

READINGS IN ISLAMIC DA'WAH

Editor
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BARRIERS AND OBSTACLES TO ISLAMIC *DA'WAH*

Mohd Yusof Hussain

There are numerous barriers or obstacles to Islamic *da'wah*. Prophet Muḥammad (s.a.w.) himself had to face huge barriers or obstacles in his *da'wah* especially during the first thirteen years of his mission in Makkah. Some of these barriers were life threatening. After the death of Prophet Muḥammad (s.a.w.) in 632 *du'āt* continued to face barriers or obstacles in preaching Islam. This chapter discusses the barriers or obstacles to Islamic *da'wah* in the contemporary Muslim world. As a backdrop, barriers of Islamic *da'wah* encountered by Prophet Muḥammad (s.a.w.) will first be discussed. The purpose is to enable cotemporary Muslim *du'āt* to compare the enormity of barriers which they have to face with that faced by Prophet Muḥammad (s.a.w.) and also to derive inspirations from Prophet Muḥammad (s.a.w.) on how to deal with the barriers they are currently facing.

Barriers and Obstacles as Tests from Allāh

Barriers are actually tests from Allāh (s.w.t.). Every Muslim including *du'āt* will be tested in this life. It is *sunnatullāh*. Allāh (s.w.t.) says in the Qur'an:

“Do men think that they will be left alone saying:
We believe, and that they will not be tested?”

“We did test those before them, and Allāh will certainly know
those who are true from those who are false.”

al-'Ankabūt (29):2-3

In another verse Allāh (s.w.t.) says:

“Or do you think that you shall enter the Garden (of Bliss)
without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before
you. They encountered suffering and adversity.”

al-Baqarah (2): 214