Chronology of Mohammed’s Medinan Years

Compiled by @Islamyopia
in association with U-A-S
Text Key

I Reported by Ibn Ishq
IH Reported by Ibn Hashim
S Reported by Ibn Sa’d

Where an incident is said to be referred to in or be connected to a verse of the Quran.

Purple text indicates an incident relating to Mohammed’s wives.

Dates are principally given in the Hijri Calendar (AH) traditionally used by the Islamic community, in which a year consists of twelve lunar of 30 or 31 days with annual numbers commencing with the year of the Hijrah.

NB Each AH year has a duration of either 354 or 355 days: approximately 10 days less than the Gregorian calendar.

Map Key

- City with substantial Jewish population
- City with substantial Christian population
- City under Islamic rule
- Raid on caravan
- Aborted raid on caravan
- Raid against a community ordered by Mohammed
- Defence against Meccan retaliation
- Assassination ordered by Mohammed
- Destruction of idol ordered by Mohammed
Unsuccessful raids on Meccan caravans:
Over the nine months beginning with Ramadan 1AH, Mohammed leads six unsuccessful expeditions to rob Meccan caravans travelling along the red Sea coast before the seventh and first successful raid in Rajab 2 AH.
1 AH

Byzantine Empire

Tabouk ( Thief)
Dhumat al Jandal ( Thief)

Tabouk ( Thief)

Ghassanids (Arab tribes allied to Byzantines)

Khaybar ( Thief)

Wadi al Qura ( Thief)

Yathrib/Medina ( Thief)

Unsuccessful expeditions to raid Meccan caravans

Mecca

The Red Sea

Ta’if

The Hijrah: Mohammed’s migration to Yathrib

Plateau of Nejd

Lahyan

Banu Qudaayah

The Hejaz

Hawazin

Banu Kalb

Banu Ghatafan

Sasanian Empire
2 AH

Muharram

Safar

Rabi’ al-Awwal

Rabi’ al-Thani

Jumada al-Awwal

Jumada Al-Akhira

Rajab

Sha’ban

Ramadan

Shawwal

Dhu Al-Qa’dah

Dhu-Al-Hijjah

Unsuccessful raids on Meccan caravans (cont.):
[see 1AH]

First successful raid on a Meccan caravan:
Nakah. Kills one Meccan, 2 taken captive.

Battle of Badr
Successful Muslim defence against Meccan retaliation following an aborted Muslim raid on a Meccan caravan. 70 Meccans and 14 Muslims killed.

Mohammed marries Zeynab bint Khuzayma, widowed at Badr.

Mohammed orders killing of poets;

- Asma bint Marwan (Yathrib),
- Abu Afak (Hijaz),
- Ka’b bin al-Ashraf (Yathrib),

For criticising and mocking him in poems (and in the case of K’ab writing amorous verses concerning Muslim women)

Expulsion of Banu Qaynuqa:
Mohammed forces the expulsion of Banu Qaynuqa from Yathrib, following an incident in which a Muslim woman was stripped by Qaynuqa tailor, was killed by a Muslim, who was killed in turn by the Qaynuqa tribe.

First raid against Banu Salim
“Pre-emptive” strike against Banu Salim at Qarqarat al-Kudr, who fled. 500 camels captured.

AD 624

The Quran

Battle of Badr referred to in:
8.42-47
110-128

The Quran

3.12,13,118
‘Revealed immediately before expulsion of Banu Qaynuqa’

Expulsion of Banu Qaynuqa may be referred to in:
8.58
3 AH

**Raid against Banu Muhrab and Banu Thalabah**
(part of Banu Gatafan?) at Dhu Amarr, Nejd
“Pre-emptive” strike against Banus Muharib, Thalabah who fled as Mohammed approached. One person captured.

**Defensive manoeuvres against Banu Sulaym**
No hostilities.

**Successful raid on a Meccan caravan at Al Qarada, Nejd**
‘100,000’ dirhams worth of goods, two captives taken.

**Battle of Uhud**
Muslims attacked by Meccans for raid on caravans. 70 Muslims, 20-40 Meccans killed.

NB Mohammed later marries Hind, whose husband died from wounds received at Uhud.

During his return to Yathrib, Mohammed captured a Meccan whom he had spared captured at Badr and a Meccan spy. Both were beheaded (although the spy had been given an opportunity to leave).

The Quran
Battle of Uhud thought to be referred to in: 8.36 and 3.122 and 167
3 AH

Byzantine Empire

Sassanian Empire

Tabouk (¶)
Khaybar (¶)
Wadi al Qura (¶)
Battle of Uhud
Yathrib/Medina (¶)
Mecca
Ta’if

Dhumat al Jandal (¶)

Raid against Banu Muharib and Banu Thalabah (part of Banu Gatafan) at Dhu Amarr, Nejd

Second successful raid on a Meccan caravan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (AH)</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 AH</td>
<td>First raid against Banu Asad ibn Khuzaymah</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Pre-emptive” strike against Banu Asad ibn Khuzaymah at Qatan, who flee. 3 captives taken.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assassination of Khaled bin Sufyan (‘Hudayr’), leader of Banu Lahyan.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expulsion of Banu Nadir:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mohammed forces the expulsion of Banu Nadir for refusal to pay compensation for a killed Muslim and following the announcement by Mohammed of a revelation that they were plotting to kill him.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death of Zeynab bint Khuzayma (Mohammed’s fourth wife)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>626 AD</td>
<td>Mohammed marries Hafsa bin Umar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Defensive manoeuvres against Meccans at Badr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No hostilities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Quran

Expulsion of Banu Nadir ‘referred to in: 59. 5’

3.173-6

‘Revealed at this time’
4 AH

First raid against Banu Asad ibn Khuzaymah, Qatan

Assassination of Khaled bin Sufyan ("Hudayr"), leader of Banu Lahyan
5 AH

**Muharram**
- Second raid against Banu Ghatafan at Dhat al Riqa
  “Pre-emptive” strike upon Bedouin camp of the Banu Ghatafan. Men fled, women captured.
  *(date disputed)*

**Safar**

**Rabi’ al-Awwal**

**Rabi’ al-Thani**

**Jumada al-Awwal**

**Jumada Al-Al-Khira**

**Rajab**

**AD 627**

- **Raid against Banu Mustaliq.**
  10 members of Banu Mustaliq killed (1 Muslim killed in error by an Muslim fighter). Entire tribe taken prisoner. Juwayriyah, daughter of chief and whose husband killed in battle, agreed to marry Mohammed in return for 100 Mustaliq captives’ freedom.

**Sha’ban**

- **Battle of Trench**
  Meccans besieged Muslims at Yathrib for 27 days. Skirmishes but no major hostilities.
  
  
  - Marriage of Mohammed to Zeynab bint Jahsh
    (Mohammed’s former daughter in law becoming his fifth concurrent wife)

**Ramadan**

**Shawwal**

**Dhu Al-Qa’da**

**Dhu Al-Hijjah**

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**The Quran**

4.101 (on shortening prayers)
‘Revealed at this time’
Incident during these events in which sword drawn against Mohammed, referred to in 5.11

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**The Quran**

33.10-22
Mohammed’s marriage to Zeynab bint Jharsh referred to in 33.37
5 AH

Byzantine Empire

Tabouk

Dhumat al Jandal

First raid against Banu Kalb at Dhumat al Jandal

Khaybar

Wadi al Qura

Yathrib/Medina

Battle of the Trench. Mohammed controls all of Medina.

Raid against Banu Mustaliq

Mocca

Ta’if

Second raid against Banu Ghatafan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muharram</td>
<td>Raid against Banu Bakr at Diriyah, Nejd. 10 killed, chief captured but spared. 150 camels, 3000 goats seized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safar</td>
<td>Second raid against Banu Asad ibn Khuzaymah at Gamrah. Banu Asad flee, 200 camels seized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabi’ al-Awwal</td>
<td>Raid against Banu Layhan. Unsuccessful raid to retaliate against Banu Layhan, who had killed six Muslim missionaries in retaliation for the assassination of their chief, Khaled bin Sufyan [4AH].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabi’ al-Thani</td>
<td>Pursuit of Banu Ghatafan brigands to Dhu Qarad. Defensive/retaliatory pursuit of a group of Banu Ghatafan who had killed a Muslim shepherd and captured his wife and livestock. (Date disputed: either R Thani or D Hiljah)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumada al-Awwal</td>
<td>First and second raids on Banu Thalabah. 9 Muslims killed in unsuccessful raids on Thalabah for rustling livestock, but a second raid recovered livestock.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumada Al-Akhira</td>
<td>Second raid on Banu Salim at Al Jumum. Captives and booty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajab</td>
<td>Successful raid on Meccan caravan. Quantity of silver seized, number of Meccans captured (including Mohammed’s son in law, husband of Zaynab, who then converted to Islam). Third raid on Banu Thalabah, seized 20 camels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sha’ban</td>
<td>Second expedition against Bau Kalb at Dumat al Jandal. Muslim force of 700 gave Banu Kalb three days to surrender and convert or pay jizya which they agreed to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramadan</td>
<td>First raid on Bani Sa’d bin Bakr at Fadak, Kaybar. “Pre-emptive” raid to prevent Sa’d alliance with Jews of Kaybar. Sa’d fled, 500 camels, 2000 goats seized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawwal</td>
<td>Skirmish with Banu Fazara at Wadi al-Qura, near Medina. Muslim retaliation to attack on Muslim scouts (killing 9) by Fazara – clan of Banu Badr: 30 Fazara killed. Chief’s daughter captured and exchanged for Muslim prisoners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dhu Al-Qa’dah</td>
<td>Capture and punishment of eight robbers from Banu Uraynah (Bedouins).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dhu Al-Hijjah</td>
<td>Assassination of Al-Yusayr ibn Rizam, Chief of Kaybar Jews. Yusayr promised safe passage to negotiate with Mohammed in Medina but killed with entourage (30) after leaving Kaybar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pilgrimage to Mecca and Treaty of Hudaybiyyah**
Mohammed led pilgrimage of 1400 to Mecca. Refused entry but reached peace treaty permitting pilgrimages for ten years.

**The Quran**

5.32-33

(‘To kill, save for murder or causing mischief = to kill the whole world...’)

‘Revealed at this time’
6 AH

- Assassination of Al-Yusayr ibn Rizam, Chief of Kaybar Jews
- Skirmish with Banu Fazara at Wadi al-Qura
- Second raid against Banu Asad ibn Khuzaymah, Qatan
- Second raid on Banu Salim at Al Jumum
- Dhumat al Jandal (♂)
- Second raid against Banu Kalb at Dhumat al Jandal
- Raid against Banu Thalabah (part of Banu Gatafan) at Dhu Qarad, Nejd
- Raid against Banu Lahyan
- Raid against Banu Bakr at Diriyah, Nejd
7 AH

Conquest of Kaybar, Fadak and Wadi al Qura
"Pre-emptive" attack on Kaybar. Mohammed besieged Kaybar homesteads which surrendered. Mohammed allowed them to remain on condition to pay him one half produce indefinitely. Kaybar treasurer Kinana tortured to locate gold. 93 non-Muslims killed, including Kinana after gold located. Kinana's widow Safiyya taken as slave, later married to Mohammed.

Nearby Bani Sa’d bin Bakr at Fadak, Kaybar allies, surrendered to Mohammed on similar terms. Because not seized in battle Mohammed claimed Fadak as his personal property.

Jewish tribes at Wadi al Qura besieged and surrendered after series of champions killed with duels with Muslims.

(NB Said to marks complete Muslim command over Jews of Medina)

Expedition to Nejd
Major expedition to Nejd: ‘many killed and taken prisoner’.

(Unknown date in this period)

Mohammed marries Ramla bint Sufyan
(naklah ceremony takes place in his absence in Ethiopia: Ramla comes to join Mohammed in Medina)

(and disputed)
Rayhana, captured in punishment of Qurayza marries Mohammed

Raid on Banu Murrah in Fadak
Many killed and cattle driven off, but Murrah attacked retreating Muslim force and killed all except leader, Bashir ibn Sa’d al-Amnsari

Raid on Banu Awal and Banu Thalabah in Mayfah, Nejd
Many killed and cattle driven off. [4th raid against Thalaba]

Raid on polytheists on Yemen border
“Pre-emptive”. No hostilities, but booty, 2 captives seized.

Expedition to Banu Sulaym in Najran and Turbah near Yemen
Demand that Sulaym – allies of Hawazin – declare allegiance to Mohammed rejected, Muslims repelled with many casualties

Revenge raid against Banu Murrah at Fadak
Following skirmish 2 months earlier. Many Murrah killed

The First Pilgrimage to Mecca
Mohammed marries Maymunah bint al-Harith
7 AH

Conquest of Kaybar, Fadak and Wadi al Qura

Fourth raid against Banu Thalabah

First raids towards Yemen
Raid against Banu al-Mulawwih at al-Kadid
Many Mulawwih killed, booty seized (date disputed)

Raid against Banu Amir (Hawazin) at al-Kadid
24 Muslims seized livestock (15 camels or equivalent each).

Raid against Banu Quda’a at Dhat Atlah
(beyond Wadi al Qura in Syria)
“Pre-emptive” raid but Muslim force wiped out.

Raid against a Byzantine Ghassinid tribe
at Mutah and Karak (E of River Jordan)
Retaliatory raid following death of Muslim emissary to Basra.
Significant hostilities, regarded as a military defeat for Muslims.

Expedition against Banu Qudah (allied to Ghassinids) at Salasil
Many polytheists killed.

‘Expedition of fish’
Aborted caravan raid near coast, Muslims ate beached whale

Raid on Khudra (clan of Banu Ghatafan) at Khadrah
Some killed, others captured, all property seized.
After this many other clans incl Bani Murra, Abs, Sulaym submitted to Mohammed.

Expedition to Batn Edam
Raid on Bedouin caravan – a possible diversion to distract attention from plans to march on Mecca.

Conquest of Mecca
Mecca capitulated to Mohammed’s army and converts.
10 death sentences on individuals, some later commuted.

Expeditions to destroy idols:
Al Uzza at Naklah; Suwa at Ruhat; Manat at Al-Mashallal

Expedition to force conversion of Bani Khuzaimah
Many prisoners executed, for which Mohammed paid compensation.

Battles of Hunayn, Autas; Siege of Ta’if
2 wks after capture of Mecca Mohammed led army to confront Hawazins: 70 Hawazins killed, 6000 captives, 24,000 camels seized.

Some Hawazins retreated to Autas where defeated after second battle. Others reached Ta’if where a Muslim siege was abandoned.

Assassination of Rifa’i ibn Qays, chief of Banu Jusham at al-Ghaba
Thought to be conspiring against Mohammed. Four women also captured.

The Quran
4.94 (Warning to take care not to inadvertently kill Muslims)
‘Revealed at this time’

The Quran
4.24 (‘sex permitted with those one’s right hand possess’)
‘revealed after Battle of Autas’.

AD 630
8 AH

**Byzantine Empire**

- Raid against a Byzantine Ghassanid tribe at Mutah and Karak

**Sasanian Empire**

- Dhumat al Jandal

**Plateau of Nejd**

- Conquests of Mecca
- Expeditions to destroy idols around Mecca
- Assassination of Rifa’a ibn Qays, chief of Banu Jusham at al-Ghaba (in modern Oman)
- Battles of Hunayn, Autas; Siege of Ta’if
- Raids towards al Kadid (near modern Riyadh)
- Raids towards Salasil (near Bahrain)

**The Red Sea**

- Tabouk
- Khaybar
- Wadi al Qura
- Yathrib/Medina

**The Hejaz**

- Banu Kalb
- Banu Carafan
- Banu Lahyan
- Hawazan
9 AH

### Subjugation of Banu Tamim, Nejd
Raid against Tamim for refusing to pay Jizya, captured 63 (men, women and boys). Tribe agreed to pay jizya in future, writing poems in Mohammed’s honour.

#### Raid against Banu Khatam
Surprise attack while Khatam slept. ‘Many killed’, livestock and women seized

#### Subjugation of Banu Kilab
Delegation demanding Kilab embrace Islam, Several killed and Kilab defeated. One Muslim - Al-Asyad – recognised his own father: others held him down while Asyad killed him.

#### Subjugation of Banu Tai
Raid to destroy idol of Al-Fuls, worshipped by some Tai (others were Christian). Livestock, captives seized, including the sister of chief, Adi bin Hatim Tai, who was released to ask brother to submit to Islam. Whole tribe converted.

### Defensive manoeuvres against African pirates
No hostilities

### Capture of Tabrouk, NW Arabia
“Pre-emptive” response to rumoured Byzantine invasion. Captured Tabrouk without fighting.

### Third raid against Banu Kalb at Dumat al Jandal
Raid to destroy idol Wadd. Banu Abd-Wadd and the Banu Amir al Ajdar resisted but many killed and tribes forced to destroy idol

### Raid on Prince of Duma, Dumat al Jandal
Raid on castle of Christian prince of Duma, Ukaydir, caught Ukaydir and brother hunting. Brother killed, Ukaydir ransomed for 2000 camels, 800 sheep, 400 suits of armour.

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**The Quran**

4.94 (On not speaking to Mohammed as one does to one another) ‘Revealed at this time’

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**Unknown dates in this period**

**Raid against Udhra, Balīy (modern Iraq)**
No hostilities

**Surrender of Ta’if**
Following capture of Tabrouk, Ta’if offered surrender. Attempted to negotiate retention of idol Al-Allat for 3 years, but Mohammed insisted on its immediate destruction.

Referred to in: 17.73

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AD 631
9 AH

Byzantine Empire

Dhumat al Jandal (؟)
Third raid against Banu Kalb at Dhumat al Jandal. Pagans forced to destroy idol

Subjugation of Banu Tamim, Kalib, Tai.
Mohammed is unchallenged in Western Arabia

Tabouk (↑)
Capture of Tabrouk

Khaybar (؟)

Wadi al Qura (؟)

Yathrib/Medina (؟)

Mecca

Ta‘if

Surrender of Ta‘if

Plateau of Nejd

The Red Sea

The Hejaz

Hawazan

Banu Lahyan

Banu Stafan

Banu Kalb

The Sassanian Empire

The Byzantine Empire
10 AH

Muharram

Safar

Rabi’ al-Awwal

Rabi’ al-Thani

Jumada al-Awwal

Jumada Al-Akhirah

Rajab

Sha’ban

Ramadan

Shawwal

Dhu Al-Qa’dah

Dhu Al-Hijjah

The Farewell Pilgrimage to Mecca and Farewell Sermon

(Unknown dates in this period)

Raid by Banu Azd against Jurash (Yemen)
Banu Azd submitted to Mohammed, ordered to attack Jurash where Khattam had sought refuge. Jurash unsuccessfully besieged but many killed when they pursued retreating Azd.

Raid against pagans of Najran
Christians of Najran had attempted to discuss Christianity with Mohammed (see Q 3.61) and formed an alliance with him, based on Jizya. Mohammed now insisted non-Christians convert to Islam.

Raid on Banu Nakha, Yemen
29 Nakha killed before tribes submitted to convert to Islam. Further raids across Yemen: livestock, captives booty, seized.

Destruction of Dul Khalassa, ‘The ka’ba of Yemen’
Yemiite leader, Jarir al-Bajali submitted to Mohammed. Ordered to destroy Dul Khalassa which he did, 100 temple guardians died defending the site.

The Quran
‘Debate’ between Christians and Mohammed referred to in:
3.61
“Whoever disputes with you in this matter after what has come to you of knowledge, then say: Come let us call our sons and your sons and our women and your women and our near people and your near people, then let us be earnest in prayer, and pray for the curse of God on the liars”
10 AH

Byzantine Empire

Sassanian Empire

Tabouk (†)

Dhumat al Jandal (†)

Khaybar (†)

Wadi al Qura (†)

Yathrib/Medina (†)

The Red Sea

Mecca

Ta’if

Plateau of Nejd

Raid into Yemen:
Destruction of Dul Khalassa
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muharram</td>
<td>Expedition to Moab and Darum, in Palestine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safar</td>
<td>[Ordered by Mohammed, but left Medina on the day Mohammed died]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rabi’ al-Awwal</td>
<td>Death of Mohammed</td>
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<td>Rabi’ al-Thani</td>
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<td>Jumada al-Awwal</td>
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<td>Dhu Al-Hijjah</td>
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</table>
A brief overview of Mohammed’s Medinan Years alongside The chronological order\(^1\) of the Quran’s Medinan Verses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 AH</th>
<th>Hijrah</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Raids on Meccan caravans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Battle of Badr</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Expulsion of B. Qaynuqa</td>
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<td></td>
<td>First assassinations/raids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Battle of Uhud</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Expulsion of B. Nadir</td>
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<td>First raids to NW Arabia</td>
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<td>Skirmish with B. Mutaliq</td>
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<td>Battle of the Trench</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Treaty of Hudaybiyya</td>
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<td>Conquest of Kaybar, Fadak</td>
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<td>First pilgrimage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>First raids to Yemen</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Many Bedouin clans submit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conquest of Mecca; Battles of Hunayn, Auton</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Capture of Tabrouk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Surrender of Ta’if</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Raids across Yemen, Dul Khalassa destroyed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Farewell pilgrimage/sermon.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Raid ordered to Palestine.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death of Mohammed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Also thought to be announced during Medinan years:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Help</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) *History of the Quran* by Allamah Abu Abd Allah al-Zanjani. Mina, Arafat refer to stops on Mohammed’s return from the Farewell pilgrimage;