

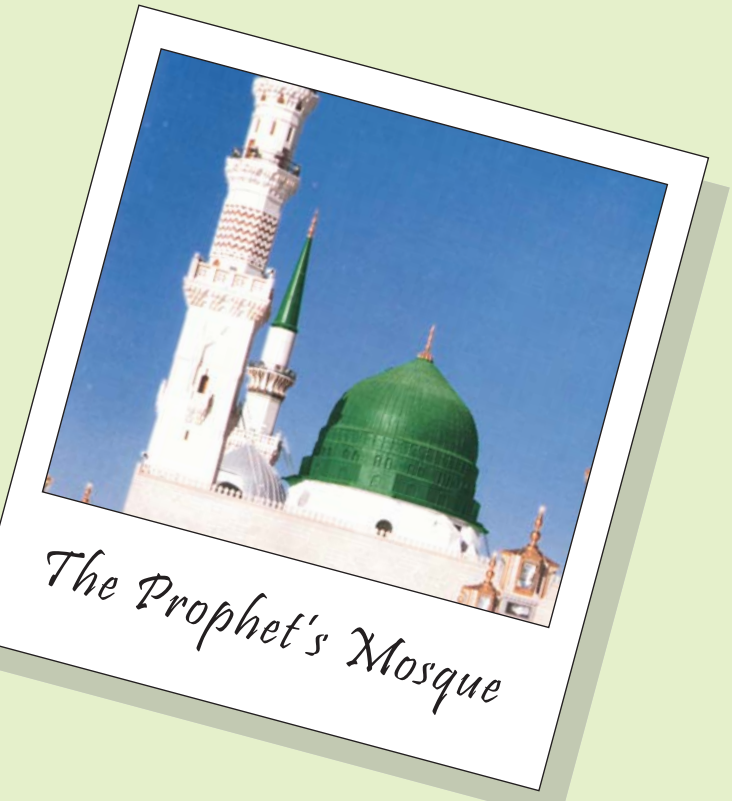
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Hajj & Umrah at Makkah Al Mukarramah... Other maps in the series... Points of Interest... Ziyarat to Masjid-Nabawi... Preparation for each stage of the Journey from the Haram... The guide will assist you in the rites of the Hajj and Umrah in Makkah Mukarramah.

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Hajj & Umrah Series

Ziyarat to AL MADINAH Al Munawwarah



Map & Guide

Battle of the Trench (Khandaq) When the Holy Prophet (SAW) first arrived in Madinah, the Jews living there welcomed him, an agreement was reached between the Muslims and the Jews, enabling the Jews to practice their religion and to set out their rights and duties. Among these duties was that, in the case of war with Quraysh, the Jews would fight on the side of the Muslims. Despite this agreement, however, some of the Jewish tribes, who resented the Holy Prophet (SAW)'s presence in Madinah, soon began to cause trouble amongst the Muslims. In the end, the Muslims had no choice but to drive them out from Madinah. Realising that they could not defeat the Muslims, the leaders of the exiled Jews secretly went to Makkah to ask for the help of the Quraysh. The Jews told them that if all the Arab tribes attacked Madinah, the Jews inside the city would help to defeat the Holy Prophet (SAW) and Islam once and for all. The leaders of Quraysh were pleased to hear all this and seizing on this very good opportunity, agreed to the plan and began to gather a formidable army. Eventually, the Quraysh and their allies surrounded Madinah, but between the two armies was the long, wide trench. The Prophet and his men stayed behind this trench for nearly a month defending the city against their more powerful enemy. Many times enemies tried to cross the trench and enter the city, but each time they were pushed back by the Muslims. The Muslims were afraid that if any one did manage to cross over, the Jews inside Madinah would join forces with them and the Muslims would be beaten. The Jewish tribe of Bani Qurayzah, who had stood by the agreement with the Muslims, were pressed by a Jewish emissary from the enemy, to break their promise. Eventually they agreed to do so and when this news reached the Holy Prophet (SAW), He and his Companions were greatly troubled. The situation looked desperate and the Holy Prophet (SAW) prayed to Allah to help the Muslims defeat their enemies. That very night a sandstorm blew up which buried the tents of the Quraysh. The storm continued for three days and three nights making it impossible for the enemy to light a fire to cook a meal or warm themselves.

On one of these dark nights the Holy Prophet (SAW) asked one of his men, Hudhayfah Ibn al-Yaman, to make his way across the trench to the enemy camp where he should find out what they were doing. With much difficulty Hudhayfah crossed the trench and made his way to a circle of Quraysh warriors talking in the darkness. He sat near them, but as there was no fire, no one noticed him. He then heard Abu Sufyan's voice: 'Let us go home!' he said. 'We have had enough. The horses and camels are dying, the tents keep blowing away, most of the equipment has been lost, and we cannot cook our food. There is no reason to stay!' The next morning the Muslims rejoiced to find that what Hudhayfah had overheard had come true. The Quraysh and their allies had gone away! The siege of Madinah had ended in a great victory for Islam. Very soon after, peace had been restored to Madinah. If the Jews had succeeded in their pact, Islam would have been destroyed. Instead, from that day on, Madinah became a city where only Muslims lived. At this site, you will find 7 masjids. Each masjid is the location of a camp along the trench. Masjidul Fath (Victory) is the place where the Holy Prophet (SAW) prayed continuously for three days until Almighty Allah accepted his dua and the Muslims gained victory over their enemies. It is a place of great importance, pilgrims should offer two rak'ahs Tahiyatul Masjid here. This masjid is on the north side of this field up on a hill, steps are built to reach there.

Now, among the people of Madinah was a Persian named Salman, who had come to live in the city some time before the Holy Prophet (SAW)'s arrival there. As a convert to Christianity he had travelled to Madinah after Christian sages had told him that a Prophet would be born in Arabia. On arriving in Madinah he was, however, sold as a slave by the merchants with whom he had travelled. Later he became a Muslim, gained his freedom and became a member of the Holy Prophet (SAW)'s household. When the people gathered to discuss the plan of action against the approaching enemy, Salman was present and it was he who suggested that they should dig a trench (Khandaq) around the city. The Prophet thought this as a good idea, so the Muslims began to work, although it was in the middle of winter. They worked day and night, digging the trench as quickly as possible. The Prophet himself carried rocks and when the men were tired he gave them the will to carry on. Someone later recalled how beautiful he looked, dressed in a red cloak with dust upon his chest and his dark hair nearly reaching his shoulders. On March 24, 627 AD; Abu Sufyan arrived with more than ten-thousand men. The Muslims numbered only three-thousand. The Quraysh and their allies surrounded Madinah, but between the two armies was the long, wide trench. The Prophet and his men stayed behind this trench for nearly a month defending the city against their more powerful enemy. Many times enemies tried to cross the trench and enter the city, but each time they were pushed back by the Muslims. The Muslims were afraid that if any one did manage to cross over, the Jews inside Madinah would join forces with them and the Muslims would be beaten. The Jewish tribe of Bani Qurayzah, who had stood by the agreement with the Muslims, were pressed by a Jewish emissary from the enemy, to break their promise. Eventually they agreed to do so and when this news reached the Holy Prophet (SAW), He and his Companions were greatly troubled. The situation looked desperate and the Holy Prophet (SAW) prayed to Allah to help the Muslims defeat their enemies. That very night a sandstorm blew up which buried the tents of the Quraysh. The storm continued for three days and three nights making it impossible for the enemy to light a fire to cook a meal or warm themselves.



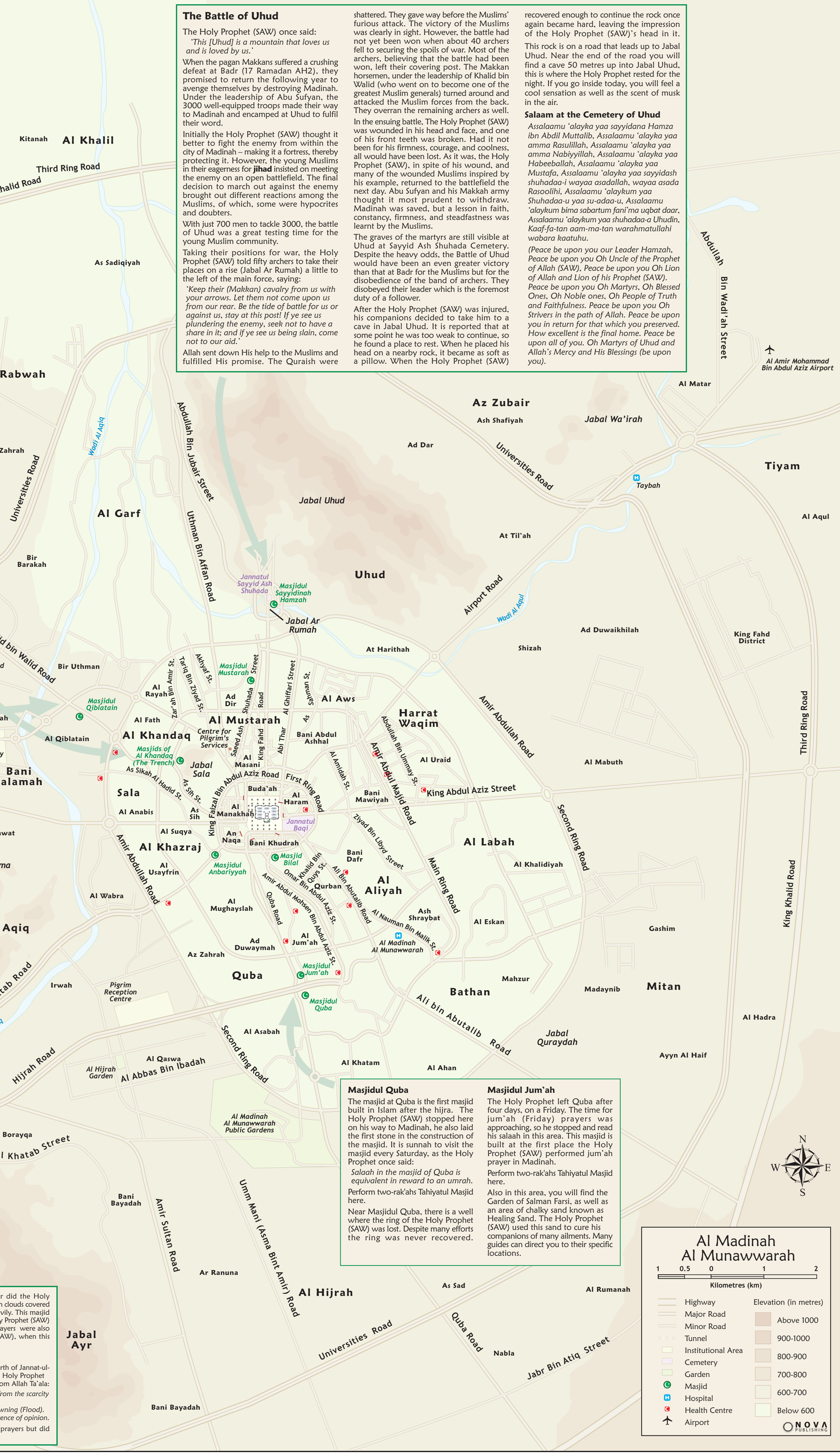
Bir (Well of) Uthman At one time Madinah faced a scarcity of water. There was no source of drinking water except the well of Ruma which was the property of a Jew. However, the Muslims couldn't afford the cost of that water to drink. On the wish of the Holy Prophet (SAW) Uthman purchased and donated this well to the Muslims to use its water freely. Uthman (RA) paid 25,000 dirhams, which was an un-negotiable price, to the Jew. The Holy Prophet (SAW) said whoever purchased this well for Muslims, Allah Ta'ala would reward him a canal in Paradise. Uthman (RA) got this honour. If pilgrims use private taxis or guides, they will be able to reach this place.

Masjidul Qiblatain (The masjid with the two Qiblas) This masjid symbolises a very important moment in Islamic history. During the first period of Islam, Masjidul Aqsa in Jerusalem was the qiblah (direction) for prayer. In the second year of Hijra, the Holy Prophet (SAW) desired and made dua that the qiblah be changed to the Holy Ka'bah in Makkah. One day while leading prayers in this masjid, the Holy Prophet received a revelation during the third rak'ah to change the qiblah, he immediately turned around and faced Makkah for the remaining rak'ahs. Perform two-rak'ahs Tahiyatul Masjid here.

Masjidul Meeqat This is the masjid where pilgrims leaving Madinah for Makkah don their ihraam. It is a modern facility with showers, toilets and stations for wudu. It is reported that at one time the well of Ali (RA) was here. It was the place where the Holy Prophet (SAW) and his companions, bathed and donned their ihraam, before leaving for Makkah. See the section on Meeqats and Ihram for instructions on what to do at the meeqat.

Masjidul Quba The masjid at Quba is the first masjid built in Islam after the hijra. The Holy Prophet (SAW) stopped here on his way to Madinah, he also laid the first stone in the construction of the masjid. It is sunnah to visit the masjid every Saturday, as the Holy Prophet once said: 'Salaah in the masjid of Quba is equivalent in reward to an umrah. Perform two-rak'ahs Tahiyatul Masjid here. Also in this area, you will find the Garden of Salman Farsi, as well as an area of chalky sand known as Healing Sand. The Holy Prophet (SAW) used this sand to cure his companions of many ailments. Many guides can direct you to their specific locations.

Jannatul Baqi Jannatul Baqi is the graveyard of Madinah Munawwarah which is situated to the east of the Masjid-Nabawi. Try to visit Baqi daily, if not daily, at least every Friday. A visit to Baqi should always follow a visitation and greetings of salaam to the sacred grave of the Holy Prophet (SAW). It is believed that approximately ten-thousand Sahaba (RA) are buried here, along with all the wives (except Khadijah who is buried in Jannatul Mualla in Makkah) and children of the Holy Prophet (SAW). Men can go inside to the graveyard, but ladies are not permitted to enter the graveyard. Ladies must present their salaam outside Baqi. Jannatul Baqi is a very clean graveyard with no bushes or trees. All the graves are made of mud, and a square boundary about a half-foot high is built around all prominent graves. Pavement and passages are built for clear walking, but no names or markers are over the graves. Some guides (Mu'allims) can tell you about the graves. Al Qubba al Khadra (Green Dome) The green dome which is over the shrine of Prophet (SAW) has become the symbol of Madinah Al-Munawwarah. In 678 AH, a wooden dome was constructed. In 893 AH it was replaced with a green colour dome built by the Turkish King 'Kubrat'. Finally, in 1333 Hijra, King Mehmood Bin Abdul Hamed Usmani built a new dark green dome over the shrine which is the one that is over the shrine today. Masjidul Ghamaama In Arabic 'ghamaama' means cloud. Madinah was once hit by drought, the Holy Prophet (SAW) made dua for rain. No sooner did the Holy Prophet (SAW) finish his dua, then clouds covered all of Madinah and it rained heavily. This masjid is built on the site where the Holy Prophet (SAW) made his dua. Here some Eid prayers were also offered by the Holy Prophet (SAW), when this site was just an open field. Masjidul Ijabah This mosque is situated in the north of Jannatul-Baqi in Bani Mawiyah. Here the Holy Prophet (SAW) prayed for these things from Allah Ta'ala: a) Protect my Umma (Nation) from the scarcity of food. b) Protect my Umma from Drowning (Flood). c) Protect my Umma from difference of opinion. Allah Ta'ala accepted first two prayers but did not accept the last one.



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Masjidul Jum'ah The Holy Prophet left Quba after four days, on a Friday. The time for jum'ah (Friday) prayers was approaching, so he stopped and read his salah in this area. This masjid is built at the first place the Holy Prophet (SAW) performed jum'ah prayer in Madinah. Perform two-rak'ahs Tahiyatul Masjid here. Also in this area, you will find the Garden of Salman Farsi, as well as an area of chalky sand known as Healing Sand. The Holy Prophet (SAW) used this sand to cure his companions of many ailments. Many guides can direct you to their specific locations.

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