



LESSONS FROM THE BATTLE OF UHUD

Shahed Issa

University Category

University of Calgary

Feb 04, 2023

Red & White Club, University of Calgary





YSC
2023

Stories

01

Strategy

Importance of foresight and calculation

02

Companion Stories

Actions always have an echo

03

The Ambush

Importance of obeying the Prophet (PBUH)

04

The Rebound

Being a Muslim doesn't guarantee an easy life

Battle Overview

- Numbers:

- **Quraysh** → 3000 warriors
- **Muslims** → 950 warriors
- $\frac{1}{3}$ of Muslims were Hypocrites

- Motives:

- **Quraysh**: retaliation after loss of caravan route and the previous battle
- **Muslims**: fought back as a method of self-preservation

- The Defeat:

- **Quraysh** → planted troops in blind spots
- **Muslims** → Left assigned positions, changed course of battle
- Battle ended in a draw



YSC
2023

01

Strategy

Utilisation of strategy on both sides
and what it teaches us



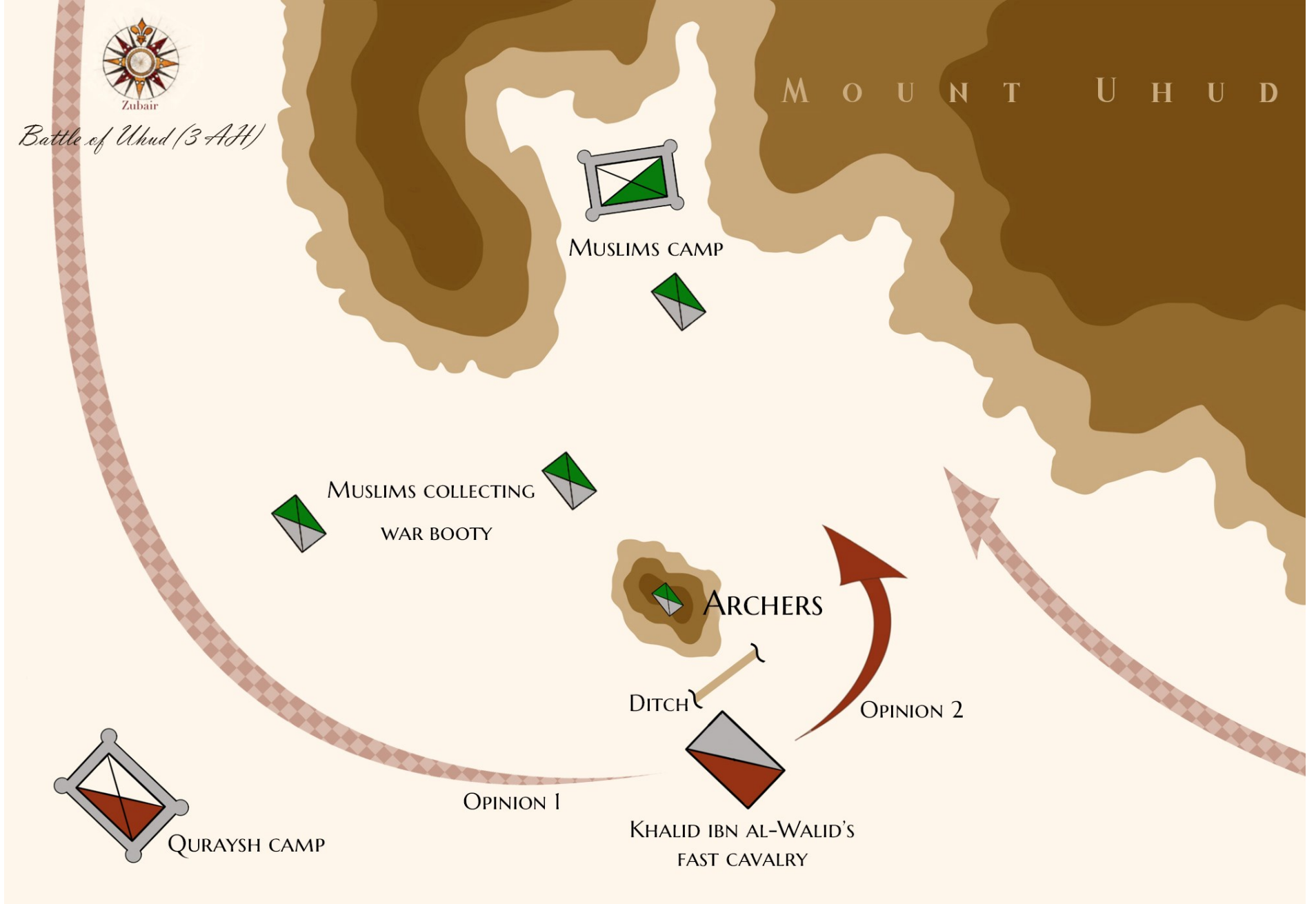
War Strategies

MUSLIMS

- **Camp Location:**
 - Set up camp in front of Uhud
 - Strategic and topographical advantage
 - Did not have to worry about watching their backs from that angle
 - One blind spot
 - Set up arrow snipers on the hill by the camp to protect the blind spot

QURAYSH

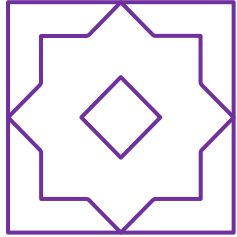
- **Army Layout**
 - Organized a second troop
 - Stationed troop (led by Khalid Ibn Alwalid) at the Muslims' blind spot
 - Would attack when the Muslims let their guard down
 - Changed the course of the battle





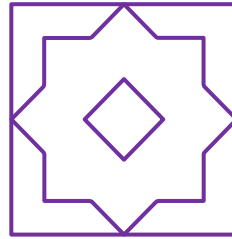
YSC
2023

Main Lessons



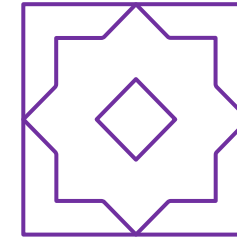
Strategy

The location of the Muslims' camp was placed so that they didn't have to be cautious of an ambush from behind. This shows the importance of thinking seven steps ahead to the worst case scenario. Also, taking everybody's voice into account leads to overall success.



Foresight

Quraysh's army did not just take into account the battlefield, but also the possible outcomes and results, and the blind spots. Their preparation is what turned the whole course of the battle when they got close to losing.



Positive Outlook

Malik ibn Sinan said "O Rasoolullah, we have before us one of two good things: either God will grant us the mastery over them, and that is what we would have; or else God will grant us martyrdom. I care not which it may be, for verily there is good in both."



YSC
2023

02

Companion Stories

The actions that had an echo for
years



The Story of Hamzah and Hind

- Hind bint Utbah, the wife of Abu Sufyan, promised her slave freedom if he kills Hamza Ibn Abdul-Muttalib during the Battle of Uhud
 - He had killed her father in the Battle of Badr
- Hamza (AS) was assassinated on the battlefield, and Hind ate his liver to fulfill a vow she had made when he killed her father

The Story of Abdullah ibn Haram

- Was with the Prophet (PBUH) in the Treaty of Al Aqabah
 - Was a leader
 - Was very faithful in his belief, and was keen to defend and spread Islam
- Joined Badr and Uhud
 - Sensed that He would be killed in Uhud, and was the first Martyr
 - Asked his son to cover his debt, and take care of his daughters
- After his death, his son was very upset
 - The Prophet (PBUH) saw this and consoled the son, saying that his father was the only person Allah has ever talked to directly after his death
 - Earned great bounties
 - Asked Allah to share his story -

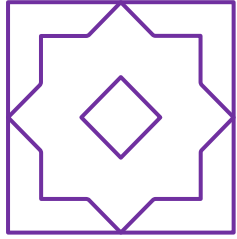
وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتًا بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ عِنْدَ

رَبِّهِمْ يُرْزَقُونَ ﴿١١٤﴾



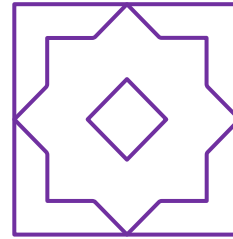
YSC
2023

Main Lessons



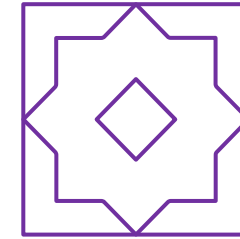
Thinking before Acting

Although there was no chance for Hamza (AS) to second guess his jihad, the story of Hind bint Utbah's revenge teaches us about how revenge doesn't have an expiry date. Likewise, simple words and actions that one might not think twice about may end up resulting in terrible consequences for oneself and others.



Reward of Eman

Since Utbah was very loyal to his religion and was true to Allah and his Messenger, Allah gave him the pleasure of speaking directly with Him. This shows us that in order to gain the bounties of the next life, we must be true to Allah and loyal to the Muslim cause.



The Reward of Martyrdom

Those killed in the sake of Allah are never truly dead - they are sent directly to heaven and rewarded. The reward is so great that they wish to come back to this life and get martyred again so they can earn the reward once more. Although it is difficult to commit such actions, the reward is worth it in the long run.



YSC
2023

03

The Ambush

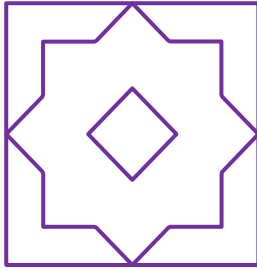
Importance of obeying the Prophet
(PBUH)



The Ambush

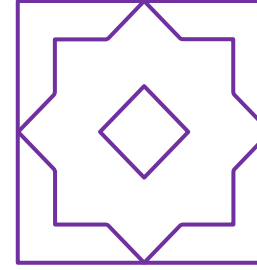
- **Disobeying the Prophet (PBUH)**
 - The arrow snipers thought they won the battle
 - Most of them disobeyed the Prophet's (PBUH) to stay put, and went to collect war spoils before they were all taken
 - Khalid Ibn Walid's troop took advantage of this
 - Troop ambushed the Muslims at their highest point on the battlefield
 - Completely changed the course of the battle
- **The Rumour**
 - A rumour spread on the battlefield that the Prophet PBUH was killed
 - Many Muslims surrendered and accepted defeat upon hearing the news without investigating the accuracy of the statement
 - Lost their lives as a result

Main Lessons



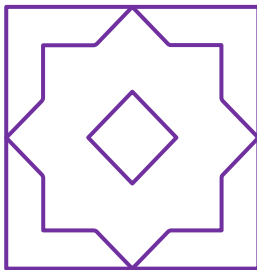
Obedience to the Prophet (PBUH)

The defeat that the Muslims faced is entirely due to the arrow snipers directly disobeying the Prophet's orders to stay put



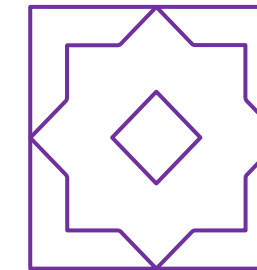
Checking Authenticity of Rumours

Believing the rumours about the Prophet's death led to many Muslims surrendering and getting killed or captured. This could have been avoided by simply investigating the source



Avoiding Greed

The greed of the Archers and their desire to collect the goods of the battle caused them to come down the hill, and led to them losing the battle



Having Trust in Allah

Even through his injuries and his loss, the Prophet (PBUH) knew that Allah has a plan, and told the companions not to stress as all is in the hands of Allah



YSC
2023

04

The Rebound

Being a Muslim doesn't guarantee an
easy life



The Rebound

- After the Battle:

- Makkans retired to area Outside Medina → Hamra Al-Asad
 - With Intention of resting a bit then attacking again
- News reached the Prophet (PBUH)
 - Ordered Muslims to not put their armour down
 - Dispatched warriors to scout Makkan army
 - Display of power was essential to drive the Makkans out of the Medinan territory

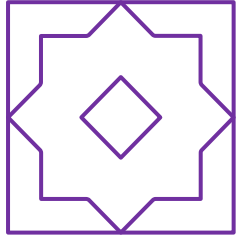
- The Prophet's Injuries:

- Hit by a rock that bruised his lower lip, chipped off his teeth, and damaged his helmet
- “How can a people prosper who have stained their Prophet's (PBUH) face with blood while he summoned them to their Lord!”



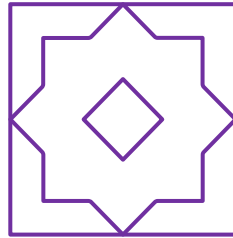
YSC
2023

Main Lessons



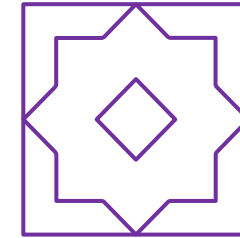
Perseverance

Although the Muslims had just been defeated after a long and tiring battle, they did not hesitate to go back into battle when they saw a chance at victory. This teaches us that even in the hardest times, we should continue to work towards the light at the end of the tunnel.



Doing Your Part

Having trust in Allah is a big part of our religion, but that alone doesn't guarantee you success. You have to be sure to play your part, as your character and actions matter too.



The Prophet's Mission

Even through his injuries, Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) main concern was spreading the message of Allah. His selflessness and commitment to his religion are evident in the toughest of times, which teaches us that in our day-to-day life, we should always put Islam first.



YSC
2023

05

Summary

Wrapping up





YSC
2023

Lesson Summary

01 STRATEGY

02 FORESIGHT

03 POSITIVE
OUTLOOK

04 THINKING
BEFORE ACTING

05 REWARD OF
EMAN

06 REWARD OF
MARTYRDOM

07 OBEDIENCE TO
PROPHET

08 AVOIDING GREED

09 CHECKING
AUTHENTICITY OF
RUMOURS

10 TRUST IN ALLAH

11 PERSEVERANCE

12 DOING YOUR
PART

13 THE PROPHET'S
MISSION



Thank you!

Bibliography

- “Battle of Uhud.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 26 Jan. 2023, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Uhud
- Ayoub, Omar. “Battle of Uhud: History of the Second Important Islamic Battle.” Zamzam Blogs, 9 June 2022, <https://zamzam.com/blog/battle-of-uhud/>