

0. DEATH OF THE MAHDI - Story Preface

1. TROUBLE IN SUDAN

2. THE MAHDI TAKES CHARGE

3. GORDON IS BEHEADED

4. DEATH OF THE MAHDI

5. REVENGE: ROUND ONE

6. REVENGE AND DESECRATION

7. A COWARD'S FEATHERS



This map depicts the extent of the Mahdist revolt at the time the Mahdi died in 1885. The basic map, used for this image, is an [1885 historical map of Africa](#) online via the [map collection at University of Texas, Austin](#).

Mahdist forces destroyed Khartoum in 1885, but the victory for the Mahdi himself was short-lived. Soon after capturing Khartoum, he died on 20 June 1885. Although the facts are not totally clear, he most likely succumbed to [typhus](#).

After Ahmed's death, he was buried in an impressive tomb, with a mosque, at Omdurman. But without his leadership, the Sudan was once again damaged by constant warfare. Ahmed's successor, Khalifa Abdallahi, made Omdurman his capital.

Omdurman grew because it was the place where the Mahdi was buried. Although adherents to his form of Islam were forbidden from making pilgrimages to Mecca—one of the [five pillars](#) of a Muslim's faith—Mahdists made pilgrimages to Omdurman where they visited the tomb of their fallen leader.

For thirteen years, until 1898, the Mahdists were [in charge](#). (The "period of the Mahdists" is called "the Mahdiyya.") But the end of the story was far from over. Revenge for Gordon's death, and the desecration of his body, would erupt into the battle for Omdurman.

It is here, just before the long-anticipated battle begins, that A.E.W. Mason begins his tale of [The Four Feathers](#).

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/DEATH-OF-THE-MAHDI-Four-Feathers-The>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

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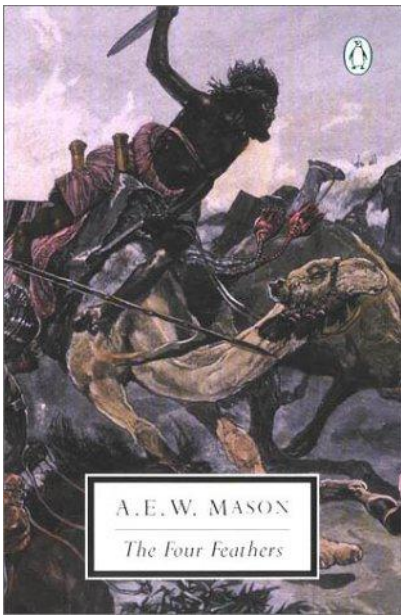
Media Stream



El Mahdi

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AEW Mason's the Four Feathers

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