

## An Evaluation of the Reliability of Well-Known Historical Accounts on Ghazwa Banū Qurayza

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### **Abstract**

After the migration of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) to Medina, about 80 battles happened between him and the infidel, out of which 30 battles are referred to as *ghazawat*. One of the *ghazawat* is known as Banū Qurayza. Following the Jewish violation of their treaty with the prophet, the prophet intended to punish them. There are two types of accounts in historical resources about the outcome of the resulting battle: a) killing of men and capturing of women and children, b) killing of the warriors and capturing of women and children. Some orientalist have used these reports as pretexts to try to present a violent and arrogant picture of the prophet of Islam. The present descriptive and analytical study attempted at a logical evaluation of the reports, comparing them with the *sīra* of the prophet in wars, and contemplating the Qur'anic ayahs related to this war. The results reveal that no general massacre occurred in this *ghazwa*. Rather, some Jews were killed in the battlefield and during the battle and some others were captured.

**Keywords:** Ghazwa Banū Qurayza, the Qur'an, wisdom, *sīra* of the prophet.

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