

# Hijrah & Building State in Madinah

# HIJRAH: Correcting some of Orientalist's accusations

- The Prophet work hard struggled and endured all kinds of sufferings, persecution, oppression while in Makkah. It was 13 long years.
- It was a strategic decision/planning. An act of cowardice he would not have come back and establish his control in Makkah in 629/ 7-8 AH
- Significance
- The prophet had preached Islam in Makkah for 10 years. During the last 3 years of his preaching there, the situation became stagnant- no more sign of acceptance. In order for this faith to prosper, he need to find a new

# Hijrah

- During Makkiyyah period Islam was basically a religion of the oppressed, persecuted minority they could not even perform Islamic worship freely.
- Makkiyyah period is crucial phase The establishment of Islam as socio-political order
- In order to have a stable order strong foundation is absolutely pivotal. The primary concern of Makkiyah period is training preparing the companions spiritually, enhancing their faith-foundation for a greater thing to come.
- Madinah period foundation of Islam as a political order-strengthening Islamic brotherhood building mosque- social order- fostering social relations.

# Hijrah

- Hijrah was not a sudden decision, the idea of establishing the state was well-thought of from very beginning- Islam din wal-dawlah unlike the notion of the separation of power.
- **Image: Masjid Quba'**



# Social Contract & The Constitution of Madinah

- Islam is both religion and state- thus need for hijrah for the realization of Islam as a state
- Constitution/Charter of Madinah (Sahifah al-Madinah)
- Sahifah as the social contract?
- Developed by Enlightenment thinkers (ca. 18<sup>th</sup> cent) e.g. John Locke.
- State is a necessary evil.
- Thus there is a need for a social contract
- An agreement between the ruler & the ruled

- In earliest history man lived in a "state of nature." No government existed.
- Each man was only as secure as his own power and mental awareness could make him.
- By agreeing with one another to make a state by contract, men within a given area joined together, each surrendering personal freedom as necessary to promote the safety and well being of all.
- By this contract the members created a government. The social contract gives rights and responsibilities to both the citizenry and the government.
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# Sahifah as the Social Contract

- Drafted by Muhammad and ratified by the major parties of Madinah
- 1<sup>st</sup> Party- Prophet
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Muhajirun (emigrants from Makkah)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ansar (Arab citizens of Yathrib)
- 4<sup>th</sup> The various clans of the jews of yathrib
- Established agreement and unity of various groups-brought the various elements together in a unified political system

- A major achievement, Muhammad Hamidullah- The first written constitution in the world by a head of state
- The Muslims were declared one ummah united by Islam
- Muhajirin and Ansar were united as one entity
- Jews were considered full citizens of the Muslim state
- They were obligated under TOR to fight alongside the Muslims, should Madinah be attacked and share in the war expenses
- In return they were given full privileges

# Jews Privileges under MC (622)

- 1) religious freedom
- 2) administration of their own justice unless they refer any case to head of State/Muhammad, then it would be decided by shariah
- 3) financial autonomy

- Yathrib shall be a sanctuary for the people of this document.
- (42) If any dispute or controversy likely to cause trouble should arise it must be referred to God and to Muhammad the apostle of God.
- (43) Quraysh and their helpers shall not be given protection.
- (44) The contracting parties are bound to help one another against any attack on Yathrib.

# Building a Community in Madinah

- 1. Charter of Madinah
- 2. Building the prophet's Mosque
- 3. Institution of Brotherhood among Muslims
- Building Mosque
- The building of mosque started immediately after his arrival in Madinah
- Size of the land plot (35 by 30 yards) belonged to 2 orphaned children, immediately bought and paid for.

- Mosque was a simple structure
- Prophet wanted it to be simple building
- He personally took part in building it- carry bricks, stones and earth
- Foundations with stones, walls –grey mud bricks
- Roof was supported on columns made from the trunks of date trees.
- Roof- only small portion of mosque- the rest was an open courtyard

# Brotherhood

- As many Muhajirun were without the means of livelihood, P laid the obligation of supporting them on the Ansar by instituting brotherhood of Ansar and Muhajirs
- To each Muhajir, an Ansar as his brother
- This brotherhood bond more substantial than blood ties
- Example of solidarity- Abd Rahman Auf and Sa'd ibn Rabi'.

- Sa'd was a very rich man and had 2 wives.
- On becoming a brother to A rahman he offered to divide wealth equally with his brother
- Even offered to divorce one of his wives
- But A Rahman refused to take advantage of the good will of his host
- Abd Rahman worked as a trader

# The Transformation of Yathrib Society

- What was the socio-political orders of Yathrib before Islam?
- The order of the day before the advent of Islam in Madinah was tribalism. —tribal fighting b/w Aws and Khazraj, judiciary decided by tribal law, unified under the banner of tribe.
- How the society was transformed from a divisive (tribal element) into a unified (universalness)?

# Trans.

- membership of the community no longer tribal/family ties/criteria but faith where all regardless of tribe are equal. The Consti itself declares:
- **This is a document from Muhammad between believers of Quraysh and Yathrib..they are one community (ummah)**
- -Laws transcending the tribes
- -the leader (ultimate guy) was no longer the tribal shaykh, but the prophet. (the earlier source of division-had different leader)

# Trans.

- -loyalty and identity was given to the tribe-retribution/revenge—the identity not blood lines or family ties as was the case in tribalism but “Islamic brotherhood”.
- Forming the bond of brotherhood –settling the old disputes between Aws and Khazraj, establishing brotherhood b/w Muhajirin and Ansar