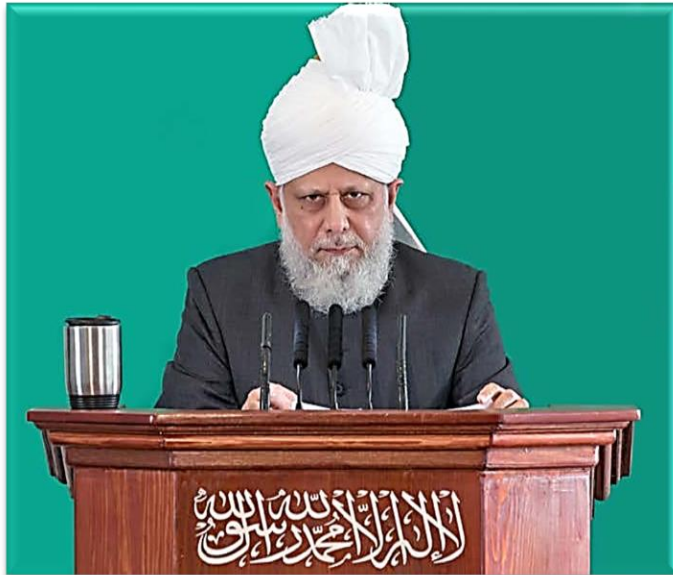
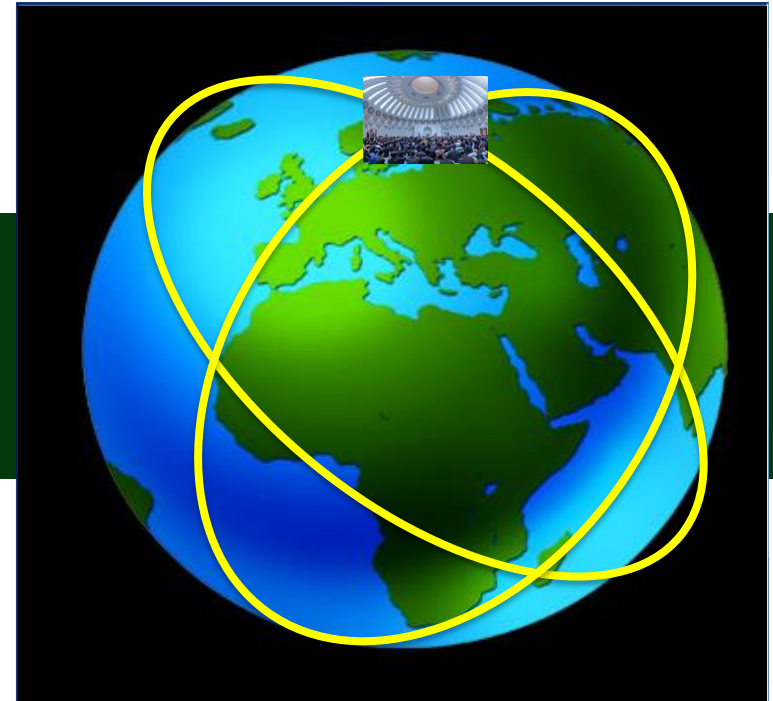


Men of Excellence : Hazrat Umar ibn al-Khattāb (ra)



**Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat
Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba);
Head of the Ahmadiyya
Muslim Community**



**relayed live all across the
globe**

20th August 2021

Men of Excellence : Hazrat Umar ibn al-Khattāb (ra)

Summary

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) continued highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Umar(ra)

During the battle of Gundeshpur, one Muslim decided to present a token of peace. When Hazrat Umar (ra) was made aware of this, he said that Allah Almighty has given great importance to fulfilling one's pledges, it must be honoured.

In relation to the conquest of Iran and the motives behind it. It was the desire of Hazrat Umar (ra) to put an end to fighting between Iraq and Ahwaz, a place in Iran.

It was only in 21 AH that Hazrat Umar (ra) decided to take action when a large army of the Iranians had assembled and this is when the Battle of Nahavand, also known as the victory of all victories, took place.

Hazrat Umar (ra) handed the banner to Hazrat Abdullah bin Abdillah (ra) for the conquest of Isfahan.

20th August 2021

Rightly Guided Caliphs – Hazrat Umar(ra)

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) continued highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Umar(ra).

The Battle of Gundeshapur

One of the battles fought in the time of Hazrat Umar was the Battle of Gundeshapur. This took place in the city of Khuzestan. Battle ensued for some time and both parties persisted in the fight.

During this battle one Muslim decided to present a token of peace. So when they saw him, they opened the gates to the ramparts. Straight away the people rushed out having thought that they had been granted security, saying that they will accept to pay the *jizyah* [tax] and in return they will be granted peace.

Having learnt that it was not in fact from the Muslims, and when Hazrat Umar (ra) was made aware of this, he said that Allah Almighty has given great importance to fulfilling one's pledges, thus, this agreement must be honoured. In this way, this battle came to an end and the Muslim army returned.

Men of
Excellence :
Hazrat Umar
ibn al-Khaṭṭāb
(ra)

20th August
2021

The Conquest of Iran

In relation to the conquest of Iran and the motives behind it, His Holiness (aba) said that it was the desire of Hazrat Umar (ra) to put an end to fighting between Iraq and Ahwaz, a place in Iran. Many a time he would express his wish for there to be some sort of barrier between the two to prevent movement in both directions. However, this was not possible due to the regular attacks from the side of the Iranians.

In 17 AH, a Muslim delegation from the army came before Hazrat Umar (ra). He asked them why there continued to be violations of the agreements in conquered lands. He said this with the thought that perhaps the Muslims had become a source of trouble for the people there. The delegation replied by saying that this was not the case and the Muslims are fulfilling their oaths. Ahnaf bin Qais of this delegation then said, 'you have forbidden us to take any further military steps and to remain here. However, the king of Iran still lives and the Iranians continue to combat us. It cannot be that there are two governments coexisting in one place.'

This in fact is proof that the Muslims never conquered lands just to cause warfare, they would merely retaliate to the fighting brought to them from their adversaries.

Men of
Excellence :
Hazrat Umar
ibn al-Khaṭṭāb
(ra)

20th August
2021

The Battle of Nahavand

It was only in 21 AH that Hazrat Umar (ra) decided to take action when a large army of the Iranians had assembled and this is when the Battle of Nahavand, also known as the victory of all victories, took place. Having suffered two terrible defeats, the Iranians made a final attempt to gain victory. Nahavand was a city surrounded by mountains.

Men of
Excellence :
Hazrat Umar
ibn al-Khaṭṭāb
(ra)

Hazrat Sa'd (ra) informed Hazrat Umar (ra) of the great army being assembled, and thus Hazrat Ammar bin Yasir (ra) was appointed to govern over the matter. During one consultation, Hazrat Umar (ra) stood and delivered a powerful speech and thereafter, the Muslims answered that they were prepared to do whatever he decided; be it remain in Madinah, or go and fight. Hazrat Uthman (ra) advised that he also go to the frontline to fight. Hazrat Umar (ra) sought further counsel. Hazrat Ali (ra) said that the armies should be split into three, so that Madinah may also be protected. In the end, Hazrat Umar (ra) decided that it was appropriate for someone else to be sent, and thus appointed Hazrat Nu'man bin Muqarrin (ra) for this great task.

20th August
2021

The Battle of Nahavand – Cont'd

After Hazrat Nu'man bin Muqarrin (ra) had departed there, he received a letter from Hazrat Umar (ra) to advance with the Muslims. In this letter, he also mentioned who would deputise, should Hazrat Nu'man bin Muqarrin (ra) be martyred.

Men of
Excellence :
Hazrat Umar
ibn al-Khaṭṭāb
(ra)

With regards to the Iranian army, historians have written that it was 60,000 strong, or even 100,000. But according to Sahih Bukhari, it was 40,000. When both parties came face to face, the Iranians used foul words against the Muslims, threatening to destroy them completely, and thus both parties prepared for battle.

Due to being in their fortresses and by using their ditches, the Iranians would only pick certain times to come out to fight before returning once again, whilst the Muslims were in an open field.

One companion made a suggestion whereby the Iranians would think that the Muslims were retreating and perhaps open their gates to chase after them.

20th August
2021

The Battle of Nahavand – Cont'd

Men of
Excellence :
Hazrat Umar
ibn al-Khaṭṭāb
(ra)

When Hazrat Umar (ra) received news of this he expressed his gratitude to God Almighty. Then, when told of the Muslims who had been martyred, he wept and prayed for each of them, before saying that God Almighty had granted them the honour of martyrdom in the way of Allah.

Hazrat Umar (ra) was told that as long as the Iranians are in power in certain lands, they would continue to cause the same troubles. So Hazrat Umar (ra) granted permission to the Muslims to set out to these lands and bring it to an end once and for all.

20th August
2021

The Conquests of Isfahan and Hamedan

Men of
Excellence :
Hazrat Umar
ibn al-Khaṭṭāb
(ra)

Hazrat Umar (ra) handed the banner to Hazrat Abdullah bin Abdillah (ra) for the conquest of Isfahan. He was told to depart for Isfahan, where they were met with an army. After a fierce battle ensued, the enemy retreated. The Muslims advanced and surrounded the city which was then surrendered to the Muslims.

Hamedan was also conquered after the battle of Nahavand. But the pact was broken by the Iranians and an army had been put together to combat the Muslims. Hazrat Umar (ra) instructed that a Muslim army be assembled to combat them, and having fought them in battle, the Muslims regained victory over the city.

Hazoor (aba) said he shall continue to mention further battles in future sermons.

20th August
2021

Funeral prayers (in absentia)

Men of
Excellence :
Hazrat Umar
ibn al-Khaṭṭāb
(ra)

1. Muhammad Diyantono Sahib –
passed away on 15 July at the age of 47.

2. Sahibzada Farhan Latif Sahib
(great-grandson of Hazrat Sahibzada Abdul Latif Shaheed Sahib (ra)).

3. Malik Mubasher Ahmad Sahib
passed away on 21 November.

Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi raji'un

[Surely To Allah do we belong and to Him do we return].

20th August
2021