

## (3) Preachings And Initial Struggle

He preached Islam, as ordained by God  
Pure and simple is the MESSAGE of Lord  
"There is no God but God,  
Muhammad is the Messenger of Lord!"  
A most practical religion of selfless love is Islam  
To develop body and soul, without causing anyone harm  
Most rational and logical in concept  
Viewed from every angle, even in depth.  
Five fundamental principles he, steadfastly proclaimed  
Ten holy commandments he, unambiguously, named  
Monotheism, Divine Justice, Prophethood, Imamah  
And the day of Resurrection, were the five pillars of Islam's Hut  
Five times Namaz, one must pray  
A month's fasting, during the day  
Zakat, Khums, Pilgrimage, for them, he ordained,  
Who fulfilled the conditions, he proclaimed.  
Defend the honor of Islam and self, he commanded  
Disassociate yourself from its enemies, he demanded  
Pursuit of missionary activities, out of love and not hate  
Love and loyalty, he sought, for his "Ahle-bait".  
He taught them the 'Unity of God'  
And the diverse attributes of the Lord  
He was the giver of daily bread  
On the Judgement Day, He would raise all dead.  
God is the focal point of all life  
Through Him flows peace, driving out strife  
If man joyfully submits himself to Him,  
This life, and hereafter, he would win.  
God created human beings, out of His Grace

Best of creation was the human race  
He endowed it with such guiding light,  
To discern the wrong from the right.  
A heavenly reward for the doer of good  
And for those, who for truth stood  
A blazing hell for the doer of evil  
Who shall dwell with the king of the devils.  
He cultivated the values of life  
Equal partners were man and wife  
A man was brother, one to another  
Respect they should, their father and mother.  
Those who look after the needy orphans,  
The anger of God would be softened  
Those who care for the uncared widows,  
Can aspire for heaven's meadows.  
And those who treat their slaves well,  
Shall not normally taste the fire of hell  
Those who free them from bondage,  
Shall generally be immune from hell's rage.  
Truth was the base of all his teachings  
Unity of God, a constant theme of his preaching  
Charity, love and faith were to him most sublime  
Brotherhood, was his solution for the ills of mankind  
His offer was not of sensual heaven,  
As alleged by biased heathens  
But a bliss of highest spiritual essence  
Of enjoying the radiance of Divine presence.  
Live in this world and yet be out of it  
Self discipline; not celibacy is the holy writ  
Physical body is, indeed, perishable but not the soul  
Service before self should be life's goal.  
He first invited his near if kin  
And declared to them his mission  
He asked whether he had ever told a lie  
"No never"! In one voice, was their reply.  
He invited them to the path of 'truth'  
A path which in heaven had its roots  
Blessed would they be, in this world and the next  
Most fortunate possessors of the Divine text.

"Who, among you, will be my brother and heir  
And with me God's mission share."  
They exchanged glances; they ridiculed and scorned  
Only Ali stood by him, alone and forlorn.  
Thrice did he repeat his request  
Each time only Ali rose to his behest  
Holding him by his hand, he declared,  
"Behold, he is my brother and heir!"  
In public he now started to preach  
But soon a stage was reached  
When like a fugitive he was stoned  
And place to place, forced to roam.  
For years was thus his plight  
Only Ali aided him in his fight  
Far and few were the conversions  
So fierce was the persecution.  
In burning sand, with stones on his chest,  
A new convert stood his gallant test;  
"Ahadun! Ahadun!" (One God) Bilal cried,  
But refused his faith to be decried.  
Such were the tortures they had to face,  
For believing in God and the new faith  
Handful were they, old men, mostly slaves  
With courage, all difficulties they braved.  
A day soon came, when it was declared  
That those who could, to Abyssinia, should migrate  
Few persons made up the small group  
Ja'far, Ali's brother, commanded this troop.  
The Quraish were furious; they sent their envoys  
They requested the king to return the exiles  
The king was just; he rejected their plea  
He sheltered the poor Muslim refugees.  
The wrath of Quraish reached the boiling point  
To murder Muhammad, they planned conjoint  
They chose a person, one from each tribe  
So that no vengeance could take the Hashemites.  
The plans to Muhammad, God soon revealed  
And desired, that he should ward the evil  
And leave for Medina, the same very night

Letting Ali sleep in his bed and aid his flight.  
Soon was the house surrounded by those,  
Armed cap-a-pie were each of the foes  
With handful of dust, Muhammad blew his fist  
And calmly walked through their midst.  
They raided his house, ere it was morn  
Surprised to see Ali, the bed adorn;  
"Where is Muhammad?" they demanded, "where is he?"  
"Did you entrust him to me, that you ask of me?"  
Foiled in their attempt, they started a search  
"Dead or alive, capture him", they urged  
Thus started a hunt, for three days long  
They searched all over, including caves.  
The Prophet's companion became scared  
As enemies' shouts increasingly filled the air  
"We are lost, we two", helplessly, he cried  
"No! We are three, for God is with us". Muhammad replied.  
Tired and forlorn, he slept under a tree  
When rushed a foe: " who will now save thee?"  
"God", was the reply; it thunder struck the foe,  
Trembling, he dropped his sword and bowed.  
"Who will now save thee?" Muhammad cried  
"Alas, none!" the foe imploringly replied  
"Learn from me to be merciful" he said  
As was his want, he pardoned him instead.  
He reached Medina, a poor fugitive  
Except a new way of life, he had nothing to give  
Yet, he was welcomed with open arms  
This was a turning point for Islam  
He paired them, one with the other  
And showed the brotherhood, how to further  
Himself with Ali, he lovingly paired  
Because the same heavenly light, they shared.

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