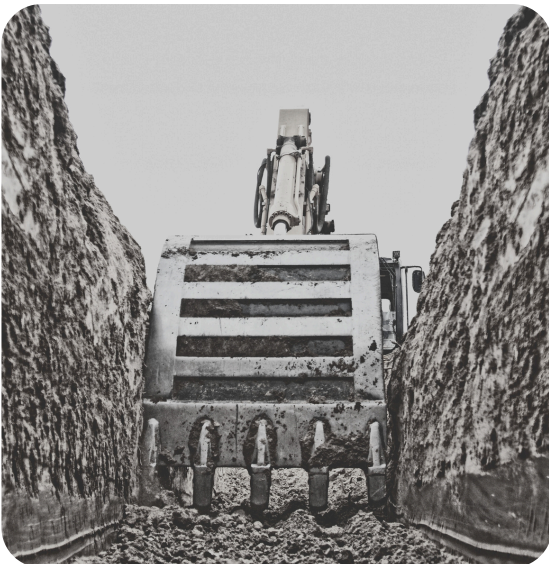


# THE BATTLE OF THE TRENCH

When the Prophet ﷺ migrated to Madinah he made a treaty with the Jews living there that they are free to practice their religion. The Muslims and the Jews were to be one hand and support each other against anyone trying to attack Madinah. Also, if someone attacks Muslims, the Jews must help the Muslims and if someone attacks Jews, the Muslims must help them. Despite this pact, the Jewish tribes did not keep their side of the pact, and they began to make plots against the Prophet ﷺ and his companions. They even contacted Quraysh and organized military plans with them to crush the Muslims in Madinah. One of the Jewish tribes in Madinah called Banu Quraydhah, contacted the people of Makkah, telling them if you are to gather the Arab tribes together and come in one big army to fight Muhammad ﷺ, we, the Jews, will fight him from inside and you, the Makkans, will fight them from outside, and he will be between a rock and a hard place. Quickly, the disbelievers of Makkah gathered the Arab tribes and marched towards Madinah with a huge army of 10,000 troops. This army was called the army Al-Ahazab (The Alliances).



In Madinah, Muslims were shocked by the number of the army about to attack Madinah. It was clear that Muslims cannot fight this massive army in an open fight, because the Muslim's army was only 3000 men. The Prophet ﷺ gathered his companions and asked them what to do. Salman Al-Farisi told him, in Persia, when we were outnumbered we used to dig a trench. Everybody liked Salman's idea. Right away, the Muslims started digging the trench around Madinah, everybody was helping and working around the clock including the Prophet ﷺ himself, trying to finish the trench before the enemy's army reaches Madinah. Upon reaching Madinah, the Allies army was surprised to find this huge trench, for it was something new to the disbelievers of Makkah, it was not something used in wars in Arabia. After many days, the Makkans started to lose their patience and tried many times to go through the trench but the Muslim archery was always pushing them back. After three weeks of surrounding Madinah, Allah sent strong wind on the disbelievers' army, that extinguished their fire, turned over their pots and took off their tents. Under the severity of this wind, the Allies army left Madinah and this is how the battle of The Trench came to an end. The battle of Al-Khandaq took place in 5th year AH.

***This battle is called Al-khandaq, which means the Trench.  
Also called Al-Ahzab, which means the Allies.***

The Trench

The Allies

Al-Khandaq

Al-Ahzab

# Activities

**1- What was the initial treaty between the Muslims and the Jews of Madinah?**

- A) They were to stay away from each other
- B) They would practice the same religion
- C) They would support each other against any attackers
- D) They would move to different cities

**2- Which Jewish tribe contacted the people of Makkah to plot against the Muslims?**

- A) Banu Nadir
- B) Banu Qaynuqa
- C) Banu Quraydhah
- D) Banu Hashim

**3- How many troops did the Allied army have when they marched towards Madinah?**

- A) 5,000
- B) 7,000
- C) 10,000
- D) 15,000

**4- Who suggested the idea of digging a trench around Madinah?**

- A) Abu Bakr
- B) Umar
- C) Salman Al-Farisi
- D) Ali

**5- How many men did the Muslim army have to defend Madinah?**

- A) 1,000
- B) 2,000
- C) 3,000
- D) 4,000

# Activities

**6- What did the strong wind do to the Allies army?**

- A) It caused a flood  
B) It blew away their supplies  
C) It extinguished their fire and overturned their pots and tents  
D) It knocked down their soldiers

**True or False:**

**7- The Prophet ﷺ and the Jews of Madinah agreed to support each other against any attackers.** ☐

**8- Salman Al-Farisi suggested the idea of digging a trench around Madinah.** ☐

**9- The Allies army was made up of 5,000 troops.** ☐

**10- A strong wind helped the Muslims by disrupting the Allies' camp.** ☐

**Fill in the blank:**

**11- The Allied army consisted of.....troops.**

**12- The Muslim army consisted of ..... troops.**

**13- The idea to dig a trench around Madinah was suggested by.....**