

## TAHMEED INSTITUTE

### SEERAH PART 7

#### Hamzah and Umar's (رضي الله عنهما) acceptance of Islam

#### Conversion of Hamzah (رضي الله عنه)

The sixth year of prophethood saw a shining light clearing away the gloomy clouds of oppression and a strength that was much needed for the new muslims.

While seated on Mount Safa, the Prophet (ﷺ) was insulted by Abu Jahl, who struck his head with a stone, causing bleeding, before leaving. Hamzah (رضي الله عنه), the Prophet's uncle and a non-Muslim at the time, returned from hunting and learned of the assault. Enraged, he confronted Abu Jahl in the Ka'bah's courtyard, striking him with his bow and proclaiming, "You insult Muhammad? I follow his religion and affirm his teachings!" Initially driven by anger over his nephew's mistreatment, Hamzah's heart was soon guided to Islam by Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), making him a vital source of strength for the Muslims. This occurred in the month of Dhul Hijjah.

#### Conversion of Umar (رضي الله عنه)

Divinely just days after this event, another real triumph in the cause of Islam has unfolded.

Umar (رضي الله عنه), once a fierce enemy of Islam, was feared and respected for his courage. Intent on killing the Prophet (ﷺ), he set out with his sword but was told by a man that his sister Fatimah and her husband Saeed ibn Zaid (رضي الله عنهما) had embraced Islam. Furious, Umar went to their home, where Khabbab (رضي الله عنه) was reciting the Quran. Hearing Umar approach, Khabbab hid, and Fatimah concealed the pages. Umar, having overheard verses, attacked Saeed and struck Fatimah when she intervened. Defiant, they declared their faith in Allah and His Messenger (ﷺ).

Moved by remorse, Umar requested to read the verses. After performing ghusl at Fatimah's urging, he read Surah Taha's opening verses and was captivated. Seeking the Prophet (ﷺ), he was told by Khabbab of the Prophet's prayer: "O Allah, strengthen Islam through Umar ibn Al-Khattab or Abu Jahl." At a house in Safa, Umar declared his faith to the Prophet (ﷺ), prompting the Muslims to exclaim "Allahu Akbar" loud enough to reach the Ka'bah. His conversion enabled open worship, including the first communal prayer at the Ka'bah, though the Prophet (ﷺ) had prayed there previously.

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Narrated `Abdullah bin Mus'ud: We have been powerful since `Umar embraced Islam.

Sahih al-Bukhari 3863

#### **Quraish's Attempts to Negotiate**

Powered by the mercy of Allah , the conversions of Hamzah and Umar (رضي الله عنهما) bolstered the Muslims struggle, curbing the Quraish's ability to oppress them as before. Alarmed, the Quraish devised new tactics to halt Islam's spread. They tried all means to tempt the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) away from his mission.

Utbah ibn Rabee'ah, backed by the Quraish, offered the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) kingship, wealth, leadership, or even medical treatment, assuming his mission was driven by worldly motives. The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) responded by reciting Surah Fussilat until the prostration verse, performed sajdah, and said, "This is my answer, Utbah. Do as you wish." Utbah, awestruck, told the Quraish the words were neither poetry, sorcery, nor soothsaying and urged them to leave the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) alone. They dismissed him, claiming he was bewitched.

The Quraish then suggested a compromise: they would worship Allah if the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) reciprocated by worshipping their gods.

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) revealed Surah Al-Kafiroon to reject this proposal outright.

Taken aback by this the Quraish looked for help from outsiders. They consulted the Jews and they in return asked them to test the Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم), for his prophethood.

The Jewish rabbis in Madinah advised them to ask about the young men who vanished, a man who traveled east and west, and the soul's nature.

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) revealed Surah Al-Kahf and Surah Al-Israa with answers, yet most Quraish rejected the clear proof of his prophethood.

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