

## CHAPTER 2: PROPHET BIOGRAPHY SYLLABUS OF NEGERI SEMBILAN'S KAFA CLASS

### 2.1 Introduction

The administration of KAFA class is under each state's Islamic Affair Department. The administration of KAFA class includes the registration of KAFA class, the curriculum, the teachers' employment and the infrastructure of the schools.<sup>22</sup>

The KAFA textbooks are on its second edition publication in 2016. The curriculum has been arranged by the respective subject panels. In the KAFA class in Negeri Sembilan, there are a total of 8 subjects being taught in the schools. *Sīrah Nabawiyyah* or as Prophetic Biography is one of the subjects learnt by the KAFA students. The other subjects include *Tilawah al-Quran*, *Ibādah*, *Tajwid*, *Adab*, *Jawi dan Khat*, *al-Lughat al-Arabiyyah*, and *'Aqīdah*. The content of each subject for each standard may vary by the students' age.

The Prophetic Biography subject was being taught to all KAFA students from standard 1 until standard 5. Standard 6 is only available at certain schools of *Sekolah Agama Rakyat* with a minimum number of students. From the textbook analysis made, the researcher found that the syllabus was arranged chronologically since the period of before the Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ was born until his death by according to the guideline given by the Malaysian Islamic Development Department (JAKIM). In addition, the curriculum also explains the understanding of history to standard 1 students as their introduction.

### 2.2 Prophet Biography Syllabus of Negeri Sembilan's KAFA Class

#### 2.2.1 Standard One Prophet Biography Subject's Syllabus

The definition of "history" may seem new to the majority of primary school students. The students would not be able to elaborate or explain the relation and the differences between history and *al-sīrah al-nabawiyyah*. Hence, standard one syllabus discuss the definition and basic information of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ.

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<sup>22</sup> Malaysia. Jabatan Hal Ehwal Islām Negeri Sembilan. 27 July 2021. *Mengenai JHEAINS (pendidikan)*. <https://jheains.ns.gov.my/organization/bahagian/pendidikan>.

The syllabus consist of 2 main chapters. The first chapters elaborate the meaning of history and prophetic biography, while the second chapter explain the descendants of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ. The details subtopic can be listed as below table:

CHAPTER	CONTENTS
1	<p>The definition and the importance of <i>sīrah</i></p> <p>1.1 The definition of <i>sīrah</i></p> <p>1.2 The elaboration of <i>sīrah</i></p> <p>1.3 The reference of <i>sīrah</i></p> <p>1.4 The definition of history</p> <p>1.5 The reference of history</p> <p>1.6 The differentiation between <i>sīrah</i> and history</p> <p>1.7 The importance of <i>sīrah</i></p>
2	<p>The events during the birth of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ</p> <p>2.1 The prophet in his mother's womb</p> <p>2.2 The birth of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ</p> <p>2.3 The miracles during the birth of the prophet</p>

**Table 2.1: The Standard 1 Syllabus of Prophetic Biography for KAFA Class  
Negeri Sembilan**

In the researcher's view, a thorough review on the chapter of the *sīrah*'s definition should be done by the pedagogy scholars to ensure the syllabus suits the students' level and age. As far as the events of Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ birthday, it is an interesting historical chapter and help the students to recognise our prophet ﷺ.

### 2.2.2 Standard Two Prophet Biography Subject's Syllabus

There are a total of 4 main chapters compiled in the textbook. After the students have been introduced to the definition and the importance of learning Prophetic Biography during KAFA standard 1, the standard 2 students will start their learning with the events before the prophet was born. Afterwards, the syllabus will discuss the birth of the Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ and the miracles happened during the period. The story then continued with the growth of the prophet with his own mother, nursing mother, paternal grandfather and paternal uncle. Then, the syllabus ended with the marriage of the prophet with Khadījah RA.

Since the researcher will only discuss the ḥadīth narrated verbally and practically from Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ, some events happened before the birth of the prophet will not been analysed. The events before the prophet's birth include the sacrifice of his father, the assault of Abrahah and the death of the prophet's father.

The chapters division for the Prophetic Biography syllabus of KAFA Standard 2 are as follows table.

CHAPTER	CONTENTS
1	The events before the birth of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 1.1 The life of 'Abdullah shifted by 100 camels 1.2 Abrahah attacks Mecca 1.3 Death of 'Abdullah
2	The events during the birth of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 2.1 The prophet in his mother's womb 2.2 The birth of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 2.3 The miracles during the birth of the prophet
3	The events after the birth of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 3.1 The nursery of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 3.2 The story during the nursery of the prophet 3.3 The prophet back to her mother 3.4 The death of his mother and paternal grandfather 3.5 The title of "The Trustworthy" 3.6 Problem solving on the rebuild of Ka'bah 3.7 Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ trading to Shām

4	The family of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 4.1 The marriage of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 4.2 Miserable year of the prophet 4.3 The wife of the prophet 4.4 Children of the prophet 4.5 The marriage of prophet's children and their descendants
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**Table 2.2: The Standard 2 Syllabus of Prophetic Biography for KAFA Class Negeri Sembilan**

Based on above table, the structure of standard 2 syllabus for Prophetic Biography subject ended with the marriage of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ with Khadījah RA. Moreover narration and syllabus regarding the living of the prophet was discussed in the next stage. Throughout an analysis by the researcher, the syllabus was arranged accordingly by the timeline of the prophetic history.



### 2.2.3 Standard Three Prophet Biography Subject's Syllabus

During the marriage of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ with Khadijah RA, he has been appointed by Allah ﷻ as His messenger. This information was proven by a saying narrated by Bukhari from the way of Aishah, stating that Khadijah RA who was the one who comforted the prophet after he came home from Hira' cave.<sup>23</sup>

In Standard 3 of Negeri Sembilan Kafa class, the students are learning on the promotion of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ as Allah's messenger, the event of migration and the miracle of the prophet. All of the lessons are being taught accordingly until the event of *isra'* and *mi'raj*. To ease the understanding of the subject structure, the chapter divisions are as following table:

CHAPTER	CONTENTS
1	The appointment of Prophet Muḥammad as His messenger 1.1 The event of early revelation to the prophet 1.2 Secret preaches 1.3 Public preaches 1.4 The resistance of <i>Quraish</i> against the prophet's preaches
2	The events of migration to Habshah and Yathrib 2.1 The definition of <i>Hijrah</i> 2.2 The migration to Habshah 2.3 The moment of migration to Yathrib 2.4 Migration to Yathrib 2.5 The brotherhood between <i>Muhājirīn</i> and <i>Anṣār</i> 2.6 The concept of <i>Hijrah</i> in present circumstances
3	The miracles of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ 3.1 The definition of <i>Mu'jizāt</i> 3.2 The miracle of al-Quran 3.3 The springing water from the prophet's fingers 3.4 The split of the moon 3.5 Delay the sunset 3.6 <i>Isra'</i> and <i>Mi'raj</i>

<sup>23</sup> Al-Bukhāri, Muḥammad Bin Isma'il. 1980. *al-Jāmi' al-Ṣaḥīḥ al-Musnad al-Mukhtaṣar Min Umūri Rasūlillāhi Wa Sunanihi Wa Ayyāmihi*. Cairo: al-Maṭba'ah al-Salafiyah. v. 1. p. 14. #3.

4	<p>The event of <i>Isra' and Mi'raj</i></p> <p>4.1 The definition of <i>Isra' and Mi'raj</i></p> <p>4.2 The operation of the prophet's chest</p> <p>4.3 The travel of the prophet to <i>Bait al-Maqdis</i></p> <p>4.4 The travel of the prophet to <i>Sidrat al-Muntaha</i></p>
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**Table 2.3: The Standard 3 Syllabus of Prophetic Biography for KAFa Class Negeri Sembilan**

The above table shows that the Prophetic Biography syllabus for standard 3 is ended with the events of *Isra' and Mi'raj*. Comparing the syllabus of standard 3 with the timeline of the prophet's biography, the syllabus has not been arranged accordingly. The event of *isra'* and *mi'raj* was held before the migration of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ to Medina. Since the syllabus is not stating the exact period of the event, the arrangement of the syllabus in a proper timeline helps the students to understand clearer on the history of the prophet.

#### 2.2.4 Standard Four Prophet Biography Subject's Syllabus

After the migration of Prophet Muḥammad to Medina, he took the necessities on strengthening the position of the country. Numerous raids and wars took place after the prophet and the believers migrated there. In Medina, the prophet has political authority as he is the leader of the country. The brotherhood between the immigrants and the helpers contribute to a strong and stable society in Medina.

In the standard 4 syllabus of the subject, the students would be able to learn the battles in Islam, either it was between Islam and the disbelievers of Quraish or the Jews in Medina. Among the few battles that occurred during the era was the Battle of Badr, the Battle of Uḥud, the Battle of Trench and the Conquest of Mecca. All of these wars are chronologically stated in the syllabus with thorough analysis on the event in accordance to the level of the students' learning competences.

As the ruler of Medina, Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ contributes ideas and efforts on developing the country that previously known as the plague land. The prophet contributed in developing the society, economy, politic, education, technology, and diplomacy relationship. The contributions of the prophet were discussed in the second chapter of the syllabus. Hence, the syllabus structure can briefly be shown in the following table.

CHAPTER	CONTENTS
1	The martyr of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ and his companions 1.1 The concept of martyr in Islam 1.2 Battle of Badr 1.3 Battle of Uḥud 1.4 Battle of The Trench 1.5 The agreement of Hudaibiyah 1.6 The conquest of Mecca
2	Developing the Islamic country (Medina) 2.1 Mosque construction 2.2 Administration 2.3 Education 2.4 Economy 2.5 Technology

**Table 2.4: The Standard 4 Syllabus of Prophetic Biography for KAFA Class Negeri Sembilan**

The prophet biography shows that the living of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ brought to a huge impact not only to his companions, but also include his enemies. Throughout the events, the prophet had the respect and loyalty of the companions by his kindness and blessing from Allah ﷻ. Allah ﷻ revealed in the Holy Quran:

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ.<sup>24</sup>

Meaning: And We (Allah) have not sent you (O Muḥammad), except as a blessing for the worlds.

From the syllabus shown in the above table, the contribution of the prophet towards the society of Medina proves that he has been sent by Allah ﷻ to be a blessing to the mankind, as stated by the Quranic evidence.

<sup>24</sup> Al-Quran. Al-Anbiyā' 21:107.



### 2.2.5 Standard Five Prophet Biography Subject's Syllabus

After telling the virtues of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ towards the society of Medina, the syllabus for this standard is discussing in-depth on his preaches. The thirteen years of the prophet's preaches in Mecca and ten years in Medina have been thoroughly discussed in the syllabus<sup>25</sup>. The ups and downs of the prophet's preaches inspired by most Muslim around the world throughout the centuries. There are 6 main cores of the prophet's preaching, namely as the faith to Allah ﷻ, angels, divine books, prophets, judgement day and the destiny.<sup>26</sup>

The preaching of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ ended with his death, but continued by his companions. The syllabus ended with the story of the prophet's moment on his last days of his life. The position of the prophet as the leader of Medina was replaced by Abu Bakr, 'Umar, Uthman and Ali, which was known as *Khulafa' al-Rashidin*. The countless contributions of the companions towards developing the religion discussed in the next sub-chapter. From the above chapters' fraction, a clearer view on the syllabus tabled as follows.

CHAPTER	CONTENTS
1	<p>The development of Islam</p> <p>1.1 The development in the aspect of faith</p> <p>1.2 The development in the aspect of worship</p> <p>1.3 The development in the aspect of manners</p> <p>1.4 The development in the aspect of social interactions</p> <p>1.5 The development in the aspect of law</p>
2	<p>The death of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ</p> <p>2.1 Events before the prophet's death</p> <p>2.2 The day of the prophet's death</p> <p>2.3 The election of the replacement after Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ</p>

**Table 2.5: The Standard 5 Syllabus of Prophetic Biography for KAFA Class Negeri Sembilan**

### 2.3 Conclusion

<sup>25</sup> Al-Bukhāri, Muḥammad Bin Isma'il. 1980. *al-Jāmi' al-Ṣaḥīḥ al-Musnad al-Mukhtaṣar Min Umūri Rasūlillāhi Wa Sunanihi Wa Ayyāmihī*. Cairo: al-Maṭba'ah al-Salafiyah. v. 3. p. 54. #3851.

<sup>26</sup> *ibid.* v. 1. p. 20. #8.

The authors included tremendous of events related to Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ in the syllabus. The syllabus was thematically and chronologically arranged. However, the authenticity of the facts must be reviewed to ensure the quality of the syllabus and the authenticity of the prophet’s narrations are preserved.

