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Tariq Ibn Ziyad

## *Tariq Ibn Ziyad: The Liberator of Andalusia*

**Adapted from article Published on Islamweb.net date:14/02/2019**

Tariq Ibn Ziyad is one of the most prominent commanders who recorded his name in the glorious Islamic history which includes names like Khalid Ibn Al-Waleed, S'ad Ibn Abi Waqas, 'Amr Ibn Al-'Aas, Salahuddeen and Muhammad Al-Fatih.

Through Tariq Ibn Ziyad, a Muslim state was established in Andalusia, known nowadays as Spain and Portugal. This state lasted for eight centuries. This great hero was not originally an Arab, rather he was one of the Berbers who lived in Morocco. Many of these Berbers embraced Islam, including 'Abdullah, the grandfather of Tariq. 'Abdullah was the first Arab Muslim name in his family but the rest of his grandfathers were Berbers who were distinctly tall and blond.

### **The beginning**

Tariq Ibn Ziyad started out his life just like other Muslim children. He learnt how to read and write and memorized some Qur'anic chapters and Prophetic narrations. At an early age, his love of military life made him join the army commanded by Moosa Ibn

Nusayr, the Commander in charge of Morocco. Tariq participated in the Islamic campaigns and he displayed superior courage and excellent commanding skills that attracted the attention of his senior commander. Moosa Ibn Nusayr admired his skills and abilities and appointed him as the ruler of Tangier, a Moroccan city on the Mediterranean.

### **An opportunity to liberate Andalusia**

Andalusia (Iberia) was ruled by an unjust Germanic king, Ludrique (Roderic), who was not favoured by the people he ruled. King Ludrique was harsh, unjust and sought to uproot Judaism from the land. The people were thinking of revolting against him and deposing him and they sought the help of the Muslims who were ruling the North African region. This was especially after they heard how fair the Muslims are. Count Julian, ruler of Ceuta near Tangier, intermediated in order to convince the Muslims to help the Andalusians. Julian contacted Tariq Ibn Ziyad and offered him his assistance in order to overthrow Ludrique. Tariq welcomed this offer and found it a good opportunity to spread Islam and allow the

people to know about its noble teachings. Tariq sent to Moosa Ibn Nusayr, in order to take permission to start a campaign in Andalusia. Moosa asked Tariq to wait until he sends to the Caliph of the Muslims, Al-Waleed Ibn 'Abdul-Malik in order to explain the situation to him and take his permission. The Caliph gave him permission and instructed Moosa Ibn Nusayr to first send a reconnaissance campaign in order to discover what is going on in Andalusia before setting off on this campaign.

### **Tareef's reconnaissance expedition**

In response to the command of the Caliph, Tariq started to prepare a small campaign in order to cross the Mediterranean to Andalusia. The campaign was under a Berber commander called Tareef Ibn Malik. It consisted of five hundred of the best Muslim soldiers who went on this expedition in order to check the status quo in Andalusia. The campaign marched out in Ramadan 91 A.H., July 710 A.C. They crossed the sea in four ships offered by Ct. Julian. They landed on the opposite bank in an area which was later named Tareef Island after the commander of the campaign.

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رب اغفر لي، وتب  
على إنك أنت التواب  
الرحيم

## *Dua of the Month*

Ibn 'Umar (May Allah be pleased with them) said:

We counted Messenger's saying a hundred times during

one single sitting: Rabb- ighfir li, wa tubb 'alayya, innaka Antat-Tawwabur-Rahim. (My Rubb! Forgive me and pardon me. Indeed, You are the Oft-

Returning with compassion and Ever Merciful."

[Abu Dawud and At- Tirmidhi].



## Upcoming Events


**Wellbeing & Support Group:** Part 1: What is Mindfulness, how it can help and how to practise  
Present a series of 3 seminars on Mindfulness - Presented by Sr Amtiaz Ahmed

**Thursdays 1st October 7.15 - 8.30pm :** Contact : 0161 989 1441/events@ahma.co.uk

Zoom meeting detail: meeting ID :862 3669 2511 passcode :189027

### Mindfulness what is it ?


You may have heard that mindfulness — the ability to be fully present in the moment — can have numerous benefits, everything from decreased stress and sadness to increased levels of focus and happiness, according to general mindfulness research. But what exactly is mindfulness? And, how can you recognize it and reap its many benefits? Mindfulness meditation practice is one way to truly experience the current moment and integrate that awareness into your everyday life. If you want to know more please join us for a series of 3 talks starting on Thursday 1st October



**Wellbeing & Support Group**  
Present a series of 3 seminars on

# Mindfulness

Part 1: What is Mindfulness, how it can help and how to practise



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### 8 Facts About Mindfulness:

1. Mindfulness is not obscure or exotic. It's familiar to us because it's what we already do, how we already are. It takes many shapes and goes by many names.
2. Mindfulness is not a special added thing we do. We already have the capacity to be present, and it doesn't require us to change who we are. But we can cultivate these innate qualities with simple practices that are scientifically demonstrated to benefit ourselves, our loved ones, our friends and neighbors, the people we work with, and the institutions and organizations we take part in.
3. You don't need to change. Solutions that ask us to change who we are or become something we're not have failed us over and over again. Mindfulness recognizes and cultivates the best of who we are as human beings.
4. Mindfulness has the potential to become a transformative social phenomenon. Here's why:
5. Anyone can do it. Mindfulness practice cultivates universal human qualities and does not require anyone to change their beliefs. Everyone can benefit and it's easy to learn.
6. It's a way of living. Mindfulness is more than just a practice. It brings awareness and caring into everything we do—and it cuts down needless stress. Even a little makes our lives better.
7. It's evidence-based. We don't have to take mindfulness on faith. Both science and experience demonstrate its positive benefits for our health, happiness, work, and relationships.
8. It sparks innovation. As we deal with our world's increasing complexity and uncertainty, mindfulness can lead us to effective, resilient, low-cost responses to seemingly intransigent problems.

## *Tariq Ibn Ziyad: The Liberator of Andalusia (continued from p1)*

This small campaign examined the land well and they did not encounter much resistance.

### **The expedition of Tariq Ibn Ziyad**

The result of Tareef's expedition encouraged Tariq to prepare for his campaign of Andalusia. After less than a year following Tareef's expedition, Tariq Ibn Ziyad marched out with seven thousand soldiers, most of them were Muslim Berbers. He crossed the Mediterranean to Andalusia and the Muslim Army was assembled near a mountain that was known later as Jabal Tariq (the mount of Tariq or Gibraltar) on the fifth of Rajab 92 A.H., the 27th of April 711 A.C.

Tariq stayed in this area for several days. He started building a castle to act as a military base near the mountain. He assigned some soldiers to guard it and protect the back lines of the army in case he was forced to withdraw.

Supported by Ct. Julian, Tariq Ibn Ziyad marched with his army penetrating the nearby area. He headed towards the "Green Island" province and occupied its castles. At this point, Ludrique came to know about the invasion. He was busy fighting some rebels in the north. He stopped fighting them and returned to Toledo, the capital of the country, and prepared himself to encounter the Muslim army.

Tariq Ibn Ziyad marched north towards Toledo. His forces camped in a wide valley between Tajo river in the east and Albarracin river in the west. At the same time, Ludrique completed his preparations and recruited a tre-

mendous army with some estimates suggesting up to one hundred thousand strong, armed with the most powerful weapons. Ludrique marched to the south in the belief that he will be victorious.

When Tariq Ibn Ziyad was informed about this large number of soldiers, he sent a message to Moosa Ibn Nusayr informing him about the situation and asking for support. Moosa Ibn Nusayr sent five thousand of the best soldiers. Thus the total number of the Muslims reached twelve thousand.

### **The big encounter**

Ludrique marched towards Shadhunah where he completed his preparations and then he headed to encounter the Muslims.

A decisive battle took place between the two armies near Shadhunah. The battle started on the 28th of Ramadan 92 A.H., the 18th of July 711 A.C. and continued for eight days. The Muslims were courageous fighters, and were as firm as mountains in the battlefield, although their enemy who were well-equipped outnumbered them. They were not afraid of the enemy's power or large number. By the grace of Allah, they were victorious over their enemy through excellent preparation, deeply-rooted faith, sincerity, and the ardent desire for martyrdom for the sake of Allah.

On the eighth day of the battle, the Muslims were victorious. Ludrique, the last of the Visigoth kings, being defeated, fled after the battle and no trace of him was found.

### **The aftermath of victory**

After this resounding victory, Tariq chased the defeated

army and he marched out with his army liberating the land of Andalusia. He did not encounter considerable military resistance on his march to the north. On his way to Toledo, the capital of the Visigoth, Tariq sent small military expeditions taking over cities such as Cordoba, Granada and Malaga.

Tariq continued his march northward penetrating the hills of Andalusia until he reached Toledo after a long, harsh journey that covered more than six hundred kilometres away from the battlefield.

When Tariq reached Toledo, he treated its people kindly and he did not touch their churches. He then marched further north until he reached the Bay of Biscay. He returned again to Toledo and wrote a message to Moosa Ibn Nusayr informing him of his victorious conquest. He asked for more men and equipment in order to continue his march, spread Islam in these areas and help its people get rid of the injustice of the Visigoths.

### **Moosa Ibn Nusayr and his participation in the conquest of Andalusia**

Moosa Ibn Nusayr was following up the march of the Islamic army under the command of Tariq Ibn Ziyad. He realized that Tariq is in need of help and support, especially after the martyrdom of many Muslims in the battles they fought. Commanding eighteen thousand soldiers, he crossed to Andalusia in Ramadan 93 A.H., June 712 A.C. He marched taking a different route other than the one taken by Tariq so that he could

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## *Tariq Ibn Ziyad: The Liberator of Andalusia (continued from p3)*

have the honour of opening new areas. He marched until he reached Toledo where he met Tariq Ibn Ziyad.

After a short rest in Toledo, the two commanders continued with their expedition seizing Zaragoza, Tarragona and Barcelona as well as other cities. Then, each commander took a different route until they all of Andalusia was no longer under the rule of the Visigoths.

### The Return to Damascus

While the two commanders were gaining these areas, they received a message from caliph Al-Waleed Ibn `Abdul-Malik in which he asked them to stop the conquest and re-

turn to Damascus in order to submit a report on the progress of the campaign. The two commanders started to organize the affairs of the land and took Seville as capital of Andalusia due to its closeness to the sea.

The two commanders left Andalusia and travelled towards Damascus, the capital of the Umayyad caliphate. They reached Damascus and found that Al-Waleed had died and his brother Sulayman Ibn `Abdul-Malik has become caliph. They submitted a complete report on the conquest. The caliph ordered them to stay in Damascus and with that, the Andalusia campaign came to an end. By then Tariq

Ibn Ziyad Andalusia campaign had already made him immortal among the great Muslim commanders.

### The character of Tariq Ibn Ziyad

Tariq Ibn Ziyad was a great commander who managed, through his faith, patience, decisiveness and determination, to reach this high position. There is controversy as to how old Tariq Ibn Ziyad was when he set off on this incredible campaign with a realistic age being as young as 23 years. He managed to achieve all these victories because he was methodical and used to think over every step he takes. He was thorough and never rushed in taking

decisions. He used to consult and to gather the necessary information before he made a move; for example, before he crossed to Andalusia, he sent a reconnaissance expedition in order to check the status quo of Andalusia and made the necessary preparations.

He was also a faithful believer and had the belief that Allah's victory will be on his side even in the most critical moments. For eight days, he continued to fight an enemy that excelled his army in terms of number and equipment, but with the Grace of Allah he managed to achieve victory at the end and achieve his status in Islamic and in world's history.

## *Pearls of Wisdom:*

Our Lord, indeed whoever You admit to the Fire - You have disgraced him, and for the wrongdoers there are no helpers.

Our Lord, indeed we have heard a caller calling to faith, [saying], 'Believe in your Lord,' and we have believed. Our Lord, so forgive us our sins and remove from us our misdeeds and cause us to die with the righteous. [3: 192, 193, 194]

Our Lord, and grant us what You promised us through Your messengers and do not disgrace us on the Day of Resurrection. Indeed, You do not fail in [Your] promise

### Hadith of the Day:

O people! Spread (the greeting of) Salam, feed others, uphold the ties of kinship, and pray during the night when people are sleeping, and you will enter Paradise with Salam.

(Narrated: Abdullah bin Salam from Sunan Ibn Majah - Hadith No: 3251)

### Wise Quote of the Day:

In accordance with the real nature of things, it is the human that must conform to the Divine and not the Divine to the human. [Seyyed Hossein Nasr]

### Guidance of the Day:

The wealthy soul is one that is content. This contentment is not the kind that originates from stupidity or not knowing any better. It is contentment that is found by knowledge and by reflection on death and its meaning.

Second, the remembrance of death gives one energy to achieve good deeds: Wealth and sons are the ornaments of the life of this world, while enduring righteous deeds are better with your Lord in re-

ward and better in hope (Quran, 18:46).

Third, remembrance of death engenders seeking repentance when one slips or errs, Penitence rectifies wrong action, and that is the gift of remembering death. When one lives with this realization, he or she becomes prompt in seeking God's forgiveness. Those who are heedless of death have no compunction in doing wrong, since death is not a factor in their lives.

They carelessly view the Day of Judgment as some distant event hardly worth worrying about.

[Purification of the Heart]

### Food for Thought:

They must often change, who would be constant in happiness and wisdom. We cannot become what we need to be by remaining what we are.



In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful  
**Altrincham and Hale Muslim Association**  
 Registered Charity Number 1101378

## Prayer Schedule October 2020

Day	Date	Fajr	Fajr Jama'at	Sunrise	Dhuhr	Dhuhr Jama'at	Asr	Asr Jama'at	Maghrib	Isha	Isha Jama'at
Thu	1	5:46	6:30	7:09	1:00	1:30	4:03	5:00	6:48	8:13	9:00
Fri	2	<b>5:48</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>7:11</b>	<b>12:59</b>	<b>1:40</b>	<b>4:01</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>6:46</b>	<b>8:11</b>	<b>9:00</b>
Sat	3	5:52	6:30	7:15	12:59	1:30	3:58	5:00	6:41	8:06	9:00
Sun	4	5:53	6:30	7:16	12:58	1:30	3:56	5:00	6:38	8:03	9:00
Mon	5	5:55	6:30	7:18	12:58	1:30	3:54	5:00	6:36	8:01	8:30
Tue	6	5:57	6:30	7:20	12:58	1:30	3:52	5:00	6:34	7:59	8:30
Wed	7	5:59	6:30	7:22	12:58	1:30	3:51	4:30	6:31	7:56	8:30
Thu	8	6:01	6:30	7:24	12:57	1:30	3:49	4:30	6:29	7:54	8:30
Fri	9	<b>6:02</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>7:25</b>	<b>12:57</b>	<b>1:40</b>	<b>3:47</b>	<b>4:30</b>	<b>6:27</b>	<b>7:52</b>	<b>8:30</b>
Sat	10	6:04	6:30	7:27	12:57	1:30	3:45	4:30	6:24	7:49	8:30
Sun	11	6:06	6:30	7:29	12:56	1:30	3:43	4:30	6:22	7:47	8:30
Mon	12	6:08	6:30	7:31	12:56	1:30	3:42	4:30	6:20	7:45	8:30
Tue	13	6:10	6:30	7:33	12:56	1:30	3:40	4:30	6:17	7:42	8:30
Wed	14	6:11	6:30	7:34	12:56	1:30	3:38	4:30	6:15	7:40	8:30
Thu	15	6:13	6:30	7:36	12:55	1:30	3:36	4:30	6:13	7:38	8:30
Fri	16	<b>6:13</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>7:36</b>	<b>12:55</b>	<b>1:40</b>	<b>3:36</b>	<b>4:30</b>	<b>6:13</b>	<b>7:38</b>	<b>8:30</b>
Sat	17	6:15	6:30	7:38	12:55	1:30	3:34	4:30	6:11	7:36	8:30
Sun	18	6:18	6:30	7:42	12:55	1:30	3:31	4:30	6:06	7:31	8:30
Mon	19	6:20	6:30	7:44	12:55	1:30	3:29	4:30	6:04	7:29	8:00
Tue	20	6:22	6:30	7:46	12:55	1:30	3:28	4:30	6:02	7:27	8:00
Wed	21	6:23	6:30	7:47	12:54	1:30	3:26	4:30	5:59	7:24	8:00
Thu	22	6:25	6:30	7:49	12:54	1:30	3:24	4:30	5:57	7:22	8:00
Fri	23	<b>6:27</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>7:51</b>	<b>12:54</b>	<b>1:40</b>	<b>3:22</b>	<b>4:30</b>	<b>5:55</b>	<b>7:20</b>	<b>8:00</b>
Sat	24	6:29	6:30	7:53	12:54	1:30	3:21	4:30	5:53	7:18	8:00
Sun	25	5:30	6:30	6:55	11:54	1:30	2:19	2:24	4:51	6:16	8:00
Mon	26	5:32	6:30	6:57	11:54	1:30	2:18	2:23	4:49	6:14	8:00
Tue	27	5:34	6:30	6:59	11:54	1:30	2:16	2:21	4:47	6:12	8:00
Wed	28	5:35	6:30	7:01	11:54	1:30	2:14	2:19	4:45	6:10	8:00
Thu	29	5:37	6:30	7:03	11:54	1:30	2:13	2:18	4:43	6:08	8:00
Fri	30	<b>5:39</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>7:04</b>	<b>11:53</b>	<b>1:40</b>	<b>2:11</b>	<b>2:16</b>	<b>4:41</b>	<b>6:06</b>	<b>8:00</b>
Sat	31	5:41	6:30	7:06	11:53	1:30	2:10	2:15	4:39	6:04	8:00
	Jummah Khutba will start at 1:15pm & Jama'at at 1:40pm										