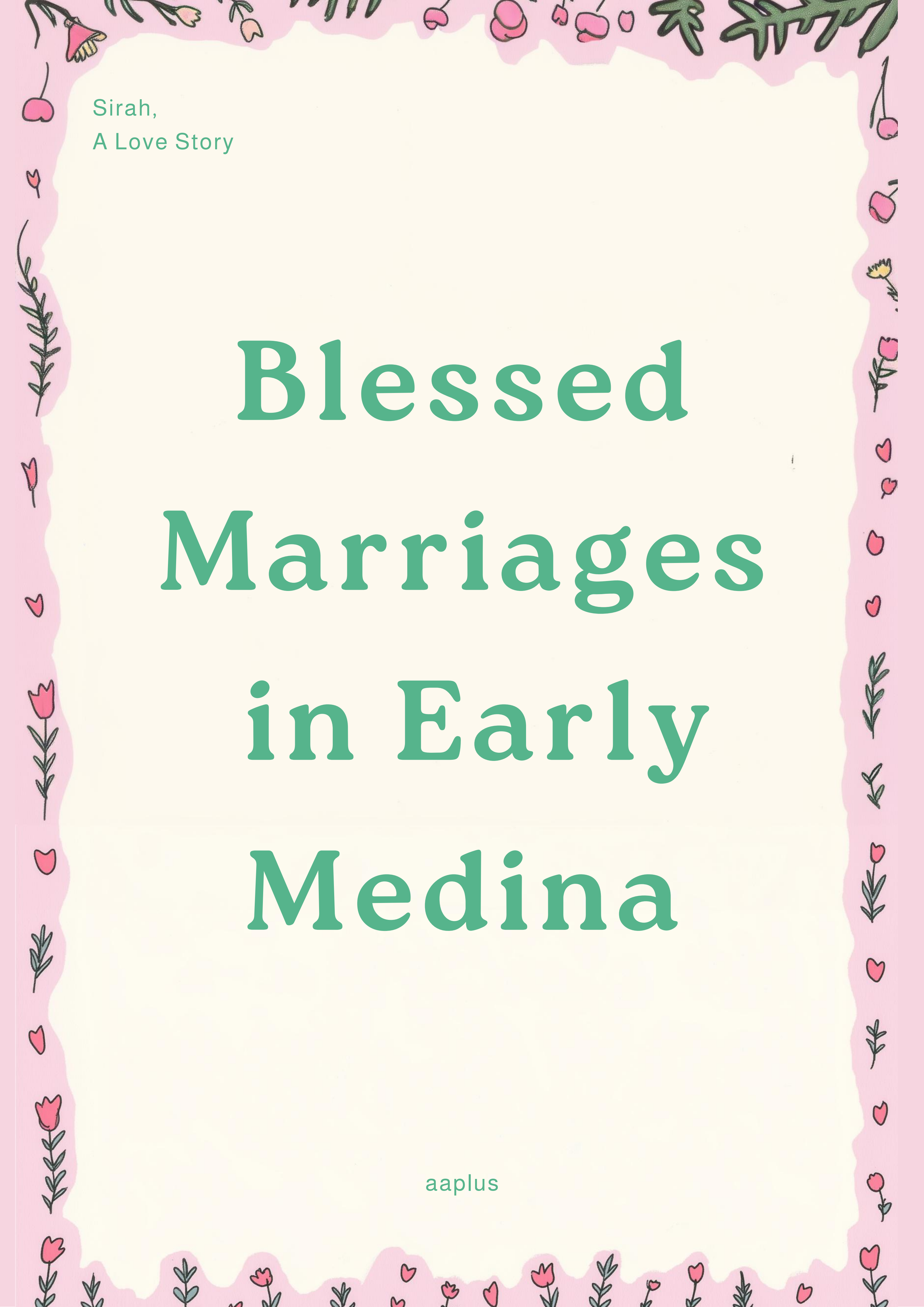
One of the captives,
Walid ibn al Walid
observed the compassion
with which the Muslims
treated their captives.
Upon his release from
captivity, he returned to
Madina to declare his
Shahadah.

Another one of the
captives is the son-in-law
of Rasulullah ﷺ, **Abu-l'As
ibn Rabi'** who was married
to **Sayidatina Zaynab RA.**
To pay for his ransom,
Zaynab RA sent her
mother's jewellery to
Madinah.

When Rasulullah ﷺ saw
Khadijah RA's necklace,
he ﷺ was both saddened
and touched. He agreed to
release his son-in-law on
the condition that he send
Zaynab RA to Madinah; as
recent revelations had made
it clear that a Muslim
woman could not be
married to a pagan man.

Ps.

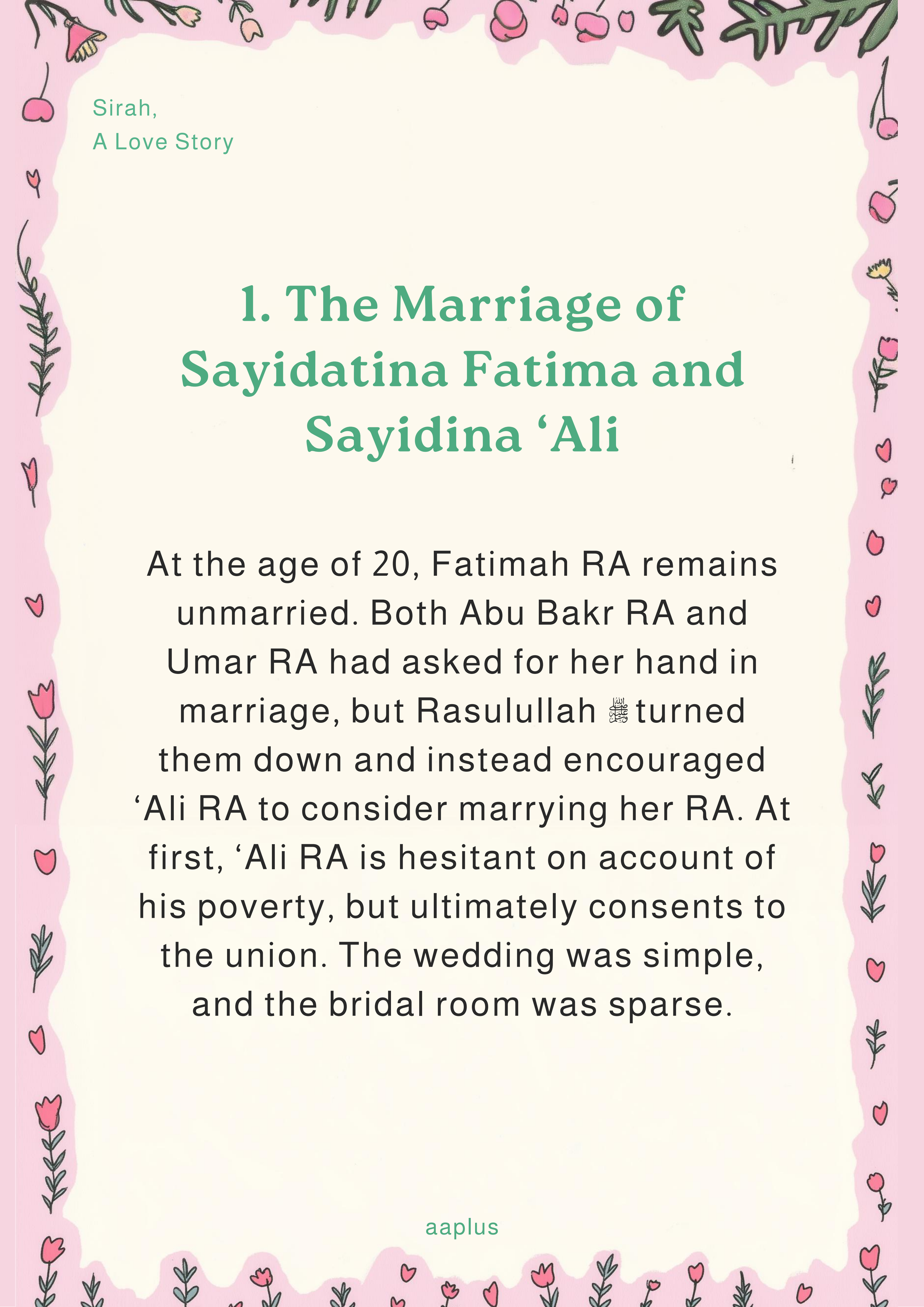
**Abu-l'As ibn Rabi' will
later convert after the
Battle of Khandaq,
and they will later
reunite. #yay!**



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Blessed Marriages in Early Medina

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1. The Marriage of Sayidatina Fatima and Sayidina 'Ali

At the age of 20, Fatimah RA remains unmarried. Both Abu Bakr RA and Umar RA had asked for her hand in marriage, but Rasulullah ﷺ turned them down and instead encouraged 'Ali RA to consider marrying her RA. At first, 'Ali RA is hesitant on account of his poverty, but ultimately consents to the union. The wedding was simple, and the bridal room was sparse.

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2. The Marriage of Rasulullah SAW and Sayidatina Hafsa RA

The daughter of Sayyidina Umar RA, Sayyidatina Hafsa RA, was widowed by her husband, Sayyidina Khunais RA due to war. Sayidina Umar RA had offered her daughter for marriage to Sayyidina Uthman RA and Sayyidina Abu Bakar RA, but both “rejected” his offer. Sayyidina Umar RA took offence at their rejection, only for Rasulullah ﷺ to ask for his daughter’s hand in marriage a few days later.

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Narrated `Abdullah bin `Umar:

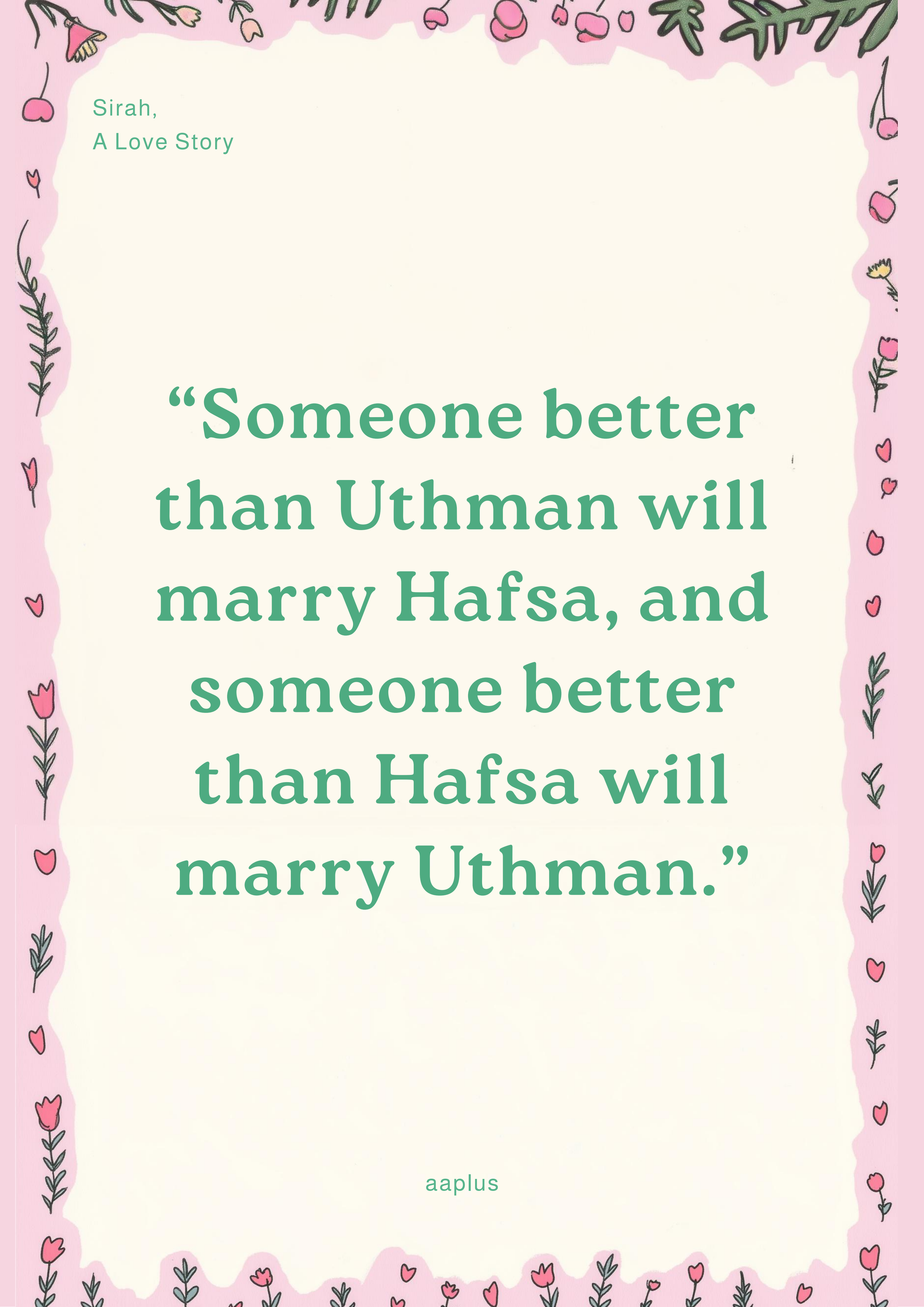
`Umar bin Al-Khattab said, "When (my daughter) Hafsa bint `Umar lost her husband Khunais bin Hudhaifa As-Sahrni who was one of the companions of Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) and had fought in the battle of Badr and had died in Medina, I met `Uthman bin `Affan and suggested that he should marry Hafsa saying, "If you wish, I will marry Hafsa bint `Umar to you,' on that, he said, 'I will think it over.' I waited for a few days and then he said to me. 'I am of the opinion that I shall not marry at present.' Then I met Abu Bakr and said, 'if you wish, I will marry you, Hafsa bint `Umar.' He kept quiet and did not give me any reply and I became more angry with him than I was with `Uthman . Some days later, Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) asked her hand in marriage and I married her to him. Later on Abu Bakr met me and said, "Perhaps you were angry with me when you offered me Hafsa for marriage and I gave no reply to you?' I said, 'Yes.' Abu Bakr said, 'Nothing prevented me from accepting your offer except that I learnt that Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) had referred to the issue of Hafsa and I did not want to disclose the secret of Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) , but had he (i.e. the Prophet) given her up I would surely have accepted her."

(Sahih al-Bukhari 4005)

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3. The Marriage of Sayidina Uthman RA and Sayidatina Umm Kulthum RA

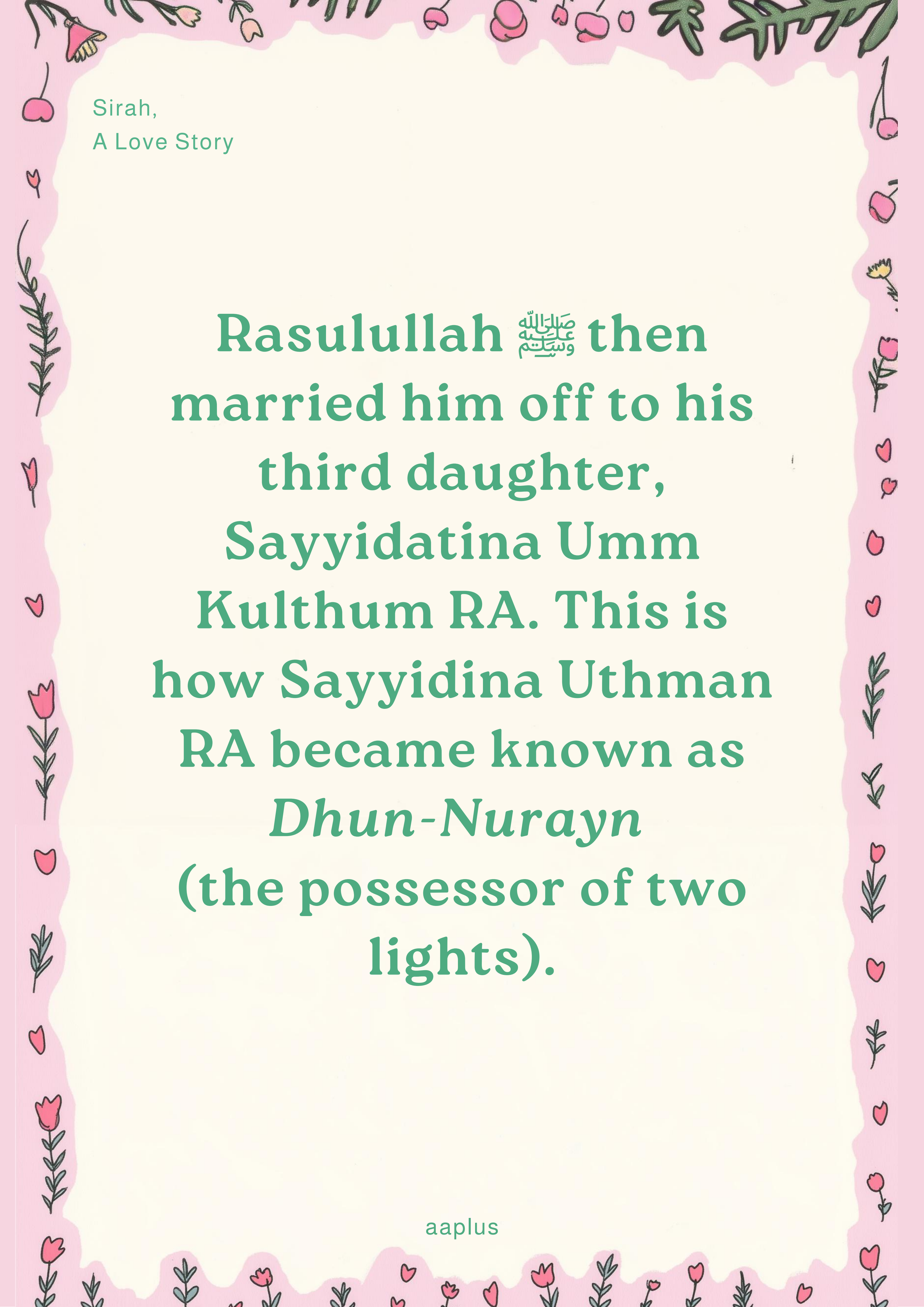
After the death of Sayyidatina
Ruqayyah RA, Sayyidana Uthman RA
was truly saddened, not just because
of his love for her but also because he
no longer possessed any familial ties
to Rasulullah ﷺ.



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**“Someone better
than Uthman will
marry Hafsa, and
someone better
than Hafsa will
marry Uthman.”**

aaplus



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Rasulullah ﷺ then
married him off to his
third daughter,
Sayyidatina Umm
Kulthum RA. This is
how Sayyidina Uthman
RA became known as
Dhun-Nurayn
(the possessor of two
lights).

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The Household of Rasulullah ﷺ

Wives

Sayyidatina Sawda RA

Sayyidatina A'isha RA

Sayyidatina Hafsa RA

Children

Sayyidatina Zaynab RA

Sayyidatina Umm Kulthum RA (Married to Uthman RA)

Sayyidatina Fatima RA (Married to Ali RA)

Grandchildren

Sayyidatina Umamah RA (Daughter of Zaynab RA
& Al as Ibn Rabi)

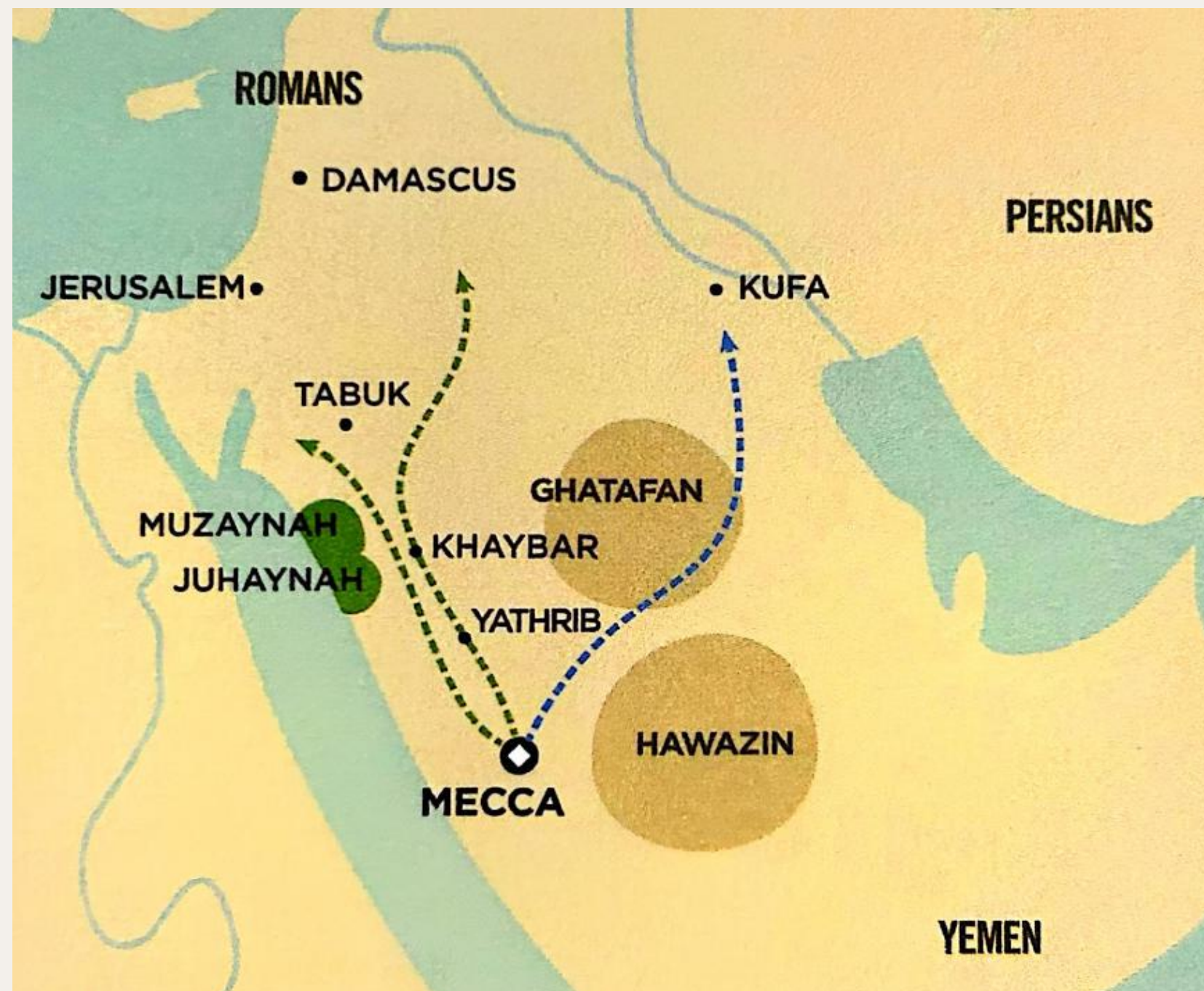
Sayyidina Hasan RA (Son of Fatima RA & Ali RA)

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55 years old / Year 16 of Prophethood / 3 AH

The Battle of Uhud

aaplus



Badr escalated tensions between Makkah and Madinah, and began to divide the Arabian Peninsula into competing sides. Rasulullah ﷺ formed alliances with several tribes, aimed at blocking Makkah's trade routes to Syria. Desperate to preserve their only remaining route to the north, the Quraysh reach out to Bani Ghatafan and Hawazin for help.

Fueled by revenge, Abu Sufyan assembled an army of 3,000 men and headed north towards Madinah. The Muslims were informed by Rasulullah ﷺ's uncle, 'Abbas ibn Abdul Mitalib, of the incoming attack of the Quraysh.

Some of the Quraysh decided to bring their wives with them as incentive and encouragement. Abu Sufyan's wife, Hind, is ALSO accompanying the army and has promised Wahshi (a slave) his freedom if he kills Sayidina Hamzah RA.

When Rasulullah ﷺ heard about the advancing Meccan army, he considered remaining fortified in the city of Madinah. As usual, he ﷺ consulted his Sahabahs, and the younger Sahabahs convinced Rasulullah ﷺ to take the offensive and attack the Meccans at Mount Uhud.

Soon after, they marched forward to Mount Uhud with an army of 1000.

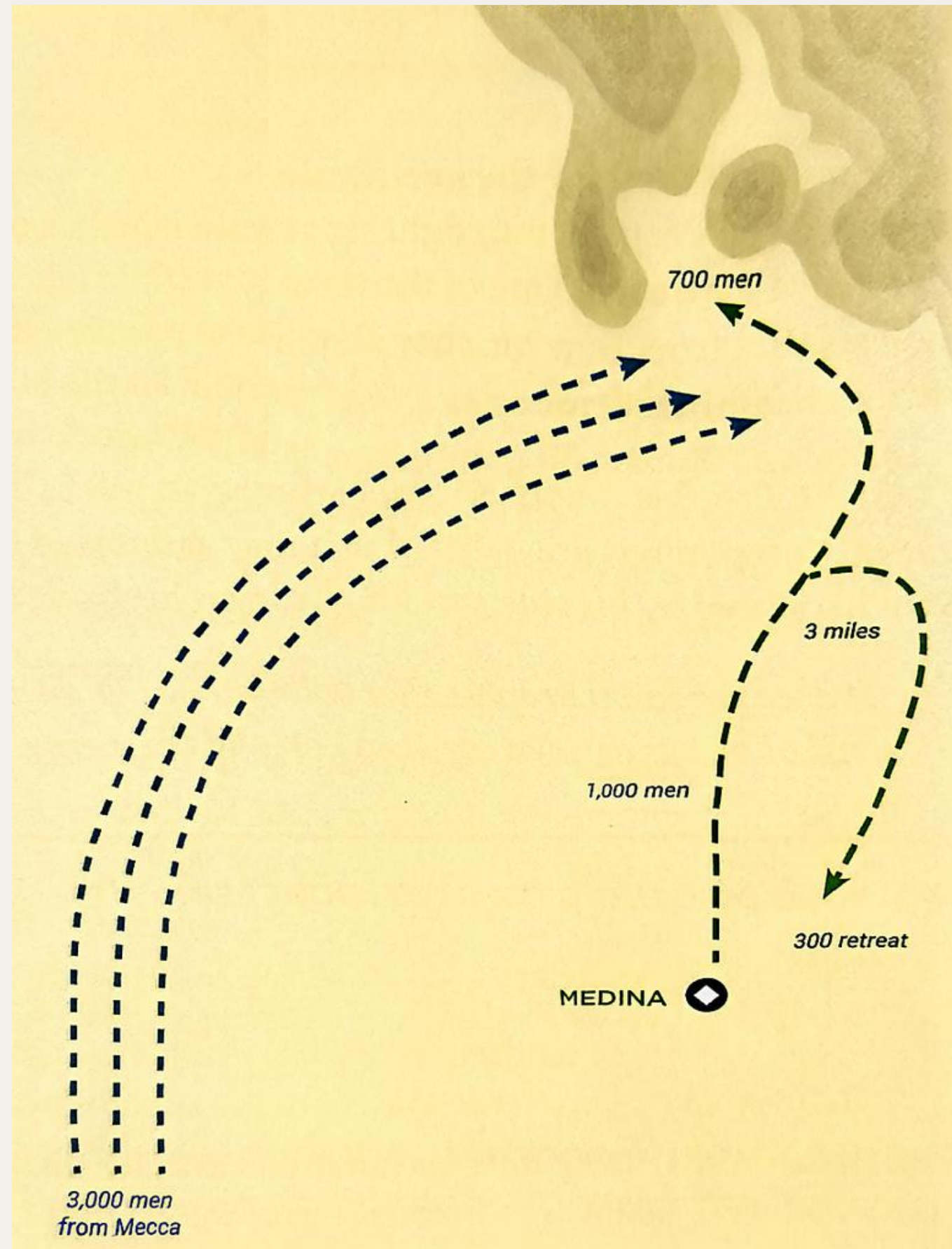
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The Betrayal

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Halfway to Uhud, ‘Abdullah ibn Ubayy (a notorious Munafiqeen in Madinah) turned 300 men around and returned to Madinah, explaining that there would be no actual fighting.

Despite ‘Abdullah ibn Ubayy’s betrayal, his son ‘Abdullah, stays to fight alongside Rasulullah ﷺ!

Surah ‘Ali Imran addressed the sudden betrayal.

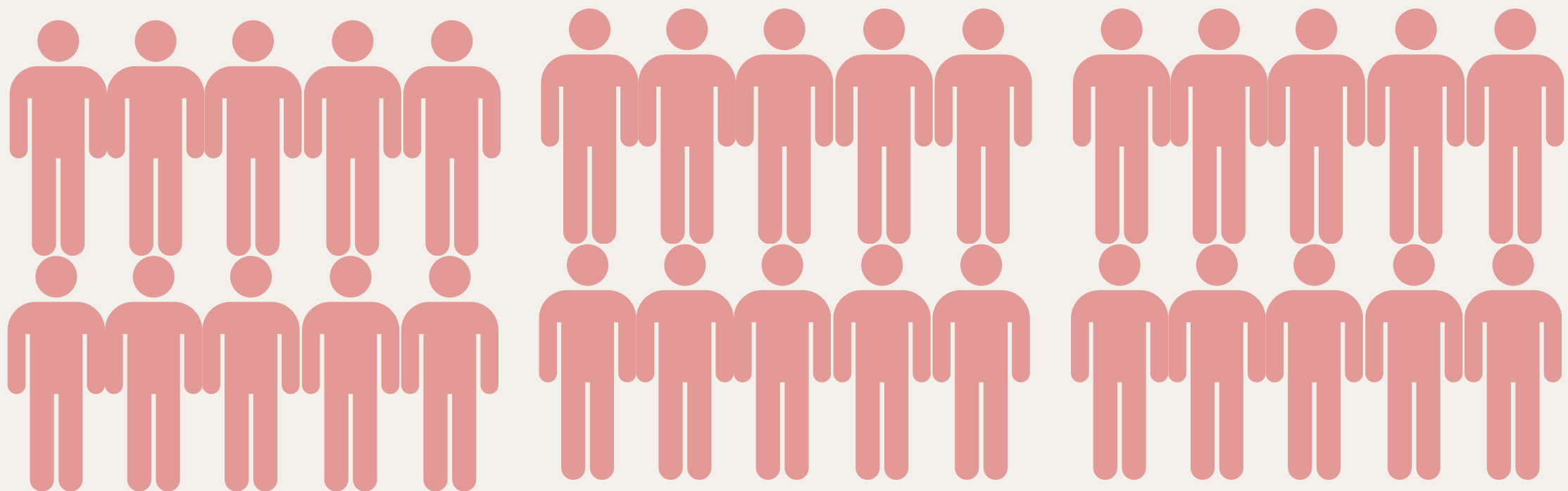
“And what struck you on the day the two armies met [at Uhud] was by permission of Allāh that He might make evident the [true] believers.”

“And that He might make evident those who are hypocrites. For it was said to them, "Come, fight in the way of Allāh or [at least] defend." They said, "If we had known [there would be] battle, we would have followed you." They were nearer to disbelief that day than to faith, saying with their mouths what was not in their hearts. And Allah is most knowing of what they conceal -”

(‘Ali Imran 3:166-167)

The Muslims are now reduced to 700 army.

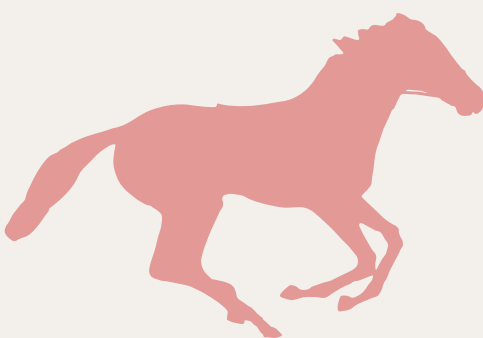
3000 Quraysh



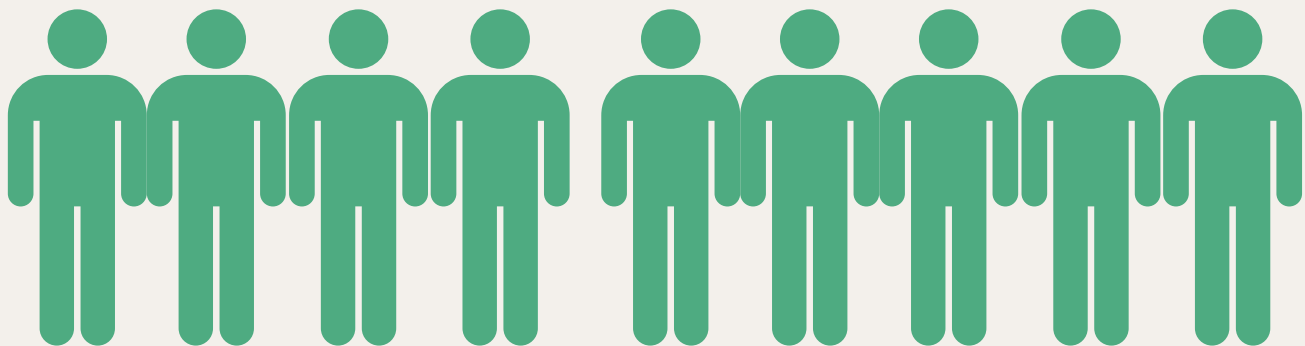
300



200



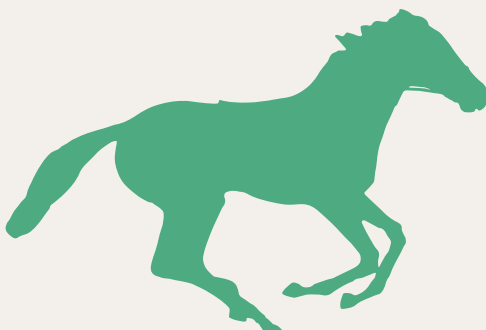
700 Muslims



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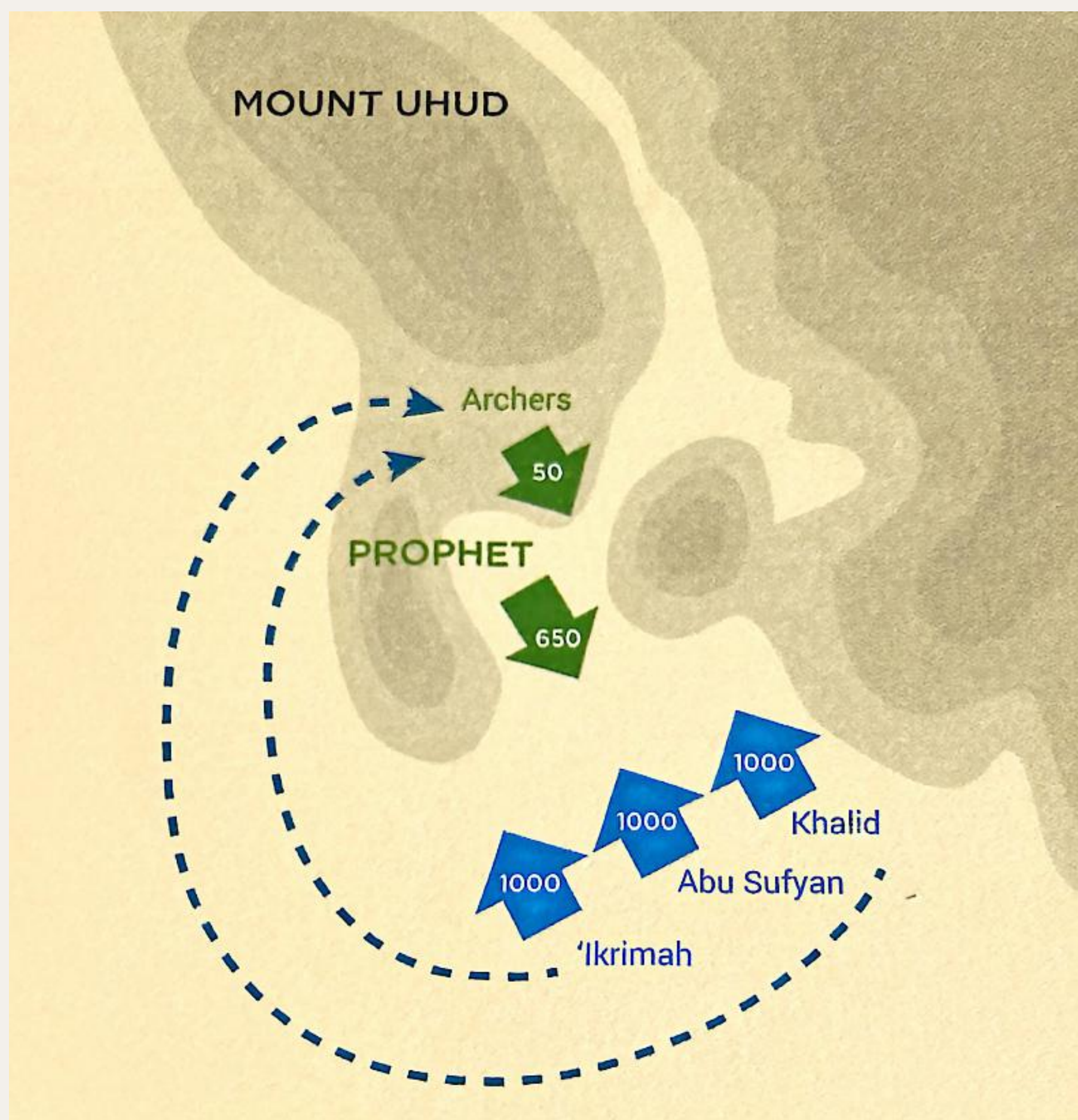


4



Rasulullah ﷺ allotted 50 archers to protect the rear flank while the rest of the 650 marched into battle.

Abdullah ibn Jubayr RA is chosen to lead 50 archers. Rasulullah ﷺ instructed the archers to keep the Meccan cavalry at bay with their arrows, at all cost.



Rasulullah ﷺ said:

“¹Do not leave this place; if you should see us conquering the enemy, ²do not leave this place, and if you should see them conquering us, ³do not (come to) help us,”

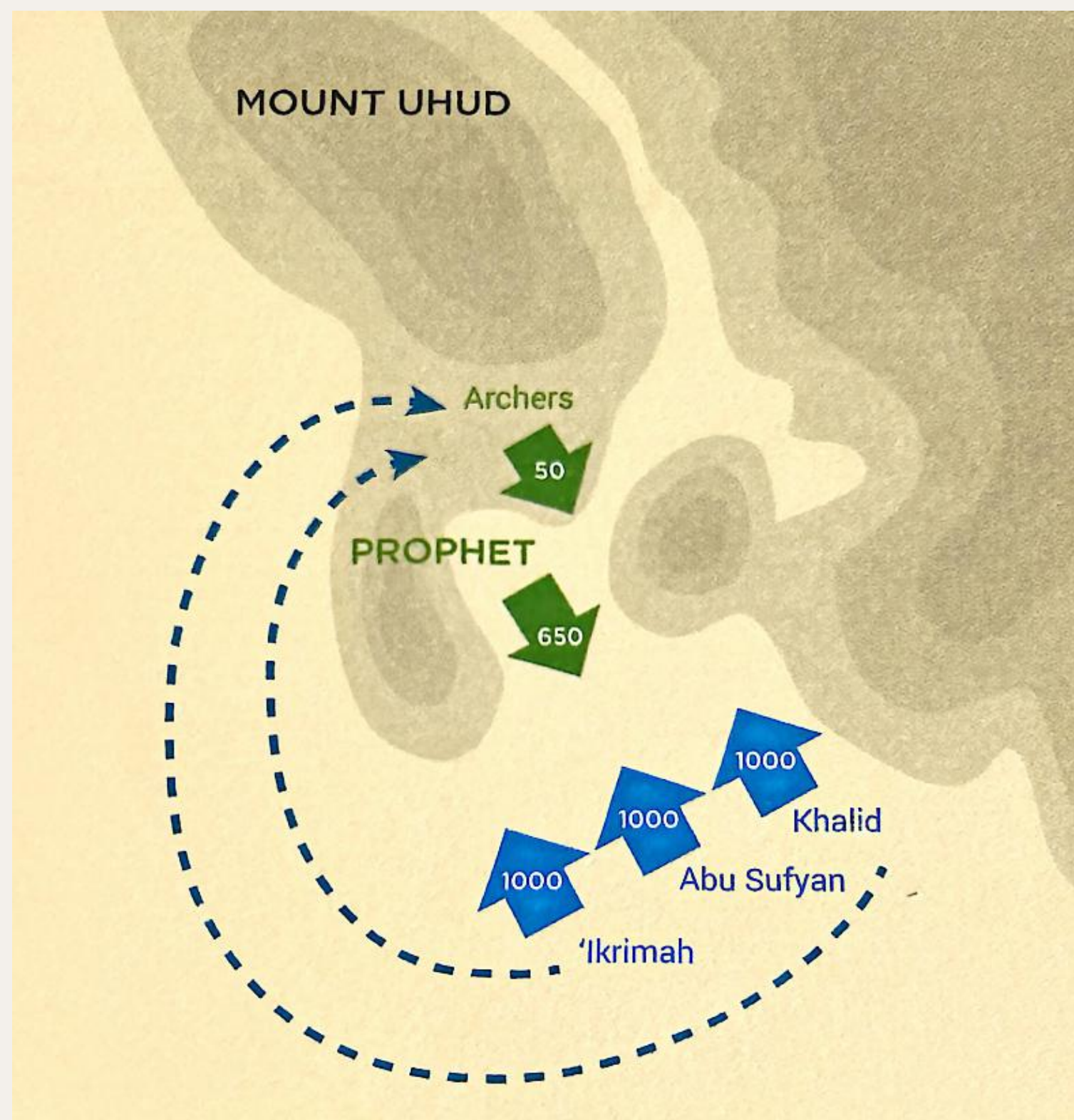
(Sahih al-Bukhari 4043, 4044)

The fighting began and the Muslim troops were gradually taking control. The Quraysh were losing ground and suffering losses, while the Muslims displayed remarkable courage. Among those fighters, two women stood out: Umm Sulaym and Nusaybah bint Kab*.

After a period of intense fighting, the archers sensed imminent victory.

The Muslims started saying, "الْغَنِيمَةُ الْغَنِيمَةُ" (The spoils, the spoils!)" `Abdullah bin Jubair said, "Rasulullah ﷺ had taken a firm promise from me not to leave this place." But his companions refused (to stay).

(Sahih al-Bukhari 4043, 4044)



Khalid ibn Walid and Ikrimah ibn Abu Jahl took advantage of the opportunity to attack and kill the remaining archers and went to attack the rest of the Muslim army from the rear, causing disarray among the Muslim army.

So when they refused (to stay there), (Allah) confused them so that they could not know where to go, and they suffered seventy casualties.

(Sahih al-Bukhari 4043, 4044)

[Remember] when you [fled and] climbed [the mountain] without looking aside at anyone while the Messenger was calling you from behind. So Allāh repaid you with distress upon distress so you would not grieve for that which had escaped you [of victory and spoils of war] or [for] that which had befallen you [of injury and death]. And Allāh is [fully] Aware of what you do.

(Ali Imran 3:153)

Sirah,
A Love Story

55 years old / Year 16 of Prophethood / 3 AH

Reflect on the anxieties
and distress in our lives,
are they caused by our
disobedience?

This particular moment in Uhud
teaches us one profound thing:
Humility.

Some of the archers left their positions
halfway, overly confident that they had
already won the battle. And in a
beautiful twist of fate, Khalid ibn Walid
would later convert and have his entire
past sins wiped out! **We must always
remember that nothing is ever final,
until Allah SWT wills so!**

The Aftermath of Uhud

The face of Rasulullah ﷺ was injured,
his front teeth were damaged and
his helmet was crushed.

Narrated Sahl bin Saud As-Sa`idi:

When the helmet broke on the head of the Prophet (ﷺ) and his face became covered with blood and his incisor tooth broke (i.e. during the battle of Uhud), `Ali used to bring water in his shield while Fatima was washing the blood off his face. When Fatima saw that the bleeding increased because of the water, she took a mat (of palm leaves), burnt it, and stuck it (the burnt ashes) on the wound of Allah's Apostle, whereupon the bleeding stopped.

(Sahih al-Bukhari 5722)

Notable Martyrs

**Sayyidina
Hamzah ibn
Abdul Motalib**

Killed by Wahshi (for his freedom out of slavery).
Sayidina Hamza RA is known as Asadullah (Lion of Allah) who protected Rasulullah ﷺ since the beginning.

**Sayyidina
Mus'ab
ibn Umayr**

He RA was the one Rasulullah ﷺ sent to Madinah before Hijrah to teach the Ansars the prayer and the Quran. He RA was their first teacher.

**Sayyidina
Abdullah ibn
Jubayr RA**

The firm and brave leader of the Archers, never leaving his position and uphold Rasulullah ﷺ's command till the end.

As for the Archers who Left

It is out of Allah's mercy that you 'O Prophet' have been lenient with them.

Had you been cruel or hard-hearted, they would have certainly abandoned you. So pardon them, ask Allah's forgiveness for them, and consult with them in 'conducting' matters. Once you make a decision, put your trust in Allah. Surely Allah loves those who trust in Him.

(Surah Ali-Imran 3:159)

Indeed, those of you who turned back on the day the two armies met [at Uḥud] - it was Satan who caused them to slip because of some [blame] they had earned. But Allāh has already forgiven them. Indeed, Allāh is Forgiving and Forbearing.

(ʿAlī Imrān 3:155)

Speaking about Quran:

Jabir (RA) narrated that Rasulullah ﷺ had each two martyrs of the battle of Uhud wrapped in one shroud, and then would ask, “Which one of them knew more of the Qur’an?” He would put that one (that was pointed out) first in the grave. They were not washed and Rasulullah ﷺ did not offer a funeral prayer for them.’

(Bukhari)

**And never think of those
who have been killed in
the cause of Allāh as
dead. Rather, they are
alive with their Lord,
receiving provision**

(*'Ali Imran 3:169*)

Change in Rasulallah ﷺ's household

The year after The Battle of Uhud also marked by considerable changes in Rasulallah ﷺ's household.

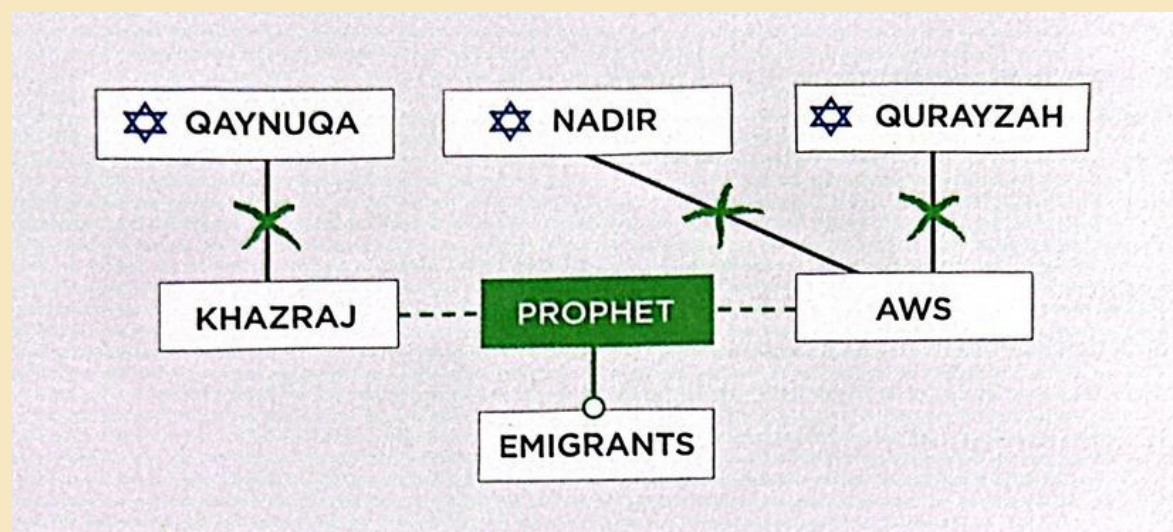
- 'Husayn is born to Sayyidatina Fatimah RA and Sayyidina 'Ali RA.
- The death of Sayyidatina Zaynab bint Khuzaymah (Rasulallah ﷺ's wife).
- Rasullullah ﷺ married Sayyidatina Umm Salamah RA
- Sayyidina Zayd ibn Harithah's divorce with Sayyidatina Zaynab bint Jahsh RA
- Rasullullah ﷺ married Sayyidatina Zaynab bint Jahsh RA

Sirah,
A Love Story

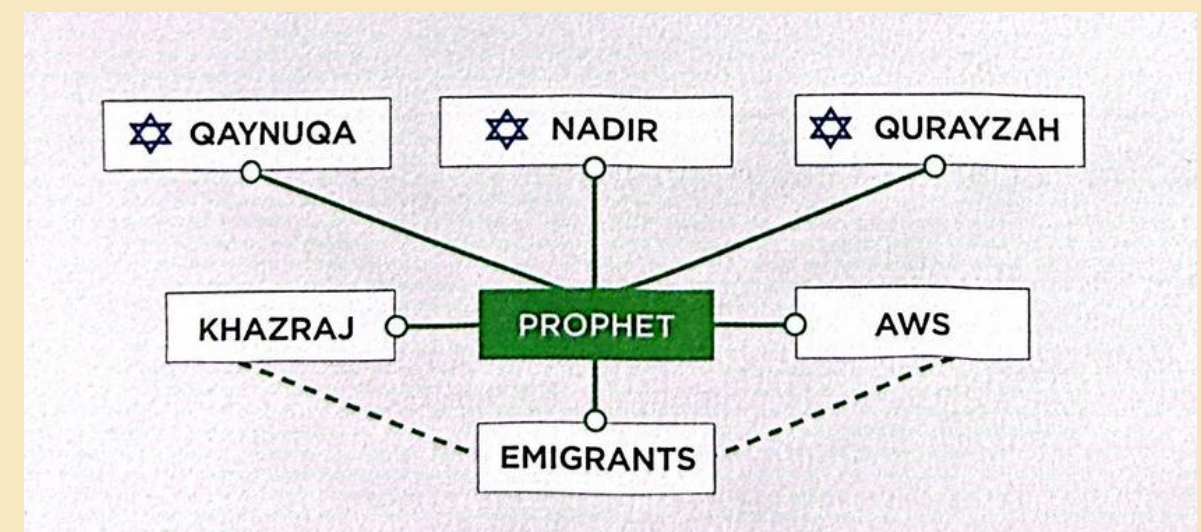
56 years old / Year 17 of Prophethood / 4 AH

The Jews in Madinah

Pre-Islam in Madinah



After Islam in Madinah



The main Jewish tribes in early Medina were:

- Bani Qaynuqa
- Bani Nadir
- Bani Qurayzah

These groups, along with other smaller Jewish communities, had **signed a pact of allegiance with the Muslims** shortly after Rasulullah ﷺ's arrival in Madinah.

Sirah,
A Love Story

56 years old / Year 17 of Prophethood / 4 AH

The Expulsion of Bani Nadir and the Precursor of the Battle of Ahzab

Rasulullah ﷺ and his companions were invited to dinner by Bani Nadir. After being seated, **Rasulullah ﷺ receives an inspiration that his hosts were planning to kill him by dropping a stone on his head.** He immediately leaves the gathering and Sayyidina Abu Bakr RA and the other companions leave shortly after.

Soon after the incident, Rasulullah ﷺ sends Muhammad ibn Maslamah back to Bani Nadir conveying details of their assassination plot. For the crime treason, the entire clan is given **10 days to leave the city.**

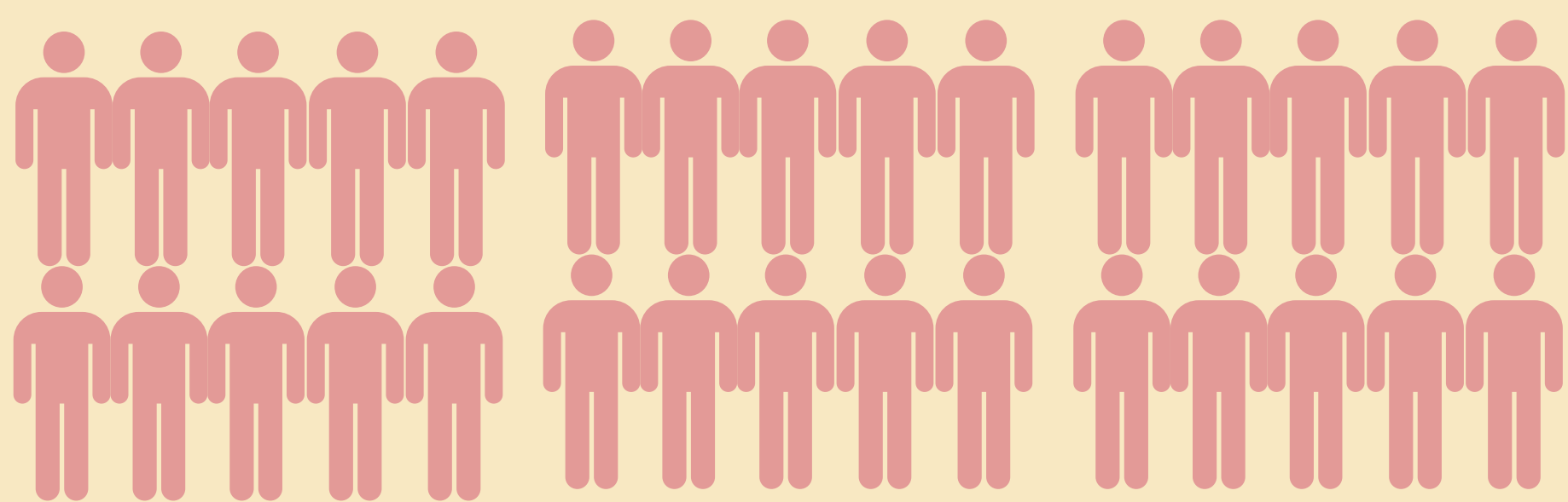
With Madinah fading in the distance, **Huyay ibn Akhtab** leads his people to the northern Jewish stronghold of Khaybar.

From the safety of their new abode in Khaybar, **the exiled Bani Nadir ally with the Quraysh** and roused the Quraysh to start a war against Muslims.

The Quraysh also gained help from the tribes of Hawazin and Ghatafan, with a few other small clans, and successfully assembled **a force of more than three times the size of Abu Sufyan's army at Uhud.**

Again, the stats of the Muslim is
way lower than the enemy.

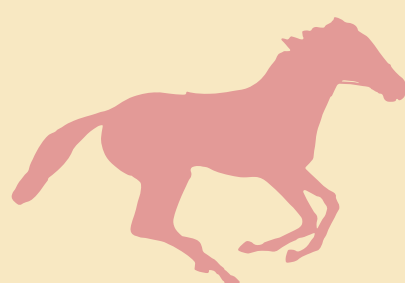
10 000 - 15 000 Quraysh



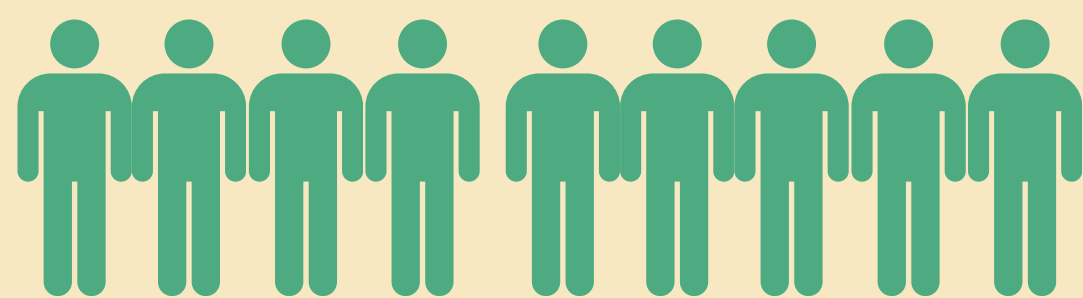
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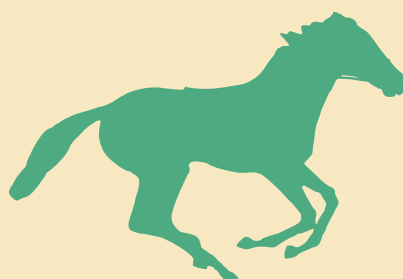
300 Muslims



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Surah al-Ahzab take its name from these allied enemy forces bent on destroying the city of Madinah.

When the believers saw the enemy alliance (al-Ahzab), they said, “This is what Allah and His Messenger had promised us. The promise of Allah and His Messenger has come true.” And this only increased them in faith and submission.

(al-Ahzab 33:22)

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

The Battle of Ahzab

(The Confederate / The Combined Forces)

Sirah,
A Love Story

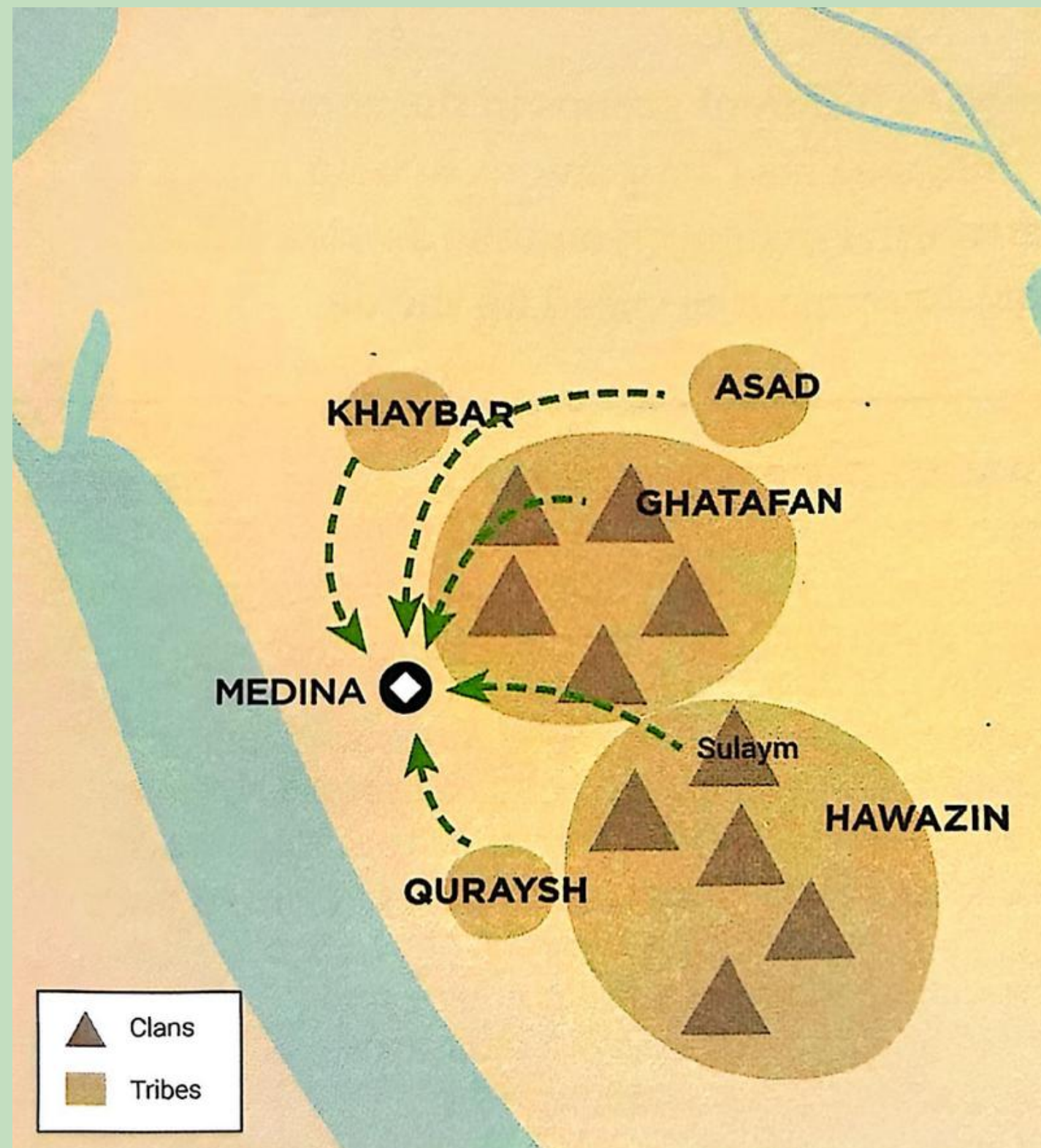
57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

also known as

The Battle of Khandaq

(The Trench)

aaplus



Two years after the Battle of Uhud, the Quraysh launched their first multilateral offensive on Madinah. They had persuaded their eastern and northern allies to attack the city by guaranteeing vast spoils of war.

True to his custom, Rasulullah ﷺ gathered his Companions and consulted them about the situation. Some felt that they must go out and meet the enemy, others thought it would be best to wait inside the city.

Present among the group of consultants was Sayyidina Salman al-Farisi RA, whose story was exceptional in many ways. He RA was born with a high status, with his father being the Priest of the religion called Zoroastrian, in the Persian empire. But Salman RA still felt something was missing. He went on a long quest for Truth and searched for God, while facing very challenging circumstances in his pursuit.

He then found out about the last Prophet and started searching for Rasulullah ﷺ (not before he was first sold as a slave!) and Rasulullah ﷺ and the Companions had gathered and raised the amount to set him free.

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

Narrated Salman Al-Farisi:

**That he was sold (as a slave)
by one master to another
for more than ten times (i.e
between 13 and 19).**

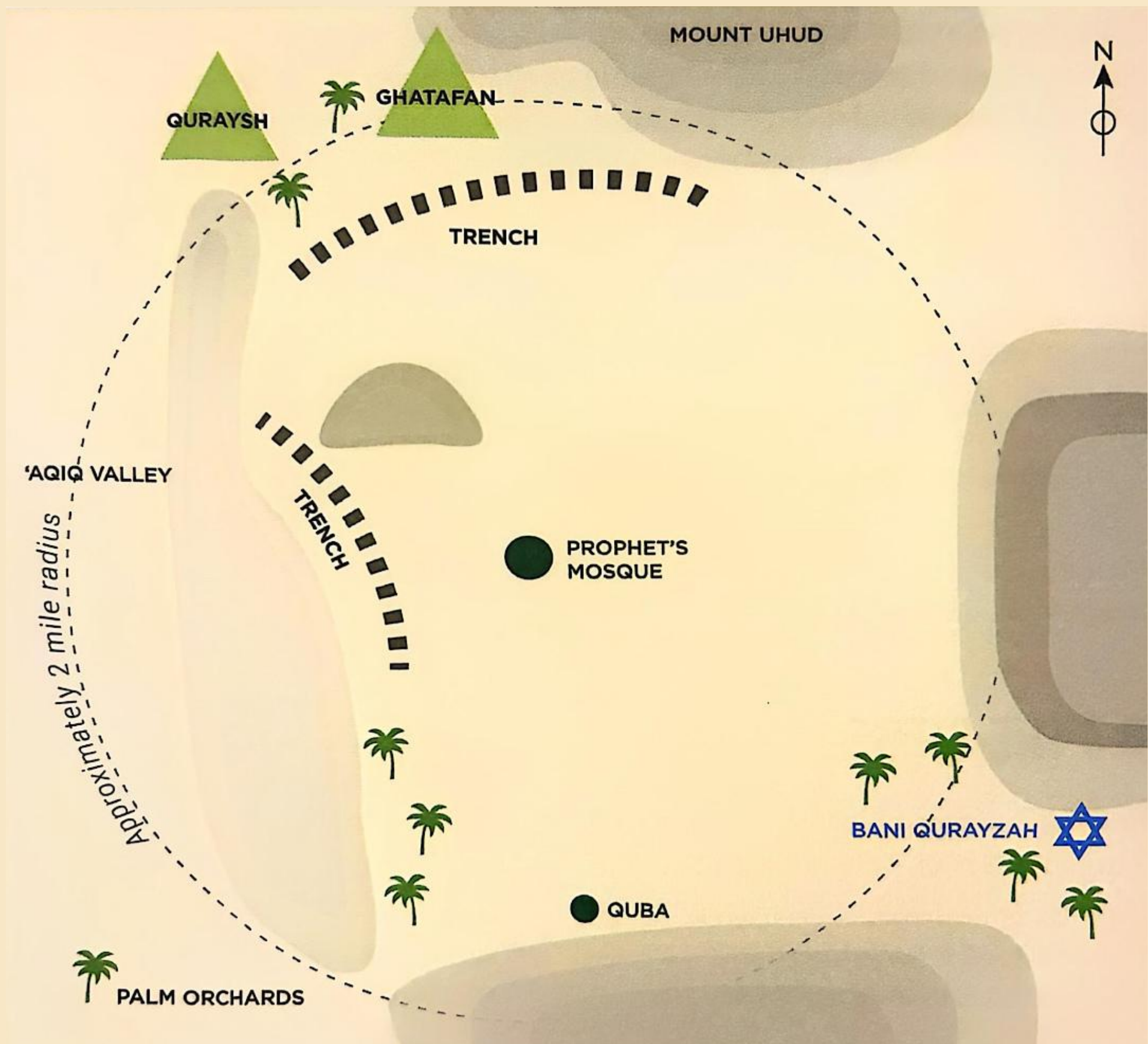
(Sahih al-Bukhari 3946)

Salman al-Farisi RA was the one who suggested the solution of building a trench. In his country, the Persian kings have used trenches that were dug across the enemy line of attack. This had always helped stop the enemy.

The strategy then was to dig a series of trenches along the city's most vulnerable borders to hold off the enemy's cavalry.

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH



Digging the Trench

They had to act fast, having only a week to dig a trench that is sufficiently wide and deep to prevent the enemy's horses from jumping over it!

Badr: The blocked the wells.
Uhud: The archers on the hill
Khandaq: They dug trenches,

Such inventiveness in military
strategies revealed how Rasulullah ﷺ
always encouraged his Companions to
use intellectual creativity in all
circumstances!

And of course, Rasulallah ﷺ himself participated with others in digging the trench.

The Companions would hear
Rasulallah ﷺ sometimes
invoking Allah, sometimes reciting
poems, sometimes singing songs, in
which they would all join! Such
beautiful moments of communion,
led by Rasulallah ﷺ himself,
strengthened their binds and sense
of belonging.

Narrated Anas:

Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) went towards the Khandaq (i.e. Trench) and saw the Emigrants and the Ansar digging in a very cold morning as they did not have slaves to do that for them. When he noticed their fatigue and hunger he said, "O Allah! The real life is that of the Here-after, (so please) forgive the Ansar and the Emigrants."

In its reply the Emigrants and the Ansar said, "We are those who have given a pledge of allegiance to Muhammad that we will carry on Jihad as long as we live."

(Sahih al-Bukhari 2834)

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

The Three Cities

While digging, some Sahabahs uncovered a large rock that no one can dislodge. Rasulallah ﷺ approached the boulder and crushes it with three successive blows that send a flash of lightning south, north and east.

Sayyidina Salman al-Farisi asked him ﷺ about the significance of the flashes, and Rasulallah ﷺ explained that Allah SWT will soon grant them control over Yemen to the South, Syria to the North, and Persia to the East.

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

The Siege

As commander in chief, Abu Sufyan leads the confederate army to Madinah. The Meccans had never seen a trench such as Salman's before, and their first few attacks are easily repelled by Rasulallah ﷺ's archers, who lined up behind the expansive trench.

'Abdullah bin Abu Aufa reported:

On one occasion Rasulullah (ﷺ) was confronting the enemy. He waited until the sun had declined. Then he stood up to address the people and said, "O people! Do not wish for an encounter with the enemy. Pray to Allah to grant you safety; (but) when you encounter them, show patience, and know that Jannah is under the shades of the swords."...

(Sahih al-Bukhari 6396)

Then he (ﷺ) said:

اللَّهُمَّ مُنْزِلَ الْكِتَابِ وَمُجْرِي السَّحَابِ
وَهَازِمَ الْأَحْزَابِ اهْزِمْهُمْ وَانصُرْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ

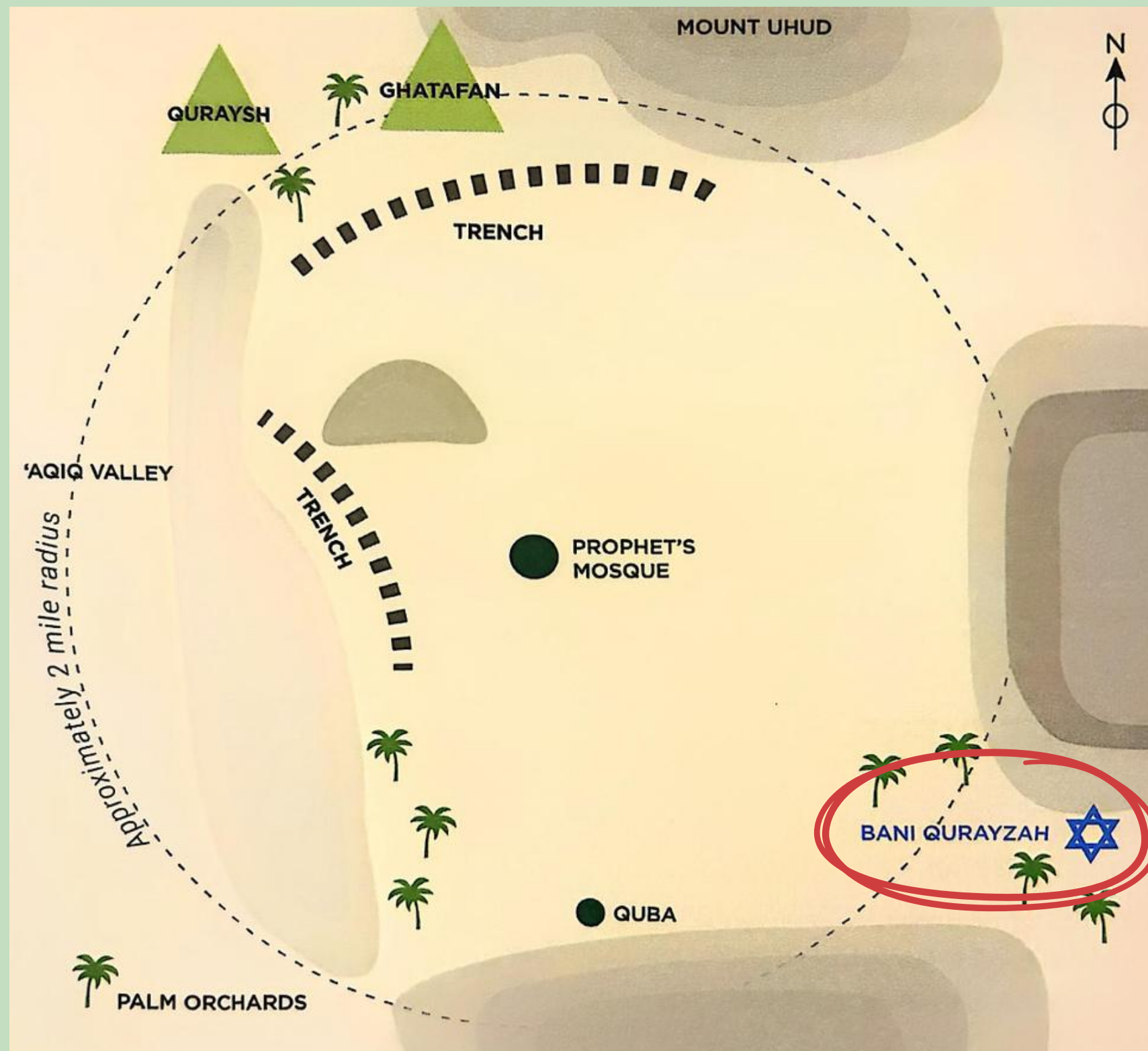
**O Allah, Revealer of the Book,
Disperser of the clouds, Defeater of
the Confederates, put our enemy to
rout and support us against them"**

(Sahih Muslim 1742a)

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

The Betrayal by Bani Qurayzah



Meanwhile, the Chief of Bani Nadir, Huyay ibn Akhtab went to persuade Bani Qurayzah to turn against Rasulallah ﷺ. The Chief of Bani Qurayzah, Ka'b ibn Asad is reluctant at first, but finally break their pledge with Rasulallah ﷺ and join the Confederate aggressors by agreeing to open Madinah's southern border to the allied enemy's forces.

‘Remember’ when they came at you
from east and west, when your eyes
grew wild ‘in horror’ and your
hearts jumped into your throats,
and you entertained ‘conflicting’
thoughts about Allah.

(al-Ahzab 33:10)

Rasulullah ﷺ sends reinforcements to the south. With fewer men defending the northern trench, the Quraysh tried to attack once more, but they were still unable to cross the divide.

The Muslims vigilantly hold their ranks all through the night and the next day. For the moment, the trenches appear to be all that is preventing the imminent collapse of Madinah.

During the intense standoff, the companions missed their obligatory prayers; only after the enemy retreated for the evening can they make up the prayers they had missed.

Narrated `Ali bin Abi Talib:

We were in the company of the Prophet (ﷺ) on the day (of the battle) of Al-Khandaq (the Trench). The Prophet said, "May Allah fill their (the infidels') graves and houses with fire, as they have kept us so busy that we could not offer the middle prayer till the sun had set; and that prayer was the `Asr prayer."

(Sahih al-Bukhari 6396)

Two weeks have passed since they started their siege and with food supplies running dangerously low, the Quraysh and their allies's determination quickly starts to fade.

On the other side of the trench, the Muslims have also grown weary and exhausted.

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

The Divine Help

With no end in sight, Rasulullah ﷺ invoked Allah SWT's help - a prayer that is answered several days later when a vicious storm descends upon the enemy clans.

"O you who have believed, remember the favor of Allāh upon you when armies came to [attack] you and We sent upon them a wind and armies [of angels] you did not see. And ever is Allāh, of what you do, Seeing."

(Al Ahzab 33:9)

The cold, raging winds devastate the enemy campsite, ripping up tents and extinguishing fires. Their window of opportunity has passed, and the enemy clans are forced to salvage whatever is left from their camp and return home. Most importantly, the violent storm douses any flickers of hope for the Quraysh.

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

The Aftermath of Khandaq / Ahzab

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

Remember Sayidina Sa'ad ibn Muadh RA?

It has been narrated on the authority of A'isha who said:

Sa'd was wounded on the day of the Battle of the Trench. A man from the Quraish called Ibn al-Ariqah shot at him an arrow which pierced the artery in the middle of his forearm. The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) pitched a tent for him in the mosque and would inquire after him being in close proximity.

(Sahih Muslim 1769a)

Rasulullah ﷺ love him so much that he himself tried to treat Sa'd RA.

...So the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) tried to stop it with fire, but it made his arm bleed profusely so he left it. Then he did it another time but it caused it to bleed profusely. Upon seeing that Sa'd RA said: *'O Allah! Do not allow my soul to depart, until my eyes are comforted by elimination of Banu Quraizah.'* He pressed his vein closed and it did not bleed a drop before they surrendered...

(Jami` at-Tirmidhi 1582)

Sirah,
A Love Story

57 years old / Year 18 of Prophethood / 5 AH

The Execution of Bani Qurayzah

Narrated `Aisha:

When the Prophet (ﷺ) returned from Al-Khandaq (i.e. Trench) and laid down his arms and took a bath, Jibril AS came and said (to the Prophet (ﷺ)), "You have laid down your arms? By Allah, we angels have not laid them down yet. So set out for them." The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Where to go?" Gabriel said, "Towards this side," pointing towards Banu Quraiza. So the Prophet (ﷺ) went out towards them.

(Sahih al-Bukhari 4117)

The judgment towards Bani Qurayzah was made by Sa'd RA that their men should be killed, their women should be spared, and that the Muslims may share the spoils among themselves.

And to this Rasulullah ﷺ said,
“You have judged according to Allah's judgement for them.”

And when the Muslims finished killing them, Sa'd RA's vein opened up and he died."

(Jami` at-Tirmidhi 1582)

Narrated Anas bin Malik:

"When the funeral of Sa'd bin Mu'adh was carried, the hypocrites said: 'How light his funeral is.' And this was due to his judgment concerning Banu Quraizah. So this reached the Prophet (ﷺ), and he said: 'Indeed, the angels were carrying him.'"

(Jami` at-Tirmidhi 3849)

Narrated Al-Bara:

"A garment of silk was gifted to the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) so they began to marvel at its softness, so the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: 'Do you marvel at this? Indeed, the handkerchiefs of Sa'd bin Mu'adh in Paradise are better than this.'"

(Jami` at-Tirmidhi 3847)