



The Strategies of diplomacy in the Sirah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ; A True policy Maker

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The strategies of diplomacy in the Sirah (biography) of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ are multifaceted and offer timeless lessons in effective negotiation, conflict resolution, and international relations. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was true policy maker and organized Diplomat. The present study shows about strategies which adopted by prophet ﷺ. The suggested study is circled into the historical and social perspective of seerah. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ completed his commitments and pacts. He was actually the leader of whole world. The Seerah history tells us the real and true position of prophet ﷺ.

This article will explore key diplomatic approaches employed by the Prophet ﷺ, including treaty-making, mediation, and communication, demonstrating their relevance in contemporary diplomatic practices. It will also highlight the Prophet's ﷺ emphasis on justice, empathy, and compassion as foundational principles in fostering peaceful relations and resolving conflicts, serving as a model for diplomatic engagement in today's world.

The recommended research already the background of comparative analysis under the contemporary issues in which we can solve the problems through the Seerah history.

Keywords; Conflict Management, Diplomacy, Seerah, Islamic Thought.



Journament



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Introduction



Diplomacy is the most important way in international relations. The diplomacy according to the Islamic *Shari'ah* is one of the best ways to show the Islamic values, merits and advantages in conducting international affairs with non-Muslims; It can guide some Muslim scholars who rely solely on the Western concept of diplomacy; It can be a warning to the Muslim *Ummah* (the Muslim Community) on the pitfalls of the Western theories, and at the same time it c Islam is one the fastest growing religion in the world. One among many reasons, it stands for peace, urges for peace and invites people towards peace. The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was sent to spread mercy to all mankind regardless of color, creed, sex and nation. Islam believes in borderless society where everyone entitled to justice, equality and freedom which also emphasized in its relations with others. Qur'an says:

“Allah does not forbid you to deal justly and kindly with those who fought not against you on account of religion and did not drive you out of your homes. Verily, Allah loves those who deal with equity” (60:8).¹

Public diplomacy meanings:

The center of diplomacy Taft University USA considers:

Public diplomacy as a process of influencing public attitudes for the formation and implementation of foreign policy and includes dimensions of international relations that go beyond traditional diplomacy'.²

The dictionary of International Relations, published by the State Department in 1985, defines public diplomacy as follows:

"Public diplomacy refers to government-sponsored programs aimed at informing or influencing public opinion in other countries. Its main tools are the publication of text, moving images, cultural exchanges, and radio and television'.³

Groups of strategies:

¹ Islam and Diplomacy: The Quest for Human Security, Mohammad Shekaib Alam, Islamic World and Politics: :Vol.3. No.1 January-June 2019, *Malaysia Email - ibnqj3@gmail.com*, p-1

² Wolf, Rosen, Edmund, Centre of diplomacy, Taft university, united states, 1965, page 31-32

³ Kogli and vaticov, dictionary of international relations, State department USA, 1985, P-192

Mohamed Sulaiman, Abdul Kadir Othman, Moussa Larbani, Izhairi Ismail, Daniel Yusuf & Muhammad Iskandar Hamzah elaborated Eight Prophet's strategies; jihad, Swiftiness, Steadfast (*al-sabirun*), Vigorous image, Harm prevention, hijrah (migration), Peace (*al-silmi*) and Dynamic.

The study found that all of the eight strategies are applicable and being practiced in modern business. This paper opens a new direction of research, discovering the strategic management framework in the of Prophet Muhammad's war strategies.⁴

The researchers have categorized the eight strategies of the Prophet into three groups.

1-There are three primary or major strategies; namely, engagement, prevention and adaptation. Engagement strategy is face-to-face or bumper-to-bumper type of strategies. It covers three secondary strategies which are jihad, swiftiness and steadfastness (*al-sabirun*).

2-Prevention strategy is the strategy that is intended to alleviate the threats and risks facing the business. It covers two secondary strategies which are vigorous image and harm prevention (*daf' al-darar*).

3-Adaptation strategy is the strategy to adapt to the changes in internal and external environment. It employs the elements of flexibility and innovation. It covers three secondary strategies which are hijrah (migration), peace (*as-silm*) and dynamic approach⁵

Muhammad's (P.B.U.H) strategy of Conflict Management:

There are different examples in which prophet (saw) resolved different disputes and conflicts with his effective diplomacy.

- The *half-al-fadūl* (حلف الفضول) was attempted by prophet Muhammad (SAW) in mecca.⁶ A committee of peace was established for resolving the issue. Muhammad sulaiman and his colliques maintained this issue and sais;

⁴The Applicability of Prophet Muhammad's Strategies in his Battles and Campaigns in Modern Business, Mohamed Sulaiman¹, Abdul Kadir Othman², Moussa Larbani¹, Izhairi Ismail¹, Daniel Yusoff¹ & Muhammad Iskandar Hamzah² Asian Social Science; Vol. 11, No. 26; 2015 Published by Canadian Center of Science and Education

⁵ Ibid,

⁶ Mecca is a holy city; the old name was Bakkah.

‘The Hilful Fudul was perhaps the first attempt of Muhammad (the prophet of Islam) to resolve the conflict by peaceful means. Near Mecca there is a place known as Ukaz where an annual fair was held during the month of Dhul-Qa’dah when bloodshed and fighting were prohibited. Once a war broke out between the tribes of Quraysh, Banu Kinanah and the Qais ‘Aylan. This bloody war continued for ten years (580 to 590 AD). Many precious lives were lost during the war; uncertainty and insecurity prevailed in society. These circumstances forced peace loving people to take some action. Therefore, a committee for peace called Hilful Fudul was formed and an oath for peace was taken among the conflicting tribes. The Prophet of Islam Muhammad (P.B.U.H) participated actively in this peace agreement. Muhammad (P.B.U.H) always felt proud that he had been present at the house of Ibn Zadan at the time of agreement. He further said that he would rather participate in this type of peace agreement than accept an offer of a precious gift of red camels’ ⁷

- Prophet Muhammad (SAW) resolved at the age of 35. He erected the hajar al aswad (Holy stone)⁸. He created the atmosphere of peace and harmony in the tribes of Arabs. He saved the Arab tribes from a violence and clash. He adopted a good diplomacy.
- Medina charter⁹ was a good example of peace. Prophet (SAW) removed misunderstanding between different religions i.e Muslims, Christianity, and Jews, which was necessary for society peace. Prophet (SAW) established peace through a good diplomacy. It is reality of society that said charter was good example for global environment of

⁷ The Applicability of Prophet Muhammad’s Strategies in his Battles and Campaigns in Modern Business, Mohamed Sulaiman¹, Abdul Kadir Othman², Moussa Larbani¹, Izhairi Ismail¹, Daniel Yusoff¹ & Muhammad Iskandar Hamzah² Asian Social Science; Vol. 11, No. 26; 2015 Published by Canadian Center of Science and Education

⁸ Hajar al aswad (black stone) is attached at the corner of kaabah and symbol of sacredness.

⁹ According to this charter Muslims and Jews should live as one community.

(See; M.Lings, Muhammad his life based on the earliest sources New Delhi/London 1983, p-31-32)

peace. Medina charter actually played a specific role to increasing plurism and tends to peace¹⁰, patience and harmony.

- Another example we can see in the history of seerah like as the incident of social and economic boycott, end of enmity between Aws and khazraj, the peace of treaty of hdaybiyya, the conquest of mecca.

Recep dogan demonstrated different characteristic of leadership of Muhammad (SAW). He noted the respect of woman. He said;

Prophet Muhammad SAW was very respectful towards woman and protected their rights, encouraging his companion to do the same¹¹

Salma naz showed different examples of treaties.¹²

Shahid Iqbal and ahmad saeed states the diplomacy of Islam, as they said;

Diplomacy is a reflection of the values of nations and peoples, their cultural and civilizational specificities, political choices, and their religious precepts and traditions. It is a portrait of the past, a reflection of the present and a vision of the future. Any form of diplomacy is built around the principles governing the political structure of the State it represents, whose interests it serves and whose entity it embodies abroad. Diplomacy can be defined as the art and science of conducting international relations. Diplomacy according to the Islamic Shari'ah is one of the best ways to show the Islamic values, merits and advantages in conducting international affairs with non-Muslims. This research article explores the principles and tools of diplomacy used by Prophet in the first Islamic State of Madinah, and also to analyze the foundations and objectives of Islamic diplomacy. It further discusses briefly di-

¹⁰ According to John Galtung, peace means nonexistence of planned collective violence and collection of ethics of international community of nations.

(see; J.Galtung, Theory of peace- A Synthetic approach of peace. Oslo; international peace research intuition, Oslo 1967, p-6)

¹¹ Dogan, Recep, conflict resolution forms in the life of prophet Muhammad (SAW), the international journal of religions and spirituality in society, champaign, USA, 2014.

¹² Naz, salma, the role of prophet of Islam Muhammad (SAW) strategy of dialogue in conflict management and peace building in new millennium, p-15-18

plomacy under rightly guided Caliphs and also under banu Umayyad. Copyright©2017, Arshid Iqbal Dar and Jamsheed Ahmed Sayed. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.¹³

Muhammad shahbaz manj and his colleagues discussed a prophetic approach and guide to conflict resolution. They showed different examples from seerah. They tried to explore different dynamics in the field of conflict. They said;

Prophet Muhammad(SAW) had unique methods and techniques to resolve disputes and conflict.¹⁴

Islam is a right way of life. It is a way of peace. Islam is a bundle of moral and social codes. We see in Islam, there is five pillars of Islam, reflection of ethical values. Islam connects with personality development through spiritual practices and remembrance of GOD through “zikr”. We trust in GOD friendship with followings of Prophet Muhammad PBUH.

Ms Robina¹⁵ and Dr Aisha¹⁶ expressed six points¹⁷ like as belief, Islamic practices, self-disciplines, responsibilities and obligations, feeling of presence and sense of connectors with ALLAH.

Prophet Muhammad PBUH established the Muslim state. When Prophet PBUH came in Madinah, he established the foundation of masjid e Quba. There are mentioned the discussion of Quba in the Holy Quran.¹⁸ Masjid e e Quba was first attempt of Prophet Muhammad PBUH in the city of Madinah. After he came to the place of masjid e nabvi (SAW), Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) established the brotherhood among the Muslim. He established the friendly relationships with Jews.

¹³ Also see Asian journal of science and technology, university of Kashmir, India, September 201

¹⁴ Muhammad shahbaz manj, Rizwan yunus, Hifza umme salma, Hafiz m naeem, M tayyeb Nadeem, Guide to conflict resolutions; A study of prophetic approach, multicultural education, VOL-8, issue 6, 2022

¹⁵ Ms robina dasti, lecturer university of Punjab Pakistan

¹⁶ Dr Aisha sitwat, AP university of Punjab, Pakistan

¹⁷ Dasti, ms robina, development of a multidimensional measure of Islamic spirituality (MMS), journal of Muslim mental health, p-6

¹⁸ The Holy Quran, surah Tobah, vers no 108

Fouzia mentioned different strategies adopted by Prophet Muhammad PBUH in his leadership .she mentioned following strategies ¹⁹like as non-resistance, kilafah (support/protection).

She expressed key points²⁰ made by prophet Muhammad PBUH during the medina period.

- Display of power
- Neutralizations of the enemy
- Causing disintegration among the enemy lines
- Geographical and diplomatic alienation of the enemy
- Economic blockade
- Policy of confidentiality
- Policy of appeasement
- Policy of of concession
- Matrimonial alliance.

Abdul jabbar sattar al- bayati stated foreign policy of Muhammad PBUH.²¹He mentioned different principles adopted by like as principle freedom, principle of justice principle of unity of humanity.

Salma naz also discussed different strategies and key notes of prophet Muhammad PBUH who resolved different conflicts.²²

Dr abu bakr also discussed diplomacy of Muhamad PBUH in international era.²³

Dr M.Muhudin discussed diplomatic foreign relations in his article.²⁴

Hussain jaez al-mutari discussed different origins of development in international laws.²⁵

¹⁹ Ahmed fouzia farooq, Diplomatic strategies adopted by the prophet Muhammad PBUH, journal of the research society of Pakistan, Lahore, vol-58, issue no (dec-2021): 24

²⁰ Ahmed fouzia farooq, Diplomatic strategies adopted by the prophet Muhammad PBUH, journal of the research society of Pakistan, Lahore, vol-58, issue no (dec-2021): 24

²¹ Abdul jabbar, the foreign policy of the state in the era of the prophet and its impact on the international arena at the time analytical study, ISSN-1012-1587

²² Salma naz, the role of prophet of Islam Muhammad PBUH strategies of dialogue in conflict management and peace building in the new millennium, p1-5

²³ Abdulqadir, dr abu bakr, Muhammad PBUH diplomacy; a beacon for contemporary international system, The Islamic culture, vol-45(2021) , shiekh zaid Islamic center university of Karachi, ISSN -1813-775X

²⁴ Dr M.Muhiudin , Prophtic diplomatic principles in foreign relations, sharia.org

Conclusion

Prophet Muhammad had different strategies in different departments of society. He changed the society version and converted it in the peace through his strategies of diplomacy. He was true policy maker. We should stand adopt those policies.

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²⁵ Hussain, origins and development of diplomatic immunities in Islam and international laws, international journal of business economics and laws, 2015, ISSN-22898-1552