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# Atlas on The Prophet's Biography

**Places • Nations • Landmarks**

An Authentic Collection of Information on Prophet's *Seerah*  
with Maps, Illustrations and Pictures

Compiled by  
**Dr. Shawqi Abu Khalil**



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## INTRODUCTION

In the Name of Allâh, and blessings and peace be upon our master the Messenger of Allâh, and upon his good and pure family and Companions.

On the evening of Wednesday 28th Sha'baan 1422 AH (14th November 2001 CE), I stood in front of the *Rawdah* in Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah, and I felt a wonderful sense of peace. The following Verses entered my mind:

﴿إِلَّا نَصْرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللَّهُ إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِيَ اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّا نَكُونُ مَعَهُ فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ عَلَيْهِ وَأَيْسَدُوا يُجَنِّدُوا لَكَ تَبَرَّأْنَا وَجَعَلَ كَلِمَةَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا السُّفْلَىٰ وَكَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ هِيَ الْعُلْيَا وَاللَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ ﴿٤٠﴾﴾

"If you help him (Muhammad ﷺ) not (it does not matter), for Allâh did indeed help him when the disbelievers drove him out, the second of the two; when they (Muhammad ﷺ and Abu Bakr ؓ) were in the cave, he (ﷺ) said to his companion (Abu Bakr ؓ): "Be not sad (or afraid), surely, Allâh is with us." Then Allâh sent down His *Sakinah* (calmness, tranquillity, peace) upon him, and strengthened him with forces (angels) which you saw not, and made the word of those who disbelieved the lowermost, while the Word of Allâh that became the uppermost; and Allâh is All-Mighty, All-Wise."

[Qur'ân 9:40]

﴿إِذْ جَعَلَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فِي قُلُوبِهِمُ الْحَمِيَّةَ الْحَمِيَّةَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةَ فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ عَلَىٰ رَسُولِهِ وَعَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَأَلْزَمَهُمْ كَلِمَةَ التَّقْوَىٰ وَكَانُوا أَحَقَّ بِهَا وَأَهْلَهَا وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا ﴿٢٦﴾﴾

"When those who disbelieve had put in their hearts pride and



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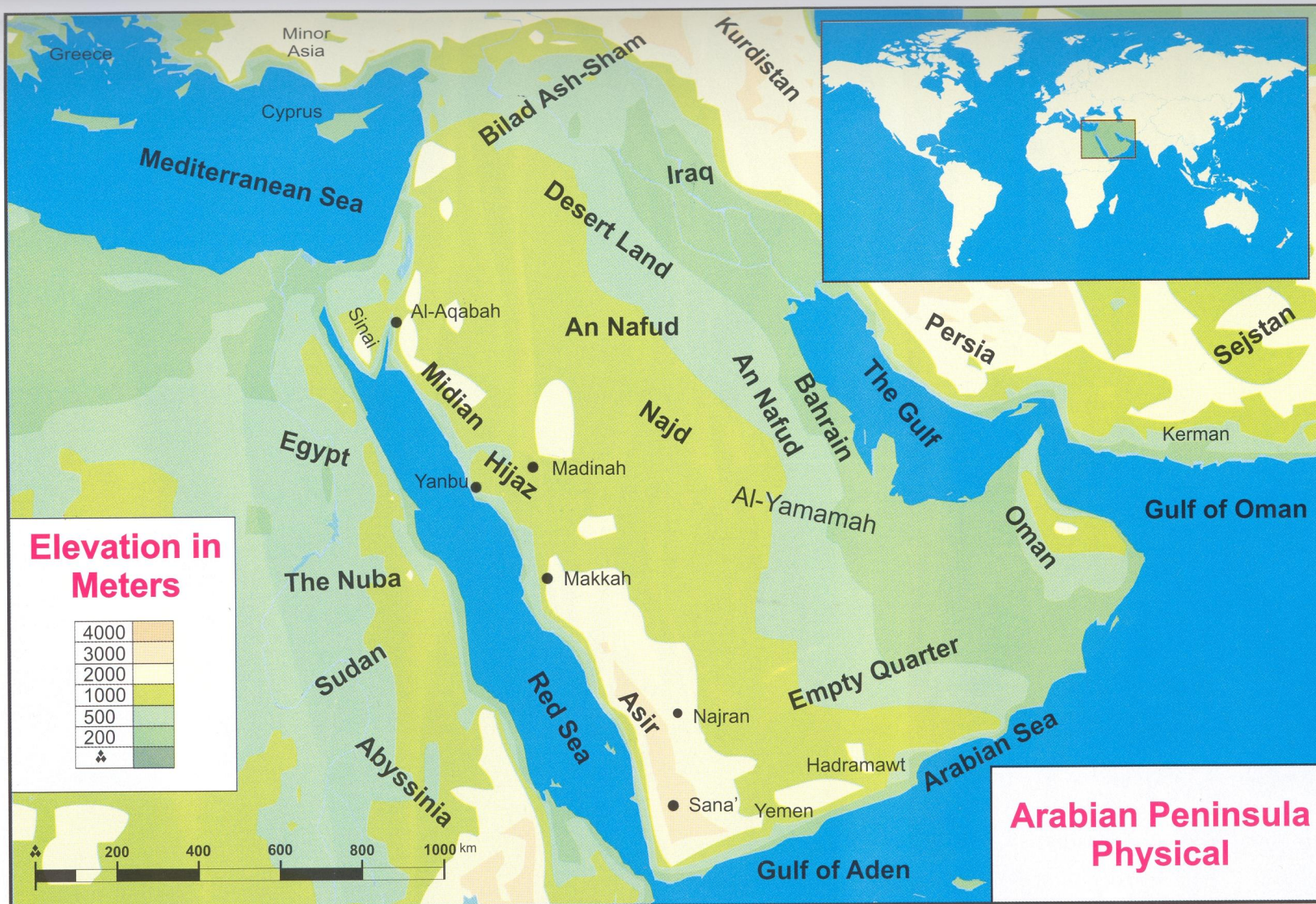
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Hills in the Southwestern Region

of the Mountains of Southern Hijaz (Al-Baha)



## The Arabian Peninsula

The Arabian Peninsula is the cradle of Islam, and the homeland of the ancient Arabs. It is situated in southwest Asia, surrounded by three seas: the Red Sea to the west, the Indian Ocean (the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden) to the south, and the Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to the east. To the north is Bâdiyât Ash-Shâm which is mostly desert. The geographers have divided Arabia, according to climate, into five sections:

- 1 - **Tihâmah:** This refers to the coastal plains along the Red Sea, which extend from Yanbu' in the north to Najrân in the south. It is so called because of its severe heat and lack of wind, from the word *At-Taham* which refers to extreme heat and lack of wind.
- 2 - **The mountain range of As-Sarâh:** This is the western mountain range which runs parallel to the coast of the Red Sea, to the east of the plains of Tihâmah. Here there are a number of valleys that cut through the mountains. This range extends from the Gulf of 'Aqabah to Yemen. In the north it is called Jibâl Midian (the mountains of Madyan) and in the south it is called Jibâl 'Asir. In the center of this range is the Hijâz where Makkah Al-Mukarramah and Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah are located. The Hijâz is so called because it is a barrier (*Hijâz*) between Tihâmah and Najd.
- 3 - **The Najd plateau:** It extends from Yemen in the south to southern Iraq in the north, where it is called Bâdiyat Al-Samâwah. Its eastern part is called Al-'Arud. It is called Najd because of its elevation (*Najd* = highland, plateau).
- 4 - **Yemen:** This is a mountainous area in the far southwest of Arabia, to the east of which are Hadramawt, Mahrah and Oman. Here is located the highest peak in the Arabian Peninsula, 3750 meters high, south west of San'a'.
- 5 - **Al-'Arud.** This region includes Al-Yamâmah, Oman and



Bahrain. It is called 'Arud because it stands in between (A'tarada) Yemen and Najd.

In the northern regions, the rains come in winter, and the amount of rainfall is very little. In Yemen, 'Asir and Oman, the monsoon rains come in summer, with a heavy rainfall of 500 mm in some regions of Yemen and 'Asir, and less than that in Oman.

The Arabian Peninsula is crossed by the Tropic of Cancer (23.5 degrees north of the Equator), hence high temperatures prevail in most regions, especially in summer.

Currently there are seven states within the Arabian Peninsula which are listed in order of size from largest to smallest:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (2,248,000 sq km)

The Republic of Yemen (472,099 sq km)

The Sultanate of Oman (306,000 sq km)

The United Arab Emirates (83,000 sq km)

Kuwait (17,818 sq km)

Qatar (11,437 sq km)

Bahrain (694 sq km)

Total area: 3,139,048 sq km.

