

IMAM HASSAN'S PEACE TREATY

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1. Imam Hassan's peace treaty with Muawiya shares the Holy Prophet's peace treaty with the polytheists of Quraysh in backgrounds, goals and outcomes.

Just as the Holy Prophet's peace treaty with the polytheists of Quraysh was a clear victory, so also was Imam Hassan's peace treaty with Muawiya a clear victory.







2. Sheikh al-Saduq quoted Abu-Saeed Ageesa to have said: I once asked [Imam] Hassan ibn Ali ibn Abi-Talib, "O son of God's Apostle! Why have you conceded to Muawiya and accepted to enter into peace treaty with him?" In reply, the Imam justified, "O Abu-Saeed! I entered into peace treaty with Muawiya for the same reason God's Apostle (God's blessings be upon him and his Family) had entered into peace treaty with the Banu-Dhamarah people, the Banu-Ashja' people, and the polytheists of Mecca upon leaving al-Hudaybiya. Those were disbelievers in the Divine Revelations, and Muawiya and his fellows are disbelievers in the interpretation of the Divine Revelations."







3. The Holy Prophet entered into a peace treaty with the polytheists of Quraysh because military conflicts were no longer resolving the disputes.

The Quraysh had already launched a media campaign against Muslims, attempting to sway the tribes of the Arabian Peninsula and their allies to join them. They spread rumors that they were right while Muhammad (the Holy Prophet) was wrong. Additionally, they falsely claimed that Muhammad violated the sanctity of the Holy House of God and hindered pilgrims from reaching it, disrupting the traditional pilgrimage to Mecca and the Abrahamic rituals. Regrettably, the deceptive propaganda spread by the polytheists of Quraysh proved effective due to several factors, including the intense wartime conditions that hindered people from accepting the Divine mission of the Holy Prophet. For this reason, the Holy Prophet endorsed entering into peace treaty with the polytheists of Quraysh in order to create an atmosphere suitable enough for activating his Divine mission and promulgating for Islam.







4. The Holy Quran reads: "Verily, We have granted you a manifest victory. [48:1]" The Holy Quran describes the Holy Prophet's truce with the polytheists of Quraysh as manifest victory. This truce exposed the reality of the people of Quraysh before their allies and unmasked their dishonesty. On the other hand, it opened people's hearts wide to receive warmly the Holy Prophet and his promulgation for Islam, proving his truthfulness and gainsaying his foes' misinformation. Hence, people understood that the Holy Prophet held in the highest, regard the Holy House of God. He, leading his companions, had come on pilgrimage to the House of God but the people of Quraysh prevented them from entering Mecca. So, they had to offer their sacrificial animals outside the Holy Precinct. In conclusion, the most important of the advantages of the Holy Prophet's truce with the polytheists of Quraysh were as follows: a) The Holy Prophet's mission spread so widely in the Arabian Peninsula. b) People were all ears to listen to the message of Islam. c) The propaganda of the Quraysh was proven false.





5. One of the reasons for Imam Hassan's having entered into peace treaty with Muawiya was that the latter could mobilize the people of Levante for fighting Imam Ali and his partisans. He could deceive them and implant in their mentalities that Imam Ali was a corrupt man. So, the religion of Muhammad imposed that war should be waged against Ali. In this campaign, Muawiya used misinformation so actively. He forged lies against the Holy Prophet, ascribing to him, yet falsely, sayings in dispraise of Imam Ali. Since then, military combats became of no avail. Amidst intense warfare between the opposing camps, Muawiya devised his conspiracy. The volatile conditions in Levante hindered any chance for the people to engage with Imam Ali's efforts to revive the Prophetic traditions. It was then that Imam Hasan's peace treaty emerged, aiming to thwart Muawiya's deceitful tactics and misinformation.







6. Imam Hassan's Goals in the Peace Treaty:

ONE: Imam Hassan sought to create an environment conducive to the people of Levante, enabling them to be receptive to and accepting of the concealed truths. Through this, they would recognize Muawiya's true character as a corrupt individual who deviated from the tenets of the religion. Conversely, Imam Ali stood as the genuine representative and guide to God's religion, acting upon the command of God Almighty and His Apostle.

TWO: Imam Hasan's peace treaty with Muawiya facilitated the transmission of the Holy Prophet's teachings regarding the religious and political leadership of his family members to the newly converted Muslims in the western regions.

THREE: Imam Ali's unmatched justice, which represented the Holy Quran's teachings and the Holy Prophet's traditions, could finally be introduced in its genuine picture to the people of Levant.

FOUR: The Islamic State could be spared division. Muslims could be gathered on the judgments inferred from the Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet's traditions aside from the personal suppositions of the first two caliphs.

FIVE: Muslims were spared more bloodshed, and the threats of the Romans were repelled.







7. Outcomes of Imam Hasan's Peace Treaty:

ONE: The culture of loyalty to and affection love for the Holy Prophet's Family (i.e., the Ahl al-Bayt) was noticeably circulated among the newly converted Muslims who joined Islam after the Muslim conquests in the east and west of the earth. This culture, which had basically been established by the Glorious Quran and the traditions of the Holy Prophet, was introduced by those fresh Muslims, some of whom embraced it while others remained indifferent.

TWO: The Holy Prophet's nation was saved from division, for which Muawiya had already planned.

THREE: The true vicious character of Muawiya ibn Abi-Sufyan was exposed to the people of Levante, who discovered that he was completely untruthful in whatever he misinformed about Imam Ali.







8. In this way, Imam Hassan's peace treaty with Muawiya resembled the peace treaty of his grandfather the Holy Prophet with the polytheists of Quraysh, historically known as Treaty of al-Hudaybiya.

With regard to backgrounds, both the Quraysh and Muawiya ran false propagandas and rumored misinformation about the other party.

With regard to goals, both the Holy Prophet's peace treaty and Imam Hasan's peace treaty aimed to guide people to the sealing Divine Mission.

With regard to outcomes, both the treaties disclosed the misinformation of the adversaries and opened the way wide to accepting the final Divine mission and its bearers; namely the Holy Prophet and his immaculate family members (the Ahl al-Bayt).







Details of this new study of Imam Hassan's peace treaty can be kindly referred to in the book Qira'atun fi Sulh al-Imam al-Hassan (A New Perusal of Imam Hassan's Peace Treaty) by His Eminence the well-versed scholar Sayyid Sami al-Badri:

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