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Muhammad

1,004 Words

Muhammad was not the greatest man on Earth, but yet at the end of his life he became one. Every coin has two sides, and so does he. He was forced out of Mecca due to his revelation. Then, he stationed in Medina and yet created conflicts between tribes there. Later on, he conquered Mecca and united Arabia. These short stories of his life could show how controversial his life was. He was a good man but not the best one.

In Arabia during Muhammad's time, there were many tribes living together in a community. Each tribe has its own belief and specialty. Muhammad was from the clan called Banu Hashim, one of the famous families in Mecca. Later on, Muhammad claimed that he had talked with Gabriel¹ during his meditation on Mount Hira. He claimed to have the word of God and that people should follow them. One of the earliest conflicts he made was when he announced his first revelation. He said that Muhammad, himself, is the prophet of Allah, the only god, and shall people follow his words and his god. The very first revelation was focused on how mankind should be responsible to god; to reject cheating and the love of wealth. Muhammad was rejected by most leaders of the tribes and was forced out of Mecca. He went to Medina and converted many people there to Muslim.

¹ "Gabriel." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 16 Sept. 2012. Web. 9 Sept. 2012. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gabriel>>.

His words are full with violence. Muhammad used the Muslims as his army, to protect and fight for him. He said to the people of Medina that it is acceptable to raid the caravan of the Meccans, their hostile, and that God prefer fighters than those who do not fight. Muhammad stated that God would reward those who fight for him to live an after-life in Paradise. It is clearly unacceptable. He always claimed he was whispered by God. In the Battle of Badr, where Muslims fought with Meccans, when the Muslims received the victory, Muhammad claimed another verse of the Quran that Allah had help them to be successful in this war. After the return to Medina, Muhammad gave another revelation and stated that it is God's will to execute one of their prisoners of war, and they did.

Muhammad was disputed by many tribe leaders due to his words of having to destroy other Arabian Gods statues and killing his oppositions. Whoever publicly denounces him was mostly assassinated². Muhammad ordered many Muslims, or even joined in himself, to wars claiming that it is God's will.

His conflicts were mostly because of different beliefs. Jews were his main oppositions. Jews were known from their greediness and the love of wealth. Meanwhile, Muhammad said that the love of wealth is wrong, turning his follower up against the Jews. Not only Muhammad attacked Jews in words but also in action. In his very first station at Medina, he created the Constitution of Medina³. Jews, later on, broke an agreement in the constitution. Muhammad showed his violent mind by wanting the Jews to be executed. Fortunately for the Jews, the chief of Khazraj tribe

² "Muhammad And Abu `Afak." *Muhammad And Abu `Afak*. N.p., n.d. Web. 9 Sept. 2012. <<http://www.answering-islam.org/Muhammad/Enemies/abuafak.html>>.

³ "Full Text of Medina Charter." *Full Text of Medina Charter*. N.p., n.d. Web. 9 Sept. 2012. <<http://www.constitution.org/cons/medina/macharter.htm>>.

asked not to but instead expelled them without their properties. His intensions with the Jews became greater and stronger. Almost every war Muhammad went, or ordered Muslims, on was against some Jewish tribes. For example, In the Battle of the Trench, Islamic Medina of Muhammad was attacked by the angry Jewish tribe “Banu Nadir”, who were expelled from the north of Medina, their homeland. This leads to present day unfinished conflict between Arabs, or Muslims, and Jews.

However, despite his, at first, violent and discriminating mind, he lastly became what we can call a true prophet. He marched his Muslims into Mecca, and conquered it, with peace. The reason behind the conquering was Hajj, the most holy ritual in Islam. Muhammad conquered Mecca after making the Treaty of Hdaybiyyah⁴ and soon declared an amnesty on past offense. He pardoned most of the Meccans who obsoleted him. Most Meccans were eventually converted to Islam. At this point of time, Muhammad stopped using violation and turned into more conservative manner. He united Arabia into one through his Islam religion. Muhammad had lived a harsh life and as time went by, wisdom came to him.

The last act of his life was a truly remembrance. He, finally, had done the Hajj pilgrimage himself. It was the first and the last Hajj of his life. He eventually asked his followers not to follow the customs they had been doing. He cleared the discrimination in the Arabian society declaring no Arabs are better than non-Arabs nor no non-Arabs are better than Arabs, no whites are better than blacks nor no blacks are better than whites. He supported good acts and devotions. He was keen on having all tribes united and demolished all the vengeance occurred in Arabian society.

⁴ "10.The Peace Treaty of Hdaybiyyah." *10.The Peace Treaty of Hdaybiyyah*. N.p., n.d. Web. 9 Sept. 2012. <<http://alislaah3.tripod.com/alislaah/id11.html>>.

All human-beings are not perfect. So did Muhammad. He was a normal human-being who had both black and white side of his life. He might be had been violence and racist, as in the Jews and Arabs conflict, but he was eventually came up with a preaching that teaches us, humans, to be good and respect other human-beings as equal. Muhammad worshipped his god, Allah, and showed his loyalty for the world to see. He was one of the most faithful monotheist religion founders. Muhammad died at the aged of 62 and was buried under the green dome in Medina. People still visit his tomb and pay great respect to his body. All of this would never happen if not for his greatness in leadership, loyalty, and goodness.