

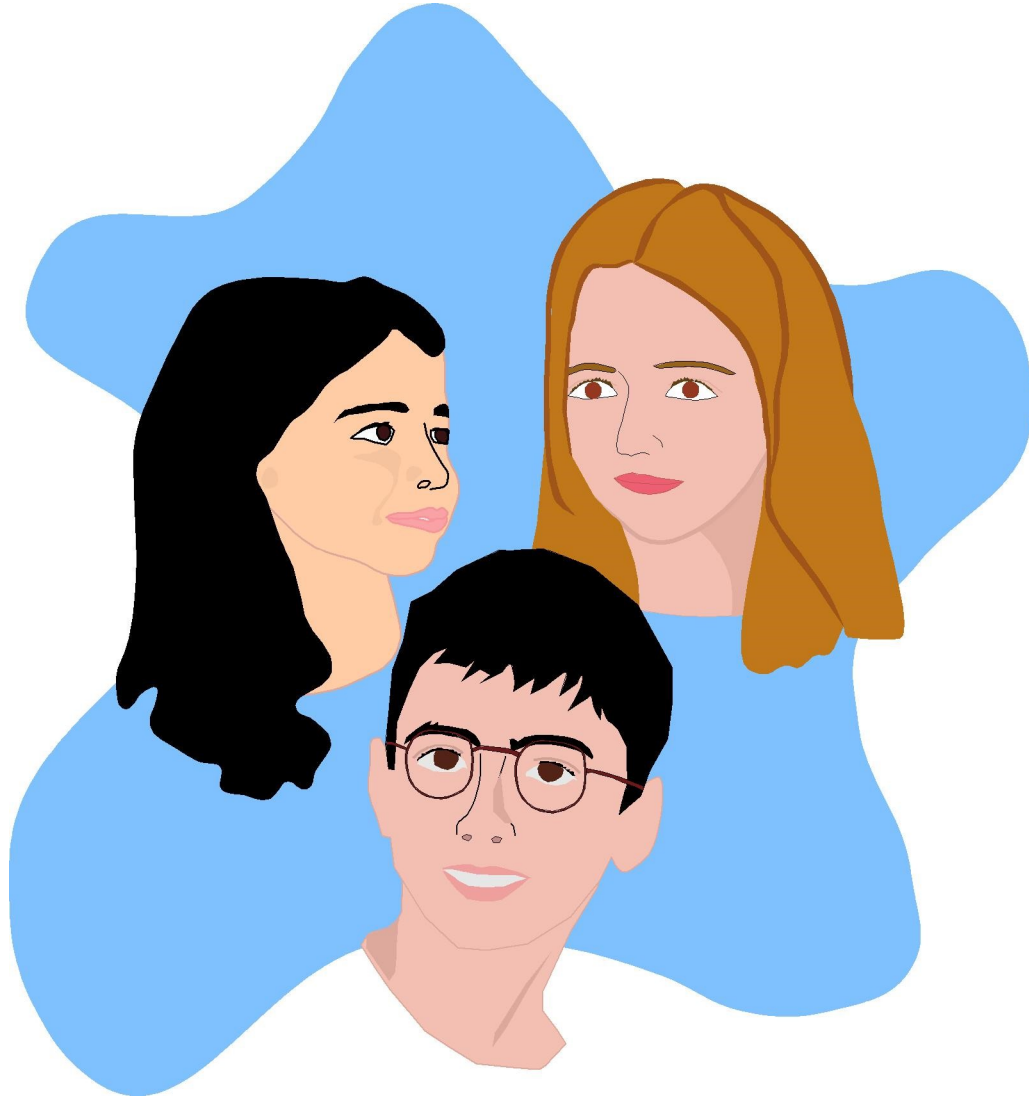
Exploring Islam



Ra-id Abdulla, MD

Course One

**Fifth Edition
2014**



Exploring Islam

Islamic Studies for Children

Course One

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Fifth Edition

2014



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Fifth edition 2014

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Introduction

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ emphasized education for all Muslims and, in particular, of children. Indeed, the first act upon victory at the Battle of Badr was for war hostages to be ransomed by teaching Muslim children how to read and write. We have decided to follow the Prophet's example in tackling the awesome task of providing an Islamic Studies curriculum for full-time schools, currently not available to English speaking children.

This job is normally completed by a Ministry of Education, as is the case in Muslim countries, or a large committee of highly paid specialists for the particular subject. This tremendous undertaking was met by the few resources and limited manpower of Universal School to benefit the Muslim generation at large.

Universal School struggled for its first ten years with many books and several publishing houses to find the right curriculum. In time, we realized that no one, single book or series was made for children of full-time school setting. No texts carried the needed didactic or progressive series of knowledge to cover the entire Islamic curriculum. None of the books we examined for this purpose took into consideration the appropriate age and grade level being taught. Such books were intended for either a weekend school program or parents to help their children; this was not satisfactory for the educational demands of full-time schools.

The author, Dr. Ra-id Abdulla, is a pediatric cardiologist by profession and Editor-in-Chief of the *Pediatric Cardiology Journal*. He is the father of three beautiful children at Universal and agreed, after much pressure from me and for the sake of Allah ﷻ and the children of the Muslim community, to take on this task of writing

Islamic studies textbooks for the elementary grades. This task consumed thousands of hours; Dr. Abdulla utilized special computer software, a large number of references including Islamic studies curricula from various Muslim countries, and gave up many social commitments to have the project see the light as soon as possible. All thanks to Allah ﷻ who gave him the time and the patience to complete this task in less than two years.

Each textbook covers Iman, Aqida, Quran, Sunnah, Hadith, Fiqh, Akhlaq, Ibadat, and Mua'amalat for the appropriate age and grade in a progressive format from first to fifth grade. As such, the Islamic Studies program comprehensively covers all aspects of Islam, and can be a tool for the teacher and the parents to use in the classroom and at home.

We thank Allah ﷻ first and Universal second for giving us this opportunity to serve His Ummah and the Muslim American community at large. I thank all of the reviewers and the commentators who contributed to this work and; lastly, I thank the children who are the sole reason for this publication.

Abdul-Rahman Amine, M.D.

Chairman of the Board of Directors

Universal School, Bridgeview, Illinois

Preface

In the name of Allah ﷻ Most Merciful, Most Compassionate. Praise to Allah ﷻ, the Knowledgeable, the Guider. Peace upon his Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, his household and his companions ﷺ.

Writing any book is hard, writing a children's book is a nightmare. Will they understand the concept? Are the words too difficult for that particular age group? Am I making any sense at all? And on and on goes the questions in one's mind. It would not have been possible to embark on such an important endeavor if it wasn't for Dr. Amine's request, encouragement, and unrelenting persistence.

This book is a unit of a larger plan. Prior to writing these books, a committee of educators from Universal School in Bridgeview, Illinois devised a curriculum for Islamic Studies for grades 1-12. The hope was to produce a single textbook for each educational level, similar to other subjects taught in elementary, middle and high school.

In writing these books I avoided the typical preaching style of listing things "to do" and "not to do". Instead, these textbooks mostly deliver their teachings through stories. It is hoped that this format will be more interesting to young children who are more attentive when a story is narrated to them. Each story includes Islamic teachings through its events as well as a hadith or Quran relevant to the topic. It is interesting to note that more information could be packed this way, not to mention making it more fun to read.

The issue of how to best transliterate Arabic names remain difficult to solve. There is no consensus amongst writers. We hope that with future editions this issue could be resolved.

I am grateful to my children Muhammed, Zaineb and Maryem. Each contributed

with numerous hours editing and perfecting this edition. I am very pleased to see all three of them use their linguistic and artistic gifts, bestowed upon them by Allah to serve in his sake.

Mrs. Ata, the Islamic Studies teacher of elementary levels at Universal School was instrumental in the success of using this series of books. She has been able to provide valuable contribution to improving the books through her suggestions and addition of questions after each chapter. We pray that Allah reward her on our behalf and bless her and her wonderful family.

Many years ago, Dr. Abdul Sahib Hashim, my father in law, wrote the first series of Islamic books for children in English. The textbooks he produced over several years quickly became the cornerstone of Islamic education for children in the United States. His dedication in producing magnificent texts that speak to the minds of children, adolescents and adults sparked the production of numerous educational resources over the past 3 decades. The volumes produced by my father in law were a great inspiration for me to continue in the path he laid. His books continue to be in print and provide an important source of Islamic knowledge for children and adults alike. May the merciful Lord bless him for his monumental efforts in educating generations of American Muslims and paving the path for many authors to continue in his footsteps.

I am indebted to my wife, Janaan, whose support and critique were most valuable. Furthermore, I would like to thank my three children, Muhammad, Zaineb and Maryem (ages 13, 12 and 11 years at the time the books were written) who let me know if the stories were worth listening to.

و الحمد لله رب العالمين و الصلاة و السلام على أشرف المرسلين.

Ra-id Abdulla, MD

Dedication

To

My son Muhammed

رحمةُ الله عليه

May Allah forgive his sins and grant him the everlasting Paradise for his efforts in editing this book. His loving and happy nature was a fresh breeze Allah ﷻ graced us with during the 22 years of his life before he returned to his Lord.

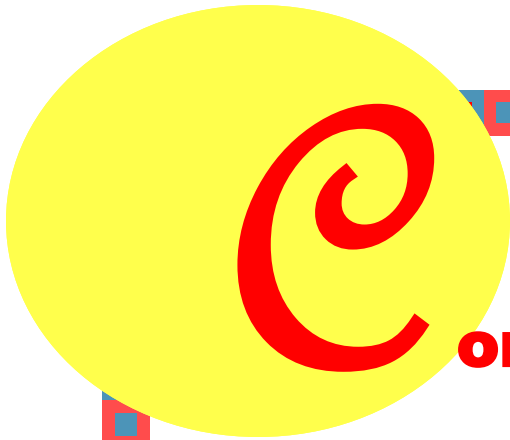
&

My parents:

Muhammed Abdulla & Zainab Alhijazi

Words fail to express my love and gratitude to my parents, the two most wonderful gifts Allah ﷻ bestowed upon me. Their endless support and guidance is a beacon of salvage in this world and the Hereafter.

I ask Allah ﷻ to reward my parents and Muhammed with goodness and mercy.

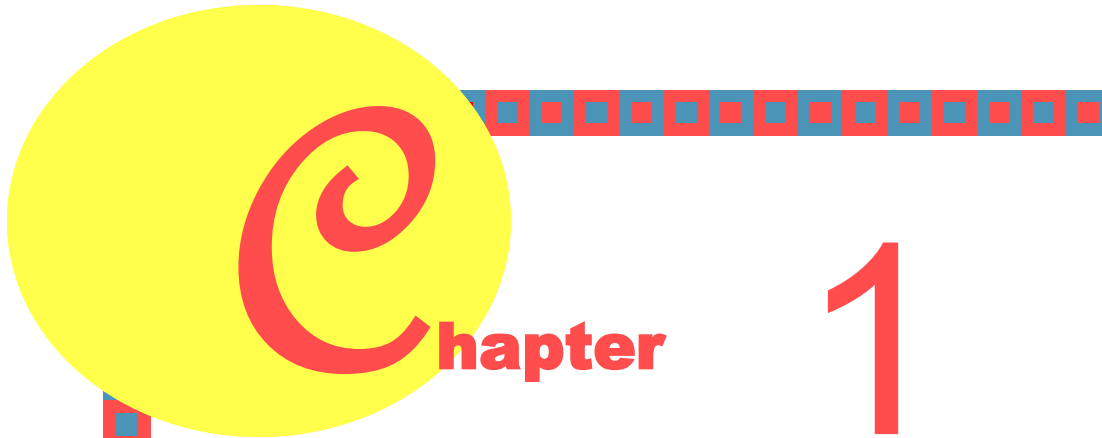


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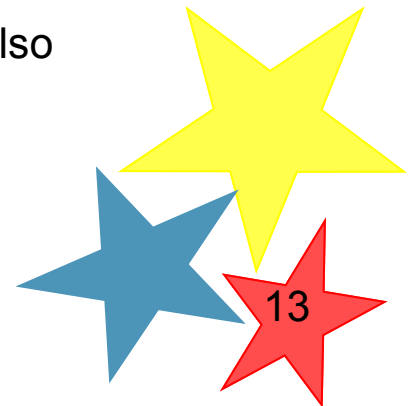
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Chapter 1

Facts About the Holy Quran

Allah ﷻ sent his angel Jibril ﷺ to Muhammad ﷺ to be the last prophet of all times. Angel Jibril taught Prophet Muhammad the Quran over 23 years. Every now and then Angel Jibril would tell the Prophet few verses of the Quran. Prophet Muhammad memorized these verses and told Muslims about it. Many people memorized the verses right away and taught others who also memorized. Some of the friends of the Prophet wrote down the verses as the Prophet recited them.



Quran

الحجر, aya 9

*We have revealed the Quran
and we shall protect it.*

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ

As more and more of the Quran was revealed, Angel Jibril taught Muhammad the order in which verses should appear in the Quran. Allah ﷻ told Prophet Muhammad ﷺ through Angel Jibril how the Quran should be. No man, not even the Prophet himself, made any decisions on how the Quran should be. It was all Allah's decisions and instructions.

Before Muhammad ﷺ died, he made sure that Muslims knew the whole Quran in its right order, just the way Allah wanted it to be. The Prophet listened to his companions as they recited the Quran and made sure that they knew it the way Allah had revealed it to him.

One of those companions, Zayd Bin Thabit knew the Quran very well. Prophet Muhammad told Muslims that if they had any questions about the Quran, then they should ask Zayd.

When Prophet Muhammad died, the Quran was already memorized by many Muslims. It was also written, but not on paper or in a book as we have it nowadays. There was no paper back then, instead it was written on pieces of leather, leaves and flat bones. Abu Bakr, who became the ruler of Muslims after the prophet died, asked Zayd bin Thabit two years after the prophet's death to make a copy of the Quran.





Zayd, who knew the whole Quran by heart, did not just sit down and write it, instead he asked at least two other Muslims who knew the Quran about each verse before he wrote it down.

Zayd wrote the Quran in the same exact order Allah instructed prophet Muhammad ﷺ. After Zayd completed writing the Quran, it was kept in one room, but again it was not put together as a book. Ten years later, Uthman Bin Affan, the third ruler of Muslims after the prophet's death, asked Zayd Bin Thabit and three other Muslims who all knew the Quran by heart to make four copies of the Quran.

Words

Aya: Sentences in the Quran, also called verses

Jibriil: Gabriel in English. One of the angels of Allah, Angels serve Allah, they obey and worship him all the time.

Sura: Chapter in the Quran, many chapters called suwar.

This time the Quran was put together as a book and these copies were sent to different parts of the Muslim world so that Muslims all over the world would be able to study and memorize it.

Muslims after that kept making more and more copies of the Quran. In the early days, people would handwrite these copies of the Quran, but nowadays we use print machines to make the Quran. Whenever a new copy of the Quran is made, people who had memorized the Quran by heart would read the new copy carefully to make sure it is correct.

Remember

- *Angel Jibreel revealed the Qur'an to Muhammad.*
- *The Quran was first written on pieces of leather*
- *Muhammad ﷺ taught Muslims the Quran.*
- *Qur'an teaches us how to be good*
- *Qur'an is the book of Muslims.*

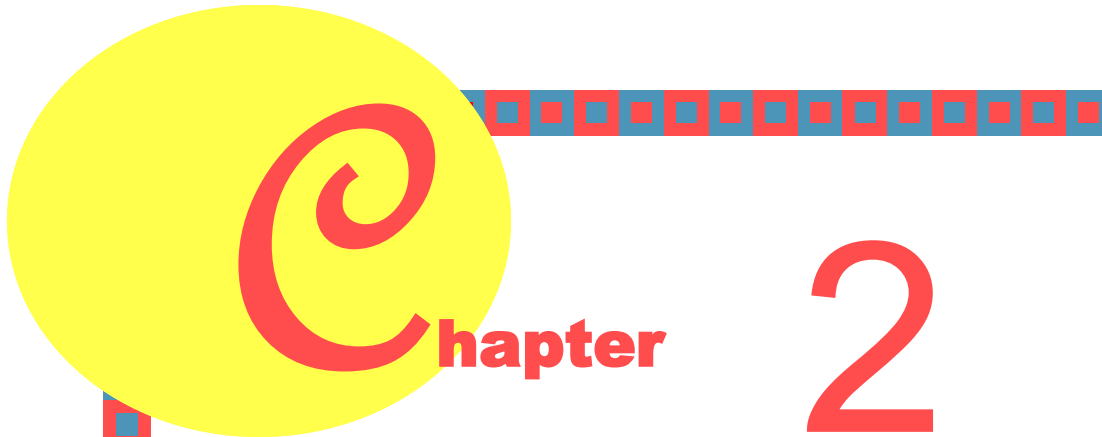
Did you know?

The Quran is divided into 30 equal parts; it includes 114 chapters (suar) and 6,236 verses (ayat).

The Quran tells us how to behave with the best manners and it tells us stories of some of the prophets عليهم السلام which Allah ﷻ had sent to people in the past. It also tells us about what will happen to us after we die, and how all those who do good go to heaven and those who disobey Allah go to hellfire.

The Quran will stay with us until the last day of earth. Allah ﷻ says in the Quran that he sent the Quran and he will protect it.

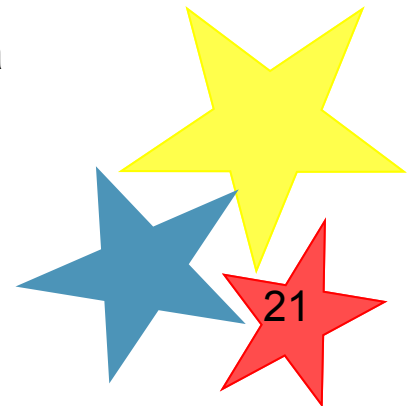




Chapter 2

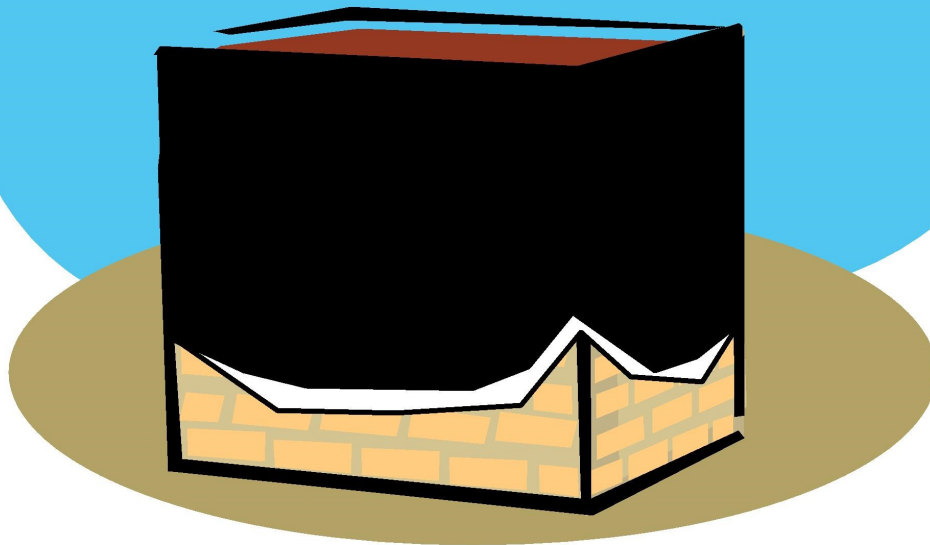
Muhammad ﷺ: The Messenger of Allah ﷻ

A very long time ago, about 1,400 years ago, the people of Quraish lived in Mecca. The Ka'ba was in the middle of Mecca. They knew very well that this large building, which looked like a giant cube, was built by Allah's prophet Ibrahim and his son Ismail to be the house of God. Those people of Mecca believed in Allah ﷻ, but forgot a lot of what prophet Ibrahim had taught them.



They put statues made of stone and wood around the Ka'ba and called them gods and prayed to these idols. They thought that these idols would bring them closer to Allah, and even dared to say that the idols they worshiped were the daughters of Allah.

The people of Quraish and other tribes in the area were good people who behaved well in many ways, but they were also confused about many things and behaved poorly in certain ways. They were kind and generous to their guests, but would go to war for years and years with their neighbors over silly little things.



A man from Quraish was born and grew up in Mecca, but did not believe in what the rest of his people did. His name was Muhammad ﷺ. He believed in what prophet Ibrahim عليه السلام had taught and he did not join his people in worshiping the idols.

Muhammad was honest, kind and helped those around him. Allah chose Muhammad, when he was about 40 years old, to be the prophet to teach people Islam the true religion of Allah ﷻ. For the next 23 years Muhammad told people all he was taught by Allah.

Remember

- *The last messenger of Allah ﷻ is Muhammad ﷺ.*
- *Prophets Ibrahim and Ismail built the Ka'ba.*
- *Allah chose Muhammad to be the prophet to teach Islam.*
- *In the beginning of Islam few people believed in Muhammad.*

In the beginning very few people believed in him, and many fought him and hurt him because he was teaching them things that were different from what they were doing.

But slowly and over many years most people in that part of the world believed in him and in Islam.



Words

Ka'ba: *The house of Allah, looks like a cube. The Ka'ba is in Mecca.*

Mecca: *A city in Saudi Arabia near the red sea.*

Quraish: *A tribe in the Arabian peninsula (now called Saudi Arabia)*

Prophet Muhammed was from the tribe of Quraish.



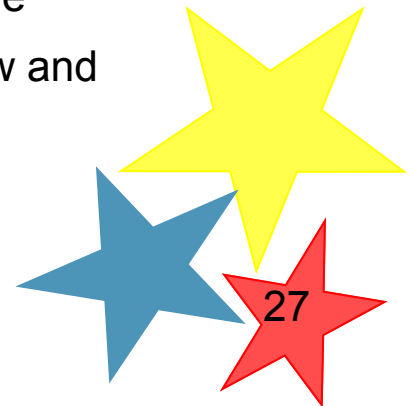
Chapter

3

“Why” The squirrel

Once upon a time there was a little squirrel called “Why”! It was a strange name for a squirrel. It was a strange for anyone! But his friends and family called him that because he always asked “why?”

Why was this? And why was that? He asked all the time, about everything he saw and heard. He was bright and wanted to learn everything, so he asked “Why? Why? Why? and why?”



Quran

Al-Baqara البقرة, aya 21

Oh people! Worship your Lord, who created you and all those before you. Then you may become righteous (good) people.

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ
وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

“Mama!” He said one day “Why do we pray five times every day?”

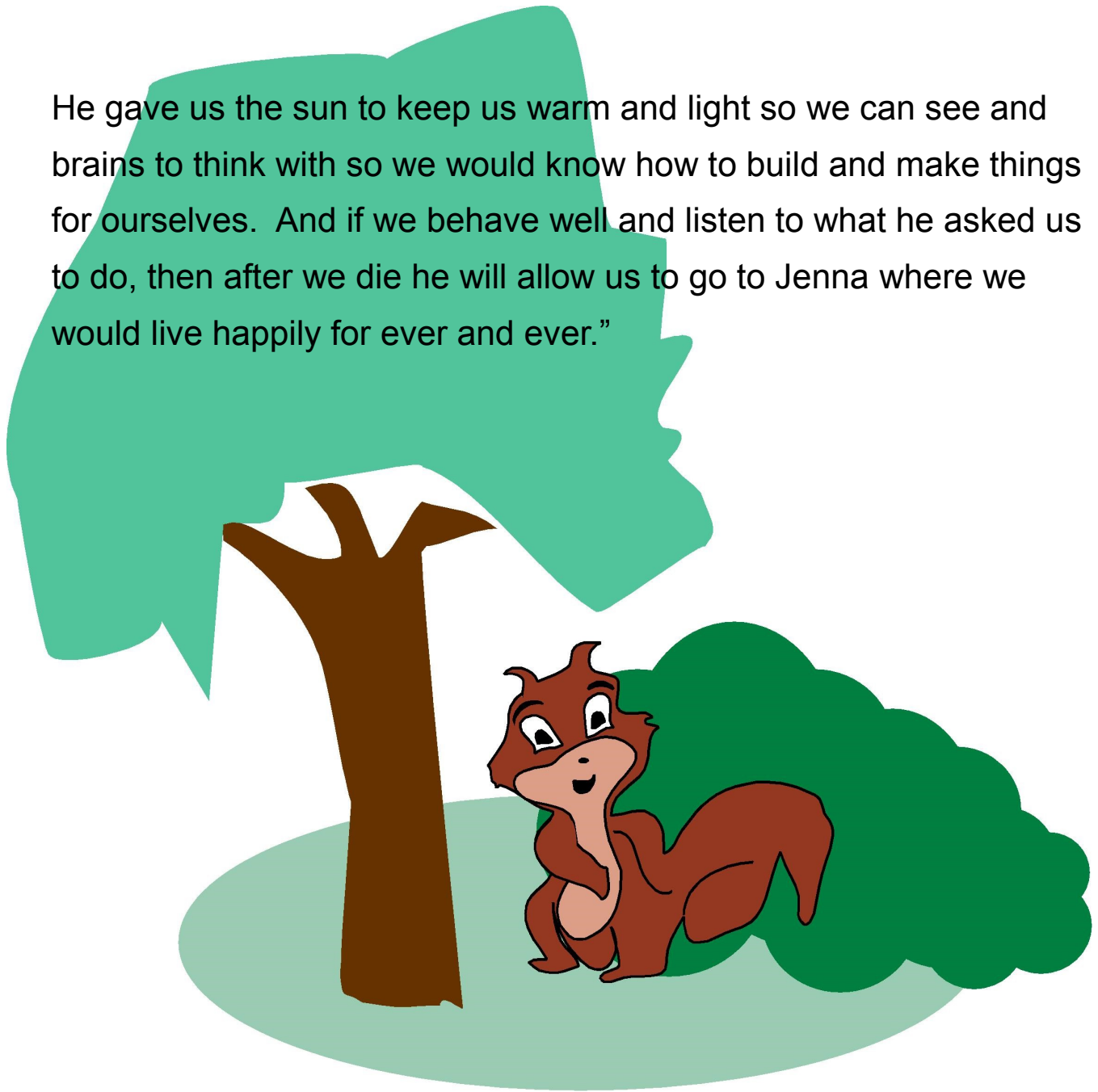
“Because we like to please Allah ﷻ who asked us to pray,” answered his mother. “And when we pray, we thank Allah for all he has given us and ask him for even more,” she added.

“But why did Allah make us?”

“Because Allah loves us,” said his mother. “He gave us food to eat and water to drink.



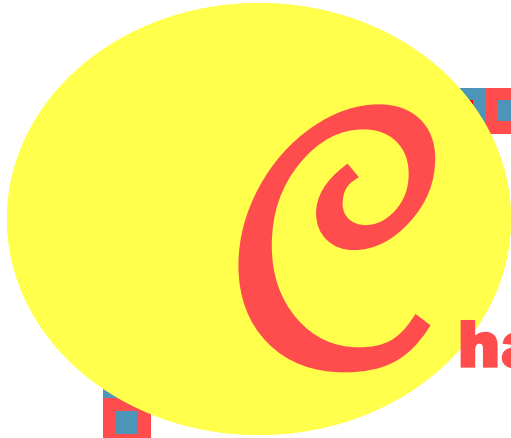
He gave us the sun to keep us warm and light so we can see and brains to think with so we would know how to build and make things for ourselves. And if we behave well and listen to what he asked us to do, then after we die he will allow us to go to Jenna where we would live happily for ever and ever.”



Remember

- *We pray five times a day*
- *We pray to thank Allah ﷻ*
- *If you do what Allah asked you, you will go to Paradise (Jenna)*
- *Allah love those who pray to him*
- *Muslims love Allah*

Why, the squirrel was quiet for a while, thinking about what his mother had just told him. Then he looked at his mother and said “Mama, I am glad to have such a nice Allah!”



Chapter

4

Athan & Wudu

Muslims pray five times a day. The Athan calls people for prayer. It lets us know when each prayer times start.

The five prayer times are:

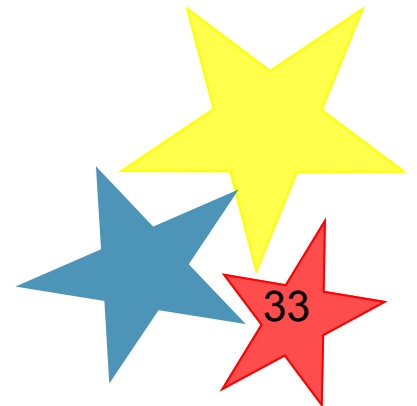
Subh صبح

Dhuhr ظهر

Asr عصر

Maghrib مغرب

Isha' عشاء





Athan الأذان

God is the greatest

God is the greatest

God is the greatest

God is the greatest

I declare that Allah is the only god

I declare that Allah is the only god

I declare that Muhammad is his messenger

I declare that Muhammad is his messenger

Hurry for prayer

Hurry for prayer

Hurry for good work

Hurry for good work

God is the greatest

God is the greatest

Allah is the only god



الله اكبر

الله اكبر

الله اكبر

الله اكبر

اشهد ان لا اله الا الله

اشهد ان لا اله الا الله

اشهد ان محمداً رسول الله

اشهد ان محمداً رسول الله

حي على الصلاة

حي على الصلاة

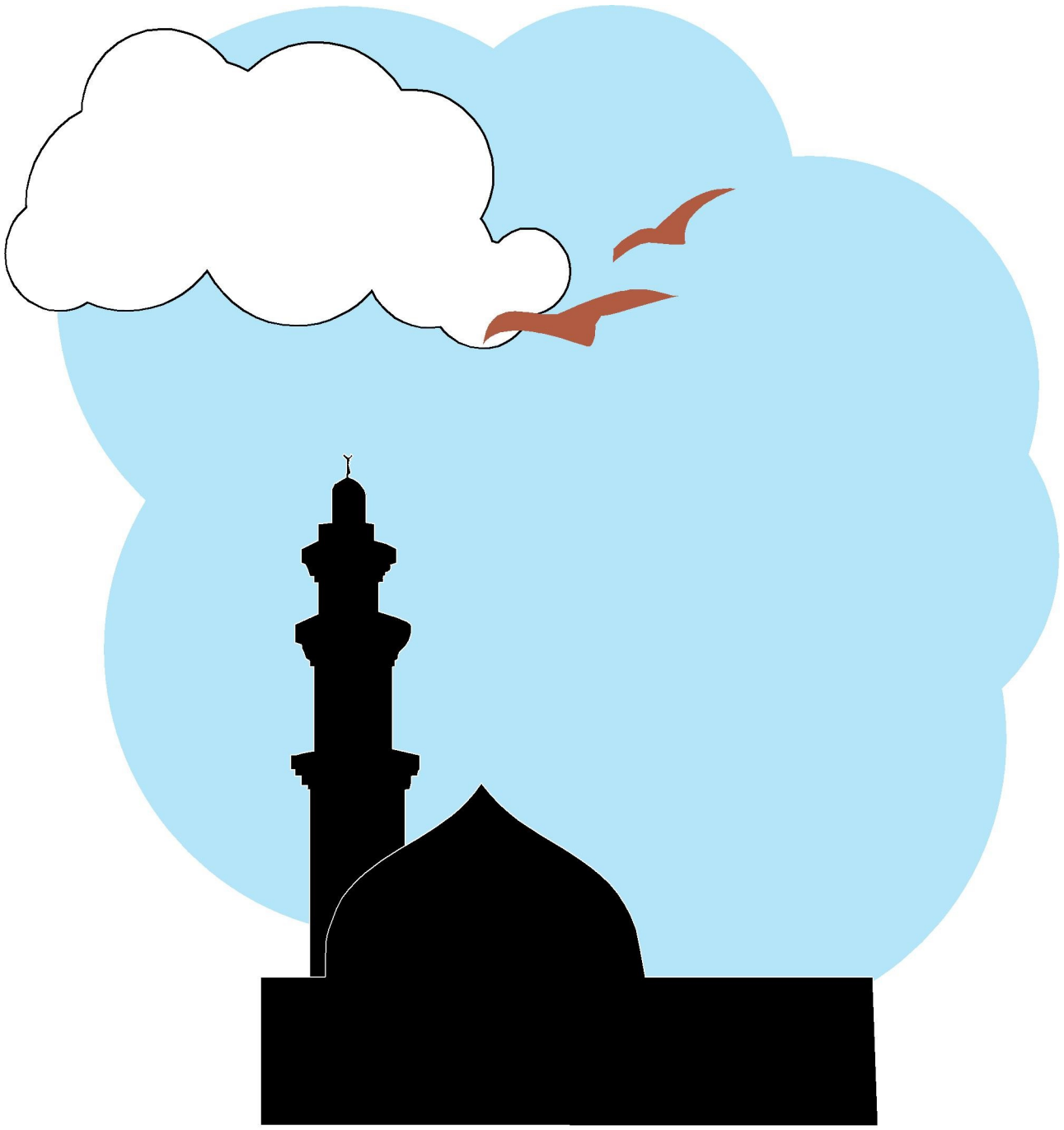
حي على الفلاح

حي على الفلاح

الله اكبر

الله اكبر

لا اله الا الله



Remember

- *Athan is called before each prayer.*
- *Athan for all prayers is the same, except for morning prayer.*
- *Muslims make wudu before prayer.*
- *We start wudu by saying:*
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
- *When making wudu we use clean water.*

When saying the Athan for Morning Prayer, one sentence is added after saying “Hurry for good work”. The sentence is repeated twice:

Prayer is better than sleep

الصلاة خيرٌ من النوم

Prayer is better than sleep

الصلاة خيرٌ من النوم

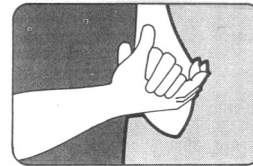
Wudu الوضوء

When rinsing part of the body during wudu, one should use enough water to make it wet.

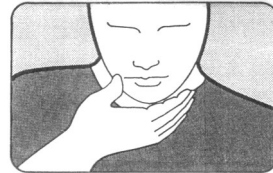
When wiping part of the body during wudu, one should use a wet hand to just make what you are wiping barely wet.

Clean water should be used to make wudu.

Rinse both hands, three times.



Rinse mouth, three times.



Words

Athan: Call for prayers, said at the beginning of each prayer to let people know to make prayers.

Subh: Morning.

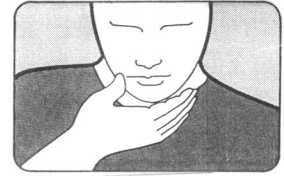
Dhuhr: Noon.

Asr: Afternoon.

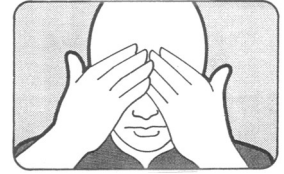
Maghrib: Sunset.

Isha': Night.

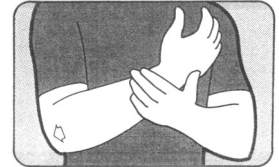
Inhale from palms filled with water, three times.



Rinse face, three times.



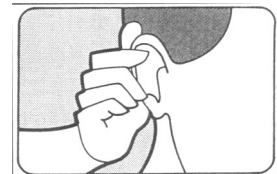
Rinse right arm first, then left, three times each.



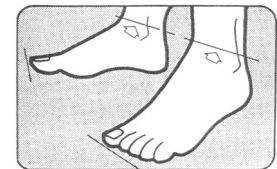
Wipe the top of your head, once only.

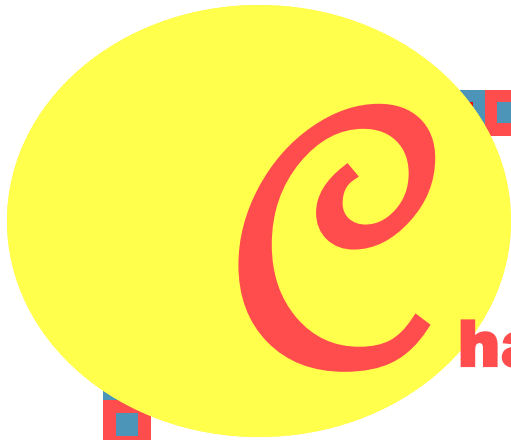


Wipe behind the ears, once only



Rinse right foot first then left, three times each.



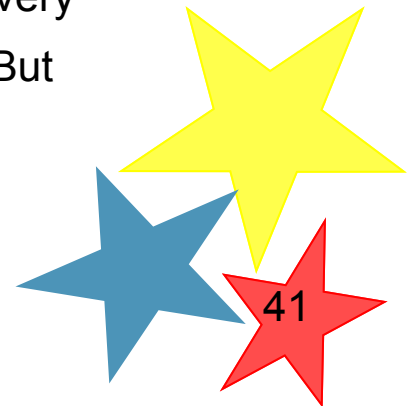


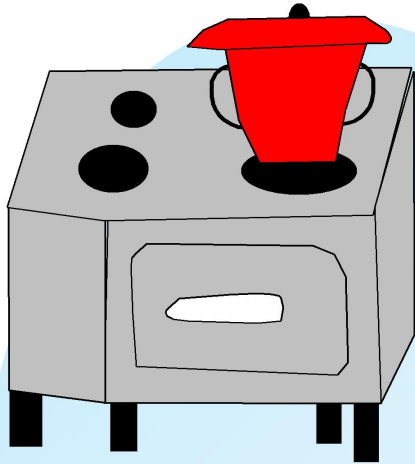
Chapter

5

Hamza Being Kind to His Parents

Once upon a time there was a little rabbit called Hamza. His parents loved him a lot. Hamza was a very active rabbit, he jumped and he hopped all day long from the moment he woke up to the moment he fell asleep. His mother and father loved Hamza and were very happy to see that he was a happy rabbit. But sometimes they were very tired from being around Hamza as he played, played and played.

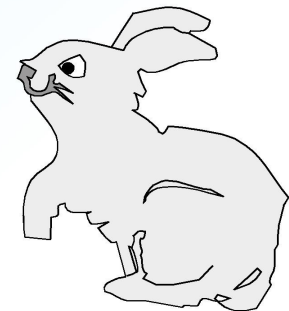




One day Hamza was playing in the kitchen as his mother was fixing dinner. He played with the pots and played with pans, he jumped up onto the chair and down onto the floor. Mama rabbit was patient with him and gave him a smile or said a kind word to him every now and then. Hamza came close to Mama as she was cooking next to the stove and Mama did not like that.

“You shouldn’t play next to the stove Hamza,” his mother warned him. “There are many hot pans and pots on the stove, and if they spill they would hurt you badly.”

“But Mama,” protested Hamza. “You get to stand next to the stove and nothing happens to you!”



“I am a grown up, Hamza,” answered his mother. “And I know what to do.”

Hamza never liked that answer. Why should grown ups get to do what they want and kids have to listen to them all the time? I bet they don't want us to have as much fun as they do! That's not fair!

At that moment the phone rang. Hamza's mother rushed to answer it. Hamza was left all alone in the kitchen. He looked towards the stove and saw steam coming out of the pots and pans with hissing and bubbly noises.

Quran

Alisra', الإسراء aya 23

Your Lord has ordered that he should be worshiped and no one else, and ordered that we should be kind and merciful to our parents

وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ
وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا



Remember

- *Allah ﷻ ordered us to be kind to our parents.*
- *We have to obey our parents all the time.*
- *Parents are merciful to their children.*
- *Listening and being kind to our parents is part of worshipping Allah.*

He stepped towards the stove to get a closer look, but stopped and turned his head to look towards the kitchen door. He was all alone in the kitchen. No one to see him, and certainly no one to tell him not to do what he was about to do.

Hamza turned his head back to the stove, he knew he shouldn't be doing this, but there was no one to tell him not to. And with a great big hop he jumped up towards the stove and before he knew it there were pans and pots flying all over the place with hot food and water splashing and splattering all over Hamza and everything else.

Did you know?

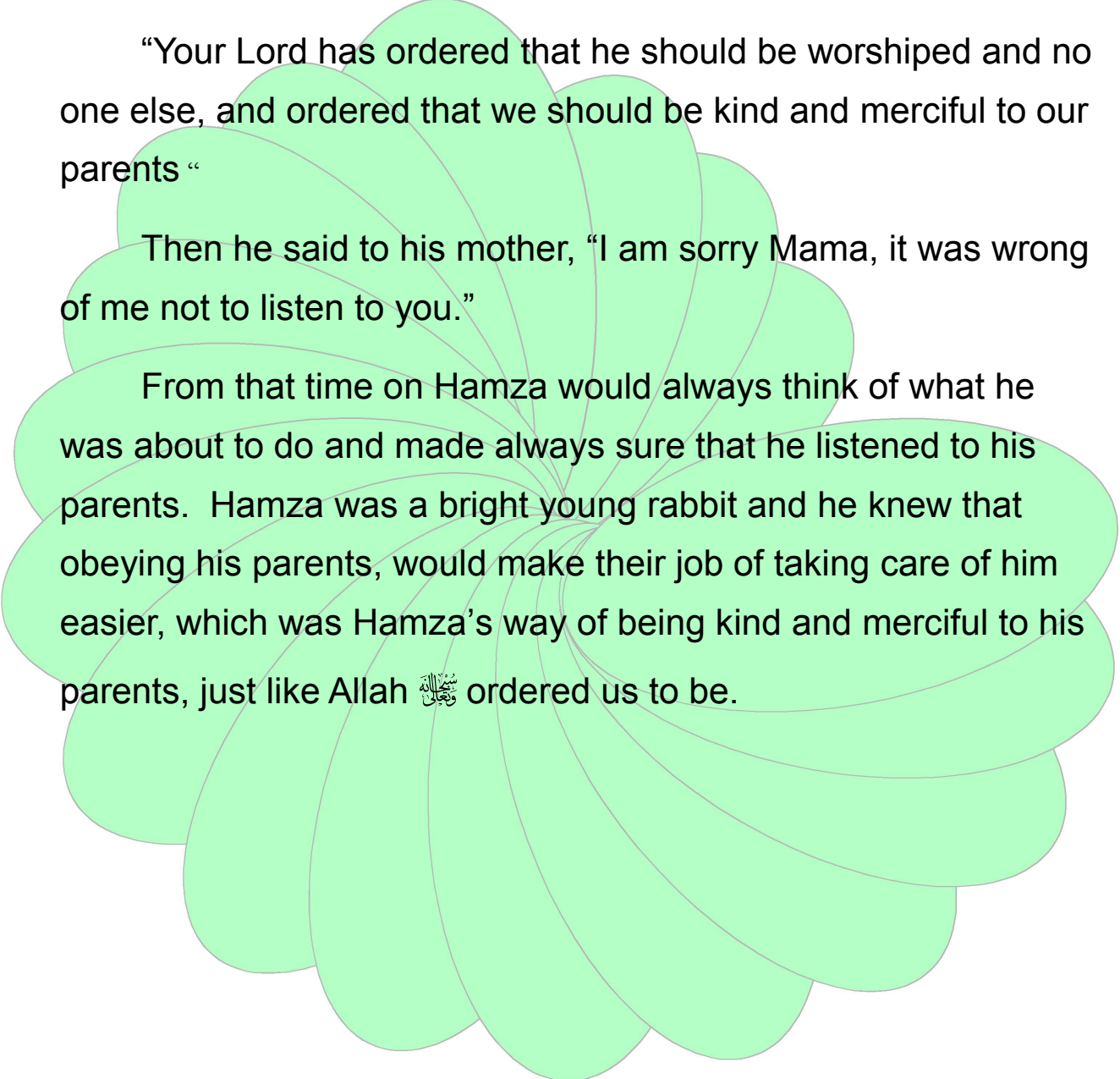
A mother carries her baby for 9 months before he or she is born, then feeds the baby 200 gallons from her milk over 1-2 years. Parents change diapers 3,600 times until the child is potty trained.

His mother ran back into the kitchen and was horrified to see Hamza on the floor covered with hot food. Hamza was hurt but his mother had just started cooking and the food was not as hot as it could have been.

Mama cleaned Hamza with cold water and soothed him. Then she looked straight in his eyes and said, “Hamza, you could have hurt yourself real bad, and I would have been very sad. I asked you not to play next to the stove because I knew it could hurt you, and it did!”

Hamza thought of what he learned from the Quran at school two days earlier:





“Your Lord has ordered that he should be worshiped and no one else, and ordered that we should be kind and merciful to our parents “

Then he said to his mother, “I am sorry Mama, it was wrong of me not to listen to you.”

From that time on Hamza would always think of what he was about to do and made always sure that he listened to his parents. Hamza was a bright young rabbit and he knew that obeying his parents, would make their job of taking care of him easier, which was Hamza’s way of being kind and merciful to his parents, just like Allah ﷻ ordered us to be.

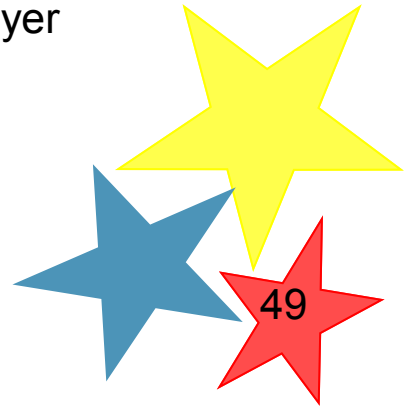


6

Alfatiha الفاتحة

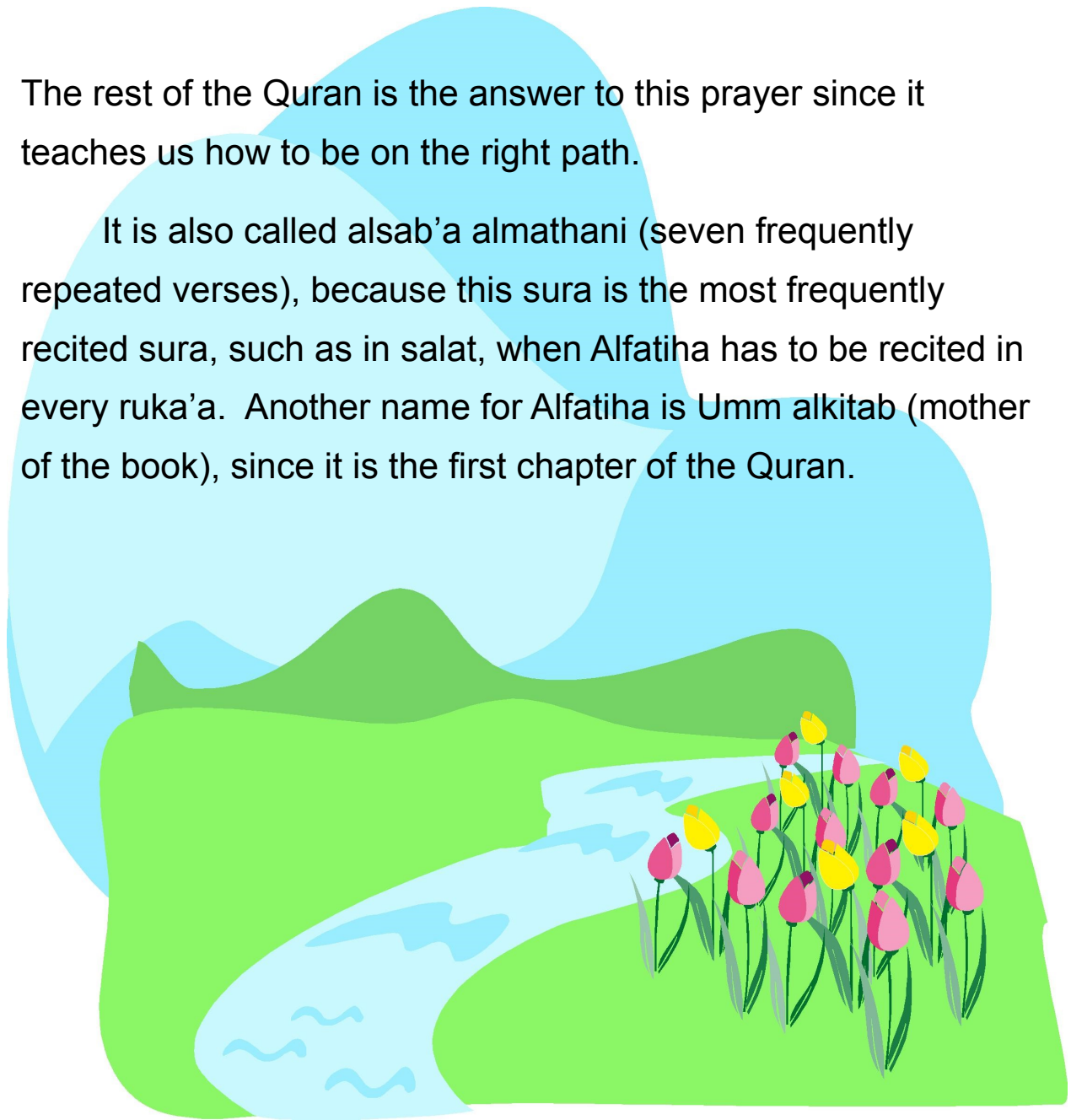
Allah ﷻ revealed the Quran to prophet Muhammad ﷺ few verses at a time, Alfatiha was the first sura revealed all at once.

Alfatiha means the opening or introduction as it is the first chapter (sura) of the Quran. It is a prayer which Allah has taught us.



The rest of the Quran is the answer to this prayer since it teaches us how to be on the right path.

It is also called alsab'a almathani (seven frequently repeated verses), because this sura is the most frequently recited sura, such as in salat, when Alfatiha has to be recited in every ruka'a. Another name for Alfatiha is Umm alkitab (mother of the book), since it is the first chapter of the Quran.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1. *In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful*

2. All praise to God, the Lord of
the worlds

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

3. The Compassionate, the
Merciful

الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ

4. Master of the day of judgment

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

5. You alone we worship and you
alone we depend upon

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

6. Guide us to the right path

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

7. The path of those whom You
have favored, not those who you
are angry with or those who are
astray

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ
الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ

Annas الناس

We all try to be good and please Allah ﷻ, but there are always people who try to make us do bad things. Allah created us and made us like doing good things and wanting to please our parents, teachers, brothers, sisters and




friends. But sometimes we are tempted to do things which would upset Allah like being mean, lying or cheating. These temptations may come from evil people or evil jinn. Jinn are living things, created by Allah, but we can not see them.

Allah ﷻ revealed this sura and surat Alfalaq (113) in Mecca and advised the prophet to recite it when they feel that evil people or jinn are trying to make us leave the path of Allah and follow the path of the Shaitan. You also can read these two suras (113 and 114) whenever you feel that there is somebody out there who wants to harm you.

Remember

- *Surah Al-Fatihah means The Opening Chapter.*
- *The two protectors (Al-Muawithatain) are Surat Alfalaq and Annass.*
- *Surat Annas is the last sura in the Quran.*



Whenever bad thoughts come to our mind we can make them go away by reading surat Annas, Allah ﷻ protect us from bad thoughts and bad people when we read this sura.

Surat Annas is a short sura, so it is easy to memorize. You can read this sura during prayers when you first learn salat.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Say: I seek refuge in the Lord
of mankind

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ

2. The King of mankind

مَلِكِ النَّاسِ

3. The God of mankind

إِلَهِ النَّاسِ

4. From the mischief of the sneaky whisperers

مِن شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ

5. Who whisper into the hearts of people

الَّذِي يُوسْوِسُ فِي صُدُورِ النَّاسِ

6. Those whisperers who may be jinn or humans

مِنَ الْجِنَّةِ وَالنَّاسِ

Words

Alfatiha: *The beginning or opening, used to mean the first sura (chapter) of the Quran.*

Annas: *The people.*

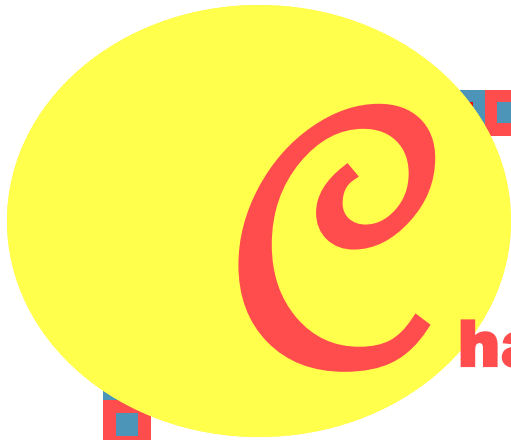
Compassionate: *Very kind and caring for others.*

Merciful: *Show mercy and kindness to others.*

Mischief: *doing bad things.*

Refuge: *Protection.*

Whisperers: *People who say things quietly or in a soft voice.*



Chapter

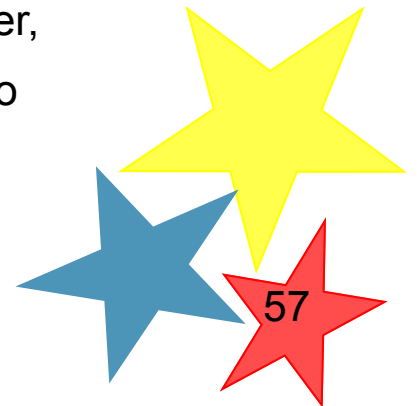
7

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, A Child

Many, many years ago in a city in the middle of the desert, a small child was born. His grandfather was very happy to hear the news that a new grandson was born.

“Muhammad!” he said. “I will call him Muhammad.”

Muhammad was born an orphan. His father, Abdullah, died even before he was born, so his grandfather made sure to take care of his new grandson.



Back then, children born in Mecca went to live with a family from the desert, far away from Mecca. Parents loved their children very much, but they did not want their children to stay in the city. Instead, they wanted their children to learn proper language and manners, away from the crowded city of Mecca. Not all children went with families to the desert, only those who could afford to do so.

Ladies from the tribes in the desert around the city came to Mecca to take young children to care for them, but none of these ladies wanted to take Muhammad ﷺ.

“Poor thing, his father is dead,” they would say. “They may not have enough money to pay us.”

So Muhammad ﷺ was left without anyone offering to take care of him. Muhammad’s mother, Amina, was disappointed, but not for long.

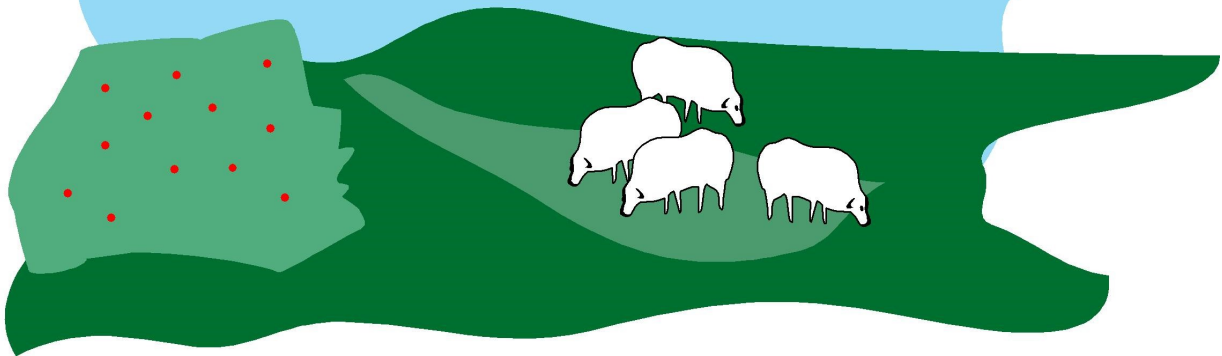
Did you know?

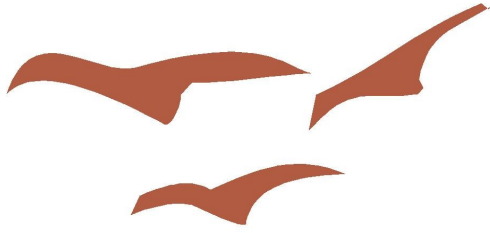
Muhammad is the most common first name in the world. Muslims name their children after their Prophet because of their love and respect to him.

Soon came a lovely women, her name was Halima, who saw Muhammad and fell in love with him. Muhammad's grandfather assured her that she would be paid by him for taking care of the baby. So Muhammad went with Halima who took him to her family in the desert where he spent the next two years. Muhammad ﷺ was a wonderful baby and Halima loved taking care of him, but after two years of looking after him it was time to take him back to live with his mother in Mecca. Halima loved Muhammad a lot and asked his mother Amina if she could take care of him for two more years. Amina let Muhammad stay with her for two more years because she could see that she was doing a wonderful job in raising him.

Two years later, Muhammad came back to stay with his mother. She was very happy to finally have her son back. One day, when Muhammad was six years old, they went on a trip to visit some relatives. Amina became ill on the way and very quickly died, leaving Muhammad an orphan with no father or mother.

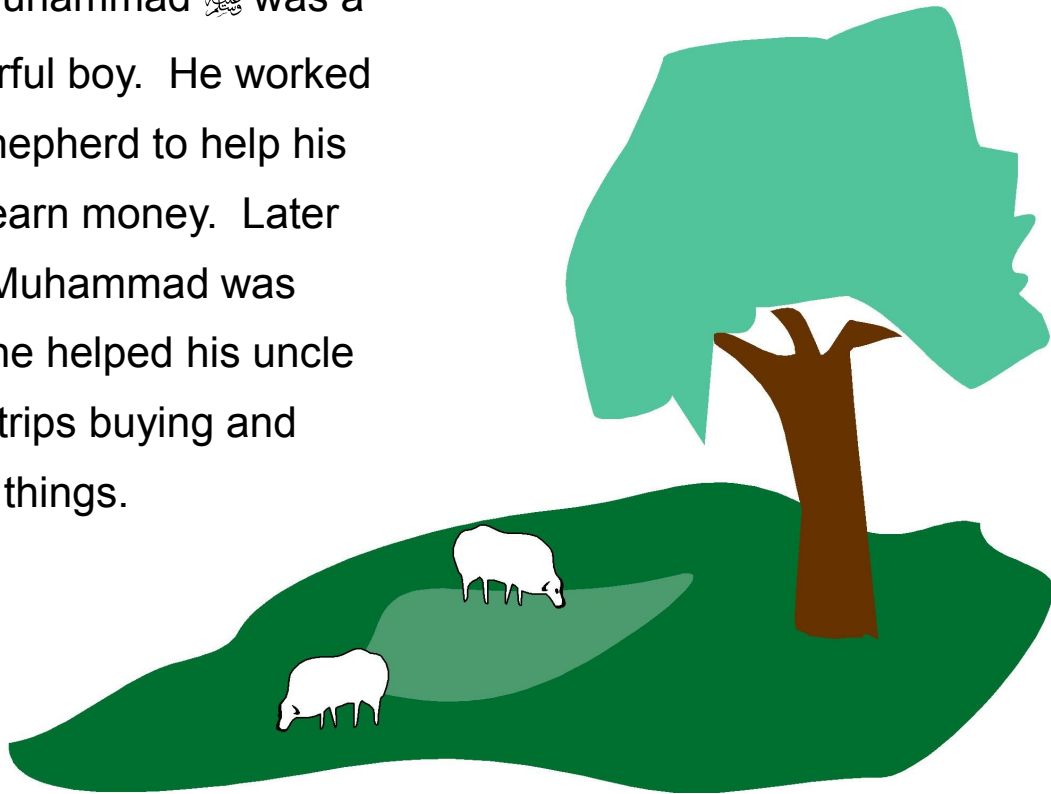
Muhammad was not left alone, his grandfather Abdul-Mutalib who loved him took Muhammad to live with him in his house. Muhammad loved his grandfather and was happy to stay with him.





Abdul-Mutalib was an old man and two years after taking his grandson in his care, he too died. So Muhammad was taken by his kind uncle Abu Talib to live with him as one of his sons.

Muhammad ﷺ was a wonderful boy. He worked as a shepherd to help his uncle earn money. Later when Muhammad was older, he helped his uncle on his trips buying and selling things.



Remember

- *Abdullah was the Prophet's father*
- *Amina was the Prophet's mother*
- *Abdul-Muttalib was the Prophet's grandfather*
- *Prophet Muhammad was born in Mecca*
- *Muhammad's mother died when he was six years old.*

People knew Muhammad and trusted him because he never cheated or lied. Many gave him their things to take to other cities to sell and trusted him with their money.

One day, the leaders of Mecca were rebuilding the Ka'ba which was damaged by the floods. At a corner of the Ka'ba there was a stone, called the Black Stone, everyone respected this stone.

Who was to move the stone as they were rebuilding the Ka'ba? Everyone wanted the honor to do so, they did not agree.

Many people were angry and some were shouting, and a fight was about to break. But just before that happened, someone suggested to wait and see who would be the first to come walking towards the Ka'ba. Then they could ask this person to suggest a way to solve the problem. The leaders of Mecca waited, and they were all pleased to see that Muhammad ﷺ was the one to come. They all knew that he was honest and trustworthy. They told him of their problem. Muhammad thought for a little while, and then an idea came to him.

Words

Flood: when it rains very hard, water rushes in streams, this may make houses and buildings fall.

Orphan: a child whose mother or father or both are dead.

Shepherd: someone who takes care of sheep and other animals like cows. Shepherds take their animals to the fields everyday to feed.

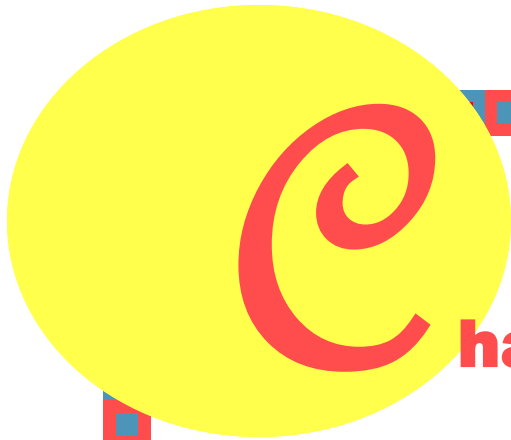
Tribe: relatives living together. Tribes around Mecca lived in the desert, usually in tents.



He took his robe off and placed the black stone on it and asked all the leaders to hold a corner of the robe and slowly move the black stone as it lay on top of the robe to its new place. Everybody was happy for this clever solution.

As time passed, more and more people admired Muhammad for his manners. Khadija, who was a rich women heard of Muhammad and asked if he would work for her. Muhammad did so, and soon they got married and lived very happily together.





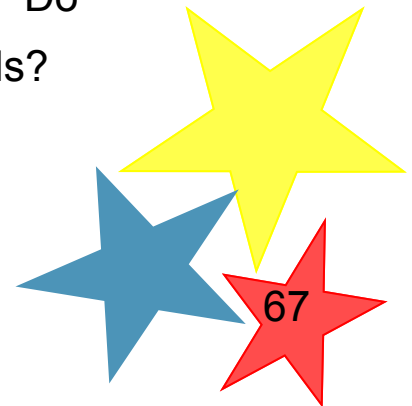
Chapter

8

Zahra and the Angels

Zahra, a six year old girl, was sitting with her father in their living room, she looked out the window and saw a beautiful bird. Zahra said to her father: “I like birds! They have wings and can fly!”

Zahra’s father smiled and asked her: “Do you know who else have wings beside birds? Not just two wings, but four or even six wings.”



“Wow! Six wings! What could that be?” asked Zahra.

“Angels,” said her father. “Allah created angels way before he created us. Before there were any men or women or even children, there were only angels. They worshiped Allah day and night and were always obedient to him and did what Allah asked them to do.”

“Are there many angels?” asked Zahra.

“No one knows exactly how many there are,” said her father.



“But Allah told us of some of them, like angel Jibril who taught Muhammad ﷺ the Quran, and Izrail who when it is time for us to die takes our souls out of our bodies. There is also Munkar and Nakir who ask people who die while in their graves about the good and bad things they did. And Israfil who blows in a loud trumpet on the day of judgment to wake up the dead.”

Zahra was quiet for a while, then she turned to her father and asked, “But can we see any of the angels?”

Quran

Fatr فاطر, aya 1

Praise Allah, the creator of skies and earth. He who sent angels to us as messengers and gave them two, three or even four pair of wings. He adds to His creations as He wishes, for He is most capable.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ فَاطِرِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ جَاعِلِ
الْمَلَائِكَةَ رُسُلًا أُولِي أَجْنِحَةٍ مَّثْنَى وَثُلَاثَ
وَرُبَاعَ يُرِيدُ فِي الْخَلْقِ مَا يَشَاءُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَى كُلِّ
شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ





“Allah allowed some people to see the angels, like prophets or even regular people when Allah wanted to tell people something.”

“But how did they look like?” asked Zahra.

“Many different ways, but mostly, they looked like regular human beings so they wouldn’t scare whoever can see them.”

“Can I see them Baba?” asked Zahra

Words

Jibril, Izrail, Munkar and Naakeer: names of some of the angels Allah created.

Creation: everything around us on earth and in the skies. Everything is created (made) by Allah.

“I don’t think so, but do you know that there are angels right here with us in this room”

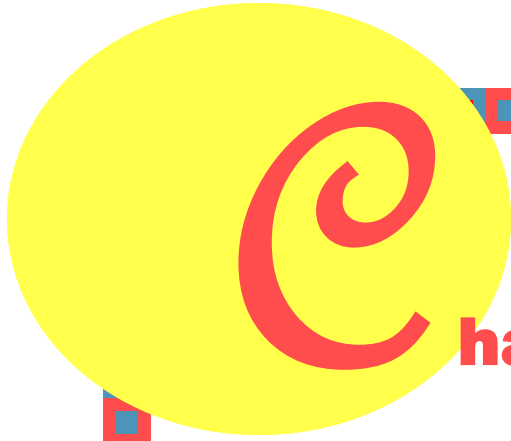
“There are?!” shouted Zahra with her eyes wide open as she looked all around to see the angels.

“Yes!” answered her father, with a smile. “Every person has one angel on each shoulder, the one on the right shoulder tells Allah of the good things we do, and the angel on the left shoulder tells Allah of the bad things we do.”

“Wow, I didn’t know that! That’s neat.”

Remember

- *Allah created angels from light.*
- *Allah created angels before he created people*
- *Angels have wings.*
- *Angel Jibril taught Muhammad the Qur’an.*
- *We have angels on our shoulders and they write what we say and do.*



Chapter

9

How to perform salat الصلاة

El-Iqama الإقامة is recited at the beginning of صلاة

الله اكبر الله اكبر

اشهد ان لا اله الا الله

اشهد ان محمد رسول الله

حي على الصلاة

حي على الفلاح

قد قامت الصلاة، قد قامت الصلاة

الله اكبر الله اكبر

لا اله الا الله



Did you know?

Allah rewards those who pray in groups 27 times more than if each one prayed by him or herself.

Salat is made of parts. Each part is called ruku'a
ركعه.

Altashahud wa altasleem التشهد و التسليم is read after completing two ruku'a and at the end of salat.



First ruku'a



الله اكبر

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ

إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ



وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا

فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا

الله اكبر

ركوع



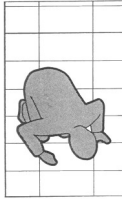
سبحان ربِّ العظيم و بحمده

سبحان ربِّ العظيم و بحمده

سبحان ربِّ العظيم و بحمده



الله اكبر



سجود

سبحان ربِّ الأعلیٰ و بحمده

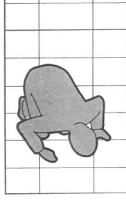
سبحان ربِّ الأعلیٰ و بحمده

سبحان ربِّ الأعلیٰ و بحمده



الله اكبر





سجود

سبحان ربِّ الأعلى و بحمدهِ

سبحان ربِّ الأعلى و بحمدهِ

سبحان ربِّ الأعلى و بحمدهِ

Second ruku'a



الله اكبر

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ
الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ
عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ



قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

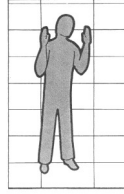
اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

الله اكبر

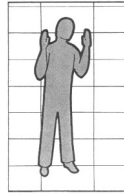
ركوع



سبحان ربّ العظيم و بحمده

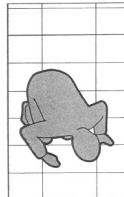
سبحان ربّ العظيم و بحمده

سبحان ربّ العظيم و بحمده



الله اكبر

سجود



سبحان ربّ الأعلى و بحمده

سبحان ربّ الأعلى و بحمده

سبحان ربّ الأعلى و بحمده



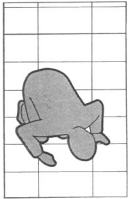
الله اكبر

سجود

سبحان ربِّ الأعلیٰ و بحمده

سبحان ربِّ الأعلیٰ و بحمده

سبحان ربِّ الأعلیٰ و بحمده



التشهد و التسليم Atashahud wa atasleem



التحيات لله و الصلوات و الطيبات

السلام عليك ايها النبي و رحمة الله و بركاته

السلام علينا و على عباد الله الصالحين

اشهد ان لا اله الا الله

و اشهد ان محمد رسول الله

اللهم صلي على محمد و آل محمد

كما صليت على إبراهيم و آل إبراهيم

اللهم بارك على محمد و آل محمد

كما باركت على إبراهيم و آل إبراهيم

في العالمين إنك حميدٌ مجيد


Atasleem التسليم



السلام عليكم و رحمة الله و بركاته
السلام عليكم و رحمة الله و بركاته

Remember

- *The athan calls people for salat.*
- *We say the iqama just before Salat*
- *We start salat by Allahuakber then Alfatiha*
- *We say Subhana Rabya Alathim in Ruku'*
- *We say Subhana Rabya Alala in sujud*



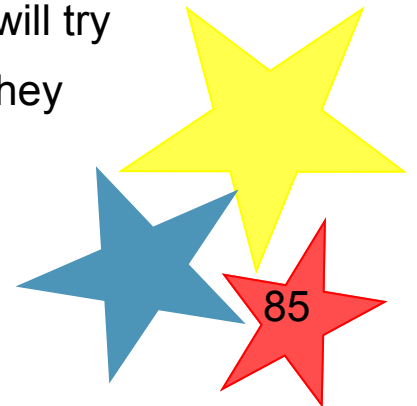
Chapter 10

Help

Mrs. Ahmed, the first grade teacher, told her students that there would be a competition.

“What kind of a competition?” Layla asked.

“We will divide the class into two teams,” answered Mrs. Ahmed. “Then each team will try to learn the spelling of as many words as they can from this list. The team that knows how to spell more words than the other would be the winner.”



Mrs. Ahmed then gave her students the list of words they needed to learn.

“These are a lot of words,” complained Mustafa. “I can’t learn all these words.”

“No, Mustafa,” said Mrs. Ahmed. “You don’t have to learn all the words, but each student should learn five words. This way, the whole team will get to learn all the words on the list.”

“Oh! Now I get it,” said Amra. “So each one will learn five words, this way each team will get to know the whole list.”

“That’s right,” said Mrs. Ahmed. “But remember! You have to help each other learn these words, so that the whole team will know all the words.



Hadith

Student worked hard to learn their words.

The next day, the children in team “A” spent their recess time learning the spelling of their words. They tested each other to see if they all knew their words. Not all the students knew all their words, so they helped each other until they got all the words right.

The kids in team “B” didn’t want to work together. Instead, they learned their words, each on their own and did not practice together.

Believers take care of each other and are kind and merciful to each other. Like a person’s body, when one part hurts, all the body hurts.

" قال رسول الله (صلى الله عليه و سلم): مثل المؤمنين في توادهم و تراحمهم و تعاطفهم مثل الجسد إذا اشتكى منه عضوٌ تداعى له سائر الجسد بالسَّهر و الحمى ".





Few days later Mrs. Ahmed said to her students, “Okay, it’s time for the competition!”

The children were all excited and Mrs. Ahmed started to ask the students the spelling of words from the list. Team “A” did very well, they spelled everything correctly, but the kids in team “B” did not do that well. After few minutes it was clear that team “A” was the winner.

“It’s not fair,” said Hamza from team B.

“Oh no Hamza, it is very fair” said Mrs. Ahmed. “You all studied hard, but team “A” helped each other, and by doing so they made sure they all knew their words. Helping each other made them a better team.”

The children were quiet, then Mrs. Ahmed continued “If all of you stick together and help each other you can do so much better than if you do things all on your own. This way if someone needs help, they can get it from the others. People are like one body, if any part of it hurts, the rest of the body cannot work right. This is what Prophet Muhammad ﷺ had taught us when he said: “The believers in taking care of each other are like a body, if one part does not feel well, all the rest of the body will be ill.”

Remember

- *Believers take care of each other*
- *Believers are kind and merciful to each other.*
- *Muslims are like a person's body, when one part hurts, all the body hurts*
- *To win, we must work together.*
- *Working alone is hard, but working together makes things easy.*



“Oh!” said Hamza “You mean just like when we get a cold, it is not just our throat which hurt, but we also have fever and feel tired all over.”

“That’s right, Hamza!”



Words

Competition: race such as running or spelling bee. People in a competition try to win the race.

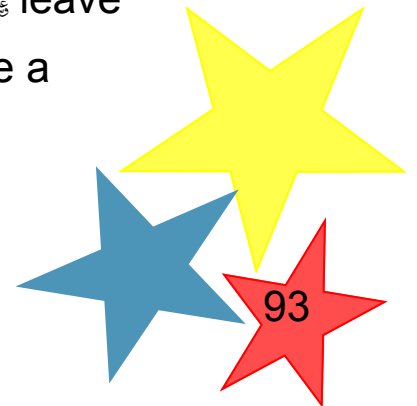
Believers: People who believe in something. In Islam, believers are those who believe in Allah (God).



Chapter 11

الفلق Alfalaq

In Mecca, when Islam was just spreading, many of the leaders of Mecca were non-believers. They did not want to join Islam, because they were afraid that they will no longer be the leaders and masters of Mecca. In the beginning they tried to make the Prophet ﷺ leave Islam and they even offered him to become a king. But the Prophet did not stop spreading the word of Allah ﷻ.





So the non-believers of Mecca decided to hurt the Prophet and his followers. This sura and surat Annas (114) was revealed by Allah ﷻ to help Muslims avoid the bad influence of people and jinn

who might try and make Muslims disobey Allah. These two suras, also known as “the two protectors”, can be recited whenever bad thoughts occur to someone. Bad thoughts may come from a person or jinn, even though we cannot see them.

Did you know?

The Holy Quran never changed over time ever since it was revealed to Muhammad ﷺ.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of dawn

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ

2. From the mischief of all what He had created

مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ

3. From the mischief of darkness when it spreads

وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ إِذَا وَقَبَ

4. From the mischief of those who practice black magic

وَمِنْ شَرِّ النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ

5. And from the mischief of enviers as they envy

وَمِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ

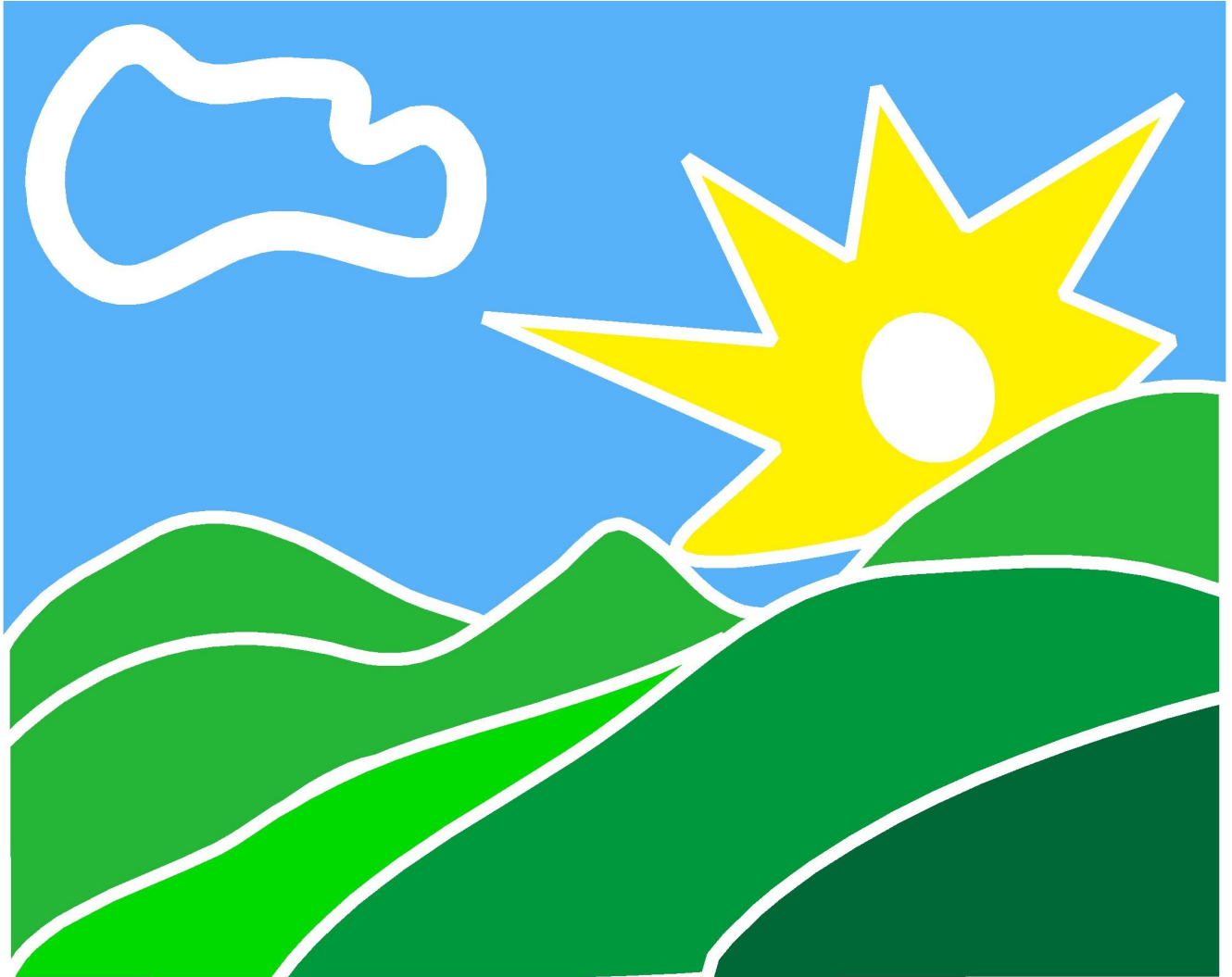
Remember

- *Allah ﷻ protects believers from evil, just like he protected Muslims before.*
- *Reciting surat Alfalaq protect Muslims from evil people and jinn..*
- *Allah ﷻ is one.*
- *Allah has no parents or children.*
- *There is no one as great as Allah.*

الأخلاق Alikhlas

Allah ﷻ is one. He has no partners, no children and no parents. He created us and everything else.

Some people think that there is more than one god, or God may appear in different shapes, these people are wrong. Some people do not even believe that there is God, they also are wrong. Allah is there, always was there and always will be there. He created everything, the suns, planets and every thing on them. And after we die we will go back and be judged by him.



Those of us who believe in him and follow His rules go to His jenna (paradise) and those who did not believe in him and disobeyed him go to jahanam (Hellfire).

Words

Dawn: *very early in the morning when the night changes to day.*

Enviars: *people who feel jealous.*

Evil: *bad.*

Mischief: *doing wrong or bad.*

Seek refuge: *go to get help or be safe.*

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Say: Allah is One

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

2. He is self sufficient

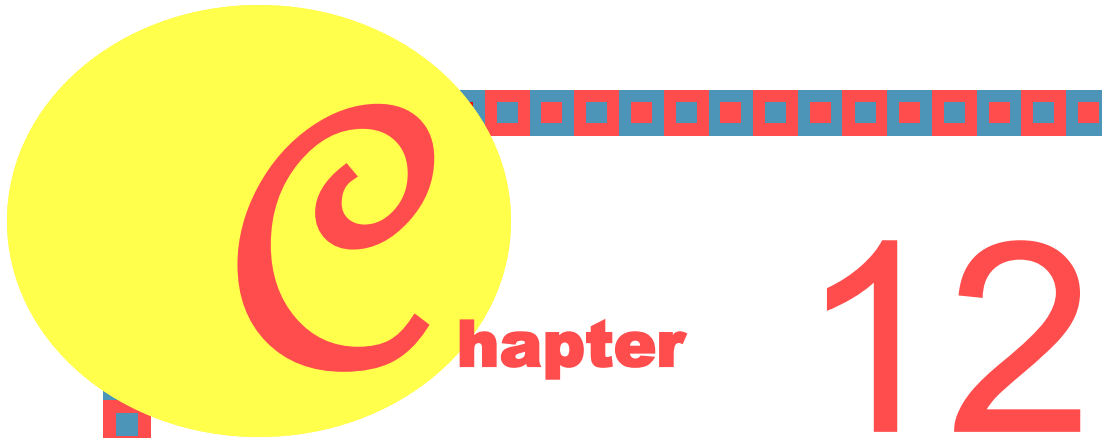
اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ

3. He gave no offspring and was not a descendant of anyone

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

4. And there is no one equal to him

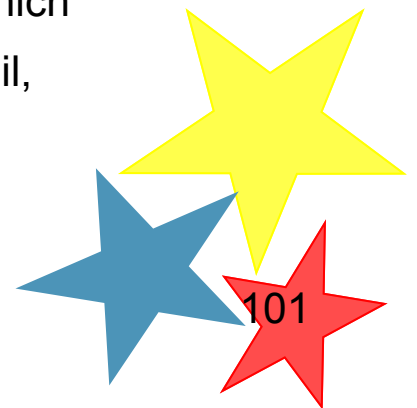
وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ



Chapter 12

Beginning of a Message

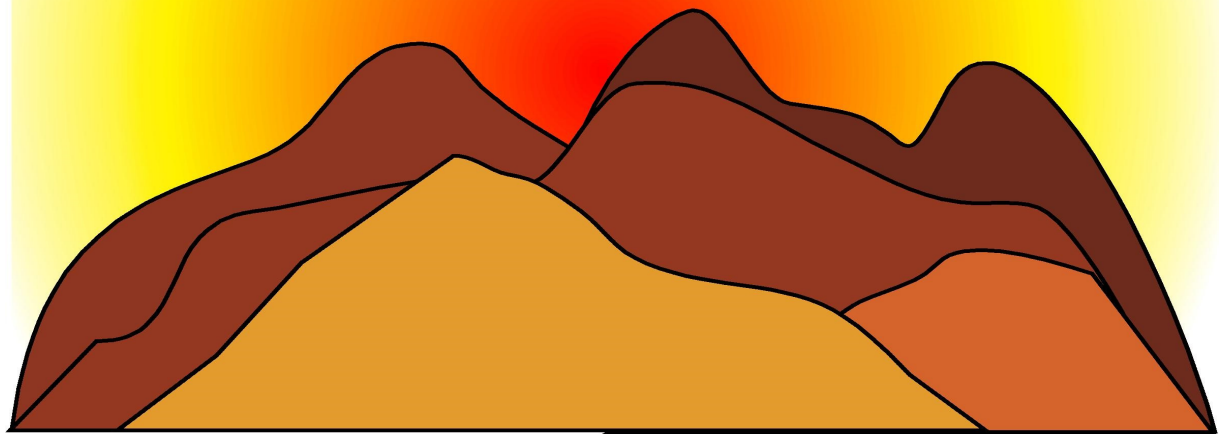
Muhammad ﷺ was happy. His wife was a lovely lady, they had beautiful children and their business was doing well. One thing though bothered him. He did not like the way people worshiped. The people in Mecca and all around it forgot the teachings of Allah ﷻ which were taught by prophets like Ibrahim, Ismail, Musa and Isa.



The people of Mecca made statues from clay, stone or wood and said that these were gods who would protect them. This did not make any sense to Muhammad, so he never worshiped the way most people did. Instead, he would go to the mountains around Mecca and stay in a cave thinking about Allah ﷻ, the one and only one creator.

One day, while Muhammad ﷺ was in the cave he heard a voice calling him.

“Read!” the voice said.

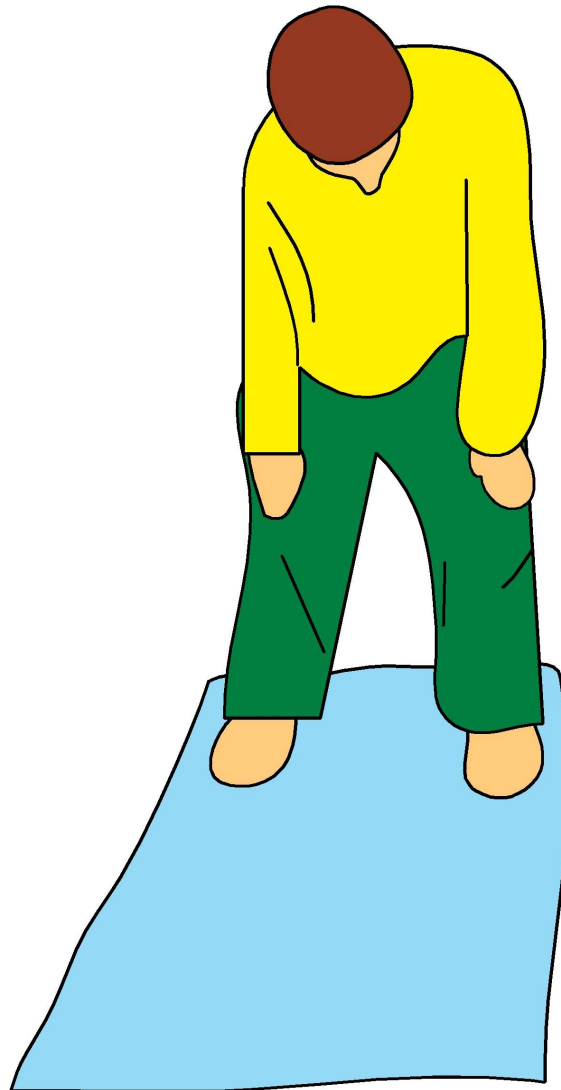


Muhammad was scared “I cannot read,” he replied, since he did not learn how to read or write.

“Read!” the loud voice would say again.

“But, I cannot read,” Muhammad ﷺ would say again.

This was Angel Jibril ﷺ who then revealed to the Prophet the first ayat from the Quran.



Quran

Alaqa العلق اya 1

*Read in the name of your Lord
who created you.*

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ

The Prophet was very scared and as he left the cave he saw in the sky Angel Jibril so large he filled the whole sky. Angel Jibril told the Prophet as he got out of the cave that he was Jibril and that he, Muhammad will be the new messenger of Allah to people.

The Prophet went to his wife Khadija and told her about what had happened. Khadija had an old relative who had studied religions and became a Christian; his name was Waraqa bin Naufal. Waraqa told Khadija that this is how Allah ﷻ talks to people, through his angels.

Waraqah also told the prophet ﷺ that people in Mecca will most probably give him a hard time because this is what happens when Allah ﷻ sends a new messenger to people.

After sometime, Angel Jibril ﷺ visited the prophet ﷺ frequently and recited the Quran to him a few ayat at a time. The prophet told his relatives and friends about this new religion.

Words

***Worship:** pray.*

***Cave:** a hole in the side of a mountain.*

***Christian:** people who believe in God and follow the teachings of prophet Isa (Jesus).*

***Ayat:** pleural (many) of aya, a verse or a sentence from the Quran.*

***Torture:** hurt someone badly.*

Remember

- *Muhammad ﷺ did not worship idols, even before he became a prophet.*
- *The first person to learn about Islam after the Prophet was his wife Khadija.*
- *People believed in the Muhammad because he never lied to them before.*

People knew that Muhammad was an honest man who would never lie and because of this, many believed in him, especially when they got to hear the Quran and knew for sure that these were not words of people, but words that only Allah could say.

But the more people believed in Islam, the more the Masters of Mecca got mad at the prophet and Muslims. Those masters of Mecca did not want to believe in Islam because it would force them to stop the many bad things they did, so they made fun of Muslims and when that did not stop Islam from spreading they started to hurt Muslims and torture them.



Chapter

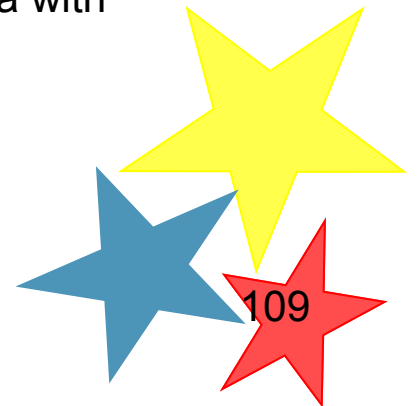
13

Hanan, Fatima and the Messengers of Allah

“Adam, Nooh, Ibrahim, Ismail, Musa, Isa and Muhammad,” said Hanan to her sister Fatima.

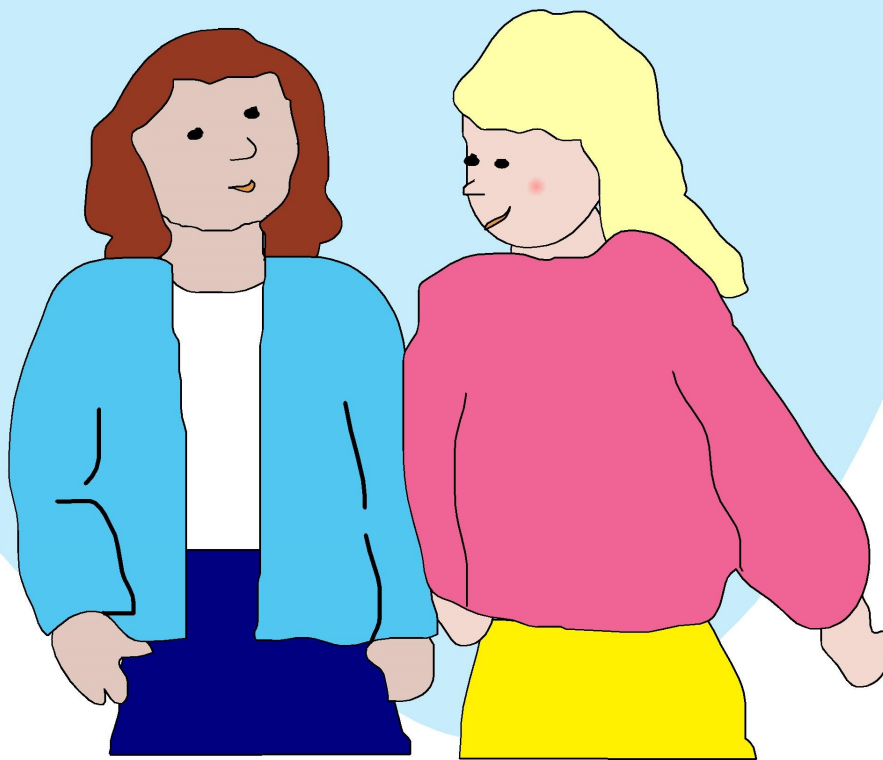
“What did you just say?” asked Fatima with a puzzled look.

“Adam, Nooh, Ibrahim, Ismail, Musa, Isa and Muhammad,” repeated Hanan.



“Who are those people?” asked Fatima.

“They are the prophets of Allah. Don’t you know anything?”
said Hanan with annoyance.



Quran

“You are being mean, Hanan and I am telling Mama on you!” replied Fatima as she turned around and ran out of the room calling her mother, “Mama! Mama! Hanan is being mean to me; she says I don’t know anything.”

“Now, now Hanan, I am sure she didn’t mean it” said her mother, then turned towards the door and said to Hanan as she was entering the room, “You must not be mean to your sister Hanan.”

Alnahl النحل, aya 125


Call people to Allah with wisdom and compassion and teach them with kind words. Your Lord knows those who did not follow the right path and those who did.

ادْعُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّكَ بِالْحِكْمَةِ وَالْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ وَجَادِهِمْ
بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنْ ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ
وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ



Did you know?

Muslims live in every continent and in almost every country of the world.



“But she doesn’t know anything! She doesn’t even know who Adam, Nooh, Ibrahim, Ismail, Musa, Isa and Muhammad are!” said Hanan.

“And do you know who they are?” asked her mother.

“Of course I do Mama!” said Hanan with confidence. “They are the prophets of Allah; He sent them to teach us things.”

“What kind of things?” asked her mother.

“You don’t know?” Hanan asked her mother with a surprised look.

“No,” said the mother. “I do know, but I want to see what you know.”

“Well!” Hanan said with all the confidence in the world. “They are people who Allah sent his angels to, so they can tell people about Allah and teach us how he made us and made everything around us and to teach us how to be nice to each other and stuff like that.”

“That’s great!” said her mother “I am really proud of you, so it is wrong to be mean to others. Right?” asked her mother

Hanan looked at her mother; she knew what her mother was getting at.

Words

Confidence: *being sure of something.*

Wisdom: *being smart.*

Compassion: *doing something with care and love.*

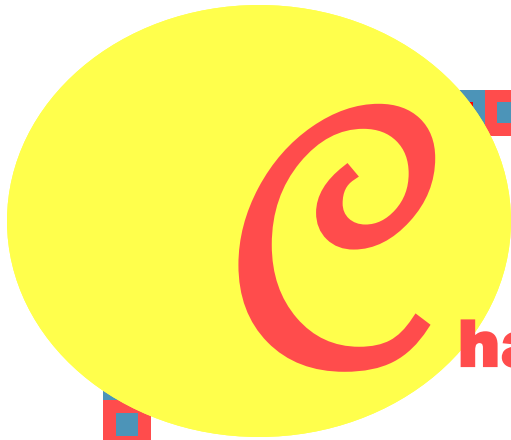
Path: *road or way, following the right path means doing the right way.*

Remember

- *Muslims must teach others about Islam.*
- *Muslims must be nice when teaching others, people will listen to those who talk nicely. Nobody wants to be around people who make fun of others.*
- *The Prophet ﷺ was always kind and gentle when he talked to people.*

“I am sorry Mama, I am sorry Fatima,” apologized Hanan to her sister. “The prophets were always nice to people and they taught us all about Allah and good manners in a nice way, not in a mean way. Why don’t you come with me Fatima,” added Hanan as she pulled her sister from her hand. “I’ll tell you all about the prophets of Allah and what they did.”

Fatima was very excited as she left the room with her sister.



Chapter

14

Layla's first time fasting

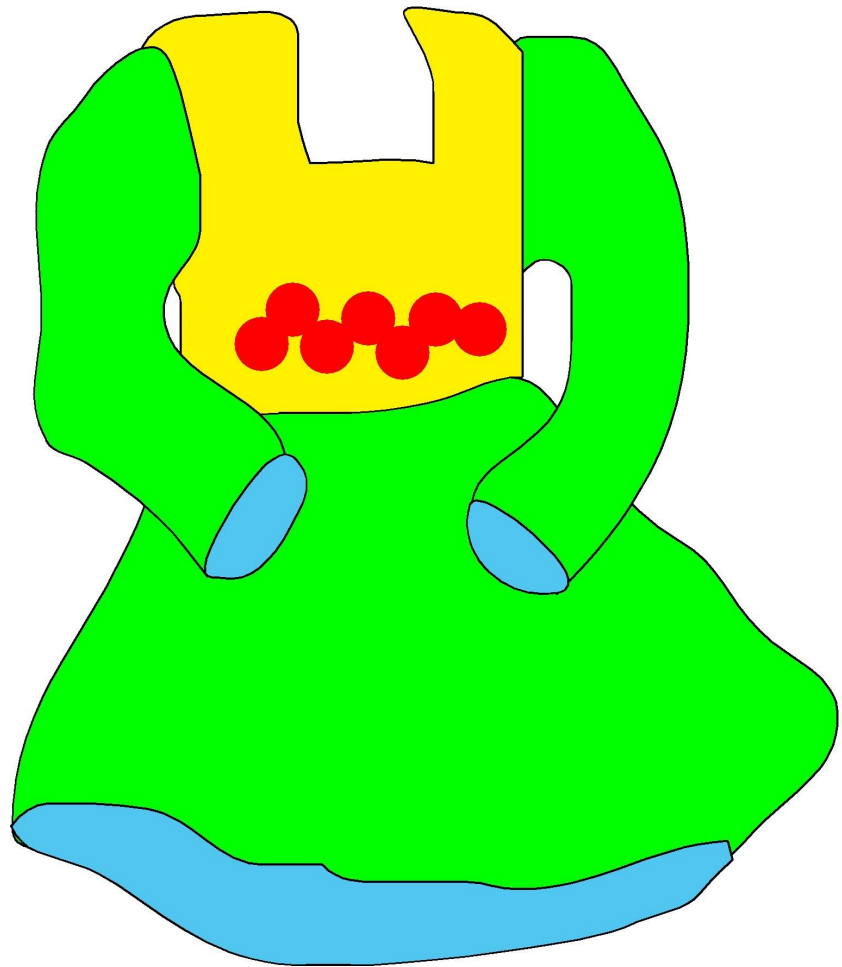
One day, Layla went with her mother to do some shopping. They were going to get a new dress for Layla for Eid Elfitr. Layla was very excited because this was the first Ramadan she was able to fast. She fasted during the schooldays, but skipped the weekends.

Somehow it was easier to fast during the week, maybe because a lot of her friends fasted at school and the day went by quickly.



Today, Layla was fasting and even though it was a weekend, she was not feeling hungry at all. Layla was thinking of the new dress and shoes she would be buying with her mother that day.

Once Layla and her mother were in the store, they got into the elevator to go to the children's section. There was a nice lady who was with them in the elevator, standing right next to Layla.



“Are you helping your mom shop today?” The lady asked Layla.

“I am getting a new dress and shoes today!” Layla announced.

“Wow! That must be exciting,” said the lady and then she pulled out candy from her coat pocket and offered it to Layla “Would you like to have this candy?” The lady asked.



Words

***Delicious:** tastes good.*

***Fasting:** to stop eating for an amount of time.*

***Patient:** not get upset when something is hard or takes long time.*

***Faith:** belief in something, in Islam to have faith is to believe in Allah and his teachings.*

***Submit:** trust Allah that he will do what is good for you.*

Quran

Albakara البقرة, aya 45

*Be patient and pray to Allah.
Being patient is difficult to do, except
for those who have faith in Allah and
submit to him.*

وَاسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ وَإِنَّهَا لَكَبِيرَةٌ إِلَّا عَلَى
الْحَاشِعِينَ

Layla did not know what to say or do. The candy looked very delicious, it was her favorite kind and her stomach was making all sort of hungry noises. She put out her hands to take the candy, but then remembered that she was fasting.

“Thank you,” said Layla.

“But I can’t have it, I am

fasting today.”

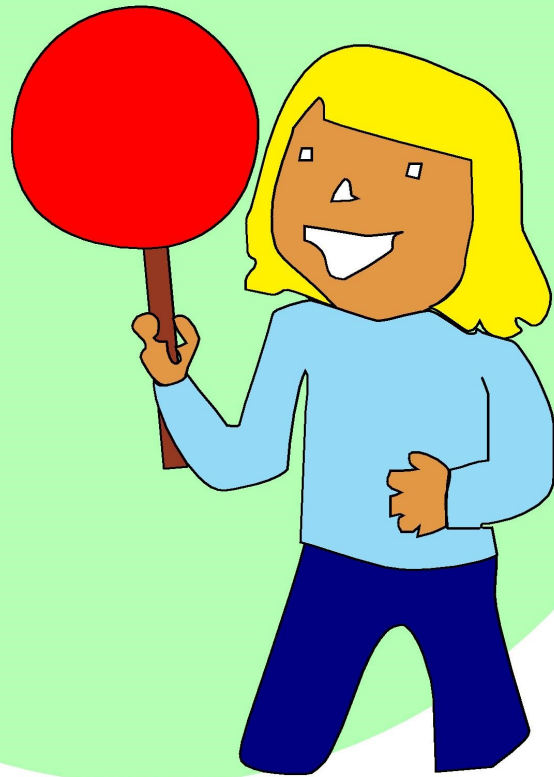
The lady looked surprised for a moment, but then the mother explained to the lady. “We are Muslims and this is Ramadan, our fasting month. This is the first time Layla is fasting and she is doing a wonderful job.”

“That’s great!” said the lady “Why don’t you take this candy and eat it after you break your fast?”

Layla was all excited. “Thank you!” She said as she took the candy from the lady and put it in her pocket.

“When will you break your fast?” asked the lady.

“We start fasting when the sun rises in the morning and then we eat when the sun sets,” said Layla. Then continued, “We also have to be nice to others and not lie or do anything bad. And we get to do special prayers at night called Taraweeh ,and at the end of the month we have a holiday called Eid Elfitr.”



Remember

- *Being patient means working hard to get something special.*
- *If we give up when things get hard, we will not get what we want .*
- *Fasting teaches Muslims to be patient. Allah ﷻ will reward us for fasting.*

The lady smiled at Layla and said to her mother, “You have a special one there!” Then she wished Layla and her mother a happy holiday as they left the elevator.





Chapter 15

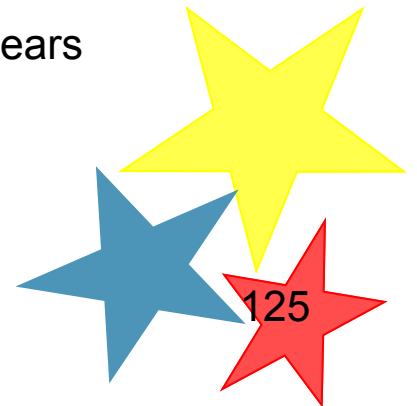
Muslims are like one body

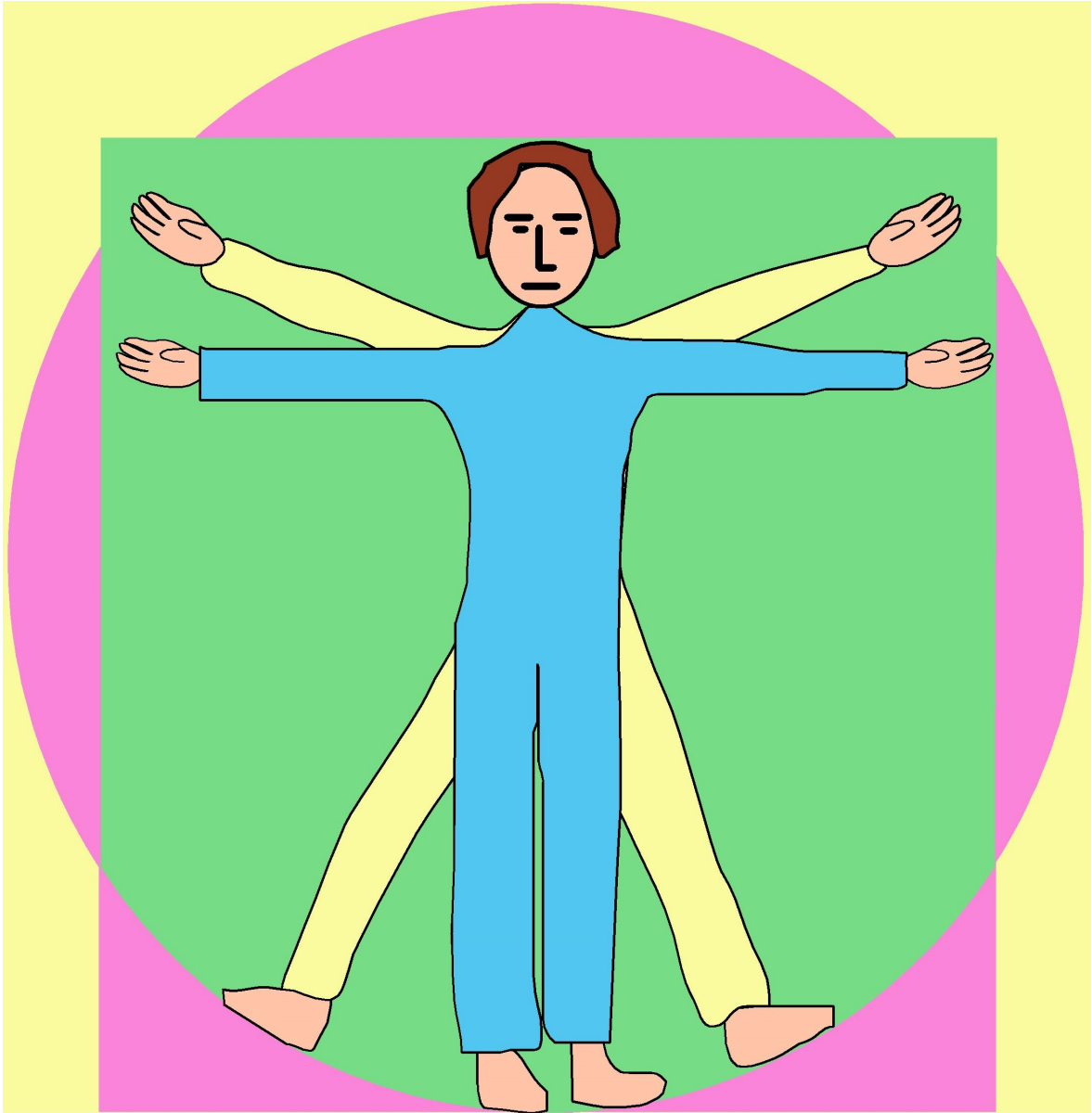
Ahmed ran into the house calling for his mother, “Mama! Mama!” he yelled.

His mother heard Ahmed’s call and ran towards him.

“What’s wrong, son?” she asked anxiously.

“I fell and cut my hand!” he said with tears running down his cheeks.





“Let me see that hand,” said his mother as she held his hand in hers.

Ahmed’s mother cleaned the wound and put medicine and a bandage over it. Ahmed was already feeling better, but his hand and arm still hurt and he could not move them well.

“Mama! How come I can’t move my arm when the cut is just in my hand?” Ahmed asked.

“It’s because your arm is protecting your hand. When one part of the body hurts, the others take care of it.”

Quran

Alhujurat الحجرات, aya 10

Believers are brothers and sisters to each other

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ





“Oh yeah!” Said Ahmed “That’s what our teacher told us last week. Muslims are like one body, if one part hurts all the others feel the pain, which means if one Muslim hurts all other Muslims will feel his pain and try to help.”

“That’s right Ahmed!” said his mother. “This way if we feel bad, we don’t have to worry because we know that there will always be someone to help.”



Words

Anxiously: with a lot of concern or worry.

Pit: a hole in the ground.

Signs: guides which tell us where to go.

Quran

Surat Al-Imran عمران آل, aya 103

Hold on to each other, be one and do not separate and remember the things which Allah has given you and how he made you close together like brothers, when you were enemies before. As if you were at the edge of a pit in the ground with fire in it and you were about to fall into it, but Allah made you brothers and saved you from falling into the pit. Allah shows you his signs so that you would find the right path

وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا وَاذْكُرُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءَ فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ
قُلُوبِكُمْ فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَىٰ شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِّنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُم مِّنْهَا كَذَلِكَ
يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُم آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ

Remember

- *Muslims are strong if they are together, but weak if each one goes his own way.*
- *To be together is like being one body, one part takes care of the other parts.*
- *Allah ﷻ brings people together with Islam.*

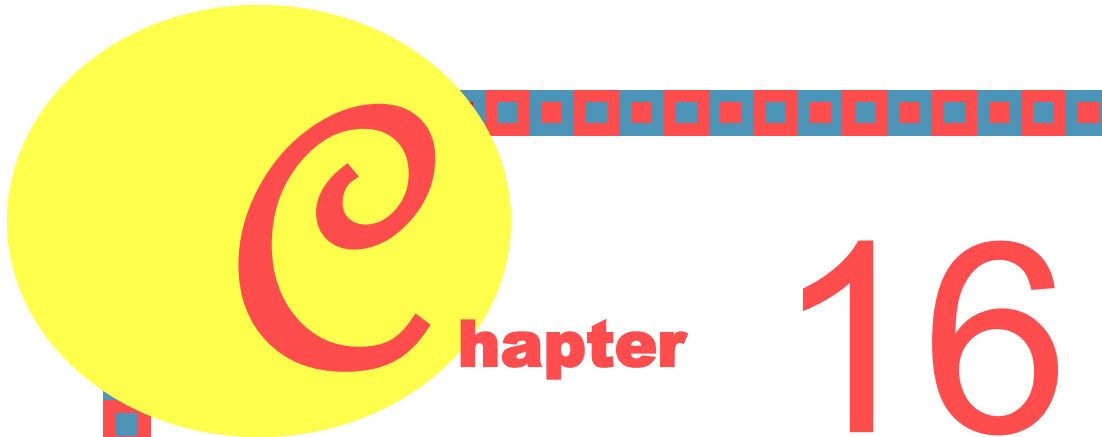
Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“Believers should care for each other just like the different parts of our bodies care for each other, if one part hurts; the rest of the body will be sick and feel the pain until the hurting goes away.”

Prophet Muhammad also said:

“Believers are like the bricks of one building, they stick together to form a strong building.”

The Quran also teaches us the importance of helping each other.

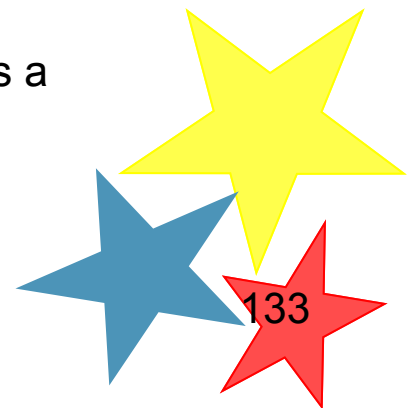


Chapter 16

Allahab الّٰهَب

In this sura Allah ﷻ curses Abulahab, the evil uncle of prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Abulahab was the only person from the non-believers to be cursed by name. There were many other evil non-believers who hurt prophet Muhammad very badly, especially in the first few years of Islam, but Abulahab was one of the worse.

To be cursed by name in the Qur'an is a horrible punishment to any person.



This meant that Allah ﷻ was very upset with Abulahab, even though he was an uncle to the Prophet.

What horrible thing did Abulahab do to deserve such shame?

A long time ago, in the time of the Prophet ﷺ, there was no police to protect people. Instead, each person was protected by his own family and relatives. Nobody dared to hurt somebody because they would be afraid that the family and relatives of the person hurt would be angry and take revenge for their hurt relative.

Did you know?

The teachings of Prophet Muhammad are collected in what is known as Hadith, no words or teachings of the prophet ﷺ are in the Quran. The Quran includes only the words of God.

When Islam was new, the non-believers did not want it to spread and they wished that they could hurt or kill the Prophet, but they were afraid to do so since the prophet had a strong family. All family members of the Prophet worked hard to protect him, even though many of them did not become Muslim. They did so because it was the right thing to do back then. The only exception was Abulahab who joined the non-believers. He made fun of his nephew, hurt and attacked him. This was very dangerous, because it only encouraged the non-believers to dare to hurt the Prophet, too.



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Perish the hands of Abulahab
and perish he

تَبَّتْ يَدَا أَبِي هَبٍ وَتَبَّ

2. All His wealth and earnings will
not protect him

مَا أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ

3. Soon He shall be torched in a
flaming fire

سَيَصْلَىٰ نَارًا ذَاتَ هَبٍ

4. And his wife, the carrier of
crackling wood fire,

وَأَمْرَأَتُهُ حَمَّالَةَ الْحَطَبِ

5. Around her neck will be a rope
of palm-leave fiber

فِي جِيدِهَا حَبْلٌ مِّن مَّسَدٍ

Annasr النصر

This was the last sura to be revealed as a complete sura. The Prophet ﷺ received it during the farewell hajj just before his death. When this sura was revealed to the Prophet he knew that he would be dying soon. His daughter Fatima was very saddened when she heard that, but the Prophet told her that she would die soon after he did and join him, this made her happy.

Words

Non-believers: those who do not believe in Allah.

Cursed: evil people who will go to Hellfire.

Perish: destroy, ruin.

Crackling: the noise made by wood when on fire.

Glorify: make big and important, to glorify Allah is to pray for him..

Repentance: ask for forgiveness..



Allah ﷻ teaches Muslims in this sura of how to behave when Allah gives them victory. A Muslim should not jump up and down in joy when he or she gets what they want, instead we should thank our Lord for the success and victory He gave us.

Remember

- *Abulhab was the evil uncle of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.*
- *When Islam was new, non-believers hurt Muhammad and Muslims*
- *Abulhab helped non-believers to hurt his nephew Muhammad ﷺ.*
- *When the prophet told Fatima that she would die soon after he would and join him, she was happy.*
- *The last sura revealed to the Prophet ﷺ was surat Alnasr.*

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. When the help and victory of Allah comes

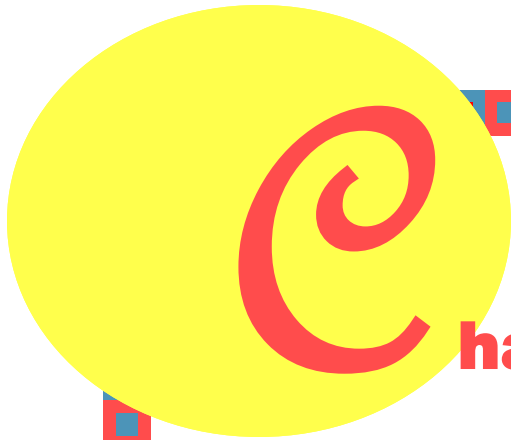
إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ

2. And you see the people join the religion of Allah in crowds

وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا

3. Then, glorify your Lord and ask for His forgiveness. Surely He is always ready to accept repentance

فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا

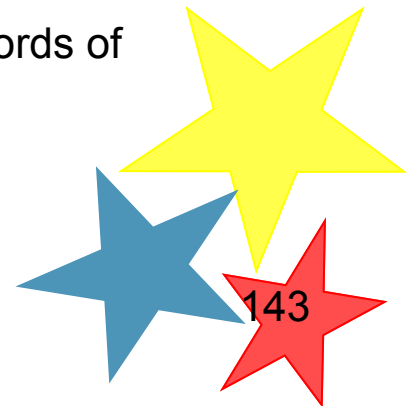


Chapter

17

Islam Spreads in Mecca

The people of Mecca always knew that Muhammad ﷺ was an honest man and they knew he never lied. So when people heard about Islam, many believed the Prophet, especially when they heard the verses of the Quran revealed to the Prophet. The words of the Quran were beautiful and spoke the truth. People in Mecca could tell that these were not the words of a man; especially that Muhammad did not know how to read or write.





He was not a poet who knew how to come up with beautiful verses such as those of the Quran. People could tell that the Quran was a revelation from God.

The masters of Mecca did not like the new message. Islam was asking them to do things such as always tell the truth, be honest, help the poor and treat others well. The non-believers did not want to change their ways. Instead, they wanted to keep their money to themselves and not share what Allah had given them. That is why they did not want Islam to spread.

The Muslims suffered a lot from the non-believers. After many years of being treated poorly by the non-believers, the Prophet ﷺ asked Muslims to leave Mecca and go to another city called Yathrub. This city later was named Medina. The people of Medina came to the Prophet when he was still in Mecca and asked him if he would like to come and live with them, in their own city.

The Prophet's own uncle Abu Talib and his wife Khadija died because of the hard times that the non-believers made Muslims go through. The Prophet knew that Muslims would do better in Medina, far away from Mecca and its masters.



The Muslims left Mecca gradually until very few were left, such as the prophet, his friend Abu-Bakr and his cousin Ali ﷺ.

Then, one night, the Prophet and Abu-Bakr left Mecca without anybody knowing. The Prophet knew that the masters of Mecca would kill him if they knew that he was leaving. Ali, Muhammad's cousin laid in the Prophet's bed to fool the non-believers, so no one would know that Muhammad had left Mecca.

Quran

Surat Al-hijr الحجر , aya 9

We have sent down the Quran, the message of Allah, and We shall protect it.

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ





That same night, the non-believers decided to kill the Prophet ﷺ. They sent their strongest young men to Muhammad's house to kill him. But Allah ﷻ protected the Prophet and he was able to leave with his friend Abu-Bakr without anyone seeing them.

Words

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَتَعَالَى: *glory be to Allah.*

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: *peace be upon him, used to make blessing for prophet Muhammad.*

رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ: *may Allah be pleased with him, used to make blessings for the Prophet's companions.*

عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام: *Peace be upon him, used to make blessings for the prophets.*

Finally, when the non-believers got to Muhammad's house they discovered that the person sleeping in his bed was his cousin Ali and not the Prophet. This was a very brave thing for Ali to do.

This made Mecca's masters very angry because they were fooled and so they put up a reward for whoever went after the prophet in the desert and brought him back to Mecca, dead or alive!

Again, Allah showered his mercy on the Prophet ﷺ and his companion and they were not seen by the non-believers, although at one point they were very close to being caught.

Remember

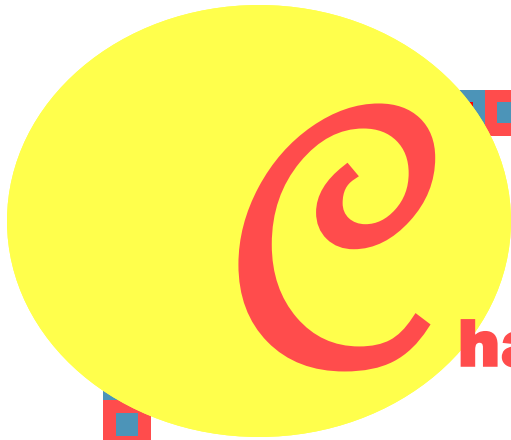
- Allah ﷻ told Muslims to leave Mecca and go to Medina to protect their religion.
- Muslims lost everything when leaving Mecca.
- Muhammad ﷺ left Mecca with his friend Abu-Bakr.
- Ali slept in the Prophet's bed to fool the nonbelievers.



Muhammad and Abu-Bakr were hiding in a cave in the middle of the desert. The non-believers were coming close to the cave when Allah ﷻ ordered a spider to weave a web over the cave's entrance and a pigeon to build a nest. The non-believers arrived at the cave's entrance and were about to get in and for sure they would have seen the Prophet, but just before they got in they saw the spider's web and the pigeon's nest and they thought that there is no way that anybody could be in that cave since anyone entering the cave would have disturbed the spider's web and the pigeon's nest. The non-believers never suspected that this was a trick by Allah ﷻ to fool them. The non-believers turned around and went to search elsewhere and the Prophet ﷺ and Abu-Bakr were saved. The prophet and his companion finished their journey safely to Medina and were greeted

by the people of Medina and Muslims who got there before the Prophet. Everybody was very happy.





Chapter

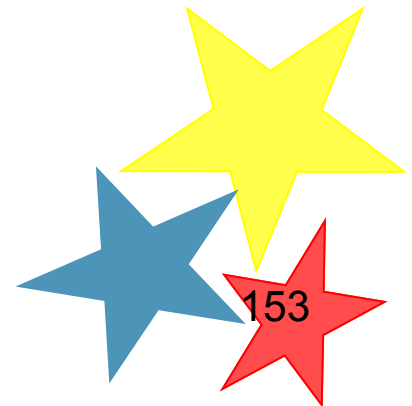
18

Quran and other Holy books

Once upon a time, there were two close friends, Muhammad and Majid. Muhammad was 12 years old, Majid was younger, he was 8 years old. One day Muhammad went to play with Majid. Muhammad found Majid sitting on a tree log reading a book.

“Assalamu alaikum Majid! What are you reading?” asked Muhammad.

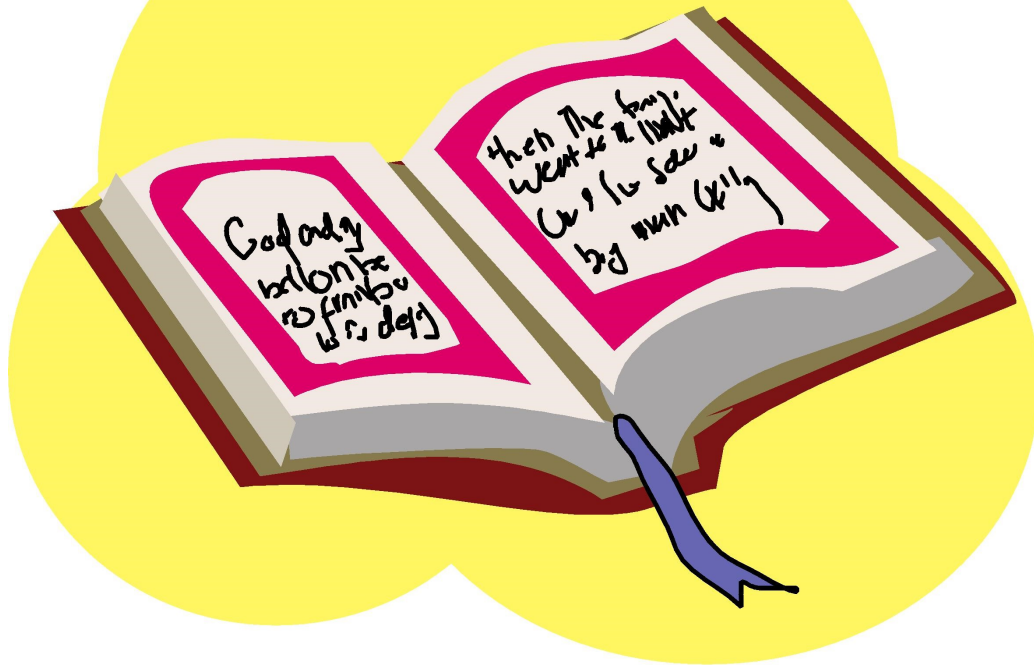
“It’s the Bible,” answered Majid.



“How come you’re reading the Bible?”

“Muslims are supposed to believe in all the books Allah revealed to his prophets, like the Bible, Torah and Psalms” said Majid.

“That’s true,” said Muhammad. “Muslims should believe in all books of Allah and treat people who believe in these books with respect because they believe in the same God.



Allah also revealed the Quran to prophet Muhammad ﷺ which includes the teachings of Allah ﷻ. The teachings of the Quran include what was revealed before in other holy books, but in addition it shows us how to live and act in this world. It is the final book which Allah will reveal because the commands in it are good for all people and for all times.”

Majid thought for a while, then said, “So the Quran is the most complete of all Allah’s books.”

“Yes,” said Muhammad. “And on top of that, the Quran is the only book of Allah which is still exactly the same way as it was revealed by Allah, nothing in it has changed, not even one word.”


Quran

Al-hijr الحجر , aya 9

We have sent down the Quran, the message of Allah, and We shall protect it.

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ





Then added, “The other books of Allah were meant to be for the people back then, and people afterwards changed a lot of things in these books.”

“How come the Quran was never changed?” asked Majid.

“Because Allah had promised in the Quran that it would always be the same, so people many, many years later can still have the chance to be good Muslims by following the teachings of the Quran.”

Words

Quran: *the holly book for Muslims, God sent the words of the Quran through angel Jibril to prophet Muhammad ﷺ.*

Bible: *the holly book for Christians, it contains the story of prophet Jesus ﷺ and the teachings of Allah.*

Torah: *the holly book for Jews, it contains the teachings sent by Allah to prophet Moses ﷺ.*

“That’s great. I better return this Bible to the library, and from now on I am sticking to the Quran!” said Majid, and then asked, “How come you know all that stuff Muhammad?”

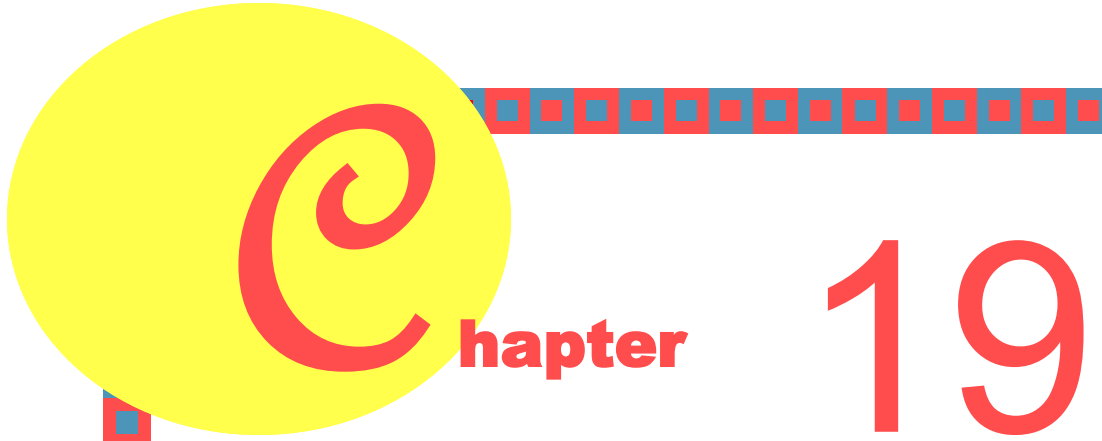
“Oh that’s easy,” said Muhammad trying to sound like a grown up. “You’ll learn all of that and some more at school.”

Majid and Muhammad then went to work on the tree house they were building behind Majid’s house.



Remember

- *The Qur'an, Bible and Torah are books of Allah*
- *Muslims believe in all books of Allah.*
- *Allah would like us to follow the Qur'an*
- *The Bible and Torah changed from what Allah originally sent.*
- *Allah promised to protect the Qur'an from any change.*



Chapter 19

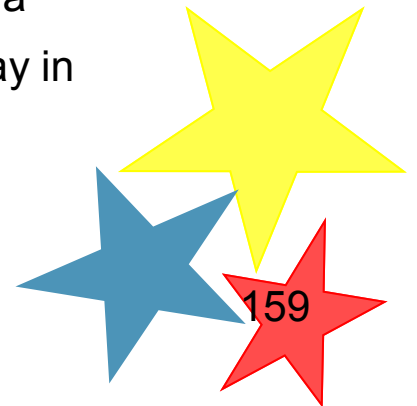
Zakat الزكاة

One day Amar entered his father's office room at home. His father was busy writing on a piece of paper. He was writing down numbers and adding them up.

"What are you doing Baba?" asked Amar. "Do you have homework?"

"Don't be silly!" his father replied with a smile. "I am seeing how much I have to pay in Zakat this year."

"Zakat! What's that?" asked Amar.

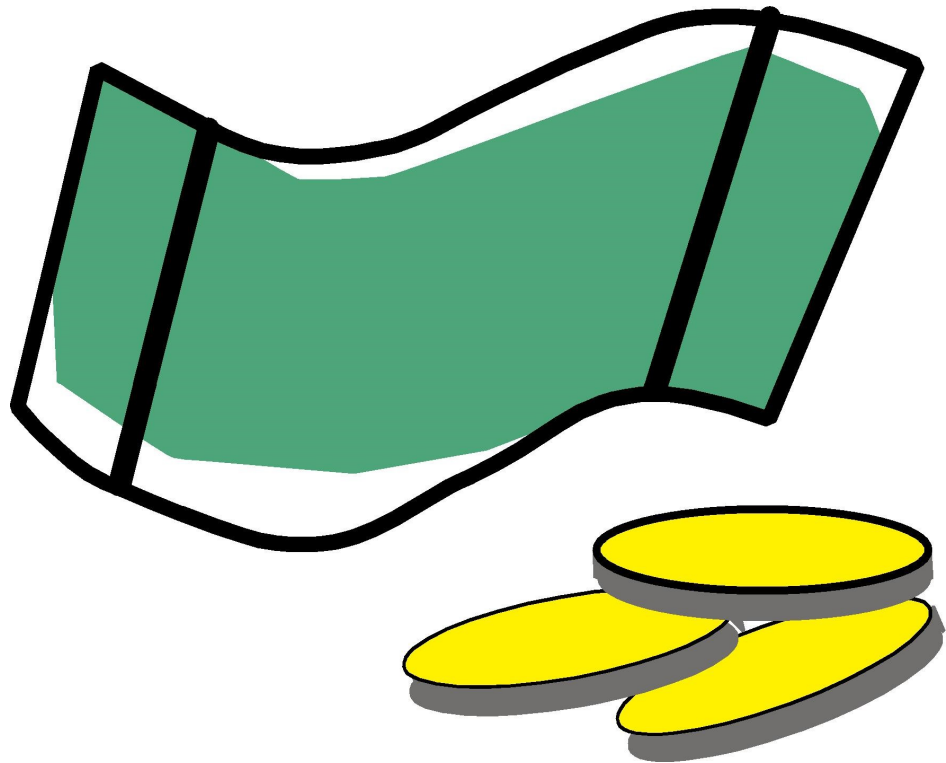


“Zakat is money a Muslim has to pay every year to those who need it.”

“I need money to buy a new bike; can you give it to me?” asked Amar with a hopeful look on his face.

“No Amar” said the father gently. “You would like to buy a new bike, but you really don’t *need* a new one. Besides, there are only special people who this money should be given to.”

“Oh!” said Amar, disappointed.



“Would you like to know who those people are?”
His father asked.

“I guess so,” said Amar, still feeling sorry that he would not be getting a new bike.

“Zakat money should go to those who are in need, like the poor. Also to those who would be better Muslims if they are helped with money, and there are those who borrowed money and cannot pay back, those who work for Allah’s sake, those who are traveling and run out of money, and finally those who work on collecting the money and giving it to those who need it. Also, if there are ever slaves, then Zakat money could be used to free them from slavery.”

“Why should we give money to make people better Muslims?” asked Amar.





“Those are not just any Muslims Amar,” answered his father.

“Those are Muslims who don’t believe strongly in Allah. Maybe they became Muslims because their

parents or their children became Muslims and they became Muslims also just to be the same as their family without really believing in Allah and Islam. So this money would help them feel good about their choice of becoming Muslims, and in time in-sha’a-Allah they would have stronger iman.

“How about slaves, Baba?” asked Amar.

“There were many slaves before Islam came. Allah made people free slaves every time they did something wrong or wanted to do something good such as paying Zakat. Before you knew it, there were no more slaves.”

“Should I also pay zakat?” asked Amar.

Words

Zakat: to make pure or clean, also used to mean the money we pay those in need to make our money pure.

Borrowed: to borrow is to ask someone to give you money, also called loan.

Slaves: people who are not free, they are owned by other people. Slavery (owning people) is no longer allowed in the world.

Iman: faith, belief in God.

Remember

- *Zakaat is money Muslims must give if they have money saved for one whole year.*
- *Zakaat is given to:*
 - *Those with weak Islam.*
 - *People far away from their home, without money.*
 - *People collecting and giving away Zakaat.*
 - *To free slaves*

“Zakat is paid only on the extra money one has. So if you have some money put aside and was not used for the whole year, then one should pay a small amount of that money as zakat”

“What happens if someone does not pay zakat? Do they go to jail?” asked Amar.

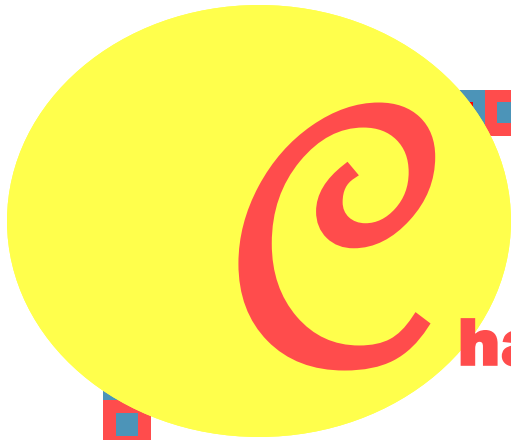
“Not really,” answered his father. “But Allah will be upset with them, because all Muslims must pay their zakat since it is a fardh, and if Allah is upset with someone, then that would be much worse than going to any jail.”

Did you know?

We can pay zakat to relatives if they need it, but not to our parents because it is our job to support them if they need money.

“I have \$30 in my money box from last year; can I pay zakat on it?”

“Ma-sha’a-Allah Amar, I am very proud of you!” His father said as he hugged Amar.



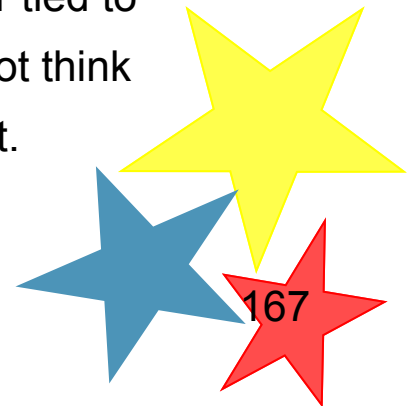
Chapter

20

The Mean Old Lion

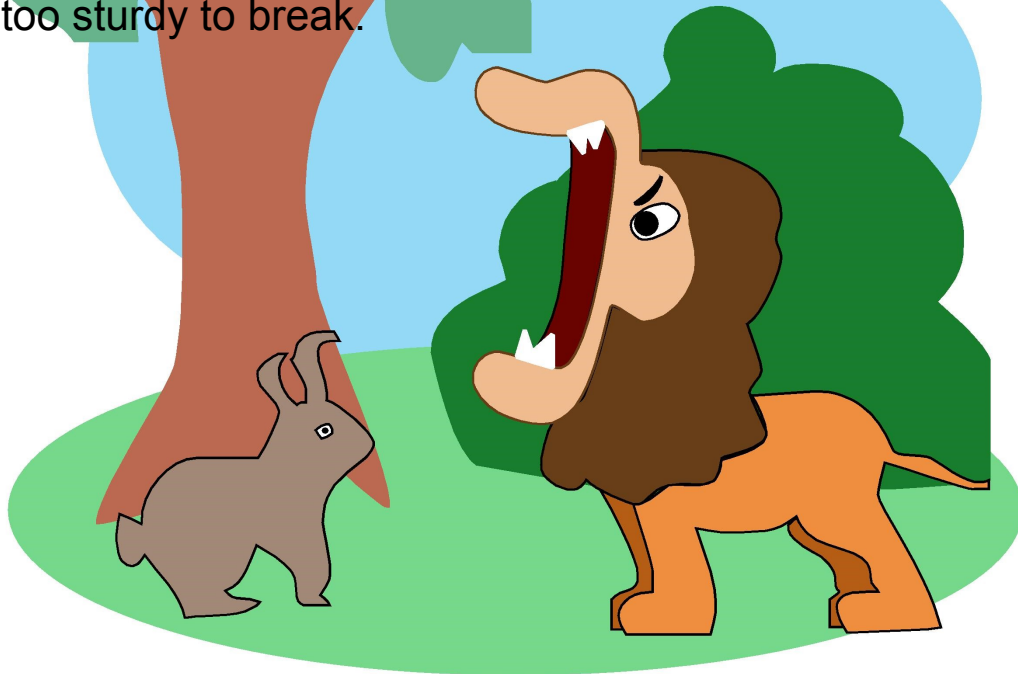
Once upon a time, in a jungle far, far away there was a mean old lion. All the jungle animals feared him so. His teeth were huge and his claws were sharp and nothing scared the animals as much as the sound of his awfully loud roar.

One day the lion saw a poor little deer tied to a post. He was really hungry and he did not think of who or why the deer was tied to the post.



The lion roared and jumped towards the deer, but once he landed on it, he found out that it was nothing but a dummy! It was only made to look like a deer. But before he could even move, a big huge cage hanging from a tree limb high above dropped right on top of him.

The lion growled, roared, and then roared some more. He jumped up and down, he threw himself against the walls of the cage and pushed and pulled on the walls and gate, but the cage was too sturdy to break.



After a while he got tired and all he could do was lay down sadly.

A fluffy little rabbit came by, his name was Nibnib. Nibnib was new to the jungle and never heard of the mean old lion. Nibnib came close to the cage and with a soft voice said “Hello Mr. Lion! Are you okay?”

“ROOOOAAAAAR”
hollered the lion.

Nibnib did not move. Any other animal from the jungle would have been half way across the jungle by now, but not Nibnib! Nibnib did not know how vicious the mean old lion was.





“Oh my! What a load roar you have, Mr. Lion,” said Nibnib.
“But, are you okay?”

No one had ever had the courage before to just stand there while the lion roared.

“ROOOAAAAR,” went the lion again.

“I can see that you are stuck in the cage Mr. Lion. Are you going to need my help? Or are you planning on roaring all day long?” The rabbit asked.

“ROOO” started the lion again, but then realized that his roars were not getting him anywhere. He looked at Nibnib and said, “You! Help me? Are you serious? You are so tiny I can swallow you in one gulp.”

“I certainly can help!” said Nibnib “I can nibble on the ropes holding the cage together until it falls apart”

The lion did not like it that a small little rabbit could help. Why, he was the mightiest lion in the whole jungle! But he had no other choice, so he said to the rabbit “Go ahead, nibble away.”

The rabbit started nibbling, but then stopped.

“Why did you stop?” The lion demanded.

“You have to promise me something first,” said Nibnib.


“Promise! Promise what?” The lion asked impatiently.

“Promise that you will not eat me once I get you out.”

“Eat you! I wouldn’t dream of doing such a thing to someone who saves my life,” said the lion.

So the rabbit kept on nibbling. Nibble, nibble and nibble. The rabbit in no time nibbled away the ropes.





The lion kicked the door open and KAABOOM! The cage door opened wide. The lion immediately jumped out and leapt onto the rabbit.

“Now I will swallow you in one gulp!” The lion said with a mean, nasty voice.

“But, but, but” stammered the rabbit.

“No buts, say goodbye you silly little fool.”

“But you promised you wouldn’t eat me,” said Nibnib

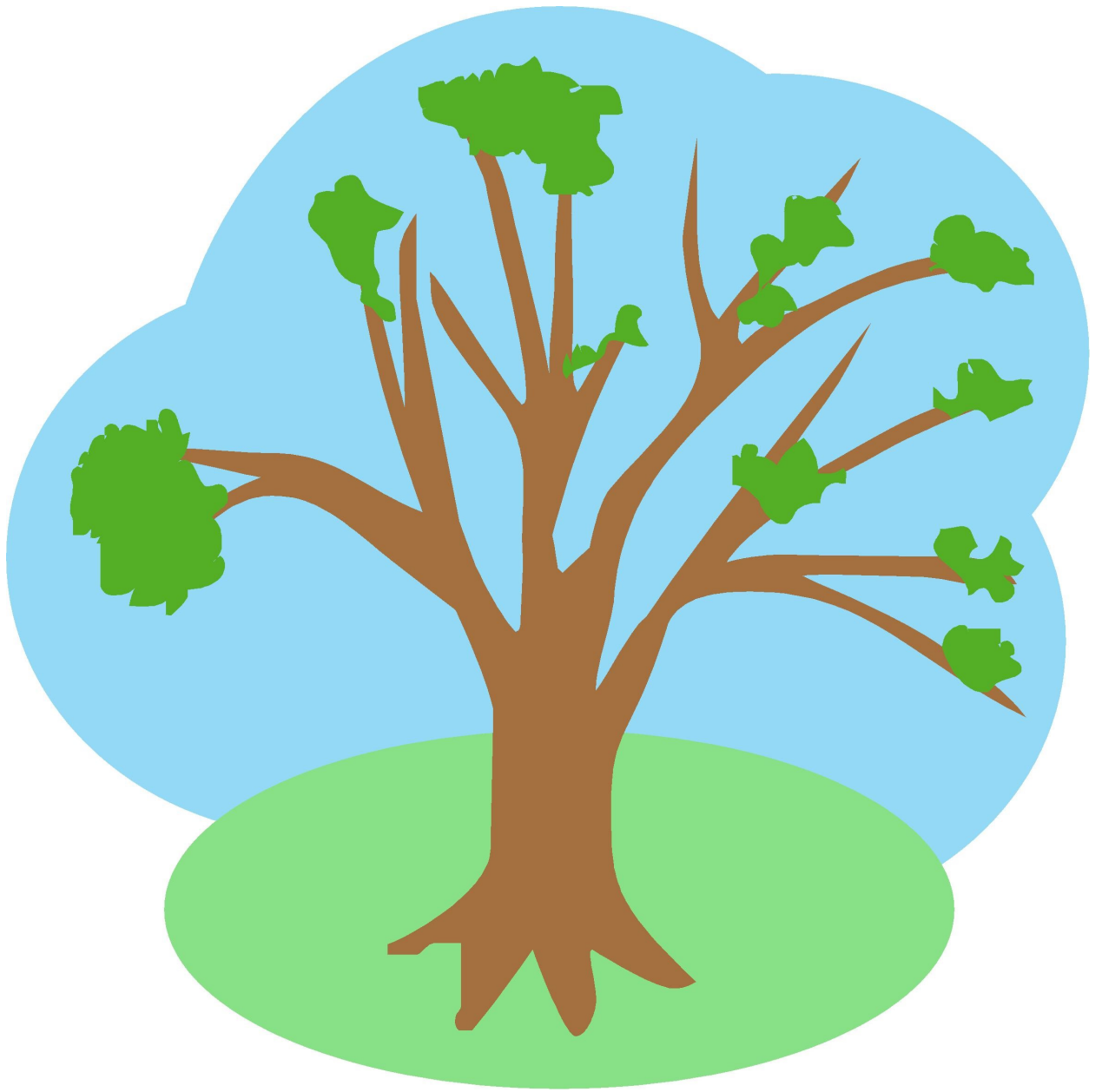
Words

Sins: things that Allah has told are wrong to say or do .

Commit: to promise do something.

Stammered: spoke or talked in a slow and unclear (interrupted or halting) way.

Demanded: asked in a firm and strong way.



“That’s not fair.”

“Life is never fair, my little tasty, delicious fool,” said the lion as he picked up the rabbit from his ears and was about to put him in his big huge mouth.

Nibnib was really scared, but he quickly said, “Life is certainly fair! You just don’t know it.”

The lion got mad and threw Nibnib on the ground and said, “I am telling you life is not fair. I’ll eat you know and show you how unfair it is!”

“And I can prove to you that life is fair,” said the rabbit with a determined voice.

“Oh yeah? Go ahead and prove it,” said the lion.

“Oh yeah! I sure can. We’ll go and ask the first three we meet whether life is fair or not. If they say it’s fair, then you’ll have to let me go, but if they say it isn’t fair, then you can go ahead and eat me.”

The lion was getting impatient, but he decided to go along with the rabbit's suggestions. He grabbed the rabbit from his ears and off they went looking for someone to ask whether life was fair or not.

Quran

Surat Alanaam الأنعام , aya 120


Avoid all kinds of sins, whether people can see it or not. Those who do wrong will suffer from exactly what they have committed.

وَدَّرُوا ظَاهِرَ الْإِثْمِ وَبَاطِنَهُ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَكْسِبُونَ الْإِثْمَ سَيُجْزَوْنَ
بِمَا كَانُوا يَفْعَلُونَ

Very soon they got to a big old tree. The lion approached the tree and roared; the big old tree trembled and looked at the lion and the small little rabbit hanging from his ears.

“Tell us is life fair or not?” The lion demanded from the tree.





“Fair? I don’t know,” answered the tree in a weak voice “I was once full of branches and leaves, I gave shade and fruit to all. Everyone came to visit me and gave me water and cared for me. But now that I am old and can no longer carry leaves or fruit, no one visits me or takes care of me. No! No! Life is not fair.”

“See what I told you,” said the angry lion as he was about to swallow Nibnib.

“Three! We decided to ask three,” pleaded the rabbit. “Fine,” growled the lion as he carried Nibnib away.

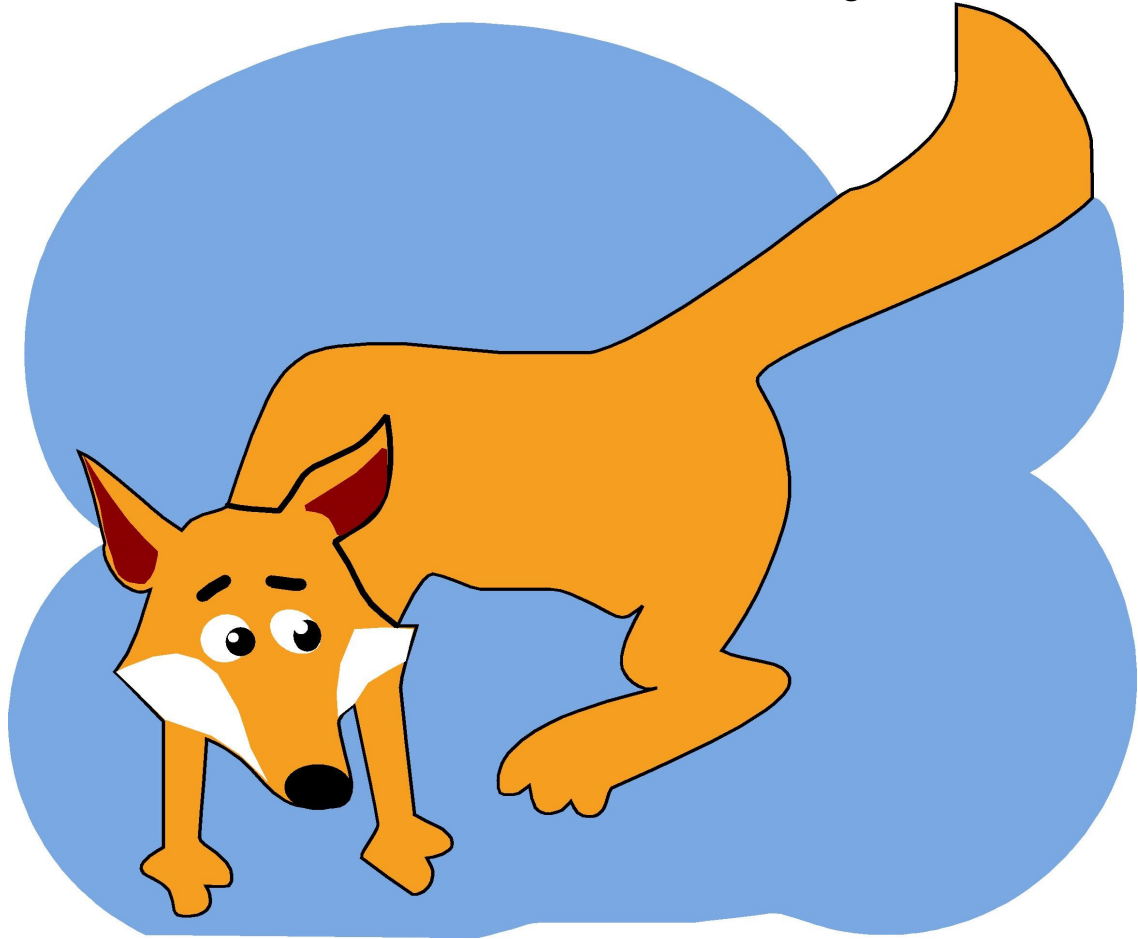
The lion spotted a fox, but the fox started to run when he saw the lion. The lion jumped far and long and landed right on top of the fox.

“Don’t be afraid!” The lion yelled. “I plan to eat this little rabbit, not you. Just answer this question,” demanded the lion.

“What question?” The fox asked, trying to control his trembling.

“Is life fair or not?” asked the lion.

The fox could see that the rabbit was in big trouble.



“But why are you asking, Oh mighty lion?” asked the fox.

The lion roared and smacked the fox on his head, “Just answer,” he ordered.

“Well! It all depends,” said the fox with a soft voice.

“May be I should eat both of you and get it done with,” roared the lion.

“I saved the lion’s life” said Nibnib, talking as fast as he could. “And he promised he wouldn’t eat me, but now he plans to do just that. I told him that’s not fair, and he says life is not fair, but I told him that no, life is fair”

“I don’t get it” said the fox. “You little rabbit saved the big strong lion?? How could that be?”

“A big cage trapped me,” said the lion. “And this little fool nibbled away the ropes.”

“I see, I see. But still how could there be a cage too strong for the mightiest animal of the jungle. Not possible!”

“I am getting tired of your questions,” said the lion with a mean voice. “Come with me and I will show you.”

The lion, Nibnib and the fox all went to where the cage was.

“See! This is the cage, I was trapped inside,” said the lion as he entered the cage, “And this door was closed,” added the lion as he closed the cage’s door behind him.

Remember

- *Muslims should keep their promises at all times.*
- *Muslims should treat each other kindly*
- *Allah is always fair.*
- *Allah rewards those who do good.*
- *Allah punishes those who do bad.*

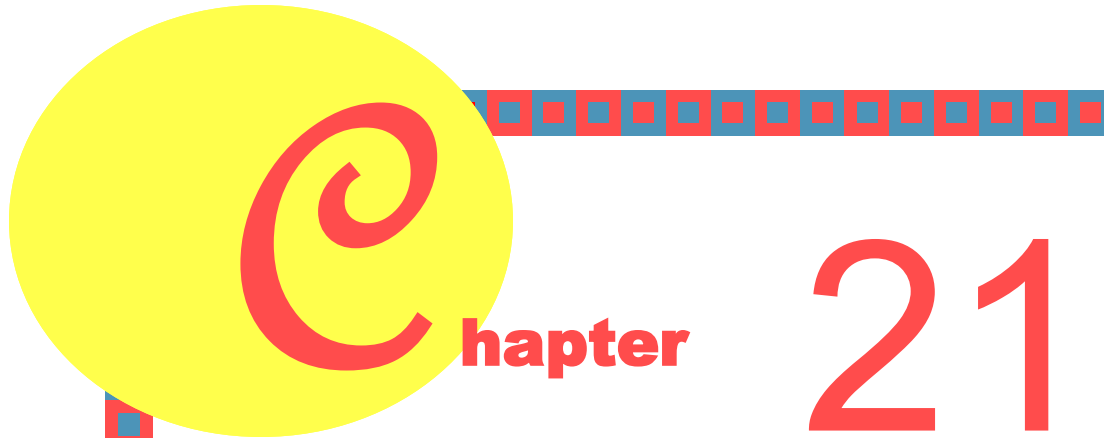
Quickly, the fox got the loose rope and tied it around the cage's door, and before anyone knew what was going on, the lion was again trapped within the cage.

“Aha!” The fox yelled. “Yes my dear mean old lion, life is fair! And you deserve to stay in the cage. Allah ﷻ does not like those who lie or deceive others, and He certainly does not like those who treat others poorly as you did with this nice little rabbit.

Life is fair! And Allah will reward those who do good and punish those who do bad.”

Nibnib and the fox walked away as the mean old lion stayed in the cage.

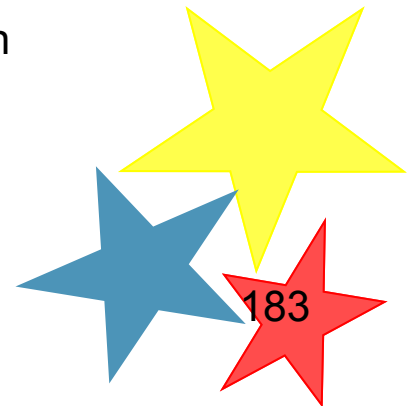




Chapter 21

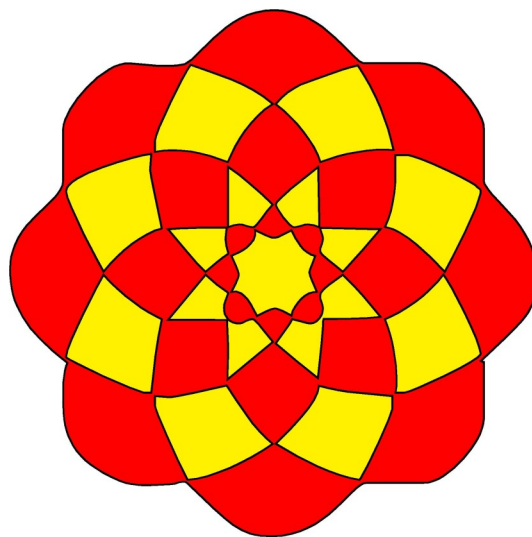
Alkafiroon الكافرون

This sura tells Muslims and non-believers that belief in Allah ﷻ and his teachings cannot be changed from the way Allah revealed it to prophet Muhammad ﷺ. We are not to change anything in this religion just to please somebody we like or care for. Muslims believe in Allah ﷻ, worship him and follow his religion exactly the way he taught us.



People may want us to change this or that in Islam so we can become closer to them, this is wrong and should never be done. Allah instructs us to be nice, kind and helpful to Muslims and non-Muslims, but never to change our religion just to please somebody, because if we start changing Islam a little bit here and a little bit there, before you know it Islam will be something very different from what Allah ﷻ intended it to be. Unfortunately, many years ago, Jews and Christians kept changing their religion to please this king and that group of people and before you know it their religion is very different from what Allah revealed to prophets Musa and Isa.

If we really love somebody and care for them we should teach them in a nice way about Islam the way Allah revealed it and not try to change it.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Say: O' non-believers

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ

2. I do not worship what you
worship

لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ

3. Nor do you worship what I
worship

وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ

4. And I will never worship what
you worship

وَلَا أَنَا عَابِدٌ مَّا عَبَدْتُّمْ

5. Nor do you worship what I
worship

وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ

6. To you is your religion and to
me is my religion

لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ

Alkauthar الكوثر

This sura addresses the Prophet ﷺ, to make him feel better. Muhammad ﷺ had two children who died while he was still living in Mecca. The non-believers made fun of him, saying that the Prophet is now cutoff from the world because he has no sons to carry his name, which was an important thing to non-believers back then. Allah ﷻ tells his prophet not to worry about what those non-believers are saying and to think of all the great things he has given him and to be thankful to Allah for it.

The word Kauthar has two meanings, one meaning is: plenty of good things, which Allah is reminding the Prophet of the many good things he has given him. The other meaning is: a great fountain in Paradise which the Prophet was promised to enjoy after his death.

In difficult times, we should also think of the many good things Allah has given us. When things go wrong, we tend to be sad and think that everything is bad. But if we stop and look around us, we would find many wonderful things Allah ﷻ has blessed us with. So just like the Prophet ﷺ we should be thankful to Allah and be happy with his great gifts, even at times when things may not look so good.

Remember

- *Muslims should not change their religion*
- *Muslims believe in Allah ﷻ and follow the religion exactly the way Allah taught us.*
- *It is wrong to change our religion.*
- *Muslims must respect the religions of other people.*

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. O'Muhammad we have given
you countless blessings

إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ

2. And so, pray to your Lord and
sacrifice

فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَنْحَرْ

3. Certainly, it is your enemies
who will be cutoff

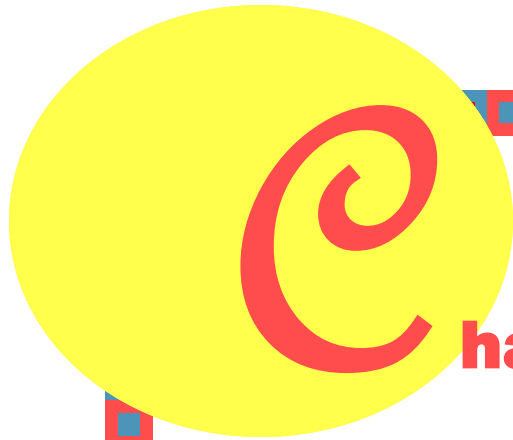
إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ

Words

Countless: many.

Sacrifice: feed the poor with meat.

Cutoff: left alone without anyone to help.

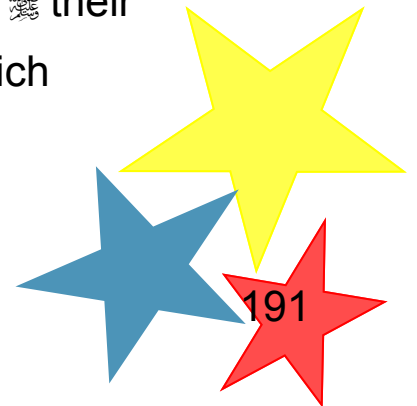


Chapter

22

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in Medina

When Muhammad ﷺ first arrived to Medina, Muslims got together and built the first Masjid in Islam, it was called masjid Qiba. Later Muslims built a masjid in Medina. This was a place where Muslims came to worship Allah ﷻ, discuss their problems and ask the Prophet ﷺ their question. The Prophet lived in a room which was part of the masjid.



In Medina, Muslims learned how to deal with each other. They were taught by the Prophet proper Muslim behavior and how Muslims should be kind to each other as well as to non-Muslims such as Christians and Jews and non-believers.

When Muslims from Mecca came to Medina, they left everything behind. They did not have any money, houses or any of the things they used to have while in Mecca. To solve this problem, the Prophet ﷺ asked each person from Medina to take a Muslim from Mecca to be their brother or sister.

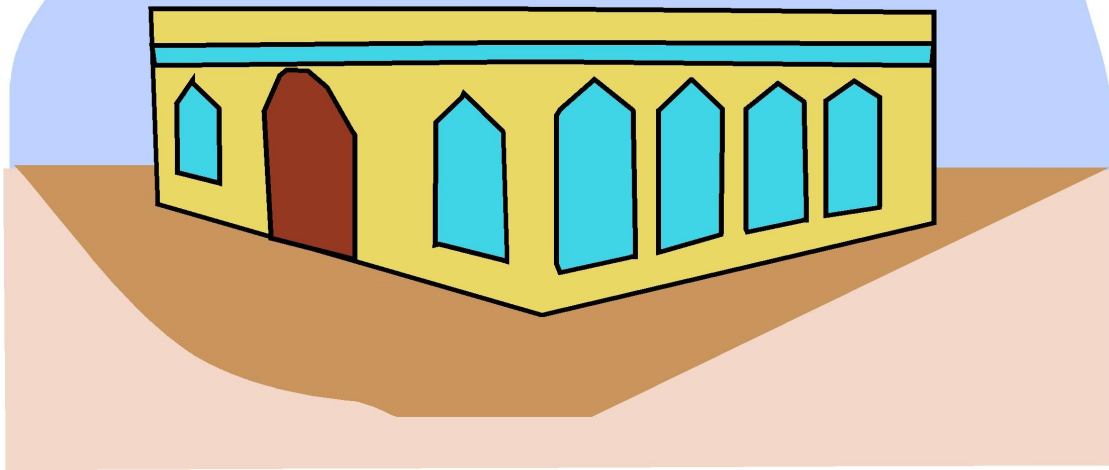
Words

Masjid: also called mosque, place for Muslims to pray together.

Revelation: verses from the Quran, sent to the messenger from Allah.

Followers: people who follow, followers of Prophet Muhammed ﷺ are the Muslims.

Muslims from Mecca were very happy because this way they would have a place to live in and food to eat. Muslims from Medina were also happy because they knew that Allah ﷻ will reward them for helping their brothers and sisters who left Mecca for the sake of Islam.



Remember

- *Muslims and their prophet built their first masjid*
- *The first Masjid in Islam is called masjid Qiba*
- *When Muslims from Mecca went to Medina, they Left every thing behind*
- *Muslim feels that any other Muslim is their brother or sister .*

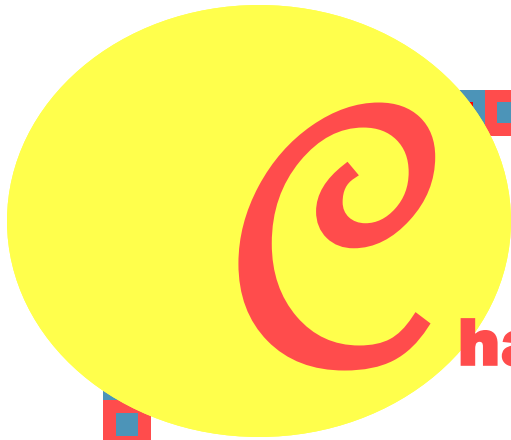
In Medina, the Prophet received many more revelations from Allah, and for the first time Muslims lived in peace in their own town without being bothered by non-believers. Many, many people from all around Medina and even from far away places heard of how wonderful it is to be a Muslim and they traveled to Medina to learn about Islam. This made more and more people join Islam.

While in Mecca, Muslims had to learn how to deal with non-believers. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ taught his followers to be nice and polite to non-believers and try to convince them that worshiping idols is wrong. The Prophet also taught them the Quran as it was revealed to him.

Did you know?

All the children of the Prophet died before him, except for Fatima, she died shortly after he died.

When Muslims came to Medina, there were many Jews, who believed in Allah ﷻ and they had their own holy book, called the Torah. The Prophet ﷺ told Muslims that Muslims, Jews and Christians all worship the same God, so they have to respect Jews and Christians and treat them with love and kindness. A Muslim was expected to be very nice, polite and respectful to Christians and Jews who like Muslims worshiped the one and only one Allah. Muslims were asked to be nice to everyone, but advised to take only Muslims as very close friends.



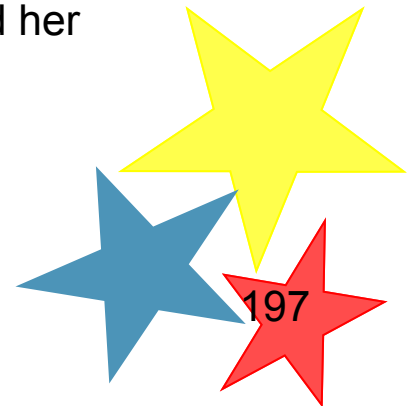
Chapter

23

Maryem and Beebompap

Maryem was sad! Beebompap, her hamster had just died. She held the hamster in her hand and was stroking it gently. She looked up to her mother with tears in her eyes and asked “What will now happen to Beebompap?”

“Well, he will not wake up again,” said her mother. “I think we should burry him in the backyard.”



Hadith

Um Salma, a Muslim woman, went to the prophet one day to inform him of her husband's death. The prophet was kind to her and advised her to pray to Allah and say "Oh Allah, forgive me and my husband, and provide me with better than what I had."

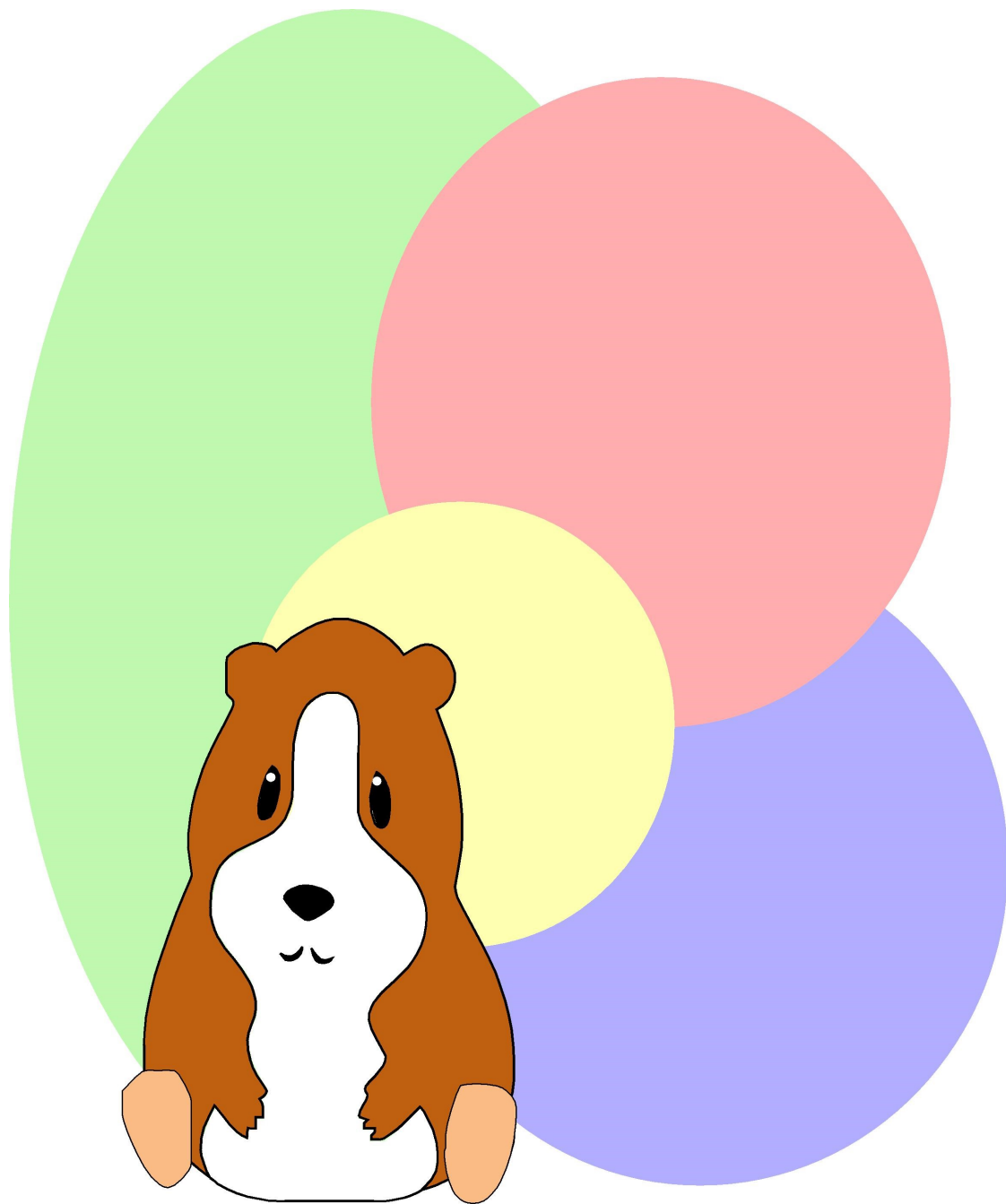
Sure enough! Allah soon provided her with better than what she had, she married again, and this time it was the Prophet ﷺ who became her husband!


“Will I ever get to see him again?” Maryem asked with more tears coming down her cheeks.

“I am afraid not, dear, but you can visit his grave and bring him flowers,” said her mother.

Maryem felt a little better for

being able to visit Bebompap. Then after a short silence she asked, “Do people also die?”





“Yes dear,” answered her mother. All of us will one day die too.”

“Do we also get buried in the backyard?” Maryem asked.

“No dear,” said her mother with a smile. “People get buried in a special place called the cemetery.

“But do we ever get to wake up after we die?” Maryem asked.

Words

***Bury:** to put in the ground.*

***Heaven:** called Jenna in Arabic, a wonderful place where good people go to after they die.*

***Hellfire:** called Jahanem in Arabic, a horrible and bad place where evil people go to after they die.*

***Insha'Allah:** Arabic phrase, meaning “God willing”.*

“We certainly do,” answered her mother. “Allah ﷻ will wake up all people after they die. Then he will see if we were good or bad. Those who were good will get to go to Heaven and those who were evil and did bad things will go to Hellfire ”.

“What are those places Mama?” Maryem asked.

“Jenna, or Paradise, is a wonderful place! Once we’re there we live in it for ever and ever. Allah ﷻ will give us everything we like and there would be nothing in it that would bother us.

Remember

- *Allah ﷻ created all people, animals and everything.*
- *After we die, Allah brings us back to life in the Hereafter*
- *Allah knows if we did good or bad*
- *Those who did good go to Paradise (Jenna).*
- *Those that did bad go to Hellfire (Jehanem).*

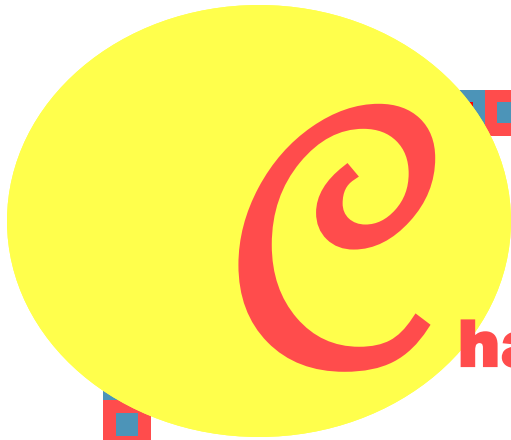
Did you know?

Those who believe in God and do good will reside in Paradise after they die and those who do not believe in God and do evil will go to the Hellfire.

On the other hand Jahanem, or Hellfire is a place for people who disobeyed Allah while on earth. People who go to Jahanem will be punished for being nasty.”

“I will be good so I can go to Jenna and ask Allah to have you, Baba and Bebompap with me for ever and ever”

“Insha’Allah” said her mother. “Insha’Allah”.



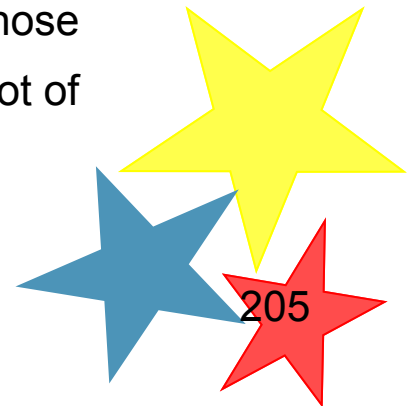
Chapter

24

Hajj Memoirs

February 16, 2002

Baba, Mama and I left Chicago today to Hajj. My cousins, uncles, aunts and some friends of ours came to the airport to say good-bye. Few days earlier, we had a hajj goodbye party at Universal School for all those who were going to hajj this year. It was a lot of fun.



I promised Ms. Suhair, my teacher to write a diary about hajj so everyone in my class would know what I did.

We took a shower and changed into our ihram clothes before we left to the airport. My ihram clothes are two big pieces of cloth, just like bath towels. One is wrapped around the waist and the other is put over the shoulder. Baba is wearing the same thing, but Mama is wearing a long white gown and hijab.

The plane is full, all are going to hajj. Baba said that the plane will first land in Jeddah, and then we will take the bus to Mecca.

It has been 10 hours so far on the plane; I slept for a long time. They are showing a movie about hajj now. The flight attendants are serving food, I am really hungry and the food looks good. For a change, we will not have to ask if this was halal food because we are on a Muslim airplane, and everything is done the halal way.

February 17, 2002

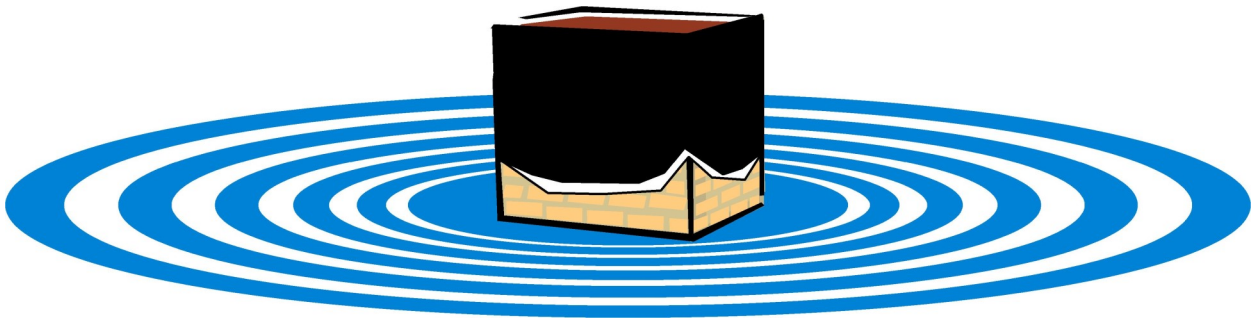
Finally, we arrived to Jeddah in Saudi Arabia. I spent most of the time asleep on the plane. That's good; otherwise I would have been bored. The airport is huge, it was built like extra super large tents. The airport was full of men, women and some children, all going to hajj!

Dua'a

Talbiya

*Oh Allah we come answering
your call, you have no equal. All
glory, good things and power are
yours for you have no equal.*

لبيك اللهم لبيك، لبيك لا شريك لك لبيك.
إنَّ الحمدَ و النعمة لك والملك لا شريك
لك.



We left by bus to Mecca, all men were wearing the same ihram clothes as Baba and I wore. On the bus and all the way to Mecca we were saying talbiya.

During hajj, we are not allowed to shave or cut our hair, clip

nails or use perfume.

Men should not wear sewn clothes of any kind and should not cover their heads.

Muslims performing hajj are also not allowed to kill animals, unless they are about to hurt us.



February 18, 2002

We arrived to Mecca, put our stuff in the hotel and got to Masjid Alharam ,where the Ka'ba is, what a wonderful sight! There were so many people, much more than I know how to count. Baba, Mama and I started our tawaf, which is jogging around the Ka'ba.

Each time we go around the Ka'ba is called shawt and to complete tawaf ,one has to complete seven shawts.

We could not get near the black stone to touch it; there were way too many people. Baba said that it is not necessary to touch the black stone, but I wish I could have touched it. This tawaf was called tawaf al qudoom which means the one done at arrival to Mecca. We were saying:

Bismallah wallahu akbar بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ وَ اللّٰهُ اَكْبَرُ as we were doing tawaf.



February 19, 2002

Today we did sa'i which is going between Safa and Marwa seven times, just like what Hajir, prophet Ibrahim's wife, did when she was left with her son Ismail in the desert. This was at that same place where the Ka'ba was later built. The well of Zamzam started to flow when baby Ismail kept hitting the ground with his hand.

Words

***Memoires:** or diaries, writing down things which happened to you.*

***Hajj:** or pilgrimage, visiting the house of Allah in Mecca.*

***Talbiya:** Arabic, meaning saying or doing something when asked to do it.
In Hajj, it means saying a certain dua'a.*

***Rammy:** to throw.*

***Jammarat:** pebbles.*

The well is still there and people from all around the world can drink from it. It tasted different than regular water, it was great!


February 20, 2002

Today is the 8th day of Thul-Hijja. We left Mecca after Fajr to a place called Mina. There we stayed in a tent. We were saying talbiya all along, which is to say Labaika Allahuma labaik, which means “Oh Allah we have answered your call for us to come to hajj.”

February 21, 2002

Today is the 9th of Thul-Hijja, we left Mina by bus and got to Arafat, there we did more prayers. We asked Allah to forgive our sins. We kept praying till it was dark.





Then, we left to go to Muzdalafa. In Muzdalafa there were no tents, we slept in the open, and after Fajr went back to Mina. Before we left Muzdalafa we gathered 21 pebbles from Muzdalafa so we can use them later in what is called Rammy or throwing of stones.

February 22, 2002

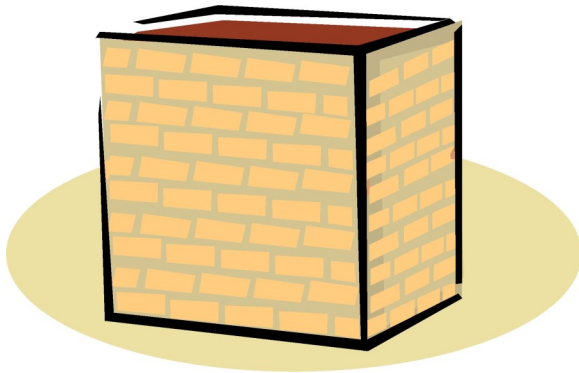
Today is the 10th of Thul-Hijja, we are now in Mina. We took our pebbles and threw them at 3 pillars which represent the devil. At each pillar we threw 7 pebbles. This is called Rammy of jammarat. We repeated the rammy of jammarat the following two days then left back to Mecca. We gathered the pebbles for the last two times from Mina.

February 23, 2002

Today is the 13th of Thul-Hijja. We are in Mecca and did tawaf again, this is called Tawaf Al-wada' ,or the goodbye circling of the Ka'ba.

February 24, 2002

We left Mecca today to Medina. There we prayed in the Prophet's mosque, it was great to pray in the same place where the Prophet ﷺ did!



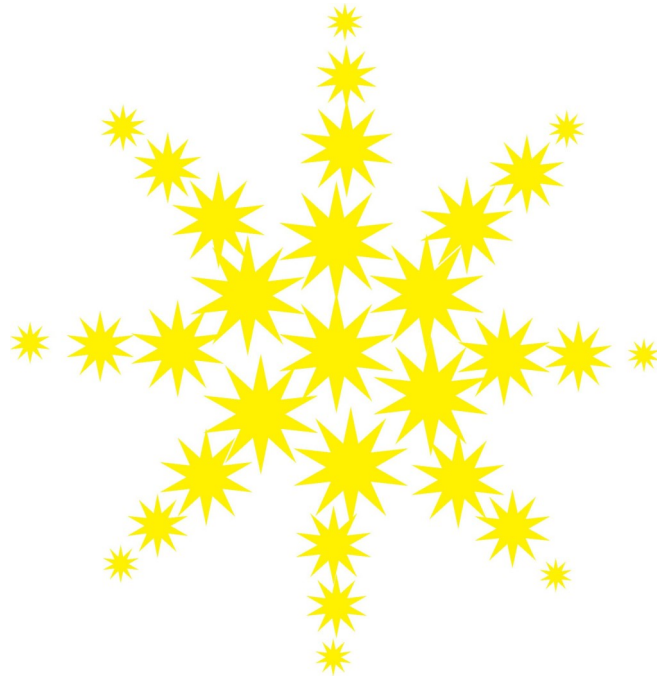
Remember

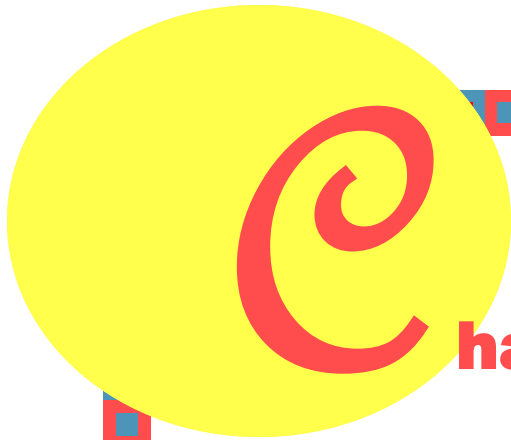
- *Muslims from all around the world go to Mecca to do hajj.*
- *Prophet Ibrahim and his son Ismail built the Ka'ba.*
- *Ihram clothes for men are two pieces of cloth.*
- *Going around the Ka'ba seven times is called Tawaf.*

February 25, 2002

We left back to Jeddah and took the plane back to Chicago. We were exhausted. I loved every minute of it. In-sha'-Allah all of you can do it some time soon.

The End





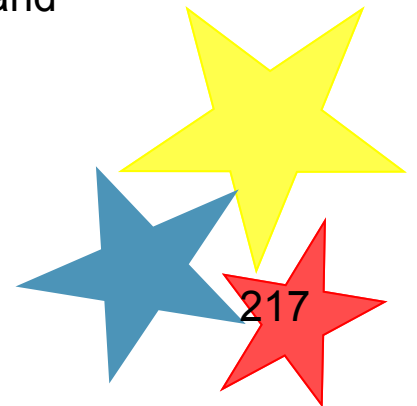
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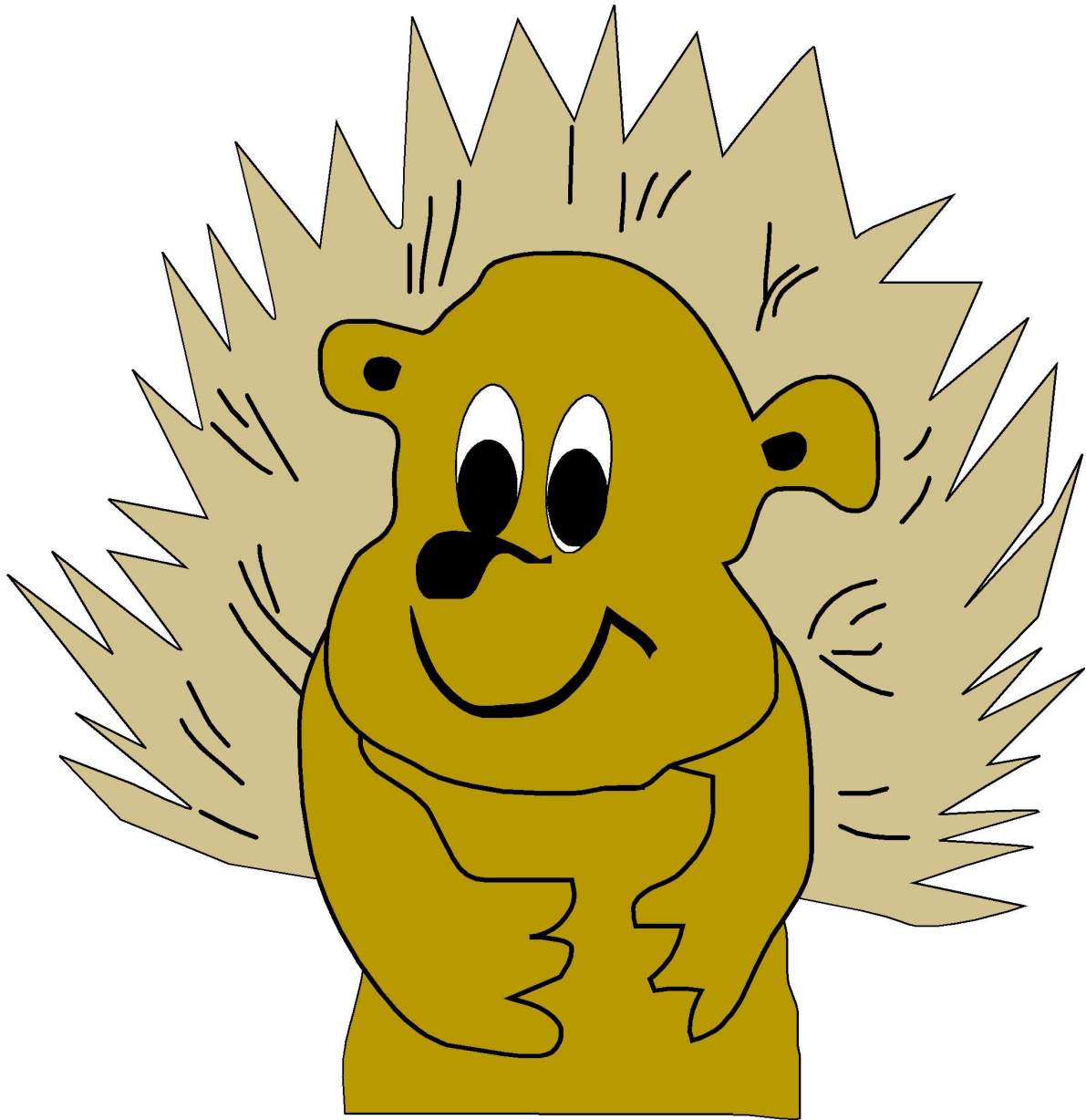
25

The Rich Mr. Porcupine

Mr. Porcupine had a lot of money but would never spend any of it. He kept all his money hidden deep inside a tree trunk where no one could ever find it. Every time he had any money, he would put it through the whole in the trunk inside the tree and hide it.

Mr. Porcupine wore raggedy clothes and everyone thought he was poor.





One day Mr. Porcupine was walking by the river. Next to the bridge he saw an old friend of his, Mr. Gofer. Porcupine liked Gofer a lot, because he also saved all his money and did not spend it here and there like all the other silly animals did.

As Porcupine approached Gofer, he noticed that there was a rabbit next to Gofer, and to Porcupine's great surprise he saw Gofer giving rabbit a fistful of money. The rabbit thanked Mr. Gofer and hopped away. Mr. Porcupine tumbled down the hill towards Mr. Gofer.

"How could you give your money and waste it like this? Don't you know those animals will never give you back your money?" Mr. Porcupine yelled.

"Hello Mr. Porcupine! A wonderful morning, isn't it?" Mr. Gofer greeted Mr. Porcupine.

"Don't you wonderful morning me!" screamed Mr.



Porcupine. “How could you give your money away like this? Shame on you for being wasteful! You’re just like all the other animals.”

“But I am not being wasteful,” answered Mr. Gofer. “Not at all! I get to have all they money I gave and then some more.”

“Some more?” Mr. Porcupine inquired with a sparkle in his eye. “You mean to tell me they give you back your money and then some more on top of it!”

Words

***Wasteful:** wasting, not being careful when spending money.*

***Raggedy:** torn, old.*

***Drooling:** spit dripping out of mouth, used to describe someone who very much wants to eat or do something.*

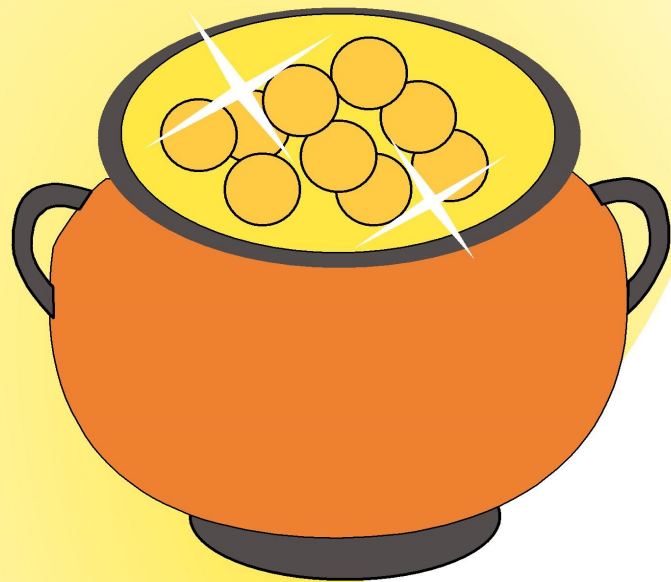
***Mercy:** kindness.*

“No, no, no,” said Mr. Gofer. “It’s nothing like that my stingy little friend. They don’t give me back anything. But I get my money back. As a matter of fact, I get it back seven hundred times as much as I gave!” said Mr. Gofer.

“SEVEN HUNDRED times!” Mr. Porcupine screamed,
“SEVEN HUNDRED times!”

“Yes, and
sometimes even
much more!”

“Wow! You
have to tell me how,”
said Mr. Porcupine,
drooling at the
chance of making so
much more money.



Quran

Surat Al-baqarah البقره , aya 261

Those who spend their money for the sake of Allah are like those who plant a seed. Each seed will give a plant with seven ears. Each ear carries one hundred seeds. Allah may even give back many more times more than that. He is vast and all knowing.

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ
سَبْعَ سَنَابِلَ فِي كُلِّ سُنبُلَةٍ مِائَةٌ حَبَّةٌ وَاللَّهُ يُضَاعِفُ لِمَنْ
يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ

“You see, I give my money to those who need it. Then I am rewarded with seven hundred times as much as I gave away” said Mr. Gofer

“But are you sure you will get it back” asked Mr. Porcupine.

“As sure as I am that you are standing in front of me and drooling,” answered Mr. Gofer with a smile on his face.

“But who gives it back to you. Is it a bank?”

“Not a bank, but someone who has more money than any bank!” said Mr. Gofer.

Mr. Porcupine was confused. He didn’t know of anyone who has more money than a bank.

“Who is so rich to have more money than a bank? And willing to pay back seven hundred times what you give those in need?” asked Mr. Porcupine.

Remember

- *Allah ﷻ gives us money to help others who need it.*
- *Allah will reward those who spend money for his sake.*
- *Allah’s reward may be 700 times as much as we gave, or even more.*
- *When we give money to those who need it, Allah will be happy with us.*
- *All our money and everything on earth belongs to Allah.*

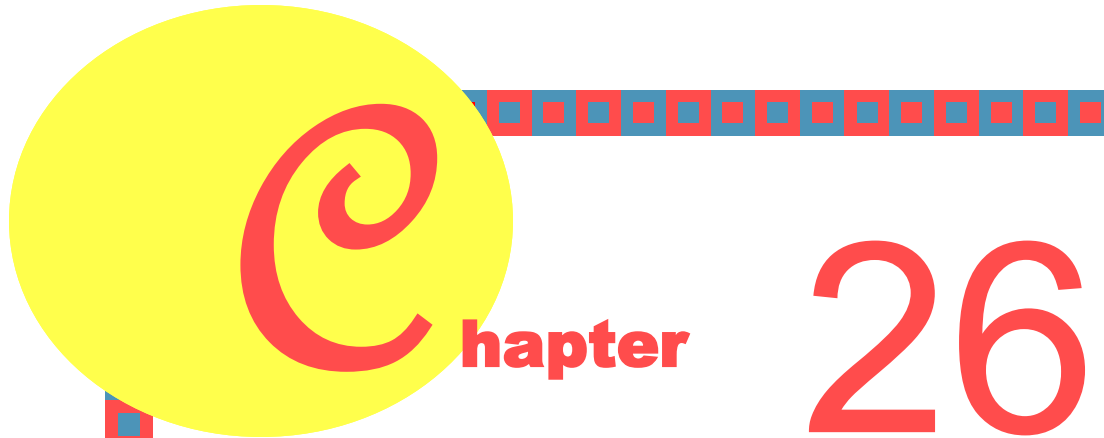
“Allah ﷻ, my dear friend, Allah! Allah ﷻ is richer than anyone” said Mr. Gofer “He promised those who give money in charity to reward them with seven hundred times what they gave. That is why I give, and after all, if it wasn’t for Allah’s mercy on me I wouldn’t have this money to start with.”

Mr. Porcupine stood quiet for a while and then off he went.

“Where are you going?” asked Mr. Gofer

“I have a tree trunk loaded with money; it will take for ever to give it away!” answered Mr. Porcupine “I cannot live for ever you know! It makes more sense to be rich in the Hereafter.”

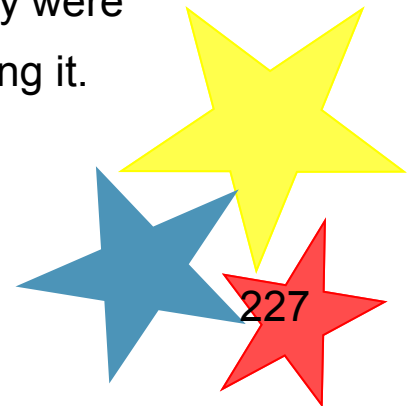




Chapter 26

Alma'oon الماعون

A Muslim is one who believes in Allah ﷻ, the Day of Judgment as well as Paradise (Jenna) and Hellfire (Nar). A Muslim knows that doing good in this world will be rewarded by Allah ﷻ in the Hereafter. Some people pretend to believe in Allah and act as if they were Muslim by doing salat without really meaning it.



They do not care to do their prayer properly or in their times and do not care to help those who need help such as orphans and poor people. Such fake people are only wasting their time by pretending to be Muslim, because Allah can see that they are pretending and are not real Muslims. Those people will get their punishment from Allah ﷻ on the Day of Judgment.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Have you ever seen he who denies Islam?

أَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي يُكَذِّبُ بِالْإِسْلَامِ

2. He is the one who drives away the orphan

فَذَلِكِ الَّذِي يَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْإِسْلَامِ

3. And does not give food to the poor

وَلَا يُخْضُّ عَلَى طَعَامِ الْمَسْكِينِ

4. Warning to those who pray!

فَوَيْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ

5. Those who forget to do their prayer,

الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُونَ

6. Those who do their prayer just to pretend that they are good

الَّذِينَ هُمْ يُرَآؤُونَ

7. And refuse to share daily necessities with others

وَيَمْنَعُونَ الْمَاعُونَ

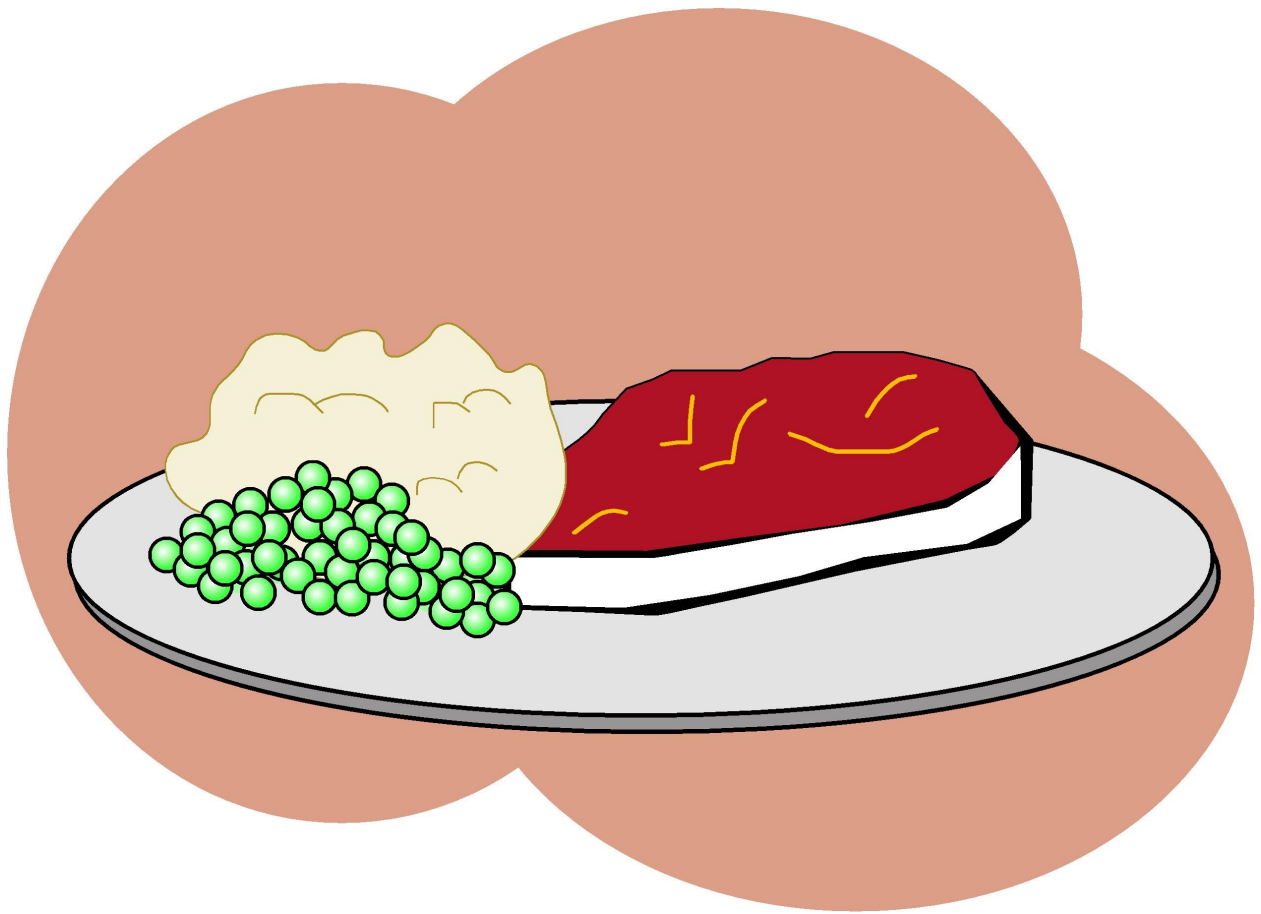
Words

Denies: does not want to believe.

Warning: be careful, watch out.

Necessities: important things.

Protection: making someone safe.



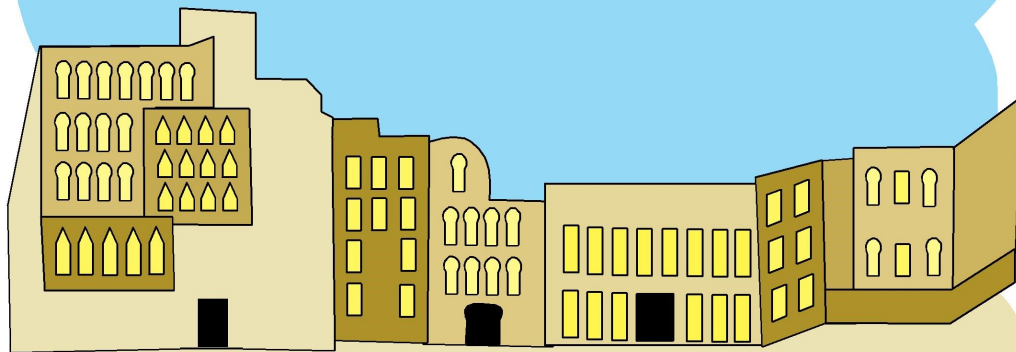
Quraysh قريش

Allah ﷻ protects us and gives us many wonderful things in this life. He gave us a father and mother who love us. Our parents give us food, buy us clothes and toys and even play with us. Allah gave us protection from many things by giving us brains to think with to build houses and cars. In return for all these wonderful things Allah ﷻ wants us to worship him alone and follow his rules so that we can be happier in this world and then be rewarded after we die with Jenna (Paradise).

Remember

- *Good Muslims gives to those in need.*
- *People who give to those in need only to show off are not good Muslims.*
- *Allah ﷻ loves us and gives us everything we have.*
- *People must be thankful to Allah ﷻ for all that he has given us.*

In this sura, Allah reminds Quraysh, the tribe of prophet Muhammad ﷺ, to remember all the great things he gave them and be grateful to him and worship him alone. Allah made the people of Quraysh important by allowing them to live in Mecca which was a very important place because tribes from all over the Arabian Peninsula considered Mecca a holy place because it had the house of Allah ﷻ in it. Back then, the tribes in that part of the world always had wars with each other, but they did not fight or hurt the tribes of Quraysh because they were in charge of taking care of the Ka'ba .



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. For the protection and safety given by Allah to the tribes of Quraysh,

إِلَيْلَافِ قُرَيْشٍ

2. And, the protection of their annual trips in winter and in summer

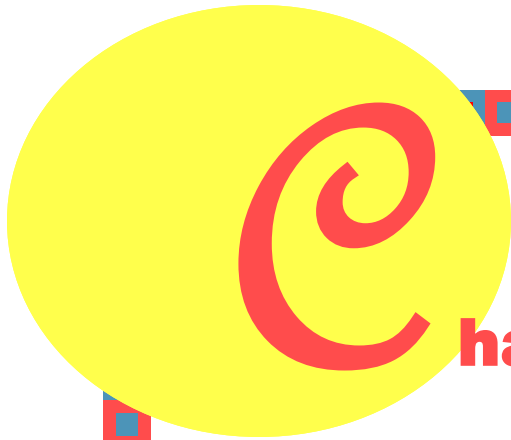
إِلَيْلَافِهِمْ رِحْلَةَ الشِّتَاءِ وَالصَّيْفِ

3. Let them worship the Lord of this house (the Ka'ba)

فَلْيَعْبُدُوا رَبَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ

4. Allah is the one who fed them to prevent hunger and made them safe from any fear

الَّذِي أَطْعَمَهُمْ مِنْ جُوعٍ وَآمَنَهُمْ مِنْ خَوْفٍ



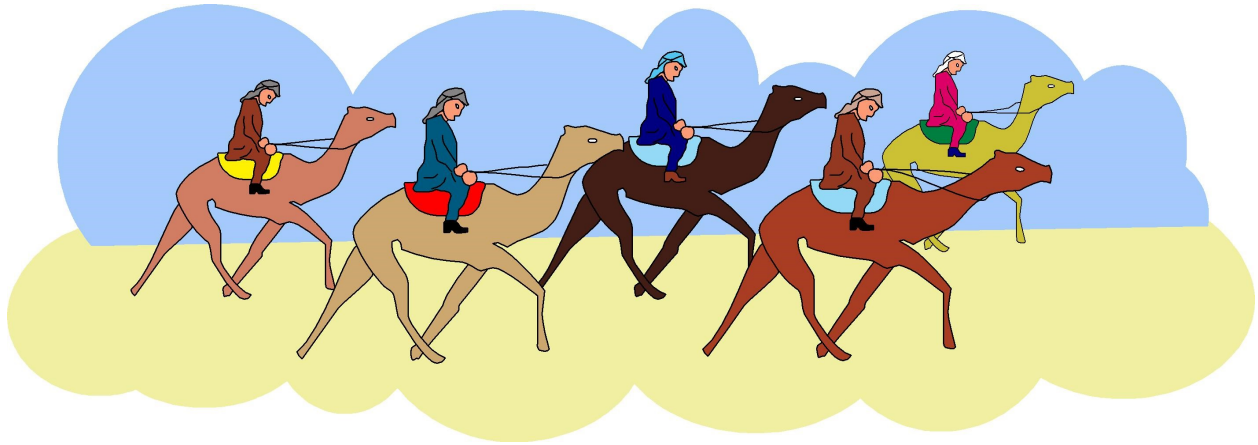
Chapter

27

Muslims in Medina

Muslims left Mecca to Medina to start a new life where they can be free to worship Allah ﷻ without being bothered by non-believers. Muslims from Mecca and Medina became one family and helped each other like brothers and sisters.

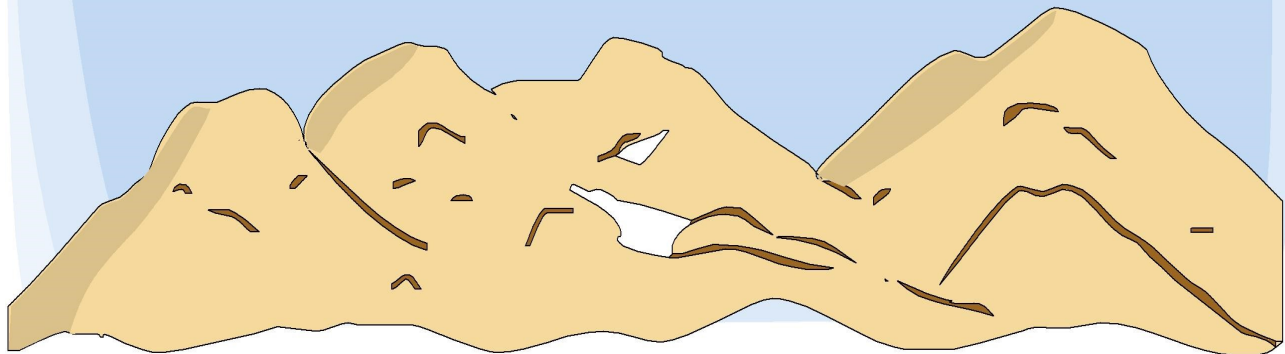




The Battle of Badr

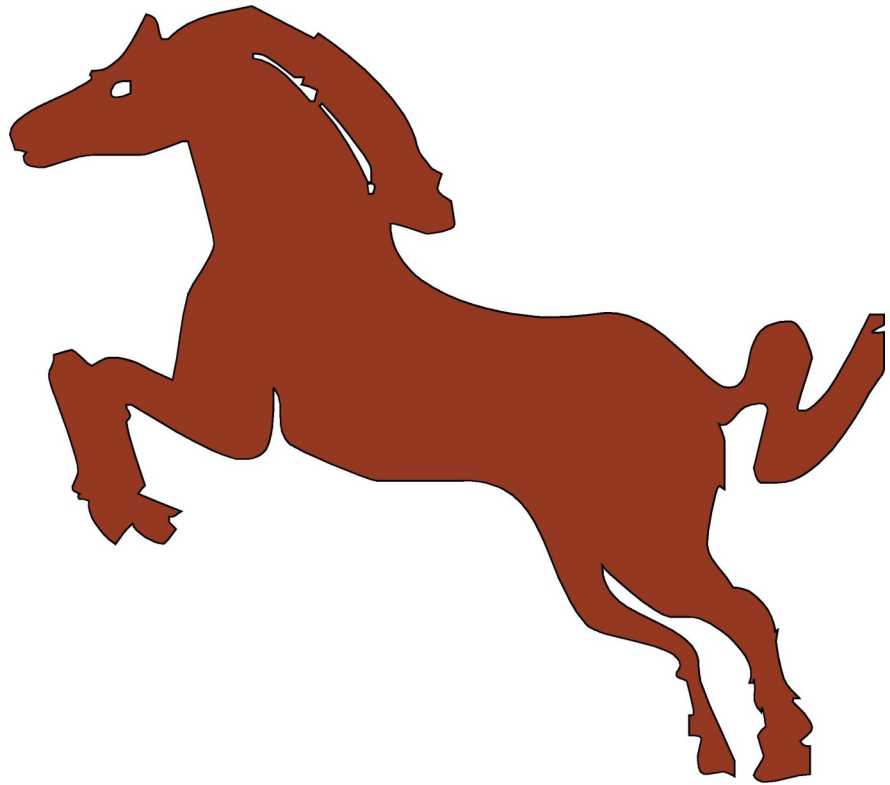
One day, two years after Muslims left Mecca, the Prophet ﷺ learned that a caravan of camels loaded with lots of goods would be traveling close to Medina. The caravan belonged to the masters of Mecca. The masters of Mecca took by force many of what the Muslims owned and left behind in Mecca, so the Prophet ﷺ decided that it was only fair for Muslims to take what was in this caravan as compensation for what the non-believers had stolen from them a couple of years ago.

The masters of Mecca heard of what the Prophet was about to do, so they sent an army to attack the Muslims. Muslims and the non-believers met near a well called Badr and fought, this battle was called the battle of Badr. Muslims were very brave and they won the war even though the non-believers had a stronger army, because Muslims believed in Allah ﷻ and did not fear death.



The Battle of Uhud

The non-believers were very angry for loosing in Badr, and for one whole year they prepared for another battle.



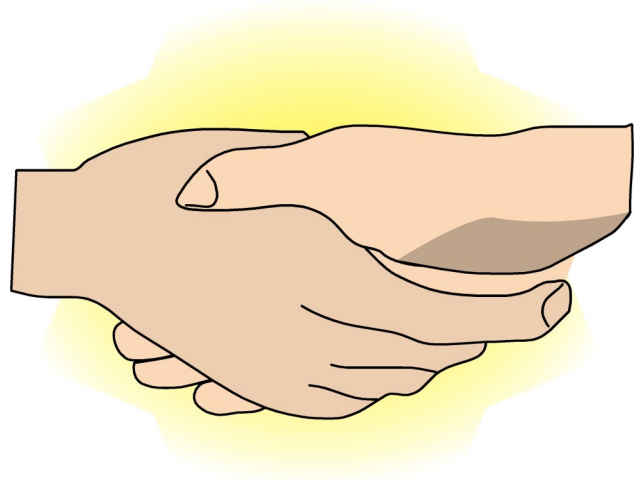
The army they got together was large and strong. The non-believers' army marched to Medina to fight. Muslims heard of what the masters of Mecca were preparing, so the Prophet ﷺ, together with thousand of Muslims went outside Medina to meet the army from Mecca. The two armies met in a place near a mountain called Uhud.

Muslims were doing very well during the battle and the non-believers almost lost, but just before they did, many Muslims did not follow the instructions of the Prophet and left their places where they were supposed to be. This gave the non-believers a chance to hurt Muslims who were now under attack by the non-believers and had to run away towards the mountains, allowing the non-believers to win the battle.

The Battle of The Ditch

Some of the people in Medina were always trying to cause trouble to the Prophet ﷺ, so he forced some of them to leave Medina. Those people who left Medina got together with the masters of Mecca and some of the other tribes in the area who did not like the Prophet and they decided to gather a huge army and attack Muslims in Medina.

The army was very large, ten thousand men, all marched to Medina to attack. Muslims heard of what was going on, the Prophet discussed the matter with Muslims. One of those Muslims, called Salman Alfarisi, advised the Prophet to dig a ditch around Medina, which would prevent the army of the non-believers from entering Medina.



Muslims worked very hard and they were able to finish the ditch before the army of the on-believers arrived to Medina.

The non-believers did not know what to do. The ditch was too wide to cross and the city of Medina was surrounded either by tall walls, mountains or the ditch that the Muslims dug.

Some of their fighters managed to cross the ditch, but they were defeated by Muslims before they could cause any harm. The non-believers put up tents and made a large camp in front of the ditch and waited, waited and waited. The weather was very cold and one night there was a strong storm causing their tents to blow away. The non-believers were scared and tired, so they left their camp heading back to Mecca, and Muslims were happy that Allah ﷻ had protected them from the evils of the non-believers.

Words

Caravan: *camels walking one after another, traveling from one place to another.*

Ditch: *a wide and long hole in the ground, used to protect old cities from enemies.*

Remember

- *Non-believers took everything the Muslims owned in Mecca.*
- *Non-believers lost the battle of Badr.*
- *Muslims almost won the battle of Uhud, but because they did not follow the orders of the Prophet ﷺ, they lost the battle.*
- *Muslims won the last battle with the non-believers and Islam spread in all parts of the Arab lands.*

The Treaty of Hudaibia

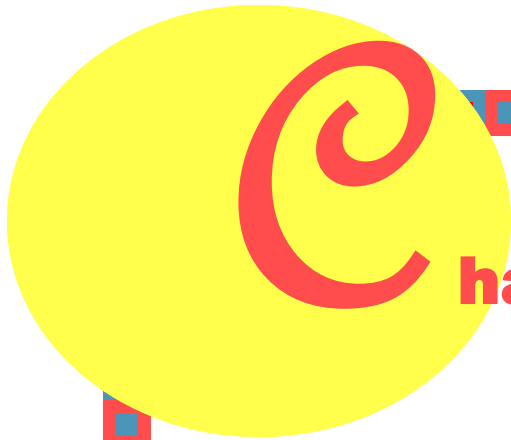
Many years later Muslims wanted to go to Mecca for hajj, but the non-believers would not let them enter Mecca. The Prophet ﷺ met with the masters from Mecca and they agreed that Muslims would go back to Medina without hajj that year, but to come back next year and be allowed to do so. They also agreed to stop fighting and to leave each other alone.

Muslims went back to Medina and did not make hajj. Some Muslims were upset, but they obeyed the Prophet.

Conquering Mecca

The non-believers did not keep their promise and they attacked some Muslims. The Prophet was upset that the non-believers did not keep their promise and so he prepared a large army which went to Mecca. The non-believers did not resist the Muslims as they entered Mecca, taking over the city. The Prophet ordered Muslims to respect the people of Mecca and not to hurt anyone. Muslims were very happy to go back to their homes and to be able to do hajj without being bothered and hurt by the non-believers.

Very soon after Muslims entered Mecca and took control of the city, many of the tribes embraced Islam, which spread very fast. Today there are hundreds of millions of Muslims who live in every country of the world. There are about 8 million Muslims in the United States and their numbers are always increasing.



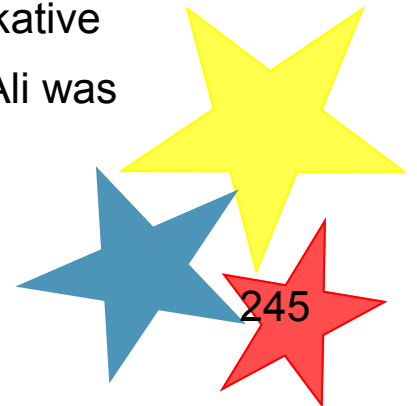
Chapter

28

Can We See Allah?

Ali and his cousin Karim were walking together to the fair. Ali was in first grade and Karim was in 6th grade. Ali liked to hang around his cousin because he did cool stuff.

It was the second day of Eid Elfitr, and the first time that Ali had fasted all Ramadan, he was very excited to have been able to do so. Ali is usually talkative and liked to joke and play with Karim, but Ali was quiet today.



“Hey Ali! How come you’re so quiet today? I usually can’t get you to shut up. Is anything wrong?” Asked Karim

“Well,” hesitated Ali. “I have been thinking about this thing, and I’m afraid to ask.”

“Don’t be afraid Ali, go ahead ask away”



“Well, it may be haram to ask about that kind of stuff” said Ali “I don’t want Allah to be mad at me and take all my fasting hasanat away.”

“Allah doesn’t mind if we ask about stuff. Go ahead Ali, what’s on your mind?”

“I know that Allah is there and everything, every body says so. But, but...”

“But what? Asked Karim

“But I can’t see him. So how can I know that Allah is really there as people say He is?”

Ali was looking down, too afraid to look straight into Karim’s face.

“He’s there alright!” Karim said. “There is nothing wrong with asking that question Ali. Actually, I can show you Allah ﷻ once we get to the fair”



“Show me Allah! You mean he’s at the fair?! I can’t believe it! He’s actually at the fair!”

“Well, in a way,” answered Karim.

“Hurry up, I’ll show you what I mean.

By that time, Ali and Karim had arrived to the fair. They paid for their tickets and got in.

“So! Where is he” asked Ali impatiently

“Hold your horses, Ali. You’ll see him” said Karim with confidence

“Ali!” Karim called. “See that big red balloon, high up in the sky.

“Wow, that’s a big one” as he looked at a big red balloon with silver ribbon dangling from it and held by a little girl.

“What makes the balloon fly in the sky without falling down?” asked Karim.

“It’s filled with helium,” said Ali “Every body knows that!”

“Oh yeah! How do you know?” asked Karim “Did you actually see the helium inside it?”

“I don’t need to see it. It’s as clear as can be, there is no other way about it” said Ali confidently.

Ali and Karim then got to a bunch of kids gathered around a hanging piñata and one of them was hitting it with a long stick.



“Ali look! I bet you anything, once the piñata breaks, the candy will fall up in the sky instead of down to the ground,” said Karim

“No way!” Ali said. “Things always fall down, not up. What’s wrong with you today?”

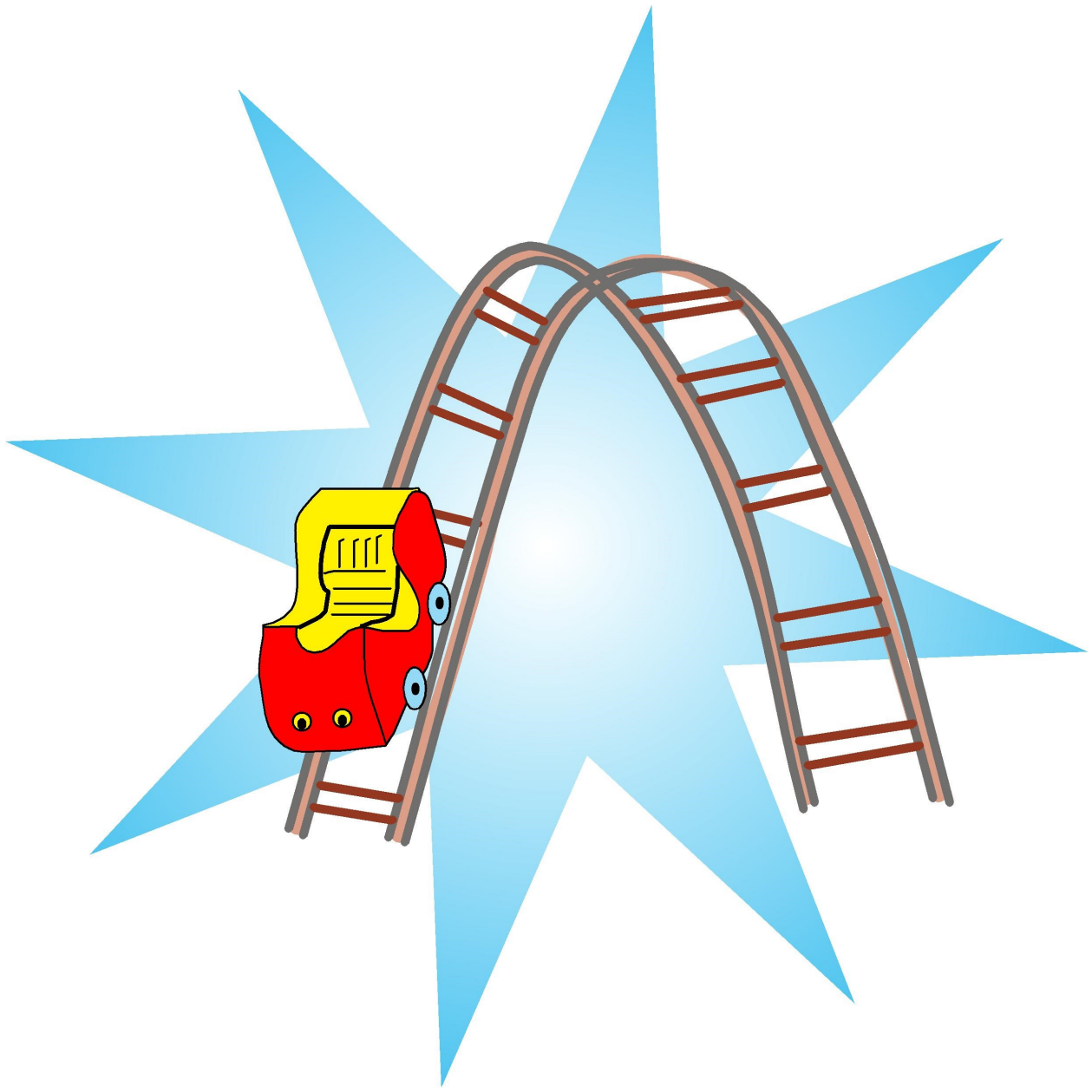
“Why do you say that? How do you know it will fall down and not up?”

“Because of gravity, it pulls things down.”

“How do you know gravity is there? Can you actually see gravity?” asked Karim.

“I don’t need to see it. It’s as clear as can be, there is no other way about it,” said Ali confidently.

Sure enough, the piñata broke and lots and lots of candy fell down all over the ground.



Quran

Yunis يونس , aya 6

There is evidence of the presence of Allah in how the day and night change from one to another, and in what Allah has created on earth and in the skies. Those are signs of Allah for God fearing people.

إِنَّ فِي اخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ وَمَا خَلَقَ اللَّهُ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ
وَالْأَرْضِ لآيَاتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ يَتَّقُونَ

Ali and Karim had fun going onto the roller coaster, then they went towards the game booths. Before they got there they smelled delicious popcorn.

“Hey! Let’s get some popcorn” said Ali

“How do you know there is popcorn?
Karim asked.

“Can’t you smell it?” Ali asked

“I can smell it, but how can you tell it’s there just by smelling it. Did you actually see the popcorn?”



“No I didn’t, but if I smell popcorn, then there must be some popcorn being popped nearby.”

“You mean you can tell that there is popcorn just by smelling it and without actually seeing it”

“I don’t need to see it. It’s as clear as can be, there is no other way about it,” said Ali confidently.


Karim stopped and turned towards his cousin Ali. He looked straight into his face and said “There you have it. There is Allah.”

“Where? Where?” Ali asked as he looked all around.

“You can’t see him with your own eyes Ali” said Karim

“Then how can I see him?” Ali asked.





“Just like you saw the helium in the balloon making it go high up in the sky, and just like you saw gravity pulling down the candy to the ground, and just like you saw the popcorn by smelling it from far away. You can see Allah ﷻ just the same way you saw all these things. Allah made us, made the earth, the skies and everything in them. He also sent us prophets and messengers to tell us all about Allah. And Allah left us the Quran, his book, which no one can write anything like. If Allah ﷻ did not exist, then who could have done all that? You can believe that things are there without actually seeing them with your own eyes.”

Words

***Eid Elfitr:** Muslim holiday, right after Ramadan.*

***Hasanat:** good things done.*

***Helium:** a gas which is lighter than air.*

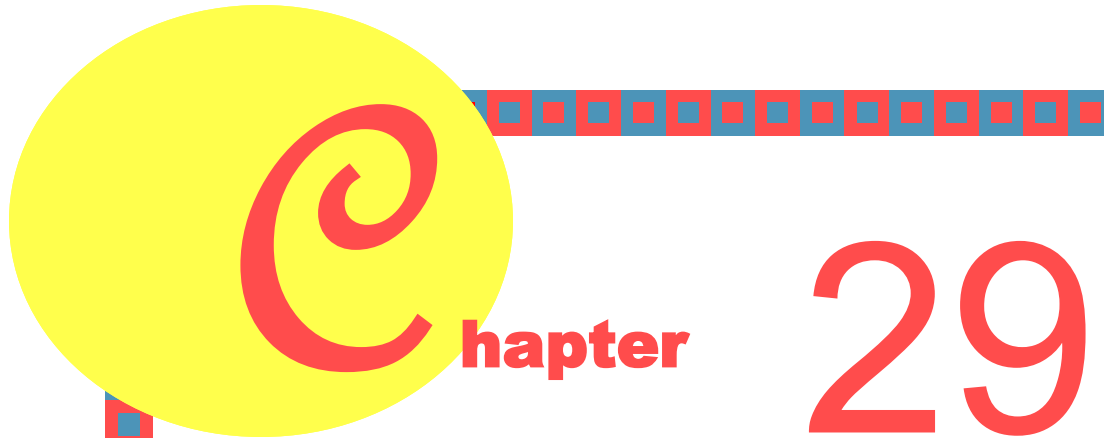
“You’re right Karim; I don’t need to see Allah ﷻ. He is there! It’s as clear as can be; there is no other way about it.” Ali said confidently.

Karim put his arm around his cousin’s shoulders and they walked to get some popcorn.



Remember

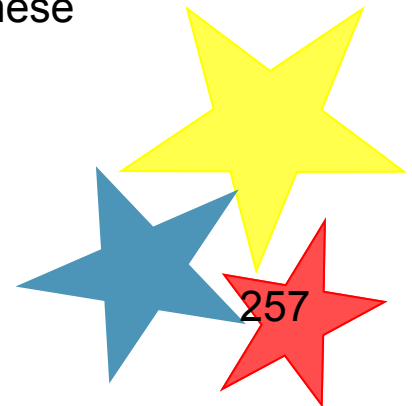
- *We don’t see wind, but we know it’s there when the trees move*
- *Allah ﷻ created everything and he is all around us.*
- *We see Allah ﷻ by seeing all the great things he created.*
- *Allah created everything and he is all around us.*
- *We see Allah by seeing all the great things he created*

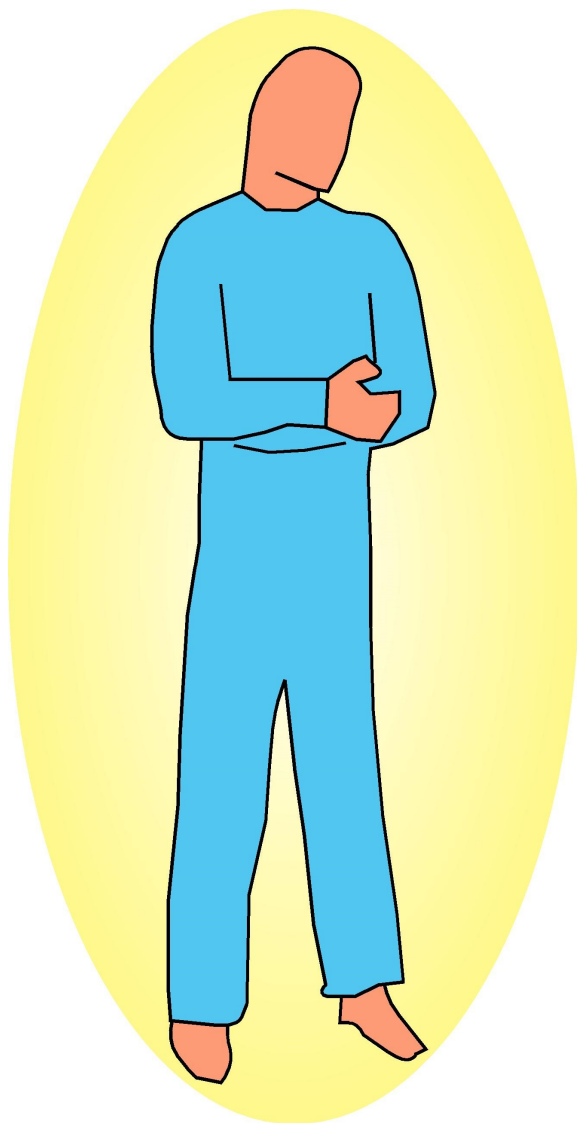


Chapter 29

Different Kinds of Salat صلاة

Salat, or prayer, is done five times a day. These are the prayers Allah ﷻ asked Muslims to do every day. All Muslims who are mature must do them. Mature means being older than about 11 or 12 years old. Not doing these salat will be disobeying Allah, this is why these prayers are called fardh, or obligatory.





Muslims younger than 12 years old should also do these prayers, because this will please Allah and prepare them to do it regularly when they are older than 12 years.

Muslims also do prayers other than those which are fardh, these are called nawafel or sunna, which means extra prayers which are not a must to do, but prophet Muhammad ﷺ did them and Muslims like to worship Allah ﷻ the same way the Prophet did. Doing these prayers will make us even closer to Allah.

Some of these nawafel are done with the five fardh salat, either before them or after them. These nawafel prayers are:

Two ruka'a before Subh prayer.

Two or four before and after Dhuhr prayer.

Two after Maghrib prayer.

Two after Isha'



Words

Fardh: Arabic word means must be done.

Sunna: Arabic word, means the way of the Prophet ﷺ, like making extra prayers, just like the Prophet did.

Nawafel: extra prayers as done by the Prophet ﷺ.

Taraweeh: one of the sunna prayers done during Ramadan, it means to rest in between prayers.

Muslims can also do some of these extra prayers during the night after Isha' and before subh prayer. In Ramadan these are called Taraweeh.

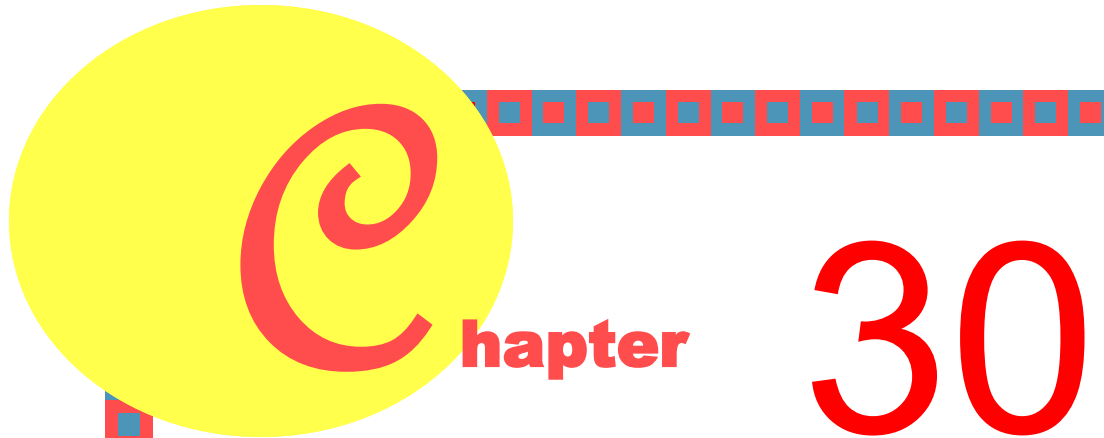
Muslims can also do salat to thank Allah or ask him for something special.

When doing nawafel salat we should do wudu just like we do for our regular prayer.



Remember

- *There are two different kinds of salat: fardh and sunna.*
- *Fardh prayer are the five times a day prayers all Muslims must pray.*
- *Sunna prayers are extra prayer which Muslims can do to worship Allah ﷻ .*

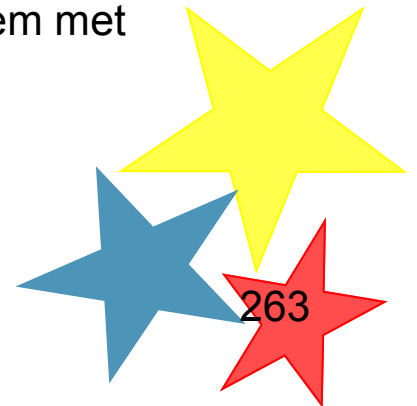


Chapter 30

Maryem and friends

Maryem lived with her mother, father and brother Imad in an apartment on Oakwood Street. Maryem was 6 years old and Imad was younger. He was four.

One day Maryem and Imad went with their parents to the nearby park to play. In the park, Maryem met her friend Jenny who lived in the same apartment building as Maryem.





Maryem and Jenny played and had a good time, but when Maryem went back home with her parents and Imad she seemed somewhat sad.

“What’s wrong?” asked her mother.

“Nothing,” said Maryem with a soft voice.

“There must be something wrong, Maryem,” insisted her mother. “You don’t look as happy as you were when you were at the park.”

Quran

AlMumtahina الممتحنة , aya 9

Allah only forbids you from being friends with those who fight your faith and drive you out of your homes and support your enemies. Those who become friends with such people will make Allah angry.

إِنَّمَا يَنْهَاكُمْ اللَّهُ عَنِ الَّذِينَ قَاتَلُوكُمْ فِي الدِّينِ وَأَخْرَجُوكُم
مِّن دِيَارِكُمْ وَظَاهَرُوا عَلَىٰ إِخْرَاجِكُمْ أَن تَوَلَّوهُمْ وَمَن يَتَوَلَّهُمْ
فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ





“Jenny said something,” said Maryem. “And I don’t want to tell you because you’ll get mad at me.”

“Why should I get mad at you for something Jenny said, sweetheart?” her mother said. “Go ahead, tell me, and I promise I will not get mad.”

“Jenny said she has a boyfriend at school,” said Maryem with some hesitation. “I told her that that’s haram, but she just made fun of me and called me dumb.”

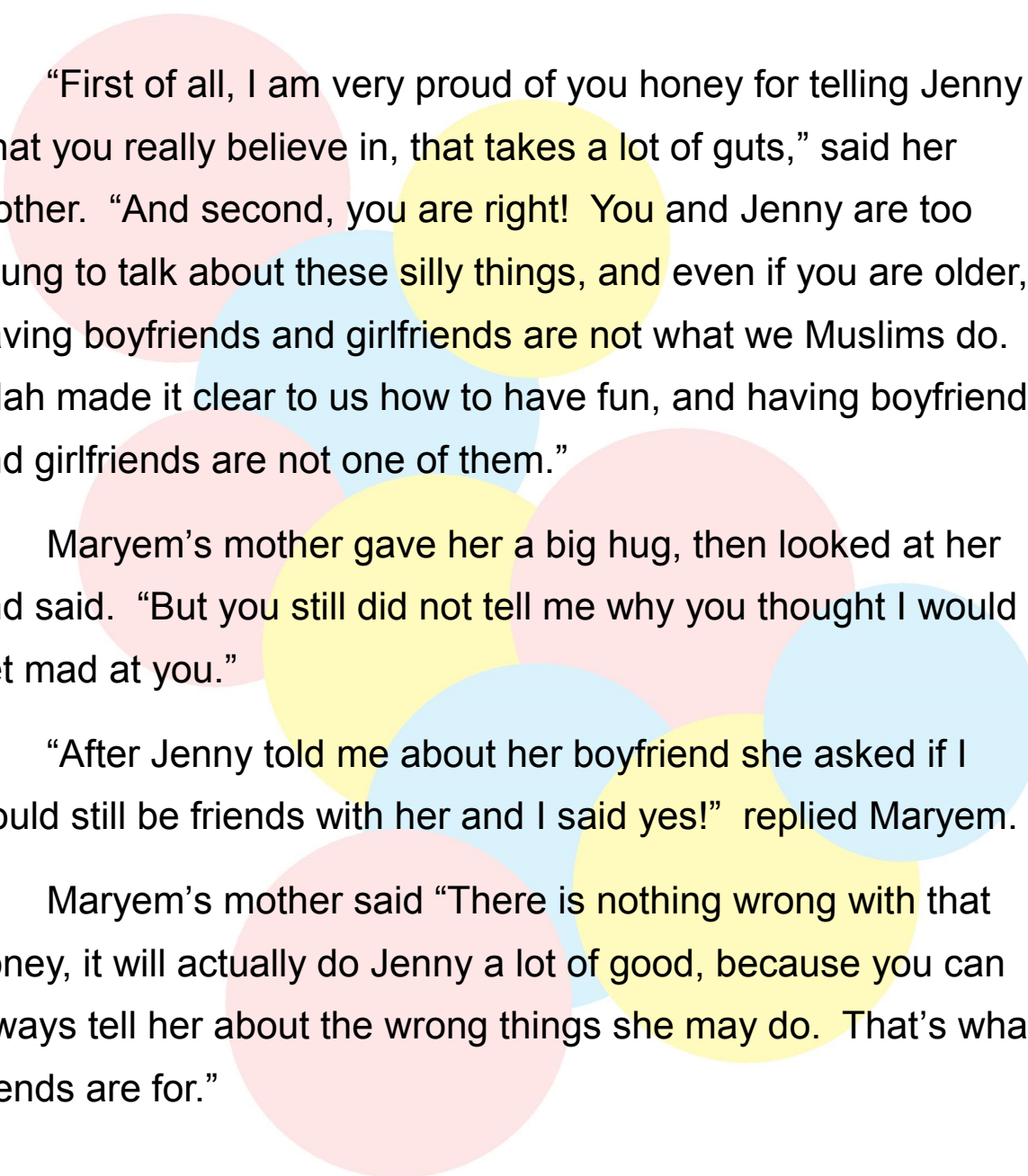
Words

Forbids: asking someone not to do something.

Hesitation: doing or saying something slowly when you are not sure.

Enemies: people who do not like you or want to hurt you.

Instructions: a way things should be done.



“First of all, I am very proud of you honey for telling Jenny what you really believe in, that takes a lot of guts,” said her mother. “And second, you are right! You and Jenny are too young to talk about these silly things, and even if you are older, having boyfriends and girlfriends are not what we Muslims do. Allah made it clear to us how to have fun, and having boyfriends and girlfriends are not one of them.”

Maryem’s mother gave her a big hug, then looked at her and said. “But you still did not tell me why you thought I would get mad at you.”

“After Jenny told me about her boyfriend she asked if I would still be friends with her and I said yes!” replied Maryem.

Maryem’s mother said “There is nothing wrong with that honey, it will actually do Jenny a lot of good, because you can always tell her about the wrong things she may do. That’s what friends are for.”

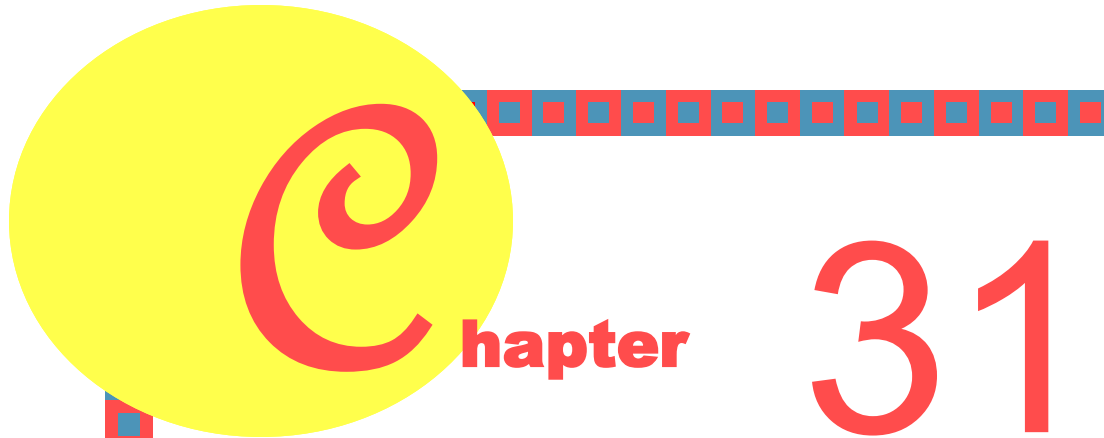
Remember

- *Muslims must be nice to all people .*
- *Having lots of Muslims and non-Muslims friends is fun.*
- *Your best friend is the one who knows you and loves you most. A Muslim's best friends is also a Muslim*
- *Friends trust and help each other.*

“So it’s okay to be Jenny’s friend?” asked Maryem.

“Friends, yes! But not best friends,” said her mother, then continued, “You will always feel more comfortable with Muslim friends who only do what pleases Allah and stay away from things which hurt us and displeases Allah. But we have to always be nice to those who do not follow Allah’s instructions so we can show them how to do the right things.”

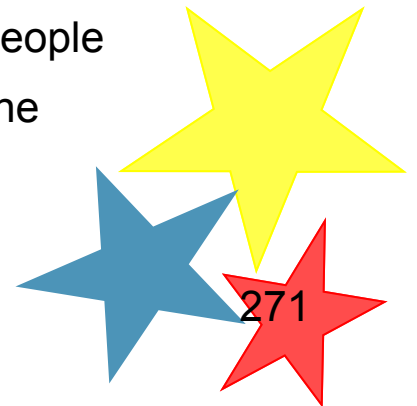
Maryem gave her mother a hug and said “Thank you!”



Chapter 31

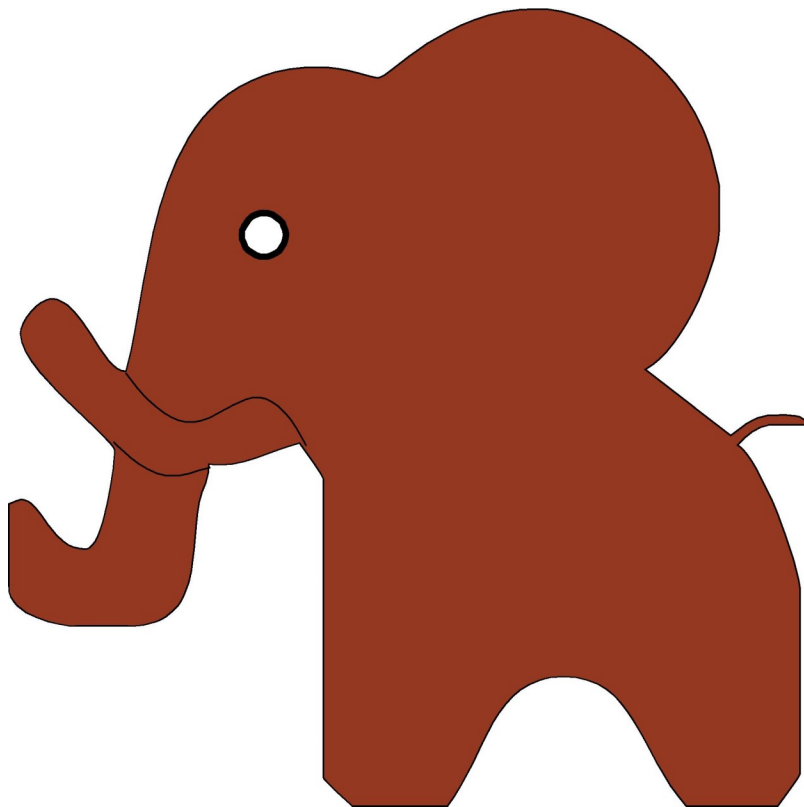
Alfeel الفيل

Allah ﷻ always protects those who love and worship him. At times things may look bad, but we should not feel that we are all alone. Allah is always there to take care of us and protect us from any evil. This is what Allah did with the people of Mecca around the time Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was born. An army of evil people with big huge elephants wanted to attack the Ka'ba and destroy it to force people to stop worshipping Allah.



The grandfather of Prophet Muhammad, Abdulmutalib, did not fear those armies, because he believed in Allah ﷻ and knew that Allah ﷻ would protect the Ka'ba from any harm.

Abdulmutalib warned the evil people, but they did not listen and attacked the Ka'ba. And just before they got to it, Allah ﷻ sent flocks of birds on the army of elephants. Those birds dropped special stones on the army, which destroyed it completely.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Have you not seen what your Lord did with the army of elephants?

أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ

2. Didn't he make their evil plans crumple

أَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ كَيْدَهُمْ فِي تَضْلِيلٍ

3. He sent to them flocks of birds

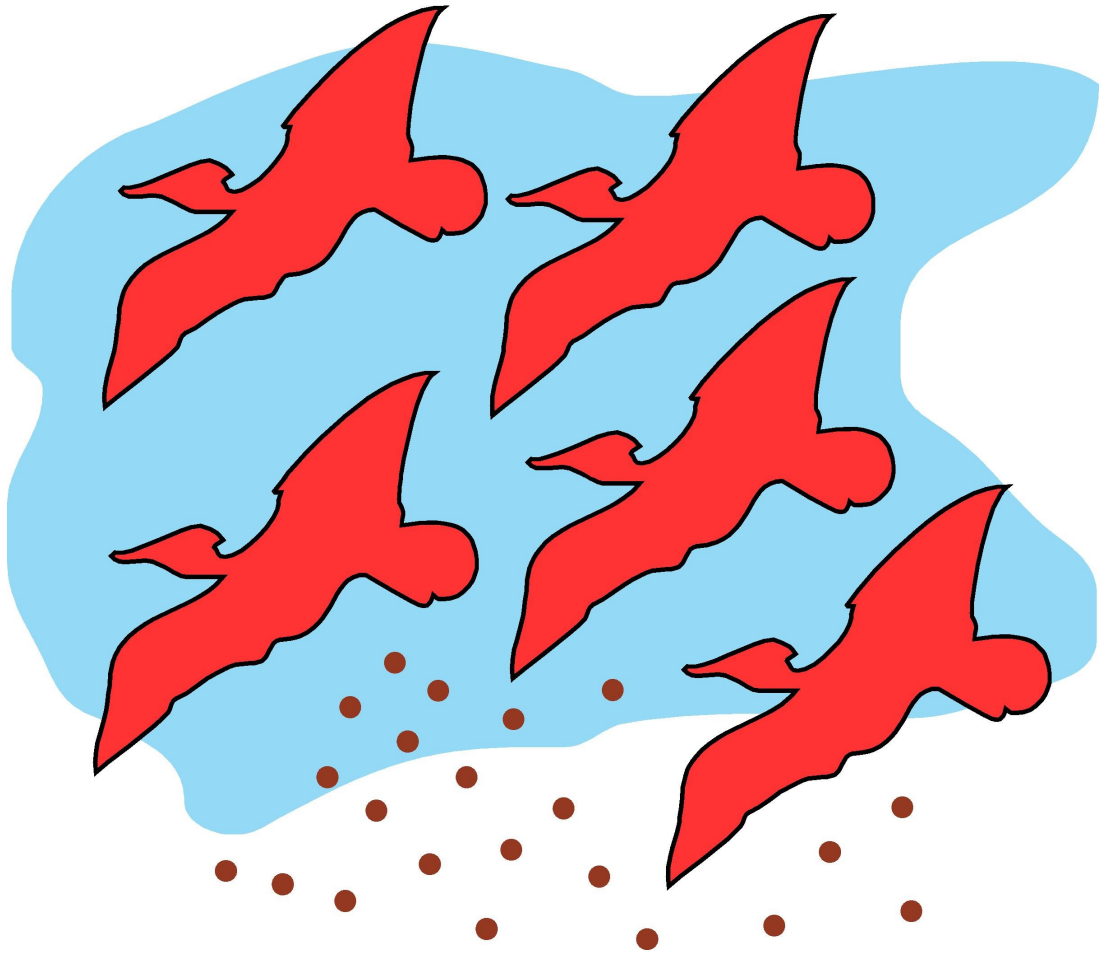
وَأَرْسَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ طَيْرًا أَبَابِيلَ

4. Throwing on them stones of clay

تَرْمِيهِمْ بِحِجَارَةٍ مِّن سِجِّيلٍ

5. Destroying them and making them look like a field after the crop were harvested

فَجَعَلَهُمْ كَعَصْفٍ مَّأْكُولٍ



Alhumazeh الهمزه

Evil and good both live within us. Sometimes we do good, but at other times we do bad. Allah ﷻ knows us well, he knows that sometimes we feel like doing evil. We may hurt someone's feelings or be selfish and not give from our money to those who need it. Allah ﷻ knows that every now and then we will think of doing the wrong thing, but He wants us to resist such bad thoughts and instead do good.

Words

Protect: not allow anything wrong to happen.

Crop: plants, like corn.

Harvest: Cutting plants to make food.

Evil: bad.

Misery: being unhappy.

blazing: very hot.

Remember

- *Allah ﷻ is the best protector.*
- *Evil people who fight Allah ﷻ will lose. ﷻ*
- *Birds, elephants and all creatures obey Allah ﷻ.*
- *Allah ﷻ gives us every thing we have.*
- *We also have to give from what we have, like money to those who need it.*

The reward for such good behavior is clear, Allah will be pleased with us and we will enter Jenna. Unlike evil people who Allah talks about in this sura, those who lie, talk about others in a bad way behind their back and not share from the money that Allah has given to them with those who need it. Those people think that they will never be caught lying, hurting others or that their money would never end and it would protect them for ever. But they are wrong! Allah ﷻ will punish them on the Day of Judgment and they will end up in Hellfire where they would be punished for the evils they have done.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Misery to the one who lies or talks about others behind their backs

وَيْلٌ لِّكُلِّ هُمَزَةٍ لُّمَزَةٍ

2. He who locks up his money and keeps counting it

الَّذِي جَمَعَ مَالًا وَعَدَّدَهُ

3. He thinks that his money would make him live forever

يَحْسَبُ أَنَّ مَالَهُ أَخْلَدَهُ

4. Certainly not! He will find himself thrown into the crusher

كَأَلَّا يُبَدَنَّ فِي الْخُطْمَةِ

5. And what could this crusher be?

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْخُطْمَةُ

6. It is Allah's blazing fire

نَارُ اللَّهِ الْمَوْقَدَةُ

7. Which can look deep into ones heart

الَّتِي تَطَّلِعُ عَلَى الْأَفْئِدَةِ

8. It surrounds and locks up such evil people

إِنَّهَا عَلَيْهِمْ مُّوَصَّدَةٌ

9. Like tall pillars all around them

فِي عَمَدٍ مُمَدَّدَةٍ





Chapter 32

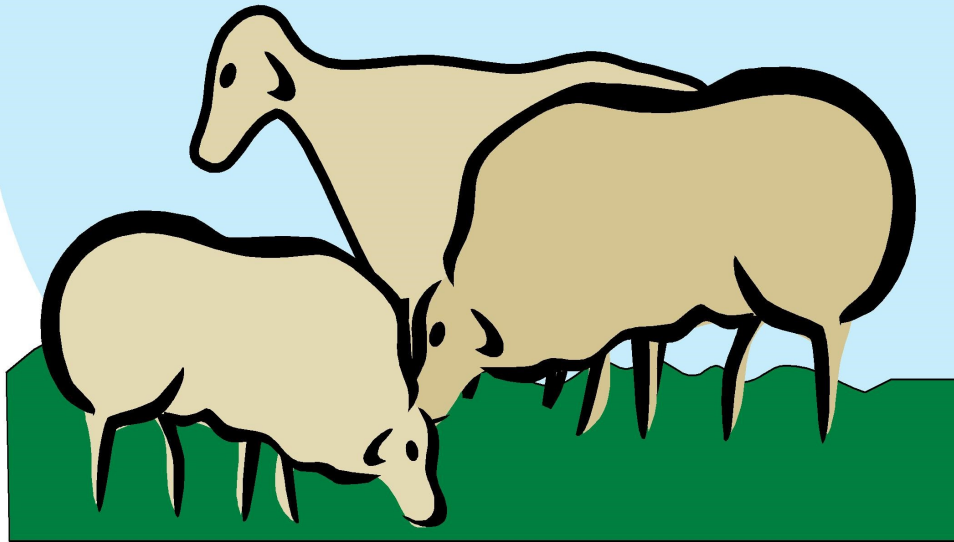
Prophet Muhammad's Family

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was 40 years old when he first became a prophet. He was married to Khadija when he lived in Mecca. The Prophet and Khadija had five children together, one boy and four girls. The boy was the eldest and his name was Elkasim, the four girls were Zaineb, Rukaya, Fatima and Um-kalthum, Khadija died in Mecca before the Prophet left to Medina.



While in Medina, the Prophet married other women. Aa'isha the daughter of Abu-Bakr was one of these wives. The Prophet had only one child from these wives, his name was Abdulla. Abdulla's mother was a Christian lady from Egypt. Elkasim and Abdulla both died when they were children.

Fatima married the Prophet's cousin Ali and they had three children Alhassan, Alhussien and Zaineb.



Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was medium in height with fair complexion, blushed cheeks, and a strong body. His eyes were wide and his smile was big showing white and straight teeth.

The Prophet worked hard when he was a shepherd and later as a merchant. He also worked hard spreading the word of Allah ﷻ when he became a prophet. He was also wise, patient and never hurt a person, even when they hurt him.



Words

***Fair complexion:** a person whose skin is light in color.*

***Blushed:** pink color.*

***Merchant:** someone who works in buying and selling things.*

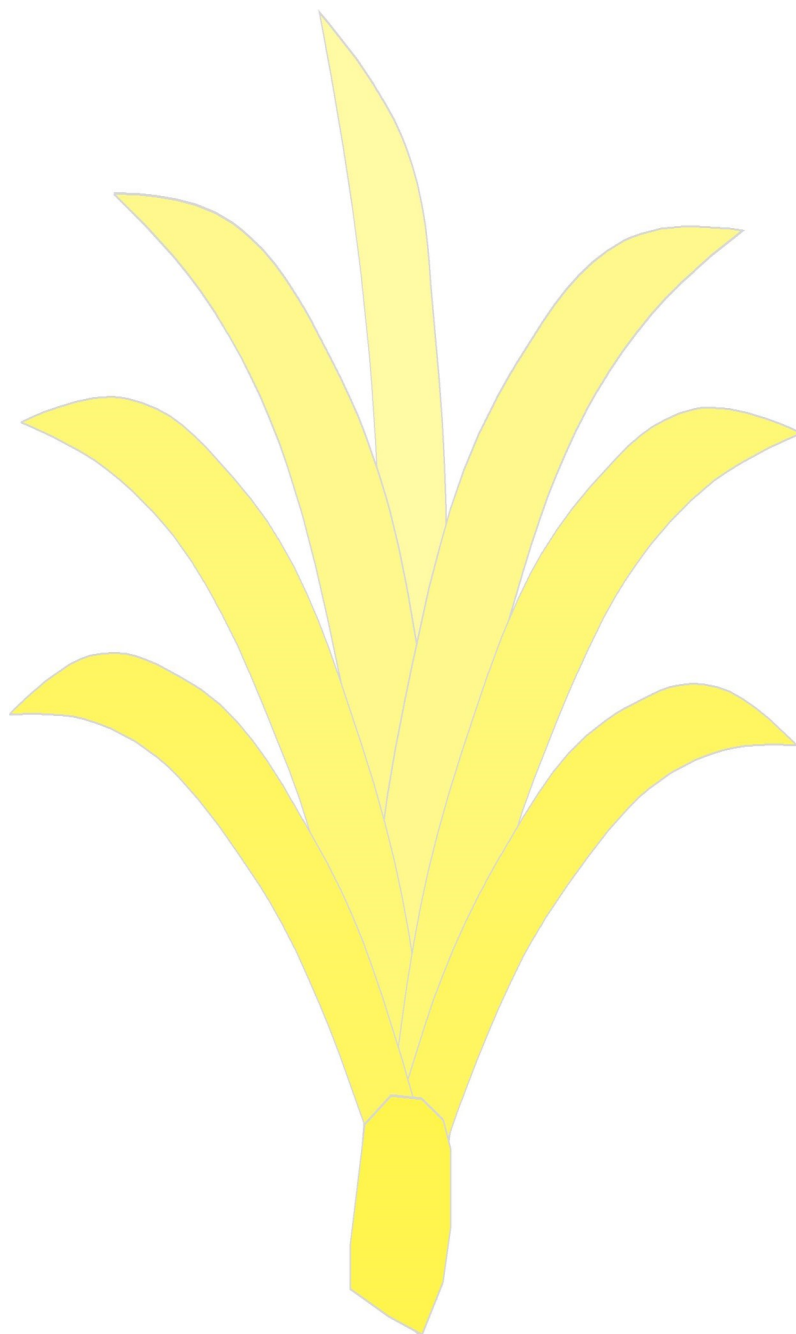
***Forgiving:** kind and does not feel bad when hurt by others.*

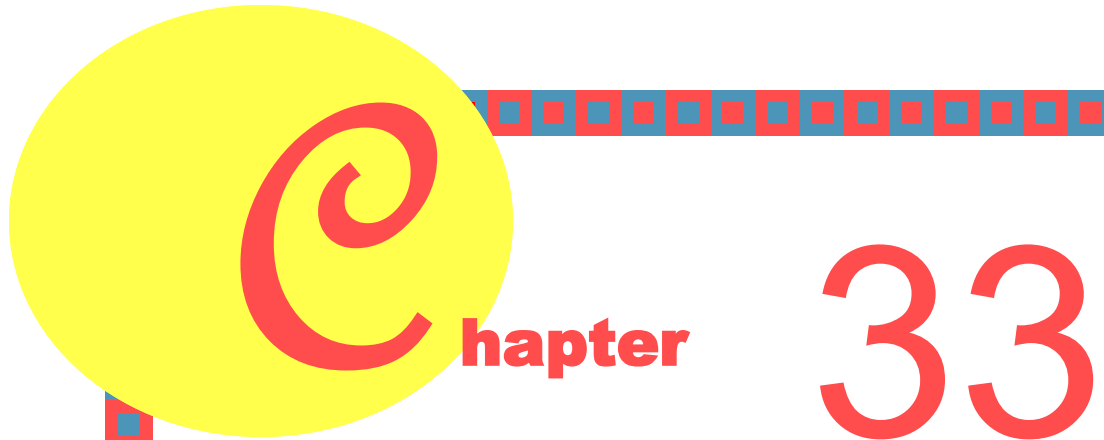
Remember

- *The Quran you own is the same Quran that Allah sent to Muhammad ﷺ.*
- *The story of the life of the Prophet is called sira*
- *The sayings of the Prophet are called hadith .*
- *The Prophet died, but he will be with us when we follow his teachings.*

The Prophet ﷺ always tried to find excuses for those who harm him. He was also quiet, humble and always answered those who asked him a question. He was forgiving of his enemies and did not try to harm them when he was strong and they were weak.







Chapter 33

The Prophet is With Us!

“The Prophet is with us” said the Ms. Hussien, the first grade teacher, to her students.

The children looked around, anxious to see the Prophet ﷺ whom they heard so much about.

“Where? Where?” asked the students

“In here and in here” she said as she pointed to her head and her chest.



The children looked puzzled; they were not sure what Ms. Hussien meant by that.

“We studied the life of the Prophet ﷺ,” said Ms. Hussien. “We know how he looks, how he behaves, what he did and what he wanted Muslims to do, so now he lives with us.”

“Allah gave us the Quran” continued Ms. Hussien “And the Prophet who lived and behaved the way Allah ﷻ wants us to behave.”

Words

Confidence: *being sure of something.*

Wisdom: *being smart.*

Compassion: *doing something with care and love.*

Path: *road or way, following the right path means doing the right way.*

“You mean we can copy the Prophet to be good Muslims?” asked Ali, one of the students.

“Exactly,” said Ms. Hussien “We have to know the Quran, know how the prophet behaved and what he said.”

“The Quran we have in our classroom and in our homes is the exact same Quran Allah revealed to the Prophet. We also know how the Prophet behaved and what he said because many people wrote down what the Prophet said”. “Does anyone know what we call the life of the Prophet and what we call the things he said?”



“Sira is the life of the Prophet,” said Fatima.

“Exactly,” replied Ms. Hussien.

“And hadith is what we call the things the Prophet ﷺ said,” said Samir.

“That’s true,” said Ms. Hussien.

“Now you now what I meant earlier,” Ms. Hussien told her students “The life of prophet Muhammad ﷺ will always be with us, in our minds and in our hearts.”



Remember

- *Allah ﷻ sent the Quran to be with us for ever.*
- *Allah teaches us in the Quran how to live and how to worship.*
- *Allah ﷻ revealed the Quran to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.*
- *The Quran will never change because it is protected by Allah ﷻ.*

