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|  | Image result for peace be upon him arabic symbol | **The Life of Muhammad** |  |
| Muhammad was born in Makkah in about 570CE. Both his parents died when he was very young and he was very poor. | He went to live with his uncle who was a trader. Muhammad also became a trader and made his name as a very honest and trustworthy man. | He began to work for a woman named Khadija. They fell in love and married, Muhammad was 15 years younger than his new wife. | Muhammad didn’t like what was going on in Makkah. Women and the poor were being treated badly. There was a lot of drunkenness and gambling. Some people were worshipping idols (false gods). |
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| Muhammad was very thoughtful. He often spent nights in a cave praying and meditating. One night he was visited by an angel. | Angel Jibril told Muhammad to ‘recite’. Muhammad said he could not read, but the Angel repeated the instruction and told Muhammad that he was to be the messenger of Allah. | He received a number of messages which eventually became the Qur’an. He began to preach the word of Allah, that Allah was the one true God and people should not worship false gods. | Muhammad said Allah was the greater and would one day, judge them. Some people believed him, but others were angry and said he was lying, or mad. |
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| In 622CE there was an assassination attempt on Muhammad. He and his followers (called Muslims) left Makkah and went to Medinah. | In Medinah Muhammad set up the first Muslim community. | Many battles took place between Makkah and Medinah. In 630 CE Makkah was defeated and Muhammad returned to his home town. | Makkah is now the most holy place in Islam. It is the focus of the Hajj – the pilgrimage site all Muslims, who are able, should visit at least once in their lifetimes. |