

# The Battle of Hitten

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Glory be to Allah(swt) who blessed mankind with the month of Ramadan and its blessings, and Who raises among His slaves a servant like Salahuddin who freed the Holy Place of Masjidul Aqsa from the Crusaders in the sanctified month of Ramadan, in the year 1187AD.

This article does not intend to narrate the history of Salahuddin, rather it will deal with 3 specific points.

## **1. The Condition of the Ummah before the Battle:**

The state which is supposed to run the Wilayat(provinces) was not in full control, so much so that the provinces were semi-autonomous to the point of being states within a state. The Wali (governors) acted independantly from the Khilafah. They only sent him the Zakah, jizyah and homage in the khutba. The Khilafah was not united as Islam demands. The state was declining. The Crusaders took advantage of this weakness and occupied the Muslim land. Salahuddin, out of the simplicity of character and directness of his vision, saw clearly that the weakness of the Muslim body politic, which had permitted the establishment and permitted the survival of the crusading states, was the result of the political demoralisation. His goal was to restore and revive the political fabric of Islam as a single unified nation, not under his own rule. Rather, as a selfless servant, he aimed at returning the rule of the The Revealed Law although he had the opportunity to usurp the power. This is evidenced by the event of Kurdistan. When the Khilafah requested this land to be transferred to his rule, Salahuddin immediately complied despite the anger and scorn of his Ameers of his army. He simply replied, *'The Khilafah is the ruler of mankind and the repository of true faith. If he were to join us here, I should give him all these lands. So what of the land of Shahrazur.'*

## **2. The Battle of Hitten**

This is the Salahuddin, who is going to lead Jihad in 1187 to battle the Crusaders - 12,000 strong Muslim cavalry, and about an equal number of troops and irregulars would form the army. On Friday, 26th June 1187 AD, they departed to liberate Palestine. It was Ramadan, 4th July 1187 that

Salahuddin with the Muslim Mujahideen would fight one of the most important battles in the history of mankind.

The Muslims on this day, in one single day, virtually routed all local Christian forces capable of defending the Crusaders establishment in the Near East. Facing no resistance, Salahuddin took his time to reach the city of Jerusalem on 9th October, 1187, a Friday, and the Holy city was purified.

### ***3. Lessons to be Learned from this Battle by Today's Muslims:***

Salahuddin is known by historians to have exacted whatever the enemies deserved. He did not give a care about the Romans who were the superpower at the time. He showed no mercy to traitors, or perjurers, Muslims and Christians alike who for decades had harrassed the borders of Egypt and Arabia, who dared to even launch an expedition against Makkah, and who caused an out-break of war. (Where is the leadership today when Muslims are being slaughtered? We find them at the same table selling our blood to their own enemies against which Salahuddin fought to free al-Quds.)

It was the infrastructure of the state, i.e Khilafah which enabled Salahuddin to rally the Ummah to free the Muslim lands. Where is this structure to free the Muslim lands today? Where is the structure to liberate Palestine, to save the lives of our brothers and sisters in Bosnia and Kashmir etc... Where is the Khilafah to liberate al.Kaba'ah from tyranny and oppression. Where is the Ummah that fought to kick out the Crusaders? It is nowhere to be found because al-Khilafah was destroyed. Although a Kurd by color, and origin, Salahuddin was not proud of being one. To prove the point that the Ummah is one regardless of colour, or origin, he conquered Turkey and added it to the Khilafah. Nationalism is 'bidah' and is used by the colonialist powers to divide the Ummah into 'mickey mouse' States. Muslims must come to realise that their salvation lies only in erecting, yes building this entity that is the only one capable of protecting it and providing them with peace.

Despite the common knowledge among Muslims of the sanctity of Ramadan, Muslims have adopted a new definition of sanctity: that Ramadan is a vacation period, a time for laziness and no hard work. It has come to mean that a Muslim should be pious, i.e fasting, refrain from fornication and go for Friday sermons. Ramadan has become a Christmas season for many Muslims. Here we see Salahuddin fighting in Ramadan; that is just an example of many events that happened in Ramadan.

In conclusion, a Muslim by definition has submitted to Allah(swt) by signing to contract of Shahadah to work for Allah's Deen to be dominant of Earth. This is why our forefathers in Islam strived night and day to fulfil the deal they made with their Lord. Consequently, since we also claim to have accepted the same, it is time to wake up and carry out our task . There will be no Salahuddin coming to save the brothers and sisters in Kashmir or Bosnia. This month of Ramadan should at least bring us to comprehend that if we remain in this coma, many Bosnias are looming on the horizon.