



THE PROPHET ENTERS MECCA AND THE KA'ABA IS PURIFIED OF IDOLS

It was the 20th. of Ramadan, the eight year of the Hijra, when on the gate of Holy Ka'aba, with its key held in his hand, the Prophet delivered the following celebrated address.

"There is no god but Allah alone. He has no associate. He made good His promise that He made to His bondsman and helped him and defeated all the confederates along. Bear in mind that every claim of privilege, whether that of blood, or property, is under my heel, except that of the custody of the Kaba'ah and supplying of water to pilgrims. Bear in mind anyone who is slain, even though unintentionally, may be with club or whip, for him the bloodwit is very severe: one hundred camels, forty of them to be pregnant. O People of Quraysh! Surely God has abolished from you all pride of the time of ignorance and all pride in your ancestry, (because) all men are descended from Adam, and Adam was made out of clay. Then he recited to them the verse:

'O Mankind! Verily We have created you of a male and a female and We have made you nations and tribes so that ye might know one another. Verily the noblest of you with Allah is the most God-fearing of you; Verily Allah is Knowing, Aware.' (49:13).

"He further added:

'O ye people of Quraysh! What do you think about the treatment I am about to accord to you.'

"They replied:

'O noble brother and son of noble brother! We expect nothing but goodness from you.'

"Upon this he said:

'I speak to you in the same words as Joseph spoke unto his brothers: This day there is no reproof against you. Go your way, for you are freed ones.'"

On this occasion Umar Farooq presented people in singles.

Those who took pledge on that eve had to affirm solidly the following:

1. *I will not assign partner to Allah, to His being, to His attributes, to His sole right of being worshipped.*
2. *I will not commit theft, fornication, uncalled for murder and will not kill girls and will not level false allegations against anyone.*
3. *In matters of Allah I will submit to the orders of Prophet to the best of my ability.*

WOMEN TO FURTHER AFFIRM

They won't scratch their faces as part of mourning nor beat their faces. Nor will they wear black clothes, rend their clothes, derange their hair or sit over the grave to mark any occasion of mourning under any circumstances.

The manner of pledge for women was quite different and easy. For the purpose the Holy Prophet used to dip his hand in the water basin. Afterwards the pledge seeker dipped her hand in the same. Beside this on occasion oral pledge was allowed.

This address epitomizes beautifully the essence of Islam. This is how Mecca was conquered, not by means of the sword, but by peace and goodwill. The highly magnanimous treatment of Muhammad (peace be upon him) had not only disarmed all opposition, but had also awakened the Meccans to the Call of Truth which the Prophet had preached. Their minds were agitated and their conscience was stirred and they began to reflect calmly over the blessings which the Divine Faith had in store for them. Blind hostility gave way to sober reflection as a result of which the people entered into the pale of Islam not by ones or twos, but in crowds. The Holy Qur'an has described this important event in the following words:

*"When there came the succour of Allah and victory,
And thou beholdest mankind entering the religion of Allah in crowds,
Then hallow the name of Thy Lord, and ask forgiveness of Him,
Verily He is ever Relenting." (110:1-3)*
