

## **Circle: The significance of the Hijra & current events in Palestine**

- ◆ We in the first week of Muharram – which is the beginning of the Islamic calendar and the anniversary of the Hijra
- ◆ We need to understand the significance of the Hijra. Many people misunderstand the Hijra, some say that the Prophet (saw) migrated due to fear or that it was coincidental that he moved to Madina and became the ruler. These are false notions which need to be exposed.
- ◆ The Hijra has a massive significance. The Prophet (saw) migrated in order to establish the Islamic state.
- ◆ Mention evidences which clearly show that the Prophet (saw) was clearly seeking to establish the Islamic state and the Hijra was a final step in this process.

E.g. A delegation of Quraish comprised 25 men including notables like ‘Utbah bin Rabi‘a, Shaibah bin Rabi‘a, Abu Jahl bin Hisham, Omayyah bin Khalaf, Abu Sufyan bin Harb. They first paid tribute to him and confirmed their high esteem of his person and position among them. They then shifted to the new give-and-take policy that they claimed they wanted to follow. To substantiate their argument they alleged that they would refrain from intervening in his religion if he did the same.

Abu Talib summoned his nephew and apprised him of the minutes of his meeting with them, and said: "Well, my nephew, here are the celebrities of your people. They have proposed this meeting to submit a policy of mutual concessions and peaceful coexistence." The Messenger of Allâh turned to them saying:

"I will guide you to the means by which you will gain sovereignty over both the Arabs and non-Arabs."

In another version, the Prophet addressed Abu Talib in the following words: "O uncle! Why don't you call them unto something better?" Abu Talib asked him, "What is it that you invite them to?" The Prophet replied, "I invite them to hold fast to a Message that is bound to give them access to kingship over the Arabs and non-Arabs." According to Ibn Ishaq's version, "It is just one word that will give you supremacy over the Arabs and non-Arabs." The Makkan deputies were taken by incredible surprise and began to wonder what sort of word was that which would benefit them to that extent. Abu Jahl asked, "What is that word? I swear by your father that we will surely grant you your wish followed by ten times as much." He said, "I want you to testify that there is no god worthy to be worshipped but Allâh, and then divest yourselves of any sort of worship you harbour for any deities other than Allâh." They immediately clapped their hands in ridicule, and said "How can you expect us to combine all the deities in one God. It is really something incredible." On their way out leaving, they said to one another, "By god this man (Muhammad) will never relent, nor will he offer any concessions. Let us hold fast to the religion of our forefathers, and Allâh will in due course adjudicate and settle the dispute between us and him." As regards this incident, Allâh revealed the following verses:

"*Sâd*: [These letters (*Sâd*, etc.) are one of the miracles of the Qur'ân and none but Allâh (Alone) knows their meanings]. By the Qur'ân full of reminding. Nay, those who disbelieve are in false pride and Apposition. How many a generation We have destroyed before them, and they cried out when there was no longer time for escape! And they (Arab pagans) wonder that a warner (Prophet Muhammad) has come to them from among themselves! And the disbelievers say, 'This (Prophet Muhammad) is a sorcerer, a liar. Has he made the gods (all) into One God (Allâh). Verily, this is a curious thing!' And the leaders among them went about (saying): 'Go on, and remain constant to your gods! Verily, this is a thing designed (against you)! We have not heard (the like) of this among the people of these later days. This is nothing but an invention.'" [38:1-7]

E.g. Bounty hunter Suraqa ibnu Malik who chased the Prophet (saw) when he was making the Hijra and he (saw) promised him Bangles of Persia.

- ◆ If we look at the situation in the world today we see the absence of the Khilafah, we must realise the significance of the Hijra and work to re-establish the Khilafah which we will make Hijra to.
  - ◆ If we look at the situation of the Muslims it should agitate us to emulate the life of the Prophet (saw). E.g. recently when one Israeli child was killed in Hebron they put tanks on the streets and want to expel the Muslims. How can it be that 500 Jewish settlers in Hebron exist as dominant surrounded by 100 thousand Muslims in Hebron. How many of the Muslim children have the Israeli's killed.
  - ◆ Mention Arab summit and their useless resolutions. Their rhetoric is used to pacify the Ummah. They are used by the Kuffar and work against the carriers of the Da'wa just as the Quraysh worked against the Prophet (saw).
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## Reference

### Anger rages in Hebron over killing of baby

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HEBRON, West Bank (Reuters) -- The Israeli army

said its soldiers clashed overnight with angry Jewish settlers who tried to enter Palestinian areas of the West Bank city of Hebron after a gunman killed an Israeli infant.

The shooting on Monday of 10-month-old Shalhevet Pas in the Avraham Avinu settlement in the divided city, where about 400 of the most militant Jewish settlers live among more than 100,000 Palestinians, raised tensions in Hebron.

Despite calls for restraint by the defence minister after the latest bloodshed in six months of a Palestinian uprising, Jewish settlers marched on the Abu Sneineh neighbourhood where the army said a sniper had fired from, witnesses said.

Palestinian Cabinet minister Yasser Abed Rabbo, in Jordan for an Arab League summit, told Reuters there was no evidence the baby was killed by Palestinian fire and blamed the months of violence on the Israeli occupation.

The killing came as Arab leaders gathered in Jordan for a summit on Tuesday meant to back the uprising and while the United Nations Security Council held lengthy talks to draft a resolution on the violence.

Tanks and army jeeps rumbled into Hebron late on Monday, lining up between Jewish and Palestinian areas, witnesses said. The army told Palestinian residents of Abu Sneineh to leave their homes, though it was unclear why the order was given, and Israel radio later said it was not apparently being enforced.

"There is no doubt the feeling is very bad. I think the Israeli army definitely has to take steps (to restrain the settlers)," Colonel Noam Tivone, brigade commander of Hebron, told Reuters.

He said the army had called in about 100 police officers to deal with the Jewish settlers, fearing they could get violent. In the Gaza Strip, settlers entered Palestinian areas shooting in the air and burning property.

Pas was the youngest casualty in the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, sparking harsh responses from Israel, including Prime Minister Ariel Sharon who blamed the Palestinian Authority.

At least 349 Palestinians, 67 Israelis and 13 Israeli Arabs have been killed in the revolt that erupted in September after peace talks deadlocked.

Sharon told U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell in a telephone call to brief him on the Hebron shooting that he had eased restrictions imposed on Palestinian areas at the start of the uprising, a statement from his office said.

"But (Palestinian President Yasser) Arafat, despite the easings, has not ordered an end to violence and terror and has even increased it," the statement said.

Palestinians have said Sharon's easing of the closure has been "cosmetic," with trenches around some cities and towns and roadblocks remaining in place.

Israel says it imposed the blockade to prevent Palestinian attacks. Palestinians brand the closure, which has dealt a near death blow to an already ailing economy, collective punishment.

After the shooting in Hebron, Israel imposed a blockade on Palestinian-ruled areas of the city and a curfew on Abu Sneineh.

About 200,000 Jewish settlers are scattered in some 150 settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, home to about three million Palestinians.

Palestinians demand the dismantling of all settlements on lands Israel captured in the 1967 Middle East war, which they want for an independent state. They have viewed Jewish settlers as legitimate targets in the uprising, often shooting at them.

But Tivone said: "This is the murder of a baby. She is not to blame, she does not even know that she lives in Hebron."

### **'New era' for Arab co-operation**

AMMAN, Jordan -- The Arab League summit began in Jordan with Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak calling for greater co-operation between Arab countries.

The summit is expected to discuss the fate of Middle East peacemaking under Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and support for the Palestinian uprising.

The summit is the first regular gathering of the group since the 1990-91 Gulf crisis.

In his opening speech, Mubarak said it was the start of a "new era" for Arab countries in which the league could take a more active role.

He urged Arab countries to improve relationships between themselves and also between Arab countries and other countries.

Fourteen heads of state have arrived in Jordan for the summit, but notable absentees include Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Ahmed al-Jaber al-Sabah and Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah.

Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat has described the summit as the most important yet.

"This summit is held during a difficult time, especially for the Palestinian people, who face a dangerous military escalation on our towns and villages," Arafat said.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan will also attend Tuesday's summit -- billed as the Summit of Accord and Agreement -- in Amman.

Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, who stayed away from an emergency summit in Cairo in October and publicly ridiculed its draft resolutions, will also attend.

The Palestinian Authority wants the 22 nations attending the summit to pledge diplomatic and financial support to its intifada during the summit.

The authority is facing a financial crisis and is unable to pay the salaries of its 130,000 employees as a result of Israel's refusal to hand over tax revenues collected from Palestinians working in Israel.

Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia favour pursuing diplomatic means to resolve the crisis, while Syria prefers a complete cut in all diplomatic ties and a revival of the Arab boycott of Israel.

The Israeli Government will also be on the agenda, as Arab leaders discuss how to deal with Sharon, widely despised in the Arab world, and the peace process.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has won widespread praise for Baghdad's rhetorical and material support for the Palestinian uprising and the league's relations with Iraq is also on the agenda.

Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf has demanded that the summit support his country's demands for an end to both U.N. sanctions and U.S. and British air patrols over Iraq.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, although supporting an easing of sanctions, remain bitterly opposed to rehabilitating Baghdad until the Iraqi leadership apologises for its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

They also want Baghdad to account for hundreds of Kuwaitis and other nationals who went missing during Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

Middle East analyst Amir Taheri told CNN that the leaders would probably give verbal support to Iraq, but it was unlikely they would call for the removal of sanctions.

Maintaining the balance of power in the region was preferable to taking risks, he added.