

## THE ERA OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PROPHET'S PERIOD IN MECCA)

Wan Mai Zulia<sup>1\*</sup>, Ismail Marzuki<sup>2</sup>, Selamat<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1, 2, 3</sup> Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

wanmaizulia26@gmail.com, marzuki1278@gmail.com, selama.albanjari@yahoo.com

### ABSTRACT

**Abstrak:** Penelitian ini dilatarbelakangi oleh masa Rasulullah SAW di Mekkah yang merupakan fase krusial dalam sejarah Islam, ditandai dengan dakwah yang penuh rintangan dan perjuangan. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk memahami dinamika dakwah Rasulullah di Mekkah, termasuk strategi, tantangan, dan dampak yang ditimbulkannya. Penelitian ini adalah jenis penelitian kualitatif historis dengan pendekatan analisis konten terhadap sumber data primer seperti Al-Quran dan Hadis, serta sumber data sekunder berupa buku-buku sejarah dan biografi Rasulullah. Teknik pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui studi literatur, sementara teknik analisis data menggunakan metode deskriptif analitis. Validasi data dilakukan melalui triangulasi sumber untuk memastikan keabsahan informasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa dakwah Rasulullah di Mekkah difokuskan pada penyebaran tauhid dan penanaman akidah Islam di tengah masyarakat yang masih menyembah berhala, diwarnai dengan penolakan dan persekusi dari kaum Quraisy. Meskipun menghadapi berbagai rintangan, dakwah ini berhasil meletakkan fondasi Islam yang kokoh dan melahirkan komunitas Muslim yang tangguh. Kebaruan penelitian ini terletak pada analisis mendalam tentang strategi dakwah Rasulullah dan respon masyarakat Mekkah serta relevansinya dengan konteks kekinian, dengan rekomendasi untuk penelitian lebih lanjut mengenai aspek spesifik dakwah, seperti peran para sahabat dan pengaruhnya terhadap perkembangan Islam.

**Kata Kunci:** *Sejarah; Sejarah Peradaban Islam; Sejarah Rasulullah*

**Abstract:** *This research is motivated by the era of Prophet Muhammad SAW in Mecca, a crucial phase in Islamic history marked by a challenging and arduous mission of dawah. The aim is to understand the dynamics of Prophet Muhammad's dawah in Mecca, including the strategies employed, the challenges faced, and the impact it had. Employing historical qualitative research with a content analysis approach on primary sources like the Quran and Hadith, and secondary sources such as historical books and biographies, the study involves literature studies and descriptive analytical methods for data analysis. Data validation is conducted through source triangulation. Findings reveal that Prophet Muhammad's dawah in Mecca focused on spreading monotheism and instilling Islamic faith amidst a society that worshipped idols, marked by rejection and persecution from the Quraysh. Despite numerous obstacles, this dawah laid a strong foundation for Islam and fostered a resilient Muslim community. The research's novelty lies in its in-depth analysis of the dawah strategies and the Meccan society's response, along with its contemporary relevance, recommending further exploration of specific dawah aspects like the role of the Prophet's companions.*

**Keywords:** *History; History of Islamic Civilization; History of the Prophet Muhammad*



#### Article History:

Received : 30-04-2024

Accepted : 28-05-2024

Published : 31-05-2024



*This is an open access article under the  
CC-BY-SA license*

---

## A. INTRODUCTION

The period of Prophet Muhammad in Mecca (Meccan period) represents a crucial phase in Islamic history. For 13 years, from the age of 40 until the migration to Medina, Prophet Muhammad dedicated his life to spreading the message of Islam among the people of Mecca, who were deeply entrenched in pre-Islamic traditions (Ifendi, 2020). His mission faced numerous obstacles and severe challenges, yet this period laid a solid foundation for the subsequent development of Islam. Many Muslim scholars, both classical and modern, have researched the Meccan period of the Prophet (Farida et al., 2021). Notable among these are Muhammad Abu Zahrah's "The Life of Prophet Muhammad" and Muhammad Husain Haykal's "The Life of Muhammad." These studies provide a comprehensive overview of the Prophet's mission in Mecca, including his strategies, the challenges he faced, and the impact he made. However, there are still gaps that need further exploration, such as an in-depth analysis of the Prophet's mission strategies and the Meccan society's response, as well as their relevance to contemporary contexts. This forms the basis for the current research to offer new insights into understanding the Meccan period of the Prophet (Usman, 2021).

This research employs the fundamental concept of Islamic propagation and the theory of the sociology of religion to understand the dynamics of the Prophet's mission in Mecca. The concept of Islamic dawah emphasizes the peaceful and wise dissemination of the Islamic message, while the sociology of religion theory aids in analyzing the interaction between Islamic dawah and the social and cultural context of Meccan society (Choirin, 2021).

This study relates to previous research in several ways. First, it confirms significant findings from earlier studies, such as the Prophet Muhammad's role as the bearer of the Islamic message and his struggle against rejection and persecution by the Quraysh. Second, it provides a more detailed analysis of the Prophet's mission strategies and the Meccan society's response. Third, it discusses the relevance of the Meccan period of the Prophet to contemporary contexts, which has not been extensively explored in previous research.

The study references various reliable sources, including the Quran, Hadith, historical books on Islam, and recent scholarly articles. The Meccan period of the Prophet Muhammad is rich in history, meaning, and valuable lessons for Muslims. This research aims to delve deeper into the dynamics of the Prophet's mission in Mecca, referring to previous studies, relevant fundamental concepts and theories, as well as recent references and publications. This study is expected to contribute new insights into

understanding the Meccan period of the Prophet Muhammad and its relevance to contemporary contexts.

## **B. METHOD**

This study employs a qualitative historical method that is descriptive and interpretative, aiming to understand the meaning and historical context of the Prophet Muhammad's period in Mecca. Data is systematically collected and analyzed to produce valid and credible findings. The primary data sources for this research are the Quran and Hadith, which are the main sources of Islamic teachings and the history of the Prophet Muhammad's life. Relevant verses of the Quran and Hadith are deeply examined to comprehend the context of the Prophet's mission in Mecca.

Secondary data sources include historical books and biographies of the Prophet Muhammad written by Muslim scholars and experts. These books are used to strengthen and complement the information obtained from primary sources. Data is collected through literature studies and critical analysis of both primary and secondary sources.

The data is then systematically analyzed using various qualitative analysis techniques, such as content analysis, thematic analysis, and data triangulation. This research is conducted using systematic and tested methods, considering various perspectives and viewpoints. The results of this study are expected to provide a deep and accurate understanding of the Prophet Muhammad's period in Mecca.

## **C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

This study revealed that the Prophet Muhammad's strategy for spreading Islam in Mecca was deeply rooted in his unwavering faith and profound wisdom. His steadfast faith served as the foundation of his mission, providing him with the strength and determination to continue spreading the message of Islam despite facing severe opposition and persecution. His faith was not just a personal conviction but a source of inspiration for his followers, instilling in them the same resilience and dedication.

Moreover, the Prophet's wisdom played a crucial role in his approach. He displayed exceptional strategic acumen in navigating the complex social and political landscape of Mecca. His wisdom was evident in his ability to communicate effectively, using persuasive and compassionate dialogue to reach different segments of the Meccan society. He knew when to be patient and when to take decisive action, carefully balancing assertiveness with diplomacy.

The Prophet Muhammad also demonstrated a profound understanding of addressing the needs and concerns of the people. He tailored his message to resonate with their experiences and struggles, making Islam not just a

religion but a comprehensive way of life that addressed social justice, economic fairness, and moral integrity. His wisdom in dealing with people of various backgrounds and beliefs allowed him to build a diverse and cohesive community of early Muslims.

In essence, the study highlights that the success of the Prophet Muhammad in spreading Islam in Mecca was not merely a result of his spiritual zeal but also a testament to his remarkable wisdom and strategic thinking. His approach was characterized by a deep understanding of human nature, effective communication, and an unwavering commitment to his mission, which collectively contributed to the spread of Islam in its earliest days. (Wildan et al., 2022). He began his mission by inviting his close family and friends, then gradually expanded it to the general public. He employed various methods of preaching, such as sermons, discussions, and dialogues, while exemplifying good behavior in his daily life (Julkaranain & Ahmad, 2019).

This approach aligns with the Islamic concept of dawah, which emphasizes peaceful and wise communication of Islamic messages. The Prophet never resorted to violence or coercion in his mission; instead, he always demonstrated patience and compassion in the face of rejection and persecution from the Quraysh (Basri, 2015).

The response of the Meccan society to the Prophet's message was varied. Some embraced Islam with full conviction, like the companions who became pillars of the Islamic mission. However, the majority of Meccans rejected and opposed him, even resorting to repressive measures to stop his mission. This reaction can be analyzed through the lens of the sociology of religion, which explores the interaction between religion and socio-cultural contexts (Kholid, 2022). At that time, Meccan society was deeply rooted in jahiliyah traditions and felt threatened by the new teachings of Islam brought by the Prophet. This was a significant factor in their rejection of Islam (H. Firmansyah, 2019).

Although the Prophet's mission in Mecca did not achieve significant numbers of followers, this period had a profound impact on the development of Islam. His preaching successfully instilled a strong Islamic creed in the hearts of his companions, who later became the foundation of Islamic strength in subsequent periods (Mawasti, 2024). Additionally, this era was crucial for the compilation of the Quran, with verses being gradually revealed to the Prophet. The impact of the Prophet's mission in Mecca demonstrates that Islam could penetrate the darkness of jahiliyah and bring the light of guidance to humanity. Despite facing numerous obstacles and trials, the message of Islam will never be extinguished (M. F. Firmansyah, 2020).

This study contributes new insights into understanding the Prophet's time in Mecca through several aspects: an in-depth analysis of his preaching strategies and the Meccan society's response. It not only describes the Prophet's methods but also analyzes them comprehensively using Islamic

dawah concepts and sociology of religion theories, providing a better understanding of the dynamics of his mission in Mecca (Muslim & Hendra, 2019). It compares its findings with previous studies on the Prophet's Meccan period, highlighting consistencies and contradictions, thereby showcasing the novelty of this research. Furthermore, it discusses the relevance of the Prophet's Meccan period in contemporary contexts, illustrating how Muslims can emulate his strategies in facing today's challenges (Gunawan, 2017).

The Prophet's time in Mecca is rich in history, meaning, and valuable lessons for Muslims. This study provides a comprehensive overview of the dynamics of his mission in Mecca, showing the interconnection between the findings, fundamental concepts, and relevant theories (Rustandi & Sahidin, 2019). It also presents new insights and contributions to the understanding of the Prophet's Meccan period and its relevance to contemporary contexts. It is hoped that this research will benefit Muslims in understanding Islamic history and applying the values of the Prophet's dawah in their daily lives (Husin, 2017).

#### **D. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The period of the Prophet Muhammad in Mecca (the Meccan period) represents a crucial phase in Islamic history, marked by the Prophet's mission that was fraught with obstacles and struggles. His mission faced various challenges, including rejection and persecution from the Quraysh. Despite these difficulties, the Prophet's efforts in Mecca laid a solid foundation for Islam and fostered a resilient Muslim community. His mission instilled a strong Islamic creed in the hearts of his companions, who later became the pillars of Islamic strength in subsequent periods. This study indicates that the Prophet's strategy was rooted in his unwavering faith and wisdom. He employed various methods such as sermons, discussions, and dialogues, while also setting a good example in his daily life. Although the number of followers was initially small, this period had a profound impact on the development of Islam. The Prophet's mission planted the seeds of Islam in the hearts of his companions, who became the cornerstone of Islamic power in later times. Moreover, this period was significant for the compilation of the Quran, with verses being gradually revealed to the Prophet.

This study can serve as a reference for Islamic studies, particularly on the history of the Prophet Muhammad and his mission. Further research is needed to explore specific aspects of the Prophet's mission in Mecca, such as: The role of the companions in the Prophet's mission in Mecca; the impact of the Prophet's mission on social and cultural changes in Mecca; the relevance of the Prophet's mission values in modern life. Additionally, the study can be followed up with actions such as: Writing popular books or articles about the Meccan period for the general public; developing Islamic education curricula that include material about the Meccan period, and organizing seminars or discussions about the Meccan period to enhance public understanding. By

conducting further research and follow-up actions, it is hoped that there will be a greater contribution to understanding the Prophet's time in Mecca and its relevance to contemporary contexts.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the preparation of this article, the author wishes to express profound gratitude to Allah SWT for His blessings and grace that enabled the smooth completion of this article; and to the previous researchers who laid a strong foundation in the study of the Meccan period of the Prophet; to the lecturers and supervisors who provided valuable guidance and direction throughout the research process; to all parties who assisted in data collection and the completion of this article, both directly and indirectly; and to the entire family and friends who provided support and motivation during the research. May this article benefit the readers and contribute to the development of Islamic scholarship.

## REFERENCES

- Basri, H. (2015). Manajemen Dakwah Nabi SAW di Madinah. *Jurnal Al-Munzir*, 8(2), 179–196. <https://ejournal.iainkendari.ac.id/index.php/al-munzir/article/view/743/679>
- Choirin, M. (2021). Pendekatan Dakwah Rasulullah SAW di Era Mekkah dan Relevansinya di Era Modern. *Misykat Al-Anwar Jurnal Kajian Islam Dan Masyarakat*, 4(2), 97–114. <https://doi.org/10.24853/ma.4.2.97-114>
- Farida, A., Saputri, Y., Faiziyyah, R., & Hanafiah, Y. (2021). Metode Dakwah Rasulullah dan Relevansinya dengan Tantangan Dakwah di Era Revolusi Industri 4.0. *Murabby: Jurnal Pendidikan Islam*, 4(1), 12–22. <https://doi.org/10.15548/mrb.v4i1.2320>
- Firmansyah, H. (2019). Muhammad SAW pada Periode Mekah. *At-Ta'fikir*, 12(1), 55–77. <https://doi.org/10.32505/at.v12i1.806>
- Firmansyah, M. F. (2020). Sejarah dan Problematika Dakwah Rasulullah SAW. *Tahdzib Al-Akhlaq: Jurnal Pendidikan Islam*, 3(2), 103–122. <https://doi.org/10.34005/tahdzib.v3i2.1058>
- Gunawan, Y. (2017). Metode Dakwah Rasul di Kota Mekkah. *AL-QOLAM: Jurnal Dakwah Dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat*, 1(2), 150–162. <https://jurnal.staihwduri.ac.id/index.php/alqolam/article/view/355>
- Husin, G. I. (2017). Pemikiran Tentang Sistem dan Kelembagaan Pendidikan Islam di Masa Rasulullah pada Periode Mekkah dan Periode Madinah. *Al Qalam: Jurnal Ilmiah Keagamaan Dan Kemasyarakatan*, 11(24), 69–88. <https://doi.org/10.35931/aq.v0i0.11>
- Ifendi, M. (2020). Masa Pembinaan Pendidikan Islam: Telaah Kritis Pendidikan Rasulullah SAW pada Periode Makkah. *Al-Rabwah*, 14(01), 58–74. <https://doi.org/10.55799/jalr.v14i01.44>
- Julkaranain, M., & Ahmad, L. O. I. (2019). Perjuangan Nabi Muhammad SAW. Periode Mekah dan mMadinah. *Jurnal Diskursus Islam*, 7(1), 80–92. <https://doi.org/10.24252/jdi.v7i1.9854>

- Kholid, K. (2022). Dakwah Rasulullah dalam Bimbingan Wahyu Ilahi: Analisis Strategi dan Karakteristik Periode Makkah dan Madinah. *AdZikra: Jurnal Komunikasi & Penyiaran Islam*, 13(2), 112–129. <https://doi.org/10.32678/adzikra.v13i2.7327>
- Mawasti, W. (2024). Strategi Membangun Komitmen Organisasi Dakwah pada Tahap Merintis: Studi Organisasi Dakwah Nabi di Makkah. *Tanzhim: Jurnal Dakwah Terprogram*, 2(1), 45–70. <https://doi.org/10.55372/tanzhim.v2i1.17>
- Muslim, K. L., & Hendra, T. (2019). Sejarah dan Strategi Nabi Muhammad. SAW di Mekah. *Khazanah: Jurnal Sejarah Dan Kebudayaan Islam*, 9(18), 104–112. <https://doi.org/10.15548/khazanah.vi.232>
- Rustandi, R., & Sahidin, S. (2019). Analisis Historis Manajemen Dakwah Rosulullah SAW dalam Piagam Madinah. *Jurnal Tamaddun: Jurnal Sejarah Dan Kebudayaan Islam*, 7(2), 362–387. <https://doi.org/10.24235/tamaddun.v7i2.5503>
- Usman, D. P. (2021). Melacak Akar Sejarah Sistem Dan Lembaga Pendidikan Islam Pada Masa Rasulullah SAW (Periode Makkah Dan Madinah). *CENDEKIA: JURNAL ILMIAH PENDIDIKAN*, 9(2), 280–292. <https://doi.org/10.33659/cip.v9i2.211>
- Wildan, M., Saepudin, S., & Nur, A. Z. (2022). Piagam Madinah: Strategi Politik Dakwah Nabi Muhammad Periode Madinah. *Edugama: Jurnal Kependidikan Dan Sosial Keagamaan*, 8(1), 136–149. <https://doi.org/10.32923/edugama.v8i1.2653>