

The Golden Series of the Prophet's Companions



Khalid bin Al-Waleed ﷺ

The Sword of Allâh

By
Abdul Basit Ahmad





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خالد بن الوليد رضي الله عنه - سيف الله المسلول

Khalid bin Al-Waleed رضي الله عنه

The Sword of Allâh





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Khalid bin Al-Waleed رضي الله عنه
The Sword of Allâh

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بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

In the Name of Allâh,
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

“Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allâh [i.e., they have gone out for *Jihâd* (holy fighting), and showed not their backs to the disbelievers]; of them some have fulfilled their obligations (i.e., have been martyred); and some of them are still waiting, but they have never changed (i.e., they never proved treacherous to their covenant which they concluded with Allâh) in the least.” (33:23)





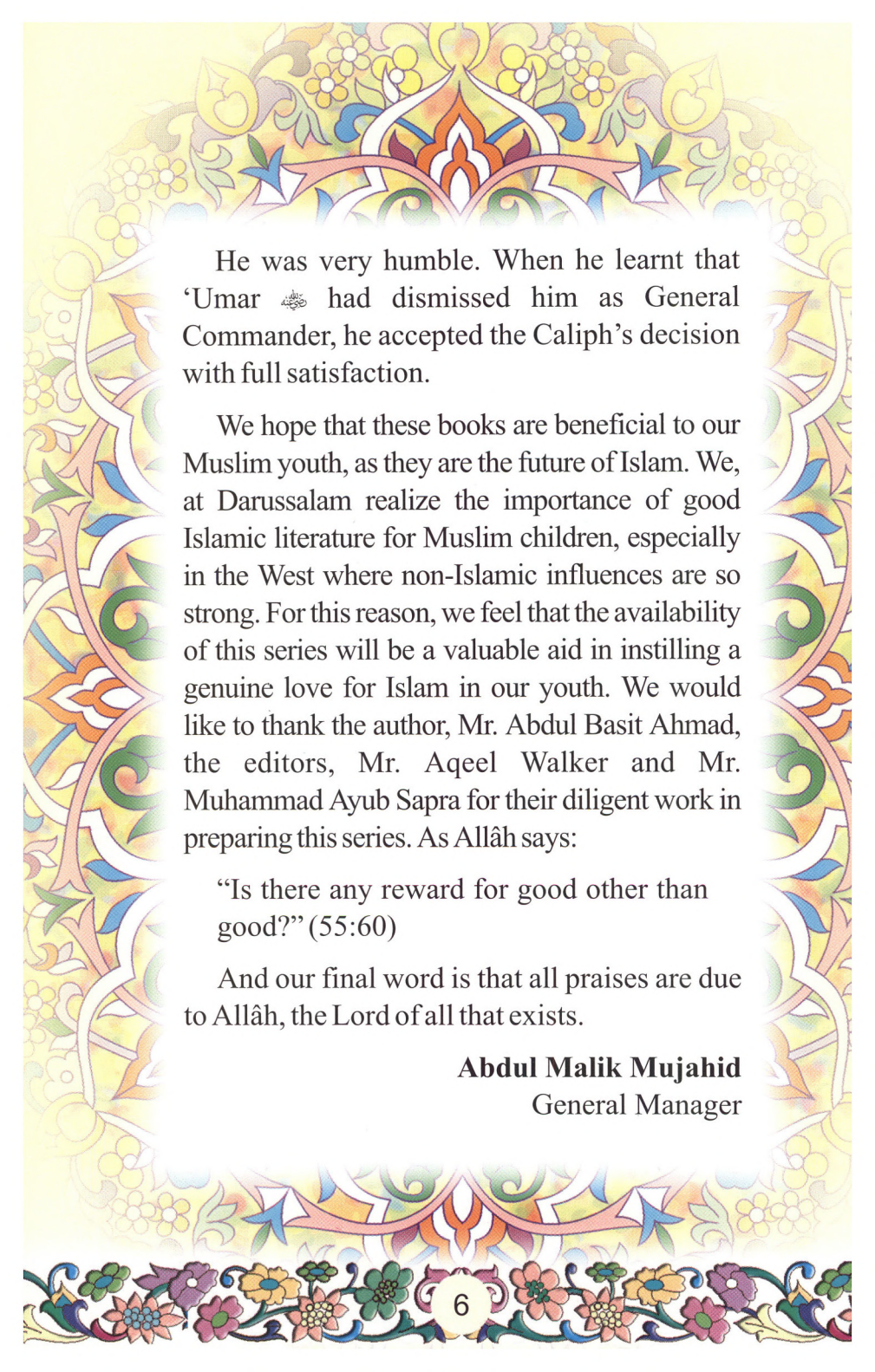
Publishers Note

All praises are due to Allâh, the Lord of all that exists. May Allâh's peace and blessings be upon His final Prophet and Messenger, Muhammad, his family and his Companions.

Darussalam is pleased to present this valuable series, '*The Golden Series of the Prophet's Companions*', to the Muslim youth. The purpose of these books is to enlighten our youth about the lives of the greatest heroes of Islam, the Prophet's Companions. Also, we wish to increase the enthusiasm of the Muslim youth for following and adhering to their religion. In this way, these books achieve two very important tasks: educating our youth and encouraging them to be good Muslims.

The following story titled '*Khalid bin Al-Waleed* ﷺ – *The Sword of Allâh*', is the life story of one of the Muslims' greatest heroes. He devoted all his life and military skills for the support of the cause of Islam. The Prophet ﷺ told him:

“You are the Sword of Allâh”

A decorative border with intricate floral and geometric patterns in yellow, green, blue, and red surrounds the text. The patterns are symmetrical and feature stylized flowers and leaves.

He was very humble. When he learnt that ‘Umar رضي الله عنه had dismissed him as General Commander, he accepted the Caliph’s decision with full satisfaction.

We hope that these books are beneficial to our Muslim youth, as they are the future of Islam. We, at Darussalam realize the importance of good Islamic literature for Muslim children, especially in the West where non-Islamic influences are so strong. For this reason, we feel that the availability of this series will be a valuable aid in instilling a genuine love for Islam in our youth. We would like to thank the author, Mr. Abdul Basit Ahmad, the editors, Mr. Aqeel Walker and Mr. Muhammad Ayub Sapra for their diligent work in preparing this series. As Allâh says:

“Is there any reward for good other than good?” (55:60)

And our final word is that all praises are due to Allâh, the Lord of all that exists.

Abdul Malik Mujahid
General Manager

A decorative border with intricate floral and geometric patterns in yellow, green, blue, and orange surrounds the text. The patterns are symmetrical and feature stylized flowers and leaves.

Foreword

Heroism had always been given a high rank in the life of Arab tribes in the pre-Islamic era. It continued to shape many of the events that took place after the advent of Islam. Respect and admiration have been attached to this quality over ages till our time. Victory in a certain battle or drawing a strategy to avoid fatal defeat was attributed to certain persons always labeled as heroes. Arabs, among other nations, had given heroism a position distinguished with miraculous characteristics. The desert of Arabia knew many men who were always known to have defended their tribes and who won battles over enemies.

All those characteristics of courage and heroism were only acts of invasion or retaliation to invaders; any struggle with unidentified enemies anytime, anywhere or even a raid at midnight to rob some camels or even a miserable slave. No rule was established to name a certain person as a hero. One act that could have been achieved by mere chance might make a belittled

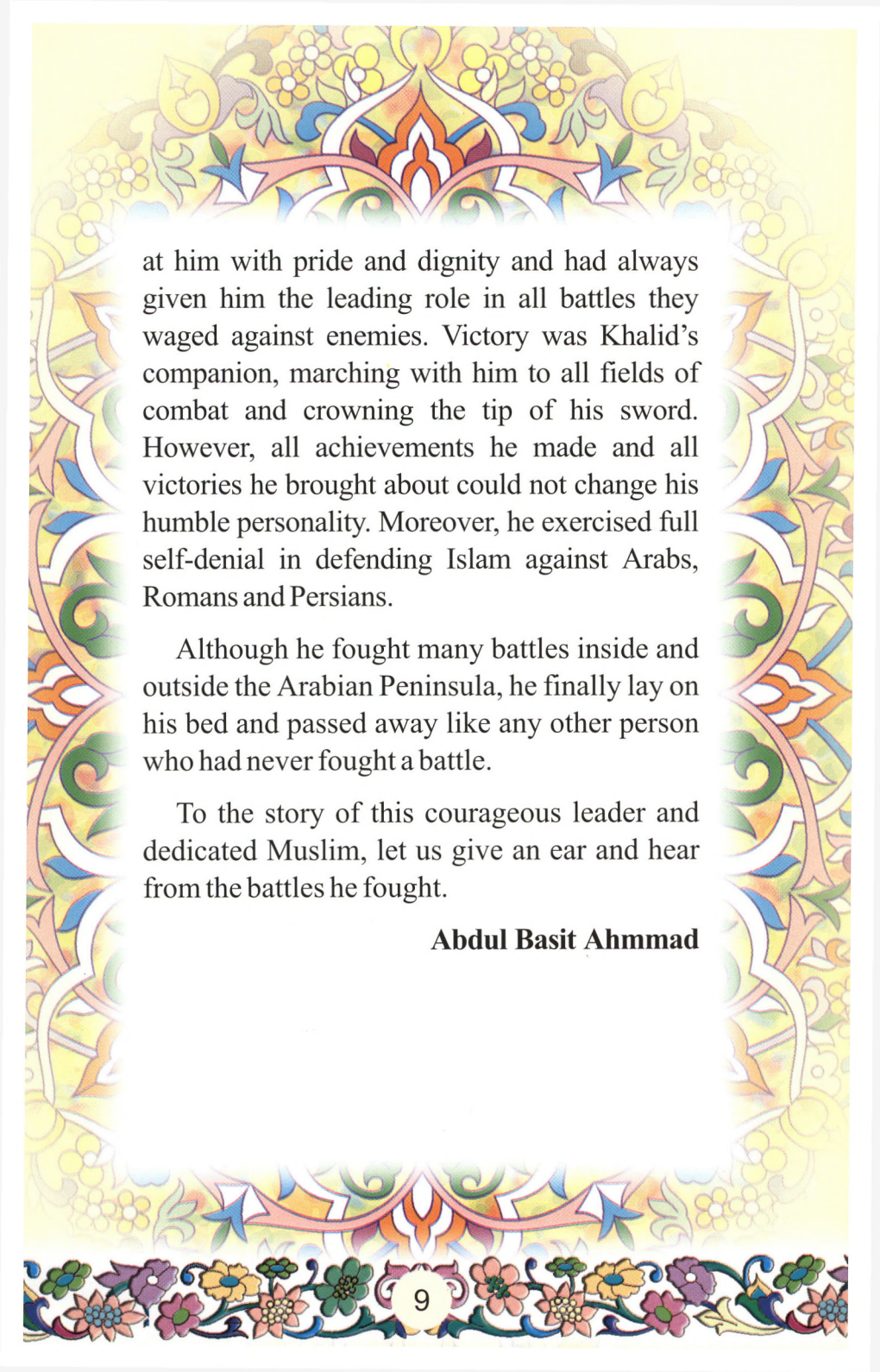
A decorative border with intricate floral and geometric patterns in yellow, green, blue, and pink surrounds the text. The patterns are symmetrical and feature stylized flowers and leaves.

man a highly respectable hero.

After the advent of Islam, the picture had totally changed. Heroism had no longer given any person any privileges; rather it made him carry more responsibilities to defend the just cause of the nation. It was not the glamour attributed to skills of using the sword or striking fear in the hearts of enemies, rather, it was a quality that shaped the whole life of the nation of Islam. Those who sacrificed their lives to further the message of Allâh had become the true heroes, who strove to bring about happiness and peace to humanity and to remove the shadows of fear and cruelties.

Among the true and devoted heroes of Islam was Khalid bin Al-Waleed. He was a youth from the Quraish and an outstanding example of sacrifice for the cause of Allâh. He always triumphed in the battles of Islam. He was always the strategist, who planned for prestigious victory. He had a military mentality that he did not learn at any renowned schools of war but acquired through experience and dedication.

Before Islam, the Quraish had always looked

A decorative border with intricate floral and geometric patterns in yellow, green, blue, and pink surrounds the text. The patterns include stylized flowers, leaves, and interlocking lines.

at him with pride and dignity and had always given him the leading role in all battles they waged against enemies. Victory was Khalid's companion, marching with him to all fields of combat and crowning the tip of his sword. However, all achievements he made and all victories he brought about could not change his humble personality. Moreover, he exercised full self-denial in defending Islam against Arabs, Romans and Persians.

Although he fought many battles inside and outside the Arabian Peninsula, he finally lay on his bed and passed away like any other person who had never fought a battle.

To the story of this courageous leader and dedicated Muslim, let us give an ear and hear from the battles he fought.


Abdul Basit Ahmmad



Introduction



Islam and the chiefs of the Quraish

As the Prophet ﷺ started preaching the message of Islam, the chiefs of the Quraish took an opposing attitude toward him. They did not like the principles preached by the Prophet ﷺ because they felt that their privileges as chiefs would be lost. In the beginning, they tried their best to make the followers of Islam abandon their religion. When they could not force the believers to give up their faith, they began accusing the Prophet ﷺ of things that they themselves knew were untrue. They alleged that Muhammad was a magician or a liar, although they themselves used to call him *Al-Ameen* (the trustworthy). However, all their attempts met no success. They tried to entice the Prophet ﷺ to make abandon the mission of spreading Islam. They began negotiating with the Prophet ﷺ and his uncle to reach a compromise. They told the Prophet ﷺ that they would make him a king or give him all the money he might ask for. However, the Prophet




ﷺ rejected all of their worldly proposals and continued preaching the message of Islam to all humanity. When they felt that neither oppression nor enticement could make the Prophet ﷺ accept their views, they tried to kill him but Allâh protected him against their conspiracies.

Migration to Al-Madinah

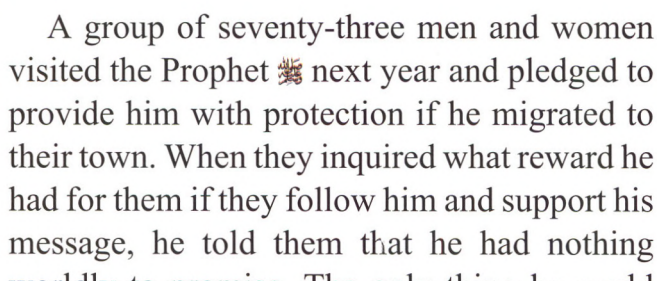


The Prophet ﷺ felt that nearly all his efforts to make his people accept Islam were in vain. Only a few persons, mostly weak and slaves, accepted his call. Therefore, he began calling tribes living in towns near Makkah to accept Islam and asked them to provide him with protection to be able to spread the message of Islam. He once went to Tâ'if, a town 90 kilometers away from Makkah, and tried to convince the tribe of Thaqeef that he was the true Messenger of Allâh. In reaction, the people of Tâ'if dispelled him and ordered boys and slaves to throw stones at him.

The Prophet ﷺ used to visit the marketplace everyday in the hope that some other tribe




might accept his message. Once he met with a group of merchants from Yathrib, a town 400 kilometers away from Makkah. He called them to accept Islam and provide him with protection in order to propagate the Word of Allâh. The group of men discussed the invitation among themselves and finally accepted the call. They secretly met with the Prophet ﷺ and promised him to visit him the next year with their chiefs to give him the pledge of protection.





A group of seventy-three men and women visited the Prophet ﷺ next year and pledged to provide him with protection if he migrated to their town. When they inquired what reward he had for them if they follow him and support his message, he told them that he had nothing worldly to promise. The only thing he could promise was a reward of dwelling in Paradise.

The followers of Islam began migrating to Al-Madinah. The chiefs of the Quraish felt that they were losing control of the Muslims. They tried their best to prevent them from migrating to Al-Madinah. However, all their attempts met no success. At last, they thought that the best way to

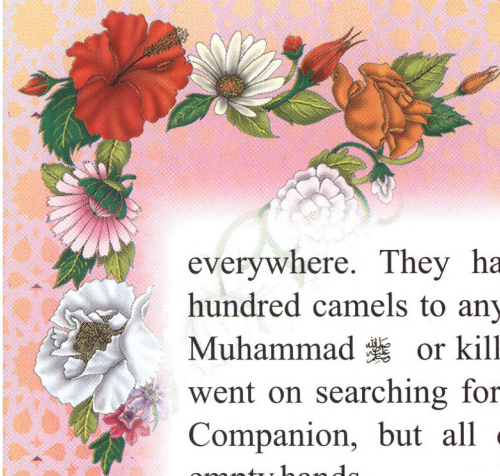


destroy Islam was to kill Muhammad ﷺ himself. Abu Jahl, the bitterest enemy of Islam, proposed to gather forty young and strong men from all branches of the Quraish tribe to kill Muhammad ﷺ. The young men were ordered to wait at the door of Muhammad's house and to tear his body with their swords as he opened the door.



The Angel Gabriel told the Prophet ﷺ of the vicious plot. He ordered him to immediately leave Makkah to Al-Madinah. The Prophet ﷺ told his closest Companion, Abu Bakr ؓ, that it was time to migrate to Al-Madinah. At the night when the Prophet ﷺ wanted to migrate to Al-Madinah, the young men surrounded his house and waited there. The Prophet ﷺ asked his cousin 'Ali bin Abi Tâlib to sleep on his bed and cover his body with his cloak. The Prophet ﷺ left his house and passed through the waiting men but they did not take notice of him.

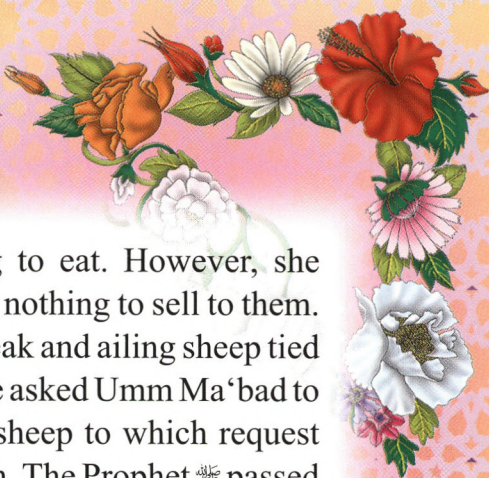
The Prophet ﷺ and his Companion, Abu Bakr ؓ, left Makkah together. They hid in a cave near Makkah. When the disbelievers knew that their plot had failed, they ordered their horsemen to search for Muhammad ﷺ

A decorative floral border in the top left corner featuring a red hibiscus, a white daisy, a pink flower, a white peony, and a yellow rose.

everywhere. They had set a prize of one hundred camels to anyone who could capture Muhammad ﷺ or kill him. Hundreds of men went on searching for the Prophet ﷺ and his Companion, but all of them returned with empty hands.

The Prophet ﷺ and his Companion spent three days and night in the cave until search efforts cooled. Both of them left the cave and followed a way different from the one used by caravans. A man named Suraqah bin Malik hoped to win the prize. He went in the desert looking for the Prophet ﷺ and his Companion. He got sight of them and came close to catch or kill them. However, his horse fell to its knees. He tried again to capture them but his horse fell down and threw him off its back. He shouted to the Prophet ﷺ and his Companion asking for forgiveness. He promised them to divert the attention of their seekers.

The Prophet ﷺ and his Companion continued their journey. On the way, they wanted to take some rest at a place called Umm Ma'bad's tent. They asked the woman to sell



them milk or anything to eat. However, she apologized that she had nothing to sell to them. The Prophet ﷺ saw a weak and ailing sheep tied to the side of the tent. He asked Umm Ma'bad to allow him to milk the sheep to which request she showed no objection. The Prophet ﷺ passed his hand on the sheep's breast and milked a full of pot. He took some sips of milk and gave the pot to Abu Bakr ؓ who drank to his full and left some milk for the woman.

The Prophet ﷺ and his Companion continued their journey to Al-Madinah. Both the migrants and supporters waited at the outskirts of Al-Madinah for the arrival of the Prophet ﷺ. Upon arrival in Al-Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ and his Companion received warm welcome. Men, women and children were very happy to have the Prophet ﷺ among them.

From this blessed city, the Prophet ﷺ and his followers continued their struggle to spread the message of mercy and peace to the whole world.



The page is framed by a decorative border. The top-left corner features a cluster of colorful flowers including a red hibiscus, a white daisy, a pink rose, and a white peony. The right and bottom edges are decorated with intricate geometric patterns in shades of blue, purple, and green. The bottom center contains a small white circle with the number 16.

The Warrior

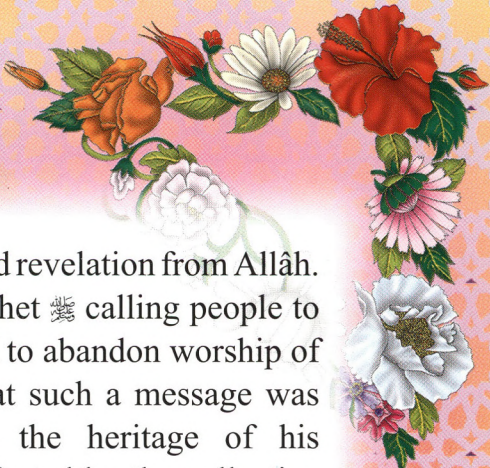
In the vast desert, under the glaring sun and within the long and deep valleys of Arabia, Khalid was brought up to be a warrior tasked with a dignified mission which was to protect his tribe and people. Like any other tribal man, he was trained in horsemanship in a society that gave much respect to heroes.

Khalid was born to a high-class family from the Quraish tribe. While young, he was known to be a strong and brave soldier, proud of his noble origin. From the beginning he was destined to defend his people and defeat their enemies until he had become well known throughout Arabia.

The Pagan Leader

Khalid was always the leader and never left any chance for fear to touch his heart. His only focus was to bring victory in any battle he might have to fight in defense of his tribe.

It troubled him much to know that a man from a distinguished family of the Quraish

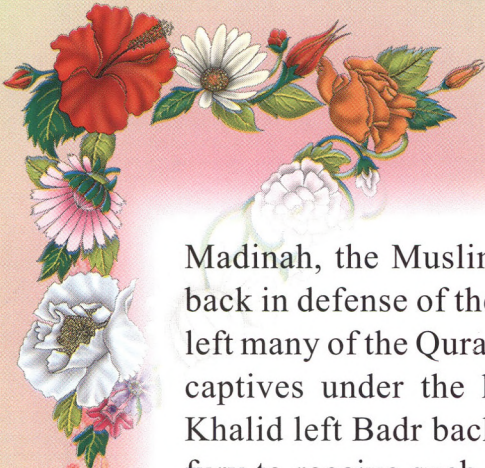


claimed to have received revelation from Allâh. He listened to the Prophet ﷺ calling people to worship One Allâh and to abandon worship of stone idols. He felt that such a message was aiming at destroying the heritage of his forefathers. He was affected by the collective opinion of the tribe.

Khalid, like most chiefs of the Quraish, challenged the call to Islam. He felt that the new religion would mean the end of all forms of tyranny and exploitation. Therefore, he took the side of the tyrants and did his best to stop the spread of the new religion. He even shared in several battles against the Muslims and caused them many harms. Even then he felt inside that whatever the Quraish did, they would not be able to stop the call of Islam.

He and other horsemen of the Quraish did their best to cause harm to Muhammad ﷺ and his followers. Even he shared in torturing some of the weak Muslims. He and others made the life of the Muslims in Makkah impossible.

After migration from Makkah to Al-



Madinah, the Muslims were forced to fight back in defense of their faith. The first battle left many of the Quraish chiefs either dead or captives under the hands of the Muslims. Khalid left Badr back to Makkah filled with fury to receive such a huge loss. He did not expect that the Muslims had become strong enough to defeat their enemies. However, he forgot that the victory achieved by the Muslims was mainly due to the help given to them by Allâh. Hence, he insisted on continuing his way of fighting against Islam and the Muslims. Khalid with the other chiefs of the Quraish, refused to let the Muslims live in peace and spread the message entrusted to the Prophet ﷺ.

After the astounding defeat they received at the hands of the Muslims in Badr, they decided to wage another war against Islam. They mobilized an army of three thousand men armed to their teeth to destroy Islam. They collected all the resources they earned from their trade and held a pact of evil against the Muslims.

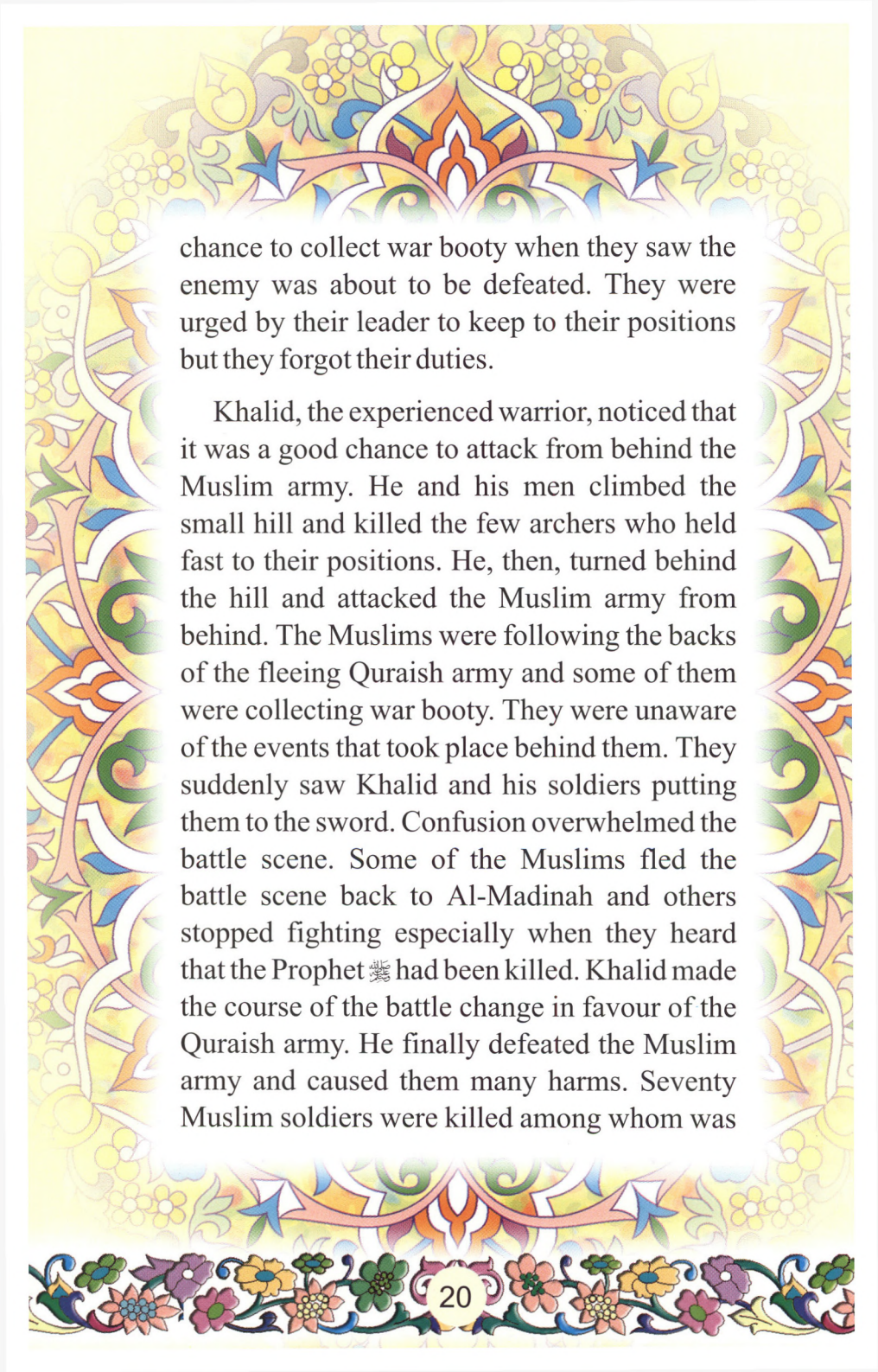


Khalid defeats the Muslims

Khalid led the horsemen of the Quraish and marched to Mount Uhud near Al-Madinah. He organized his soldiers and kept aside of the battlefield away from direct combat. He had a plan to attack from behind when he found the chance to do so. The Prophet ﷺ knew the intentions of Khalid. Therefore, he placed fifty archers over a small hill behind the Muslim army to make Khalid miss any chance of attack from behind.

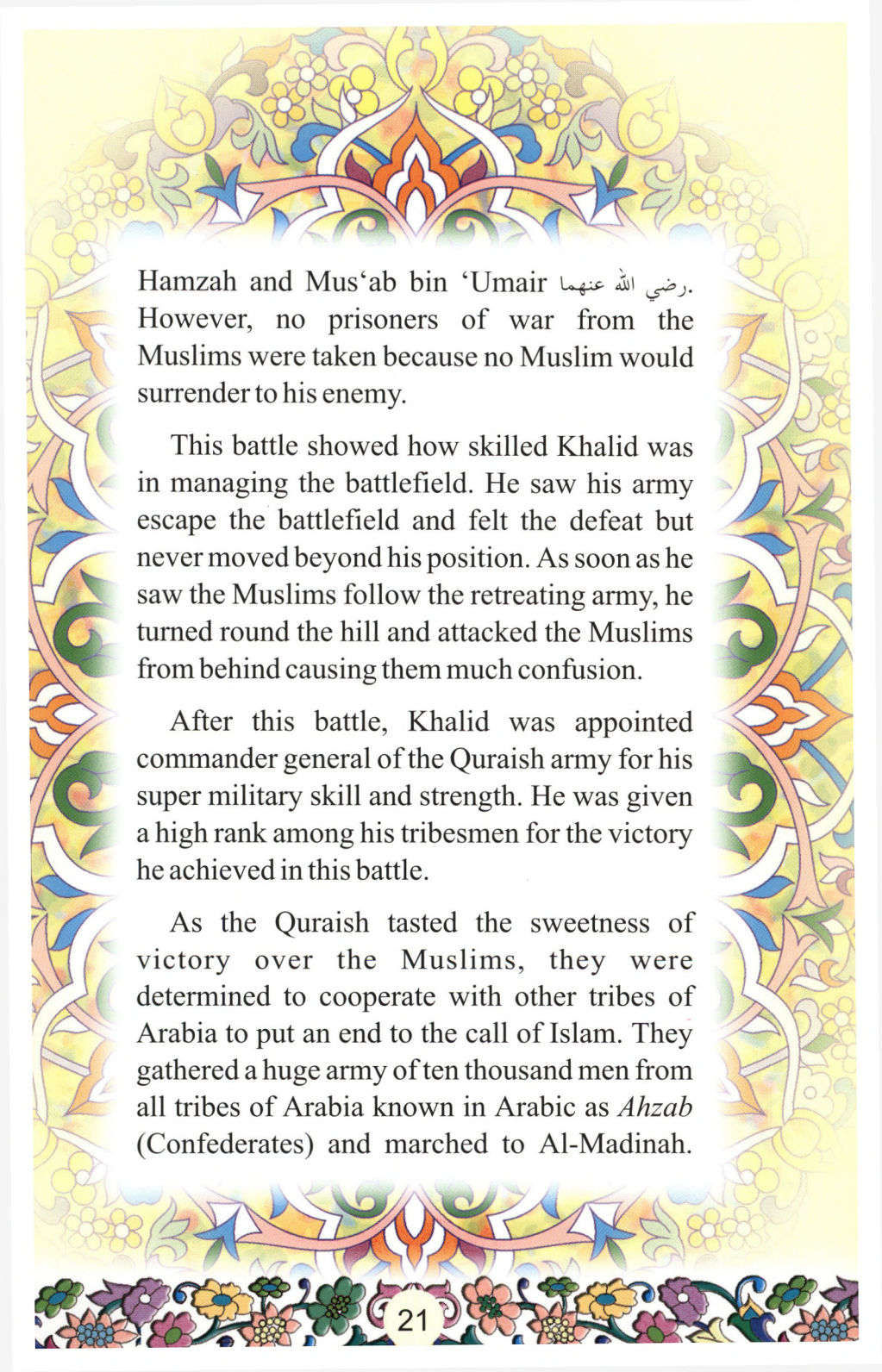
The Muslim army, counting seven hundred men, was anxious to meet their enemy and put an end to their threat once and forever. The Prophet ﷺ selected some fifty archers and deployed them over a small mount to protect the backs of the Muslim fighters. He ordered them not to leave their positions even if they saw them defeated.

The battle started fiercely and the Quraish army began retreating. The signs of defeat were about to become a final victory for the Muslim army. However, the archers found it a good

A decorative border with intricate floral and geometric patterns in yellow, green, blue, and pink surrounds the text. The patterns include stylized flowers, leaves, and interlocking lines.

chance to collect war booty when they saw the enemy was about to be defeated. They were urged by their leader to keep to their positions but they forgot their duties.

Khalid, the experienced warrior, noticed that it was a good chance to attack from behind the Muslim army. He and his men climbed the small hill and killed the few archers who held fast to their positions. He, then, turned behind the hill and attacked the Muslim army from behind. The Muslims were following the backs of the fleeing Quraish army and some of them were collecting war booty. They were unaware of the events that took place behind them. They suddenly saw Khalid and his soldiers putting them to the sword. Confusion overwhelmed the battle scene. Some of the Muslims fled the battle scene back to Al-Madinah and others stopped fighting especially when they heard that the Prophet ﷺ had been killed. Khalid made the course of the battle change in favour of the Quraish army. He finally defeated the Muslim army and caused them many harms. Seventy Muslim soldiers were killed among whom was

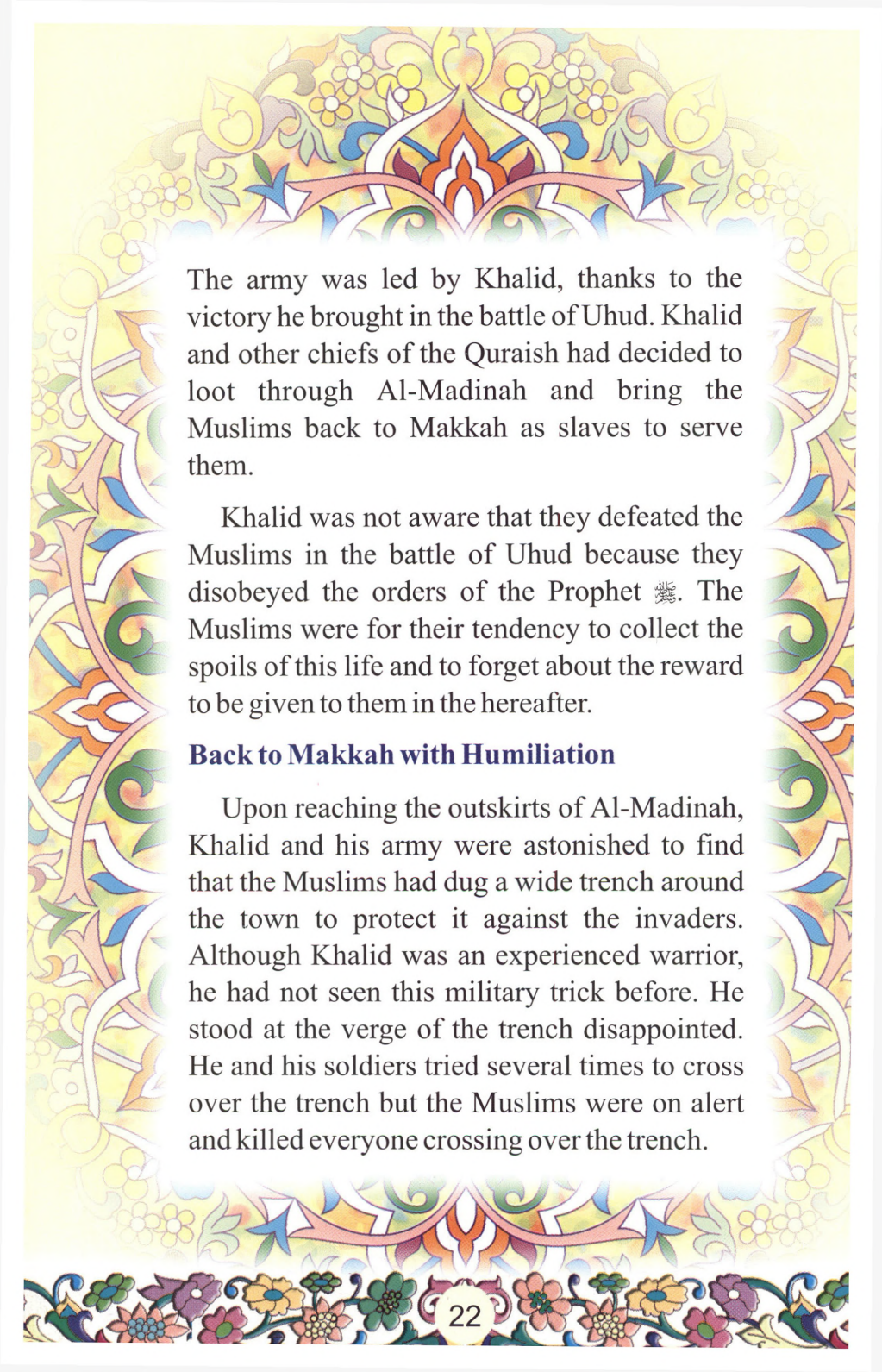
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Hamzah and Mus‘ab bin ‘Umair رضي الله عنهما. However, no prisoners of war from the Muslims were taken because no Muslim would surrender to his enemy.

This battle showed how skilled Khalid was in managing the battlefield. He saw his army escape the battlefield and felt the defeat but never moved beyond his position. As soon as he saw the Muslims follow the retreating army, he turned round the hill and attacked the Muslims from behind causing them much confusion.

After this battle, Khalid was appointed commander general of the Quraish army for his super military skill and strength. He was given a high rank among his tribesmen for the victory he achieved in this battle.

As the Quraish tasted the sweetness of victory over the Muslims, they were determined to cooperate with other tribes of Arabia to put an end to the call of Islam. They gathered a huge army of ten thousand men from all tribes of Arabia known in Arabic as *Ahzab* (Confederates) and marched to Al-Madinah.

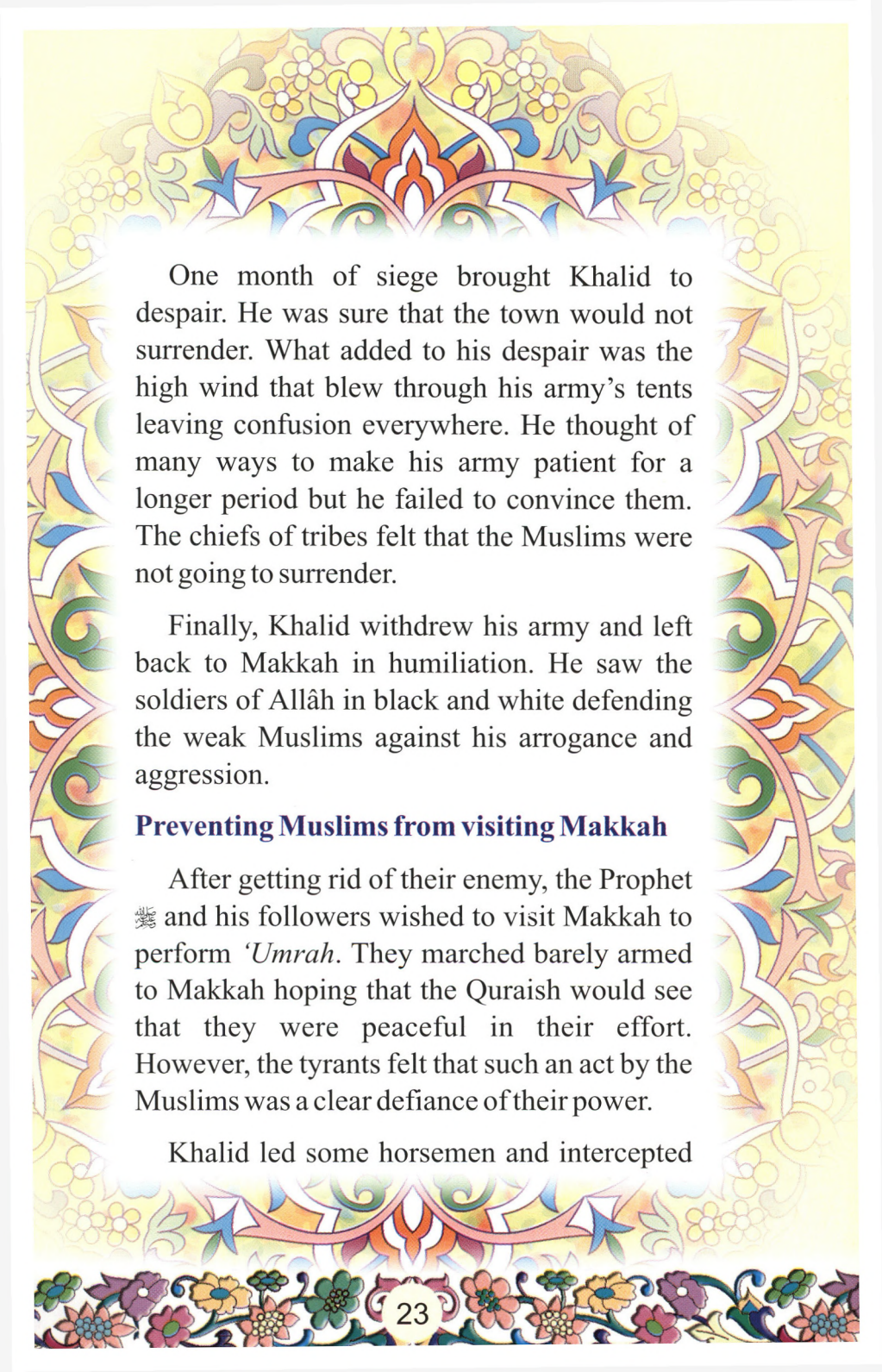
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The army was led by Khalid, thanks to the victory he brought in the battle of Uhud. Khalid and other chiefs of the Quraish had decided to loot through Al-Madinah and bring the Muslims back to Makkah as slaves to serve them.

Khalid was not aware that they defeated the Muslims in the battle of Uhud because they disobeyed the orders of the Prophet ﷺ. The Muslims were for their tendency to collect the spoils of this life and to forget about the reward to be given to them in the hereafter.

Back to Makkah with Humiliation

Upon reaching the outskirts of Al-Madinah, Khalid and his army were astonished to find that the Muslims had dug a wide trench around the town to protect it against the invaders. Although Khalid was an experienced warrior, he had not seen this military trick before. He stood at the verge of the trench disappointed. He and his soldiers tried several times to cross over the trench but the Muslims were on alert and killed everyone crossing over the trench.

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One month of siege brought Khalid to despair. He was sure that the town would not surrender. What added to his despair was the high wind that blew through his army's tents leaving confusion everywhere. He thought of many ways to make his army patient for a longer period but he failed to convince them. The chiefs of tribes felt that the Muslims were not going to surrender.

Finally, Khalid withdrew his army and left back to Makkah in humiliation. He saw the soldiers of Allâh in black and white defending the weak Muslims against his arrogance and aggression.

Preventing Muslims from visiting Makkah

After getting rid of their enemy, the Prophet ﷺ and his followers wished to visit Makkah to perform 'Umrah. They marched barely armed to Makkah hoping that the Quraish would see that they were peaceful in their effort. However, the tyrants felt that such an act by the Muslims was a clear defiance of their power.

Khalid led some horsemen and intercepted

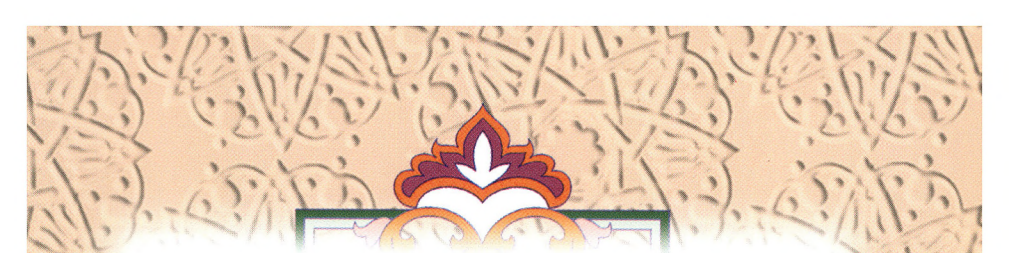


the Muslims at a place called Al-Hudaibiyah. He tried several times to provoke the unarmed Muslims, but the Muslims kept quiet and did not react.

Finally, the Prophet ﷺ reached a truce with the Quraish. The agreement stated that the Muslims and the Quraish would stop fighting each other for ten years and that the Muslims should go back to Al-Madinah and come again the next year to visit the Ka'bah.

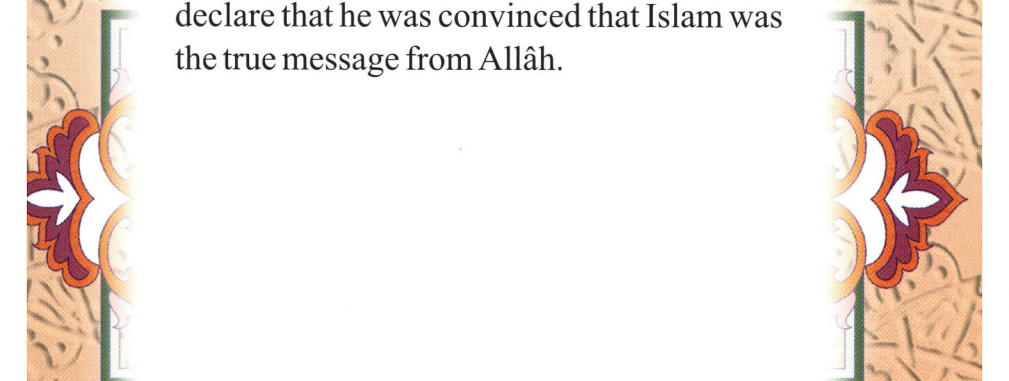
Although some of the Muslims objected to some conditions of the agreement which they felt were humiliating to the Muslims, the Prophet ﷺ convinced them that eventually it was in the Muslims' favour.

This period of truce yielded good results for the Muslims. Many tribes and clans around Al-Madinah and from other parts of the Arabian Peninsula visited Al-Madinah and accepted Islam. It gave hesitant persons the chance to think clearly about Islam. The Muslims had good time to call the tribes of Arabia to Islam peacefully.



Khalid saw how the Muslims were treating each other as a group, how they respected the Prophet ﷺ and how they were keen to spread the call of Islam.

Now and then he was thinking of a way to get rid of the gloom he was indulging himself in but did not have courage to declare that he was convinced that Islam was the true message from Allâh.





On the Way to Islam

Hesitation


After a long period of defiance, obstinacy as well as serious endeavors against the call of Islam, Khalid found no way other than to submit to the ultimate truth. He spent about twenty years under gloomy darkness supporting the powers of evil against goodness, but eventually found his cause losing. Therefore, he opened his eyes to see the light. He had been known to be sensible and reasonable when judgment was badly needed.

Embarrassed Khalid

Khalid found himself walking on a way leading to nothing but loss. So, he finally decided to change his direction and accept Islam.

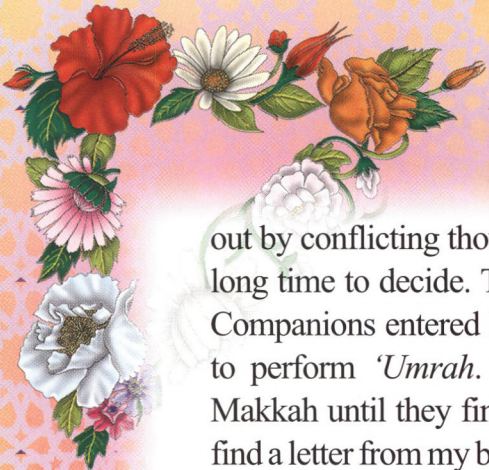
Khalid narrated his story of turning to Islam in a very truthful way. He said:

“When Allâh blessed me with His mercy, I felt the sense of Islam go deep in my heart. I had fought all that time against Islam but never was satisfied with the



cause for which I was struggling. When the Prophet ﷺ and his Companions intended to visit Makkah, I gathered a group of horsemen and met them at Al-Hudaibiyah. I tried to create a problem in order to fight them but in vain. The Prophet ﷺ performed *Zuhr* (noon) prayer in front of us. We intended to attack them but we were unable to do so. Something prevented us from attack. They were protected by some heavenly power. The Prophet ﷺ performed *Asr* (afternoon) prayer and again we intended to attack them but again in vain. I finally knew that there was no way to reach them; so, we left them alone.

The Prophet ﷺ reached an agreement with the Quraish. I asked myself where to go after all this progress of Islam. I thought I could go to Najashi in Abyssinia but I knew that the Emperor had embraced Islam. I thought again I might go to Hercules and embrace either Christianity or Judaism, but I felt I would be a stranger in that land. I was torn

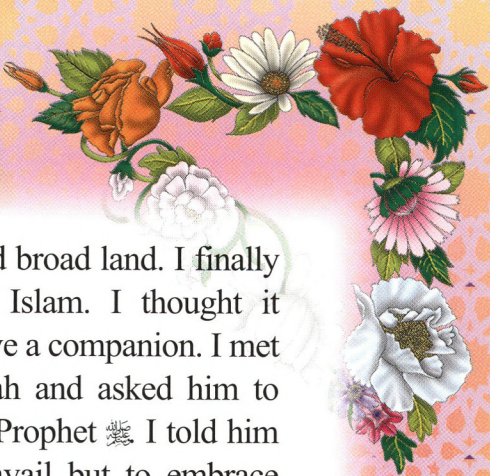


out by conflicting thoughts and it took me a long time to decide. The Prophet ﷺ and his Companions entered Makkah the next year to perform 'Umrah. I felt I should leave Makkah until they finished. I came back to find a letter from my brother Al-Waleed who already embraced Islam and visited Makkah with the Prophet ﷺ. The letter stated:

‘In the Name of Allâh,
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

I am really astonished to see a man with reason like you keeping away from Islam. Nobody should be ignorant of Islam. The Prophet ﷺ asked me about you. I told him Allâh would bring you back. The Prophet ﷺ exclaimed that he did not believe a man like you would remain ignorant of Islam. Had you exerted your efforts with Muslims it would have been better for you. My brother, try to catch up.’

When I read the letter I quickly left to Al-Madinah. I was so happy to know that the Prophet ﷺ had asked about me. Many times did I dream of myself in a deserted land but



leaving to a green and broad land. I finally decided to embrace Islam. I thought it would be better to have a companion. I met Safwan bin Ummayah and asked him to leave with me to the Prophet ﷺ. I told him that nothing would avail but to embrace Islam. Safwan strongly refused to accompany me. I met Ikrimah bin Abi Jahl and asked him to accompany me to Al-Madinah but he refused. I met ‘Uthman bin Talha and asked him to go with me to Al-Madinah and he accepted to embrace Islam. On the way to Al-Madinah we met ‘Amr bin Al-‘Aas. I asked him about his direction. He confirmed that he was going to embrace Islam. We entered Al-Madinah, met the Prophet ﷺ and embraced Islam. I asked him to pray to Allāh to forgive me for my past history against Islam.

Since that day, Khalid ؓ became a true soldier of Islam. He strictly observed the teachings of Islam and was always ready to defend it. Wherever the Prophet ﷺ ordered him to go, he never hesitated to carry out his orders.

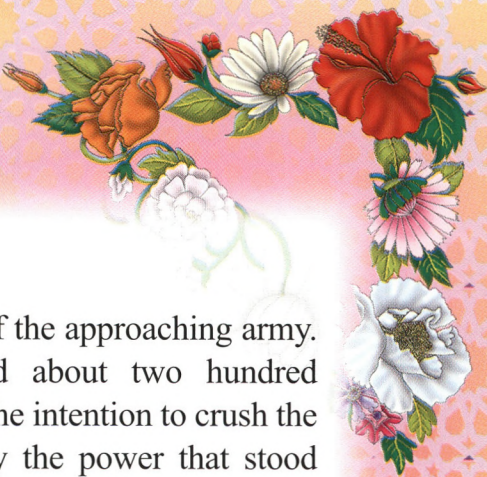


The Wise Commander

Islam was spreading throughout the Arabian Peninsula, the enemies were now and then threatening to destroy it. The neighboring Empires in those days were the Romans and the Persians. They had all human and material resources to subdue any defying power. They were concerned about the new lands Islam was taking over every day. Therefore, the Romans decided to stop the new religion and put an end to the new call.

Roman's Evil Intentions Against Islam

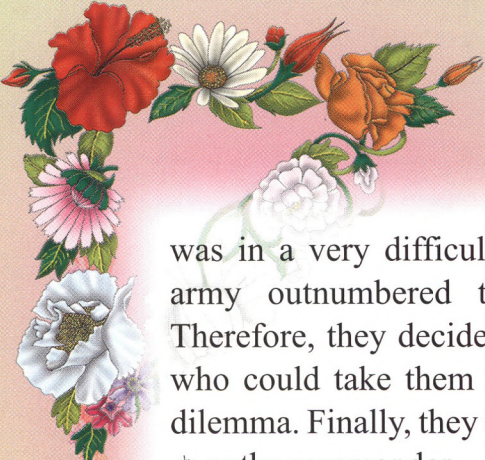
Eight years after migration to Al-Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ had received news that the Romans were preparing to attack the Muslims and destroy their Islamic State. Hence, he decided to move the battle near to their land and show them the strength of the Muslims. He mobilized an army of three thousand soldiers and ordered them to march to a place called Mu'tah in Jordan. He appointed three successive commanders and urged the small army to observe the teachings of Islam on their

A decorative floral border in the top right corner featuring a variety of flowers including a red hibiscus, a white daisy, a pink rose, and a white peony, all set against a soft pink and yellow background.

way to the battlefield.

The Romans knew of the approaching army. Hence, they mobilized about two hundred thousand soldiers with the intention to crush the small army and destroy the power that stood behind them. They were intent on putting an end to the new power and destroying it in the cradle.

The Muslims felt how weak they were in the face of the huge Roman army. The Prophet ﷺ had already appointed three commanders who were to follow each other if any of them was killed. The commanders discussed the situation. Some of them suggested that they should inform the Prophet ﷺ about their conditions. However, others were keen to meet the Roman army in spite of their huge numbers. The fight started and the Muslims did their best to challenge the Roman army. The first Muslim commander was killed. The second commander took the banner and continued fighting until he was killed. The third commander followed the same course of the two previous commanders. The Muslim army



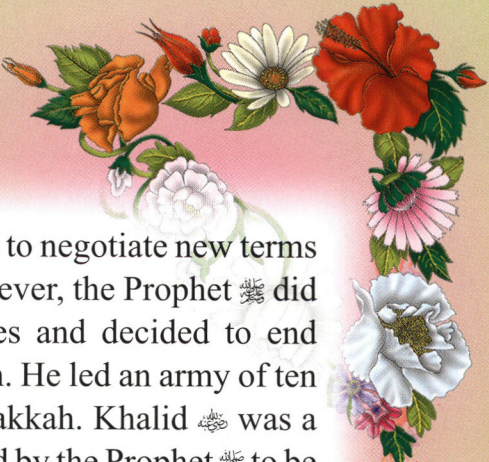
was in a very difficult position. The Roman army outnumbered them by sixty times. Therefore, they decided to find a commander who could take them out of this tremendous dilemma. Finally, they decided to select Khalid ؓ as the commander.

Through his skill and experience, Khalid ؓ avoided total defeat and diligently opened a way out of the battlefield through the rows of the Roman army. He brought the army back to Al-Madinah with minimum losses. In Al-Madinah, he was warmly welcomed by the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ named him 'The Sword of Allāh.'

Makkah Conquered

As mentioned above, the Prophet ﷺ had made a treaty at Al-Hudaibiyah with the Quraish to stop fighting for ten years on the condition that any party that might break the covenants would be subject to attack by the other party.

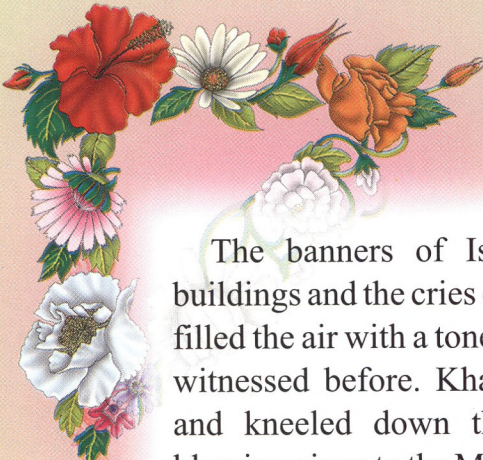
The Quraish failed to keep their promises and attacked the Muslims' allies. They felt that the effect of that big mistake would be fatal.



Therefore, they decided to negotiate new terms with the Muslims. However, the Prophet ﷺ did not accept their excuses and decided to end their tyranny in Makkah. He led an army of ten thousand soldiers to Makkah. Khalid ؓ was a commander. He was told by the Prophet ﷺ to be merciful to the inhabitants of Makkah and to refrain from attacking them unless he was attacked.

Khalid ؓ entered Makkah at the head of the Muslim army. He immediately approached the Ka'bah where idols of all forms were set for worship by pagans. He began destroying those idols and cleaning the vicinity of the Ka'bah from the last traces of polytheism.

Khalid ؓ saw clearly how great the Prophet ﷺ was when he told the people of Makkah that they were free and that none of them would be harmed. Khalid ؓ joined the Muslims in this splendid parade in the sacred land where Islam changed every aspect and planted the roots of Monotheism. He and his brothers in Islam established there a minaret from which the light of civilization would spread over the world.



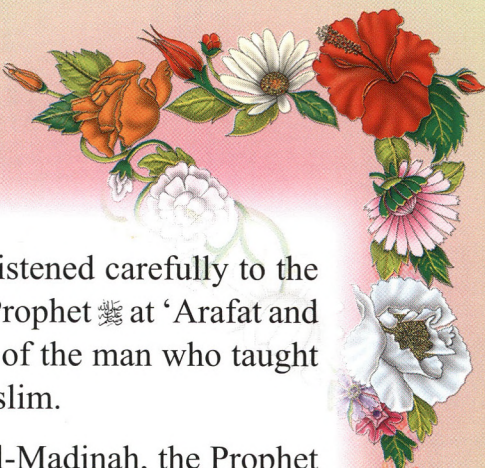
The banners of Islam hovered over all buildings and the cries of '*Allâh is the Greatest*' filled the air with a tone that this land had never witnessed before. Khalid ﷺ bowed his head and kneeled down thanking Allâh for the blessing given to the Muslims on this great day.

Khalid ﷺ kept very close to the Prophet ﷺ, fighting the enemies of Islam until he saw the day when the Prophet ﷺ passed away leaving him and the other Muslims to continue the message of truth and freedom.

The Prophet ﷺ felt that the tribe of Hawazen was threatening to stop the march of Islam. Therefore, he led an army of twelve thousand men and put an end to their challenge. Khalid ﷺ did his best to subdue the tribes of Arabia and bring them to the folk of Islam.

The Farewell Pilgrimage

After subduing the tribes surrounding Makkah, the Prophet ﷺ returned to Al-Madinah to get ready for the pilgrimage. Khalid ﷺ with one hundred thousand Muslims led by the Prophet ﷺ moved to Makkah to perform



pilgrimage. Khalid ؓ listened carefully to the commandments of the Prophet ﷺ at 'Arafat and felt the close departure of the man who taught him how to be a real Muslim.

Upon returning to Al-Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ fell ill. Khalid and other Companions were very sad. They were afraid that the Prophet ﷺ should die and leave them alone while still needing his guidance and leadership.

Several days later, the Prophet ﷺ passed away. Khalid ؓ wept bitterly for the loss of his leader, but he accepted the fact that every human being would leave this temporary life.

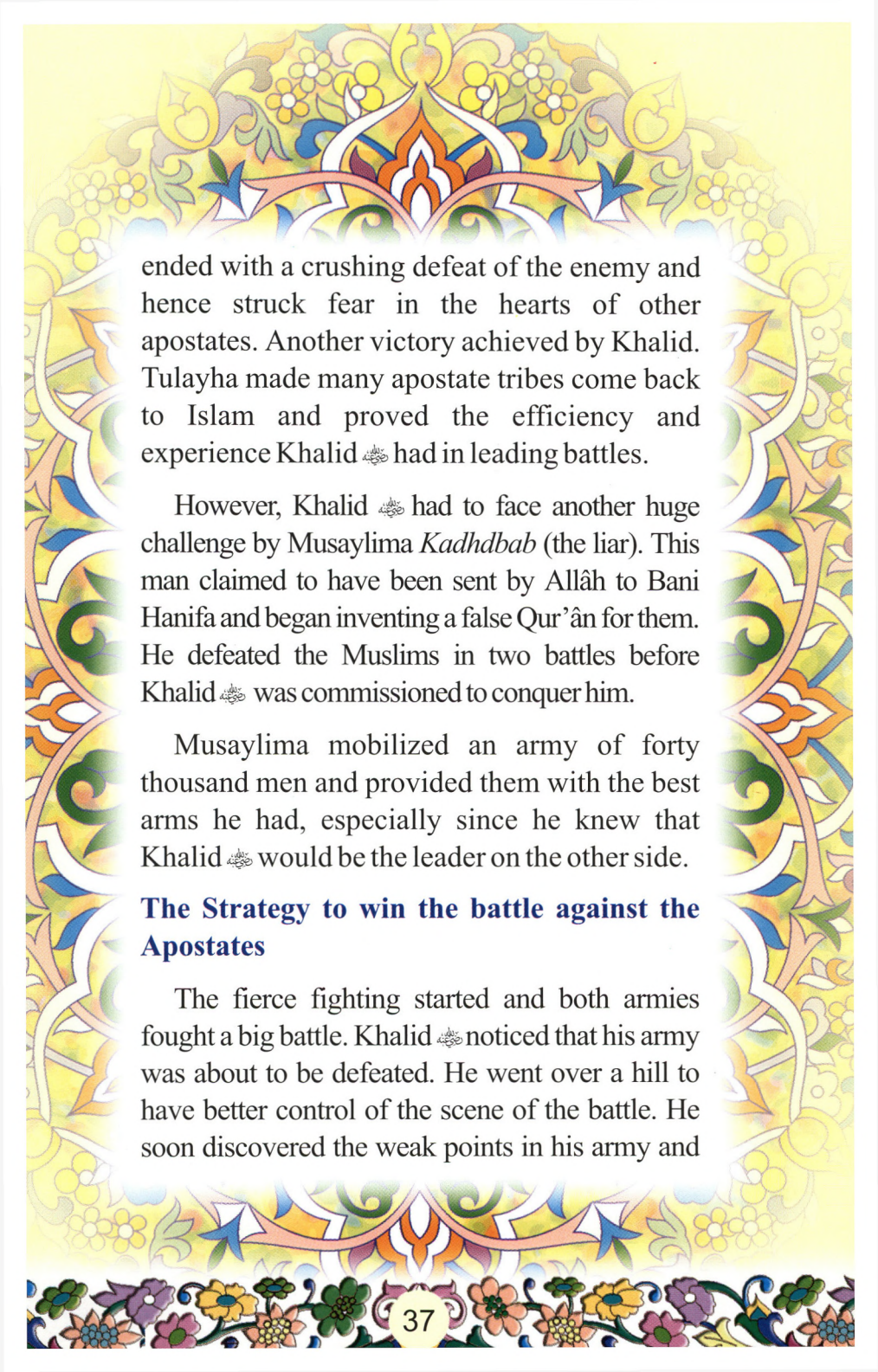


Khalid ﷺ and the Apostates

Not long after the Prophet ﷺ had passed away, some Arabs reverted to apostasy and followed misguided false prophets. The apostates claimed that the message of Islam had ended with the death of the Prophet ﷺ and decided to challenge the central Islamic government in Al-Madinah.

Abu Bakr ﷺ, the first Caliph of Islam, was determined to bring those apostates back to Islam. He mobilized an army to fight the apostates. Khalid bin Al-Waleed ﷺ led eleven brigades to subdue the rebels. The first battle he fought was against Tulayha Al-Asadi who claimed to have been sent by Allâh as a messenger and who was supported by many tribes with a force not less than four thousand soldiers.

The Muslim army was somehow weak and could not withstand the force of the enemy. However, Khalid ﷺ found a way to penetrate the hostile army until he reached the position of their leader and killed him. Finally, the battle

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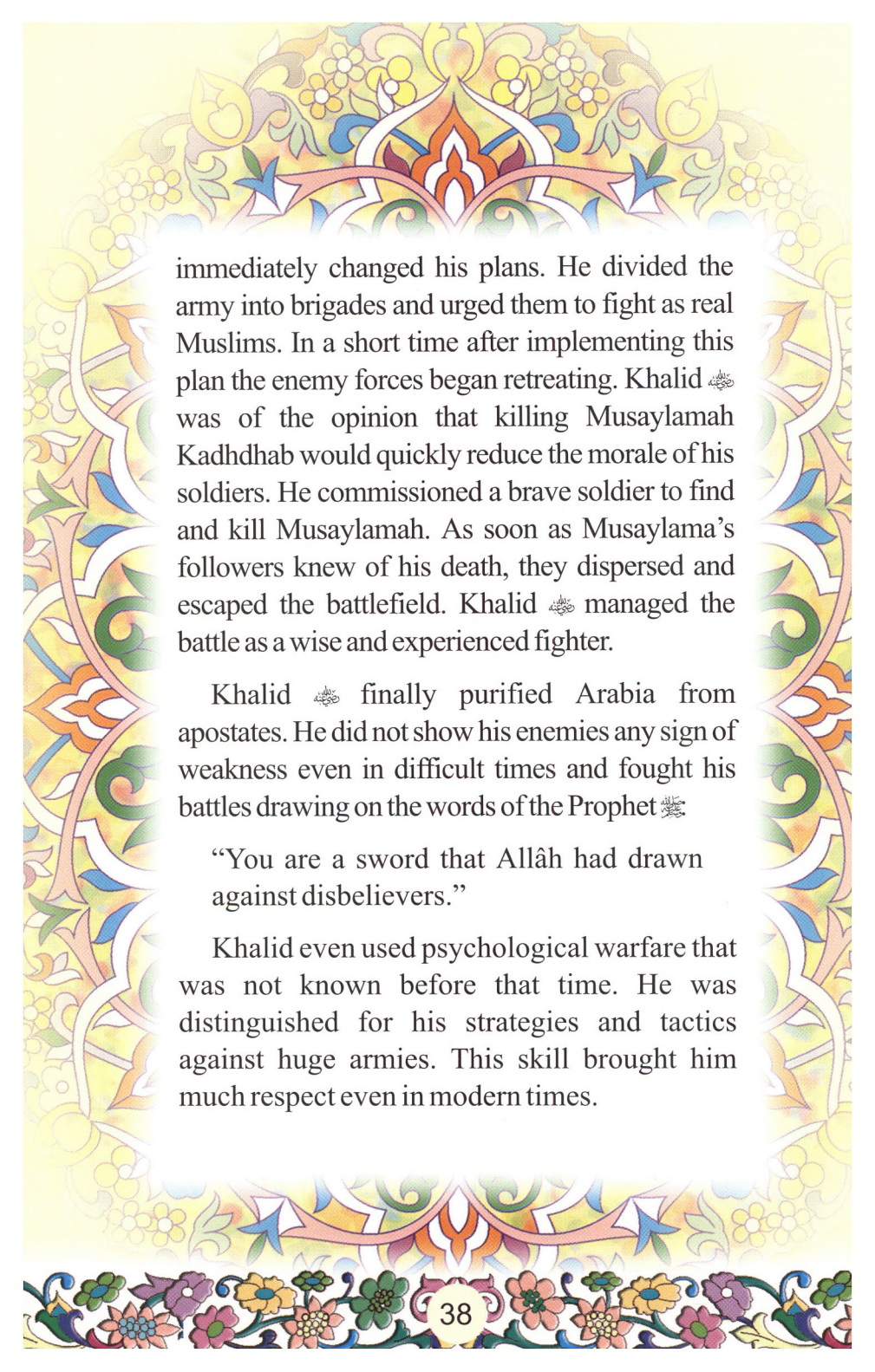
ended with a crushing defeat of the enemy and hence struck fear in the hearts of other apostates. Another victory achieved by Khalid. Tulayha made many apostate tribes come back to Islam and proved the efficiency and experience Khalid ﷺ had in leading battles.

However, Khalid ﷺ had to face another huge challenge by Musaylima *Kadhdhab* (the liar). This man claimed to have been sent by Allâh to Bani Hanifa and began inventing a false Qur'ân for them. He defeated the Muslims in two battles before Khalid ﷺ was commissioned to conquer him.

Musaylima mobilized an army of forty thousand men and provided them with the best arms he had, especially since he knew that Khalid ﷺ would be the leader on the other side.

The Strategy to win the battle against the Apostates

The fierce fighting started and both armies fought a big battle. Khalid ﷺ noticed that his army was about to be defeated. He went over a hill to have better control of the scene of the battle. He soon discovered the weak points in his army and

A decorative border with intricate floral and geometric patterns in yellow, green, blue, and pink surrounds the text. The patterns are symmetrical and feature stylized flowers and leaves.

immediately changed his plans. He divided the army into brigades and urged them to fight as real Muslims. In a short time after implementing this plan the enemy forces began retreating. Khalid ؓ was of the opinion that killing Musaylamah Kadhdhab would quickly reduce the morale of his soldiers. He commissioned a brave soldier to find and kill Musaylamah. As soon as Musaylama's followers knew of his death, they dispersed and escaped the battlefield. Khalid ؓ managed the battle as a wise and experienced fighter.

Khalid ؓ finally purified Arabia from apostates. He did not show his enemies any sign of weakness even in difficult times and fought his battles drawing on the words of the Prophet ﷺ

“You are a sword that Allâh had drawn against disbelievers.”

Khalid even used psychological warfare that was not known before that time. He was distinguished for his strategies and tactics against huge armies. This skill brought him much respect even in modern times.

The Conqueror


Khalid bin Al-Waleed ﷺ had become the Muslim commander who gained triumph in its very essence. However, he still had a lot to do for the support of Islam and for the propagation of the true faith.

Khalid ﷺ subdues the Persians



When Khalid ﷺ subdued the apostates all over Arabia, he received orders from Abu Bakr ﷺ to follow a new direction and fight against the super powers of those days. Persians were the second major power at that time. They were ruling over Iraq and other parts of the ancient world.

Khalid ﷺ mobilized twelve thousand soldiers and marched toward Iraq. He divided the army into three parts led by three commanders. Each faction was ordered to march alone until all three factions met near the Persian Gulf.


Upon arriving at the place, he sent messengers to the Persian rulers urging them to



accept Islam. However, if they refused his proposal, they would be obliged to pay *Jizyah* (certain taxes) or to fight. However, the Persian rulers were obstinate to the call and decided to crush the Bedouins of the desert.



Hurmuz, the Persian commander, received news that the Muslim army was heading to Hadheer. On being assured of Khalid's plans, he hurried to occupy the water resources at that place. However, Khalid ﷺ was not taken by the surprise. He immediately changed his plans and led his army across a desert, over which the sun spit flames, to reach another place known as Qazima. He, thus, forced his enemy to leave their positions and follow him in a long and tiring trip. Khalid ﷺ did not give the Persians any chance to take rest. He immediately engaged in a duel with Hurmuz. He made the Persian commander fall to his knees licking his own blood. As was usual, the murder of the commander quickly weakened the morale of the Persian army and blew a spirit of courage and superiority in the hearts of the Muslim army. Soon the battle started and the Persians



were suffering great losses. They scattered here and there and at last escaped the battlefield. However, they were not allowed to escape for long as Muslims were following their heels everywhere. They finally received a disastrous defeat at the hands of the Muslims.

Hence, Khalid ؓ through his tactics misled the Persians and left them no option but to fight his own battle.

Khalid ؓ conquers the Romans



Abu Bakr ؓ had long aspired to subdue the Romans at the northern borders of the Islamic State. He mobilized an army of thirty-six thousand fighters under the leadership of senior commanders known for their courage and combating experience. He ordered the several groups of the army to march each on their own until they meet at a place called Yarmuk.

Upon arriving at the designated place, the Muslim army found themselves face to face with two hundred thousand Romans. The commanders of the Muslim army consulted and concluded that it was wiser to report the




situation to the Caliph.

Abu Bakr ﷺ sent a messenger to Khalid ﷺ to back the army against the Romans. Khalid ﷺ, without delay, headed to Yarmuk. The march from Iraq to Syria was very hard because of the vast desert that extended to long distances.



Khalid ﷺ took the adventure and led eight thousand soldiers through the desert. The scorching sun and the flaming sand dunes left no drop of water for the army to drink. It is known that camels drink big quantities of water. They store such quantities in their bellies. Khalid ﷺ advised his men to slaughter camels and use the water stored in their stomachs for drinking. He also advised his men to save as much water as they could. Finally, the marching army arrived at its destination without any losses and joined the Muslim army there.

Khalid ﷺ carefully studied the condition and set up plans to fight the coming battle. He noticed that the army was dispersed under four commanders that made it impossible for them



to fight a unified battle. He conversed with the commanders and convinced them to gather the troops together to be able to fight their enemy. He addressed his troops saying:

“It is a day to be devoted to Allâh. Neither pride nor anger would avail. Be sincere in your fight and seek to please Allâh.”

He asked his fellow commanders to permit him to take over command on the first day. They all agreed to his plan.

Before the start of the battle, the Roman commander sought to meet Khalid ﷺ. Khalid accepted to meet him. The Roman commander addressed Khalid ﷺ saying:

“It had been brought to our knowledge that poverty was the only reason that brought you out of your land to here. If you wish, I would give each one of you ten dinars, clothes and food on the condition that you go back to your land. I will even reward you with equal portions next year.”

Khalid ﷺ angrily responded to such a



belittling address saying:

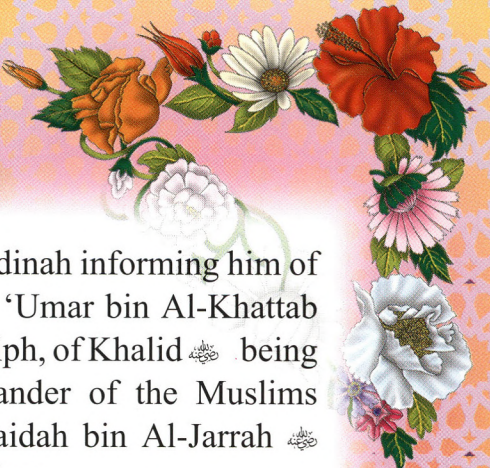
“It is not poverty that brought us here; rather, it is that we only wish to drink your blood. We have been told it is most tasty.”

Khalid رضي الله عنه returned to his troops. He studied the battlefield and decided to divide his army into battalions along the line of combat to face the huge number of the Roman army.

Soon the rattle of swords and cries of *Allâh Akbar* (Allâh is the Greatest) filled the air and heads fell under horses' hooves. Both armies fought all day long. They got very tired and retreated to their original positions. On the next day, Khalid رضي الله عنه and his soldiers attacked the heart of the Roman army and divide their lines. The Romans, on the other side, began giving the Muslims their backs and fled in all directions. They suffered a huge loss and left the battlefield with humiliation.

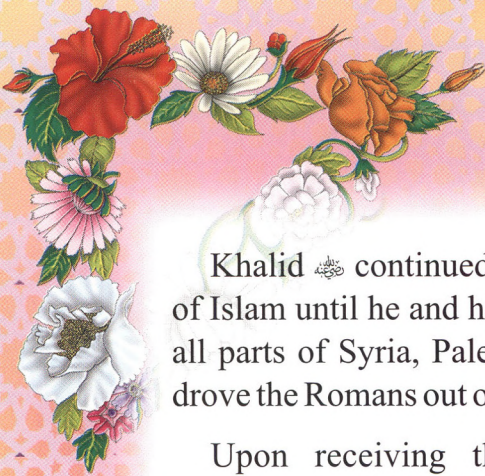
The true soldier of Islam

What added to Khalid's great personality was that, while the battle was hot, Abu 'Ubaidah bin Al-Jarrah رضي الله عنه received a



messenger from Al-Madinah informing him of Abu Bakr's death, and 'Umar bin Al-Khattab ؓ being selected as Caliph, of Khalid ؓ being dismissed as a commander of the Muslims army and of Abu 'Ubaidah bin Al-Jarrah ؓ being appointed in his place.

Abu 'Ubaidah ؓ kept the letter secret until the battle was over. He advanced to the general commander and delivered the letter to him. Khalid ؓ read the letter and understood what it meant. He inquired when was the letter delivered? Abu 'Ubaidah ؓ told him that it was brought to him when the battle was hot. He asked why did Abu 'Ubaidah ؓ not inform him of the letter? Abu 'Ubaidah said that it was not proper time to inform him of the letter. He was not seeking to be the commander general at the expense of the ultimate objective. Khalid bin Al-Waleed ؓ expressed his admiration of Abu 'Ubaidah ؓ. He advanced and kissed Abu 'Ubaidah's head with tears in his eyes. He surrendered the command to the new general commander and proved himself an obedient soldier under his leadership.



Khalid رضي الله عنه continued his struggle in support of Islam until he and his companions liberated all parts of Syria, Palestine and Jordan. They drove the Romans out of Syria.

Upon receiving the bad news of the astounding defeat his army had received, Hercules had no choice but to leave his capital, Hums (a city in the middle part of Syria). He bid Syria an eternal farewell.





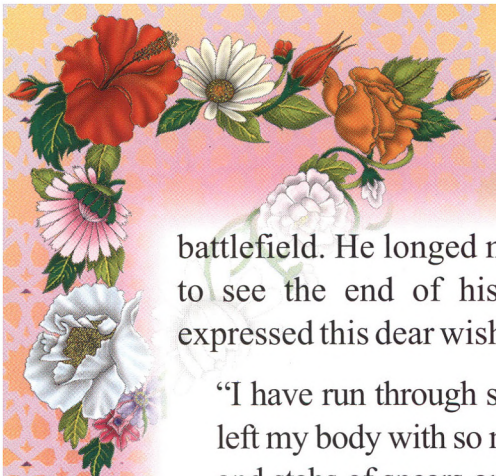
The Rest of the Warrior

Khalid ﷺ fought tens of successful battles against the powers of evil. He used all his experience and intelligence in supporting the religion of Islam and did his best to raise the flag of *Allâhu Akbar* (Allah is the Greatest) high everywhere.

After this long struggle and fighting for the sake of Allâh and the cause of Islam, the time had come for the warrior to take eternal rest. He had done his best to fulfil his duty and by all means had sacrificed his life in support of his faith.

Khalid ﷺ chose Hums in Syria as his last home and from there he continued the mission assigned to him as a soldier of Islam. He actively participated in all battles to subdue the enemies of Islam who were trying their best to stop its march throughout the world.

A few years after he had retired due to old age, Khalid ﷺ became very ill and kept to his bed. He was so sad to lie on the bed of death while he much preferred to meet his Lord in the



battlefield. He longed much to be a martyr and to see the end of his life as a soldier. He expressed this dear wish by saying:

“I have run through so many battles which left my body with so many blows of swords and stabs of spears or arrows but now I am here dying on my bed like a camel.”

The hero finally passed away and his soul ascended to its Creator where it would dwell in Paradise. Before dying, he instructed his family to give all property he had to the Islamic State treasury. ‘Umar ﷺ asked his family about his property and found it to be only his horse and the Sword. So, he said:

“May Allâh bestow mercy on Khalid ﷺ for we had unreal thoughts about him.”

He wept for the loss of the great hero and the Sword of Islam and added:

“Never time will bring another man like Khalid.”

Khalid was buried in Hums to be a sign for generations to come of how Muslims had been courageous and heroic.