

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

THE HISTORY OF MADINA



Mufti Aasim Rashid

SESSION 4

The Setting in Yathrib

Aws and Khazraj in Yathrib

- Aws and Khazraj settled in Yathrib and maintained somewhat amicable relations with the Jewish tribes residing there. Life continued with minimal conflict initially.

The Visit of Tubba'

- Tubba' was the title for the Kings of Yemen (Himyar). One of these kings traveled with a group of around 400 scholars.
- While passing by Yathrib, the scholars insisted on staying there. When questioned, they explained that according to their scriptures, this was to be the place of hijra for the final prophet.
- Tubba' accepted the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as the final Nabi based on the scholars' descriptions. He honored them by:
 - Building homes for the scholars.
 - Arranging marriages and providing wealth and property for them.
 - Constructing a specific house intended to host the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ when he arrived.

Legacy of Tubba'

- Tubba' made a wasiyyah (bequest) to one of the scholars, instructing him to safeguard the house and pass down its purpose to his descendants.
- He expressed his faith in couplets:
 - "I testify that Muhammad ﷺ is a Messenger of Allah, and if my life were extended to meet him, I would live as his advisor, cousin, and brother."
- The house eventually came into the possession of Abu Ayyub Al-Ansari (RA), a descendant of the scholar. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ stayed in this house when he migrated to Yathrib, guided by his camel without prior human direction.

Conflict Between Aws, Khazraj, and the Jews

- As Aws and Khazraj grew in strength, some Jewish tribes felt threatened and imposed humiliating conditions to maintain dominance.
- An extreme law was enacted by Fityoun, a Jewish leader, requiring any Arab woman marrying to be with him before her husband.
- This oppression led Aws and Khazraj to seek solutions, culminating in the rise of Malik ibn Aljlan, a courageous and intelligent leader from Khazraj.

Malik ibn Aljlan's Leadership and Revolt

- Malik ibn Aljlan became the leader of both tribes, uniting them against Fityoun's tyranny.
- When his sister's marriage was subjected to the humiliating law, Malik disguised himself as a woman and killed Fityoun.
- He sought help from Abu Jubaila, a ruler in Sham and his distant cousin, to confront the oppressive Jewish tribes.

Strategic Assistance

- Abu Jubaila prepared an army under the guise of heading to Yemen but stopped in Yathrib to assist Aws and Khazraj.
- A clever plan was executed:
 - Aws and Khazraj paid respects to Abu Jubaila.
 - Leaders of the Jewish tribes were invited to receive gifts, during which they were killed, breaking their power.
- Aws and Khazraj gained more land and a stronger position, eliminating fears of expulsion.

Role of Tubba Al-Asghar

- Some narrations mention a Himyar king, Tubba Al-Asghar, assisting Aws and Khazraj. Historians suggest both Tubba Al-Asghar and Abu Jubaila were involved.
- Tubba Al-Asghar's attempt to destroy Yathrib was thwarted by the Jewish tribes, who explained that the city was divinely protected as the destined migration place for the final prophet.

Belief of the Jews in Muhammad's Prophethood

- Jewish tribes in Yathrib strongly believed in the prophethood of Muhammad ﷺ based on their scriptures and the message of Musa (AS).
- Despite initial intentions to support the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, their stance changed upon his emergence as the final prophet.

Conclusion

- These events occurred between the settlement of Aws and Khazraj in Yathrib and the bi'tha (prophethood) of Muhammad ﷺ.