



## **What Events Changed Muhammad's Life**

Last week we researched 'Who is Muhammad'. This week we are looking at the events that changed Muhammad's Life.

Read the newspaper article below and answer the questions below:

Where did it happen?

Who visited Muhammad?

Who was the message from?

What happened when Muhammad returned and 'faced the world'?

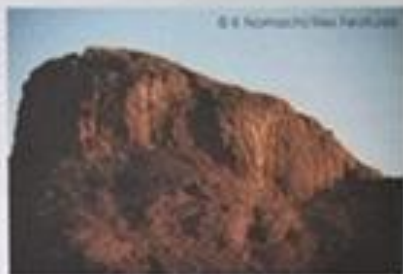
Can you come up with your own questions related to the text? See if you can create 5 of your own questions.

Any problems, please send us a message.

Your news your views

# Makkah Times

## A Mighty Night Holy Message Revealed to Muhammad



Mount Hira

Muhammad, 40, a trusted merchant from Makkah, has received a revelation from God, according to his respected wife, Khadijah. Al-Ameen (The Truthful One), as he is known, told his wife about what happened to him in the cave at Mount Hira, three miles north of the city.

### One God

Muhammad has always disagreed with the way that people of Makkah worship lots of gods. He chooses to worship the one God, Allah, often spending time in prayer and meditation at Hira. He has always been unhappy with the fighting between tribes and the unfair treatment of the poor. He hates the worship of useless gods and goddesses. He recently spent the month of Ramadan in prayer at Hira, pondering questions about God, life, justice and truth.

### Night of Power

One night when he was alone in the cave at Hira, he had a strange feeling, as though someone else was there! An immense voice echoed around the cave. 'Recite!' Muhammad saw that it was an angel, who commanded him again, 'Recite!' At first Muhammad said, 'I cannot read!' but a third time the angel commanded him to read.

### The First Revelation

Muhammad's mind became clear. He found that he could understand the words the angel spoke and that he could recite them out loud. He realised that the message was from the one God, Allah, and it burned on his heart.

### The Messenger

Shaken by his experience, Muhammad left the cave. As he left, he heard a voice again: 'O Muhammad, you are the messenger of Allah, and I am the angel Jibril.'

### Facing the World

Returning to his wife, Khadijah, Muhammad told her everything that had happened. She wrapped him in a coat to comfort him and told him not to worry – he was not crazy, but that he had an important message from God for all people. Muhammad has started to tell the people of Makkah – but not everyone is pleased with his message.

### The Story Continues

Muhammad has returned to the cave and received several more messages. The revelation seems to be continuing. His friends and family are beginning to record the words on scraps of pottery and fabric – anything that comes to hand.

### Ka'bah Idols for Sale

The valuable market in idols is growing fast. Based at the holy shrine, the Ka'bah, the place of pilgrimage for many people, the selling of idols is bringing in lots of money for some of the rich tribal leaders in the city. Since they believe in lots of gods, there are lots of idols to sell!

### Trouble in Makkah

Warring tribes around Makkah have clashed again in the city. They are arguing over who gets the most money from the trade in idols. Several people were killed in the violence – and the death toll from the years of rivalry increases almost daily.

### Messenger Rejected

Many people, including members of his own family, are not happy with the message of Muhammad. Whilst some are calling him 'The Prophet of God', others are angry that he is challenging their ideas about the gods of Makkah. Some of them have been attacking the followers of Muhammad, who is warning them that Allah is their Creator but also their Judge.