



The General Presidency for the Affairs of the Grand Holy Mosque and the Prophet's Holy Mosque

Al-Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University College of Languages and Translation

[10-7-35 - B - Al-Qasim]

#### The Battle of Badr and the Coming Victory

His Eminence Sheikh Abdul-Muhsin ibn Muhammad Al-Qasim, may Allah preserve him, delivered the Friday *khutbah* entitled, "The Battle of Badr and the Coming Victory", in which he talked about the Battle of Badr and the lessons and morals that can be drawn from it. He cited some Qur'anic verses that deal with this event and then he referred to the victory that Allah has promised His believing servants if they follow in the footsteps of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, and his Companions, may Allah be pleased with them.

#### **Part One**

Praise be to Allah. We praise Him and seek His help and forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evil within ourselves and from our wrong deeds. He whom Allah guides, none can misguide, and he whom Allah sends astray, none can guide. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners, and I bear witness that our prophet, Muhammad, is His servant and messenger. May Allah bestow his bountiful peace and blessings upon him and upon his family and Companions.

#### O Muslims!

Fear Allah, servants of Allah, as He should be feared; for fear of Allah increases His blessings and wards off His punishments.

#### O Muslims!

The fundamentals of Islam consist in knowledge of Allah, knowledge of His religion, and knowledge of His Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him. It is only





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through the teachings of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, that a servant may gain knowledge of his Lord and his religion. Attaining happiness in this world and in the hereafter only lies in following the guidance of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him. Ibn Al-Qayyim, may Allah have mercy upon his soul, said, "Whoever offers sincere advice to himself and seeks his own salvation and happiness must gain enough knowledge of the Prophet's guidance, life, and conduct, so as to be excluded from those who are ignorant of him and included among his followers, adherents, and party." In this regard, some people have little knowledge of the Prophet, some have much knowledge, and some have no knowledge at all.

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> of Ramadan of the second year of Hijrah is a memorable day in Islam. Allah named it "the Day of Criterion" (to distinguish right from wrong), and the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said about the Muslims on that day, "O Allah! If this band [i.e. this group of Muslims] is destroyed, you will not be worshipped on the earth" (Reported by Muslim). Al-Qurtubi, may Allah have mercy upon his soul, said, "It was upon that day that Islam was built."

The Prophet himself, peace and blessings be upon him, took part in the battle on that day, and one thousand angels, led by Jibril (Gabriel), peace be upon him, descended from heaven for its sake. Whoever among the believers participated in that battle will have his sins forgiven, will be saved from Hellfire, and will attain the highest ranks in Paradise. The angels that took part in it were granted a more favourable status than the other inhabitants of the heaven. This battle is replete with morals and lessons and full of miracles and signs of Allah's power.

The Quraish had fought against the religion of Allah, expelled His Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, from Makkah, and harmed his Companions, and so they migrated to Al-Madinah. When the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, was informed that a trade caravan led by Abu Sufyan was on its return journey from Syria,





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carrying plentiful amounts of wealth for the Quraish, he urged his Companions to go out and seize it as booty, so that the Quraish might know that Muslims were not in a state of weakness or humiliation. He marched forth along with about three hundred and fifteen men; their intent was only to seize the caravan and not to engage in war. When Abu Sufyan learnt that they were heading towards his caravan, he sent for help from the Quraish, asking them to send him troops. Then he took the coastal route and escaped the attack, and then informed the Quraish that he was safe. However, all the notable chiefs of the Quraish, except for Abu Lahab (the Prophet's uncle), went forth and mobilised the neighbouring Arab tribes to exterminate the Muslims. They came forth, as Allah, Exalted be He, describes them,

#### (... boastfully and to be seen of men ...) (Al-Anfal: 47)

The Prophet's Companions were indisputably the best companions to the best prophet. When they learnt that the Quraish were coming to fight the Prophet, peace and blessing be upon him, Al-Miqdad ibn Al-Aswad, may Allah be pleased with him, rose and said to him, "We will not say to you as the people of Musa (Moses) said to him, "... Go you and your Lord and fight you two, we are sitting right here." (Al-Ma'idah: 24), but we will fight on your right and on your left and in front of you and from behind you." Abdullah ibn Mas'ud, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "I saw the face of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, getting bright with happiness, for that saying delighted him" (Reported by Al-Bukhari). Similarly, *Al-Ansar* (the Madinan Helpers of the Muslim Emigrants from Makkah) said to the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, "Were you to command us to plunge our horses into the sea, we would do so. And were you to command us to goad our horses to Bark al-Ghimad (a city in Abyssinia), we would readily do so."

On the approach of the Quraish army, whose number was three times as much as that of the Muslims, the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, spent the whole night





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earnestly imploring his Lord to grant him victory. He invoked Him so fervently that his mantle would slip off his shoulders. Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, would put it back on his shoulders and say, "O Messenger of Allah! This prayer of yours to your Lord will suffice you, and He will surely fulfil His promise to you."

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, did not sleep that night, but he spent it praying ardently to Allah. Ali ibn Abi Talib, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "I saw that everyone of us went to sleep except Allah's Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him, who kept on praying and weeping under a tree until the morning." Allah answered the prayers of His Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, who gave glad tidings of victory to his Companions and informed them of the places where the leaders of the disbelievers would be killed.

The battalions of the Quraish arrived at Badr, and the two armies met together without an appointment, for a reason that Allah, in His Divine Wisdom, willed. Allah, Glorified be He, says:

«... Even if you had made a mutual appointment to meet, you would certainly have failed in the appointment, but (you met) that Allah might accomplish a matter already ordained (in His Knowledge). ...» (Al-Anfal: 42)

Allah made the believers fall into a slumber to make them feel secure and reassured. He says,

(Remember) when He covered you with a slumber as a security from Him ...) (Al-Anfal: 11)

In addition, Allah lessened the number of Muslims in the eyes of the polytheists so that they might not flee from the battlefield, and reduced the number of the disbelievers in the eyes of Muslims so as to encourage them to go forward. He says:





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(And (remember) when you met (the army of the disbelievers on the Day of the battle of Badr), He showed them to you as few in your eyes and He made you appear as few in their eyes, so that Allah might accomplish a matter already ordained (in His Knowledge). ... (Al-Anfal: 44)

Abdullah ibn Mas'ud, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "I would ask the man next to me, 'Do you think they are seventy?', and he would reply, 'I think they are one hundred,' while in actual fact they were about one thousand."

Allah also cast terror and fear into the hearts of the polytheists. He says:

(... I will cast terror into the hearts of those who have disbelieved...)
(Al-Anfal: 12)

He made the believers stand firm by supporting them with angels. Allah, Glorified be He, says:

(Remember) when your Lord revealed to the angels, "Verily, I am with you, so keep firm those who have believed." ... (Al-Anfal: 12)

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, urged the believers to fight. The two hosts met and the battle raged. Victory was initiated with a downpour of rain that cleansed Muslims outwardly and inwardly, through which Allah made their feet stand firm, strengthened their hearts, and kept Satan's discouragement at bay. Allah, Glorified be He, says:

«... and He caused water (rain) to descend on you from the sky, to clean you thereby and to remove from you the *Rijz* (whispering, evil-suggestions) of *Shaitan* (Satan), and to strengthen your hearts, and make your feet firm thereby.» (Al-Anfal: 11)





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Satan was there and he said to the polytheists:

«... "No one of mankind can overcome you this Day (of the battle of Badr) and verily, I am your neighbour (for each and every help)" ...» (Al-Anfal: 48)

Yet, when he saw the angels, he fled, forsook the polytheists, and said to them:

(... Verily! I see what you see not. Verily! I fear Allah ...) (Al-Anfal: 48)

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, personally engaged in fierce fighting. Ali ibn Abi Talib, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "You could see us in the Battle of Badr seeking the protection of the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, who was the closest of us to the enemy and the fiercest among men in battle."

Jibril (Angel Gabriel), peace be upon him, came down to fight in the battle. The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, informed his Companions about that and said to them, "This is Jibril taking hold of the reins of his horse, equipped with arms for the battle" (Reported by Al-Bukhari). One thousand angels fought along with him. In order to give the believers glad tidings and reassure their hearts, Allah informed them that the angels were fighting along with them. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(Allah made it not but as a message of good news for you and as an assurance to your hearts. ...) (Al 'Imran: 126)

Abdullah ibn Abbas, may Allah be pleased with him and his father, said,

"On that day, while a Muslim [from *Al-Ansar*] was chasing a polytheist who was going ahead of him, he heard the crack of a whip over him and the voice of the rider saying, 'Go ahead, Haizum!' (which is the name of the horse). He glanced at the polytheist and found him lying on the





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ground. When he looked at him more closely, he saw a cut on his nose and a scar along his face as if it had been hit with a whip and had turned green with its poison. The man from *Al-Ansar* came to Allah's Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him, and related this to him. He said, 'You have told the truth. This was help from the third heaven.' On that day, the Muslims killed seventy polytheists and captured seventy others." (Reported by Muslim)

Sahl ibn Hunaif, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "On the day of the Battle of Badr, one would see a man of us aiming his sword at a disbeliever's head and it would be chopped off his body before the sword actually reached it." Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(You killed them not, but Allah killed them. ...) (Al-Anfal: 17)

In that battle, seventy polytheists were killed, including the notables of the Quraish who stood as an obstacle to the religion of Allah, as well as others who had no good in them at all. After the death of their leaders, none remained but the weak, and Islam spread in all horizons by Allah's grace. Allah had preordained the destiny of the polytheists who survived the Battle of Badr. Many of them embraced Islam, foremost of whom were Abu Sufyan and 'Amr ibn Al-'As, may Allah be pleased with them.

Fourteen of the Companions were martyred and thus won the highest places of Paradise. Harithah's mother came to the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and said, "O Prophet of Allah! Will you not tell me about [the fate of] Harithah?" He said, "O Umm Harithah! It is [not one garden], but many gardens in Paradise, and your son has attained the highest rank in Paradise" (Reported by Al-Bukhari). Commenting on this *hadith*, Ibn Kathir, may Allah have mercy upon his soul, said, "This *hadith* is a great reminder as to the favoured status of the Muslims who fought in Badr.





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Harithah was not in the midst of the fight nor in the thick of the battle but was a distant watcher, and he was hit by a stray arrow while drinking from the cistern. Even though, he was granted Paradise on account of this position. No one can tell the far greater reward that Allah has for those who were actually fighting in front of the enemy lines."

#### O Muslims!

The religion of Allah is the truth, and He will definitely support it. Falsehood, no matter how ornate it is, will be obliterated by the truth. Victory comes from Allah even though its causes may be delayed. Therefore, the servant should hold fast to this religion and support the cause of his Lord so that He may in turn support him. I seek refuge in Allah from Satan, the outcast:

«And Allah has already made you victorious at Badr, when you were a weak little force. So fear Allah much that you may be grateful.» (Al 'Imran: 123)

May Allah bless you and me with the Great Qur'an and make us benefit from its verses and wise words. I have said what you have heard and I ask forgiveness of Allah for myself, for you, and for all Muslims, for any sin that we have committed. Ask Allah for forgiveness. He is the Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.





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#### Part Two

Praise be to Allah for His kindness to us; and all forms of gratitude are due to Him for the success He has blessed us with and for His graciousness. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, Who has no partners, in glorification of His dignified position. I also bear witness that our prophet, Muhammad, is His servant and messenger. May Allah bestow His bountiful prayers, peace, and blessings upon him and upon his family and Companions.

#### O Muslims!

Islam reached us after many sacrifices had been made. Many lives were offered and numerous men were wounded for the sake of Islam. Many messengers, righteous men, martyrs, and angels fought hard to make it reign supreme, to preserve it, and to convey its message to us. Throughout the ages, its rulings and legislations have remained intact in their entirety, and Islam has remained valid for all times and places. Therefore, it is the duty of every servant to follow Islam, rejoice at it, spread it, and support it.

#### Servants of Allah!

Know that Allah has commanded you to ask Him to send His blessings and peace upon His Prophet. Allah says in His perfect Revelation:

(Allah sends His *Salat* (Allah sends His *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy) on the Prophet (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)) and also His angels (ask Allah to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your *Salat* on (ask Allah to bless) him (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islamic way of greeting (salutation i.e. *As-Salamu 'Alaikum*).) (Al-Ahzab: 56)





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O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon our prophet, Muhammad, and be pleased with the Rightly-Guided Caliphs, who ruled by truth and thereby established justice, Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali, along with all the Companions, and also be pleased with us together with them, by Your grace and generosity, O Most Generous of all the generous!

O Allah! Grant power and glory to Islam and the Muslims, subdue polytheism and the polytheists, and destroy the enemies of the religion. O Allah! Make this country of ours, as well as all other Muslim countries, safe, secure, and prosperous.

- «... Our Lord! Give us that which is good in this world and that which is good in the Hereafter, and save us from the torment of Hellfire!» (Al-Baqarah: 201)
- O Allah! We ask You for guidance, piety, chastity, and freedom from want, O Owner of Majesty and Honour!
- O Allah! Lead our ruler to Your guidance, make all his deeds pleasing to You, and guide all the leaders of the Muslims to act according to Your Book and rule by Your *Shari'ah*, O Lord of the Worlds!
- O Allah! Grant victory to those who strive in Your cause. O Allah! Be their Protector and Helper and provide support to them.
- O Allah! Improve the condition of Muslims everywhere. O Allah! Make the best among them the ones who rule them.
- O Allah! Make whoever harbours evil intentions towards us, or towards Islam and Muslims, preoccupied with his own problems and let his plots against us be a cause of his own destruction, O All-Mighty! O Most Strong!





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#### Servants of Allah!

«Verily, Allah enjoins Al-Adl (i.e. justice and worshipping none but Allah Alone − Islamic Monotheism) and Al-Ihsan [i.e. to be patient in performing your duties to Allah, totally for Allah's sake and in accordance with the Sunnah (legal ways) of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) in a perfect manner], and giving (help) to kith and kin (i.e. all that Allah has ordered you to give them, e.g. wealth, visiting, looking after them, or any other kind of help), and forbids Al-Fahsha' (i.e. all evil deeds, e.g. illegal sexual acts, disobedience of parents, polytheism, to tell lies, to give false witness, to kill a life without right), and Al-Munkar (i.e. all that is prohibited by Islamic law: polytheism of every kind, disbelief and every kind of evil deeds), and Al-Baghy (i.e. all kinds of oppression). He admonishes you, that you may take heed. (An-Nahl: 90)

Remember Allah, the Most Great, the Sublime, and He will remember you. Thank Him for His blessings and favours and He will give you more. Verily, remembrance of Allah is greater than all, and Allah knows what you do.