

# Battle of Tabuk

The Expedition to Tabuk, also known as the "Expedition of Usra", was a military expedition, which, was initiated by Muhammad in October, AD 630, AH 9. Muhammad led a force of as many as 30,000 north to Tabuk near the Gulf of Aqaba in present-day northwestern Saudi Arabia.

Following rumours of a Byzantine invasion, the Muslims as well as allies of Muhammad, received an urgent call to join the campaign. But the Arabs of the desert showed little interest. Many came up with excuses not to participate. Muhammad provided incentives to persuade the Arabs to join, and provided many with gifts.

Muhammad and his forces, marched northwards to Tabuk near the Gulf of Aqaba in October 630 (Rajab AH 9). It was his largest and last military expedition. Ali ibn Abi Talib, who participated in almost every other expedition of Muhammad, did not participate in Muhammad's Tabuk expedition as he held command at Medina. After arriving at Tabuk and camping there, Muhammad's army prepared to face the Byzantine invasion. Muhammad spent twenty days at Tabuk, scouting the area, making alliances with local chiefs, and with no sign of the Byzantine army, he decided to return to Medina. Though Muhammad did not encounter an Byzantine army at Tabuk, according to the Oxford Encyclopedia of the Islamic World, "this show of force demonstrated his intention to challenge the Byzantines for control of the northern part of the caravan route from Mecca to Syria".

We MUST remember Struggles of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who was directly involved in 28 Battles while delegated 73 Battles to Sahabas after migration to Madinah during the period of 10 years.

Ref: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expedition\\_to\\_Tabuk](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expedition_to_Tabuk)

