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## **The Strategies of the Messenger SAW For Social Stability in Madinah after the Migration (A Research Study)**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*When the companions of the Messenger ﷺ arrived in Madinah, they faced numerous challenges: there was no centre for learning, no point for social meetings, and no residence for the poor, in addition, no arrangements for their livelihood and security from other tribes. In such a critical situation, how did the Prophet Muhammad SAW implement strategic measures to address these issues and achieve social stability? To answer this question we have to study the key strategies of the Messenger SAW when he reached Madinah. His first strategy was the construction of a Masjid (Mosque), which served as a centre for learning, a meeting place, and a residence for the poor and travelers. The masjid became the heart of the community, facilitating education, social interaction, and support for those in need. The second strategy was the establishment of a Brotherhood (Mu'akhah) which involved fostering brotherhood between the Emigrants (Muhajirun) and the Helpers (Ansar). This bond of brotherhood ensured that the immigrants received support in earning a livelihood and integrating into society. It also provided social satisfaction and strengthened communal ties, promoting unity and cooperation. The third strategy was a contract with the Jewish tribes of Madinah. This agreement ensured security and peace within the city by making the Jewish tribes responsible for maintaining order and contributing to the collective defense. It fostered a sense of shared responsibility and mutual respect among the diverse communities. These three foundational strategies offer valuable lessons for addressing social challenges of the Contemporary era such as the establishment of places where people can gather, learn, and support one another, ensuring that marginalized groups receive the help they need to thrive, and promoting unity and cooperation among diverse community members, providing mechanisms for economic support and employment, and developing inclusive security arrangements that involve all community members. These were initial strategies of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in Madinah, which gives us proper guidance in social stability and in overcoming social obstacles of the contemporary world.*

**Keywords:** Strategies, Social Stability, Masjid, Brotherhood, Contract.

### **Introduction**

The Messenger ﷺ and his companions (Radia Allahu Anhum) migrated from Makkah to Madinah, and they faced a significant challenge to social stability. When the Messenger ﷺ arrived in Madinah, they faced numerous challenges: there was no centre for learning, no gathering place for social meetings, and no accommodation for the poor. In addition, there were no arrangements for their livelihood and security from other tribes. So in such a critical situation, how did the Prophet Muhammad SAW implement strategic measures to address these issues and achieve social stability? The Prophet SAW took three steps to overcome it: establishing a Masjid, a brotherhood, and a contract with the Jewish tribes at Madinah.

This research aims to know how the Messenger SAW has achieved social stability in Madinah and the strategies in this regard. In addition, what are the impacts of these strategies? The methodology of this research is a descriptive analysis.

### **The First Strategy: Construction of a Masjid**

When the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and his companions migrated from Makkah to Madinah, they faced a multitude of challenges. These included the lack of a central place for communal worship and learning, no structured means for social interaction, a lack of resources and livelihood for the immigrants (Muhajirun), and potential security threats from the surrounding tribes. To address these challenges and achieve social stability in Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ implemented several strategic measures. Below is a detailed explanation of these strategies:

1. **Centre for Worship and Learning:** The first and most significant action taken by the Prophet ﷺ was the construction of the Masjid al-Nabawi. This was not just a place for performing prayers, but served as a comprehensive centre for the new Muslim community. It became a place where religious education was imparted, with the Prophet ﷺ himself teaching the Quran, Islamic law, and ethics. It was a place where the companions gathered to learn about their faith and receive guidance.
2. **Promotion of Knowledge:** The Masjid's role as a centre of education extends beyond religious knowledge. Historically, Masjids have been places where various subjects were taught. This promotion of knowledge contributes to the intellectual and cultural development of the community, empowering individuals and creating an informed and educated society.
3. **Social Meeting Point:** The Masjid acted as a social hub, where community members could meet, discuss issues, and engage in collective decision-making. This communal gathering fostered a sense of unity and belonging, which was crucial for the newly formed community.
4. **Support for the Poor and Travelers:** The Masjid also served as a refuge for the poor and travelers. The concept of the "Suffah" was introduced, where those who were homeless or in need could reside temporarily within the Masjid's premises. This ensured that even the most vulnerable members of society were cared for.
5. **Spiritual Guidance and Unity:** The primary function of the Masjid is to serve as a place of worship where Muslims gather to perform their daily prayers, especially the congregational prayers (Salah). This regular community gathering helps strengthen spiritual bonds among individuals and fosters a sense of unity and collective identity. By regularly coming together in worship, the community develops a shared sense of purpose and moral direction, which is crucial for social stability.
6. **Moral and Ethical Foundation:** The Masjid provides a space for the teaching and reinforcing of Islamic principles and values, which serve as the moral and ethical foundation of the community. For instance, the sermons (Khutbah) delivered during the Friday prayers are key opportunities for imparting religious knowledge, addressing social issues, and encouraging virtuous behavior. A society grounded in strong moral and ethical values is less prone to conflict and social unrest.
7. **Support for the Needy:** Historically, the Masjid has also functioned as a centre for social welfare. In the early days of Islam, the Masjid served as a place where the poor

and needy could seek help. The concept of the "Suffah" in the Prophet's Mosque in Madinah, where the homeless and destitute were housed, is an example of this role. The Masjid was a place where charity was distributed, and social services were provided to those in need.

- 8. Mediation and Dispute Resolution:** The Masjid has traditionally served as a place where disputes and conflicts within the community are resolved. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ himself often acted as a mediator in the Masjid, helping to resolve conflicts between individuals and groups. The Masjid provided a setting where issues could be discussed openly and fairly, to restore peace and harmony.
- 9. Administration of Justice:** In addition to mediation, the Masjid also served as a place where justice was administered. The early Islamic courts often operated within the Masjid, where judges (Qadis) would hear cases and deliver verdicts based on Islamic law. The presence of justice within the Masjid reinforced the idea that the Masjid was not only a spiritual centre but also a place where social order was maintained.
- 10. Political Consultation:** During the time of the Prophet ﷺ and the early caliphs, the Masjid was often used as a place for political consultation and decision-making. The Prophet would consult with his companions in the Masjid on matters of state, war, and peace. The Masjid served as a venue where the community could participate in the governance process, ensuring that decisions were made with broad consultation and consensus.
- 11. Community Mobilization:** The Masjid also played a crucial role in community mobilization, especially during times of crisis. It was from the Masjid that calls to defend the community were made, and it was where strategies were discussed and agreed upon. The Masjid's central role in political and administrative matters helped to ensure that the community remained united and focused on common goals.
- 12. Encouraging Charity (Sadaqah) and Zakat:** The Masjid has always been a place where the importance of charity and almsgiving is emphasized. The Prophet ﷺ used the Masjid to encourage Muslims to give to those in need, and the collection of Zakat was often organized through the Masjid. This emphasis on charity ensures that the needs of the poor and vulnerable are met, reducing economic disparities and social tensions.
- 13. Social Programs and Initiatives:** In many communities, the Masjid organizes social programs such as feeding the poor, providing educational scholarships, and supporting orphans and widows. These programs are crucial for addressing social inequalities and providing a safety net for those who are less fortunate.
- 14. Preserving Islamic Culture and Identity:** The Masjid plays a key role in preserving Islamic culture and identity, particularly in non-Muslim-majority societies. It provides a space where Muslims can come together to celebrate religious festivals, engage in cultural activities, and pass on Islamic traditions to future generations.

### Summary

The Masjid plays a multifaceted role in promoting social stability, acting as a spiritual centre, educational institution, social hub, centre for justice and conflict resolution, political and administrative centre, promoter of charity and social welfare, and a preserver of culture and identity. Each of these roles contributes to the overall cohesion, peace, and stability of the community. By addressing the spiritual, social, economic, and political needs of the

community, the Masjid ensures that all members are supported, conflicts are minimized, and a strong sense of unity and purpose is maintained. The lessons from the historical role of the Masjid can be applied to modern societies, highlighting the importance of central institutions that serve multiple functions in fostering social stability.

### **The Second Strategy: Brotherhood**

The establishment of brotherhood (Mu'akhah) between the Helpers (Ansar) of Madinah and the Emigrants (Muhajirun) from Makkah by the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is one of the most profound examples of social engineering in history. This initiative played a crucial role in the social stability of the nascent Muslim community in Madinah. Analyzing this event offers several lessons for achieving social stability in any society, especially in diverse and challenging circumstances.

- 1. Fostering Brotherhood:** One of the most profound social reforms introduced by the Prophet ﷺ was the concept of "Mu'akhah" or brotherhood. This initiative paired each Muhajir with an Ansari, establishing a bond of kin to that of blood brothers. This revolutionary step broke down tribal barriers and ensured the immigrants had a support system in their new home.
- 2. Economic and Social Support:** The Ansar shared their homes, wealth, and resources with their Muhajir brothers, helping them find livelihoods and integrate into society. This brotherhood was not just symbolic; it had practical implications. The Muhajirun, who had left behind their wealth and homes in Makkah, found economic support and security through this bond.
- 3. Strengthening Communal Ties:** This strategy also promoted unity within the broader Muslim community by creating strong personal ties between the newcomers and the established residents of Madinah. It minimized the potential for conflict and resource competition, replacing it with a spirit of mutual assistance and cooperation.
- 4. Fostering Social Bonds:** The concept of Mu'akhah was fundamentally about building strong personal relationships that transcended tribal, economic, and social barriers. By pairing each Emigrant with a Helper, the Prophet ﷺ ensured that the newcomers were not just physically settled in Madinah but also socially integrated. The Ansar welcomed the Muhajirun into their homes, treated them like family, and shared their resources with them.
- 5. Modern Application:** In contemporary societies, social stability can be enhanced by creating initiatives that promote social integration, especially for immigrants, refugees, and marginalized groups. Encouraging local populations to form bonds of friendship and support with newcomers can reduce feelings of alienation and foster a sense of belonging. Policies that facilitate community-building activities, intercultural exchanges, and mentoring programs can help integrate diverse populations, making them feel included and valued.
- 6. Equitable Distribution of Resources:** The Mu'akhah system ensured that the economic burden of supporting the immigrants was shared equally among the Helpers. The Ansar sheltered the Muhajirun, and food, and even shared their wealth and agricultural lands with them. This resource-sharing was voluntary and based on a deep sense of brotherhood and religious duty.

- 7. Modern Application:** For contemporary societies, this highlights the importance of equitable resource distribution to achieve social stability. Governments and communities should ensure that resources are shared fairly, especially in times of economic crisis or when dealing with displaced populations. Social welfare programs, community support networks, and equitable economic policies can prevent the marginalization of vulnerable groups, reducing poverty and economic disparity, which are often sources of social unrest. Social stability can be enhanced by promoting unity over division. Efforts should be made to reduce sectarianism, racism, and other forms of discrimination that divide societies. Educational campaigns, inclusive policies, and dialogue initiatives that emphasize common values and goals can help bridge divides, promoting a sense of unity and common purpose. By focusing on what unites people rather than what divides them, societies can prevent conflicts and promote long-term stability.
- 8. Strengthening Social Ties through Mutual Support:** The bond between Ansar and Muhajirun was not merely transactional; it was based on a deeper commitment to mutual support. This created a culture where everyone felt responsible for the well-being of others, fostering a community-wide spirit of cooperation.
- 9. Overcoming Tribal and Social Divisions:** The Mu'akhah initiative was revolutionary because it transcended traditional tribal loyalties and social divisions. The Prophet ﷺ deliberately paired individuals from different tribes and backgrounds, thereby fostering a sense of unity based on faith and shared values rather than on tribal affiliation.
- 10. Providing Emotional and Psychological Support:** The Prophet's strategy also addressed the emotional and psychological needs of the immigrants. Many of them had left behind not just their homes and wealth, but also their families and familiar surroundings. The brotherhood with the Ansar provided them with emotional support, helping them cope with the trauma of displacement and loss.

### Summary

The establishment of brotherhood between the Helpers and the Emigrants by the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ offers invaluable lessons for achieving social stability in any society. It demonstrates the importance of fostering social integration, sharing resources, building a culture of mutual support, promoting unity, addressing emotional and psychological needs, institutionalizing support systems, planning for the long term, and encouraging voluntary contributions. By applying these principles, modern societies can overcome social challenges, create cohesive communities, and achieve lasting social stability.

### The Third Strategy: Contract with Jews

The third strategy was a contract with the Jewish tribes of Madinah. This agreement ensured security and peace within the city by making the Jewish tribes responsible for maintaining order and contributing to the collective defense. It fostered a sense of shared responsibility and mutual respect among the diverse communities. The Charter of Madinah, also known as the Constitution of Madinah, was a groundbreaking document drafted by the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ after he migrated to Madinah in 622 CE. This charter is considered one of the earliest written constitutions in history and played a critical role in establishing social stability



in a diverse and divided society. Below, we explore the conditions outlined in the Charter of Madinah and their significance for promoting social stability.

1. **Establishment of a Constitution:** To manage the diverse population of Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ established what is known as the "Constitution of Madinah" (Mithaq al-Madinah). This was one of the earliest written constitutions in history, laying down the rights and duties of all inhabitants of Madinah, including the Muslims, the Jewish tribes, and other non-Muslims.
2. **Security and Peace:** The constitution ensured that all parties would contribute to the defense of Madinah in case of external threats. It established that the Jewish tribes were allies of the Muslims and would enjoy religious freedom and autonomy as long as they adhered to the treaty's terms. This agreement fostered a sense of shared responsibility for the city's safety and well-being.
3. **Unity of the Community (Ummah):** The Charter established all the signatories as one community (Ummah), regardless of their religious or tribal affiliations. It emphasized that the Muslim community, along with the Jewish tribes and other residents of Madinah, formed a single political entity. **Significance:** This concept of a unified community helped to transcend tribal divisions and fostered a sense of collective identity and shared responsibility among the diverse groups. By uniting various factions under a single political framework, the Charter laid the foundation for social cohesion and stability.
4. **Religious Freedom and Mutual Respect:** The Charter guaranteed religious freedom to all residents of Madinah. It explicitly stated that the Jews and other non-Muslims would be free to practice their religion without interference. In addition, this provision promoted tolerance and respect for religious diversity, reducing potential conflicts based on religious differences. By ensuring that each group could maintain its religious practices, the Charter helped to prevent sectarian strife and fostered peaceful coexistence.
5. **Collective Defense and Mutual Protection:** The Charter stipulated that all members of the community would participate in the collective defense of Madinah. In the event of an external attack, all groups were required to defend the city and its inhabitants. Furthermore, this condition created a sense of shared security and mutual protection. By making defense a collective responsibility, the Charter strengthened bonds between different groups and reduced the likelihood of internal conflict, as everyone had a vested interest in the community's safety.
6. **Justice and Dispute Resolution:** The Charter established a framework for justice and dispute resolution, with the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ recognized as the final arbiter in any disputes. It also outlined procedures for resolving conflicts between different tribes and groups within the community. In addition, by providing a clear and fair system for resolving disputes, the Charter minimized the potential for conflicts to escalate into violence. The emphasis on justice helped to build trust in the leadership and governance of the community, contributing to social stability.
7. **Shared Responsibility for Expenses and Welfare:** The Charter required all members of the community to contribute to the expenses of the state, particularly in matters of defense and welfare. Each group was responsible for its financial obligations but also

had to contribute to the collective needs of the community. This condition promoted economic cooperation and shared responsibility, ensuring that the burden of maintaining the community was equitably distributed. It also fostered a sense of solidarity, as all members of the community were involved in supporting one another, which strengthened social bonds.

- 8. Prohibition of Unjust Warfare and Harm:** The Charter prohibited any form of unjust warfare or harm within the community. It emphasized the protection of life and property, regardless of tribal or religious affiliation. By establishing rules against unjust aggression, the Charter contributed to the prevention of internal violence and upheld the principle of justice. This helped to maintain peace and order within Madinah, ensuring that all inhabitants could live in security.
- 9. Collective Responsibility for Wrongdoing:** The Charter held that any act of wrongdoing or crime committed by an individual would not lead to collective punishment against their tribe or group. Instead, the individual perpetrator would be held accountable. In addition, this principle of individual responsibility helped to prevent cycles of revenge and blood feuds, which were common in pre-Islamic Arabia. By discouraging collective punishment, the Charter promoted fairness and justice, reducing the likelihood of ongoing conflicts between tribes.
- 10. Equal Rights and Duties for All Members:** The Charter ensured that all members of the community, regardless of their background, had equal rights and duties. This included the right to protection, the obligation to contribute to the common good, and the right to justice. By establishing equality before the law and equal participation in the community, the Charter promoted a sense of inclusiveness and unity. This unbiased approach helped to break down social barriers and fostered a more stable and harmonious society.
- 11. Establishing a Framework for Governance:** The Charter provided a clear and organized framework for governance in Madinah, which was essential for managing a diverse society. By outlining the roles, responsibilities, and rights of each group, the Charter ensured that governance was orderly, predictable, and just. This helped to prevent chaos and maintain social order.
- 12. Promoting Unity and Cooperation:** The Charter's emphasis on collective identity, mutual protection, and shared responsibility fostered a spirit of unity and cooperation among the residents of Madinah. This sense of collective responsibility helped to transcend tribal and religious divisions, creating a cohesive and stable society.
- 13. Ensuring Justice and Fairness:** By establishing principles of justice and fair dispute resolution, the Charter helped to build trust in the leadership and governance of the community. This trust was crucial for social stability, as it ensured that all members of the community felt that their rights were protected and that they had recourse in the event of a dispute.
- 14. Encouraging Tolerance and Coexistence:** The Charter's provisions for religious freedom and mutual respect promoted tolerance and peaceful coexistence among the different religious and ethnic groups in Madinah. This tolerance was essential for preventing sectarian conflicts and maintaining social harmony.

**15. Preventing Internal Conflict:** The Charter's rules against unjust warfare, collective punishment, and cycles of revenge helped to prevent internal conflicts from arising or escalating. By promoting justice and fairness, the Charter ensured that grievances were addressed through peaceful means rather than violence.

**16. Facilitating Social and Economic Support:** The Charter's emphasis on shared responsibility for expenses and welfare ensured that the community worked together to support its most vulnerable members. This collective approach to social and economic challenges helped to reduce poverty and inequality, which are often sources of social instability.

### Summary

The Charter of Madinah was a pioneering document that laid the foundations for a stable and just society in one of the most diverse and divided regions of the time. Its emphasis on unity, justice, mutual respect, and shared responsibility provided a blueprint for achieving social stability that remains relevant today. By addressing the needs and rights of all community members, promoting tolerance and cooperation, and establishing a fair system of governance, the Charter of Madinah helped create a peaceful and harmonious society in Madinah, serving as a model for future generations.

### Conclusion:

- Construction of the Masjid is required for social stability because it is a Centre for Worship and Learning, helps in the Promotion of Knowledge, and fosters intellectual development. It is a Social Meeting Point and Support for the Poor and Travelers and provides refuge for the homeless. Furthermore, congregational prayers promoted unity and the Masjid became a venue for resolving conflicts and administering justice, in addition, a centre for social welfare, encouraging the distribution of charity (Zakat) to support the needy. In addition, it was used for political discussions, community mobilization, and collective defense.
- The second strategy of brotherhood was a bond of Economic and Social Support, Strengthening communal ties promoting unity, and minimizing conflict between immigrants and locals. This established a culture of cooperation and mutual support and resources were shared fairly, ensuring collective responsibility for community welfare and Addressing emotional and Psychological needs.
- Charter with the Jewish Tribes laid down rights and duties for Muslims, Jews, and other tribes and ensured collective defense and peace within Madinah. This established a single community (Ummah), fostering shared identity and responsibility. Guaranteed religious freedom for all, promoting tolerance and coexistence, It Create a fair system for resolving conflicts, with the Prophet ﷺ as the final arbiter. And ensured economic cooperation and contribution to communal welfare. Outlawed unjust harm or warfare, ensuring protection for all. All community members had equal rights and duties, promoting fairness and unity. Addressed grievances peacefully, preventing conflicts from escalating into violence.

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