

I LOVE MY PROPHETS



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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I LOVE MY PROPHETS

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Nehir Aydın GÖKDUMAN

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Preface

This book that is prepared for elementary school children narrates the life stories of the prophets who are mentioned in Holy Qur'an most in a realistic and sensible way for children. Because of the fact that, a separate book telling the life of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) has already been written, his life has not been included here again.

This book is aimed to be a supplementary course book. After the narration of the lives of the prophets, various questions and activities have been added for a better emotional and intellectual understanding and comprehension of the information presented in it. In order to strengthen what is learned from this book and ensure the children's active participation in the class, they are given the opportunity to express their opinions.

The Prophet
Adam (pbuh)
and
Hawwa (eve)







The Prophet Adam (pbuh) and Hawwa (Eve)

The first human being on earth; the Prophet Adam...

In very old times our Lord Allah the Almighty created our world and the sky. Allah is powerful enough to do all these things. He decorated our world with very green trees, intense blue seas and beautiful rivers. He created fishes in the seas and birds on the trees. He adorned the green fields with flowers.

He created the sun to warm us up and illuminate our world. He equipped the sky with the moon and stars. The moon and stars illuminate our nights.

While all these things were happening, our world was empty. In all those very vast fields and very green forests, there was not even a single person living. Neither a man or woman nor a child... Of course, none of those beauties were created in vain. The time was up. Allah wanted to create human beings. In order to have them live on earth, to cultivate on it, to build houses, roads, bridges and to know his Lord and to serve Him, to remember the name of their Lord in every place and to worship Him. So He said to angels:

- I will create a human being on earth.

Angels said:

- O our Lord! While we praise and glorify you, will you create a human being who will destroy the order on earth and shed blood?

Allah said to them:

- I know what you do not know!

Angels never object to our Lord. They do whatever Allah tells them to do. So, they immediately stopped talking and kept quiet. And then, they said to each other:

- Of course, our Lord knows everything, He creates nothing in vain.

Allah said to angels:

- I will create the human from dust and will blow life in him from my own soul and I will give him life. And show him respect by prostrating down before him.

Angels said:

- We have heard your command and obeyed it, O our Lord.

However, Satan did not like Allah's command. Because he was considering himself as the most superior one among the beings created by Allah. He was very arrogant.

And Allah created the first human Adam from dust. He gave him a shape and life. Then commanded the angels to prostrate before Adam. Angels prostrated before Adam with respect.

However, Satan disobeyed Allah's command. He did not prostrate before Adam. He was very arrogant and proud. He believed that he was superior to the angels and the human being. Allah asked him:

- Why did not you prostrate before Adam, even though I commanded you to do so?

Satan continued to refuse the command and said:

- I am superior to Adam. You created me from fire and created him from dust. Why should I prostrate before him!

Even though Satan believed in the power of Allah, and accepted Allah as his Lord, he was defeated by his arrogance. His mistake was big and he was persistent on his mistake. Thus, Allah the Almighty said to Satan:

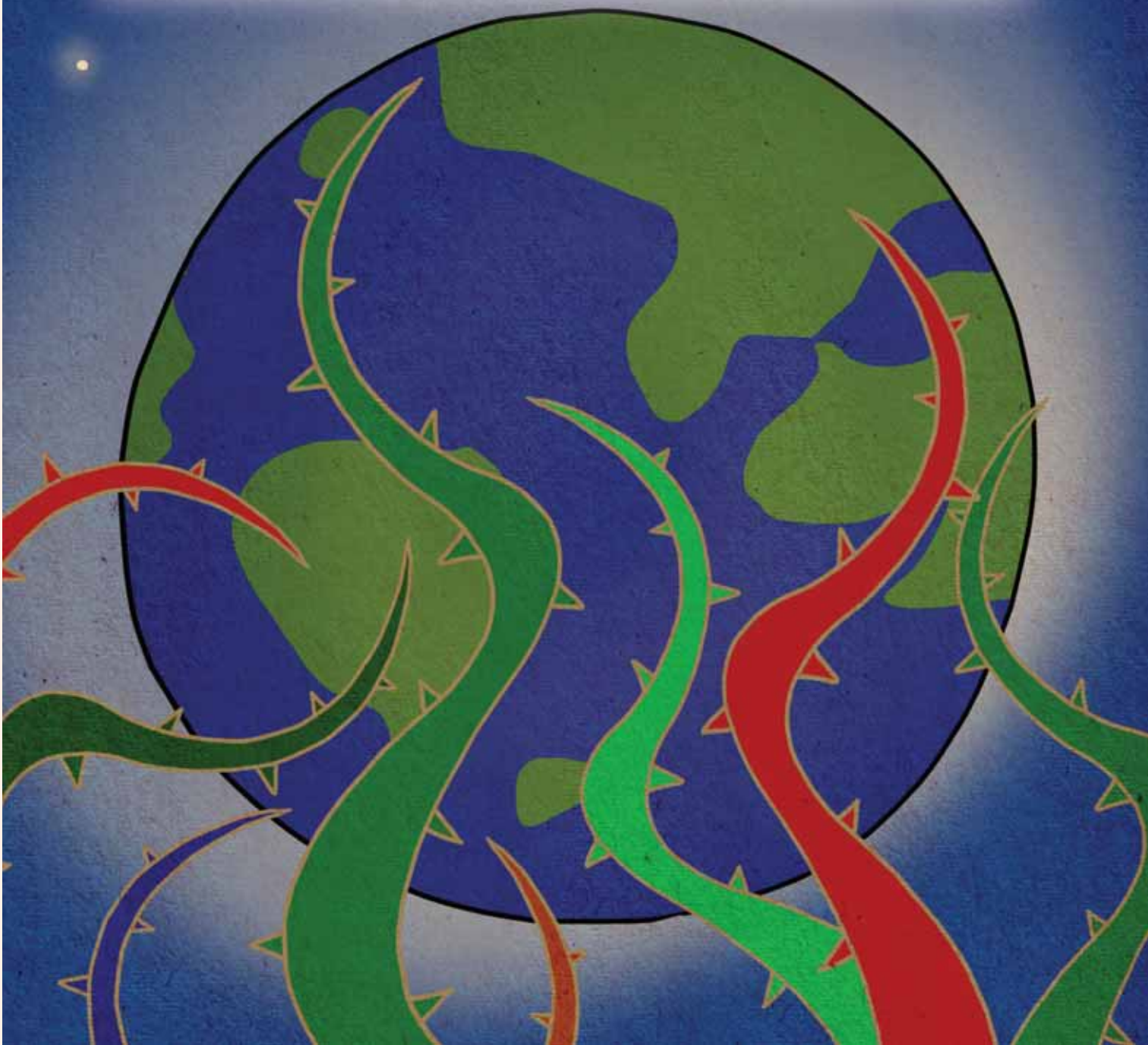
- Get out of heaven immediately. You have no right to act superior to anyone here. From now on, you are from the wrongdoers.

Satan did not know that his arrogance would bring on him so much trouble. While he had been happily living in heaven, he was expelled from it. What is worse was that he was deprived of Allah's mercy and grace. What would he do alone? A hard life was waiting for him. He was in a deep sor-

row and anger. Instead of blaming himself, his heart filled up with jealousy against Adam. He thought that if Adam would not be created, none of those things would have happened. Therefore, the first human being had to pay for it.

People whose hearts are filled with evil want others to be in bad condition. With these thoughts in mind, Satan said to Allah:

- O Lord, since you expelled me from heaven, from now on, I will aim to make Adam and his children go astray from your path. I will call them to



do evil and bad things. Allow me to do what I want until the day that human beings will be resurrected.

Allah is the One who loves and protects his servants. He is the most merciful of the merciful. Allah loves us more than our parents. He said to Satan:

- I put wisdom in Adam's and his children's hearts. And I will support them with verses that I will reveal through my prophets. I will show them the right path. They can separate evil from good by obeying my verses and by using their minds. Those who use their minds would never go astray from my straight path. But if they don't use their minds and follow your path, they will be responsible for what they do. You will never be able to make my righteous servants who sincerely follow my words go astray from my straight path.

And Allah sent the Satan away from His presence:

- Now get out of here! You also have me permission until the Last Day.

Later, Allah wanted to show that Adam is the most superior one among other beings. He taught Adam the names of beings on earth. Tree, flower, insect, bird, mountain, sea and whatever comes to our minds... Adam learned these names. Allah the Almighty asked names of these entities to angels first. Angels said:

- O our Lord! We do not know except the things that you let us know. You are the only One who knows everything and decide.

Upon this answer of angels, Allah the Almighty said:

- O Adam, say the names of the beings.



And without any hesitation, Adam told the names of animals and other beings whose names he had learned.

Allah the Almighty said:

- O my angels! Have not I told you that I know all the truth about the sky and earth?

One more time, angels understood that Adam has some superior features to them.

The second breath on earth; Hawwa (Eve)...

Allah the Almighty placed Adam in His heaven. Adam was living there alone. Heaven was a wonderful place. The first human was very happy with his life. Who would not want to live among so many kinds of beauties... Adam was eating fruits directly from the branches of the trees as many as he wanted and was drinking from honey spring waters of heaven. His gratitude to Allah was endless. His biggest desire was to be a faithful servant to His Lord.

There is not any difficulty for Allah to create. And there are big meanings hidden in everything He plans. Now it was the turn to create second human being.

Adam fell asleep. When he woke up, he saw a woman sitting by him and looking at him. Bewilderedly he asked:

- Who are you? What is your name?

This new human said to him:



- I am a woman.

Adam welcomed her with admiration. He was very happy to meet someone from his own species, moving and talking like him. Just then, angels came and asked to Adam:

- O Adam, tell us what is her name?

Adam answered happily:

- Eve, her name is Eve.

After that day, Adam and Eve started to live in heaven. They had no sorrow or fear. They never got tired or became sick. They were in safety and peace. They did never hurt and offended each other. They never argued. They were easily reaching to all blessings in heaven. Their hearts were full of gratitude to their Lord who created these beauties.

Forbidden Tree and the Satan's Oath

While they were living happily in heaven, one day Allah the Almighty said to Adam:

- O Adam, you and your spouse live in heaven. Eat and drink whatever you desire. But do not approach this tree. It is forbidden to you. If you do not obey my command, you will ruin yourself.

Allah gave human the power of thinking and inference. He wanted to strengthen the wills of Adam and Eve by forbidding a tree in heaven. There is a meaning and wisdom lie behind every rule that is established by Allah. However, Satan does not like commandments and prohibitions. And all the

time, he prepares some tricks to delude human beings. He would never be stopped.

Adam and Eve obeyed Allah's command. They stayed away from the tree. But Allah knew Satan and his tricks, warned them once again:

- O Adam! Satan is the enemy of you and Eve. Be careful so that he does not make you fall into his tricks and expel from heaven while there is neither hunger nor thirst nor any other distress for you in here.



Adam and Eve continued to live peacefully in heaven. But, in the meantime Satan did not stay idle. He was thinking about finding a way to lead Adam and Eve into his tricks. He was so jealous of Adam and Eve. Well, what was he going to do? Adam and his spouse would not intentionally commit a sin. So, he should find a smart way to trick them.

Just then, he made a plan. One day, he came to Adam and said:

- You two, would not you want to live in heaven forever?

Adam looked at him bewilderedly. It was the first time he faced such a question. Satan pointed out the forbidden tree.

Adam looked at the direction that Satan pointed out. It was the tree that Allah forbade them. He did not want to listen to Satan. He moved away immediately by saying:

- Leave me alone, but Satan was stubborn. He determined to deceive Adam in one way or another. He called Adam again and said:

- Do you know why did your Lord forbid this tree from you? Because if you eat its fruit, you will become immortal and live in heaven forever.

Adam felt very bad. Satan was confusing him and he cast the Satan away again. Satan did not stop. When he could not deceive them, he found a bigger lie:

- O Adam, he said. Why don't you believe in me? I swear to Allah that I consider what is best for you. I am just advising you.

When they heard the name of Allah, Adam and Eve's hearts trembled, because they thought that nobody could swear in the name of Allah in vain. Because it was a great sin. However, they did not think how obstinate and liar Satan was. That is why, with all good intentions they said:

- Nobody swear in the name of Allah in vain. It seems like he is a candid person and he is telling the truth.

And they went to the forbidden tree and ate its fruit. But as soon as they choke down the fruit, they realized their mistake. However, what is done was done. Suddenly they became naked. They did not know what to do in shame.



They felt remorse. They run away to find a place to seek shelter. However, running away from Allah is impossible. Because His power encompasses whatever is in the heavens and on earth. Allah is all-seeing and all-knowing. He also knew that Adam and Eve approached to the forbidden tree and ate its fruit. When He saw that they were running away, He asked:

- O Adam! Are you trying to escape from me?

Adam was very sad. Repentantly he said:

- No, my Lord. I know that I cannot escape from you but I feel very ashamed of what I have done.

Allah the Almighty asked:

- Did not I warn you not to approach that tree? And did not I tell you that Satan is your clear enemy?

Feeling ashamed, Adam and his wife bowed down their heads and prayed:

- O our Lord! We destroyed ourselves by breaking our promise. Show mercy to us and forgive us. We do not want to be from the wrongdoers. Guide us to the straight path.

Adam and Eve kept on praying to attain Allah's forgiveness with all their hearts. Allah the Almighty asked Adam:

- O Adam! I put you in heaven. I bestowed upon you whatever you desired. Was not what I gave you enough for you? Why did you eat the fruit of the forbidden tree?

In tears, Adam said:

- O my Lord! I was not expecting that somebody would swear in Your name in vain.

Allah said to Adam and Eve:

- Since you broke my rule in heaven, from now on you will go to the earth and live there. On the earth, you will get tired, sweat, and get into difficulties.

Adam and Eve kept quiet in a great sorrow. Their peaceful life in heaven was about to end. Now, there was an unknown and very different life in front of them. They wondered what kind of difficulties they were going to face.

Allah called out to Adam, Eve and Satan:

- Get out of here as the enemies of each other. You will live on the earth for a period that I determined for you. Then you will die there and will be resurrected there.

Adam's and Eve's hearts were filled with pain. They were perished for listening to the Satan. Both of them were in tears. They asked for forgiveness from their Lord with all their hearts.

Allah is forgiving and merciful. He showed mercy to Adam and Eve. He forgave them by accepting their prayers.

Life on the Earth

Thus the adventure of Adam and his spouse on earth started. But life would not be easy like the one in heaven. There were jungles, huge seas, lakes, long rivers, streams, high mountains and hills, endless deserts, cliffs, green fields and plains on the earth. Various kinds of animals were living there. Elephants, lions, tigers, snakes, birds, insects of all kinds. At first, all of them looked scary.

It was not easy for Adam and Eve to get used to their new life. However, our Lord always protects and takes care of all His servants. He did not leave them alone and unprotected on the earth. Adam and his wife regulated their lives in accordance with the rules informed them by Allah and by means of their minds that could understand these rules and apply them in their lives. They learned something new every passing day. How to take shelter, how to supply their food, how to protect themselves from cold and hot weathers, how to clean themselves...

Adam went into the forest to find food. Sometimes he hunted, sometimes picked up fruits from the trees. Eve helped her husband in his tasks. Life on



earth was intense and hard. Both of them were working hard, sweating, and getting tired.

Days and months passed and time flew ...Adam and Eve had many children. Day by day, they got used to the life on earth. At the same time, Adam was the first prophet of humanity. He taught the commands and prohibitions of Allah to his children and they delivered these to their generations. He was the first representative of the religion of Tawhid (Believing in and declaring Allah's oneness and unity and not to associate partners to His sovereignty) sent by Allah to humanity.

With Adam, people's adventure on earth began. Those who believe in the religion of Tawhid, listen to the commands of their Lord and never associate any partners to Him will be rewarded by Him. And those who listen to Satan's words will become away from Allah's mercy both in this world and in the hereafter. Who would want to be punished by Allah the Almighty, instead of loved by Allah, adhering to His religion and returning to heaven...



HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. What is the reason behind Satan's rejection to prostrate before Adam?
2. Why was Adam and Eve expelled from heaven?

Find The Correct Answer

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Which one of the followings is the first human?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Adam (pbuh)B. Eve (pbuh)C. Muhammad (pbuh)D. Yusuf (pbuh)2. Which one of the followings is the first prophet of humanity?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Muhammad (pbuh)B. Noah (pbuh)C. Adam (pbuh)D. Abraham (pbuh) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Which one of the followings cannot be the reason for Allah's creation of humanity?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. To serve AllahB. To obey SatanC. To know AllahD. To pray Allah4. Which one of the followings is the reason behind Adam and Eve's being expelled from heaven?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. To learn the life on the earthB. Heaven is the place for angelsC. Adam and Eve asked for itD. They ate from the forbidden tree |
|--|--|

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use the following words in a sentence.

Forbidden Tree:

.....

.....

Angel:

.....

.....

Human:

.....

.....

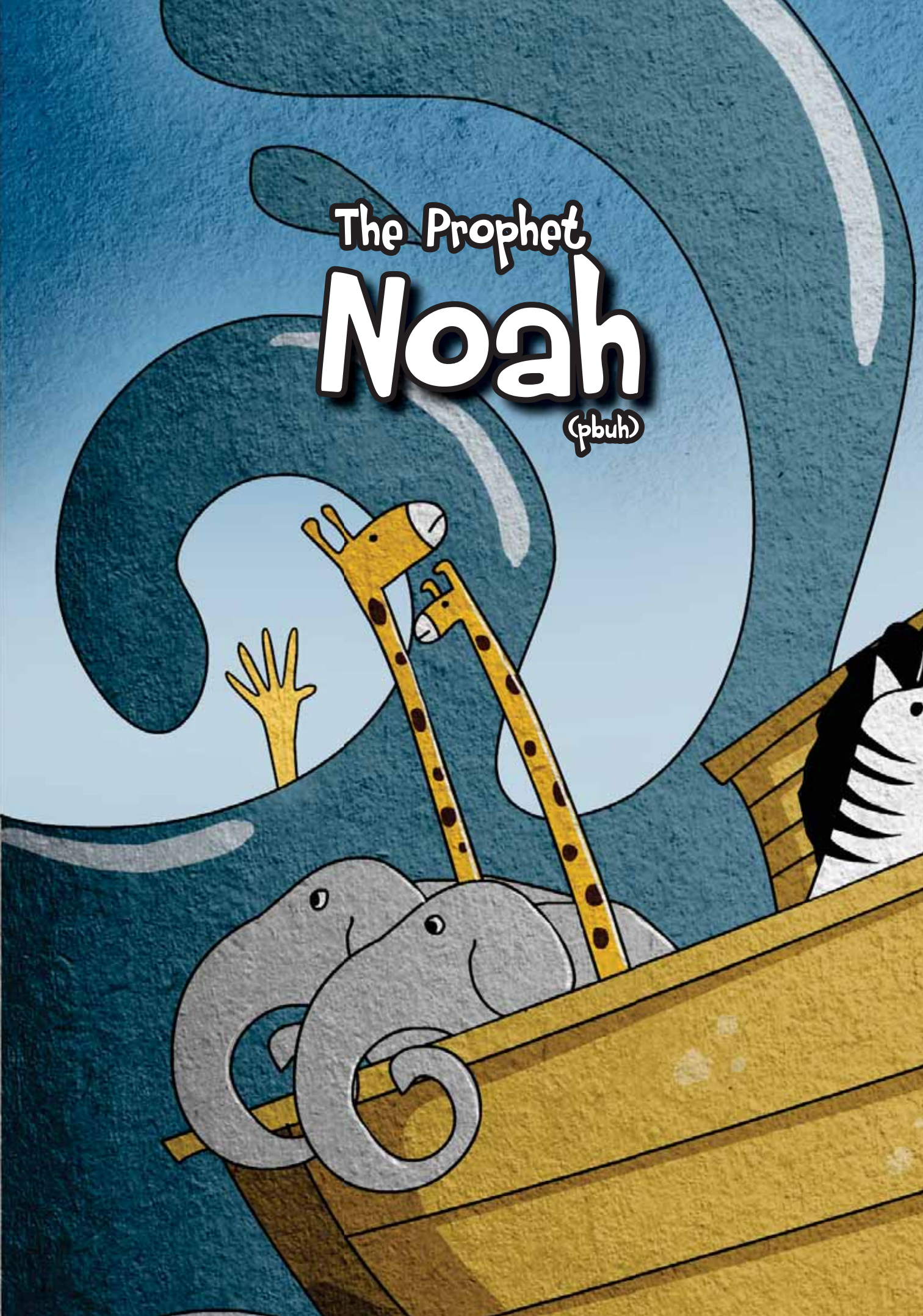
Earth:

.....

.....



The Prophet **Noah** (pbuh)







The Prophet Noah (pbuh)

The Prophet Noah (pbuh) and His Message

The number of children of Adam and Eve increased on earth. They built houses, constructed roads, established villages and towns. They became stronger by helping each other. They learned how to struggle with difficulties. They had houses to seek shelter from rain and storm. They had fields to do farming. They had domestic animals. They benefit from their milk, meat, and wool. They learned how to make objects from wood, stone, marble, and clay. People turned into a huge community on earth.

The world that Allah created for human beings became more beautiful with human beings. After the creation of human beings, the sun started to shine livelier, stars decorated the sky like a lantern, and birds were tweeting on trees happily. People were grateful for the beauties that Allah provided for them. However, we should not forget the existence of Satan that was sent to the earth with the human beings. Satan who was deprived of Allah's mercy because of disobedience to Allah's command and not bowing down before Adam was still after human beings. He was planning tricks to make people stray away from the path of serving to Allah.

The eternal enemy did not deviate from his aims. He continuously whispered evil to the ears of the children of Adam in order to lead them away from the straight path of Allah. In time, some people listened to him. Day by day they forgot about their responsibilities towards their Lord and occupied themselves with worldly life. They started not to care the pleasure of Allah. They started to cheat and mix bad things in their deeds. Day by day the number of people who listened to Satan's whippers increased, while the number of good and righteous people decreased.

Eventually people forgot the religion based on the unity of Allah (tawhid). When they moved away from their Lord, they accepted some mediators between Allah and themselves. Based on various reasons, they started to make idols from wood, stones, and clay and to worship them. These idols were sculptures shaped in odd and strange forms. In fact, even though Allah forgives all kinds of sins, He will never forgive the sins of those who associate partners to Him. This was what Satan wanted.

People turned away worshipping to Allah and started to worship idols. According to them, the idols were the ones who gave them the goodness and evil. Whoever had a problem would consult to the idols. When something good happened to them, they thought that it was from their idols. They sacrificed animals before them and offered things to them. They believed that they needed to please the idols not to suffer from their rage. Whereas, these idols were inanimate objects representing dead people. They could neither harm nor give benefit to human beings.

However, there are such people among the servants of Allah that Satan cannot take them away from the straight path no matter how much he tries. These human beings obey the commands and prohibitions of Allah in every place and every time. Their hearts are filled with both love and fear of Allah. They know for what reason that they were created. They do not search for false gods to worship.

One of these righteous servants was the Prophet Noah (pbuh).

Noah was very upset by the actions of his community. They had moved away from the path of Allah and had been worshipping idols. Our Lord knew

the sorrow and loneliness of Noah. He chose Noah as His Messenger and commanded him to warn and inform his community.

With the mission given to him by Allah, Noah stood before his community and said:

- O my people. I am a messenger sent by the Lord of the worlds. Why are you worshipping these idols made from rock or clay instead of the Lord who created you? Think about it, what kind of benefit or harm can they give to you? You are absolutely on the wrong way. Certainly, Allah is the One who created you and there is no god but Him. Allah taught you how to do farm, to walk in safety, to hunt and earn your livelihood on the earth. He is the One who sends down rain from the sky to enable you live on the earth. Therefore, worship your Lord who created you. Leave everything that you worship other than Allah.

People looked at Noah in surprise. They heard things that they did not like. Those who lead people in worshipping idols got very angry about these words. Until that day, nobody had told them that they had been on the wrong way. Idols to which they had been worshipping did not interfere with their life, establish any rules or prohibit anything. Because all of those idols were lifeless sculptures made of rock or wood. Now, a poor man with no wealth like Noah came and told them such things about their idols! They thought that Noah should certainly have some benefit from turning them from the path of their idols.

But Noah said:

- I am just a warner. I am delivering the commandments of Allah to you. I expect nothing in return. I want no wealth from you. My reward will be given to me by Allah, the Lord of the worlds.

Noah's struggle continued for years. After a time, some people among his community believed in him and said:

- O Noah, you are telling the truth. We got no benefit from the idols that we had been worshipping until today. They neither talk nor move. Yes, they cannot be our Lord. Thank Allah, we found the truth. We believe that there is no god but Allah. From now on, we are with you.

Those who believed in Noah were poor and people with pure hearts. From that day on, they kept their promise. They left worshipping idols and followed the path shown by Noah. They started to worship only Allah.

Noah was happy. He maintained delivering the message of Allah in hope... However, their leaders revolted against Noah and said:

- Who are you? In fact, we see that you are the one who is on the wrong way. These are our gods. We will never abandon them.

Noah said:

- O my people! I am on a straight path. I am just conveying you the commandments of my Lord. If you continue to worship idols, I fear that Allah will punish you.

However, the hearts of those arrogant people were like stones. They did not want to give up the



idols they made with their own hands. They turned a deaf ear to Noah and said:

- What superiority do you have over us? Did Allah choose a poor man like you as a prophet? On the top of that, most of those who believe in you are poor people! If Allah had wanted to send a messenger to us, it could have only been an angel. And you are a human being like us. We think that you are lying.

The Prophet Noah was very upset about his community's obstinacy. He said them as follows:

- O my community! Even though I am a poor man, I sincerely follow the commands of my Lord. Allah loves those who are kind-hearted and obedient



to Him. Poor people are precious in my eyes. Being poor is not a crime. If I send them away who can save me from Allah's punishment?

The community of Noah (pbuh) acted like blind and deaf. They were insisting not to understand the messenger. By mocking him, they said:

- We thought that you are a clever man. But you are insane. Will you take our idols down with these poor people? Only an insane person would dare such thing. We will never believe in any of your words.

Noah said to his community:

- Let's assume that I am telling the truth. What if I am a warner sent to you? What if Allah charged me with prophethood? Why don't you want to understand? If you persist in resisting, I cannot impose this on to you!

The rich leaders of Noah's community overstepped their limits and said:

- From now on, stay away from us. We do not want to listen to you. We are content with our situation.

The struggle between Noah and his community continued for long years. He warned them tirelessly. He kept saying:

- O my community! Please listen to me. Worship only Allah. Do not accept any mediators between you and Allah. Did you forget? Allah is your Lord who gave you possessions and children. He is the One who created the sky and put sun and moon in the sky like lanterns. He is the One who grows various kinds of plants on the earth for you. Allah has laid down the earth for His servants. How cannot you understand and worship Him?

However, obstinacy of deniers continued. They did not listen to Noah because they were afraid to leave their idols and accept the Religion of Unity by believing in Noah. They had been used to live according to their own will. They want nothing in their life in the name of goodness and righteousness. It was the characteristic of virtuous people to say that Allah is one and embrace His religion.

The efforts of the messenger of Allah remained inconclusive for years. When they see him, they did not look at him. They changed their ways and covered their ears with their hands. Noah did not stop to warn them. He

started every day with hope and invited people to accept only the sovereignty of Allah.

- O my community, he said. Give up your obstinacy. Return to your real Lord. Allah is the One who forgives His servants. Pray Allah to be forgiven. Turn to Him so that He will provide His blessings upon you so that He will increase your possessions and children. Believe in Him so that He gives you vineyards and gardens beneath which rivers flow...

These nice warnings did not help, either. Prominent members of Noah's community arrogantly said to people:

- Never leave your idols. Neither Wadd, nor Suwa, Yegus, Yauk and Nasr.

Their hearts had darkened. They opposed the Noah's warnings and did not want to believe in Him. Noah was about to lose his hope. He said to his community:

- I fear that Allah will punish you because of your obstinacy. Why don't you listen to me before the Day of Punishment?

They all were so blind and their hearts were like stones. They turned their backs negligently:

- O Noah, they said. Again and again you frighten us with the punishment of Allah. Well, bring that punishment upon us so we see it.

The hope was not endless... Noah invited his community to Allah for many years. However, those who have belief in Allah were like a handful of people. Disbelievers increased their pressures and mocking. When they met Noah they said:

- Go away, stay away from us. If you ever come to us, we will stone you.

The Prophet Noah's Prayer

The Prophet Noah (pbuh) finally understood. After long years of struggle, they will not be convinced. He had no strength and hope left. He turned to his Lord:

- O my Lord, he said. I advised on my community night and day. However, they did not listen to me and moved away from me. Whenever I invited them to the right path, they put their fingers in their ears, covered their faces with their clothes, and showed arrogance. They rebelled against me. They followed the despotic people whose wealth and children provide no benefit to them. My invitation increased only their rebellious attitude. Moreover, they led each other to evil. You are the One who will decide between me and my community. My Lord, forgive me and forgive the believers with me. And punish the wrongdoers.

Allah is All-Seeing and All-Knowing. Certainly, He knew how His messenger struggled to help his people. He was aware of sufferings of Noah and those who believed in him. He gave a long time to the unbelievers on the earth but most of them did not believe in Him.

Allah the Almighty accepted the prayer of His messenger:

- Do not grieve, He said. We will save you and those who believed in with you. The wrongdoers will be drowned. Now do not wait. Start to build an ark.

Noah did not know how to build an ark. Allah the Exalted taught His prophet how to build it. Noah started to work without having a rest. He went to the woods to cut down trees. He then made timber from them and pieced the boards together. In every step, Noah was praying and taking refuge with His Lord. He was living with the dream of the day that he was going to finish the ark. When the prominent members of his society saw him working so hard, they said:

- O Noah! We see that you have given up prophethood and become a carpenter. You are not saying those strange words to us anymore. When is the Day of Punishment that you were talking about?

Noah was smiling. Without raising his head, he said:

- Keep mocking at me. Very soon, you will know upon whom a wretched punishment will come.

The time passed like a flowing river. In the end, Noah completed building the ark. The ark was ready to float on the water. Noah was happy to finish his job. Allah said to him:

- O Noah! It is time. Now take the believers of your family and your community to your ark and a couple from every animal species.

Upon this commandment, Noah started to gather the animals living on the earth. Cow, sheep, camel, horse, lion, tiger, elephant, giraffe, snake, scorpion, monkey... He took a couple of animals from every created species. He placed them in shelters that he built on the ark. Then he said to the believers:

- Come on. Get on the ark moving with the command of Allah. Both its floating and stopping takes place with the command of Allah. Indeed, my Lord is forgiving and preserving.

His family and all the believers got on the ark. However, Noah's wife and one of his sons did not get on board, because they also were from the unbelievers.

The Flood

At last, all the preparations were completed. Passengers got on board of the ark. All the doors and windows were shut down. The journey was about to begin. Just then, a great storm broke out on the earth. The sky became like coal-black. Lightning flashed. After that, a rain started to fall on the earth so heavy that people had never seen that kind of rain. Rain was followed by waters flushing from the earth. The world quickly became like a lake. The height of water gradually rose and increased over the height of the houses and trees.

The ark was ready to float in the midst of wild waves.

Everywhere on the earth became like a disaster area. People who had been mocking at Noah until the day before started to run from one place to another. They were looking for a place to take shelter from the storm. The sounds of screams and prayers covered all over the world and the sky. Right then, Noah saw his son waiting on the shore. He called his son with all his affection:

- My son! Come and get on the ark. Do not be with unbelievers.

Raising his head, Noah's son turned his back. He revolted against his father:

- I, he said. I am going to climb up the mountains over there. The mountain will protect me from the waves.

Noah was very sad. He shouted as loud as he could:

- My son, do not be a stubborn! Today, there is no salvation for people except for those who believing in Allah.

His son did not listen to him. At that moment, wild waves came between the father and the son. Noah's son fell into the water. He could not go to the mountain that he had mentioned. Because even that mountain was under water. He died before the very eyes of his father.

The heart of the messenger of Allah filled with great sorrow. He could not stand for the pain of his son. He prayed to Allah:

- O my Lord, he said. My son was a member of my family. In fact, you promised me to save my whole family. O my Lord! Give my son back. You are All-Powerful.

Allah said to Noah:

- He is not from your family because he was not one of the believers. Do not ask me for something that you have no knowledge about. Or you will be one of the ignorant people.

Noah realized his mistake. His son was not accepted a member of his family because of his disbelief. Because, according to Allah's command, only those who believed in Him and obeyed His commands were brothers and sisters. Noah felt sorry about his prayer. He repented and asked forgiveness from Allah.

Allah always forgives His righteous servants. He forgave Noah, too.

Believers in the ark were watching the drowning unbelievers in dismay. There was no place to run. Roads, houses, trees, mountains, hills, in short whatever on the earth all of them disappeared. The water was sucking everything in it like a tornado. It was impossible to fight with wild waves. Unbelievers caught up in water one by one. There was no being left on the earth except for those in the ark.

Unfortunately, the end of those who do not listen to the messengers of Allah becomes very sad.

Allah's promise was certain. He saved Noah and the believers. The ark started to move forward in the midst of high waves. The journey continued for days and nights... Believers in the ark waited patiently and longingly the day that they will step on the earth again.

After some time, Allah commanded:

- O sky, hold your rain; O earth, swallow your water!

Rain stopped. Waters dried. The sun rose and warmed the earth up with its powerful heat. Noah's ark grounded on Mountain Judi. At that moment, a deep silence covered the ark. Bewilderedly, passengers looked at each other. Did the journey end? Windows of the ark opened. Faces of believers light-

ened with the bright sunshine. Hearts filled up with joy and gratitude. Finally, they stepped on the earth again.

Animals in the ark also felt this joy. Sounds of howling, lowing, roaring, and barking filled the place. The joy of people and animals was worth seeing. They had been saved from the Flood with the permission of Allah. A new life was waiting for them...

Believers were repeating all together in joy:

- Thanks to Allah who saved us from wrongdoers and conveyed us to the light and happiness!...

They looked forward to get off the ark. Noah looked outside from the window. Waters had gone and the earth had dried. There was a shining sun outside. The earth was like getting ready to welcome its new guests. Green fields, jungles, rivers flowing with a pleasant noise, and fragrant flowers were once again given to the service of the believers.

In front of this beautiful view, the prophet Noah opened the gates of ark. He released pairs of animals one by one to the earth. Lions, tigers, elephants, horses got out of sight joyfully. Birds flew to the freedom. Reptile, frog, insect, fly all animals took their places in nature.

Allah said to Noah:

- Get off the ark and live on the earth. We will present you as an example to the next generations.

Believers got off the ark. They spread around the earth from Mountain Judi. The seeds of a good life were planting on the earth again.

Noah and his family got off the ark. They were so happy. They set to work without wasting any time. In time, they built shelters and grew crops by cultivating the earth. Noah and his friends had many children. Their children had children, and so the number of people increased again and spread around the world. Life passed like flowing water. Years and centuries passed like that. Sun continued to heat the earth and stars continued to illuminate the night. The earth prepared by Allah for his servants became a house, village, homeland to the people again.

HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. Why being arrogant is bad?
2. Why the community of the prophet Noah was punished?
3. What kind of a conclusion we can get from the things happened to Noah's wife and son?

Find the Correct Answer

1. Why did Satan be expelled from heaven?
 - A. Because he ate from the forbidden fruit
 - B. Because he did not prostrate before Adam
 - C. Because he deceived people
 - D. Because he was not one of the angels
2. Which one of the following sins will not be forgiven by Allah?
 - A) Disobedience to parents
 - B) Telling lies
 - C) Stealing
 - D) Associating partners with Allah
3. Which people can Satan lead astray from the straight path?
 - A) Those who do not like to pray.
 - B) Those whose hearts filled with the love and fear of Allah
 - C) Those who know why they were created
 - D) Those who know how to live
4. Which one of the followings is not among the answers given by the community of Noah when he invited them to Allah?
 - A) Who are you to tell this?
 - B) You are on the straight path
 - C) Keep your meaningless advices to yourself
 - D) These idols are our gods.

5. Which one of the followings is not among advices given by Noah to his community?
 - A. Worship only to Allah
 - B. Do not put mediators between Allah and you
 - C. Give up your persistence
 - D. Sacrifice an animal
6. Which one of the followings cannot be among reasons behind the obstinacy of Noah's community?
 - A. Entering Religion of Unity scared them
 - B. They got used to live according to their own will
 - C. Noah's wealth
 - D. They did not want righteousness in their lives
7. How many people believed in Noah?
 - A. A handful of people
 - B. His whole community
 - C. Half of his community
 - D. No one
8. What did Allah ask Noah to build?
 - A. A plane
 - B. An ark
 - C. A train
 - D. A car
9. Who did get on the ark of Noah?
 - A. Just human beings
 - B. Just animals
 - C. His family
 - D. Believers and pairs of animals
10. Which one of the following family member of Noah was unbeliever?
 - A. His uncle
 - B. His wife and son
 - C. Just his wife
 - D. His mother
11. Which one of the followings is the kind of punishment given by Allah to the community of Noah?
 - A. Earthquake
 - B. Tsunami
 - C. Flood
 - D. Drove snakes

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use following words in a sentence.

Flood:

.....

.....

Ark:

.....

.....





The Prophet

Abraham

(pbuh)





The Prophet Abraham (pbuh)

I have found my Lord!

In very old times, there was a cruel king called Nimrud. He was a very harsh person. He was so arrogant that he considered himself as the most powerful person on the earth. He rebelled against Allah who created him and had him live. He had his statues built everywhere and ordered to his community:

- I am your real lord and the only ruler. From now on, you will prostrate to me and you will bow respectfully before my statues.

People living in Nimrud's country were not knowledgeable people. They suffered under Nimrud's oppressions and threats. Their fear and ignorance took them away from Allah. They were considering Nimrud their supreme god. They were not even thinking about being disobedient to him. On the other hand, rebelling against his orders required great courage.

Nimrud also allowed his people to worship idols that they sculpted from stone and wood with their own hands. He wanted them to engage in idle things and not to know Allah. In fact, by doing so he maintained his own rule and sovereignty. With his permission, everywhere in his country filled with idols. People even arranged religious festivals in the name of these idols. In those special days, people used to share their happiness with sculptures made from earth, and used to make vows and slaughter sacrifices for them.

There was a child living in the country of Nimrud and he could not make sense of these things happening in the country. The name of this child was Abraham. His father was a sculptor of idols. He used to make idols and sell them in market places. By this way, he used to earn his livelihood. From time to time, he used to give them to Abraham and ask him to sell them.

Abraham did not like to sell idols. Not to break his father's heart, he would go to market place. However, on his way to market, he would drag the idols on the road and shout out unwillingly:

- Is not there anyone who would like to buy these inanimate idols?

Nobody would buy idols from this weird child. Because he did not respect idols. People in the market place would feel that he did not believe in the idols. They would even get angry with him.

As Abraham grew older, his problems got bigger also. He could not understand how his parents and other people around him worshipped these powerless and inanimate objects. How could people make their gods with their own hands? Was not god supposed to be All-Powerful? Do people create their god or does god create them?

When Abraham was alone, he would think about his Lord. "Who is our true Lord? Where is He? How can I find Him?" Such questions would keep his mind busy all the time. He wanted to find him and worship him.

One night when he was thinking about his Lord, a star in the dark blue sky caught his eye. It was so shiny that he started to watch it. He suddenly pointed the star and happily said:

- Here I found my Lord. It is not like the idols to which people worship. It is shiny. It seems like a living being and is very beautiful.

For hours, he watched the star that he thought to be his Lord... However, his joy did not continue very long. The light of the star diminished towards morning and eventually it disappeared. Abraham was bewildered and sad. He sighed and said:

- No, it cannot be my Lord. It disappeared just when I found it. I do not like those that disappear.

Days passed. Abraham continued his quest for finding Allah everywhere that he looked at. In the sky, on the earth, everywhere... In a silent and sorrowful night when he was watching the sky, he saw the rising moon. It was shining. It was like a fireball in night. Abraham filled with joy. He excitedly said:

- Yes, here is my Lord. Moon disperses the darkness of the night. How mighty... How could not I notice it before!

Abraham was watching the moon in joy and filling the emptiness in his heart with the love of it. However, with the break of dawn, the light of the fireball slowly paled down and disappeared. Once again, Abraham filled with sorrow. In tears flowing like rain, he said:

- Moon cannot be my Lord, either. It set and disappeared, too. My Lord, if you do not help me, I can't find the truth.

Abraham felt uneasy and it continued to increase more and more. His longing for Allah was not bearable. He continued his quest for Allah like a thirsty traveler's quest for water in a desert.

Abraham woke up early in a hot summer morning. He saw the sun rising among the mountains. The sun was very beautiful and shiny like an orange. As it rises, its lights were dispersing, warming, and illuminating around the earth. With a great joy:

- Here, he screamed. I have found my Lord this time. How could not I notice it before? This is greater than others and it illuminates everywhere. When it rises, even the moon that lightens the night disappears. My Lord that brings life to earth should be the sun.

Abraham was like walking in the air. Sun was not like the idols made of wood, rock and the soil. He did not see anything bigger than the sun on the earth.

However, with the passing of time the sun moved to west and started to gather its lights. In the evening it disappeared among the mountains. When it set like others, Abraham's joy disappeared. His heart filled with sorrow and his eyes filled with tears.

- Sun, moon, and the stars cannot be my Lord. All of them disappeared. There should be a Lord who created me, the stars, the moon, the sun, and everything on the earth. His sovereignty encompasses everything. He never disappears and He is All-Powerful.

With all his submission, Abraham started to pray. He opened his heart to the Lord of the worlds. Allah never refuses those who turn to Him. At that moment, a light rose in Abraham's heart. He felt being relieved of his burden. With a sincere love:

- My Lord is Allah, he said. I turned my face to the Creator of the heavens and the earth. I am away from the idols to which my community worship. I am not one of those who associate partners to Allah.

At last, Abraham found what he was looking for. He thanked his Lord who guided him to the straight path. There was no one happier than him. He persistently turned his Lord with all his heart and found the right path with His help.



Call for the Father Who is A Sculptor of Idols

Abraham was so excited. He was filled with the desire to tell everyone about his Lord. He was sorry most for his father who was a sculptor of idols. He wanted to start to tell the truth to his father. One morning, he went to his father. His father was worshipping the idols. Abraham waited for a while so his father finished his prayer. Abraham asked:

- My dear father, why are you worshipping these idols that can neither see, nor hear, nor provide a benefit for you?

His father looked at him surprisingly. By touching the idols gently, he said:

- Do not you know that these are entrusted to us by our ancestors. I saw my father and mother worshipping them.

In a gentle voice, Abraham said:

- My dear father, I have found my true Lord. Pay attention to my words, believe in me that I can guide you to the right path.

His father looked at him frowningly. His anger was obvious. To his son who talked against his idols, he said:

- What do you know? How old are you? Will I believe the words of a little child?

Abraham did not get angry with his father. He did not raise his voice and act impatiently:

- My dear father, he said. The idols that you worship are the works of Satan. Do not listen to Satan. He leads people go astray. Because he rebelled against Allah.

His father's anger increased. It was obvious that he did not want to listen to him. Abraham continued:

- My dear father! If you make friends with Satan and do not give up worshipping idols, I am afraid of the punishment of All-Merciful.

His father was unable to control his anger. He angrily rebuked his son who was always talking against the idols:

- Abraham, who is All-Merciful that you mentioned? Do not you believe in our gods?

- All-Merciful is Allah the Almighty the One and Only God, Abraham said. He is beyond time and space. His kingdom encompasses everyplace and everything. He is the Creator of everything and He gives life to everything. He is All-powerful.

His father was about to get mad:

- You apparently revolt against our gods, he shouted. Get out of here, now or I will stone you to death.

Abraham understood that he could not make his father listen to him:

- My beloved father! He said. I do not think as you do. May Allah save you. I will pray my Lord to forgive you.

Call for the Community and Nimrud

Ever since he knew his Lord, Abraham considered himself responsible for inviting people to Allah. From that time on, this became the purpose of his life. One day with all his courage, he went to palace in order to warn the king and his men. He found Nimrud along with others worshipping idols.

In those days, all those who came into the presence of Nimrud were required to prostrate him. However, Abraham did not bow down before him. He held his head high and waited. Nimrud asked angrily:

- Will not you prostrate me?

By taking a firm stand on his position, Abraham said:

- I do not bow down before anyone other than my Lord. I only worship Him and prostrate him.

Then he asked them:

- Why do you worship these idols?

Nimrud shouted like a thunder:

- You, he said. What are you saying? We found our ancestors worshipping these idols. Certainly, we will worship our idols as they did.

Abraham bravely said them:

- Your ancestors were in a manifest error. Were you obliged to act like them, just because your ancestors did so? Your idols are certainly my enemies. Allah, the Lord of the worlds, is my friend. He guided me to the

straight path. He is the One who lets me eat and drink. He heals me when I get sick.

Nimrud became very angry. He stood up angrily and shouted:

- Are you a big liar, or are you mocking at us?

- No, I am not a liar, nor I am mocking at you, Abraham said. I am just conveying the truth to you. Your Lord is Allah who created the heavens and the earth. Worship only Him.

Nimrud and his men looked at each other thinking “what this man was saying?” Abraham (pbuh) continued:

- When you call for your idols, do they hear you? Or do they harm and give benefit to you? Do not you think that only Allah have the power over everything?

Angry murmurings rose in the palace. Nimrud turned to Abraham and said:

- Is that right? Well, what kind of attributes does your Lord have?

Abraham:

- My Lord is the One who gives life and takes it away.

Nimrud arrogantly said:

- Is this so? I also give life and take it away.

Then he ordered his men to bring two poor men. Soldiers went immediately and soon after they turned back with two men. Nimrud pointed at one of them and commanded his soldiers:

- Behead him!

Man was killed right there.

For the other, Nimrud ordered:

- I am sparing his life. Release him.

The poor man left the palace in fear. Thereupon Nimrud got arrogant and said:

- You see, I also give life to whom I wish and cause death.

Nimrud's violence hurt Abraham's heart. However, he did not fear and step back. He did not lower his head.



- O Nimrud, he said. My Lord brings up the sun from the east. Show us that you are powerful enough to bring it up from the west.

After these words Nimrud stumped. Certainly he did not have such power. He felt himself helpless against Abraham. His face darkened because of his anger. He could not answer. To his soldiers:

- Take him, take him away! He shouted. Get him out of my sight!

Nimrud's soldiers dragged Abraham by force.

Upon this, Abraham said himself:

- I swear that I will set a trap for your idols after you went away!

Ask the Great Idol

Abraham did not afraid of Nimrud. He continued to invite his community to accept the unity of Allah's kingdom and to worship only Him. However, people did not listen to him. They got used to be the slaves for Nimrud. For those who have no faith, it was difficult to give up their habits.

It was a festival day in the country. When the festival day comes people used to cook meals, bring them to the temple (where the idols were) and put them in front of the idols. Then they would go out to the green fields and have fun throughout the day. Towards evening they would turn back to the temple and eat the food that they had left for the idols.

That day, they wanted to take Abraham with them. However, Abraham did not go with them. He was already watching for an opportunity to destroy the idols. When there was no one in the city, he took an axe in his hand and went to the temple. To the idols with meals in front of them, he asked:

- What happened? Do not you eat?

Idols were motionless as always. Then, Abraham shouted:

- Why are not you talking?

Certainly there was no response.

With all his power, Abraham started to hit the idols with his axe. He broke them one by one into pieces. In a minute, the temple was filled with scrapped pieces of wood and stone. He did not touch the greatest idol and hanged his axe on the neck of this unbroken idol.

When the festival celebrations were over, people turned back to the city happily. Women, men, the young, the old, children ran to the temple to eat and worship. However, they were shocked what they saw! Inside the temple was filled with the pieces of their idols. Broken idols were laying on the floor. People shouted bewilderedly and deeply grieved:

- Who did this to our idols? Which cruel person broke them?

One of them said:

- This should be the work of Abraham. He is the only one who does not like our idols. Do not you know that he always invites us to worship only one God.

Then they started to shout each other and said:

- Let's find him and call him to account for what he did. All of them started to look for Abraham (pbuh).

When Abraham met them, he was not surprised. He was already waiting for them. People caught and took him to the temple.

They asked:

- Are you the person who did this to our idols?

Abraham pointed the great idol with his finger and said:

- Why do not you ask this question to this? Look, it has the axe. Maybe it is the one that broke your idols.

People in crowd suspiciously looked at each other. They did not know what to do. One of them said:

- I think Abraham is telling the truth.

Another person objected:

- Rubbish! Did anyone among us hear that they talked? They are inanimate.

Someone else said:

- Abraham as you know, this cannot be the work of idols.

Abraham was expecting this answer. By softening his voice, he said:

- Here, you, too, accept that Idols are inanimate objects. So, why do you worship these idols who cannot talk, move and incapable of defending themselves? What kind of benefit do they provide you? What is the reason behind

your rejection to worship Allah the Only God, who created you, the Lord of the worlds?

People stayed silent for a moment. It seemed like everybody was listening to the voice of his or her consciences. However, it lasted a short time. Disobedience against Nimrud's orders would be an act of bravery. Once again angry voices raised... Instead of listening the invitation of Abraham, they shouted all together:

- Look at him! He might be out of his mind! He broke our idols and is now challenging us. Let's go. Tell him to our King so that he will suffer the consequences.

All together they went to Nimrud's palace. They came into the presence and complained Abraham.

The Fire That Did Not Burn Abraham

Nimrud was already disturbed by what Abraham (pbuh) had done. He considered Abraham a dangerous man confusing people's minds. And he was afraid of losing his reign and wealth.

He ordered his men:

- Catch this shameless person, immediately!

Nimrud's men left the palace and spread into the streets of the city. They looked for Abraham and found him. They dragged him to the palace. When he saw Abraham, Nimrud ordered:

- Build a fire right away and throw this insolent man into it.

Nimrud's men scattered around to collect woods for fire. It did not take long for them to collect many large and small pieces of wood and build a hill with them at the center of the city. Then, they set it on fire with little pieces of woods. After a short time, it turned into giant flames.

Those who heard that Nimrud was going to throw Abraham into fire, run to the place to watch. The fire grew up and flames rose into the sky. It seemed like the whole city was there. Everybody was looking forward to watch this terrible incident. Nimrud had his throne placed on a high place. He also was ready to watch.

Abraham was not begging anyone other than Allah. He was not afraid of murderers. He turned to his Lord with all his heart. He stood bravely. Soldiers

put him in a catapult and threw him with all their power. Abraham fell into the middle of fire.

Screams of joy raised from the crowd:

- Hooray! Abraham who treated our idols disrespectfully will receive the punishment he deserves!

- Hooray! Abraham found the fire himself with which he frightened us!

However, their happiness did not last for a long time. Because the fire did not burn Abraham. Allah the Almighty is All-merciful. He protects and takes care of those who serve Him. He protected Abraham. He said:

- O fire! Be coolness and safety upon Abraham. Do not burn him!

With the command of Allah, the fire did not burn Abraham. It became like a cool home for him. Abraham prostrated with a great gratitude in the midst of red flames. He started to pray.



Some people near the fire started to shout bewilderedly:

- Look, look. The fire is not burning Abraham. Abraham prostrated in the midst of fire and he is praying.

Some of them astonishingly asked:

- Do not say like that. You must be seeing wrong. How come the fire does not burn Abraham?

Some others said:

- By the name of our idols. The fire is not burning Abraham. Here he is praying in the midst of fire.

However, their astonishment did not last for a long time. Instead of believing in Allah, due to the miracle they saw, they chose the path of denial. They shouted in haste:

- Run, run. The fire did not burn Abraham. This can be nothing but the work of Satan and Abraham is the Satan himself because the fire does not burn only Satan.

When he saw Abraham (pbuh) praying in the midst of fire, Nimrud got very angry. His power about which he used to brag was of no use. People moved away from fire.

They set to work as if nothing happened. However, after a short time Allah's wrath caught the disbelievers one by one. He sent down upon them a severe punishment from the sky. All of the disbelievers perished. Only Abraham (pbuh) and his nephew Lot were saved among others in the city.

Lot was one of those who believed in Abraham.

The Good News Brought by the Angels

Days passed. Abraham left his homeland. He settled in Palestine after long journeys. He chose Sarah as his wife. Nimrud and the evil he did became the incidents of the past. Sarah and Abraham lived a very happy life. They grew old, but they did not have a child. Their home was deprived of the sounds of children. Abraham prayed Allah the Almighty saying:

- My Lord, grant me a child.

Sarah also desired for a child. However, she was very old. She believed that she would not have a child, and she felt sorry about that. Abraham had

a female slave called Hagar. Hagar was a modest woman and she was a sincerely devoted wife of Abraham. Abraham (pbuh) also loved her so much.

One day Abraham was sitting at home with his wife Sarah. Three strange men came to the house. Abraham took them in. Men entered the house greeting the members of the house.

The Prophet Abraham was a generous man. He used to feed the hungry coming to his house and protect the poor. However, he felt frightened with these strange men whom he saw for the first time. He did not show his fear. He thought that they might be hungry so he wanted to offer them some food. He ordered the members of his house to slaughter a calf. After a short time, the meal was ready and a beautiful table was set. The nice smell of meat spread everywhere. The Prophet Abraham invited his guests to the table with a smiling face. However, three strangers did not sit down to have meal and they said that they were not going to eat. The fear inside Prophet Abraham increased. What would be the intention of these men coming to his home? Were they thieves and thugs? He turned to his guests and asked with a worried voice:

- Who are you? Why don't you sit down to have meal?

The men replied:

- Do not be afraid of us! We are angels. We are sent by Allah.

As soon as they mentioned the name of Allah, Abraham's fear disappeared. He took a deep breath.

Angels said:

- O Abraham, we came to give you the good news that you will have a child.

Abraham asked happily and wonderingly:

- I am an old man. How can I have a child?

Angels said:

- This is the will of Allah. He is All-Powerful. Do not be despair of the mercy of Allah.

Abraham filled with peace. He said:

- Only those who do not believe in Allah be despair of Allah's mercy. I never be despair of Allah's mercy.



In the meantime, Sarah heard these words and smiled wonderingly. Angels said to her:

- O Sarah, we also give you the good news that you will have a son named Isaac and after that, you will have a grandson named Jacob.

Sarah beat her knees with her hands bewilderedly and asked:

- Are you sure? Can an old woman like me have a child?

Angels said:

- Allah is all-knowing and All-Powerful. He can do whatever He wants.

Abraham and his wife were in joy. Finally, they were going to have a child. Moreover, the good news had been given them by Allah. Their hearts were filled with gratitude to Allah.

Angels stood up to leave. When Abraham (pbuh) saw that they were about to leave, he asked:

- Where are you going? Do you have something else to do?

Angels said:

- We are going to the land where Lot lives. The people of Lot forgot about Allah and they are committing great sins. Allah commanded us to destroy their land. Those who spread the evil there will be punished.

Abraham said with a great sorrow:

- But there is Lot over there. What about him?

Angels said:

- We will save Lot and his family who believed in him. His wife will not be saved because she took sides with wrongdoers.

The Prophet Abraham was a softhearted and pious man. He turned to Allah with all his heart. He felt sorry about this news. He asked for Allah's forgiveness for the people of Lot. However, the angels said:

- O Abraham! Do not ask for Allah's forgiveness for the community of Lot because his community will be imposed with a punishment that would not be revoked with the command of his Lord.

The Prophet Abraham asked with sorrow:

- When will this punishment be imposed?

When they were about to leave and disappear, they said:

- The community of Lot will be perished towards morning. Is not the morning near?

A Blessed Child; Ismail

Days passed. After months Abraham had a child from Hagar. The name of this beautiful baby was Ismail. Abraham's (pbuh) home filled with peace and happiness. The baby whose good news was given to Sarah was not born yet.

Allah bestows the wealth and children to those He wills. Then, He tests His servants with their wealth and children. He wanted to test Abraham with his beloved baby son Ismail. He commanded Abraham to leave Hagar and Ismail in the desert.

The Prophet Abraham loved his son Ismail very much. Moreover, Ismail was given to Abraham in his old ages. Just when his longing for child was fulfilled, he was shaken with this command. How could he leave his little son who was still at the age of breastfeeding? However, this was the command of Allah the Almighty. Abraham (pbuh) loved his Lord more than any being on the earth. He would never disobey his Lord's command.

After a little while, he set on journey with his beloved wife Hagar and son Ismail. They travelled for days in the desert. At last, they stopped with the command of Allah (at a place near Ka'bah). Abraham (pbuh) set up a tent for his wife and son in the midst of the desert. He left a bag of dates and a bottle of water for them. Then he turned to Allah and prayed:

- O our Lord! Behold, I have settled some of my offspring in a valley in which there is no arable land, close to Your sanctified Temple, so that, O our Lord, they might devote themselves to prayer: cause You, therefore, people's hearts to incline towards them and grant them fruitful sustenance, so that they might have cause to be grateful.

It was the time to say goodbye. Abraham (pbuh) left his wife and son. He already missed them. However, he did not let them feel his longing. When he was moving away, Hagar called after him:

- Where are you going by leaving us alone here, O Abraham?

Abraham's (pbuh) eyes filled with tears. He sped up his steps without looking at his wife and son.

This time Hagar asked:

- Did Allah command you to leave us here?

The Prophet Abraham answered with an emotional voice:

- Yes, my Lord commanded it.

When she heard Abraham's response, Hagar smiled peacefully. She told her husband:

- So, do not worry about us. My Lord protects us. God speed you.

Hagar was alone with her son. A mother and her son were all alone in the middle of a great desert... After a while, they run out of food and drink. Hagar's milk also dried because of hunger and thirst. She went out in search of water by leaving his son behind. She looked at her right and left, she could not find where to go in the endless desert. She ran and ran until she had no power left...

With the hope of finding water, she run between the hills of Safa and Marwa for seven times. However, there was no water. Not even a drop... She was extremely thirsty. She was about to faint.

However, she was worried about her son Ismail due to her motherly love. How could she return to the tent without finding some water for her little son? She thought if she felt so tired and thirsty, how would the situation her son be? When she imagined about her son's dried lips out of thirst, tears dropped from her eyes. She ran to the tent with all his staying power. She was praying Allah for not being too late and seeing her son's dead body.

However, when she entered into the tent, she could not believe her eyes. little Ismail's hands and face were wet. He was happily smiling at his mother. Hagar bewilderedly took Ismail on her lap and went out. She saw a small pit outside. She went and took a look at it. It was a water well. When the little child scratched the sand, water gushed out of earth. Ismail drank from the water as much as he could and then he started to play. He was pointing out the water and he seemed to tell his mother "come and drink you too."

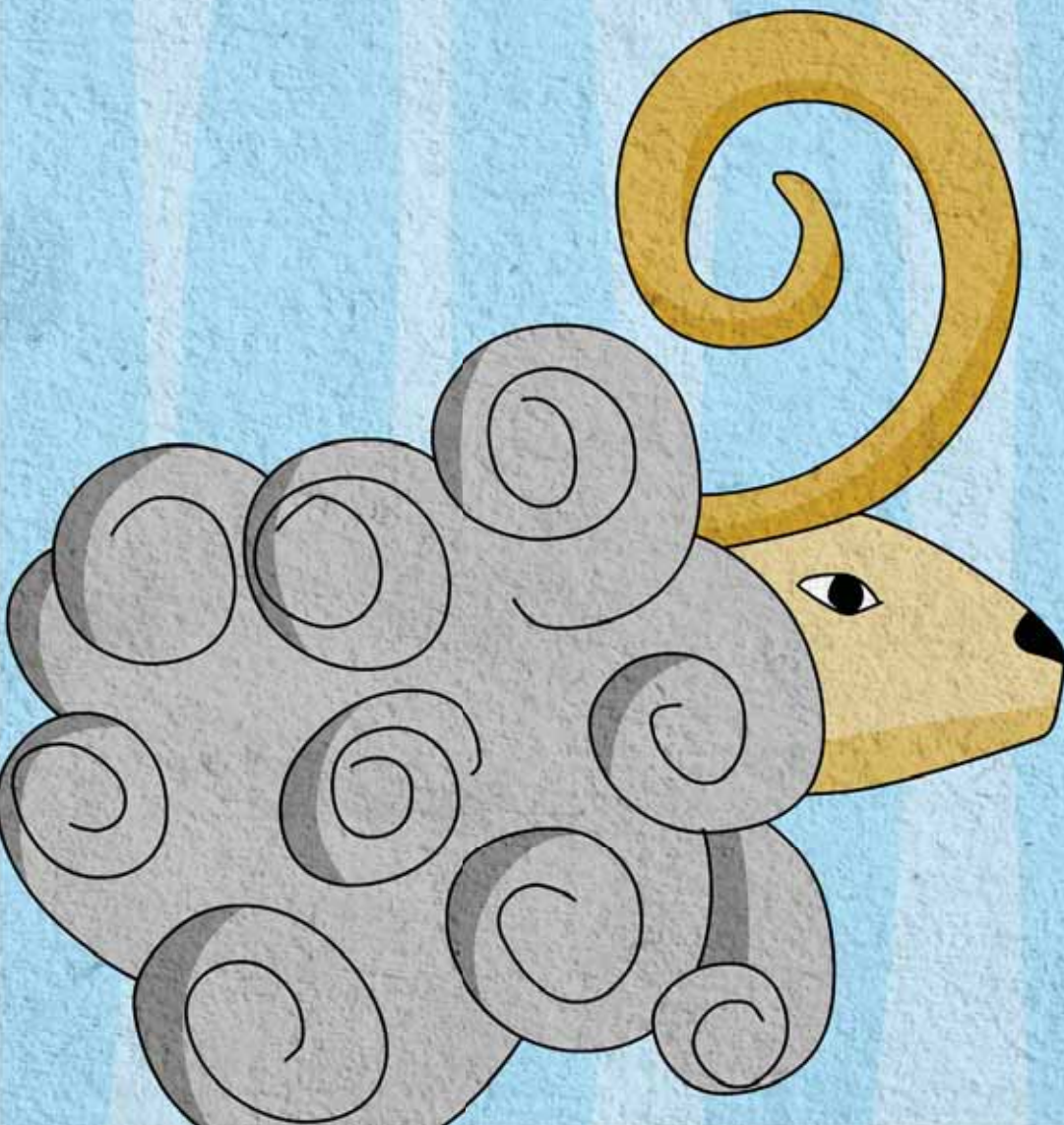
Hagar joyfully hugged his son. Thanking to Allah, she started to cry. This water was a great blessing given to them by Allah.

Mother and son called this water "Zamzam." After that day, they did not leave the zamzam well.

After a couple of days, the caravans passing through the desert noticed the zamzam well. They surprised because it was the first time they encountered water there. They met with mother and son in the tent. When they heard from Hagar what had happened, they believed that Ismail was a blessed child.

After that day, the number of people living around the zamzam well increased because water means life. Especially because it was offered to such a little child, it meant that it was a blessed water. Everybody was setting up their tents at places near the zamzam well. After a time, many tents set up one after another and a little village formed there.

Allah the Almighty accepted the Prophet Abraham's prayer and did not leave Abraham's wife and child alone. He had people meet them and familiarize them with each other.



After days, may be months, the Prophet Abraham came to the valley to see his wife and son. However, he could not believe in his eyes because everywhere as far as he can see were filled with tents. At first he thought he came to a wrong place. He asked a man passing by about his wife and son. Man pointed out their tent. When they saw Abraham, Hagar and Ismail became very happy. The Prophet Abraham affectionately embraced them. He burst into tears and thanked his Lord.

The Sacrifice in Dream

After that day, the Prophet Abraham frequently visited his family. Every time he came, he was proud of them. Because Hagar and Abraham only worshipped Allah and they never worshiped idols. Ismail grew up and became an easy going, hardworking and obedient child. Abraham (pbuh) loved his smart son very much.

However, people's tests never end as long as they live. Abraham's (pbuh) test did not end. One day when he was asleep, he saw in his dream that he was sacrificing his son Ismail to Allah. He woke up in a sweat. Seeing his son in such a situation gave him a deep shock. He thought, "is my Lord asking me to sacrifice Ismail?" He did not hurry up.

However, the following day, he saw himself sacrificing Ismail again. He woke up in a deep sorrow again. "O my Almighty Lord" he said, "If you ask me to sacrifice my son to you, I will do it".

When he saw the same dream again in the following night, he made the decision "My Lord is commanding me to sacrifice Ismail".

Next morning, he took his son with him and climbed up to a hill. Ismail did not know where they were going. With his childish innocence, he felt something. He said:

- Father, are not you going to tell me?

Abraham (pbuh) sadly said:

- My dear son. I saw in a dream that I sacrifice you to my Lord.

Ismail was also loyal to Allah with all his heart as his father was. He understood what his father was trying to tell him. He did not think even for a minute:

- My dear father, he said. Do as you are commanded. You will find me from those who are patient.

- Allah the Almighty is with those who patiently persevere, said Abraham.

Then the father and the son hugged each other and prayed together. The Prophet Abraham prepared his son to sacrifice him and said:

- O my Lord! Here, I am sacrificing my son to you.

At that point, he heard a voice:

- O Abraham! Stop! You complied with what was commanded to you. You showed your obedience to Allah.

Abraham looked about bewilderedly. He saw the angel that appeared next to him. The angel who carried a big ram said:

- Sacrifice this sheep in place of Ismail. In order to let Ismail live, Allah the Almighty sent this ram to you.

The Prophet Abraham took a deep breath. He happily untied his son's hands. He hugged him with love. The father and the son looked at the ram sent to them. Their hearts filled with gratitude. The Prophet Abraham sacrificed the ram to Allah. His love for Allah who granted his son to him was endless.

From that day on, Muslims have started to sacrifice for Allah in the Festival of Sacrifice (Eid al-Adha) as a symbol of Abraham's dedication and his dedicated son Ismail and so they renew their promise. They share not only the meat of their sacrificed animals with the poor but also their happiness...

Construction of Ka'bah

Days passed. The Prophet Abraham had another son from his wife Sarah. His name was Isaac. The Prophet Abraham had two sons. His heart was filled with love for his children. He loved his sons very much. He frequently visited his son Ismail and his wife Hagar living in desert.

Allah the Almighty commanded Abraham to construct Ka'bah with his son Ismail.

The father and the son started to work immediately. They dressed the stones and made mortar. They worked hard for days and got tired. At last, they completed the construction of Ka'bah and felt great joy. They prayed their Lord:

- Our Lord, accept this from us. You are the One who knows everything and responds to our prayers. Make us surrender ourselves unto You, and make out of our offspring a community that shall surrender itself unto You.

Their Lord accepted the Prophet Abraham's and his son Ismail's prayer and told them:

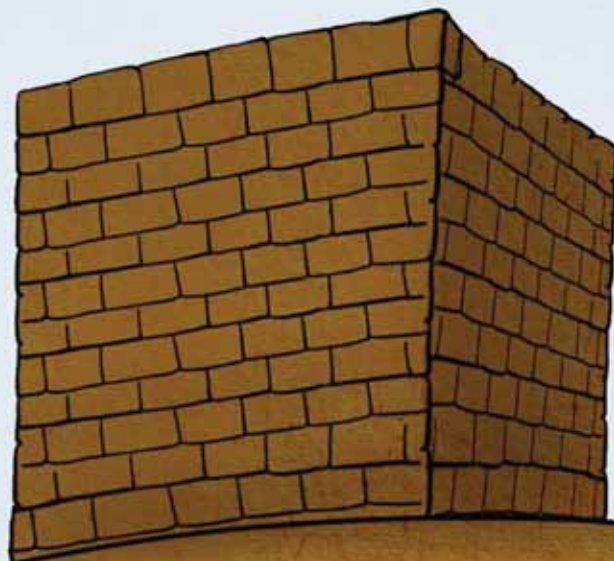
- O Abraham! Keep my house clean in order to let people circumambulate around it and pray in it. Invite people all around the world here to perform pilgrimage. They may come from near and far. So they will bear witness living in peace, brotherhood, welfare and confidence arising from obedience as a whole to the laws of only one God.

The Prophet Abraham and his son Ismail circumambulate Ka'bah together. They kept Ka'bah clean all the time. Ismail was the helper of his father. He conveyed what he learned from his father to his children. His children transmitted his message to their children and to other people...

Thus, righteous people and the prophets descended from the lineage of the Prophet Abraham. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad is the last one of these prophets. Mecca became the meeting point of believers. From that day on, Muslims all over the world go for pilgrimage in crowds and circumambulate the Ka'bah. They perform prayers there and sacrifice their animals...

Pilgrimage is one of the most beautiful acts of worship...

It is the most significant type of visits that enable Muslims meet and socialize with each other. What blessed travelers those who obey and follow the steps of the Prophet Abraham are ...



HOW MUCH WE HAVE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. How did Abraham find Allah?
2. What did Abraham see in his dream and what did he do?
3. What did Nimrud do in order to get rid of Abraham (pbuh)? Did he succeed in his plan?

Find the Correct Answer

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Why was the occupation of Abraham's father?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. TailorB. Sculptor of IdolsC. WoodsmanD. Carpenter | <p>3. Which one of the followings did not considered by Abraham as his Lord?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. IdolsB. StarsC. SunD. Moon |
| <p>2. Which one of the followings cannot be one of the questions that Abraham asked about idols?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Can people make their gods with their own hands?B. Is not god supposed to be All-Powerful?C. How can people worship in-animate objects?D. Can idols make us closer to Allah? | |

- I. Why do you worship these idols that cannot hear, see and provide you any benefit?
 - II. These idols are only the work of Satan.
 - III. If you worship idols, I am afraid of the punishment of Allah.
- 4. Which one of the sentences above is not among what Abraham said about idols to his father?**
- A.** Only I
 - B.** I and II
 - C.** All of them
 - D.** None of them
- 5. Which one of the followings is not one of the sentences that Abraham said to Nimrud and his people?**
- A.** I do not prostrate anyone other than my Lord.
 - B.** Your ancestors were in a manifest error.
 - C.** Your Lord is Allah who created heavens and the earth.
 - D.** Why do you worship these idols?
- 6. On the day of festival when people went to temple, what did they see?**
- A.** Their idols were in the same situation as always.
 - B.** Except for the greatest one, all of them were broken into pieces.
 - C.** There were no idols.
 - D.** There was only the greatest idol in the temple.
- 7. What kind of evil did Nimrud do to Abraham?**
- A.** Throw him into fire.
 - B.** Exiled him from the city.
 - C.** Have him killed.
 - D.** Throw him into a water well.
- 8. With which words did Allah command the fire?**
- A.** O fire! Be harmless against Abraham.
 - B.** O fire! Be coolness upon Abraham.
 - C.** O fire! Do not burn him.
 - D.** All of them.

9. Who were saved from Abraham's community?
 - A. Nobody
 - B. Abraham (pbuh) and his nephew Lot
 - C. All of them
 - D. 100 people
10. In which one of the following options, the names of Abraham's sons are given together?
 - A. Ismael- Isaac
 - B. Lot- Ismael
 - C. Isaac- Lot
 - D. Isaac- Jacob
11. What did Abraham see in his dream?
 - A. He saw that he is sacrificing a ram
 - B. He saw that he is sacrificing a cow
 - C. He saw that he is sacrificing his son Ismael
 - D. He saw that he is sacrificing his son Isaac
12. What did Abraham and Ismael construct?
 - A. A house
 - B. The Ka'bah
 - C. A prayer house
 - D. A mansion

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use the following words in a sentence.

Sacrifice:

.....

Desert:

.....

Idol:

.....

Fire:

.....

Dream:

.....

The Prophet
Yusuf
(pbuh)







The Prophet Yusuf (pbuh)

A Child in a Well... The Prophet Yusuf...

Allah chose Yaqub (Jacob) (pbuh) as His messenger after Yaqub's father the Prophet Isaac. As a member of the Prophet Abraham's lineage, he maintained the legacy of the prophethood the essence of which is Oneness of Allah, justice, freedom, peace, brotherhood and happiness. He used to advise his community goodness and justice, and asked them to treat each other mercifully, to protect and look after the poor who were in need of care, and to get on well with each other. He had twelve sons and a couple of daughters. Yusuf and Benjamin were the youngest of them. The Prophet Yaqub loved these two sons of him very much. Especially Yusuf had a great importance for him because he was different from his brothers. Despite his young age, he was very mature and well mannered. He did not know what was grudge and jealousy. He used to listen his father and pay attention to his advises. His heart was beautiful as much as his face.

One night Yusuf saw a strange dream. As soon as he woke up in the morning, he went to his father and said:

- My dear father, I saw in my dream the sun, the moon and eleven stars prostrating to me.

The Prophet Yaqub (pbuh) knew that his son's dream had some meanings. He understood that Allah was going to choose his son as a messenger and make him an esteemed person both in this world and the world come. Because the Prophet Yaqub knew that Yusuf's brothers were jealous of him, he said to Yusuf:

- My dear son! Allah is the One who had you see this beautiful dream. However, Satan is an open enemy of people. Do not relate your dream to your brothers. They can harm you because of their jealousy. If you keep your dream private, you will reach Allah's mercy. I hope Allah will give you and

our descendants goodness as He granted many blessings to Abraham and Isaac.

Yusuf listened to his father's advice and kept his dream private.

One day Yaqub (pbuh) was caressing Yusuf and Benjamin while his other sons sat together and started to talk among themselves. One of said them said angrily:

- Why does our father love Yusuf and Benjamin more than us?

Another one said grudgingly:

- In fact, we are more powerful and better children than them.

Another one said:

- Our father does not know whom he should really love. This is not fair!

The angriest one among them said:

- Then, let's kill Yusuf or take him somewhere far and leave him there. In this way, our father's love would concentrate on us. We can have all his love!

Another one from the brothers asked:

- Killing him? Is not it a sin?

The one who offered to kill Yusuf said:

- What's the big deal... we can repent for our evil deed later and Allah would forgive us.

Another one said:

- If you ask me, we do not kill Yusuf. It would be better for us to throw him in a well in a distant place. Maybe a caravan passing by finds him. Thus, Yusuf would be saved from the well, and we would get rid of Yusuf...

Other brothers welcomed this idea. They immediately made a plan among themselves and went to their father. The Prophet Yaqub was playing with Yusuf. One of the brothers said:

- My dear father! Why do not you ever take Yusuf off your lap? Let him play with us.

Yaqub (pbuh) said:

- I do not want to leave him even for a moment.

Another one of brothers said:

- Pity on Yusuf. Does not he get bored? We are going for hunting. Let him come with us. He may get some fresh air and relax. We take pleasure in playing with him, too.

Yaqub (pbuh) said:

- I am afraid that you may get indulge with playing and forget about Yusuf. He is still a little boy. What if a wolf comes and takes him before you realize that he is missing!

All the brothers said their father:

- When we are so crowded and powerful, how can a wolf come and eat our brother? Trust us. He has the right to play, too.

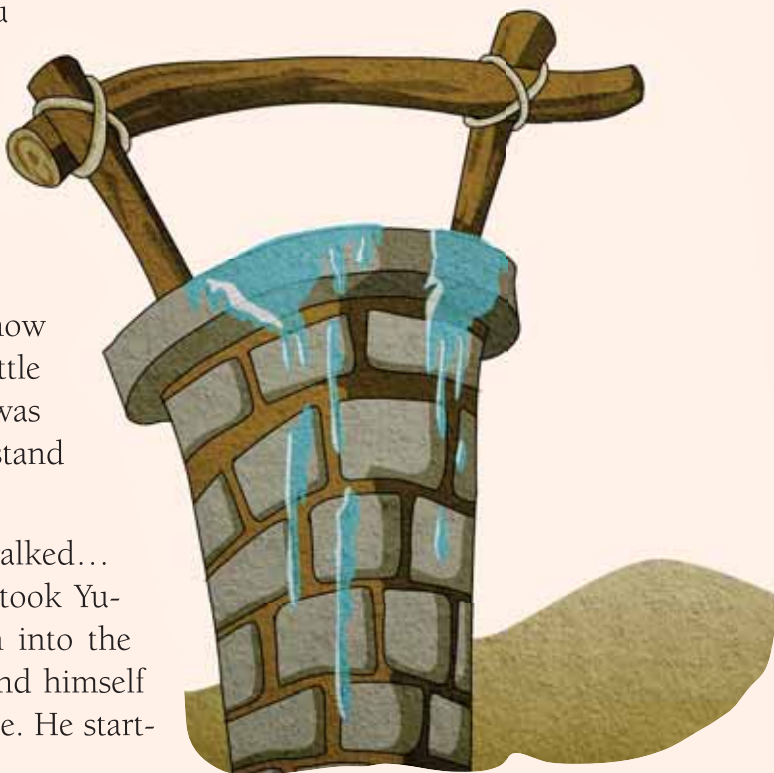
The Prophet Yaqub's worries decreased. He thought that his sons were right. He accepted their offer in order to give Yusuf a chance to get some air, play and have fun in the fields.

Children happily left. However, as soon as they got out of the view, they started to treat Yusuf badly. They pushed him around and said:

- Our father loves you most, whereas we deserve his love more than you do. We will throw you in a well and you will get what you deserve.

Little Yusuf did not know what to do. He was a little and helpless boy. He was not powerful enough to stand against his brothers.

They walked and walked... Stopped by a well. They took Yusuf's shirt and threw him into the well. Suddenly, Yusuf found himself in a dark and narrow place. He start-



ed to shiver from fear. However, his fear did not last for long. Allah the Almighty increased Yusuf's courage and made him feel that he was going to be saved from there.

Throughout the journey, Yusuf's brothers thought about what they were going to say their father. They finally decided to say that a wolf had eaten Yusuf. They immediately found a goat, slaughtered it and applied its blood to Yusuf's shirt. When they arrived at home, it was getting dark. When he did not see Yusuf, Yaqub worriedly asked:

- Where is Yusuf?

Children pretended crying and beating their chests. One of them said:

- O my dear father! You do not know what happened. While we were racing against each other, we left Yusuf with our belongings. When we came back, we saw that a wolf had eaten our brother.

Yaqub (pbuh) did not believe them:

- This is a lie, he said. You are lying to me.

- We knew that you will not believe us, said one of his sons. Here is Yusuf's bloody shirt.

The Prophet Yaqub took Yusuf's shirt. Embraced it. He looked at it turning over and over. He could not see a teeth mark or a tear on the shirt. His sons who covered the shirt with blood forgot to tear it apart. It was obvious that Yusuf was not eaten by a wolf.


With the great sorrow in his heart, Yaqub said:

- I know Yusuf was not eaten by a wolf. You played a bad trick on your brother. Allah is my only refuge. He gives me strong patience.

Children became quiet and stepped aside. The Prophet Yaqub wept inwardly for his beloved son Yusuf... From that day on, the sorrow in his heart did not stop.

The Caravan

On the other hand, Yusuf who was left in the well took refuge in Allah and prayed. He was hoping that his Lord was going to save him from this dark place. Just then a caravan passing by stopped by the well. A man low-



ered a bucket down in order to draw some water. But suddenly the bucket became heavier. While he was trying to pull the bucket back, he saw Yusuf holding the bucket.

- Pull me up, Yusuf shouted. Save me!

The man pulled bewilderedly the bucket up, with the Yusuf of course. Then he excitedly said:

- Good news, good news! I found a child!

The people in the caravan curiously gathered around him. They became very happy when they saw Yusuf who got out of the well. In those days, there was a slave bazaar in Egypt. They hoped to sell Yusuf in that bazaar and make a lot of money. Caravan started off again. After days, they arrived at Egypt.

They put Yusuf up for sale in the bazaar. On that day, a respectful Egyptian was looking around the bazaar. As soon as he saw Yusuf, he liked him. He bought this beautiful child and took him to the palace. He said to his wife Zulaykha:

- This child looks like a smart and well-mannered kid. When he grows up, he can help us. Maybe we adopt him.

Zulaykha also liked Yusuf. From that day on, Yusuf started to live in the house of the honorable man. Day after day, he got used to his new family. He became a righteous child for them.

Years passed. Yusuf grew up and became an attractive young man. The beauty of his face was indescribable. So much so that, everyone who saw his beautiful face admired him.



One of them was Zulaykha. The heart of the young woman inclined to Yusuf. She was not considering him as her child anymore. She started to love Yusuf and wanted to be loved in return.

One day she put on her most beautiful dresses and went to Yusuf's room. She locked the door and approached to him. Yusuf bewilderedly and fearfully tried to escape from her.

- Come next to me, said Zulaykha.

Yusuf understood her intention. He refused her offer saying:

- I fear Allah, he said. The thing that you are calling me is a great sin. Moreover, I grew up in this house. Your husband is my master. He did many things for me. I cannot betray him. Only those who are not afraid of Allah can do evil to the people from whom they receive nothing but kindness.

Zulaykha did not want to listen to him. She insisted on her offer. Yusuf wanted to escape and ran to the door. Zulaykha caught him and hold Yusuf's shirt angrily. The shirt was torn from top to the bottom.

At that moment, the door opened. Yusuf ran out of the door. However, he encountered his master Aziz. The man was bewildered. He looked at them as if he was saying, "What is happening?" When Zulaykha saw her husband, she wanted to accuse Yusuf.

- This man, she said, wanted to do evil to your wife. What are you waiting for? Take him and have him put in prison.

Aziz was trembling because of his anger. He did not know what to do.

Yusuf (pbuh) objected immediately by saying:

- No, I did not do anything. She herself invited me to commit a sin.

Aziz could not decide to whom he should believe. On the one hand, there was his lovely wife, and on the other hand, there was his adopted son whom he took his home and raised... However, he was also determined to solve the issue. When he could not decide what to do, he went to a trusted relative of him. He told him about the situation.

The relative of him was a knowledgeable person. He said to Aziz:

- If Yusuf's shirt was torn from the front, then she tells the truth. However, if his shirt was torn from the back, then she lies and Yusuf is of the truthful.

They took the shirt and examined it. It was torn from the back. Aziz realized the truth. He said to his wife angrily:

- Yusuf is innocent. This is your trick and you are shamelessly accusing him. Repent immediately and seek refuge with Allah so that He may forgive you. Because you indeed committed a great sin.

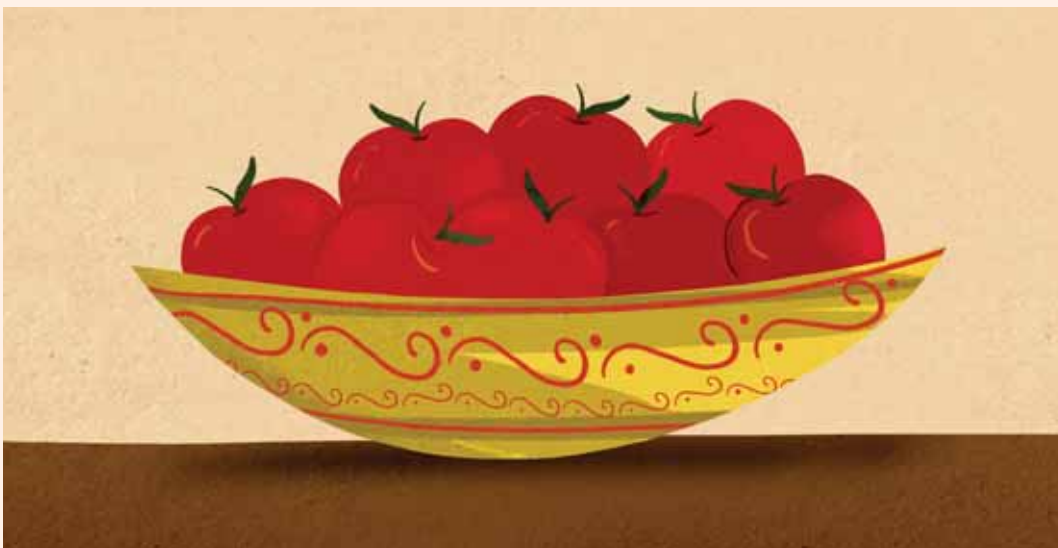
Then, he turned to Yusuf and said:

- Do not tell this anyone.

Days passed. Yusuf did not tell anything to anyone. However, the news of Zulaykha's love for Yusuf spread throughout the city from ear to ear and became a subject of gossip. Everybody was talking about the incident and the torn shirt. They were saying, "Aziz's wife fell in love with Yusuf but she did not get a response to her love." They were blaming Zulaykha and talking about her as a bad woman.

Aziz's wife heard the rumors. Zulaykha was depressed because of her sorrow. She felt very sorry for being the subject of rumors. She could not go out in public any more. She had to find a way to clear her name. In fact, she did find a solution to her problem after a short time ... She sent messengers to the girls and wives of the notable people of the city. She invited them to the palace and set up a beautiful table. Then, she gave each of her guests a knife.

She then ordered Yusuf to put on his best clothes and to appear before them. Yusuf dressed up and entered the guest room. As soon as he entered





the room, it became as if the sun rose up. The women were seeing such a beautiful man for the first time in their lives. They were so admired with the beauty of Yusuf that they cut their fingers while they were peeling the apples. However, none of them was aware of that. They rubbed their eyes bewilderedly and said as if they were in a dream:

- O my God! He cannot be a human. He should be an angel!

Zulaykha turned to them and said,

- You see! This is the man with whom you blame me. I think you accept that I am right. However, he refused my love. You should know that if he persists to refuse my love, I will send him to prison.

Women felt sorry for Yusuf. They did not want such a beautiful man to languish in the prison. They asked,

- Why do not you listen to your master?

Yusuf respectfully turned to Allah, and said

- I am afraid of my Lord. Instead of committing such a sin, I would rather being languish in prison. The contentedness of my Lord is more important for me than anything in this world.

The Prophet Yusuf in Prison

Days passed. The fire in the heart of Zulaykha did not die down. She became crazy because of Yusuf's rejection of her love. Moreover, she was not able to stop the rumors in the city. Instead of blaming herself, she started to make plans to take revenge from Yusuf. One day, she said to her husband:

- I cannot stand this anymore. Everybody in the city is talking about Yusuf and me in a bad way. I am fed up with these gossips.

- This is the price of your fault, said Aziz. You are getting what you have deserved.

Zulaykha said while she was crying,

- I am suffered enough. How long will this punishment continue?

Aziz was also desperate. He was also tired of the gossips.

- What can I do? He said. I cannot make the people stop talking by force.

With a decisive voice, Zulaykha said:

- The best thing is to send Yusuf in prison. In this way, people will think that he is guilty and they will stop talking.

Aziz thought about it. He could not find a way other than sending Yusuf to the prison in order to clear his wife's name... Zulaykha got what she wanted.

Yusuf was sorry for being sent to the prison. However, he was also happy to be saved from Zulaykha's tricks... For those who believe in Allah, there is peace and happiness in everywhere. He was also hopeful that his innocence would be proven one day and he would get out of the prison.

There were two other young men sent to prison together with Yusuf in the very same day. Yusuf (pbuh) made friends with them. They spent the days together. Yusuf believed in his Lord with all his heart. He did not spend his days in vain in the prison. He spent his days by performing prayer and preaching his friends about his Lord his days and nights. He invited them to give up worshipping idols but rather to worship and serve only to Allah. His friends loved him and believed that he was a good person.

One night, these two young men had interesting dreams. They knew that Yusuf was a knowledgeable person and wanted him to interpret their dreams. When Yusuf listened to their dreams, he said them:

- O my beloved friends, indeed I have left the religion of a community who do not believe in Allah and the Hereafter. I have followed the religion of my ancestors Abraham, Isaac and the Jacob. My Lord is Allah the Almighty. He gave me the knowledge. By favor of his grace, I can tell you about what you do not know. I can tell you what you are going to eat today or I can interpret your dreams. In fact, I will never associate partners to Allah. O my companions of prison! You should also leave the idols that you are worshipping. The judgment belongs only to Allah. He prohibited us to worship anyone other than Him. This is the true religion but most of the people do not know.

The young men were carefully listening to him. The time of interpreting their dreams came. Yusuf said to one of the young men:

- You will get out of the prison and serve the king. You will offer him drinks. When you go to the king, tell him about me and tell him that I am innocent.

Then he turned to the other young man:

- I am sorry about you. What I understood from your dream, you will be executed very soon. Wild birds will gather around your corpse and peck at your body.

One of the young ones became happy while the other one became very sad for what they have heard. Days passed. The dreams that Yusuf have interpreted came true. One of his friends in prison executed and the other one was released and became a servant to the king. He started to bring the drinks to the king. However, as soon as he released he forgot his promise that he gave to Yusuf...

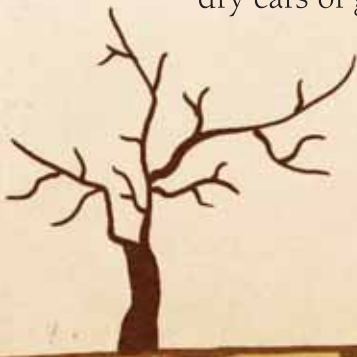
Yusuf's days in the prison continued for years... Patience became his way and a friend on the way.

One day, the king of Egypt saw a strange dream. In his dream, he was sitting by a waterside. Just then, seven fat cows came and after them seven weak cows appeared. Finally, the seven fat cows ate the seven weak ones at once. King woke up in fear. When he went back to sleep, he saw that seven dry ears of grain were eaten by seven green ears of grain.

In the morning, he gathered his men around and told them about his dream. He said,

- O eminent ones! If you know how to do, interpret my dream.

Men answered desperately:



- O Our king! It is a mixture of false dreams. We do not know how to interpret these kind of dreams.

The one who is the cup-bearer of the king remembered his friend Yusuf in the prison. He said excitedly:

- O my respected king! If you send me to the prison, I can learn the interpretation of your dream from Yusuf.

King sent him to the prison. He told Yusuf about the king's dream and asked:

- O my truthful friend! Can you explain this dream to me?

Without thinking so much, Yusuf said:

- There will be seven years of abundance followed by seven years of famine in the country. Your harvest, vegetables and fruits will be plentiful. After that, there will be seven years of famine and drought. In the years of abundance store surplus grain in order to use them during the years of famine. The years of famine will be followed by the years of abundance again at that time you will increase your harvest and produce oil...

The young man immediately came back to the presence of king. He told the king Yusuf's interpretation. King was pleased for what the young man told him. He said that he pardoned Yusuf and ordered his men to bring Yusuf to him.

King's men went to take Yusuf out of the prison. However, Yusuf rejected that and said:

- Never. Unless my innocence is proven, I will not get out. Go and tell your king. First, he should find the women who cut their hands on the day they came for the feast. Ask them about me and the truth will come to light and my innocence will be proven.

After a short time, the king has brought the women to the palace and reminded them the incident that had happened years ago, asked them what kind of a person Yusuf was? All together women said:

- He is a good person. He is free from any kind of bad behavior. He did no harm to anybody.

After their speech, Zulaykha confessed her crime and said

- Yusuf is a truthful person. He is innocent. He did no evil to me. Indeed, I was the one who intended to do evil.

Truth came to the light even after years. Yusuf got out of the prison. The king talked to him. To this smart, knowledgeable and truthful young man, he said:

- You are a truthful and honorable person. I want to put you in charge of a duty in my palace.

Yusuf said to the king:

- Your country will face with abundance first, and then it will face with famine. During those years, the public treasury should be managed well. If you charge me with this duty, with the permission of Allah I will protect the treasury and fulfill this duty in the best way.

King trusted this truthful young man. He appointed Yusuf as his vizier.

The Prophet Yusuf's Mercy

Yusuf started to live in the palace, but he did not forget that his Lord had saved him from prison. He kept Allah in his mind and heart all the time and continued to worship Him.

Then the days of abundance that Yusuf mentioned came. In country, there was an abundance that had never seen until that time. The harvest in the fields was ten to one. Storehouses filled with wheat. Because they produced more than they needed, they stored the surplus of the harvest. The country got ready for the years of famine to come.

Then, the years of famine came. Fields went dry and the green ears of grain died. Famine ruined everywhere. However, thanks to the precautions taken during the years of abundance, nobody in the country starved. The community held on life with the harvest stored during the years of abundance. With the help of Allah and the Yusuf's just administration, nobody starved. He became a man who enshrined in the heart of the community. He was trusted and loved by everyone.

Neighboring countries have also been affected from this severe famine. They were coming to Egypt to buy and sell wheat. While days were passing like that, one day Jacob's sons came to Egypt. They came to the presence

of vizier to buy wheat. Yusuf recognized his brothers at first sight, but they did not recognize him. They could never think that their brother they had thrown in a well would be the vizier of Egypt. Yusuf asked them who they were, and where they came from. They said that they were coming from the city of Canaan and they were the sons of Jacob. Yusuf continued to ask his questions:

- How many siblings do you have? They said,
- We used to be twelve siblings, but our youngest one Benjamin stayed with our father. And we have lost our brother called Yusuf years ago.

The Prophet Yusuf made a table set for his brothers and fed them. He made their wheat loaded up to their animals. When he was sending them off he said:

- Come again, if you want to buy some more wheat. Bring your youngest brother with you, too. Or I am not going to give you even a single grain of wheat.

His brothers surprised, but they could not object to a vizier.

- Promise, they said. We will bring our brother next time.

Yusuf told his men to put the money that the Yusuf's brothers paid for the wheat back in their wheat sacks. By doing so, he was hoping that his brothers would come again. His brothers were satisfied with the interest they were shown in Egypt and returned home after a long journey. They told to their father what had happened excitingly, and said

- In our next visit, you need to send Benjamin with us. Or the vizier will not give us any wheat.

The Prophet Jacob objected them strictly and said:

- After what had happened to Yusuf, how can I trust you again? What if something happens to Benjamin too!

When they were unloading the wheat, they saw the money they had paid for the wheat in the bag of wheat, and said:

- Dear father! Look our money was also given us back. Moreover, the wheat we got will not be enough for us. Let us take Benjamin so we will go to the vizier and come back by plenty of wheat.

The Prophet Jacob reconsidered what his sons said and told them:

- I will not send your brother with you unless you swear in the name of Allah to protect him.

His sons promised their father and the Prophet Jacob said:

- May Allah bear witness your promise. He then advised them:

- Do not enter Egypt all of you from the same gate. In this way, if something happens to you, not all of you would get harmed. Enter Egypt from different gates. Nevertheless, I cannot save you from any harm because in the end, the judgment belongs only to Allah. It is only Allah in whom I trust and I pray Him to protect you.

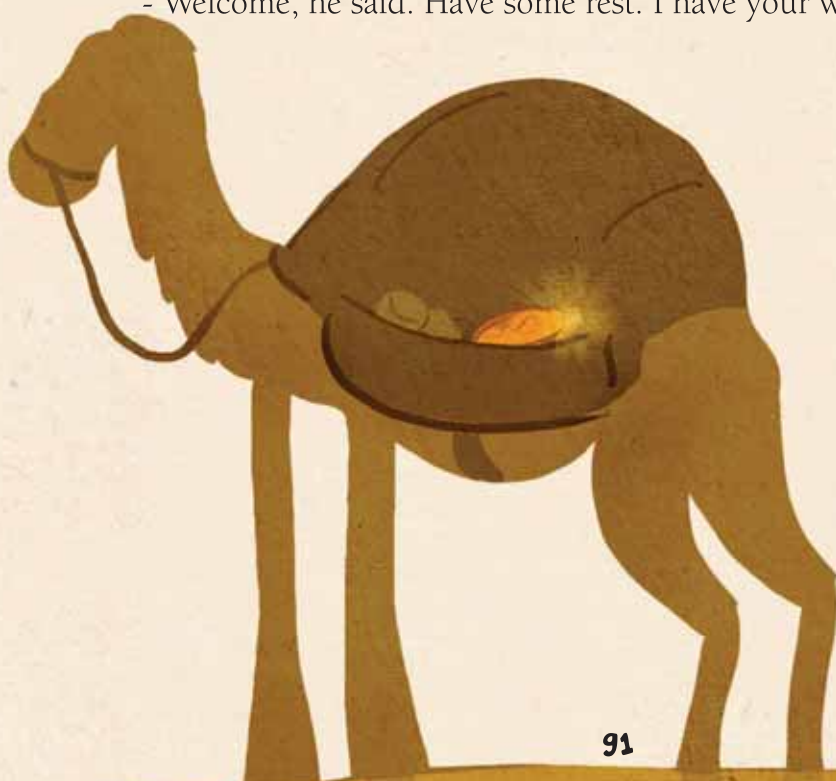
Allah is the One who judge about us. It is only Allah in whom I trust and I pray Him to protect you.

The Golden Bowl of the King

Yusuf's Brothers set off on journey by taking Benjamin with them. When they arrived in Egypt, they entered the country from different gates and came to the presence of the vizier.

The Prophet Yusuf was very happy to see his brothers:

- Welcome, he said. Have some rest. I have your wheat prepared.



Then he took Benjamin aside and hugged him. He whispered in his ear quietly:

- I am your brother Yusuf. Do not worry about me anymore. You see I am alive, but do not tell this to anyone.

Benjamin speechlessly looked at Yusuf. For a moment, he thought that he was dreaming and then happily embraced Yusuf.

Yusuf ordered his men to load the wheat bags on the camels. He had the king's golden bowl put in the bag on Benjamin's camel. Just when the brothers were leaving palace, one of the king's men shouted:

- Stop! Do not you dare to leave. I will search your bags.

Yusuf's brothers asked bewilderedly:

- But why? What did we do?

- The king's golden bowl is missing, the man sad. It may be in your bags.

Camels were searched one by one. The golden bowl was found in the bag on Benjamin's camel.

Yusuf turned to Benjamin:

- You, he said. It appears that you stole the king's golden bowl! This is a major crime and it will not be left unpunished.

Upon this, Jacob's sons said:

- Well! So, Benjamin did this. We are not surprised. Before that, his brother Yusuf had made a similar mistake.

Yusuf felt sorry about these words. But he maintained his patience thinking that Allah knows the truth. He said them that he was going to withhold Benjamin to punish him. (Actually, this plan had been ordered by Allah to Yusuf in order to unite him with Benjamin. If Yusuf had not been put the golden bowl in Benjamin's bag, his brother would not have stayed with him.)

His brothers became very sad when they heard that Benjamin would be held captive because they had promised their father to bring him back unharmed. Maybe this merciful vizier had pity on them.

- O our master, they said. You are kindhearted and trustful person. We have a very old father. If he learns that our brother was captured here, he becomes very sad. Please take one of us as captive instead of him.

Yusuf said self-assuredly:

- How can this be possible? How can I put an innocent person in prison? I take refuge in Allah from doing such a mistake. If I do so, would not I be among the wrongdoers?!

When they lost their hope, Yusuf's brothers started to talk among themselves. The oldest one of them said:

- We promised our father that we were going to protect Benjamin. I am not going anywhere without taking him. You go and tell our father what happened.

Other siblings helplessly set off the journey. When they returned to their father all of them were very sad. They told him that Benjamin stole the king's golden bowl and was put in prison. The Prophet Jacob did not believe what had happened. He opposed with all his heart:

- My son would not steal anything.

His sons said:

- We knew that you would not believe us. So, ask other caravans coming from Egypt. Everybody heard about your son's crime.

Their father's eyes filled with tears. He asked,

- Did you do Benjamin the same thing as you had done to Yusuf? I will show patience what happened to Benjamin just as I did what had happened to Yusuf. Perhaps Allah will bring them to me together. Indeed, He is all-knowing, owner of the judgment and the wisdom.

Then he started to cry sadly and disappointedly by saying:

- Oh dear! O my poor Yusuf!

The sadness of the Prophet Jacob doubled. Now, he was crying not only for Yusuf but also for Benjamin. At last his eyes went blind because of crying. Days and months passed. Seeing their father's sad state, his sons started to worry about his health. They said:

- Why are you still crying for Yusuf? Because of this, you will get sick and die.

The Prophet Jacob said:

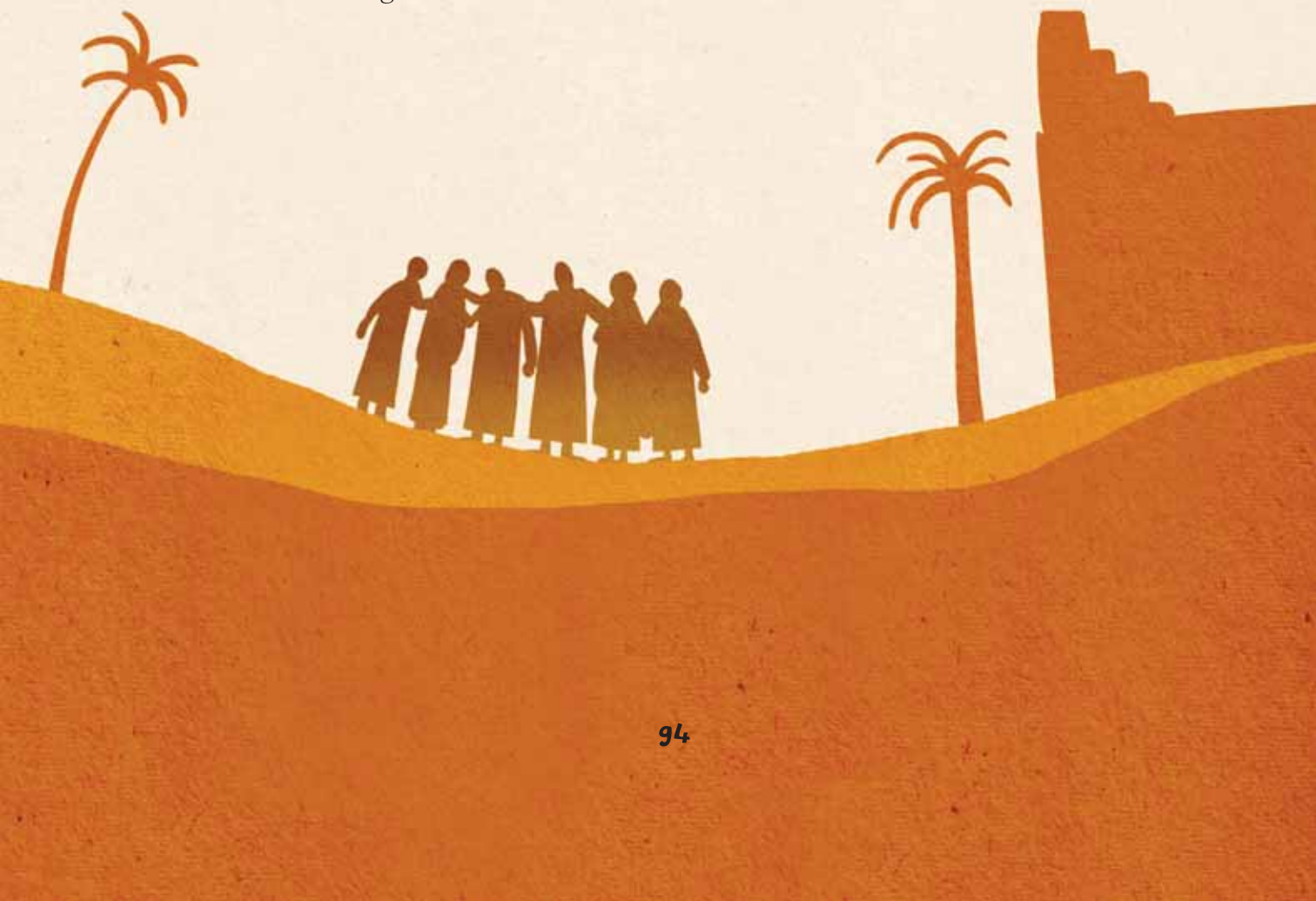
- I do not complain about anybody, but I present my grief only to Allah.

Days passed. Sadness filled Jacob's home. He could not stand anymore and one day, he said,

- My dear sons. Go and search for Yusuf and his brother. Inquire about them. Perhaps our Lord would have pity on us and shows us a way out of our situation. Allah is great. Indeed, no one other than the disbelievers lose their hope from Allah.

His sons set off journey again and came to the presence of Yusuf, they said,

- Our master. Hardships have touched upon our family and we became poor. We only have a number of invaluable goods. Please give us some wheat and forgive our brother so that our sorrow would end. Indeed, Allah loves those who forgive.



The face of Prophet Yusuf overshadowed with sorrow. He remembered the day his brothers threw him in a well. He said,

- Do you remember what you have done to Yusuf and his brother?

His brothers stared at him surprisingly. They cried out,

- O my God! Are you really Yusuf?

Yusuf said,

- Yes, I am Yusuf and this is my brother. Allah has certainly favored us because he loves His good servants who are patient. Allah does not allow to be lost the works of those who do good.

His brothers shamefully lowered their heads down and said:

- Yes, you are more valuable than us in the eye of Allah because we have committed a great sin. Forgive us for what we did.

Yusuf had a soft heart. When he saw his brothers' remorse, he forgave them.

- Do not be afraid, he said. I will not punish you. May Allah forgive you.

His brothers happily hugged him. There was nothing between them other than love. Grudge, enmity, jealousy all of them have disappeared. Yusuf (pbuh) asked them about his father. They said,

- Our father cried a lot for you. That is why he went blind.

Yusuf took his shirt off and gave them.

- Take my shirt and cast it over our father's face. He will start seeing again. And bring me our family, all together, and we will live in this country in abundance.

The Prophet Yusuf's Scent

Yusuf's Brothers happily set off the journey back home. As the caravan set out from Egypt and approached to Canaan, the Prophet Jacob said to the people around him:

- Do not be surprised at me but I smell Joseph's scent. Mocking him, the people said:

- Do you still have your old doubts?

After a short while, his children arrived in Canaan. They told the good tidings to their father. Then they cast the shirt over their father's face and his eyes returned seeing. Jacob's heart filled with gratitude to Allah.

- I knew that one day Allah would unite me with Yusuf again, he said.

His sons lowered their heads down and said:

- Dear father! We are so sorry for what we did to Yusuf. Pray Allah and ask forgiveness for us.

The Prophet Jacob said his sons,

- I will ask forgiveness for you from my Lord. Indeed, it is He who is the forgiving, the merciful.

It was the time of journey. At last, the longing for years was going to end. Gathering his family together, the Prophet Jacob set off journey. When they arrived in Egypt, the Prophet Yusuf happily welcomed them. He hugged his mother and father.

- My dear mother and father! Enter my country with the permission of Allah and live in safety, he said.

Then he took his parents to his throne. His brothers gathered around Yusuf and respectfully greeted him. With a heart filled with gratitude to Allah, he said,

- My dear father. Here, this is the interpretation of my dream that I saw before. My Lord has made it true. Satan had brought about discord between me and my brothers. But my Lord saved me from the well and prison. He brought us together again. Indeed, Allah is All-Powerful.

The Prophet Yusuf prayed:

- O my Lord! You bestowed favors upon me and have given me sovereignty and wealth. You taught me of the interpretations of dreams. O my Lord, the Creator of the heavens and earth. You are my protector both in this world and in the Hereafter. Make me live as a Muslim and cause me to die as a Muslim and join me with the righteous...

The Prophet Yusuf and his family were together again. Helping hand of Allah is always on human beings who are righteous. Allah the Almighty loves his patient and truthful servants...

If we could be a person like Yusuf, the world would be a place like paradise...



HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. How did Yusuf (pbuh) be separated from his father?
2. What did Yusuf (pbuh) do in the prison?
3. When and how did Jacob (pbuh) unite with Yusuf again?
4. How did Yusuf treat his brothers?

Find The Right Answer

1. Which one of the followings is the son of the Prophet Jacob?
 - A. Ismael
 - B. Isaac
 - C. Yusuf
 - D. Yahya
2. What did Yusuf (pbuh) see in his dream?
 - A. Only sun was prostrating him
 - B. Only moon was prostrating him
 - C. Only stars were prostrating him
 - D. Sun, moon and stars were prostrating him
3. Which one of the followings is the worst thing that his brothers said about Yusuf (pbuh)?
 - A. Our father loves Yusuf more than us.
 - B. We are more powerful and better than Yusuf and Benjamin.
 - C. Our father does not know whom he should love.
 - D. Let's kill Yusuf or put him in a place far away.
4. What did his brothers do to Yusuf?
 - A. Killed him.
 - B. Threw him in a well.
 - C. Brought him to a place far away.
 - D. None of them

5. How did Yusuf get out of well?
 - A. With his own effort.
 - B. His brothers took him out.
 - C. Someone in the caravan pulled him up with bucket.
 - D. Aziz saved him.
6. To where Aziz sent Yusuf?
 - A. To the well.
 - B. To the prison.
 - C. To the garden.
 - D. To out of the city.
7. What happened to Yusuf's friends in prison?
 - A. Both of them died.
 - B. Both of them released.
 - C. One of them went to the king and the other one was executed.
 - D. Both of them executed.
8. What did Yusuf do as soon as he released from the prison?
 - A. He became the vizier of the king and protected the treasury.
 - B. He left the country.
 - C. He went to his father.
 - D. He married Zulaykha.
9. What did his brothers do when they encountered with Yusuf the vizier?
 - A. They apologized immediately.
 - B. They sent news to their father.
 - C. They brought Benjamin.
 - D. They did not recognize him.
10. How did Benjamin stay with Yusuf?
 - A. By means of Yusuf's successful plan
 - B. Because of his burglary
 - C. By his own free will
 - D. His father sent him

11.What happened to Jacob because of his sorrow for Benjamin and Yusuf?

- A.** He became confined to bed.
- B.** His eyes went blind.
- C.** He died because of his sorrow.
- D.** He became physically disabled.

12.Which one of the followings is wrong?

- A.** Yusuf did not punish his brothers.
- B.** His brothers repented about what they did.
- C.** Yusuf's favorite brother was Benjamin.
- D.** Jacob (pbuh) never united with Yusuf again.

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use the following words in a sentence.

Patience:

.....

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Wolf:

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Shirt:

.....

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Well:

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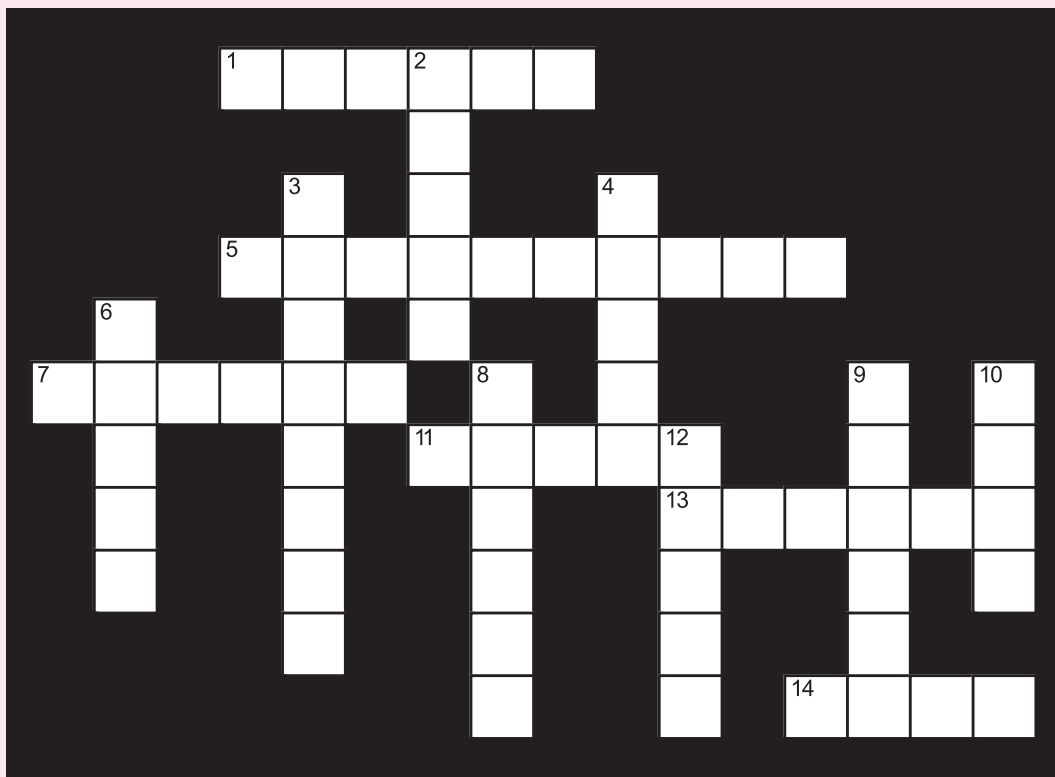
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Dream:

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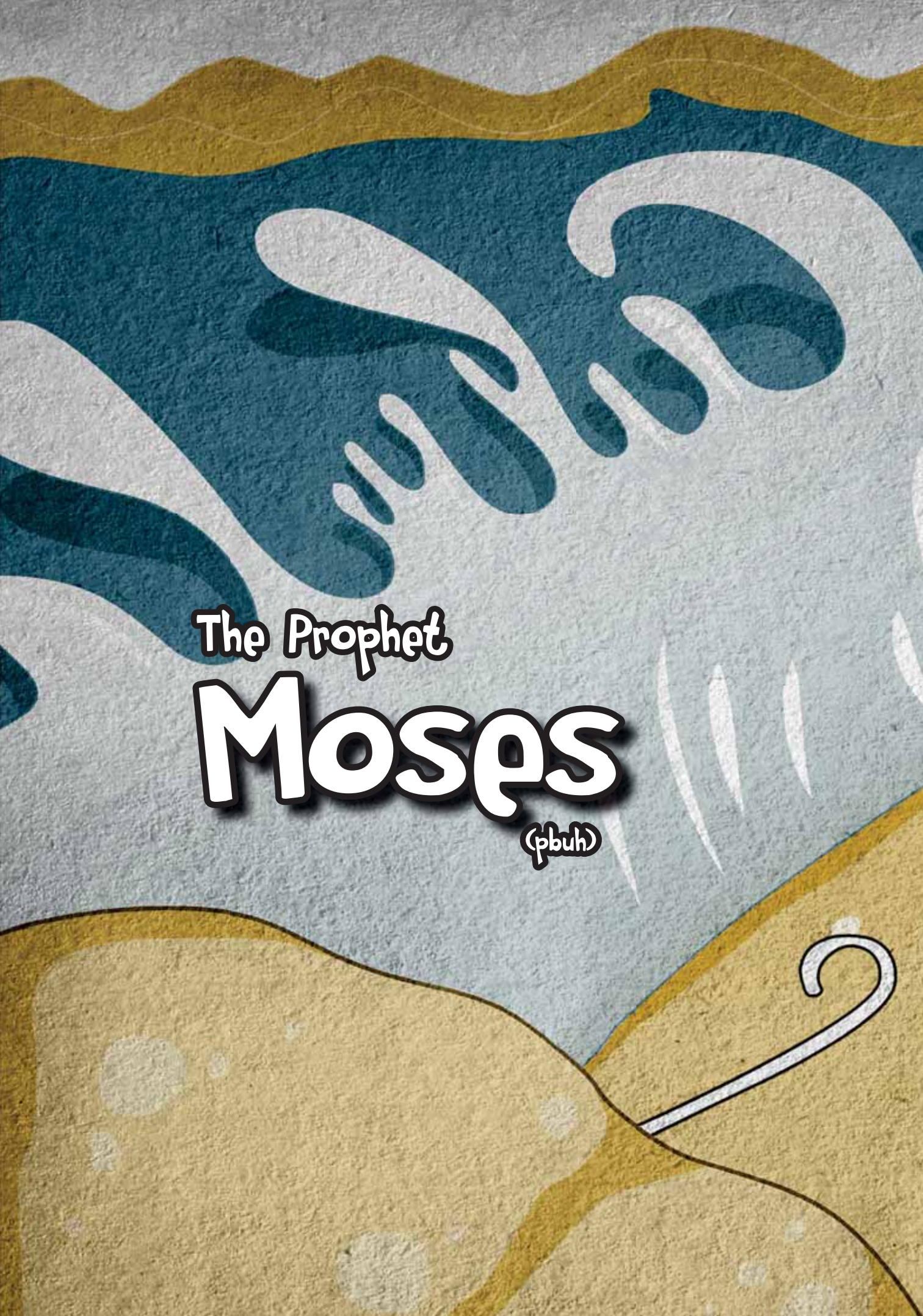
Crossword Puzzle



1. The bad place where Yusuf entered before he became a vizier.
5. Allah the Almighty said "I will create a on the earth".
7. The name of special water that gushed out from the place between the hills of Safa and Marwa.
11. The house of Allah.
13. The creature Noah took on his ship.
14. The thing that disbelievers make with their own hands and worship for.



2. The great enemy of people.
3. The name of Aziz's wife.
4. Name of the meeting place of Muslims on the earth.
6. The name of Isaac's (pbuh) son.
8. The belief in the oneness and unity of Allah.
9. The name of the king who did evil to Abraham.
10. The place in which his brothers threw Yusuf.
12. The name of the Prophet Adam's wife.

The background of the cover features a stylized, abstract illustration. In the upper half, a large, dark blue hand with white highlights is shown in a gesture of blessing or teaching, with fingers slightly spread. Below the hand, the background is a light blue-grey with several white, curved, brushstroke-like lines. At the bottom, there are large, wavy shapes in shades of yellow and gold, suggesting a landscape or a base. A white, curved staff or scepter is visible in the bottom right corner, partially overlapping the yellow shapes.

The Prophet Moses

(pbuh)





The Prophet Moses (pbuh)

The Prophet Moses: The Child Grew Up in Pharaoh's Palace...

The Prophet Yusuf's Family resided in Egypt and started to live there under the rule of him. At last, their longing ended. There was no such thing as valuable as the unity and being with one's family. Neither Yusuf (pbuh) was lonely, nor was his father Jacob (pbuh) sad because of his longing... Years passed. The King of Egypt died. His son ascended the throne. In time, the Prophet Yusuf and his family also passed away. New generations descended from them and the number of these people living in Egypt reached hundreds of thousands. The generation descended from Jacob is called "the sons of Israel." The sons of Israel worked together and earned their living. Each one of them had large fields and gardens. They were cultivating fertile soils of Egypt as they wished and they were living in abundance and blessing.

However, the new Pharaoh of Egypt who came to power after the death of his father was not happy with the state of the sons of Israel because he was not a fair man. He was very cruel to his people and he was arrogant. He did not believe in Allah. He pretended as if he were a god. He ruled over his people like Nimrud, who had thrown Abraham into the fire, had done. He was only thinking about his reign. People under his ruling were afraid of him and they were helplessly doing whatever he asked. Things in Egypt were not as they had been before.

Pharaoh divided his community into groups. He gave more rights to Copts who were the native inhabitants of Egypt. They were working in easier jobs and living in better houses. The situation of the sons of Israel was getting worse. They were the ones who worked in the most difficult jobs and living in the severest conditions. Their peaceful days were remained in the past.

Pharaoh was doing all these in order to weaken the sons of Israel because he was afraid of them to become powerful and take control of the ruling in

Egypt. That was why, he increased and made worse his evil treatment every day. After a short while, he confiscated the fields owned by the sons of Israel and made them work in the fields without paying them. This was not enough for him. In order to prevent them to become more powerful, he ordered their newborn sons to be killed.

Pharaoh's wife Asiya was a believer. She was morally just and filled with love for other people. She opposed all kinds of evil that was done by her husband. She could not stand killing the innocence children. However, Pharaoh determined to annihilate the sons of Israel. When he ordered something, nobody, neither from his community nor from the people of the palace, could oppose him.

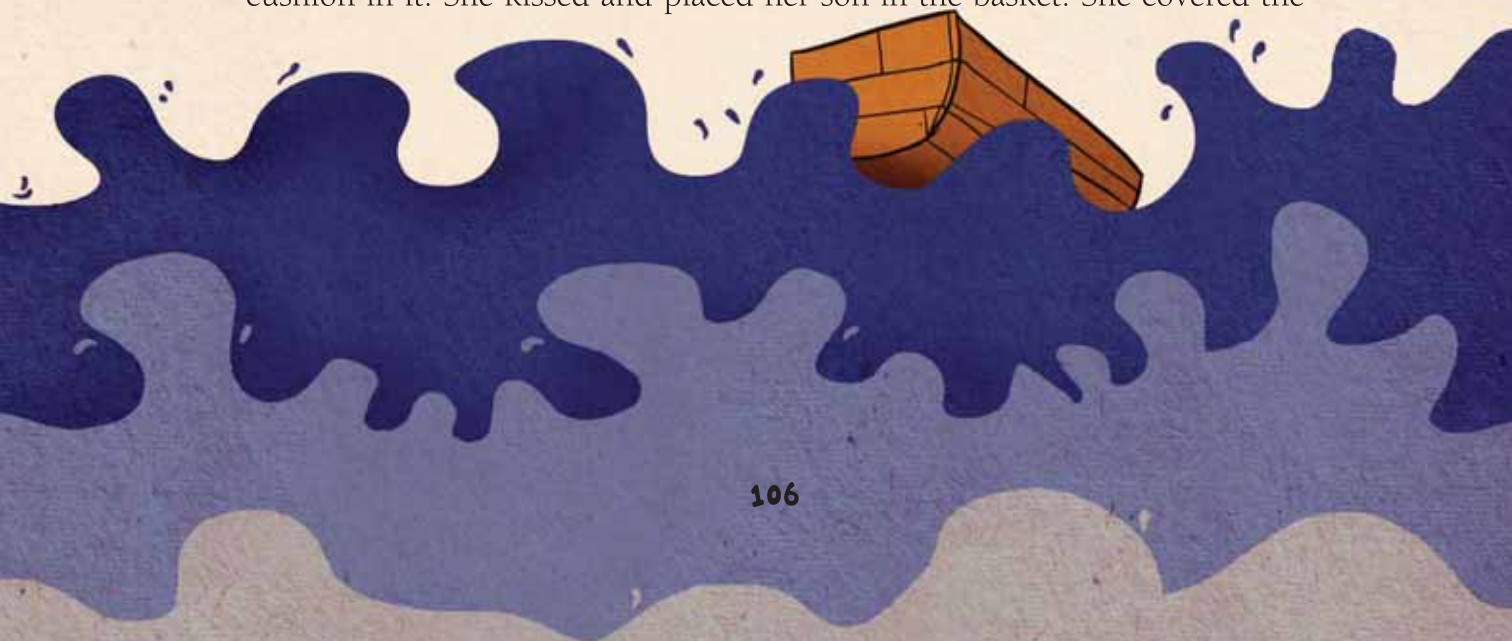
Under such harsh conditions, a boy called Moses was born among the sons of Israel. Moses' Mother was worried about her son's life. For a time, she hid him in the house. She showed him no one. However, Pharaoh's men were walking around the city and getting information about every newborn child. It was just a matter of time that Moses would be caught by them. How long could she hide her son? She had to find a way to save him.

Moses's mother was a believer. She turned to Allah and prayed:

- O my Lord! Show me a way to save my son from Pharaoh's oppressions.

Allah inspired this desperate mother to make a basket from wood and put her son in it and leave the basket on the Nile River.

Moses's mother thought "there should be a goodness in the way my Lord showed me to save my child." She immediately made a basket and put a cushion in it. She kissed and placed her son in the basket. She covered the



basket and leave it on Nile. Basket started to float on the river. Moses's mother said her daughter with her:

- Follow the basket from the riverbank. See where it goes.

Moses's sister started to follow the basket. The basket was floating and moving fast with the flow of the river. Pharaoh's palace was on the riverbank. The basket headed towards Pharaoh's palace. The servants of the palace noticed the basket. They immediately pulled the basket out of water and opened it. When they see little Moses, they took him to Pharaoh's wife. Asiya loved the child at first sight. She showed the child to her husband:

- This baby is a gift for us from Nile, she said. Let's take and adopt him. He would be the source of joy in our lives.

Pharaoh was not thinking in the same way. Most probably the baby was from the sons of Israel. He could not decide whether he should have him killed immediately or not? However, Asiya took him on her lap and started to love him already. Moreover, Pharaoh's wife could not have child. Perhaps this baby was really a gift for them. The baby also looked very beautiful in the arms of Asiya.

At last Pharaoh agreed to keep the baby. The baby coming from Nile was going to be raised up in the palace.

Moses's sister watched what happened from a distance. She ran and informed her mother in a hurry:

- O my dear mother! The basket stopped in front of the palace. Servants of the palace took him. What will we do now?

Her mother said:

- My beautiful daughter. You are serving in the palace. Now go there and learn what happened.

Moses's sister went to palace. Meanwhile, people in the palace were looking for a foster mother for Moses. Women coming from the community got in line to breastfeed the baby. However, the baby did not accept any of them. He was about to die because of hunger and crying. Pharaoh's wife was very sad. When everything became useless, Moses's sister who was watching everything from a corner asked:

- Do you want me to find a woman who can breastfeed this baby?

Nobody knew that she was the sister of Moses.

People in the palace:

- Hurry, they said. If you know someone, invite her immediately or this poor baby will die.

Moses's sister immediately went and informed her mother. The poor woman ran to the palace with a limitless joy. Her heart was about to stop. She was hardly containing herself to reveal everything. She embraced her baby with love and started to breastfeed him. People in the palace felt so happy when they saw that they could finally find a foster mother for Moses.

Allah the Almighty united the mother and the son in the palace of their cruel enemy Pharaoh. Moses grew up by his own mother's milk. Allah is All-Powerful.

A Wrong Deed and Repentance

Days, months, and years passed. Moses (pbuh) grew up and became a young man. Everyone was treating him as if he were Pharaoh's own son. Especially Asiya was always keeping an eye on Moses whom she raised up.

However, Moses was not happy with so much affection. He was considering this luxurious and splendid life in palace meaningless because he was aware of he was one of the sons of Israel who were oppressed and treated badly. Even if he grew up in the palace, he knew the violence that the sons of Israel were subjected. He often was going to the city center, joining in the crowd, and witnessing the injustices against the sons of Israel. Everyone was afraid of Pharaoh. Despite they were in better condition compared to the sons of Israel, Egypt's native community Copts were also not happy with their lives. Misery and hardship experienced by the sons of Israel was increasing each day.

Moreover, everywhere in the country was full of idols. People who were afraid of Pharaoh's violence forgot about Allah and started to worship to Pharaoh and these idols. They thought that Pharaoh was an animate god. Whatever he desires should have been done. Moses believed only in Allah, the One



and only God. He was against all kinds of statues regarded to be god in the city.

One day when Moses was walking around the city, he saw that a man from the sons of Israel was fighting with a Copt. The Copt was beating him up. The man asked Moses for help against his enemy. Moses went to break up the fight. He felt pity to the son of Israel and punched the Copt. He fell to the ground and died.

When he saw what he had done, Moses got scared. He did not intend to kill him. He regretted deeply because of his wrong deed. He turned to Allah:

- Dear Lord, he said. Indeed, I have made a big mistake. Forgive me. I will never associate in violence again.

Moses was afraid of this incident to be heard. If Pharaoh heard about this, he would be very angry with Moses. That was why, he could not return to the palace. He spent the night in fear by hiding in a place.

In the next morning while he was walking around nervously, he saw the son of Israel he had helped the day before. This time the man was fighting with another Copt. When he saw Moses he asked for help from him again. Moses realized that he was guilty. he said in anger:

- You are a manifest rebel attacking, and fighting with the people around.

Moses caught him, and when he raised his hand to strike him, the son of Israel said:

- O Moses, will you kill me too like the man you killed yesterday?

Upon these words, Moses stopped. He did not want to make another mistake. At that moment a man came by running. To Moses:

- Run, he said. Egyptians learned what you did yesterday. They are preparing to kill you. Run away and escape from here.

Moses begged to Allah:

- O my Lord, save me from these bad people adopted violence as principle. Show me the right path.

Then with all his power he started to run towards the desert, to the East of Egypt.

The Door that was Opened to Moses

Moses walked in the desert for many days and nights. He was walking towards East... He was hungry, thirsty and tired... He was lonely and had no one with him. He was on the road, in need for a helpful hand... He passed villages and valleys like that. He stopped by a water well near to the city of Midian. There he saw two sphered girls. They were shyly waiting by the well. Moses went to them and asked:

- Why do not you water your sheep?

Girls answered:

- There are boys by the well. We are waiting them to leave.

Moses asked:

- Why do you look after your sheep? Do not you have any men in your family to do this job?

Girls said:

- We have no one other than our old father. That is why we have to do this.

While they were waiting, Moses helped them water their sheep from the well. Girls left there thankfully. Moses (pbuh) was tired and exhausted because of walking under hot weather of the desert. He lied down under a tree:

- O my Lord, he said. I am in need of all kinds of help coming from you.

After a short while one of the girls came back. She approached to him humbly and shyly:

- My father is calling for you, she said. He wants to offer you food because of your help to water our sheep.

Moses stood up and walked after the girl. They arrived at the place where her father was. This man was the Prophet Shuayb (Jethro). Allah the Almighty had helpless Moses met with Shuayb (pbuh) one of His messengers. Moses (pbuh) liked him at first sight. He told him what had happened. Shuayb (pbuh) said to him:

- Fear not anymore. Cruel Pharaoh and his men are far away. Their ruling is not valid here. They can do nothing to you.

One of the girls said her father:

- My dear father, he looks like a trustworthy and a strong man. Hire him. You cannot find anyone better than him to graze our sheep.

Shuayb (pbuh) said to Moses:

- I intend to wed one of these two daughters of mine to you, on condition that you serve me for eight years, but if you complete ten years, it will be a favor from you. But I intend not to place you under a difficulty. If Allah wills, you will find me one of the righteous.

Moses accepted the offer. He was in need of warm family home. From that day on, he worked for the Prophet Shuayb. He grazed his sheep, helped the Prophet Shuayb with his works. In a short period of time, everybody liked this smart and hardworking young man.

Ten years passed like that. Shuayb kept his promise and wed one of his daughters with Moses.

Moses was happy with his wife in Midian. However, his country Egypt was always in his mind. He was wondering about Pharaoh, Asiya who raised him up carefully, his mother, siblings and the people under oppression. He wondered what happened in the course of time. He expressed his thoughts to the Prophet Shuayb and told him that he wanted to leave Midian. Shuayb (pbuh) gave him permission to go. Moses took a flock of sheep with him and set off a journey with his wife towards Egypt.

They arrived at Mount Sinai. It was cold and dark. Moses wanted to build fire to warm his family up. At that moment, he saw a light far away. He told his wife:

- I saw something like fire. Wait me here. I will go and bring a piece of fire. We can both get warm and cook our meal.

Then he started to walk towards the fire. He continued to walk for a while. However, as he approached he found neither light nor fire... Just then, he was startled by a voice. The voice was coming behind a tree and saying:

- O Moses! Indeed, I am your Lord. Take your sandals off because you are in the sacred valley of Tuwa, I have chosen you as my prophet. Listen carefully what is revealed to you. I am Allah, Lord of the worlds and there is no god except Me. Worship only Me and establish prayer to strengthen your remembrance of Me.

Moses looked around in a state of fear and confusion. Was that voice coming from his Lord he always took refuge in? The voice that infused both fear and love in his heart is heard again:

- What is that in your hand, O Moses?

Moses said with a trembling voice:

- It is my staff, I lean upon it while walking and with it, I bring down leaves for my sheep.

Allah the Almighty said:

- Throw it down.

When Moses threw it down, the staff turned into a snake moving swiftly. Moses was scared and wanted to run away without looking back. But Allah said:

- Fear not! Now, take it in your hand. It will do no harm to you.

Moses overcame his fear and reached out to the snake. Suddenly the snake turned back into the staff. Moses's astonishment increased.

Allah the Almighty said:

- Insert your hand into your shirt. It will come out white.

Moses did as he was told. When he took his hand out, his hand was shining in dark. He thought that he had a sickness.

Allah said:

- Fear not. You are not sick. Your hand shining like a light and your staff turning into a snake are two miracles I have given to you. Go to Pharaoh and warn him with gentle speech. Indeed, they are cruel people. Maybe they take heed and give up wrongdoing.

Moses was afraid of entering Egypt. It was not an easy thing to come to the presence of Pharaoh. Moreover, he was a fugitive because he had killed an Egyptian. He also had difficulty to speak because he was lisper. He could have become tongue-tied in the presence of Pharaoh. He did not want to be an object of joke in the palace. He worriedly begged Allah:

- O my Lord. Indeed, I am afraid of being denied. In the presence of Pharaoh, I might get tongue-tied and could not say anything. Send my brother Aaron with me to help me. I fear that they might want to kill me.

Allah accepted Moses' (pbuh) request and said

- O Moses. Fear not. Remember how did I save you when you were a little baby. Always I am with you. I will never leave you. Take your brother Aaron and go to Pharaoh. Say him that "We are the messengers of Allah." Tell him to abandon violence and injustice against the sons of Israel and to worship the Lord of the worlds.

The voice suddenly stopped. Moses (pbuh) looked around. He saw nothing. He was shaking because of excitement. His heart was about to stop. He returned his wife's side and quickly told her everything that happened.

- We are leaving now, he said. Let's go to Egypt and find my brother. I should fulfill the duty my Lord given me.

They set off on journey towards Egypt... Their journey lasted for days. At last Egypt appeared on the horizon...

In the Palace of Pharaoh

When they arrived in Egypt, Moses went directly to the Aaron's house. He told his brother about Allah's commandment. Aaron said:

- My Lord informed me about that. Let's go to Pharaoh and deliver him Allah's commandments.

Two brothers arrived at palace. Pharaoh was surprised very much to see Moses before him.

Suddenly Moses started to talk fluently:

- O Pharaoh, he said. I am the messenger of Allah. Allah sent me to invite you to the truth. Believe in Allah who is the Lord of the worlds. Give up doing injustice against the sons of Israel.

Pharaoh could not believe what he heard. Is the child he raised in his palace saying these words?

- You ungrateful man, he shouted. Have not we adopted you and raised you up? And what you did in return? You killed an Egyptian and ran away!...

- Yes, this is true, said Moses. But I realized my mistake and repented. Allah forgave me and appointed me as His messenger.

Pharaoh's anger increased:

- Who is Allah who appointed you as a prophet? he asked.

Moses replied:

- Allah is the Lord of the worlds. He is the Creator of you, me and all the existence.

Pharaoh was unable to hold himself because of his anger:

- What else will I hear? I hope you have an evidence to prove your words!

- Yes I can prove it to you, Moses said.

He threw his staff on ground. As soon as his staff fell onto ground, it turned into a snake and started to move swiftly. Pharaoh got scared. What was this? Moses inserted his hand into his shirt and took it out. His hand started to shine like light.

Pharaoh and his men were horrified and he said:

- This is nothing but a magic.

After the first shock, Pharaoh said:

- We have lots of magicians. Let's invite them all and appoint a day. Let's see whether you or they are more powerful in magic

After a short while, news was sent all around the country. Magicians came with the order of Pharaoh. A day was appointed for the magic competition. Magicians asked Pharaoh:

- If we beat Moses with our magic, will you give us rewards?

Pharaoh said:

- Absolutely, you will be valuable people in my eyes.

The appointed day came. It was a day of the festival in the country. People gathered around the city to watch the show. Pharaoh and his men were also there. After a short while magicians, Moses and his brother Aaron took their positions. Magicians asked:

- Who will start first, you or we?

- You first, Moses said.

Magicians threw the ropes that they held in their hands on ground and they started to move like snakes. Everywhere filled with large and small snakes.

Moses stepped back fearfully. Allah the Almighty said:

- Fear not! You are more powerful than them. Theirs was just a magic trick. Magicians' tricks will not be successful. Release your staff and it will swallow all those snakes.

Moses did as he was told. As soon as his staff fell onto ground, it turned into a huge snake. He swallowed all the ropes of the magicians, chased off escapers, and left no one.

Magicians were amazed to see this. They were aware that it was not magic but a miracle. Yes, it could only be the work of a Supreme God who is All-Powerful and who can defeat the magic and reveal the truth. And Moses is the true messenger of Him!

Magicians prostrated sincerely and said:

- We believed in the Lord of Moses and Aaron.

When he saw that magicians believed in Moses (pbuh), Pharaoh became very angry. He was afraid of his people to come under the influence of the magicians' confession of faith.

- You believed in Moses without my permission ha! he shouted. I will cut off your hands and your feet on opposite sides and hang them on date trees.

However, magicians did not afraid of Pharaoh's threats and said:

- It does not matter. Do what you want to do to us. We are not afraid of you. You can do evil to us only in this world. We will return to Allah. And our Lord will reward us with heaven. And the heaven is more beautiful than the world. Whatever you do, you cannot make us return our old false beliefs.



Then he turned to Allah:

- Our Lord! Give us patience against Pharaoh's evil doings. And take our lives as Muslims.

Pharaoh ordered his men to arrest magicians.

When they saw this, the people got frightened. Most of them were impressed by Moses, but they were afraid of Pharaoh. Some young men among the sons of Israel believed in Moses.

Tortures and Plagues

From that day on Pharaoh increased his tortures and harassment upon the sons of Israel. He was afraid of Moses's supporters to strengthen and to lead an extensive revolt. For this reason, he started to oppress the believers. Many people martyred under these tortures. One of them was Asiya the wife of Pharaoh. Asiya revolted against Pharaoh's violence and by following Moses she believed in Allah. Pharaoh showed no mercy even to his own wife.

To make matters worse, he was mocking at them. He said to his man:

- O Haman, I do not think that there is another god other than me for you. Build me a high tower so that I can climb it and take a look. Perhaps I will see Moses's Lord and beat Him.

In return of these tortures Allah has sent big plagues on Pharaoh and the people around him to make them think and use their reason. For a long period of time the country faced with a severe famine. However, Pharaoh and his supporters did not take any lesson from this plague. When they had a favor, they thought:

- This is for us. This is because of our power, abilities and intelligence.

When they faced with a disaster, they said:

- It is because of Moses' and others' bad luck. They had no intention to take lesson...

Plagues continued... The next one was that Nile River overflowed. Houses, villages, towns covered with waters. Desperate people went to the palace. They asked for help from Pharaoh complainingly. Pharaoh was also desper-

ate. He was not able to do anything. At last, he called Moses and Aaron and said:

- If you pray your Lord and stop this disaster, I will stop the oppression and harassment on the believers and let the sons of Israel go.

Messengers of Allah prayed their Lord to stop the overflowing. Nile River settled down. Water withdrew to its usual course.

However, Pharaoh did not keep his promise. Let alone releasing the sons of Israel, he increased his violence.

The country of cruel Pharaoh breaking his promise could not escape from disasters. After the flood, locusts infested everywhere. Locusts covered everywhere in the fields and gardens. They ate the crops. They went into houses and gave harm to the people.

After that, the frogs attacked on the country. There were so many of them that there was not any place that they did not enter. They leaked in food containers. People had to fight with jumping frogs.

Thereafter, lice infested everywhere. In order to get rid of this pest sticking on them, people were itching and scratching themselves. They were about to lose their minds because of itching.

At last they had a bigger disaster. Their water turned into blood. All bowls, plates, pots were full of blood. So that, they could not find a glass of water to drink. Thirst made Pharaoh and his community got tired.

Every time a plague hit the country, Pharaoh was calling for Moses and Aaron and saying:

- Promise, this is the end! Pray your Lord to save us from this plague and I will release all the believers. You will live as you wish.

In return, the messengers of Allah believed him every time and prayed Allah the most-merciful by saying:

- Remove the plague, O our Lord. Pharaoh's violence will end and the believers will become free.

Allah the Almighty accepted His messengers' prayers, but the sons of Israel could not be released. Because as soon as the plague was removed from the country, Pharaoh changed his mind.

Moreover, he said bad things about Moses and the believers:

- Indeed, they are inglorious minorities provoking us. Do not ever believe in them. Be on the safe side.

Moses (pbuh) warned those who believed in:

- Never, he said. Do not believe in Pharaoh and revolt against Allah. I am a manifest warner for you.

Night Walk

Time passed, but passing days decreased nothing from Pharaoh's and his men's cruelty and tortures. On the contrary their oppressions increased.

Moses lost his hope of them. He turned to Allah and said:

- My Lord, surely they are sinful and guilty community. It appears that they will not believe until they get your painful punishment. Help us against their oppression!

Allah the Almighty accepted Moses's prayer:

- Have my servants walk secretly at night. Surely, you will be followed, He commanded.

Allah's command spread from ear to ear among believers. They were going to migrate out of Egypt. Sons of Israel told each other:

- We should get ready very quietly. If Pharaoh hears this, he comes after us. If we get captured, what would we do?

They secretly packed their stuff and completed their preparation for the journey. One night, they set off their journey towards Palestine under the leadership of Moses.

When the sun rose, Pharaoh's men got suspicious about the silence in the city and ran to the houses of sons of Israel. They saw that all houses were empty. There was no sound. The news was sent to palace. Pharaoh got so angry that he shouted at his men:

- Get ready, Moses and the people with are weak and powerless. We are strong and intelligent. Let's capture and punish them.

Soldiers who heard the Pharaoh's command came from everywhere. Pharaoh immediately set off with his army. Riding their horses, they were moving like wind. In the meantime, sons of Israel arrived at the coast of a big sea. When they heard that Pharaoh was chasing them with his soldiers they went into panic. There was Red Sea in front of them and the army of a bad king after them. How were they going to be saved?

- Alas, they shouted. We will be caught. What are we going to do now?

Moses (pbuh) had a strong belief that God's help will come,

- Don't be afraid, he said. They cannot catch us. Certainly my Lord will show us a way out.

At that moment Allah the Almighty commanded Moses (pbuh) to hit his staff to the sea. As soon as the Messenger of Allah hit his staff on the sea, a dry path opened in the midst of the sea. Waves rose like mountains on each side of the path. But they were not getting united and close the path. It was a great miracle!

Sons of Israel were in complete astonishment. They went through the path with Moses so quickly that they neither looked back nor did they take a breath until they passed through the sea. This was a matter of life or death. None of them wanted to be captured by Pharaoh. At last they managed to pass the Red Sea between huge waves.

Pharaoh became so blinded by his anger that he could think nothing but to capture the sons of Israel. He paid attention to neither the divided sea nor the huge waves...

He went into the sea with his soldiers. He thought that he could pass the sea like the believers did. However, Allah the Almighty did not let them pass. The mountain like waves collapsed over them. Pharaoh and his soldiers submerged in the sea. When Pharaoh understood that he was going to die, he said in panic:

- I believe and submit myself to the Lord of Moses. There is no god other than Him. I am one of the Muslims.

However, his words at the brink of death did not help. Allah did not forgive Pharaoh and his soldiers. All of them drowned under the wild waves.



The end of Pharaoh who had great kingdom and ruling on earth became very bad. He no longer had huge vineyards, orchards, a palace, and men fulfilling his orders. Only his dead body was remained.

Allah the Almighty did not let Pharaoh's body decompose in order to make his body a lesson to the coming generations.

Journey in the Desert and the Ten Commandments

The journey of the sons of Israel continued. They traveled day and night under the leadership of Moses in the Desert Sinai. They finally arrived at the foot of Mount Sinai where Moses talked to Allah.

All of them were tired and sleepless because of travelling for days. There was neither a place to rest nor food in the desert. The sun was burning hot. An unrest started to arise among the sons of Israel. In spite of all miracles they saw, they were easily losing their hope and getting bored. Moses advised them to be patient and trust in Allah.

Allah the Almighty did not left Sons of Israel helpless in the desert. He made their life easy by sending various miracles. He sent down manna and quails for them to eat. They filled their stomach with these delicious foods without spending any effort.

Allah commanded His Messenger to hit his staff to a rock. As soon as Moses (pbuh) struck his staff to the rock, twelve springs started to flow out of it. Sons of Israel were twelve tribes and each tribe had its own spring to drink.

Allah the Almighty made clouds on the sky a shade for the sons of Israel. Clouds were moving with the command of Allah and protecting them from the hot weather.

After that, Allah commanded Moses (pbuh) to climb the Mount Sinai. There He would inform him about the obligations and prohibitions that Sons of Israel must follow. The Prophet Moses was going to stay on the Mountain for forty days.

He completed his preparations for travel in a short period of time. Then he said to his brother Aaron:

- You will stay with my community while I am not here. Do not let them feel my absence. Guide them to the right path. Keep them out of misdoings.

Aaron (pbuh) promised Moses and saw him off.

* * *

The Prophet Moses climbed Mount Sinai for days. He finally arrived at the valley where he had been given the good news of his prophethood by his Lord. He was so excited and worried.

He wanted to see his Lord to whom he talked in the Valley of Tuwa. Excitedly he said:

- My Lord, I want to see your Divine Beauty. Show me Yourself.

Allah said:

- O Moses! You cannot see me. But look at that mountain. If it can bear, you will see me, too.

Moses looked at the mountain. The mountain that Allah manifested Himself shattered and fell into pieces.

The messenger of Allah fainted because of the effect of what he saw. When he woke up, he understood his fault:

- My Lord, he said. How magnificent You are! Forgive me that I overstepped my limits. Accept my repentance.

Allah the Almighty gave Moses ten tablets on Mount Sinai. In these tablets He was indicating the way of how Sons of Israel were going to perform their worship and how they should treat each other. There were also commandments about not to associated partners to Allah, to do favors to parents, not to steal. Moreover, there were information about how they could heal illnesses and how they could fight against enemies.

Moses took the tablets and came down from the mountain. He was away from his community for only forty days. However, he could not become happy to see his people when he returned. Because Sons of Israel had made the statue of a golden calf for themselves by taking advantage of the absence of Moses and started to worshipping it. They had forgotten their Lord who had saved them from Pharaoh's oppression and tortures, helped them pass the

Red Sea, provided them delicious food and water in the desert. Moses did not know what to do because of his anger. He found Aaron, held him and said:

- Did not I leave you as the leader of the community? Why did not you look after them? Look at them. As you know, our Lord is Allah who sent us to Pharaoh.

Aaron was desperate. He burst into tears:

- O my brother, he said. Do not be angry with me! I wanted to prevent Sons of Israel to worship the statue of the calf but they wanted to kill me. I was weakened. I could not make them listen to me.

Moses understood that Aaron was innocent. Then, he went to his community and confronted them:

- O Sons of Israel, he said. Did not my Lord make a good promise to you? How much time passed? Or did you want to be punished by your Lord so that you broke your promise?

Sons of Israel replied:

- We did not break our word on our own. The Samaritan made the statue of the calf. He was a man who wanted to come into prominence and was considering himself our leader. The Prophet Moses found the Samaritan and asked him why he did this. The Samaritan answered:

- I saw something that they did not see. I took a handful of dust from where the Messenger stepped on. Then, I sprinkled it on the calf I made out of jewelries. People started to worship this statue. My inner self made me do this.

Moses (pbuh) said:

- You are a great sinner. Wait for the punishment of Allah. Now, I will burn this statue and throw it into the sea.

Samaritan got scared and surprised. Indeed, he had made the calf in order to get the community's respect. He had not thought about what was going to happen to him when Moses returned. The Prophet Moses sent the Samaritan away. Then, he wanted his community to repent for having worshipped the calf. Sons of Israel regretted what they had done and repented for their sins.

From that day on Moses (pbuh) started to read his community the ten commandments written on tablets he brought. He taught the ten commandments to his community. Sons of Israel started to educate each other and live according to ten commandments.

Travel to Palestine

Life on desert was going on. The Prophet Moses brought his community near Palestine with the command of God. Palestine had been the homeland of the sons of Israel in the past. However, now another community was living there. Moses (pbuh) said the sons of Israel:

- There is a community living here, they are associating partners to Allah and worshipping idols. Allah is commanding us to fight with them and settle in these territories.

Sons of Israel were not strong in the face of difficulties. Most of the time, they were talking about their slavery days in Egypt and thought that they made a mistake by following the Prophet Moses.

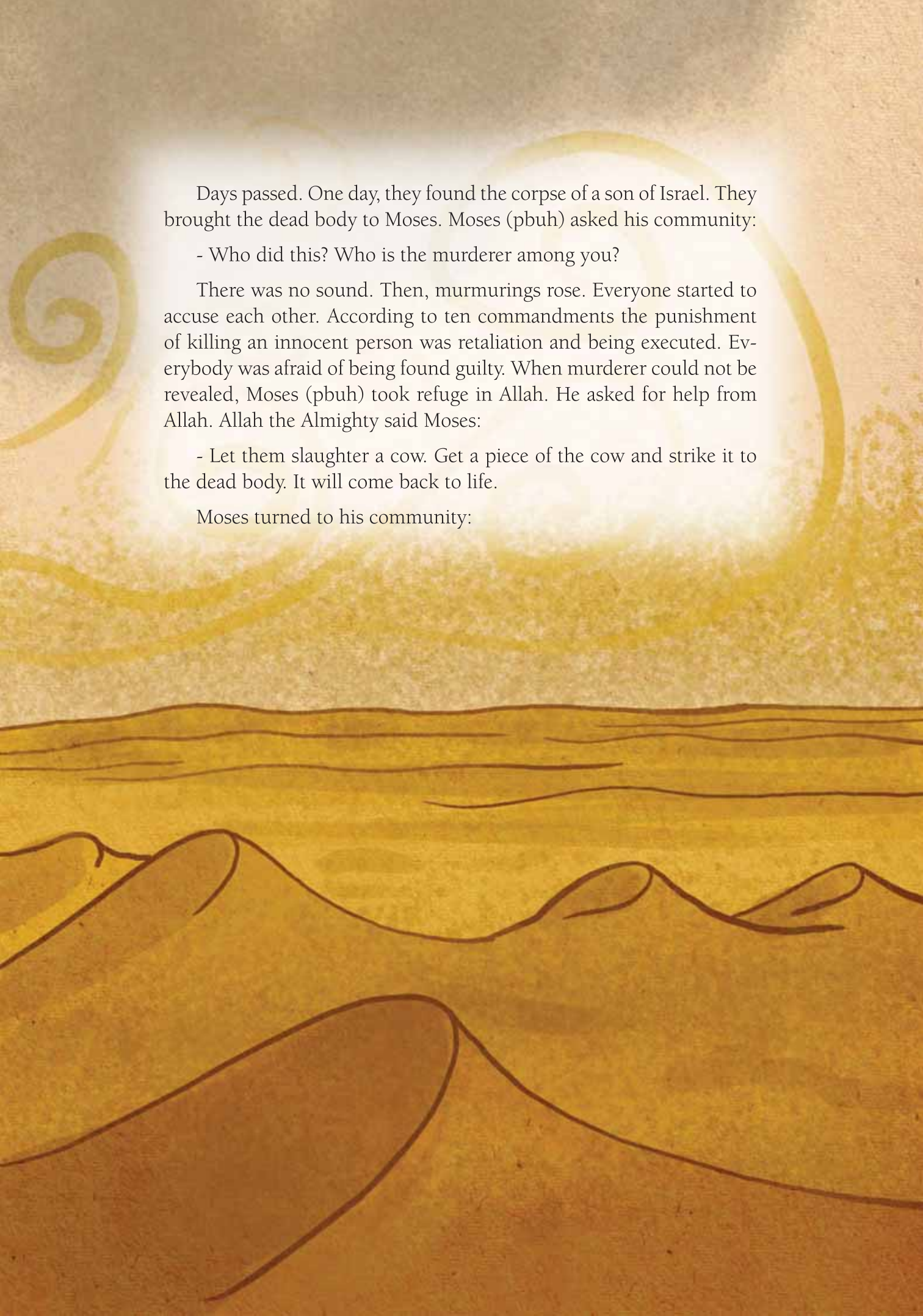
They said:

- O Moses! Did you take us out of Egypt and bring here just because of that? Do not you see the strength of this community here? We will not enter Palestine unless they get out of there. We rather live as slaves than dying in fight. You better take us back to Egypt or if you like, you and your Lord can go and fight yourselves.

Moses (pbuh) could not cope with these stubborn people. No matter what he did, he could not convince them to fight. Allah the Almighty saw the difficulties His messenger was experiencing and in order to give the sons of Israel a lesson, He raised Mount Sinai and held it above them. Sons of Israel who saw the mountain was about to crash them were petrified. They shouted in state of fear:

- O Moses! Look what happened to us! Pray your Lord that He may save us from this disaster. If mountain comes on us, we will be perished all. We promise, if we will be saved from this, we will enter Palestine and fight.

Allah the Almighty forgave them again. However, they ungratefully broke their promise. They did not enter Palestine.



Days passed. One day, they found the corpse of a son of Israel. They brought the dead body to Moses. Moses (pbuh) asked his community:

- Who did this? Who is the murderer among you?

There was no sound. Then, murmurings rose. Everyone started to accuse each other. According to ten commandments the punishment of killing an innocent person was retaliation and being executed. Everybody was afraid of being found guilty. When murderer could not be revealed, Moses (pbuh) took refuge in Allah. He asked for help from Allah. Allah the Almighty said Moses:

- Let them slaughter a cow. Get a piece of the cow and strike it to the dead body. It will come back to life.

Moses turned to his community:

- Allah wants you to slaughter a cow, he said.

With their usual rebellious manner, they said:

- Are you mocking at us?

Moses said:

- I take refuge to Allah from being an ignorant person. How can I speak in the name of Allah without his permission?

Then, the sons of Israel said:

- Then pray your Lord that He may inform us about the characteristics of the cow that we need to slaughter?

Moses said:

- My Lord commands you to slaughter a cow that is neither old, nor young, but middle-aged.

Sons of Israel asked again:

- What color should this cow be?

- My Lord wants it to be such a yellow cow that everyone who sees it admires it, said Moses.

Sons of Israel said:

- All the cows resemble each other. Does not it have another distinguishing feature?

Moses said:

- My Lord commands that it should not be a cow trained to plow the earth or to water the crops, but it should be pastured on wide fields and free of fault, without markings of any other color.

Sons of Israel asked many questions and tried to find excuses in order to avoid slaughtering the cow. However, in the end they had to find the cow and slaughter her. They were almost going to disobey the command of Allah.

Moses took a part of slaughtered cow and struck the dead body with it. With the permission of Allah, the dead man returned to life and informed them the name of his murderer. Moses (pbuh) had the murderer captured

and executed him. The people of the Prophet Moses witnessed both the resurrection of the dead and the fulfillment of the justice ...

However, days were passing without anything interesting for the sons of Israel. They liked neither to work nor to fight... They could not be satisfied. They were always complaining about their circumstances. One day they said to Moses:

- Why did you separate us from good old Egypt and bring here? We fed up with eating the same food every day. We missed cabbage, broad bean, lentil, garlic and onion that we used to eat in Egypt. Pray your Lord that He gives us these foods from underground.

Moses (pbuh) said:

- Don't you like these great blessings and desire for worse? So, go to Egypt. You eat there as you wish.

This time Sons of Israel shouted fearfully:

- Are you mocking at us? If we go back there again, what will we do? Egyptians kill us.

Moses (pbuh) said discontented and whining Sons of Israel:

- Now, if you are tired of living like that, Allah commands you to enter Palestine and take the people out. Why do you disobey the command of Allah?

However, the thankless people did not pay attention. They said shaking from fear:

- O Moses, we know what kind of warriors they are. Absolutely we cannot fight against them.

Moses said:

- How quickly you forget about the blessings Allah has given you. Did not He help you in the face of kinds of hardship? Who did save you from Pharaoh's oppression? Remember the miracles your Lord showed you...

There were two leaders of them dedicated themselves to Allah. They supported Moses. They offered to enter from the gate of the city and made a sudden attack. However, the sons of Israel did not listen to anybody. They came to Moses and said:

- Do you want us to be killed? If you claim that you are powerful, you and your Lord go and fight those people together. Destroy them all so that we can enter Palestine and live there safely.

Sons of Israel overstepped their limits again. They disobeyed most of the commands of Allah. Moses (pbuh) was sad, desperate and tired. He could not cope with these whining and coward people. He could not make them listen to him, on the contrary they were mocking at him. Of course if Allah had willed, He could have taken the idolaters out of Palestine and placed Sons of Israel there. However, He wanted believers to struggle with difficulties and tested their sincerity.

Moses informed Allah about his situation and prayed:

- My Lord, I cannot make myself listened to except for my brother and myself. Nobody in my community listens to me. Separate me from these people who went astray.

Allah the Almighty accepted Moses' prayers and said about the sons of Israel:

- These lands are forbidden to them for forty years. They will wander in the desert for forty years. They will suffer the consequences of homelessness. Do not grieve for this sinful community anymore.

The Prophet Moses and Aaron left there.

After His command, Allah sent a terrible storm over the sons of Israel. Their tents dispersed around. Their pots and pans overturned, and foods scattered around. Everywhere covered with sand.

Sons of Israel started to run away in different directions in a state of fear. They dispersed around the desert like a leaf in a storm. They disappeared behind the sand hills.

This rebellious community was dispersed in groups in the desert. They suffered the consequences of their disobedience against their prophet. There were forty years of trouble awaiting for them. They were not going to come together again for long years with the command of Allah.

HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. How could Moses (pbuh) enter the Pharaoh's palace?
2. How did sons of Israel treat Moses?
3. How did Pharaoh's life end?
4. Why did not Allah accept Pharaoh's confession of belief? What kind of a lesson can we derive from that incident?
5. Why did not sons of Israel want to enter Palestine and fight?

Find The Correct Answer

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Which one of the followings is not correct?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Pharaoh treated the sons of Israel badly.B. Copts were a privileged group in the community.C. Pharaoh's wife, Asiya, did not believe in Allah.D. Pharaoh ordered baby boys to be killed. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Which one of the followings has Allah inspired to Moses's mother?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. To build a wooden basket.B. To put her baby on Nile River.C. Her baby will be protected by AllahD. All of the above. |
|--|--|

3. What did Moses do when he saw a son of Israel fighting with a Copt?
 - A. He punched the Copt.
 - B. He punched the son of Israel.
 - C. He caught the Copt.
 - D. He broke up the fight.
4. What did Moses (pbuh) do when he saw two sisters trying to water their sheep?
 - A. He did not pay attention.
 - B. He watered the sisters' sheep.
 - C. He went their house.
 - D. He moved away.
5. Who was the father of the girls who watered their sheep?
 - A. Isaac (pbuh)
 - B. Jacob (pbuh)
 - C. Shuayb (pbuh)
 - D. Lot (pbuh)
6. How long did Moses stay with Shuayb (pbuh)?
 - A. 6 years
 - B. 8 years
 - C. 10 years
 - D. 12 years
7. Into what did Moses' staff turn when he threw it down?
 - A. To a snake
 - B. To a dragon
 - C. To a sheep
 - D. To a goat
8. Which one of the followings is not among the commands of Allah to Moses?
 - A. Take your brother Aaron and go to Pharaoh.
 - B. Say Pharaoh that "We are the messengers of Allah".
 - C. Warn Pharaoh with gentle speech.
 - D. Do not go to Pharaoh's palace.
9. How did Pharaoh react when his magicians believed in Moses (pbuh)?
 - A. Told them to have their hands and feet cut one from right and one from left.
 - B. Told them how they could believe in Moses?
 - C. Told them not to believe in Moses.
 - D. Told them that both Moses and they were right.

- 10. What did not magicians say after the Pharaoh's threat?**
- A.** It does not matter. Do whatever you want to do to us.
 - B.** We are afraid of you very much.
 - C.** You can do evil to us only in this world.
 - D.** You cannot make us return to our old false beliefs.
- 11. Which one of the followings is not from plagues Pharaoh and his community faced?**
- A.** Overflow of Nile River
 - B.** Locust infestation
 - C.** Frog infestation
 - D.** Snake infestation
- 12. What did Moses and believers do in the face of Pharaoh's violence?**
- A.** They begged Pharaoh.
 - B.** They migrated to Palestine.
 - C.** They left the city at night.
 - D.** They continued to live in the city.
- 13. What did Pharaoh say when he realized that he was going to die?**
- A.** I believed in God.
 - B.** I am the god.
 - C.** There is no god beside me.
 - D.** I will save myself from this.
- 14. Which foods did Allah send down to the sons of Israel?**
- A.** Rice
 - B.** Sheep meat
 - C.** Manna and quails
 - D.** Ashura
- 15. How long did Moses stay at Mount Sinai?**
- A.** 10 days
 - B.** 20 days
 - C.** 30 days
 - D.** 40 days

- 16.** Which one of the followings is not among the ten commandments of Allah given to Moses?
- A.** How Sons of Israel will worship
 - B.** To treat the parents nicely
 - C.** How they can get rid of Pharaoh
 - D.** How they can fight
- 17.** In which situation did Moses find his community when he came back from Mount Sinai?
- A.** They were worshipping the statue of golden camel.
 - B.** They were worshipping the statue of a golden calf.
 - C.** They were like how he had left them.
 - D.** They made little idols for themselves.
- 18.** What kind of disasters were the disobedient the sons of Israel subjected?
- A.** Animal flocks.
 - B.** An Earthquake
 - C.** A Flood
 - D.** A Terrible storm

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use following words in a sentence.

Staff:

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Magician:

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Calf:

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Mount Sinai:

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Tuwa Valley:

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.....



The Prophet
David
(pbuh)







The Prophet David (pbuh)

Entering Palestine

Sons of Israel continued to wander in the desert for forty years. They wandered aimlessly in the desert for so many years just because of their obstinacy in not fighting with Palestinians, and had a miserable life with the fear of being killed. Moses passed away after he fulfilled his prophethood mission with great efforts.

Allah the Almighty sent a new prophet. Being homeless, living with half-full stomach in the desert made the sons of Israel come to their senses. They were regretful for not listening to Moses and acting cowardly. With the encouragement of the new prophet, they accepted to fight with Palestinians.

Allah the Almighty helped them in this fight. Native Palestinians who had been worshipping idols were defeated and fertile lands were taken by the sons of Israel. They happily settled in there. They started to live there and cultivate the lands.

Days, months, years passed... After a while, disagreements began emerging among the sons of Israel again. They moved away from Allah and started not to listen their Prophet. In the middle of that confusion, Palestinians who had been exiled from their lands returned and attacked on the sons of Israel. There broke out a great fight. This time, sons of Israel were the defeated ones. They were forced out of Palestine, and became homeless again.

Moreover, idol worshipping community seized the valuable properties of the sons of Israel. Among them, there were Moses's staff, tablets given to Moses on Mount Sinai, manna, and some belongings of the Prophet Aaron. All of them used to be kept in a wooden chest called Ark of Covenant. This special chest was now in the hands of Palestinians.

Sons of Israel were really sad. Their lands, properties, children... They lost everything. They went to their prophet and said,

- O messenger of Allah! Our enemies devastated us. They captured the chest we used to protect with great caution. We lost our lands and properties. Our children were held as captives. Please show us a way of salvation.

Their prophet asked:

- What do you want me to do?

Sons of Israel answered with tearful eyes:

- If we had a powerful king, we could fight with our enemy. We ask you to pray our Lord in order to send us a powerful king. We will gather around him and fight in the path of Allah and take our homeland back.

Their prophet could not believe their words:

- Are you going to fight? he said. I hope you will not escape like you did before when God commanded you to enter Palestine.

- We will not escape, they said. We have nothing to lose! We have already lost our possessions, children, everything...

The messenger prayed and Allah accepted his prayers. He appointed Talut (Saul) from among the sons of Israel as their king. Their prophet delivered



this command to the sons of Israel. Talut was a poor man. He had neither wealth nor prominence in our community.

Sons of Israel surprisingly said:

- How can he exercise authority over us when we are better fitted than he to exercise authority, and he is not even gifted with wealth in abundance? Was not there anybody else more suitable to become our king?

The messenger said:

- Allah has chosen him. He grants His knowledge and power to anybody whom He wishes. Do you disobey Allah's command?

Some of them asked:

- How can we know that Allah has chosen Talut as the king?

The messenger answered:

- The sign of his kingship is that the Ark will come to you. My Lord will give you back the relics that you lost during the battle and the chest will be carried by angels. Is not this miracle enough for those who believe in Allah?

Sons of Israel started to wait for the miracle. One day the chest showed up in front of them with the relics inside. They had no doubt. They became very happy for that they had the chest again. From that day on, they announced the kingship of Talut.

After a short while, sons of Israel were ready to fight. David, his father and brother were also among the warriors. David was the youngest one of his brothers so he was charged with the task of cooking and carrying water in the battle.

All of the warriors got in line. They were about to begin to fight with Palestinians. Talut addressed his warriors before his army set off:

- On our way to Palestine, we will see a river. Allah the Almighty wishes to test you. No matter how much thirsty you are, do not drink from the water of this river to your heart's content. Those who drink just a handful of water will continue to be with me in the army and those who drink to their heart's content will lose the test and leave the army.

After a short while, the army set off. They headed towards Palestinian lands. It was a difficult expedition. Warriors got tired and thirsty. When they saw the river that Talut had mentioned, they shouted:

- Water, water!

They all ran to the river. Most of them forgot what Talut had told them. They drank from the river until they quenched their thirst. And very few of them drank just a handful of water and stepped back.

Those who quenched their thirst sat down where they were, as if they had no power left to fight. Talut ordered these disobedient warriors to go back. The fight could not be won with those who did not obey the commander's orders. The number of the soldiers in the army decreased rapidly. They departed again, passed the river and confronted with Palestinian army led by a powerful commander called Jalut (Goliath). When they saw the size of the army of their enemy, they said:

- Oh my! This is a big and strong army. How can we cope with Goliath's warriors? Most of our friends left us. They are so many, while we are so few.

But there were some people among them dedicated themselves to Allah with all their existence. They said:

- With the permission of Allah, many small groups overcame the armies bigger than them. Allah the Almighty is with those who are patient. Then they prayed saying,

- O our Lord! Give us patience. Do not make us return our way. Help us against our enemies.

There was a short time for the battle to begin. Both sides were waiting the other to attack. Finally, Goliath stepped forward and swung his sword.

- O Talut, he shouted. Let's make an agreement. Let our warriors not to kill each other. If there is someone who is brave enough to fight me, let him step forward. If he manages to kill me, all my army and possessions will be yours. But if I kill him, your army and possessions will be mine.

Talut turned to his army and asked:

- Who wants to fight with Goliath?

Goliath was a huge and strong warrior. Fighting with him needed great bravery. Nobody wanted to fight with him. There was no sound in the army. At that moment, David stepped forward with surprising bravery:

- I can fight with you, he said.

Goliath looked at David:

- You stupid child! How dare you challenge me with such a small body? Go away. I will not draw my sword to you.

However, David did not give up. He did not get scared or turn back.

- I will kill you with my own hands, he said. Come on, do not wait!

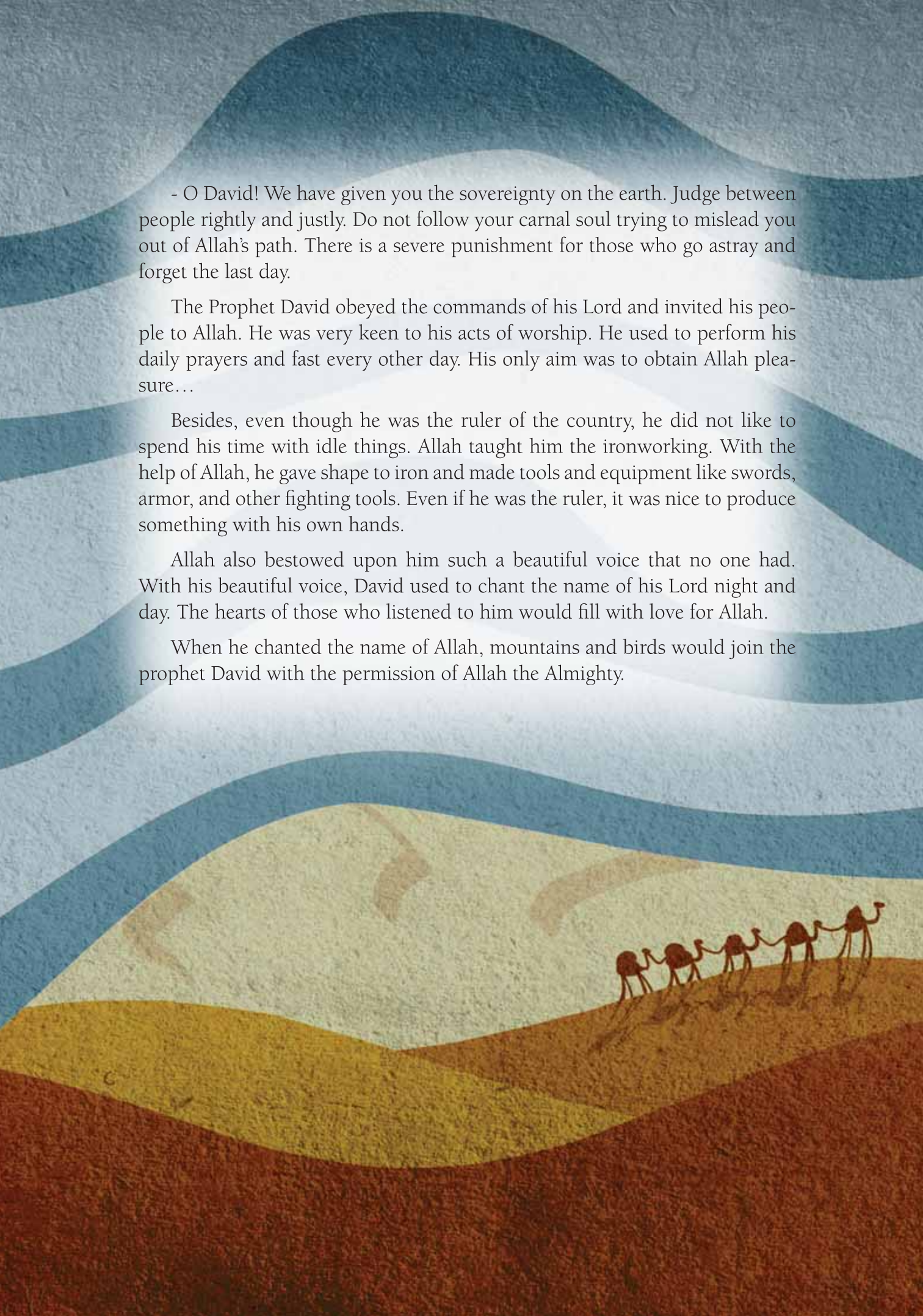
Upon this, Goliath stood up and angrily attacked David by drawing his sword. David was very good at using slingshot. He aimed his slingshot to Goliath and threw the pebble with all his power. The pebble hit the Goliath between his eyebrows. He fell down to ground. David ran and killed the Goliath.

Goliath's army watched what had happened. They were horrified. They got into a panic when their commander was defeated by such a little boy. They started to run away in a hurry, while Talut's soldiers bravely stepped forward. They followed the enemy and captured them. With the help of Allah, the fight ended before it even began. Sons of Israel were happy. Again they witnessed the benefit of trusting in Allah and listening to their Prophet.

Hammersmith Ruler: The Prophet David

Time passed. David became an adult man. Allah appointed him as His messenger. At the same time, David became the ruler of his country. He became the leader of the sons of Israel. Allah the Almighty revealed David:





- O David! We have given you the sovereignty on the earth. Judge between people rightly and justly. Do not follow your carnal soul trying to mislead you out of Allah's path. There is a severe punishment for those who go astray and forget the last day.

The Prophet David obeyed the commands of his Lord and invited his people to Allah. He was very keen to his acts of worship. He used to perform his daily prayers and fast every other day. His only aim was to obtain Allah pleasure...

Besides, even though he was the ruler of the country, he did not like to spend his time with idle things. Allah taught him the ironworking. With the help of Allah, he gave shape to iron and made tools and equipment like swords, armor, and other fighting tools. Even if he was the ruler, it was nice to produce something with his own hands.

Allah also bestowed upon him such a beautiful voice that no one had. With his beautiful voice, David used to chant the name of his Lord night and day. The hearts of those who listened to him would fill with love for Allah.

When he chanted the name of Allah, mountains and birds would join the prophet David with the permission of Allah the Almighty.

Allah gave David (pbuh) many children. One of them was Solomon. Solomon was different from other children at his age. He was a very smart boy. David (pbuh) attached great importance to his education. Solomon grew up and became a young man. He stayed with his father and learned about the state affairs. After a while, he started to help his father in the government.

One day, two men from the community came to David. They wanted him to solve a disagreement between them. In the meantime, Solomon (pbuh) was with his father. One of the complainants asked:

- The sheep of this man entered my field and ate my crops. They ruined my field. I have a great loss. Who will compensate it?

David asked the other man:

- Is that true?

Man said:

- Yes, it is true. My sheep entered his field without my knowledge.

David (pbuh) said:

- Since your sheep entered his field and destroyed his crop, then he will take your sheep in return for his damage.

Solomon joined the conversation:

- My dear father, he said. If you ask me, let the owner of sheep re-cultivate the field of the other man. Crops will grow and the field will turn into its old state. Meanwhile, let the owner of the field take the sheep of other man and benefit from their milk. When the crops grow ripe, he can give the flock back to their original owner.

David considered his son's suggestion more just. Both men were happy and accepted the verdict.

David (pbuh) grew old. He liked his son's just and honest work in the state affairs. Finally, he handed over his ruling to his son. From that day on, sons of Israel were going to be ruled by the Prophet Solomon (pbuh).

HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. How did Talut's army defeated Goliath's army?
2. Mention three characteristics of David.

Find The Correct Answer

1. What was the sign of Talut's kingship?
 - A. The mark on his forehead
 - B. His wealth
 - C. The return of the chest
 - D. The seal on his back
2. Who did Goliath fight with?
 - A. David
 - B. Talut
 - C. Sons of Israel
 - D. None of them
3. Which one of the followings is not among the revelations of Allah to David?
 - A. Judge rightly and justly between people
 - B. Go to Mount Sinai
 - C. Do not follow your carnal soul
 - D. There is a severe punishment for those who go astray
4. What was David's profession besides his kingship?
 - A. Ironworking
 - B. Tailor
 - C. Lumberjack
 - D. Carpenter
5. Whose son was Solomon?
 - A. Goliath
 - B. Moses
 - C. Talut
 - D. David

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use following words in a sentence.

Desert:

.....

.....

Palestine:

.....

.....



An illustration of two cartoon birds perched on a brown tree branch. The bird on the left is larger, brown with a yellow beak, and has two small blue swirls above its head. The bird on the right is smaller, also brown with a yellow beak, and has one blue swirl above its head. They are both looking towards the right. The background is a light blue sky with faint clouds. A green leafy branch hangs from the main branch. In the bottom right corner, a portion of a white and black striped object is visible.

The Prophet Solomon

(pbuh)





The Prophet Solomon (pbuh)

A Just Ruler; the Prophet Solomon...

The Prophet Solomon ascended to the power after his father. He was a just ruler. He treated his community fairly and mercifully. He was an example to everyone with his good manners. He remembered his Lord day and night and obeyed His commands and prohibitions. He was against everything worshipped other than Allah. When he faced with a hardship, problem, or blessing he used to turn to Allah. He used to make all his decisions by remembering Allah's name and take refuge in His mercy and compassion.

In return to His servant's good manners, Allah the Almighty gave him the good news that He was going to give him everything that he asked. Solomon (pbuh):

- O my Lord, he said. Forgive me because of my errors. Expand my kingdom. Grant me great kingdom on the earth that no one had. You reward your servants without expecting anything in return.

The Prophet Solomon did not ask for this kingdom for himself. His aim was to make Allah's religion dominant on the earth by means a powerful government. Allah accepted His messenger's prayer. He put the wind and jinn under Solomon's command. Solomon (pbuh) could blow the wind any direction he wished and made jinn do everything he wished. Nobody could disobey his orders.

Moreover, Allah the Almighty gave the Prophet Solomon (pbuh) ability to talk to the birds. Birds were his friends. They flew over his head, talked to Solomon and sheltered him by their wings. They brought him news from far away and informed him with things that nobody knew.

* * *

One-day the prophet Solomon set off a journey with his great army consisted of birds, people, and jinn. They came to a valley in which ants were living. An ant seeing Solomon's army shouted out its friends:

- Hurry up, enter your nest. Solomon's soldiers may unintentionally walk over you.

The Prophet Solomon heard the ant's words. he smiled and said:

- My Lord. Thank you for your blessings. Grant me the strength to do the deeds through which I can attain your consent.

Then he looked at his army and inspected his soldiers. When it was the birds turn, he asked the people around him:

- I cannot see Hoopoe. Did he go somewhere?

Nobody knew. The Prophet Solomon got angry with Hoopoe's disappearing without his permission. He said,



- If he does not have an important reason for his absence, I will punish him.

After a short while, Hoopoe returned. Turning to the Prophet Solomon, Hoopoe said,

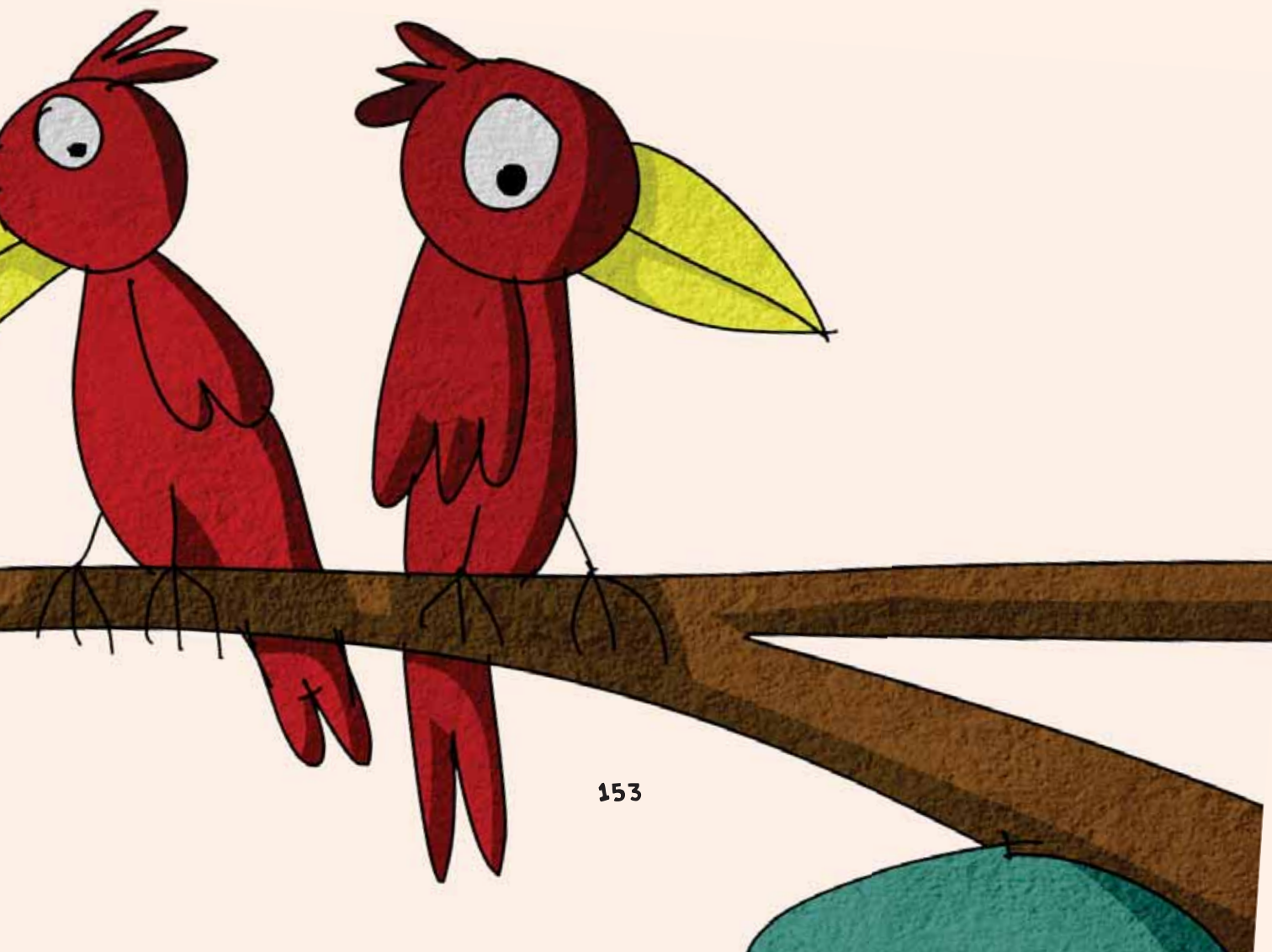
- I learned something that you do not know. I brought an important news from the country of Sheba.

The Prophet Solomon was skeptical about the situation. He wondered whether Hoopoe said these in order to redeem itself. He looked at the bird with unconvinced eyes.

- I am saying the truth, the Hoopoe said. Sheba is being ruled by a queen with great wealth. Her community is living in comfort. But they are not worshipping Allah. They are worshipping the sun.

Solomon's anger did not calm down.

- Are you saying the truth or lying, we will see, he said.



He wrote a letter and put it in an envelope. He said to Hoopoe:

- Take this to the queen of Sheba and leave it in her room. Move away a little and wait her read the letter and then come back and tell me what happened.

Hoopoe took the letter and flew into the blue sky. He finally arrived at Sheba. He entered the palace and quietly went into the queen's room. He left the letter by Bilkis' bedside. Then he moved away. When she woke up, Bilkis looked at the letter surprisingly. Turned it over and over. She was astonished. Nobody could enter her room without her permission. From where and how did this letter come? She opened it and read. Her astonishment increased. She gathered her viziers:

- An important letter came to me from Solomon (pbuh). The letter is starting with the name of Allah the all-Merciful all-Compassionate. Solomon asks us to give up worshipping the sun and worship Allah.

Viziers who listened to Bilkis were also surprised. There was no sound in the room. Bilkis said:

- I do not want to decide on my own about such an important matter. What do you recommend me to do?

After a short thought,

- We are powerful and strong. Nobody can rise against us. We have a great army and we know how to fight very well. The decision is yours. Give us your command and we will do whatever you want.

This was a hard decision to make. After she thought a while, she said:

- I am not taking side with fighting. When the armies of an enemy enter a country, they ruin everywhere. People become miserable. The honor of the prominent people is insulted. The army of Solomon will do the same.

Viziers looked at each other wonderingly and asked Bilkis:

- So, what do you recommend us to do?

Bilkis said thoughtfully:

- First, I will send some presents to Solomon. We will see what he will do. Shortly after Bilkis set to work. She had some valuable presents prepared. She gave these presents to one of her viziers and sent him to Solomon with

a delegation. Hoopoe listened all the conversation. When Bilkis's men set off the journey, it flew into the sky and arrived at Solomon's palace without stopping. He said to Solomon:

- Bilkis's men departed. Bilkis is sending some presents to you in order to test you.

Solomon wanted to show his power given by Allah to Bilkis's men. He made his men prepared a beautiful ceremonial ground. He sat on a throne. Everything was beautiful. Bilkis's men entered the city and came to Solomon's palace. They were astonished in the face of the beauties they saw. They admiringly looked at the birds sheltering Solomon with their wings.

Trying to overcome his astonishment, Bilkis's vizier saluted Solomon and then offered the presents they brought for him. The messenger of Allah did not show any interest in the presents and told them:

- Are you trying to help me with your presents? Thanks to Allah, He gave me everything. I do not need your presents. You came here in vain. You may be proud of your wealth, but I do not want your presents, I want you to abandon worshipping the sun and start worshipping Allah.

The vizier was extremely surprised. He became speechless because of Solomon's bravery and contentedness. He could not know what to say.

Solomon continued talking,

- Now, go to your queen and tell her if she refuses to abandon worshipping the sun and does not accept being a servant of Allah, I will march on you with my army and take you out of your homeland.

The group took the presents and left the palace. They returned to their country after a long journey. Bilkis was wonderingly waiting for them, she asked the vizier:

- Tell me what happened in the country of Solomon.

Vizier ashamedly said:

- My queen, Solomon did not accept your presents. He sent all of them back.

Bilkis could not believe what she heard. She was surprised because of the refusal of all those priceless presents.

- To be honest, said the vizier. Our presents were so small compared to Solomon's kingdom. I have neither seen nor heard a powerful king like him. He has an eye-blinding kingdom. So much so that, the wind blows with his command. Even birds and jinn do whatever he commands.

As she listened to her vizier, Bilkis's astonishment increased:

- Well, what did Solomon tell you?

- He said the same things that he had written in his letter. If we do not abandon to worship the sun and worship only Allah, he will expel us from our country.

Bilkis started to be worried,

- What do you recommend us to do? she asked.

The vizier said,

- If you ask me, my queen, we do not have enough power to stand against him. If we fight with him, this will be the end of us.

Bilkis did not think more. With a confident voice she said:

- I will go to talk to him in person. May this will be better for us. She started to get ready for the travel. Bilkis had a priceless throne. It was made from pure gold. All of it was covered with diamonds and pearls. Before her departure, she wanted to hide her throne in somewhere safe. She put it in one of the rooms of her palace and locked the door. And set watches to the door.

Then she departed with her viziers. After days long journey, they came close to Solomon's (pbuh) country. Solomon heard that they were coming before they arrived at the city.

He made a plan in order to show the power that Allah gave him. He asked his men:

- Who can bring me Bilkis' throne before she and her men arrive?

One of the jinn under his command said,

- I can bring it to you even before you stand up from your throne.

A man who was given knowledge from Allah said:

- I can bring that throne in a blink of an eye.

Before the man finished his words, the throne appeared by the side of Solomon.

Solomon's heart filled with gratitude to his Lord. He looked at the throne made from pure gold and decorated with diamonds and pearls:

- This is the blessings of my Lord, he said. He wants to test me whether I am a grateful servant or an ungrateful one. Those who thank to Allah will attain eternal bliss and who are ungrateful only do evil to themselves. Nobody can harm Allah.

Solomon asked his men to make some changes on Bilkis's throne. His men added some ornaments on throne and they removed some of them. This time Solomon ordered them to make a crystal mansion and put the throne in it. His orders were immediately fulfilled. Now, the throne was like staying over a clear and calm water.

Bilkis arrived at Solomon's palace. Solomon (pbuh) welcomed his guest. They saluted and asked after each other. Bilkis was admiringly looking around. The place was wonderful as her vizier told.

Solomon pointed out with his hand and asked Bilkis:

- Is this your throne?

Bilkis surprisingly looked at her throne. She could not believe her eyes:

- It looks just like my throne, she said.

Solomon (pbuh) said:

- Look carefully this is your throne.

Bilkis could not know what to say. Did not she lock her throne in the safest room of her palace before her departure?

Solomon (pbuh) said:



- If you wish, look closer. I had it brought from your country. You can sit in your throne.

Bilkis worriedly approached. The throne was like on a crystal river. She pulled up her skirt in order to not get wet.

Solomon said his guest,

- Do not be afraid. The place that you stepped on is not water but a transparent mansion made out of crystal.

Bilkis was like in a dream. She entered the mansion. She recognized her throne when she looked closer,

- Yes, this is my throne, she said.

Then she sat in her throne. She believed with all her heart that Solomon was the messenger of Allah. She raised her hands and said:

- O my Lord. It appears that we have ruined ourselves by worshipping the sun until today. Accept my repentance. I believed in that You are the Lord of the worlds and I am submitting myself to You, and I believed in that Solomon is Your Messenger.

* * *

Solomon (pbuh) wanted to build a place of worship. He commanded jinn to build a masjid for the people to perform their prayer in it. Jinn were afraid of Solomon. They started to build it immediately in order to please Solomon.

The construction of masjid was continuing. The Prophet Solomon was watching the work of jinn by leaning on his staff. Jinn were waiting for an opportunity to get rest. At last they completed the construction of masjid.

Just then, Solomon fell to the ground. Jinn wonderingly ran to him. They tried to raise him up, but Solomon was dead. If his staff had not been eaten by worms, he would have still been on his feet.

When they realized that Solomon had died, jinn said:

- If we knew that he died, we would not tire ourselves so much in the construction of masjid.

Solomon (pbuh) used his power given by Allah in the path of Him. He was one of Allah's servants and His messengers who dedicated himself to Allah with all his heart.

HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. With which characteristic Solomon became known? Give an example.
2. How was Solomon's kingdom? How much did he value his kingdom? Explain with example.

Find the Correct Answer

1. To which prophet does the prayer "Grant me great kingdom on the earth that no one had" belong?
A. David (pbuh)
B. Solomon (pbuh)
C. Moses (pbuh)
D. Jonah (pbuh)
2. Which one of the followings did Allah put under the command of Solomon (pbuh)?
A. Storm
B. Sun
C. Wind and jinn
D. Only jinn
3. Which one of the followings was not in Solomon's (pbuh) army?
A. Birds
B. Human beings
C. Jinn
D. Plants
4. When the absent Hoopoe returned, he did not bring to Solomon which one of the following news?
A. Sheba was ruling by a queen
B. People were worshipping moon in Sheba
C. People in Sheba were living in comfort.
D. People in Sheba were not worshipping Allah

5. What did Solomon do after listening to Hoopoe's words?
 - A. He wrote a letter to queen of Sheba
 - B. He started a fight with Sheba
 - C. He left Sheba's people on their own.
 - D. He went to Bilkis
6. What did Bilkis do when she saw the letter?
 - A. She immediately went to Solomon (pbuh).
 - B. She sent her viziers to Solomon (pbuh)
 - C. She tore the letter.
 - D. She gathered her viziers and read the letter to them.
7. Which one of the followings was not written in Solomon's letter?
 - A. Abandon worshipping sun
 - B. Worship Allah
 - C. With the name of Allah All-Merciful, all-compassionate
 - D. Come to me immediately
8. What did Solomon do with the presents sent by the queen of Sheba?
 - A. He distributed them to people
 - B. He used them himself
 - C. He sent them back
 - D. He burnt them.
9. What did Bilkis do with her throne before she departed to Solomon's country?
 - A. She took it with her
 - B. She made it buried in the ground
 - C. She hid it somewhere safe.
 - D. She sent it to Solomon (pbuh)
10. Who did bring Bilkis's throne to Solomon (pbuh)?
 - A. Hoopoe
 - B. A man with knowledge given by Allah
 - C. One of jinn
 - D. Viziers

11. What did Bilkis do when she saw her throne in the hand of Solomon (pbuh)?

- A.** She fainted.
- B.** “This is magic” she said.
- C.** She could not know what to say because of astonishment.
- D.** She believed in Allah.

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use following words in a sentence.

Throne:

.....

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Vizier:

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Letter:

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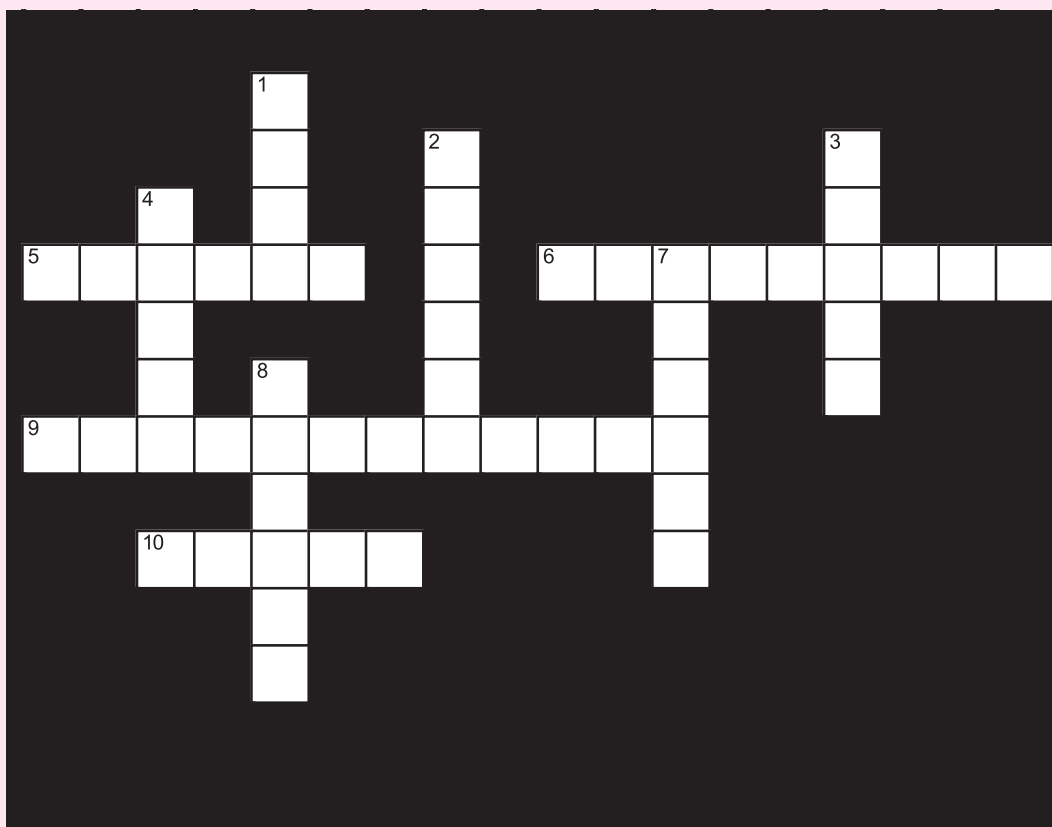
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Sheba:

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Crossword Puzzle

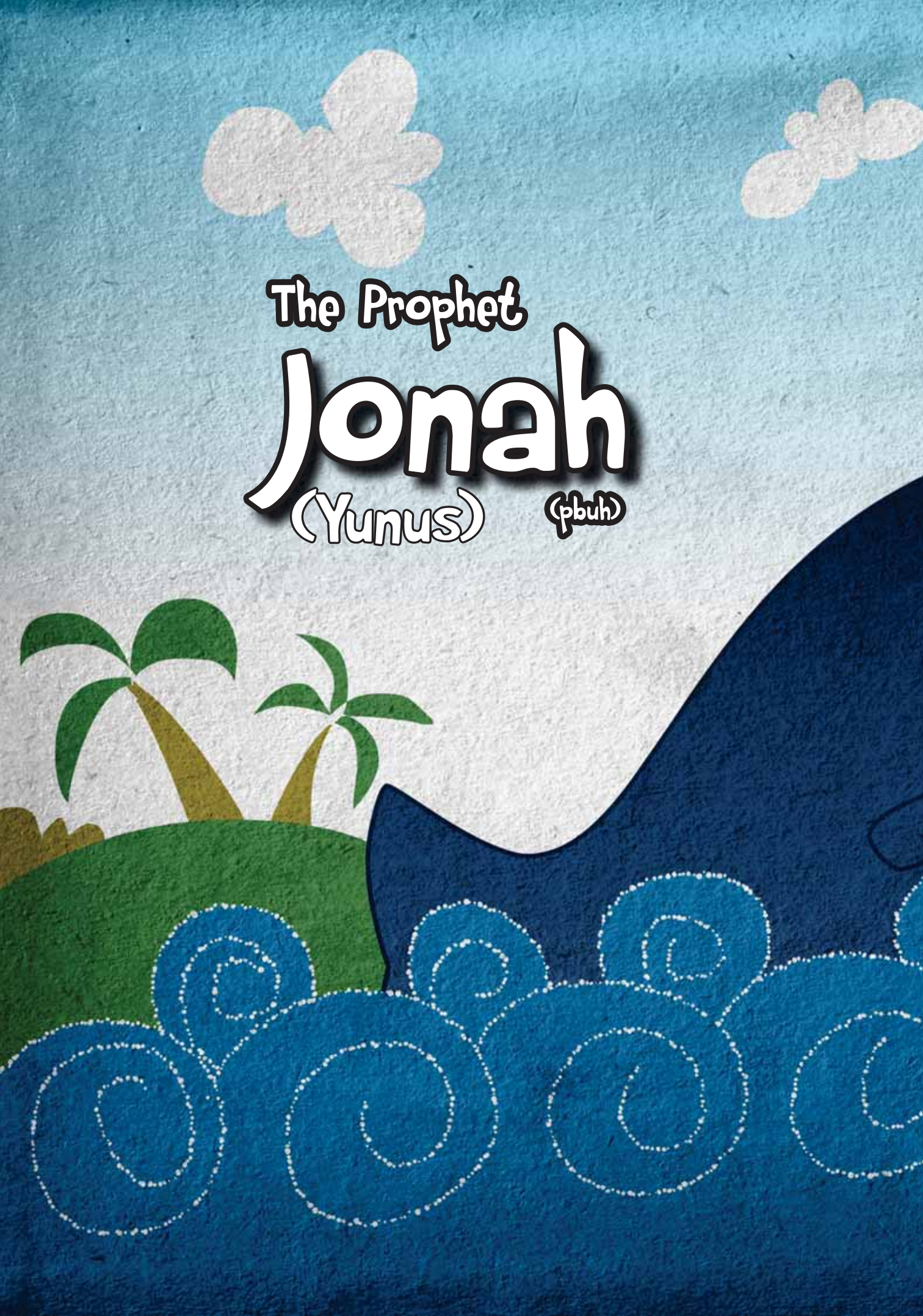


5. The Name of the place where believers will receive great blessings in the afterlife.
6. The Name of the person who made a statute of a calf.
9. The name of the descendants of Jacob (pbuh).
10. The name of Egypt's native population.

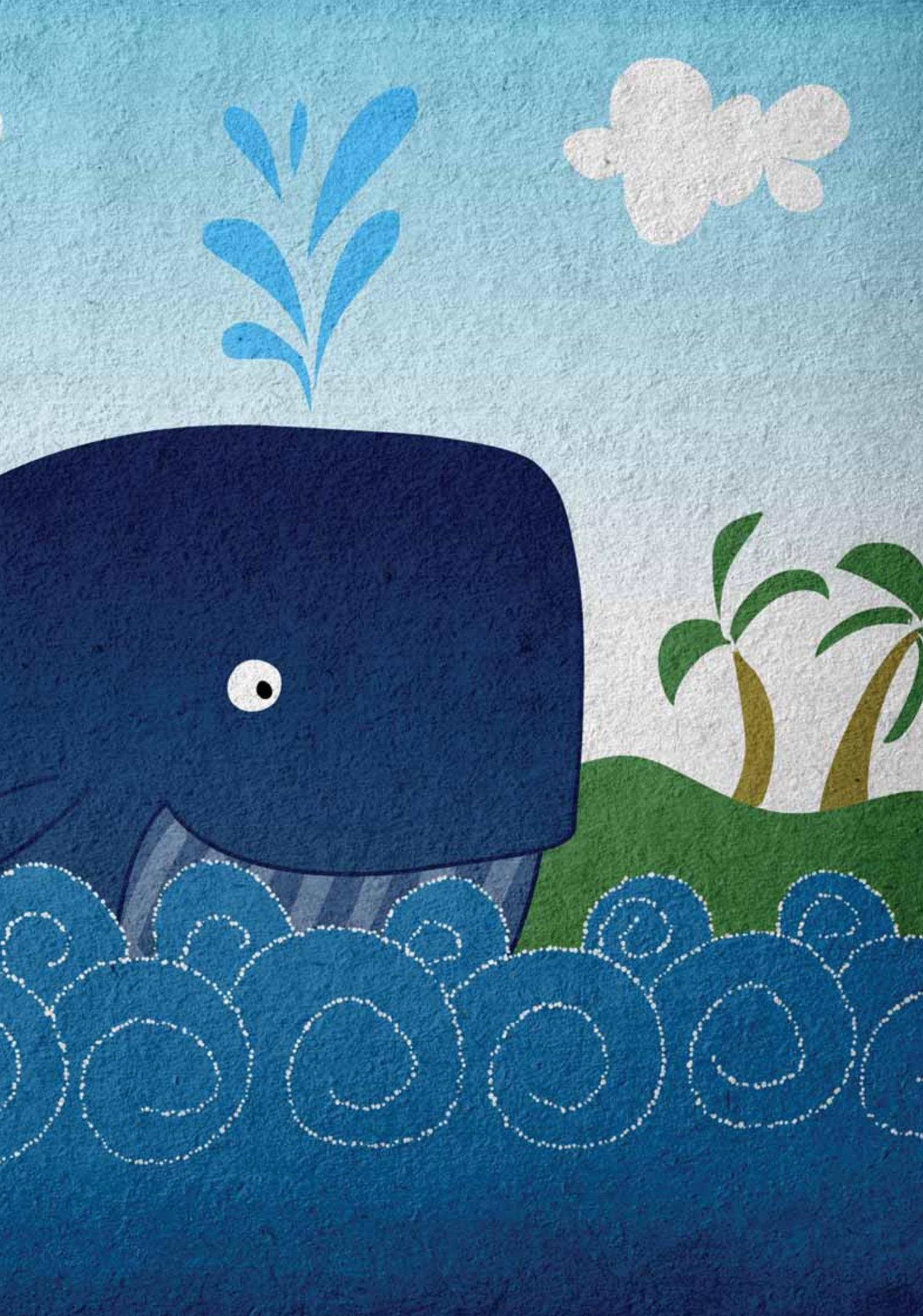


1. The Name of the River that Moses's mother put him over.
2. The name of the queen of Sheba.
3. The Name of Pharaoh's wife.
4. The name of Moses's brother.
7. The prayer of magicians: "Our Lord take our lives as"
8. Name of the bird delivered Solomon's letter to Bilgis.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

The background is a textured blue sky with two light pink, stylized clouds. Below the sky is a white horizontal band. At the bottom, there is a green hill with two palm trees and a dark blue sea with stylized white spiral waves.

The Prophet **Jonah** (Yunus) (pbuh)





The Prophet Jonah (Yunus) (pbuh)

The Prophet in the Belly of a Fish

The Prophet Jonah was a resident of the great city of Nineveh. It was a big and magnificent city with its beautiful mansions, mountains and rivers. Its people were living a comfortable and pleasant life. However, these people did not know to be grateful for the blessings given them. They were engaged in enjoyment and pleasure and were spoilt people. Their power and wealth caused them to forget Allah.

Moreover, they worshiped the idols that they made out of wood and associated partners to Allah.

Good feelings like friendship and brotherhood had long disappeared among people. Mischiefs, selfishness, self-seeking, and immorality were common in their society. Nobody used his intellect to do good things. Greed to have wealth and desire to be prominent in society enchanted them. They were cruel people.

However, Jonah (pbuh) was very different from these people. He had a distinguished position in the community by his beautiful manners. His heart was not darkened like the cruel people of his society. His heart was filled with love and fear of Allah. He did not worship idols and stayed away from evil doings of the community.

Allah the Almighty chose Jonah as His Messenger to this rebellious community.

The Prophet Jonah happily accepted his holy mission. He went to his community and invited them to become the servants of Allah. He asked them to abandon worshipping idols and to worship only Allah.

His community bewilderedly asked:

- Are you all right? What are you saying to us? Are you believing in a god other than ours?

Jonah said:

- Certainly I am the messenger of Allah the Almighty. He appointed me as His messenger. Your idols have no power! Your Lord is Allah. Worship Him and never associate partners to Him.

Residents of Nineveh closed their ears to him. Let alone abandoning their idols, they increased their evil deeds. Moreover, they accused him with creating mischief among them and insulted him. They casted him out by threatening him.

Jonah hopefully invited his community to Allah for long years. However, he could not convince these people living in luxury and pleasure. Only some of them listened to him. Opening their hearts to Allah, these people said:

- We believed in Jonah. It appears that we have ruined ourselves until today. From now on, we submit ourselves to the Lord of the worlds.

Jonah was very happy. Though very few in number, there were some people who believed in him.

- I hope my Lord will accept your repentance. He is All-Merciful, he said. Others kept mocking at Jonah and the believers.

Many years passed. Jonah (pbuh) was fed up with his people's denial. He felt desperate. He spent his days, months and years by inviting people to Allah but he could not make them listen to him. He was about to lose his hope for his people. One day when he was very sad, he thought "Nothing will change even if I keep my patience."

He could not stay in Nineveh anymore. He wanted to leave his community and go far away. However, Allah the Almighty ordered him to be patient and continue his mission. Patience is the key for every door. However, Jonah was at the end of his patience.

He thought nothing other than leaving the city. He directly went to the harbor and got on board of a ship that was about to sail. The ship sailed over the blue ocean...

Jonah (pbuh) looked at the city he left behind and thought that he saved himself from his cruel community. He left them with their idols and evil deeds. Perhaps this ship was going to get him a place where good people live in. However, there was an increasing discomfort in him because he left the city without his Lord's permission. He was confused. He was between fear and hope.

While he was struggling by such thoughts, a sudden discussion broke up on the ship. Jonah found himself in the middle of discussion. It grew bigger and bigger. And turned into a complicated issue. At last, the people on board decided that if one of them be thrown overboard the discussion would end.

However, who was going to be thrown? They decided to draw lots in order to reach a decision about this.

In lot, the prophet Jonah's name came out. Jonah (pbuh) looked around with desperate and sorrowful eyes. Soon he was going to disappear in the



middle of high waves. He was very sorry. What had he done? Why was he on board? He thought that he deserved everything because he did not get the permission of Allah. Without giving a chance to Jonah, the people on board threw him overboard.

While the messenger of Allah was trying to swim in the sea, his desperation grew. He turned to his Lord with all his heart. He was angry with himself more than his community. His impatience caused him fall in this trouble. Then, suddenly a fish came and swallowed him.

Jonah (pbuh) was now in darkness. Both his regret and embarrassment grew. He understood that he got his Lord's punishment. Jonah did not get permission of Allah the Almighty and now was imprisoned in the belly of a fish. Nobody could escape from Allah and his commandments. He could not escape from them, either. He was very desperate and was sorry for what he did. He was sorry most because of his disobedience to his Lord. He turned to Allah the Almighty the Lord of the worlds with all his heart and prayed:

- O my Lord! There is no god other than You. You are the only one who is free from deficiencies. You are all-knowing. You are All-Powerful. I made a big mistake by leaving the city without your permission. I did injustice to myself. Forgive me.

The Prophet Jonah continuously prayed his Lord without a break. He remembered Him, asked for His forgiveness and repeated his prayers. Days passed like that. Allah the Almighty accepted Jonah's prayers and saved him from the belly of the fish.

The fish left Jonah on the coast. Jonah got sick and weak for staying in the belly of the fish for so long. Allah let a tree grow next to him. Allah's Messenger ate the fruits of this tree. In a short period of time, he gathered his strength. He endlessly thanked his Lord who saved him.

After that, Jonah (pbuh) returned to Nineveh. He continued his mission of prophethood. This time, the residents of Nineveh did not close their ears to him again because they understood his value while he was away from them. He became a beloved messenger and everyone listened to him.

From that day on, he did not act impatiently. The Prophet Jonah patiently delivered to his people messages about his Lord's obligations and prohibitions. People came to him in crowds and believed in Allah.

Nineveh became a peaceful and blessed city.



HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. What is the greatest lesson that we can take from the story of Jonah (pbuh)?
2. Why did Jonah (pbuh) leave Nineveh? What happened to him?

Find the Correct Answer

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What did Jonah (pbuh) do when his community did not believe in him?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Left them on their own.B. He patiently continued to invite them to Allah.C. He got on board of a ship.D. He cursed his community.2. Which one of the following is a wrong information about inhabitants of Nineveh?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. They accepted Jonah (pbuh) as the Messenger of Allah.B. They were engaged in enjoyment and pleasure and got spoiltC. They forgot Allah because of their power and wealth.D. They were worshipping idols they made out of wood. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Which one of the followings is not one of the reasons of Jonah's (pbuh) leaving the city?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. He was depressed because of his community's denialB. He did not like NinevehC. He lost his hope about peopleD. He felt desperate4. How did Jonah (pbuh) leave the city?<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. By carB. By trainC. By shipD. By walking |
|--|--|

- I. I tortured myself.
- II. I made a big mistake by leaving the city without your permission.
- III. My Lord forgive me.
- 5. Which one of the above mentioned sentences is not among Noah's (pbuh) regretful words?**
- A.** Only II
- B.** II and III
- C.** I and III
- D.** All of them
- 6. How was Jonah (pbuh) saved from the belly of the fish?**
- A.** Fishermen saved him.
- B.** He got out from the mouth of the fish.
- C.** The fish died.
- D.** He prayed Allah.

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use following words in a sentence.

Patience:

.....

.....

Forgiveness:

.....

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The background of the cover features a textured blue surface with light blue wavy vertical stripes. Two white daisies with yellow centers are positioned in the upper left and upper right. On the right side, two hands are shown reaching upwards, with grey sleeves visible. The bottom of the cover is a solid yellow band with black horizontal lines and a small circle in the center.

The Prophet Jesus

(pbuh)





The Prophet Jesus (pbuh)

The Prophet Jesus, Son of Miriam (Mary)

Hanna, wife of Imran, was pregnant. One day she raised her hands and prayed:

- O my Lord! I do dedicate unto You what is in my womb for the special service Your sacred house. I want my child be in Your service day and night.

Allah the Almighty hears all prayers. Months passed. Hanna had a baby girl. However, in those days, babies dedicated to Holy Masjid were usually chosen among the boys. Hanna looked at her little girl sleeping in her arms. She turned to the masjid:

- O my Lord! Behold! I am delivered of a female child, she said. I have named her Mary. I have dedicated her to Your service. Protect her and her descendants from Satan.

Of course, Allah the Almighty knew that Hanna had a baby girl. He is all-seeing and all-knowing. Days passed. Mary grew up. Her mother did not forget her promise to Allah. She took her to Holy Masjid. This was the place of believers who dedicated themselves to the path of Allah. Those who were in the service of the masjid were respected and loved by the community. Evil and hostility were not permitted in this holy shrine. Hanna came to the masjid because she had promised her Lord. She hoped Mary to be one of the beloved servants of Allah.

one of those who dedicated themselves to worship in the Holy Masjid was the Prophet Zechariah. Zechariah was the husband of Mary's aunt. He wanted to undertake the responsibility of the education of the little girl dedicated to the masjid. But everyone desired to take care of this cute child, thus a discussion arose among them. One of them said:

- Nobody here is more eligible than others. All of us are the servants of this sacred masjid. We can take care of the child's education.

- So, who will we choose then? said Zechariah.

Another one said:

- Let's throw our pencils to river. Whoever's pencil floats against the current, then let that person take the responsibility.

Everybody accepted this offer. They went to riverside. They put marks on their pencils and threw them to the river all together. All of the pencils except one were floating along the current. The pencil that stayed behind and was floating against the direction of the current was Zechariah's.

From that day on, Zechariah undertook the task of Mary's education and training. From her very early ages, Mary listened to her master. She was neither lazy nor stubborn. She was straightforward, smart, and honest. She became a grown up girl under the supervision of the messenger of Allah.

Mary had a special room in the masjid. She prayed Allah day and night. She was obedient to her Lord with all her heart. She was ahead of everybody else in terms of servanthood to Allah. Everybody was talking about her good manners and piety ...

Nobody except for Zechariah could enter Mary's room. Whenever he visited her, Zechariah used to find all kinds of foods and fruits with her.

When he asked:

- Mary, where do you get all these foods? Mary would happily smile and said:

- These are the blessings of Allah to me. My Lord provides sustenance to whom He pleases without measure.

While Mary was spending her days with worship in the masjid, one day the angels came:

- O Mary! Allah gives you good tidings. Allah has chosen you among righteous women. He will grant you a boy. This child will be the messenger

of Allah. He will start speaking when he is still in cradle. He will invite people to your Lord.

Mary turned her face to sky surprisingly and fearfully:

- O my Lord, she said. How can I have a child when I am not married?

The Angels said:

- Allah is All-Powerful. When He wishes something, He only say to it, "Be" and it is.

After that day, Mary increased her worship. She did not leave masjid unless it is absolutely necessary.

One day she went out and walked to the east of masjid. Suddenly a man encountered her. Mary said fearfully:

- Who are you? Do not get close to me. I take refuge in my Lord from you.

The stranger said:

- Do not be afraid. I am an angel. Allah will grant you a righteous child. I am here to inform you about it.

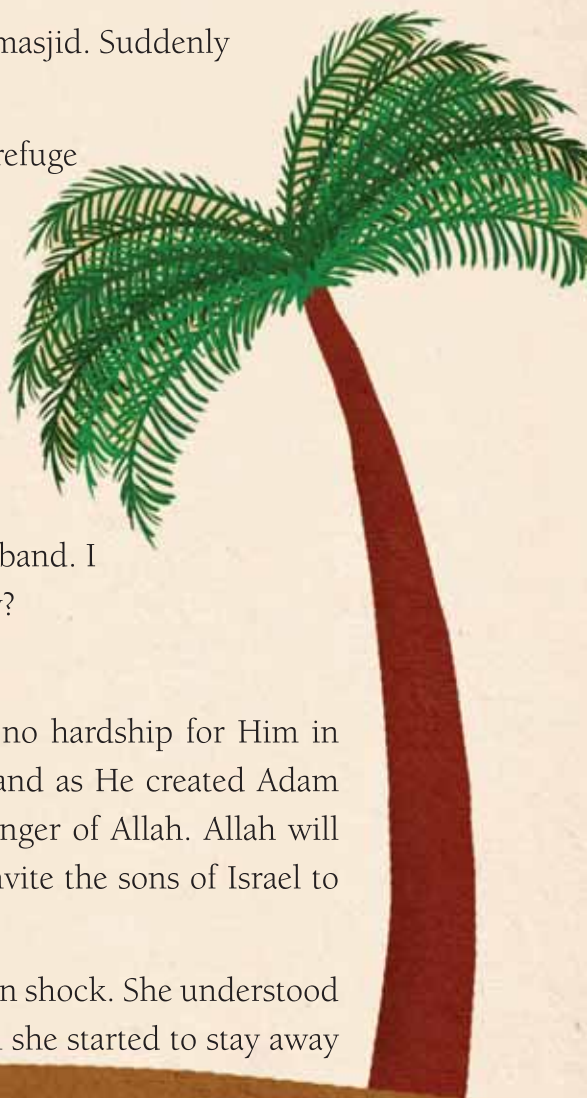
Mary's fear increased more:

- I am not married, she said. I do not have a husband. I am an honorable young girl. How can I have a baby?

Angel said:

- Whatever Allah wishes, it happens. There is no hardship for Him in creating. He can grant you a child without a husband as He created Adam without both parents. This child will be the messenger of Allah. Allah will support him with many miracles. Your child will invite the sons of Israel to your Lord.

After this talk, the angel disappeared. Mary was in shock. She understood that she was going to have a baby. From that day on she started to stay away



from people. She did not want others to realize this. She kept praying her Lord and asking help for her baby.

Days passed like that. Mary's labor pain started. She went out of the masjid. She walked in a hurry. When her pain increased, she took shelter under a tree. She leaned back on the tree. She was thinking in pain. How will she return to masjid with a baby in her arms after her child's birth? What will people say to her when they saw her with the baby? She talked to herself:

- I wish I had died before this happened and I wish I were forgotten.

After a short while, her baby was born. She heard a voice saying:

- O my beloved mother, do not be sad. Shake the branches of the palm tree. It will drop upon you fresh dates. Eat and drink as you wish. And if anyone asks you something about me, say 'I have vowed to keep my silence' and walk away.

Mary looked around. She tried to understand the direction of the voice coming. It was her baby talking. Her fear and amazement decreased. She embraced her son with love. She walked to the city. The market place was crowded. People seeing her could not believe in their eyes. Once they see her, they could not hold themselves from looking at her. After a short while angry voices started to arise. They were blaming Mary. One of them said:

- Mary, indeed you committed a shameful act.

Another one said:

- We would not expect from you something like that.

Another one said:

- Your parents were not bad people and you were a pious girl.

The anger turned into rumblings and grumblings. Everyone was expecting an explanation from her. Mary was not able to cope with them. She could not defend herself. She said nothing. She pointed out the baby in her arms and looked at the people as if she was saying:

- Ask him.

This time the people said:

- Are you mocking at us? How can we talk to a baby?

Whisperings and accusations increased. Everyone was talking. While they were grumbling with anger, the baby in the arms of Mary started to talk:

- Indeed, I am a servant of Allah. He has given me the scripture and made me a prophet. He asked me to perform my daily prayers throughout my life, to pay alms and to show great respect to my mother without fail. He commanded me not to be a cruel and bad person. Peace is on me the day I was born and the day I will die and the day I am resurrected. The name of this baby was Jesus...

Miracles of the Prophet Jesus (pbuh)

After that day baby Jesus grew up with the care and compassion of his mother. He reached the age that he could play games with his friends on the street. He was a distinguished boy among his friends and a model to them. From time to time he surprised his friends.

Once he said to one of his playmate on the street:

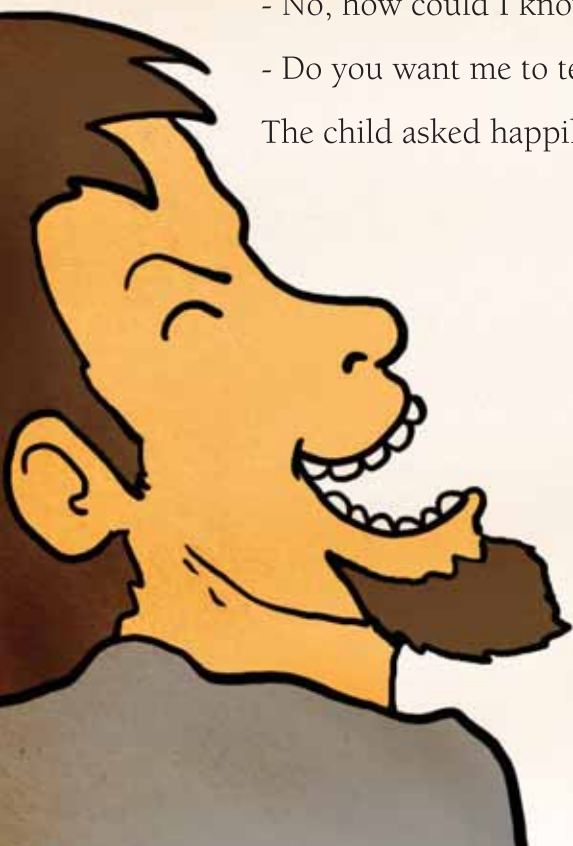
- Do you know that your mother is hiding food for you at home?

Child answered surprisingly:

- No, how could I know?

- Do you want me to tell you?

The child asked happily:



- Tell me what did my mother hide for me? I will go and ask it from my mother.

- It is an apple, said Jesus.

Child ran to his house happily and told his mother:

- My dear mother, I want to eat the apple you are hiding for me.

The woman was surprised. She was sure that nobody saw him while she was hiding the apple.

* * *

Then, Jesus grew up and became a young man. He got the age of undertaking the mission of prophethood. Allah appointed Jesus as His messenger. He commanded Jesus to invite the sons of Israel to be the servants of Allah.

The Prophet Jesus spoke to the sons of Israel saying:

- I am a messenger sent to you. I am calling you to worship Allah and give up bad deeds.

Let alone believing in him, the sons of Israel mocked at him. This was not the first denial of them. They also denied other prophets. As if they got used to deny.

However, Jesus did not give up. He continued to convey the message of Allah:

- I brought you some miracles from your Lord, he said.

The sons of Israel said negligently:

- What are those miracles then? Well show us and we will see.

Jesus said:

- I will make a bird from clay and I will blow upon it with the permission of Allah. The bird will come to life and fly. And again with the permission of Allah I will open the eyes of blind people. I will heal the lepers and give life to dead. And I will inform you of what you eat and what you store in your houses.

The sons of Israel did not pay attention because they thought that Jesus could not do these. Mockingly they said:

- Will you do all these?

The Prophet Jesus asked:

- If I do what I said to you with the permission of Allah, will you believe in me?

The sons of Israel said:

- Of course. Who will not believe after seeing such great miracles?

Thereupon Jesus took some clay from ground. He formed it like a bird and blew on it. The bird came to life and flew.

People around Jesus said surprisingly:

- At the very most, this is nothing but magic and Jesus is a magician trying to deceive us.

One of them said:

- Let him heal a blind person.

- Okay, said Jesus. Find a blind man and bring him to me.

They brought a man who was blind from birth. The Prophet Jesus wiped his hand over man's eyes. Both of his eyes started to see. He looked around happily:

- Jesus is right. I can see everything! he shouted.

Instead of believing in Jesus after witnessing this incident, sons of Israel wanted to see more miracles:

- You said to us that you can give life to dead. We will never believe you unless you give life to a dead.

They walked together and stopped at a graveside covered with grass. Jesus talked to the dead:

- Whoever you are lying in this grave, stand up with the permission of Allah and introduce yourself to us.

The grave suddenly opened. The dead man shook the dust off him and stood up. He looked at the crowd that gathered around him. After seeing this miracle, the sons of Israel turned pale. They fearfully stepped back.

The man who stood up from the grave told them who he was and how he died, then he turned back to his grave.

Jesus (pbuh) expected them to believe in his prophethood. However, even after witnessing such a great miracle, they said:

- You are a manifest magician. How can we believe that you gave life to a dead?

They went back to city and left Jesus alone at the graveside. The Prophet Jesus desperately looked behind them. However, he did not lose his hope because he was the messenger of Allah. Being desperate was not suitable for him. He continued to invite people to worship Allah.

However, the hearts of the sons of Israel got dark and their wrong deeds increased. It seemed like a joy for them to live in ignorance. Evil became widespread. They loved material wealth and never helped the poor and the needy. They never gave up worshipping idols. Moreover, they revered some people with the titles like; "Saint, Clergy, Friends of God." They esteemed only them and listen to their words. However, they were not people dedicated themselves to Allah. They just deemed themselves important, associated partners to Allah and guided people to the wrong path. This is why, there was a state of chaos in society. Everybody treated each other unjustly and they did not trust each other. Strong people oppressed the weak and the weak could not claim their rights.

One day Jesus went to the sons of Israel and said:

- O Sons of Israel! I am the Messenger of Allah. I came to confirm your previous book Torah and give you the good news of coming prophet after me named 'Ahmad.'

However, his words did not have any influence on them. They did not listen to him. One of them said:

- O Jesus, since you know everything that we have, can you tell me what I am hiding in my house?

Without any hesitation, Jesus told the man everything in his house. He also informed the man what he was hiding.

The man left speechless because everything Jesus said was true.

However, the sons of Israel were persistent on their denial even after witnessing all those miracles. As if they got caught by the diseases of naughtiness and ingratitude.

The Disciples of Jesus

Day by day, Jesus's fame spread. All kinds of sick people were coming to him. With the permission of Allah, he opened the eyes of blind people and healed the lepers.

Years passed. Jesus (pbuh) persistently called people to worship Allah. He called them to abandon worshipping idols. However, only a couple of them believed in him. Those who believed in him were called "Jesus' Disciples." They listened to the words of Jesus and obeyed him.

One day Jesus (pbuh) asked them:

- Who will support me in my struggle in the path of Allah?

The Disciples answered:

- We will. We will support you in your struggle on the path of Allah because we believe in you and what you have brought to us.

Then, the Disciples prayed Allah:



- O our Lord! We have believed in Jesus (pbuh). We have believed what You sent to us. Register us among the followers of Jesus.

Jesus fulfilled Allah the Almighty's commandments together with his Disciples. One day he ordered his Disciples to fast. When the time to break their fast approached, they asked Jesus:

- Can our Lord send down to us a table from the heaven?

Jesus said:

- If you have believed, then fear Allah. Why are you asking something like that?

The Disciples said:

- Of course, we believe in you. Our Lord is Allah. However, we want our heart to be fully contented.

Jesus turned to Allah and prayed:

- Our Lord! Descend us a table as a proof for our coming generations. Honor us with your blessings. You are the best of providers.

Allah the Almighty said:

- Indeed, I will send it down to you, but whoever disbelieves after that from among you, then I indeed will punish him with a penalty by which I have not punished anyone.

Stone Shower

Jesus and the Disciples were always with the people. They continued to invite them to accept Allah. However, the sons of Israel treated them like a handful of impertinent people. They paid no attention to their warnings. They used to call the Disciples "Poor and helpless" people. Why should we follow Jesus? they said. Wealth and fame were important for them. They did not give up worshipping their idols, and showing respect to the fake saints. Moreover, they plotted an evil plan in order to get rid of Jesus, the Messenger of Allah.

One day, Jesus and the Disciples were walking around. A group of sons of Israel pointed out Jesus and shouted:

- Look at him! Jesus the magician is coming.

Jesus who was accused by doing magic said patiently:

- O my people! I am a prophet sent to you by Allah. Listen to my words. Believe in the revelation sent to me and reach salvation.

However, instead of listening to him, Sons of Israel continued to mock at him. They persisted on denial.

They stoned Jesus and his Disciples.

Believers were also stoned. Jesus turned this arrogant, stubborn and cruel people:

- How ungrateful you are! He said. Think about what you are doing to the Messenger of Allah. My Lord does not like you. I hope He will save me from you and you get the punishment you deserve.

One of the sons of Israel shouted angrily:

- Look at him! He is still talking! Did not you get bored of this man insulting you and saying bad words to you every day? He wants to make you fight against each other. Kill this magician, kill him and get rid of him!

The disbelievers started to chase the prophet Jesus, while they were shouting:

- Kill this magician. Do not let this man live who is trying to make you fight against each other!

Jesus (pbuh) started to run away from them... He lost all his hope from his community and took refuge in his Lord. His Disciples were trying to save the Prophet. They ran away from these angry men and hid the Prophet Jesus in a house. They locked the door.

The sons of Israel got mad from rage. They were looking for Jesus and swearing that they were going to kill him wherever they found him. After a short while, they found the house where Jesus was hiding. They attacked the house and punched the door.

- Kill Jesus! Execute him! Do not let him live!

They broke the door. Angry crowd entered the house. They thought that one of their friends was Jesus and caught him tightly. The man was shouting with all his power:

- I am not Jesus! But nobody listened to him.

They brought a big piece of wood. The man was executed and then was stoned. The sons of Israel were stoning him in rage. The man was drenched in blood. They continued to throw stones until the man died...

Allah made them think that the man they killed was Jesus. Whereas Jesus was in perfect health. He had escaped from these crazy people. Allah said to His Messenger:

- O Jesus! I will save you from them. I will make those who follow you superior to those who disbelieve. Then, your return will be to me. And I will judge between you concerning the matters you had a disagreement.

The Prophet Jesus was endlessly grateful to his Lord. He was saved from his rebellious community. The world is big. He could have delivered his message to other people. There are, there will always be, places with righteous people who would listen to his message...

How happy those who follow the holy messages of the prophets are ...

How happy those who spread the call of Tawhid to the ages are...



HOW MUCH WE LEARNED?

Do You Know the Answer?

1. Tell the miracles of the Prophet Jesus.
2. What kind of a person was Mary? With what did she keep herself busy?
3. How did the sons of Israel treat Jesus?

Find the Correct Answer

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Who was responsible with Mary's education and training?</p> <p>A. Her mother</p> <p>B. Her father</p> <p>C. Zechariah (pbuh)</p> <p>D. Servants of masjid</p> | <p>3. Who did give the good news to Mary that she was going to have a baby?</p> <p>A. Her mother</p> <p>B. Zechariah (pbuh)</p> <p>C. Doctor</p> <p>D. An angel</p> |
| <p>2. What was Mary doing in the masjid?</p> <p>A. She was telling Allah to people.</p> <p>B. She was praying all the time.</p> <p>C. She was teaching.</p> <p>D. She was eating.</p> | <p>4. Under which tree did Mary take refuge in Allah when her pains of childbirth started?</p> <p>A. Palm tree</p> <p>B. Quince tree</p> <p>C. Peach tree</p> <p>D. Plum tree</p> |

5. Which one of the followings is not one of reactions that people gave when they saw Mary with a baby in her arms?
 - A. They said, "Indeed you committed a shameful act"
 - B. They said, "We would not expect from you something like that."
 - C. They said, "Your parents were not bad people."
 - D. They said, "What a beautiful baby."
6. Which one of the followings is not said by baby Jesus when he talked?
 - A. I am a prophet sent to the people of Egypt.
 - B. I am the servant of Allah.
 - C. Allah commanded me not to be a cruel and a bad person.
 - D. Peace is on me the day I was born and the day I will die and the day I am resurrected
7. Which one of the followings was not one of the miracles of Jesus?
 - A. Opening the blind eyes
 - B. Giving life to dead
 - C. Splitting the moon in half
 - D. Informing people what there was in their houses
8. What did Sons of Israel say Jesus about miracles?
 - A. We have believed in you.
 - B. You are a manifest magician.
 - C. You are out of your mind.
 - D. These miracles are not enough for us.
9. What did Sons of Israel do Jesus (pbuh) and his Disciples?
 - A. Stoned them.
 - B. Killed them.
 - C. Believed them.
 - D. Expelled them from the city.

MAKE A SENTENCE

Use following words in a sentence.

Date:

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Worship:

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Miracle:

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Apostle:

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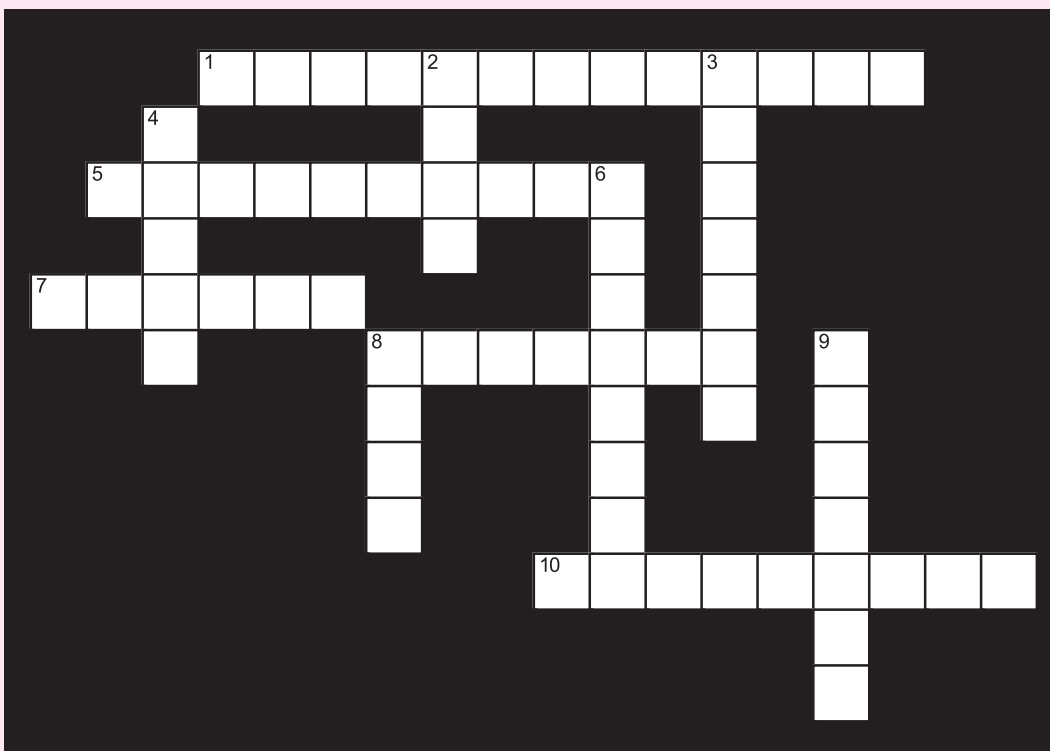
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Table:

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Crossword Puzzle



1. The thing in which Moses's staff, tablets and some belongings of Aaron were kept.
5. The name of place where Mary stayed and got her education.
7. Asking something from Allah with words and by heart.
8. The term used for the extraordinary things that Allah created in order to make people believe.
10. The city where Jesus carried his duty and which is also Holy for Muslims



2. The name of animal that swallowed Jonah.
3. The name of the city of Jonah (pbuh).
4. The name of the prophet who was swallowed by an animal
6. The term used for the people who believed in Jesus first.
8. The Name of Jesus's mother.
9. The name of the King chosen among Sons of Israel.

ANSWER KEYS

The Prophet Adam (peace be upon him) and Hawwa (eve)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

1. A 2. C 3. B 4. D

The Prophet Noah (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

1. B 2. D 3. A 4. B 5. D 6. C 7. A 8. B
9. D 10. B 11. C

The Prophet Abraham (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

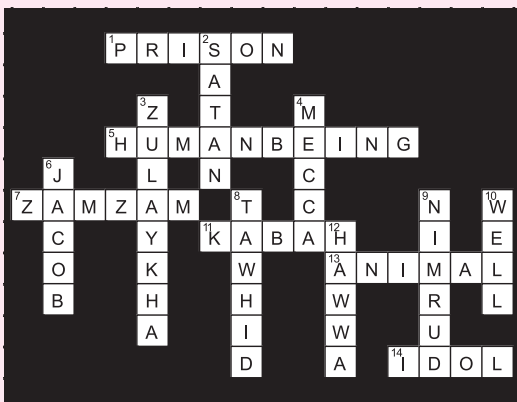
1. B 2. D 3. A 4. C 5. D 6. B 7. A 8. D
9. B 10. A 11. C 12. B

The Prophet Yusuf (Joseph) (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

1. C 2. D 3. D 4. B 5. C 6. B 7. C 8. A
9. D 10. A 11. B 12. D

CROSSWORD PUZZLE:



The Prophet Moses (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

1. C 2. D 3. A 4. B 5. C 6. C 7. A 8. D
 9. A 10. B 11. D 12. C 13. A 14. C 15. D 16. C
 17. B 18. D

The Prophet David (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

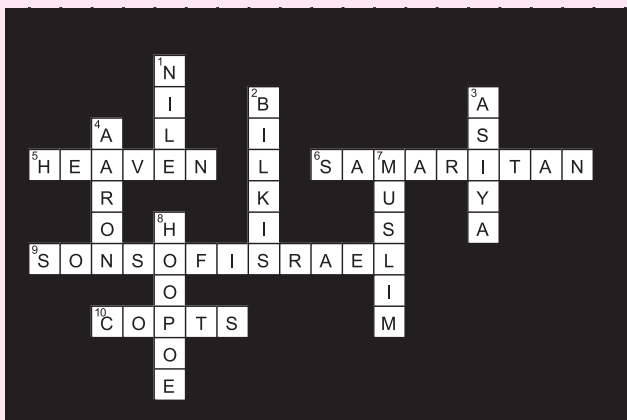
1. C 2. A 3. B 4. A 5. D

The Prophet Solomon (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

1. B 2. C 3. D 4. B 5. A 6. D 7. D 8. C
 9. C 10. B 11. D

CROSSWORD PUZZLE:



The Prophet Jonah (Yunus) (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

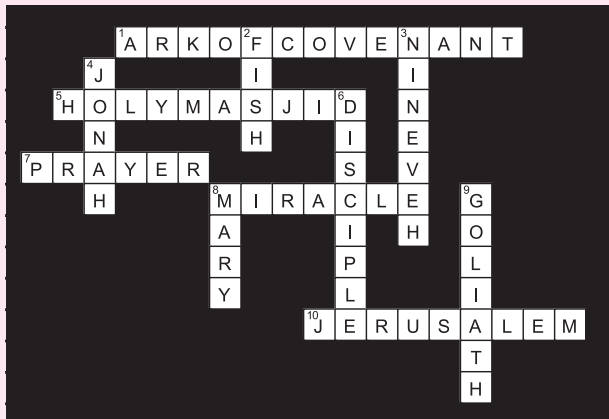
1. C 2. A 3. B 4. C 5. D 6. D

The Prophet Jesus (pbuh)

FIND THE CORRECT ANSWER:

1. C 2. B 3. D 4. A 5. D 6. A 7. C 8. B 9. A

CROSSWORD PUZZLE:





MY OPINIONS ABOUT THE BOOK

My opinions about the book 

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