

# The Battle of Karbala

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Mahdavia Islamic Center of Chicago



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# Muharram

- Mansoor Syed



# Muharram

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- ▶ First month of the Islamic Calendar
- ▶ Means “Sacred”
- ▶ Allah (SWT) states in the Holy Quran:
  - ▶ “Four of them (Zil-Qadah, Zil-Hijjah, Muharram, and Rajab) are sacred.” (Surah At-Tawbah: 36)
- ▶ From out of the four sacred months, Muharram has been blessed with certain specific virtues:
  - ▶ The Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:
    - ▶ “The best of fasts besides the month of Ramadan is the fasting of Allah's month of Muharram.” (Muslim)
  - ▶ In another Hadiths, Hazrath Ibn Abbas (RZ) reports: "that the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said: "The one that keeps a fast in the month of Muharram will receive the reward of thirty fasts for each fast (in this sacred month).“ (Tabraani)
  - ▶ Fasting is not obligatory during this month, but it is Nafl (doing it out of one’s own will)



# Muhurram

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## ▶ **The Day of Ashurah (10th Muharram)**

- ▶ Although the month of Muharram is a sacred month as a whole, the 10<sup>th</sup> of Muharram is the most sacred among all its days. The day is named 'Ashurah'. It is one of the most important and blessed days of Allah in the Islamic calendar
- ▶ According to the Holy companion, Ibn (RZ), when the Holy Prophet (PBUH) migrated to Madina, he found that the Jews of Madina used to fast on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Muharram. They said that it was the day on which the Holy Prophet Musa (AS) and his followers crossed the Red Sea miraculously, and the Pharaoh was drowned in its water. On hearing this from the Jews, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) said, "We are more closely related to Musa than you." So the Prophet (PBUH) directed the Muslims to fast on the day of Ashurah. (Abu Dawood)



# Muhurram

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## ▶ **The Day of Ashurah (10th Muharram)**

- ▶ According to another Hadith, it is more advisable that the fast of Ashurah should be either preceded or succeeded by an additional fast. It means that one should fast two days: the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of Muharram or the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The reason of this additional fast as mentioned by the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is that the Jews used to fast on the day of Ashurah alone, and the Prophet (PBUH) wanted to distinguish the Islamic-way of fasting from that of the Jews. Therefore, he advised the Muslims to add another fast to the day of Ashurah
- ▶ Some Ulama (scholars) are of the opinion that before the fasts of Ramadan were made compulsory, the fast of the day of Ashurah was compulsory upon the Ummah
- ▶ This is stated in a Hadith reported by Hazrath Aisha (RA):
  - ▶ "that the Holy Prophet (PBUH) ordered the observance of the fast of Ashurah. However, when the fast of Ramadan became compulsory, then whosoever wished, kept this fast and whosoever desired did not observe this fast." (Bukhari)



# Muhurram

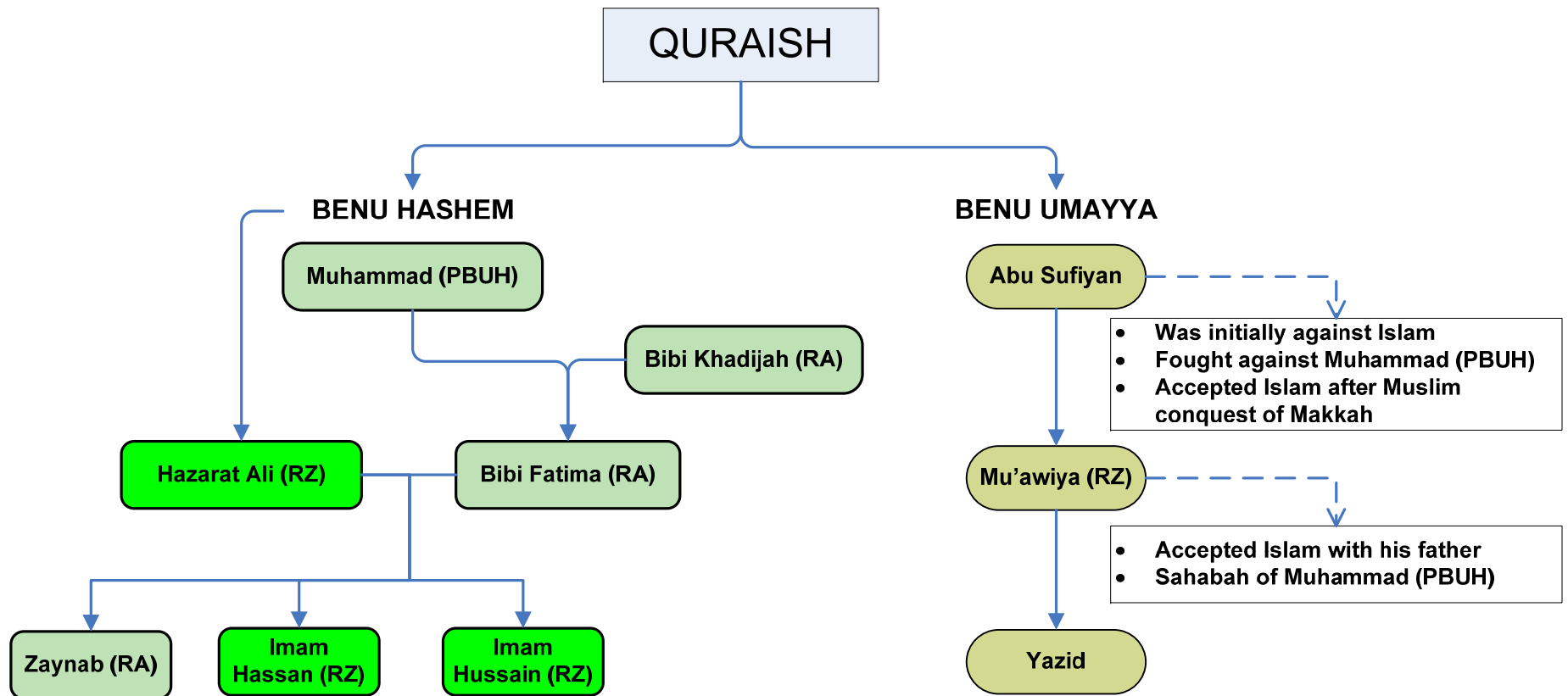
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- ▶ **Great Significance of Ashurah (10<sup>th</sup> of Muhurram)**
- ▶ On this day the following has been known to happen by Allah (SWT):
  - ▶ Allah (SWT) accepted the repentance of Hazrath Adam (AS) after his exile from Paradise
  - ▶ Hazrath Nuh (AS) and his companions were saved in the ark from the flood
  - ▶ Hazrath Ayyub (AS) health was restored from leprosy
  - ▶ Hazrath Yusuf (AS) was reunited with his father Ya'qub (AS)
  - ▶ Hazrath Yunus (AS) was taken out from the belly of the fish
  - ▶ The fire thrown by Nimrod unto Hazrath Ibrahim (AS) was extinguished
  - ▶ Hazrath Musa (AS) was given the Commandments, the sea was divided as the nation of Israel was delivered from captivity, and Pharaoh's army was destroyed
  - ▶ Hazrath Dawud (AS) was forgiven
  - ▶ The kingdom of Hazrath Sulaiman (AS) was restored
  - ▶ Hazrath Isa (AS) was raised to Jannah
  - ▶ Hazrath Imam Hussain (RZ), the beloved grandson of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) achieved the honor of Shahadath (Martyrdom) in the battle of Karbala



# The Tribe of Quraish

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# The Caliphate

- Zubair Ali Khan



# Death of the Prophet (PBUH)

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- **Muhammad (PBUH)**
  - Died in the lap of Bibi Aisha (RA) in her house at the age of 63 (632 AD)
  - Buried in Madina
  - Last Sermon:
    - “I am leaving with you the Quran and his(PBUH) I'thrath (Progeny)”
  - The Prophet (PBUH) never mentioned about the order of the Caliphate
  - The Prophet (PBUH) said that the Caliphate would last 30 years after his death
  - While being ill, he (PBUH) ordered Abu Bakr-e-Siddiq (RA) to lead the prayers



# Start of the Caliphate

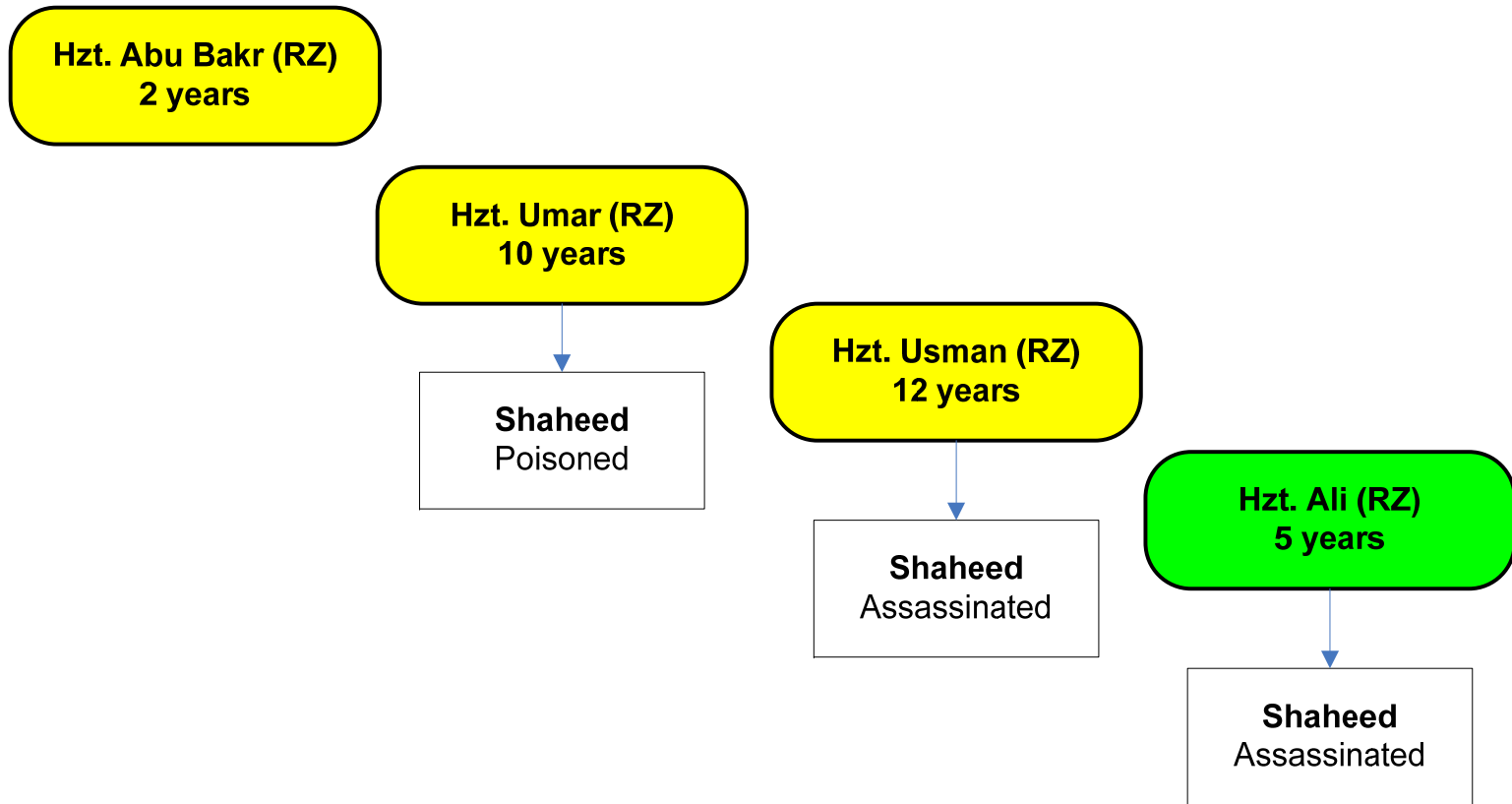
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- **Significance of a Caliph:**
  - Successor to the Prophet (PBUH) as a leader of the Ummah
  - Is nominated by the previous Caliph followed by consensus of the Ummah
  - The Ummah pledges allegiance (Ba'iyt) to the Caliph
- **Qualities of a good Caliph:**
  - Pious (closely following the Sunnah of the Prophet (PBUH))
  - Rules according to the Shari'ah
  - No worldly intentions
  - Not creating a Monarchy



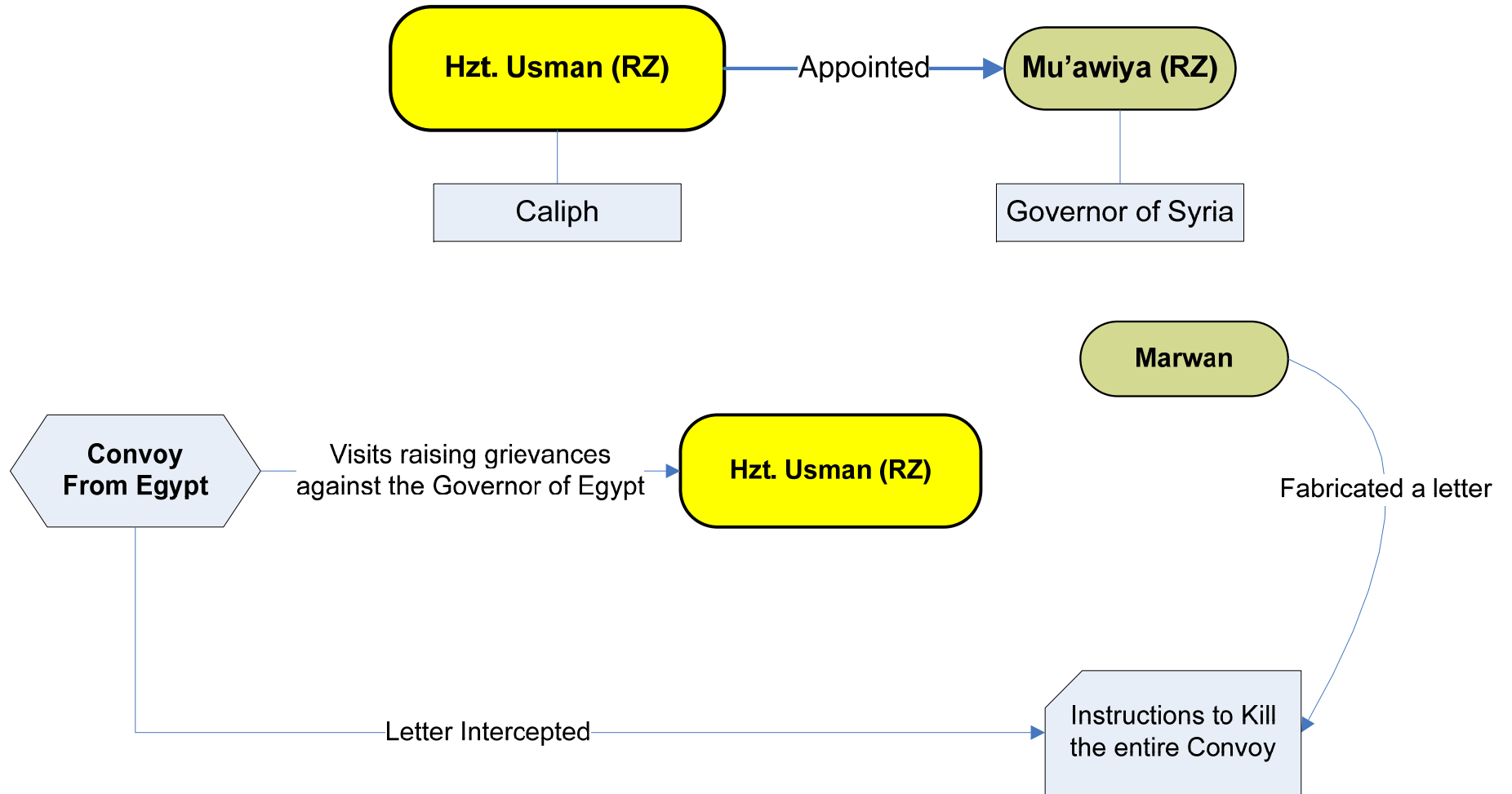
# Qulafa-e-Rashideen

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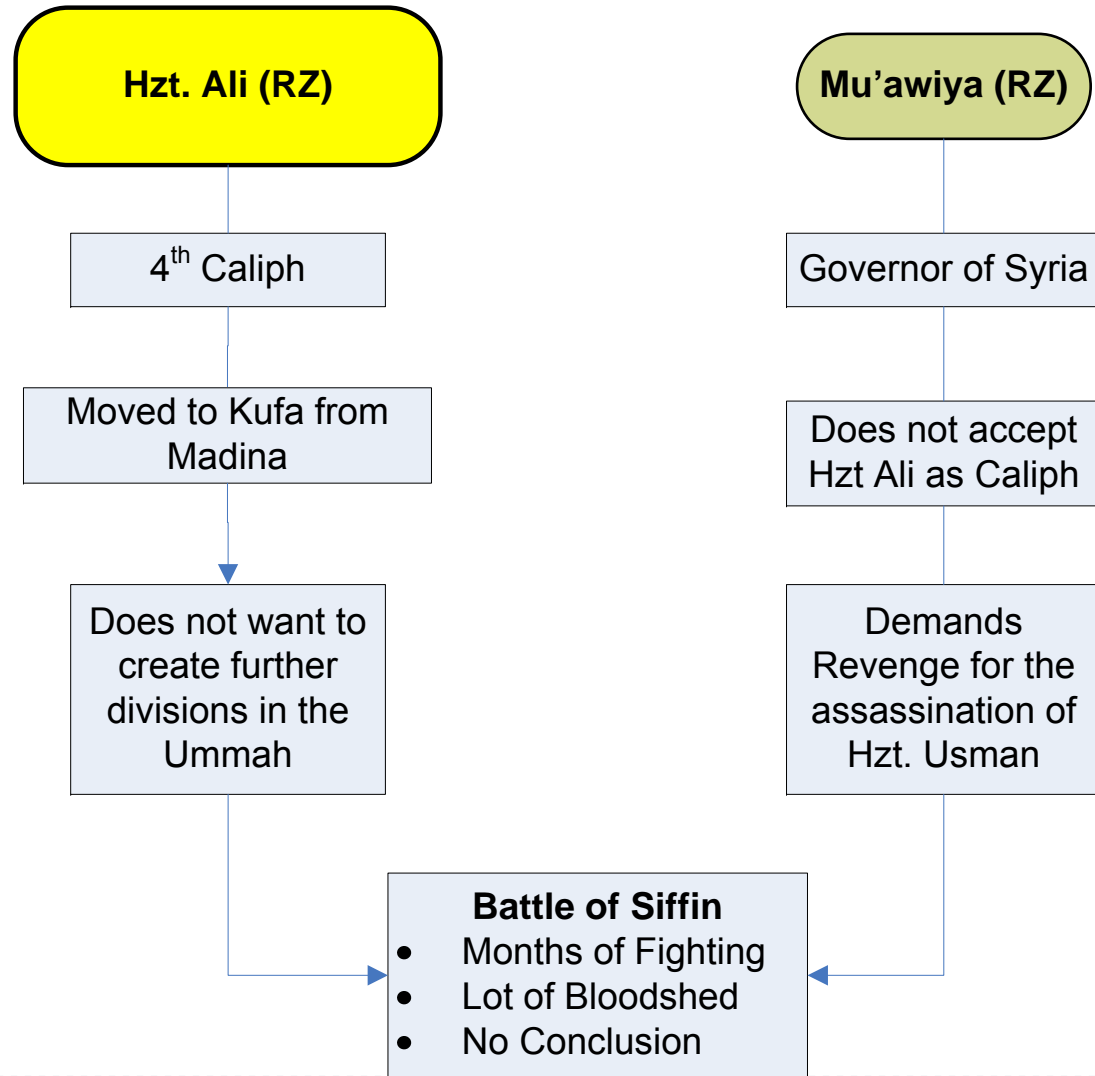
# Caliphate of Hzt. Usman (RZ)

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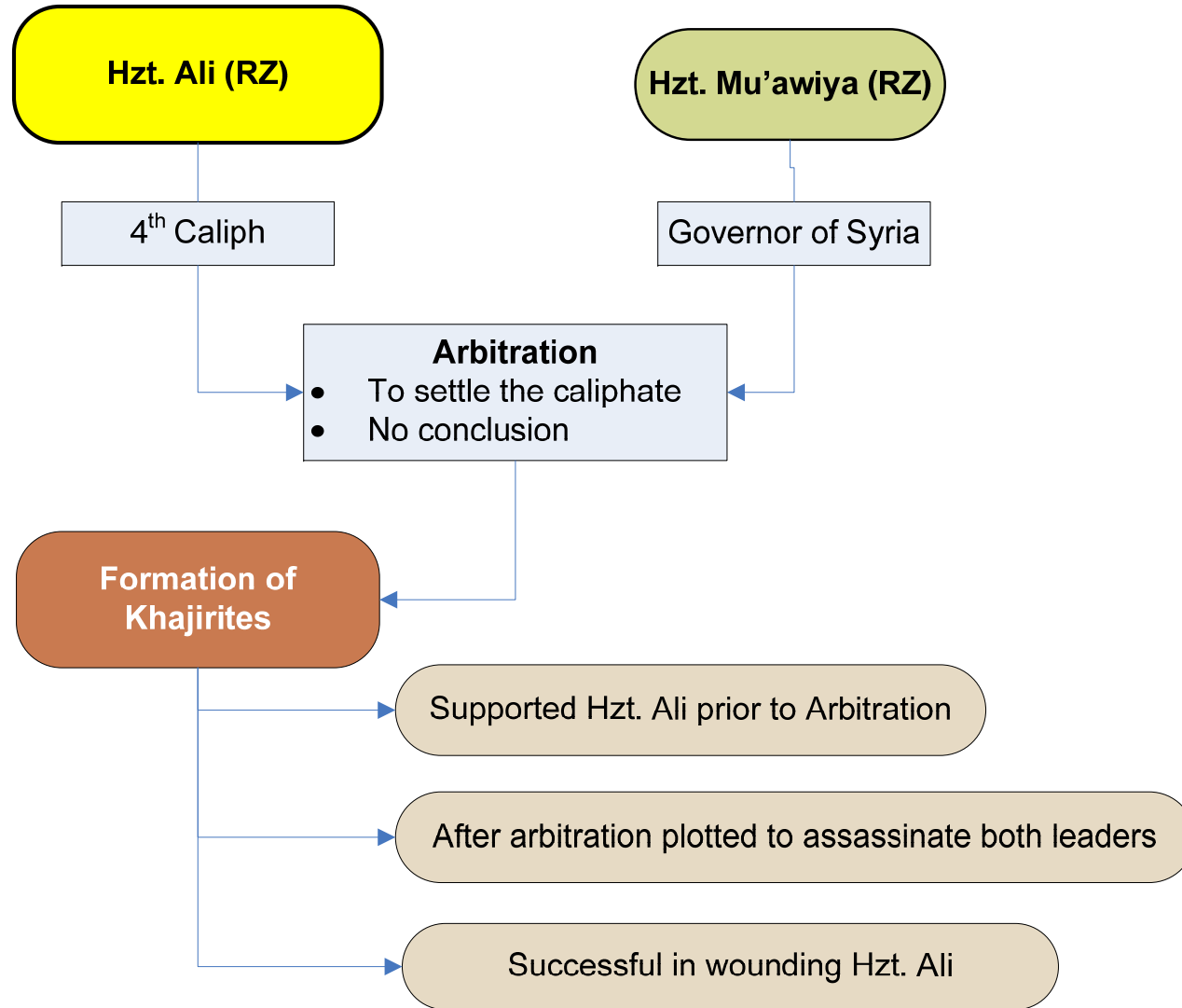
# Caliphate of Hzt. Ali (RZ)

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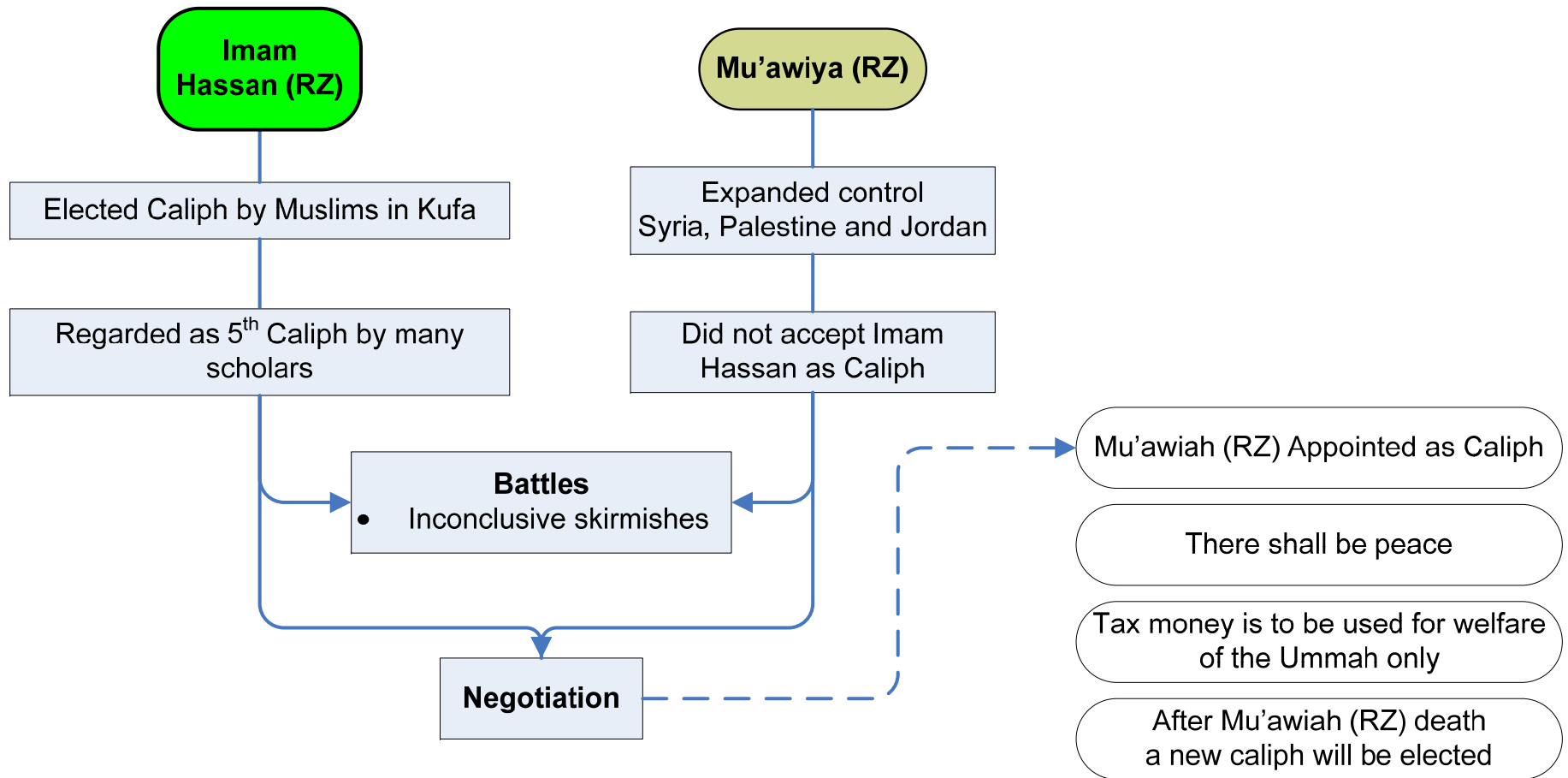


# Caliphate of Hzt. Ali (RZ)

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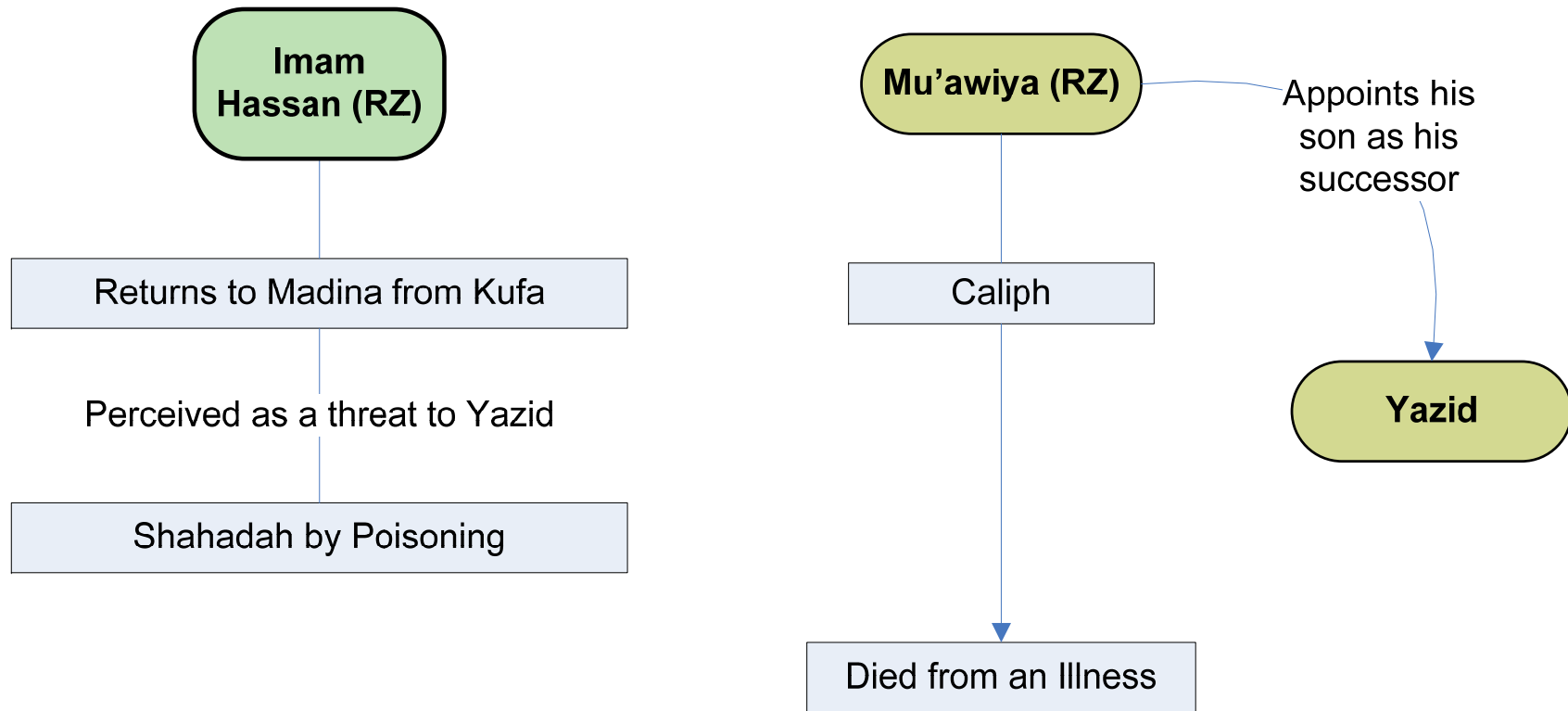


# Caliphate of Imam Hassan (RZ)



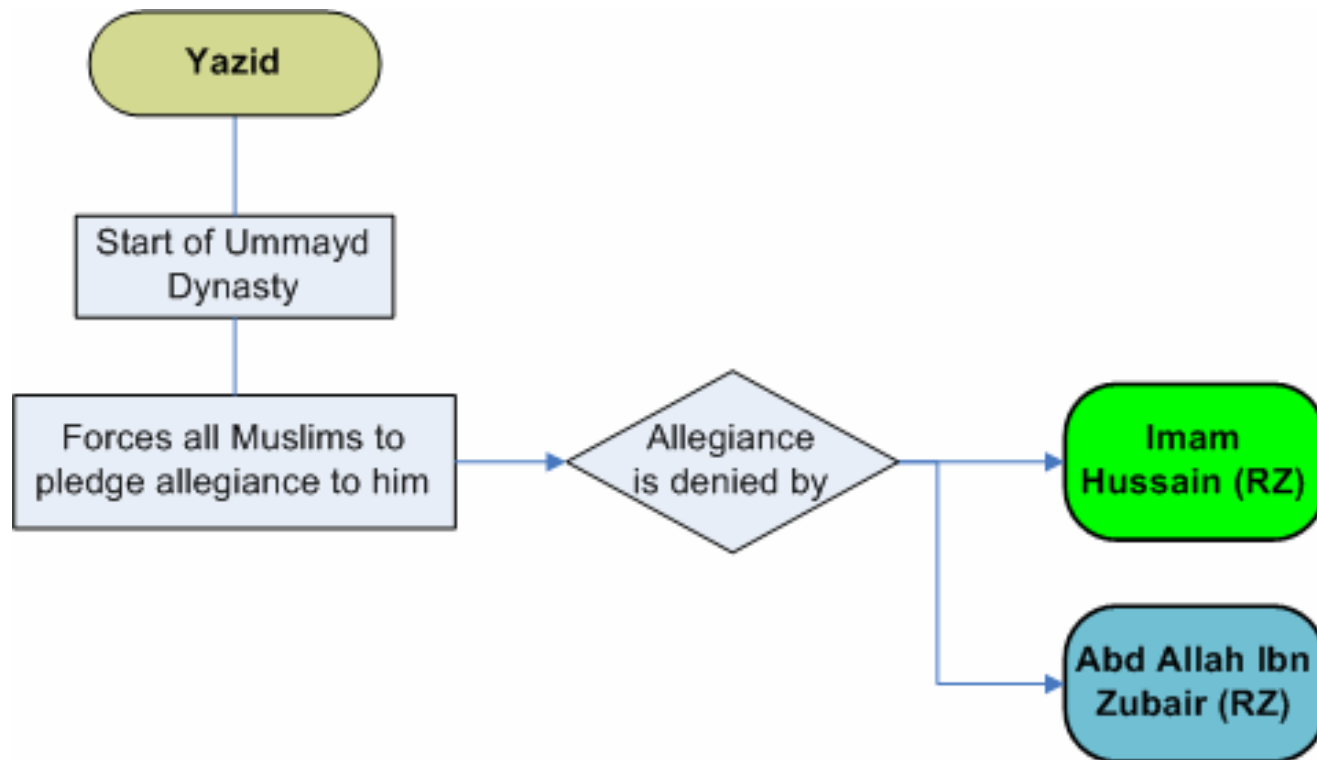
# Caliphate of Mu'awiya (RZ)

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# Ummayyd Dynasty - Yazid

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# The Battle of Karbala

- Shiraz Mohammed Khan



# Intro

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## **Karbala**

- a city in Iraq
- Also was known as *asal-Ghādiriyyah*, *Naynawā*, and *Shāt al-Furāt*
- Contains the shrine of Imam Hussain (RZ)

## **Etymology**

- *Karb* or *Qarb*; means "Near"
- *Alah*; means God.
- Hence, the word 'Karbala' signifies 'Near God'
- According to Shī'ah belief, the true meaning of the name Karbala was narrated to Muhammad by the archangel Gabriel as being, "the land which will cause many agonies (*karb*) and afflictions (*balā*)"





# Events Leading to Karbala

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- Letters to Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) from Kufa, Iraq asking him to come there so that they can do Baiyath on him instead of Yazid
- The Hazrath appoints Muslim bin Aqeel (RA) to go to Kufa, Iraq
- Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) leaves for Kufa after substituting Umrah for Hajj
- Muslim bin Aqeel (RA) takes refuge in a house and also sends a letter to Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) about the conditions of the people of Kufa
- Ibn Ziyad orders the killing of Muslim bin Aqeel (RA)
- Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA)'s group intercepted by Al-Hur & 1,000 troops
- Ibn Ziyad appointed Governor of Kufa by Yazid
- Al-Hur allows Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) to go North instead of reaching Kufa
- Ibn Ziyad sends a force



# The Battle

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- Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) and his group (72 total) stops at Karbala where he meets the forces of Yazid and Ibn Ziyad (in thousands)
- The Prophet (PBUH) was given the sand of Karbala in advance from Jibrael (AS), and he (PBUH) gave the sand to Hzt. Umay Salma (RZ) as a sign. So when the sand became red, it would be the sign that Hzt. Imam Hussain (RZ) was given the Shahadath.
- Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) negotiated with Omar ibn Sa'ad about the direction to take. Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) wanted to either go back and live peacefully in Medina, or go straight and talk face-to-face with Yazid, or go to Hind (India)
- Ibn Ziyad commands ibn Sa'ad to either surrender Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) or kill his entire group, while holding women, elderly, and children as refugees
- Ibn Sa'ad was replaced by Shimir Dhul Jaushan
- Water was cut off

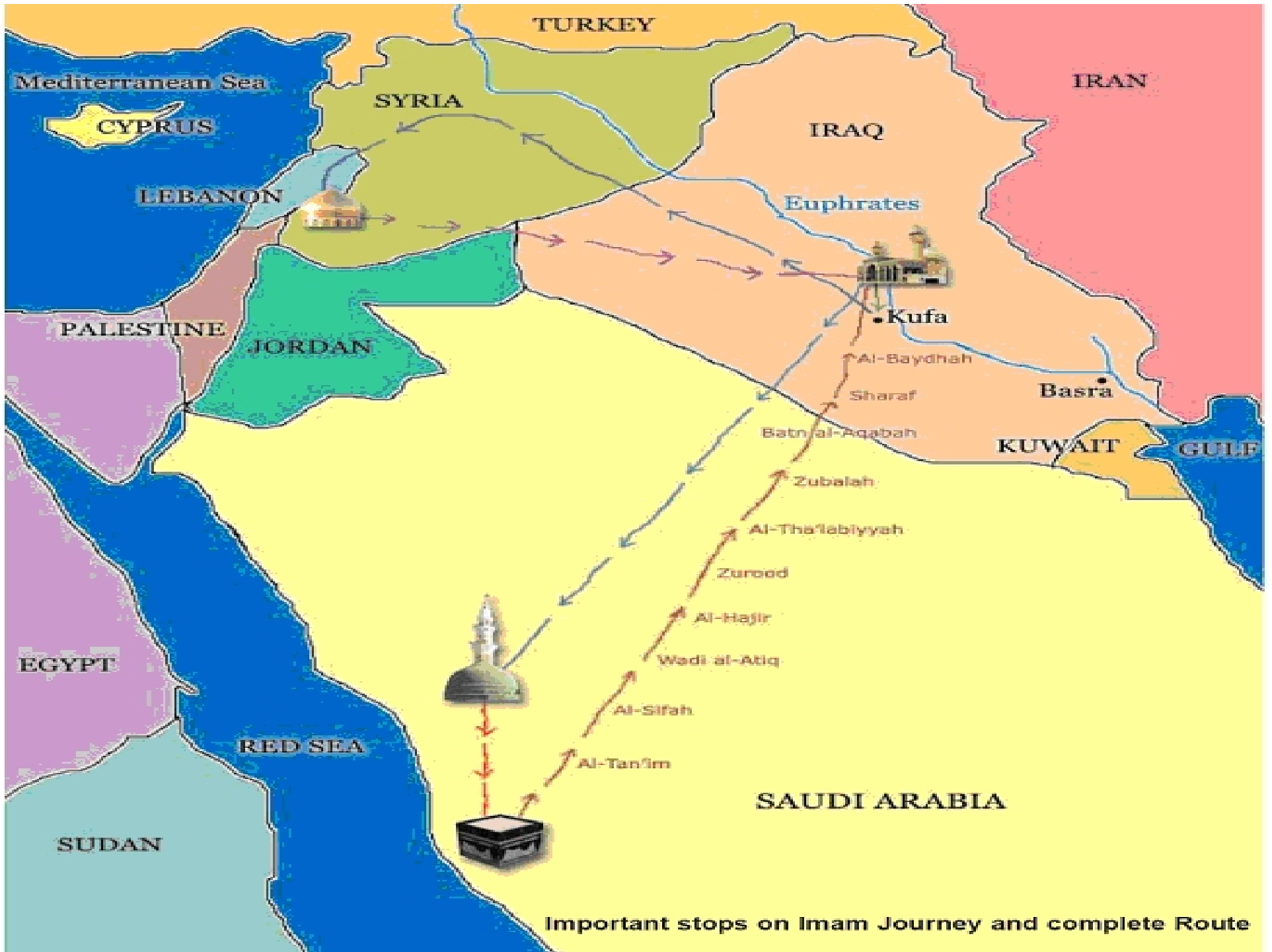


# The Battle (Cont.)

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- Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) gave his people the chance to leave during the dark night (before the day of the battle), since the enemy was only interested in him alone. But his people stuck together with Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA)
- Al-Hur breaks away and joins the Hazrath's camp
- Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA)'s army started to decline due to multiple Shaheeds
- Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) became Shaheed by Shimir
- The heads of Hazrath Imam Hussain (RA) and the rest of the Shuhuda Karbala were raised on spears by the enemy and were taken to Yazid in Damascus, Syria as a proof
- Some women, children, sick, and elderly were taken captive (ex: Hazrath Zain-ul-Abideen (RA), Bibi Zainab (RA)). They were taken to ibn Ziyad in Kufa and then finally to Yazid in Damascus, Syria
- Later the captives (or the remaining family of the Prophet (PBUH) left Damascus for Medina





Important stops on Imam Journey and complete Route

# Shahadah

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- ▶ “And say not of those who are slain in the way of Allah: ‘They are Dead.’ Nay, they are living, though ye perceive it not” (Al-Baqarah: 154)
- ▶ Shuhudah never die
- ▶ Are promised the highest status in Jannah
- ▶ People who have genuinely died for the sake of Allah (SWT) alone
- ▶ Is suicide bombing considered as a Shahadath?
  - ▶ Haram (Suicide and killing of innocent lives)
  - ▶ Intentions can be political







# Conclusion

- Shiraz Mohammed Khan



## Mahdi (AS) Saying

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- ▶ Haqq (Truth) was on the side of Hz. Ali(RZ)
- ▶ “Haq a Janibi Ali buud  
Mu’awiya Khata-e-Ijtehadi Kardam”
- ▶ Hz. Mu’awiya made a mistake of Ijitehad (understanding the complication of the issue)
- ▶ Don’t bring Lanath (or condemn) on Yazid or even Pharaoh, but condemn one’s own ego, as ego was the cause of their destruction.



## Some Sayings

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- ▶ “One who loves God, loves Hussain”  
- The Prophet (PBUH)
  
- ▶ “I learnt from Hussain how to achieve victory while being oppressed.”  
- Gandhi



# Character of the Grandsons of the Prophet (PBUH)

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- Beloved Grandsons of the Prophet (PBUH)
- Have the most utmost respect and were loved by everyone
- The Prophet (PBUH) said they are like his very own sons
- The Prophet (PBUH) had a al-Khisa (Cloth), and told Hazrath Ali (RZ), Bibi Fatima (RA), Hasan (RZ), and Hussain (RZ) to come into the Khisa and called it Ahl al-Bayt (the household of Muhammad)



# Character of the Grandsons of the Prophet (PBUH)

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**“Hussain Yu Minni, Wa Ana Min Hussain”  
(Hussain is from Me, and I am from Hussain)**

**- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)**



# Character of Yazid

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- ▶ Not pious
- ▶ Was Alcoholic
- ▶ Attacked Sahabah
- ▶ Massacred several Huffas of the Quran
- ▶ Attack on Mecca led by Yazid



# Quiz

- Mansoor Syed



# Quiz

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1. What does the word 'Muhurram' mean?
  - ▶ Sacred
2. Is the fasting during the month of Muhurram considered Farz or Nafil?
  - ▶ Nafil
3. Which day of Muhurram is considered Ashura?
  - ▶ 10th of Muhurram
4. What 2 clans are the most common from the Tribe of Qureysh?
  - ▶ Benu Hashim & Benu Ummaya
5. In the Prophet (PBUH)'s last sermon, he said he is leaving the Quran and what else for the Muslim Ummah as Guidance?
  - ▶ I'thrath (Progeny)
6. How many years did the Caliphate last after the Prophet (PBUH)'s death?
  - ▶ 30 Years
7. Who did the Prophet (PBUH) order to lead the prayer when he was ill?
  - ▶ Hazrath Abu Bakr-e-Siddique (RZ)
8. Name the 4 Qulafa-e-Rashideen in order?
  - ▶ Hazrath Abu Bakr (RZ); Hazrath Umar (RZ); Hazrath Usman (RZ); Hazrath Ali (RZ)

# Quiz

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9. **The Arbitration was between what 2 people?**
  - ▶ Hazrath Ali (RZ) and Hazrath Mu'awiya (RZ)
10. **Who was the main Battle of Karbala between?**
  - ▶ Hazrath Imam Hussain (RZ) and the forces of Yazid
11. **Where did Imam Hussain (RZ) receive letters from?**
  - ▶ Kufa
12. **Who did Imam Hussain (RZ) appoint as the first person to go to Kufa to analyze the situation?**
  - ▶ Muslim bin Aqeel (RZ)
13. **Who was the strict Governor of Kufa assigned by Yazid?**
  - ▶ Ibn Ziyad
14. **Who assassinated Hazrath Imam Hussain (RZ)?**
  - ▶ Shimir Dhul Jaushan
15. **Where does the progeny of the Prophet (PBUH) or the Ahl-e-Baith come from after the Shahadath of Imam Hussain (RZ)?**
  - ▶ Hazrath Zain-ul-Abedeem (RA)
16. **How was the Battle of Karbala a victory for Islam?**
  - ▶ The originality of Islam and the message of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) were protected

# Questions?

Thank You!

