

The Birth of Islam

Characters

Muhammad: Founder of Islam

Gabriel: Angel of God

Allah: God of Islam

Abu Talib: Muhammad's uncle

Narrator

Narrator: Muhammad is born in the town of Mecca (Makkah) roughly April 20, 571 A.D. His father died before Muhammad's birth and his mother when he was six years old, so Muhammad's was raised by his uncle, Abu Talib, a sheep herder and tradesman. Arabia during Muhammad's childhood was a low state; gambling, sin, idol worship was a common place. Even the Kaaba, the house that the Prophet Abraham had built with his son Ishmael, housed 360 pagan idols. Muhammad grew to be honest, fair and humble. He began to receive visions, including one from the angel Gabriel.

Gabriel: You must spread the message of Allah (God).

Narrator: In 613, Muhammad's began preaching and gained many followers, particularly the poor since his message was one of charity and kindness.

Muhammad: In this city of Mecca (Makkah), they seek to quiet my teachings from Allah. We must endure the torture and physical abuse from our enemies and have faith in Allah.

Gabriel: Muhammad, you must flee Mecca (Makkah). There is a plot to kill you.

Muhammad: I will leave Mecca (Makkah) as you command and go north to the city of Medina (Madinah) for refuge.

Narrator: The period is known as the Hejira (the flight) and is used to mark the beginning of the Muslim calendar. Muhammad arrived in Medina (Madinah) and was fifty three years old. Muslims were abused and tortured at the hands of nobles in Mecca (Makkah). In the second year after the Hejira, a great battle occurred outside one of the cities. In the holy book, the Quran, it is called "Yawm al-Eurgaan –the Day of Discerning and Decisiveness."

Muhammad: With the help of Allah, it has taken eight and a half years, but I have defeated these enemies. I bow my head and take control of this city of Medina (Madinah).

Narrator: Muhammad later returned to Mecca (Makkah) was he fought his enemies and won another victory.

Muhammad: From this day, all idols and statues will be removed from the Kaaba and destroyed.

Narrator: From that time forth, only Allah was worshipped, and Mecca (Makkah) was the holy city.