



AL MAHDI MADRASAH

TAREEKH SYLLABUS - CLASS 5

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Comment: this note is good but could do with more anchorage to hadith and quranic ayats.

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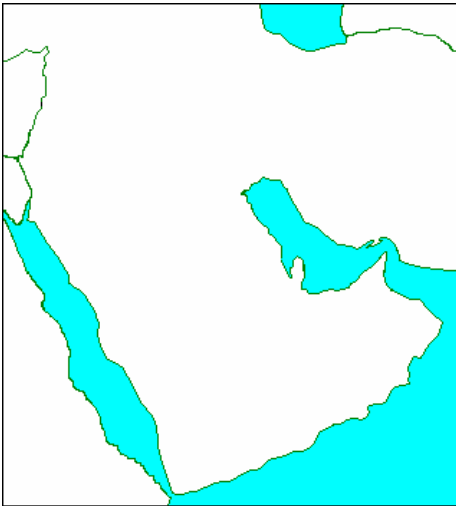
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CLASS 5 - LESSON 1

ARABIA BEFORE ISLAM

Arabia is a large country whose area is three million square kilometres. From olden times this land was divided into three regions. These were **Hijaz**, the **Arabian Desert** and **Yemen**.

Geography Box – Map of Arabia in Olden Times



1. Divide the map of Arabia into the three regions. Shade each region with a different coloured pencil. Don't forget to fill in the key.

2. Mark on the map of Arabia the cities of Makka, Madina and Abwa.

KEY:

- Hijaz
- Arabian Desert
- Yemen

The largest city in Hijaz was Makka and its history dated from the time when Prophet Ibrahim (A) built the Holy Ka'ba with the help of his son Prophet Isma'il (A). Prophet Isma'il (A) settled in Makka. From his descendants there were many Arab tribes. The most famous was the Quraish.

Before the coming of Islam, the Arabs had many bad habits. Some of these were:

1. They were very quick to start fights and even wars for very small and silly reasons. Some families fought for fifty to hundred years, until they even forgot what the original quarrel was all about.
2. They did not have law and order. The stronger tribes would think nothing of robbing and killing the weaker ones.
3. They believed in hundreds of gods, and built little idols to worship. In the Holy Ka'ba alone, they put 365 idols - one for each day of the year.
4. Women were treated very badly.
5. One of the most horrible customs of the Arabs was to bury their daughters alive. If they heard that a daughter had been born to them, they would get very angry and take the baby and put her in a grave and cover it up.

The Arabs, however, also had some good qualities. These were as follows:

1. They never broke a promise and regarded this to be a great sin.
2. They had great skill in horsemanship and archery.
3. They were brave people and never ran away from the enemy in war.
4. They were very good in the art of poetry and had sharp memories that enabled them to remember long verses and speeches by heart.

These good qualities were especially found in the family of Adnaan, who himself was a descendant of Prophet Isma'il (A).

The descendants of Adnaan were very generous. They believed in one God as taught by Prophet Ibrahim (A). Their poetry and speech was

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better than all others were. Our Holy Prophet (S) was from this noble family. He was from the clan of Bani Hashim, which was part of the tribe of Quraish.

Exercise

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah describes the feelings of some of the Arabs when a daughter was born to them. This is in Surah an-Nahl (the Bee), verses 58 and 59. Find these verses and write the translation below.

Now you know...

- ◆ Hijaz is a region of Arabia; its capital was Makka.
- ◆ The Quraish was the main Arab tribe in Makka. They were the descendants of Prophet Isma'il (A).
- ◆ Before Islam, the Arabs had many bad habits: they were quick to start fights, they had no law and order, they were idol worshippers, and they treated women badly and buried their daughters alive.
- ◆ The Arabs had some good qualities: they never broke their promises, they were very brave and had skill in horsemanship and archery and they were brilliant poets.
- ◆ The family of Adnaan had the best qualities. They were generous, the best in poetry and they believed in one God.
- ◆ The Holy Prophet (S) was from the clan of Bani Hashim, which was part of the tribe of Quraish.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 2

QUSAY SON OF KILAB

Qusay was the fourth ancestor of our Holy Prophet Muhammad (S). Qusay and his brother Zohrah were very young when their father, Kilab, died.

Their mother, Fatimah, married another man, Rabia, who took his new family with him to Syria. Rabia took care of Qusay as his own son.

When Qusay was grown up, there was a quarrel between him and Rabia's tribe. As a result, Qusay returned to his birthplace, Makka. Since he was a good leader, he soon became very powerful amongst the Makkans, and especially the tribe of Quraish.

Qusay was generous and brave and he was popular because he had very good manners and treated people kindly. He became the chief of the Quraish.

One important thing he did was to set up the **Daar-un-Nadwa** which was a house next to the Holy Ka'ba, where the chiefs of all the tribes would gather to discuss their problems.

Qusay took over all the responsibilities of the tribe of Quraish, which were:

1. **Hijaba** In charge of the keys of the Holy Ka'ba.
2. **Nadwa** Chairman of Daar-un-Nadwa.
3. **Rifada** Feeding of the pilgrims.
4. **Saqaya** Supplying water to the pilgrims.
5. **Liwa** Appointer of the standard bearer of the Quraish in war.
6. **Qiyada** Commander of the army in war.

Qusay died in 5 A.D. and left behind two sons, Abdud Daar and Abd Manaaf.

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Art Box

Design an A4 poster showing the six responsibilities of the Quraish.

For each responsibility:

1. Give the Arabic name.
2. Explain what the responsibility involves.
3. Draw a symbol representing the responsibility.

Marks will be given for creativity, presentation and content.

In his will, Qusay made his elder son, Abdud Daar, the new chief of the Quraish and left the six duties connected with the Quraish to him. The younger brother, Abd Manaaf, was the wiser, but he never tried to take the leadership away from his brother.

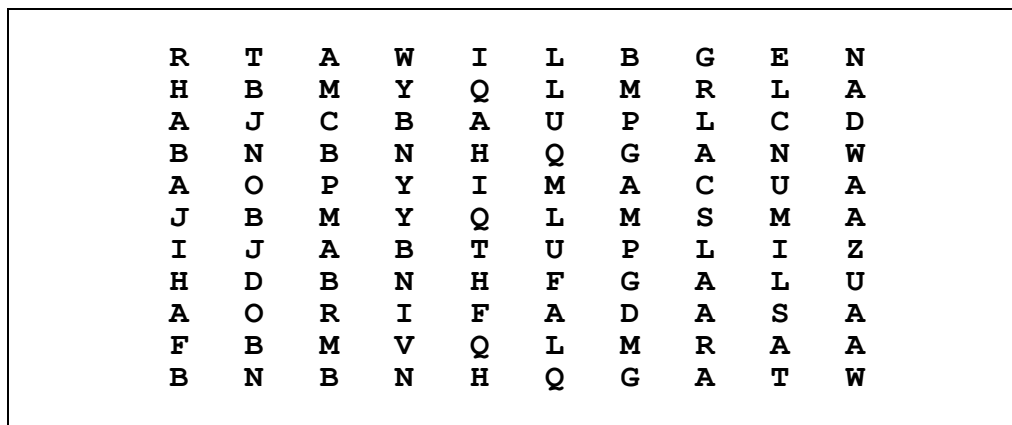
After the two brothers died, their sons began to quarrel about the division of the six duties. Finally, it was decided that the duties would be divided between Abd Manaaf's sons and Abdud Daar's sons.

Exercise

1. Which do you think was the most important responsibility of the Quraysh and why?
2. If you were given the choice to be in charge of one of the responsibilities which would it be and why?

Extension Exercise

In the wordsearch below, find the six duties of the tribe of Quraish.



1. Hijaba
2. Nadwa
3. Rifada
4. Saqaya
5. Liwa
6. Qiyada

Now you know...

- ◆ Qusay was the fourth ancestor of the Holy Prophet (S).
- ◆ He was brought up in Syria, but returned to his birthplace, Makka, later during his life.
- ◆ Qusay was generous and brave and he became the chief of the Quraish.
- ◆ The most important thing he did was to set up the **Dar-un-Nadwa**, where the chiefs of all the tribes would gather to discuss their problems.
- ◆ He took over the six responsibilities of the tribe of the Quraish: **Hijaba, Nadwa, Rifada, Saqaya, Liwa and Qiyada.**
- ◆ He had two sons: Abdud Daar and Abd Manaaf.

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CLASS 5 - LESSON 3

HASHIM SON OF ABD MANAAF

Hashim was the great grandfather of our Holy Prophet Muhammad (S). He had a twin brother whose name was Abd Shams and two other brothers, Muttalib and Nawfal.

Hashim was a wise leader and one of the important things he did was to make a trade agreement between the Quraish and the ruler of Syria. His brothers then made similar agreements with the rulers of Ethiopia, Yemen and Iran.

As a result, goods could be exchanged freely between these countries and the Quraish became rich and powerful. Makka itself became a centre of trade.

In summer the trade caravans went to Syria and in the winter to Yemen. But the trade routes were not safe from thieves on the way. Hashim therefore made a deal with the thieves that if they would not attack his caravans, he promised to sell them his goods at cheap prices. They accepted this offer because it meant that they would no longer be outlaws and could enter Makka without being attacked. Allah mentions this in the Holy Qur'an:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

For the security of the Quraish.

Their security during their journey in the winter and the summer;

So (in return) let them worship the Lord of this House (Ka'ba).

(He) Who fed them against hunger, and secured them against fear.

(Suratul Quraish 106: 1- 4)

At that time there was a practice of the Arabs known as **Ihtifaad**. When members of a family could not earn enough to feed themselves, they would leave Makka and go to the desert, where they would live in a tent until they died of hunger and thirst. They thought this action was more honourable than begging.

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It was Hashim who told the people not to accept this. He started a scheme, where one poor family was united with one rich one. The two families helped each other in the trading and thus both were in a better position.

Umayyah, son of Abd Shams, was jealous of the respect of his uncle Hashim. He tried hard to make people like him by giving them gifts. However, Hashim continued to attract the hearts of the people by his kindness and good actions.

Finally, Umayyah openly challenged his uncle for the leadership of the Quraish. He wanted them both to go to a wise man and let him decide between them.

Hashim agreed on two conditions. He said that the loser should sacrifice 100 camels to feed the pilgrims in the Haj season and also leave Makka for 10 years. Umayyah agreed to these conditions.

When the wise man saw and heard the two men, he immediately said that Hashim was more fit to rule and so Umayyah was forced to leave Makka. He spent 10 years in Syria. Ever since that day the Bani Umayyah became the enemies of the Bani Hashim.

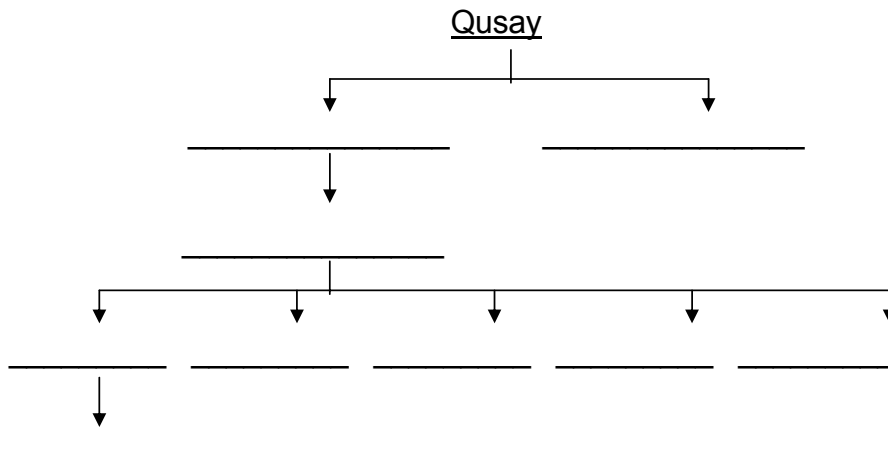
Research Box

Find out a bit more about some of the Bani Umayyah. What sort of people were they? How did they treat the Holy Prophet (S) and other members of the Ahlul Bayt (A).

Hashim died in Syria. He left behind 5 sons: Abdul Muttalib, Asad, Nadha, Saifi and Abusaifi. The last three had no children and Asad had only one daughter Fatima who was the mother of Imam Ali (A).

Exercise

Complete the family tree:



Now you know...

- ◆ Hashim was the great grandfather of the Holy Prophet (S).
- ◆ He had a twin brother called Abd Shams.
- ◆ Hashim was a wise leader. He made the Quraish rich by making a trade agreement with the ruler of Syria. He also made an agreement with the thieves on the trade routes, that if they would not attack the trade caravans, then he would sell them his goods at cheap prices.
- ◆ He brought an end to the practise of **Ihtifaad**, by uniting one rich family with one poor family.
- ◆ Hashim's nephew, Ummayah (son of Abd Shams) was jealous of the respect of his uncle. He challenged his uncle for the leadership of the Quraish.
- ◆ He lost the challenge, and had to sacrifice 100 camels to feed the Hajj pilgrims and leave Makka for 10 years. From then on, the Bani Ummayah became the enemies of the Bani Hashim.

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REVISION EXERCISE ONE

Section A

Answer the following questions:

1. What were the names of the three regions of Arabia?
2. The Arabs were descendants of which Prophet (A)?
3. Describe three bad habits of the Arabs.
4. What were the religious beliefs of the descendants of Adnaan?
5. From which clan and tribe was the Holy Prophet (S)?

Section B

Answer the following questions:

1. How was Qusay related to the Holy Prophet (S)?
2. How did Qusay become powerful amongst the Quraish?
3. What was the most important thing Qusay did?
4. Give two responsibilities of the Quraish and describe what they involved.
5. What were the names of Qusay's sons?

Section C

Answer the following questions:

1. How did Hashim make the Quraish rich and powerful?
2. Where did the Quraish trade in the summer and in the winter?
3. Why was Umayyah jealous of Hashim?
4. Why did the people do "Ihtifaad"?
5. How is our Holy Prophet (S) related to Hashim?

CLASS 5 - LESSON 4

ABDUL MUTTALIB - SON OF HASHIM (PART 1)

Introduction to Abdul Muttalib

Abdul Muttalib was the grandfather of our Holy Prophet Muhammad (S). His mother's name was Salma and his father was Hashim.

Abdul Muttalib was born in Madina. His mother named him Shibah. He was very young when his father Hashim died. When Hashim was about to die, he told his brother Muttalib, "Go to Madina and bring my son Shibah to Makka."

Muttalib went to Madina and brought his nephew Shibah back to Makka with him. When the people saw the young Shibah with his uncle, they thought he was his slave, and called him Abdul Muttalib, which means slave of Muttalib. Although Muttalib tried to explain that the boy was his nephew, the name stuck, and from that time onwards, Shibah was always known as Abdul Muttalib.

Muttalib continued to manage his brother Hashim's duties until Abdul Muttalib was old enough to take over.

Abdul Muttalib took over the duties of Saqaya and Rifada when his uncle Muttalib died. He had many good qualities and made many changes to the lives and habits of the Quraish. Some of these were:

1. He was the first man to make Nazr and fulfil it. A Nazr is where a person promises Allah that, if his wish is granted, he will perform a certain good deed.
2. He stopped the custom of marriages between close relatives like brother and sister, mother and son, etc.
3. He started the rule of cutting off the hand of a thief.

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4. He stopped the people from drinking alcohol.
5. He discouraged the terrible practice of burying daughters alive.
6. He set the fine of 10 camels for killing a person by mistake.
7. He was the first to give 1/5 (Khums) of treasure in the way of Allah.

Abdul Muttalib lived for 82 years and his good leadership earned him the title Sayyidul-Bat'ha, which means Chief of Makka.

Exercise

Read verses 7-11 of Sura ad-Dahr in the Holy Qur'an and then write a few sentences below about a Nazr that was done by Imam Ali (A) and his family.

Now you know...

- ◆ Abdul Muttalib was the grandfather of our Holy Prophet (S).
- ◆ His mother's name was Salma and his father's name was Hashim.
- ◆ His real name was Shibah, but because he was once mistaken as the slave of his uncle Muttalib, he was called Abdul Muttalib.
- ◆ He was the first person to make and fulfil his Nazr and the first to pay Khums.
- ◆ During his life he made many good changes in the lives of the Quraish: he stopped marriage between close relatives, he punished thieves, he stopped people drinking alcohol, he discouraged the burying of daughters alive and he set a fine for killing people by mistake.
- ◆ Because Abdul Muttalib was a good leader, he was called **Sayyidul-Ba'tha**, which means Chief of Makka.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 5

ABDUL MUTTALIB - SON OF HASHIM (PART 2)

The Well of Zam Zam

The well of Zam Zam had existed since the time of Prophet Ibrahim (A). It was a sign of Allah's Mercy to Prophet Ibrahim's (A) wife Hajira and son Prophet Isma'il (A). This blessed well exists even today.

After Prophet Isma'il (A), the tribe of Jarham settled around the well of Zam Zam and used its water for their needs. When they grew rich and powerful in Makka, they did not take care of the well and overused it, so it dried up.

By the time Abdul Muttalib was born, people only knew that the well of Zam Zam existed, but nobody knew where it was anymore.

One day Abdul Muttalib received instructions in a dream to dig up Zam Zam and was given some signs as to where it was. He took his eldest son Harith, and after digging for four days, they managed to find the entrance of the well.

The Quraish claimed that the well belonged to the whole tribe so everyone should have the honour of digging the well. Abdul Muttalib wanted to dig up the well himself, so that he could arrange the distribution of water to everyone, especially the pilgrims, in an organised way.

They could not reach a decision, so they decided to go to a famous wise person in Syria and follow whatever he said.

Every clan sent one person to represent itself. Abdul Muttalib with his son and companions were in one caravan and the others were in another.

During the long journey Abdul Muttalib's caravan had run out of water so they asked the other people for some, but were refused. The situation was such that Abdul Muttalib thought they would die and

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asked everyone to dig their grave so that when the first person died the other would bury him, and it would only be the last person who would remain unburied. They all dug their own graves.

After some time Abdul Muttalib decided that it was better to keep searching than to die in such a way. By Allah's Mercy, they soon discovered water. Thus, they were able to quench their thirst and fill their waterskins. The other group requested for water. The companions of Abdul Muttalib tried to refuse, but Abdul Muttalib said that if they did that, then there would be no difference between the two.

Seeing the kindness of Abdul Muttalib, the other group said that the miracle of discovering water in the middle of the desert was proof from Allah that the well of Zam Zam belonged to Abdul Muttalib. They did not go on any further and returned to Makka at once.

On his return, Abdul Muttalib dug deeper in the well and found some treasure - two gold deer, some swords and battle armour. The Quraish again claimed a share of the treasure and were prepared to fill up the well if they did not get it. It was decided to draw lots, and the result was that the two gold deer went to the Holy Ka'ba and the rest to Abdul Muttalib, and the Quraish got nothing.

It was then that Abdul Muttalib gave 1/5 of his share to be spent in the way of Allah.

Exercise

How is the well of Zam Zam connected to walking between Safa and Marwah during Haj? Write a little bit about it below.

Extension Exercise

After reading this lesson, what have you learnt about the tribe of Quraish? What sort of people were they? Think about the way they behaved towards Abdul Muttalib.

Now you know...

- ◆ The well of Zam Zam has existed since the time of Prophet Ibrahim (A). In its early days it was overused, and it dried up. At the time of Abdul Muttalib knew nothing about the well except that it existed.
- ◆ In a dream Abdul Muttalib received instructions to dig up the well, but the Quraish refused to let him dig alone. So, they decided to seek the advice of a wise man, who lived in Syria.
- ◆ On the way to Syria, Abdul Muttalib and his companions ran out of water. Everyone refused to give them water.
- ◆ However, by the mercy of Allah, Abdul Muttalib discovered water, which he willingly shared with others. The Quraish thought this

was a sign from Allah that the well of Zam Zam belonged to Abdul Muttalib. They all returned to Makka.

- ◆ When they returned, Abdul Muttalib dug further and discovered some treasure. From his share, he donated 1/5 in the way of Allah.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 6

ABDUL MUTTALIB - SON OF HASHIM (PART 3)

Abdul Muttalib's Nazr

When Abdul Muttalib was digging the well of Zam Zam, he felt that his position amongst the Quraish was weak because he had only one son. At that time he made a Nazr, a promise to Allah, that if he got 10 sons, he would sacrifice one of them to Allah.

Allah blessed Abdul Muttalib with many children. He had 12 sons, some whose names were Harith, Abu Talib, Hamza, Abbas, Abu Lahab and Zubayr. He also had 6 daughters.

When the number of his sons reached ten, Abdul Muttalib knew it was time to fulfil the Nazr. Although it was very difficult for him to sacrifice and lose one of his beloved sons, he did not want to break his promise to Allah. After discussing the matter with his sons, he decided that one would be selected by drawing lots. When the lots were drawn, the name of Abdullah, the father of our Holy Prophet (S), came up.

Abdullah was the youngest and most loved son of his father, but Abdul Muttalib did not turn away from his duty and took Abdullah to the place of sacrifice. However, his family and the people of Quraish were very sad at the thought of losing the young Abdullah and begged Abdul Muttalib to find another solution.

When the problem was put before a wise man, he suggested that a lot should be cast between Abdullah and 10 camels. In case the lot still fell to Abdullah, a further 10 camels should be added and the lot cast again. This should be repeated till the lot fell to the camels. In those days the penalty for the accidental killing of a person (blood

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price) was 10 camels, and the Quraish liked this solution. After a great deal of persuasion, Abdul Muttalib agreed.

A lot was cast between Abdullah and 10 camels but the result was Abdullah. The number was increased to 20, but still Abdullah's name came out. The number was increased by 10 until it reached 100. Finally when a lot was cast between Abdullah and 100 camels, the lot fell to the camels. The people were overjoyed, but Abdul Muttalib was not sure he had fulfilled his duty to Allah. So he drew the lots three more times, and each time it fell to the camels.

Finally, Abdul Muttalib was satisfied that his action was correct. He ordered that 100 camels belonging to him should be slaughtered that same day in front of the Holy Ka'ba and no person or animal should be stopped from eating the meat.

In this way Allah protected Abdullah, who later was to become the father of our Holy Prophet Muhammad (S). One year before Aamul Feel (The Year of the Elephant), Abdullah got married to Aamina, daughter of Wahab. Aamina was to become the mother of the Holy Prophet (S).

One year after his marriage, Abdullah was returning from trade in Syria and fell ill in Madina. When Abdul Muttalib heard about it, he sent his son Harith to go and see him. By the time Harith arrived, Abdullah had died. He was buried in Madina. He died two months before his great son was born.

The Holy Prophet (S) used to say, "I am the son of two sacrifices, Prophet Isma'il (A) and Abdullah".

Exercise

What did the Holy Prophet (S) mean about the sacrifice of Prophet Isma'il (A)? Write a few sentences about it below.

Extension Exercise

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah praises Imam Ali (A) and his family for the Nazr they made and kept as they had promised in Suratu Dahr (the Time), verses 7 and 8. Find these verses and write the translation below.

Now you know...

- ◆ Abdul Muttalib made a **Nazr** that if he got 10 sons, he would sacrifice one in the way of Allah.
- ◆ He had twelve sons and six daughters.
- ◆ To fulfil his Nazr, he decided to pick his son whom he would sacrifice by casting lots. His son Abdullah came up. He was Abdul Muttalib's youngest and most loved son.
- ◆ The Quraish were unhappy with the thought of sacrificing Abdullah, so it was decided that a lot should be cast between Abdullah and ten camels. If the lot fell to Abdullah then ten more camels should be added and the lot repeated.
- ◆ Finally, after many repetitions, when a lot between Abdullah and 100 camels was cast, it fell to the camels. Thus, the camels were sacrificed.

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- ◆ Abdullah married Amina and from their marriage the Holy Prophet (S) was born. Sadly, Abdullah died two months before the birth of his great son.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 7

ABDUL MUTTALIB - SON OF HASHIM (PART 4)

Aamul Feel - The Year of the Elephant

Art Box

When you have finished reading this lesson:

Draw on an A4 size paper a picture of this story. Show the Ka'ba, the mountains surrounding it, the birds with stones in their claws flying towards the army of Abraha and the Elephant. In the corner of the picture write out Suratul Feel.

The best pictures will be displayed on Madressa's Web Page on the Internet.

Yemen is a country that neighbours Arabia. Just before the birth of our Holy Prophet Muhammad (S), the ruler of Yemen was a man called Abraha. When Abraha learnt that the Arabs looked upon the Holy Ka'ba with great honour, he decided to build a huge church in San'a in Yemen. When the church was built, he asked the Arabs to leave the Holy Ka'ba and come to his church instead.

The Arab tribes not only ignored this invitation, but one night a woman from the tribe of Bani Afqam even used the place as a toilet. In another incident, some Arab travellers sheltering in the church lit a fire to keep themselves warm and by mistake burnt the church down. As a result, Abraha was very angry and decided to destroy the Holy Ka'ba once and for all.

In 570 A.D. Abraha marched at the head of a huge army towards Makka. He camped outside Makka, and then sent a few of his people to capture the camels of the Makkans. Of the camels captured, around

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200 belonged to Abdul Muttalib.

An officer from Abraha came to the Makkans, saying that he did not wish to hurt them but had come to demolish the Holy Ka'ba with his Elephant. Abdul Muttalib, the chief of the Quraish, said that they too did not want to fight Abraha. As for the Holy Ka'ba, it was the house of Allah and He would do whatever He pleased.

Abdul Muttalib then went with some of his sons to see Abraha. Abraha welcomed him with respect. He expected Abdul Muttalib to ask him not to destroy the Holy Ka'ba but instead Abdul Muttalib asked for the return of his camels. Abraha was surprised that Abdul Muttalib was talking about camels when the Holy Ka'ba itself was going to be destroyed.

In response to Abraha's remarks, Abdul Muttalib gave a famous reply, saying: "I am the owner of the camels. The House too has a Master who looks after it." On hearing this, Abraha shook his head and proudly replied: "There is none powerful enough to stop me."

On his return, Abdul Muttalib ordered the people to leave Makka and go to the hills for safety. He then prayed to Allah to protect them and the Holy Ka'ba from any harm.

The next morning Abraha prepared to march towards Makka. All of a sudden, a flock of birds appeared from the side of the sea, holding tiny stones in their claws and beaks. Each bird held three stones and they showered the stones on the army of Abraha in such a way that the Elephant and many men were soon dead. One of the stones hit Abraha on his head and he was so frightened that he ordered the remaining men in his army to retreat at once. Many of his men died on the way back and Abraha himself reached San'a with the flesh falling from his body and died a painful death. This dreadful and miraculous event is mentioned in the Holy Qur'an in the following verses:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

Have you not seen how your Lord dealt with the People of the Elephant? Did He not cause their plan to go astray? He sent

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down upon them flocks of birds, who showered them with stones of baked clay. So they became like straw eaten up by cattle.

(Suratul Feel, 105:1-5)

Exercise

Read the translation of Suratul Feel. What do you think Allah is trying to say about those people who plot against Allah and Islam?

Now you know...

- ◆ Abraha was the ruler of Yemen. He built a great church and invited the Arabs to leave the Holy Ka'ba and come and worship in his church.
- ◆ However, the Arabs ignored him, and one day, by mistake, burnt down the church. So, Abraha decided to attack and destroy the Holy Ka'ba.
- ◆ Abraha came to Makka with a great army of elephants. Before entering he seized all the camels of the Makkans. Then he sent a messenger to tell the Quraish that he had come to attack the Ka'ba and did not want to fight them.
- ◆ Abdul Muttalib went to meet Abraha. He asked him to return his stolen camels. Abraha was surprised that Abdul Muttalib was worried about his camels when the Holy Ka'ba was going to be destroyed. He replied: "I am the owner of the camels. The House too has a master who looks after it."
- ◆ The next day Abraha prepared to march towards Makka. However, Allah protected His House and sent birds holding tiny stones in their claws, who attacked the army, destroying them.
- ◆ The year in which this event happened is called 'Aamul Feel' – The Year of the Elephant. The story is mentioned in the Holy Qur'an in Suratul Feel.

REVISION EXERCISE TWO

Section A

Answer the following questions:

1. How was Abdul Muttalib related to the Holy Prophet (S)?
2. Why was Abdul Muttalib not called by his real name?
3. Describe the changes Abdul Muttalib made in the lives of the Quraish?
4. What punishment did he encourage for a thief?
5. What was the title given to Abdul Muttalib and what did it mean?

Section B

Answer the following questions:

1. What instructions did Abdul Muttalib receive in his dream?
2. Why did the Quraish stop Abdul Muttalib from carrying out his instructions?
3. How did they decide to settle the dispute?
4. Why did the Quraish abandon their journey and let Abdul Muttalib carry out his instructions?
5. What did Abdul Muttalib do with his share of the treasure?

Section C

Answer the following questions:

1. What was Abdul Muttalib's Nazr?
2. Why did Abdul Muttalib not sacrifice Abdullah?
3. What did the wise man suggest?
4. How many camels were sacrificed instead of Abdullah?
5. When did Abdullah die and where is he buried?

Section D

Answer the following questions:

1. Why did Abraha decide to destroy the Holy Ka'ba?
2. What did Abraha do that angered Abdul Muttalib?
3. Why was Abraha surprised by the words of Abdul Muttalib?
4. What was Abdul Muttalib's famous reply?
5. What did Allah send to attack Abraha and his army?

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CLASS 5 - LESSON 8

THE BIRTH OF THE HOLY PROPHET (S)

The Holy Prophet of Islam, Muhammad Al-Mustafa (S), was born after sunrise on Friday the 17th of Rabiul Awwal 570 A.D. in Makka. He was born in the Year of the Elephant, when Abraha tried to destroy the Holy Ka'ba.

The parents of the Holy Prophet (S) were Abdullah son of Abdul Muttalib and Aamina daughter of Wahab. Abdullah died two months before his son was born and was buried in Madina. The Holy Prophet (S) belonged to the respected family of Bani Hashim from the tribe of Quraish.

Abdul Muttalib decided to bring up the Holy Prophet (S) under his own care. On the seventh day of the birth of his grandson, he slaughtered a sheep to show his gratitude to Allah for blessing him with a healthy grandson. Many people were invited to take part in the celebrations.

In this gathering, Abdul Muttalib announced to the people that he would name the child "Muhammad", which means "One who is worthy of praise". When the Quraish asked him why he was keeping such an unusual name, he replied that he wanted his grandson to be praised in the heavens and on the earth.

Arabic Box

Learn to write the word "Muhammad" in Arabic.

Arabic Box

Learn to write the word "Ahmad" in Arabic.

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Before this event, the Holy Prophet's (S) mother had already named him "Ahmad". Allah has referred to him by both names in the Holy Qur'an.

The Holy Prophet (S) was breastfed by his own mother Aamina for three days only. As was the custom in those days, he was then given to a foster-mother to nurse. Two women had this honour.

They were:

1. **Suwaybah.** She was a slave of Abu Lahab and nursed the Holy Prophet (S) for four months. The Holy Prophet (S) and his wife Bibi Khadija (A) always regarded her with great kindness throughout her life. When the Holy Prophet (S) returned from the battle of Khaybar he learnt of her death and was saddened by it.
2. **Halimah.** She belonged to the tribe of Sa'd bin Bakr. She brought up the Holy Prophet (S) outside the city of Makka in the desert. Here he grew up strong and healthy and learnt the pure Arabic language of the desert. He stayed with her for five years.

Exercise

Our Holy Prophet (S) has been called "Ahmad" in Surah as-Saff (Surah 61, verse 6) and "Muhammad" in Surah al-Ahzab (Surah 33, verse 40). Find both verses and write the translation below.

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Extension Exercise

Abdul Muttalib called his grandson “Muhammad” because he wanted him to be praised in the heavens and the earth. Verse 56 of Suratul Ahzab does exactly this. Write down the translation below.

Now you know...

- ◆ The Holy Prophet (S) was born on Friday 17th Rabiul Awwal 570 AD in Makka. The year in which he was born is called ‘Aamul Feel’ – The Year of the Elephant.
- ◆ His father was Abdullah son of Abdul Muttalib and his mother was Aamina daughter of Wahab.
- ◆ Abdul Muttalib named the Holy Prophet (S) ‘Muhammad’ which means ‘One who is worthy of praise’. However, his mother had already named him ‘Ahmad’. Allah has referred to him by both names in the Holy Qur’an.
- ◆ The Holy Prophet (S) was breastfed by his mother Aamina for only three days. As was the custom, he was given to a foster-mother to nurse.
- ◆ He had two foster-mothers:
 - 1) **Suwaybah**: She was a slave and nursed him for four months. The Holy Prophet (S) always regarded her with great respect.
 - 2) **Halimah**: She brought up the Holy Prophet (S) outside Makka in the desert where he grew up strong and healthy. He stayed with her for five years.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 9

THE CHILDHOOD OF THE HOLY PROPHET (S)

The Holy Prophet (S) lived in the desert with Halimah for five years and she looked after him very well. During this time he learnt about handling animals and also trained in archery. In this happy atmosphere he grew up strong and healthy. Halimah regarded him as very special, because ever since he had come under her care, she was showered with the blessings of Allah and became rich.

When he was five years old, Halimah returned the Holy Prophet (S) to the care of his mother Lady Aamina. The young boy was very dear to his grandfather Abdul Muttalib, because he reminded him of his son Abdullah.

Lady Aamina decided to go to Madina to visit the grave of her husband, Abdullah, and also meet some of her relatives. She took the Holy Prophet (S) along with her and stayed for one month. On the way back to Makka, tragedy struck, and Lady Aamina fell ill at a place called Abwa. After a short time she died and was buried there. The Holy Prophet (S) was now an orphan and Abdul Muttalib took him under his wing. He loved his grandson very much and made sure that he did not feel unwanted. The Holy Qur'an mentions this event as follows:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful
Did He not find you an orphan and give you shelter?
(Suratu Dhuha, 93:6)

The Holy Prophet (S) was only eight years old when he lost his grandfather. Before his death, Abdul Muttalib made his son Abu Talib responsible for taking care of the young child.

This was a duty, which Abu Talib carried out fully for the rest of his life.

The loss of Abdul Muttalib made the Holy Prophet (S) very sad, and he kept weeping upto the very edge of the grave and never forgot his kindness.

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There were many reasons why Abdul Muttalib chose Abu Talib as the guardian of the Holy Prophet (S). Abu Talib and Abdullah were born of the same mother. He was also well known for his generous nature. He treated the Holy Prophet (S) better than his own sons, and never let him feel lonely.

When the Holy Prophet (S) was twelve years old, Abu Talib took him on a trade journey into Syria with a caravan of the Quraish. On the way they passed through Madyan, the Qura valley and the country of Samud and saw the beautiful natural scenery of Syria. The Holy Prophet (S) used to say that this was one of the most pleasant trips he had ever been on.

At Basra, the caravan stopped to stock up supplies for the rest of the journey. There was an old Christian monk whose name was Bahira, who lived in an old monastery in Basra. The monk never used to speak but when he saw the Holy Prophet (S), he broke his silence and asked, "Who is this boy?" Abu Talib answered that he was his nephew. Bahira then said, "This boy has a brilliant future. He is the same Prophet whose coming has been foretold in the Heavenly Books. His religion will spread throughout the world. However, you must guard him from the Jews, because if they learn about him, they will kill him".

Some historians say that after this warning, Abu Talib did not like to continue his journey and returned with the Holy Prophet (S) to Makka, while others say that he went on to Syria but kept an extra watch over the safety of the Holy Prophet (S). In any case, Abu Talib was more careful than before about the safety of his nephew.

Some historians have written that the Holy Prophet (S) learnt about the stories of the other Prophets and history from the Christian monk and that is how he related them to the people in the form of the Holy Qur'an. This is a shameful lie. It is difficult for one to believe that the Holy Prophet (S) learnt all the stories from his short meeting with the Christian and managed to remember everything for 28 years and then pretended that the Holy Qur'an was revealed to him at the age of 40. The meeting with Bahira served no real purpose except to make Abu

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Talib aware that his nephew was a very special person.

Thus, the Holy Prophet (S) grew up in the household of Abu Talib, loved and cherished by all. His aunt, Fatima binte Asad, the wife of Abu Talib and mother of Imam Ali (A) looked after him as if he was her own son.

Now you know...

- ◆ When the Holy Prophet (S) reached the age of five, Halimah returned him to the care of his mother Lady Aamina.
- ◆ Lady Aamina took the Holy Prophet (S) to Madina to visit the grave of her husband, Abdullah, and to meet some of her relatives. However, on the return journey she fell ill and died at a place called Abwa, where she was buried.
- ◆ Orphaned, the Holy Prophet (S) was taken under the care of his grandfather Abdul Muttalib. Sadly, when he was only eight years old he also lost his grandfather.
- ◆ So, the responsibility of looking after the Holy Prophet (S) was handed over to his uncle Abu Talib, who treated him better than his own sons. His aunt, Fatima daughter of Asad also treated him well.
- ◆ At the age of twelve Abu Talib took the Holy Prophet (S) on a trade journey with a caravan of the Quraish. At Basra, an old Christian monk by the name of Bahira upon seeing the Holy Prophet (S) inquired who he was. Abu Talib said that he was his nephew.
- ◆ Bahira said that this boy was the same Prophet mentioned in the Heavenly Books. His religion would spread throughout the world. However, if the Jews found him, they would kill him.
- ◆ From then on Abu Talib took special care of the Holy Prophet (S).

CLASS 5 - LESSON 10

ABU TALIB AND THE HOLY PROPHET (S)

At the time of his death, Abdul Muttalib left the Holy Prophet (S) in the care of his son Abu Talib. Abu Talib and Abdullah, the father of the Holy Prophet (S), were brothers born of the same mother. Abu Talib took the Holy Prophet (S) into his home and treated the young boy, who was only eight years old, like his own son. His wife, Fatima binte Asad, also loved the Holy Prophet (S) dearly and he regarded her as his mother.

Since the time he received a warning from the Christian monk Bahira, Abu Talib was very careful about the personal safety of his nephew. He used to ask one of his own sons to sleep in the bed of the Holy Prophet (S), so that if any attack was made, he would come to no harm.

As the Holy Prophet (S) grew up, he was always under the protection of his loving uncle who was one of the most respected leaders of the Quraish. When the Holy Prophet (S) was older, it was Abu Talib who encouraged him to take part in the business of trade caravans. He arranged for his nephew to be introduced into the service of Khadija binte Khuwaylid. This introduction was to lead to the marriage of the Holy Prophet (S) to that noble lady. At the marriage, it was Abu Talib who recited the sermon and conducted the ceremony.

When the time came for the Holy Prophet (S) to announce his mission of Prophethood, Abu Talib was one of his strongest supporters. While he was under the powerful protection of his uncle, the Quraish did not dare to harm the Holy Prophet (S). When the Quraish exiled the Muslims from Makka they lived for three years in a valley known as the "Valley of Abu Talib". At this time Abu Talib also went through the same difficulties that the Holy Prophet (S) underwent, although he could have easily returned to Makka where he was still respected and honoured amongst the Quraish.

Although some ignorant people write that Abu Talib was not a Muslim, there are many reasons why this cannot be true. Firstly, Abu Talib himself conducted the marriage of the Holy Prophet (S), and a person

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who is not a Muslim cannot conduct the marriage of another Muslim. Secondly, Fatima binte Asad was known to be a Muslim and she was also the wife of Abu Talib till she died. A Muslim woman cannot remain married to a man who is not a Muslim.

Thirdly, at the death of Abu Talib, the Holy Prophet (S) wept for a long time and then prayed for him. Yet we know that it is forbidden to pray for the forgiveness of a person who is not a Muslim. All these and many other reasons prove beyond doubt that, even if he did not declare it openly, Abu Talib was a Muslim of strong faith.

In his will, Abu Talib instructed his children to always stand by the Holy Prophet (S) and never to leave him. He also advised them to follow Islam, so that they would be successful.

The death of his uncle after a lifetime of companionship made the Holy Prophet (S) very sad. During the same year he also lost his dear wife, Bibi Khadija (A). For these reasons, the Holy Prophet (S) called this year "Aamul Huzn", which means "Year of Grief".

Exercise

If someone tells you that Abu Talib was not a Muslim, how would you try to convince him that he was? Write a few sentences on the next page about the arguments you would use.

Extension Exercise

Abu Talib looked after the Holy Prophet (S) like his own son. Think about the ways in which your parents look after you and protect you.

Now you know...

- ◆ Abu Talib was chosen as the guardian of the Holy Prophet (S) because his father Abdullah and Abu Talib were born of the same mother.
- ◆ After the warning of Bahira, the Christian monk, Abu Talib was very careful about the safety of the Holy Prophet (S). He used to ask one of his sons to sleep in the bed of the Holy Prophet (S), so that if any attack was made, he would come to no harm.
- ◆ Abu Talib encouraged the Holy Prophet (S) to take part in the business of trade caravans. He was introduced into the service of Khadija daughter of Khuwaylid; later he got married to her.
- ◆ When the Holy Prophet (S) announced his prophethood, Abu Talib was one of his strongest supporters. He also suffered with the Holy Prophet (S) when the Quraish exiled the Muslims from Makka.
- ◆ Proof that Abu Talib was a Muslim:
 - 1) He conducted the marriage of the Holy Prophet (S), and only a Muslim can do that.
 - 2) Fatima daughter of Asad was married to Abu Talib, and she was a Muslim. A Muslim woman can only remain married to a Muslim man.
 - 3) The Holy Prophet (S) cried and prayed for the forgiveness of Abu Talib when he died. It is forbidden in Islam to pray for the forgiveness of a non-Muslim.

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CLASS 5 - LESSON 11

THE YOUTH OF THE HOLY PROPHET (S)

As the Holy Prophet (S) grew up, the people around him noticed that this young man was not like others of his age. The people admired his character and bravery and all the Quraish liked him.

In his youth, the Holy Prophet (S) accompanied his uncle Abu Talib on trade journeys to Syria and Yemen. He soon gained a reputation in Makka for his good business sense, his honesty and trustworthiness.

People were so impressed by the qualities of the Holy Prophet (S), that they began to call him as-Sadiq (the Truthful) and al-Ameen (the Trustworthy).

When the Holy Prophet (S) would pass them, people would say:

"There goes the young man who behaves equally well with the high and the low. He is considerate to his equals, respects the elders and always shows love and affection to the children. He never speaks a lie or misuses anything entrusted to his care. He does not look at women with an evil intent and is never rude to anybody. He does not backbite or spend his time in finding faults in people."

Such was the character of our Holy Prophet (S), and in later years even his enemies would still leave their belongings with him for safekeeping when they went on a trip away from Makka.

Once a man came to Makka and was cheated by a trader in the market place. He complained to the Quraish that he had been mistreated. At that time, some leading citizens formed a committee that would look into such incidents and try to help the people who were unfairly treated.

They decided that the main tribes of Quraish should make an agreement that would protect the rights of the people. This important covenant was called "Hilful Fudhool" or "Covenant of High Morals". The Holy Prophet (S) participated in this agreement and was an active

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member of the Hilful Fudhool.

The Holy Prophet (S) also spent part of his youth as a shepherd.

Thus, by the time he was 25 years of age, the Holy Prophet (S) had built himself a good reputation in Makka and had gained the trust and affection of the people around him.

Exercise

The Holy Prophet (S) built a good reputation in Makka. Write down the ways in which he managed to do this.

Now you know...

- ◆ As the Holy Prophet (S) grew up, he stood out as an exceptional young man unlike others of his age. The Quraish admired him for his bravery and character.
- ◆ He spent part of his youth as a shepherd and he also accompanied his uncle Abu Talib on trade journey to Syria and Yemen.
- ◆ During the trade journeys he built a good reputation because of his honesty and trustworthiness. People used to call him as-Sadiq (the truthful) and al-Ameen (the trustworthy).
- ◆ Even his enemies trusted him; many would leave their belongings with him for safekeeping when they went on a trip away from Makka.
- ◆ The Holy Prophet (S) was an active member of 'Hilful Fudhool' – Covenant of High Morals. This was an agreement that protected the rights of the people.
- ◆ By the age of 25, the Holy Prophet (S) had gained the trust and affection of the people around him.

REVISION EXERCISE THREE

Section A

Answer the following questions:

1. When do Muslims celebrate the birthday of the Holy Prophet (S)?
2. Who were the parents of the Holy Prophet (S)?
3. Who named the Holy Prophet (S) 'Muhammad', and what does it mean?
4. What had his mother already named him?
5. In whose care was the Holy Prophet (S) kept till the age of five years?

Section B

Answer the following questions:

1. What lessons did our Holy Prophet (S) learn in the desert?
2. Why did Abdul Muttalib choose Abu Talib to look after his grandson?
3. What religion did Bahira follow?
4. How was Imam Ali (A) related to the Holy Prophet (S)?
5. Why was Abu Talib worried about the safety of his nephew?

Section C

Answer the following questions:

1. Why was Abu Talib chosen to bring up the Holy Prophet (S)?
2. What did Abu Talib do after receiving the warning of Bahira, the Christian monk?
3. As the Holy Prophet (S) grew older what did Abu Talib encourage him to do?
4. When did Abu Talib share the suffering of the Holy Prophet (S)?
5. What happened in "Aamul Huzn" – "The Year of Grief"?

Section D

Answer the following questions:

1. What did the Quraish notice was different about the Holy Prophet (S) compared to others his age?
2. What two titles were attributed to the Holy Prophet (S)?
3. What historical event showed that even the enemies of the Holy Prophet (S) admired him?

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4. What committee did the Holy Prophet (S) join that ensured the rights of the people?
5. Why do you think he did this?

CLASS 5 - LESSON 12

LADY KHADIJA (A) - PART 1

Lady Khadija (A) was the first wife of the Holy Prophet (S) and the mother of Lady Fatima (A). She was born in Makka. Her father's name was Khuwaylid bin Asad and he was a wealthy trader.

When her father died, Lady Khadija (A) continued his business of sending trade caravans to Syria and Yemen. Under her sensible management, the business expanded and with the profits she helped the poor, the widows, the orphans, the sick and the disabled. If there were any poor girls, she got them married and paid their dowry.

Lady Khadija (A) preferred not to travel with the caravans and used to send her agents instead. She made such great profits that she was soon the richest trader in Makka. Her trade caravans were larger than the rest of the traders combined, and her success earned her the title "Princess of Makka".

Although the Arabs were mostly idol worshippers, a few of them had turned away from such practices and believed in One God as had been taught by the Prophets Ibrahim (A) and Isma'il (A). One such man was Waraqa bin Naufal, the cousin of Lady Khadija (A). He used to stop people from the terrible practice of burying their baby daughters alive. He had a great interest in the Bible and Tawrat.

Lady Khadija (A) listened to her uncle's ideas and she also believed in One God. Her reputation for being a good lady earned her the name Tahira, which means "the pure one." As Lady Khadija's (A) fame grew, many men asked for her hand in marriage, but she turned them all down.

In the spring of AD 595, at the time when the summer caravans were ready to leave Makka for Syria, Lady Khadija (A) had not yet found a reliable agent to take her caravan. Meanwhile, Abu Talib was trying to find employment for his nephew, the Holy Prophet (S), who was now 25 years old. When he heard of this vacancy, he came to Lady Khadija (A)

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and asked her to consider his nephew for the job.

Like most people in Makka, Lady Khadija (A) had heard a lot about the Holy Prophet (S). Already he had earned a reputation for his trustworthiness and honesty. Although he lacked experience, she had no hesitation in hiring him, saying that she would send along her slave Maysara, who was already an experienced traveller.

That year the trade caravan of Lady Khadija (A) made unusually high profits. The Holy Prophet (S) learnt the business quickly and in Syria he impressed the traders with his clever but fair dealing.

On their return to Makka, the Holy Prophet (S) reported back to Lady Khadija (A) and then returned to his home. Maysara then told her about all the details of the trip. He was very impressed with the manner of the Holy Prophet (S) and spoke highly of his character and personality.

That is why, when Abu Talib sent his sister Safiya to the house of Lady Khadija (A) with a marriage proposal from the Holy Prophet (S) Lady Khadija (A) agreed immediately and a date was fixed for the marriage. Abu Talib himself took charge of the preparations for the marriage of his beloved nephew. On the day of the wedding he dressed the Holy Prophet (S) in the cloak of Abdul Muttalib and made him wear the ring of Hashim. The sermon of marriage was recited by Abu Talib at the agreed Mahar of 400 pieces of gold. The marriage was a cause of great celebration amongst the Quraish.

Three days after the marriage, Abu Talib arranged for a feast in which every resident of Makka was invited for a meal. This practice is known as "Walimah" and Islam later made it a recommended part of the marriage ceremonies.

At the time of their marriage the Holy Prophet (S) was 25 years old while Lady Khadija (A) was 40 years of age.

Exercise

Why do you think the Lady Khadija (A) accepted the proposal of the Holy Prophet (S)?

Now you know...

- ◆ Lady Khadija (A) was the first wife of the Holy Prophet (S).
- ◆ She owned a caravan business, which she continued to expand. With the profits she helped the poor and the sick.
- ◆ She did not travel on the trade journeys to Syria and Yemen herself, as she preferred to send her agents instead. Soon she became the richest trader in Makka. Her trade caravans were the largest and her success earned her the title “Princess of Makka”.
- ◆ Lady Khadija (A) unlike most of the Makkans believed in One God. She was a good lady and was often called Tahira, which means “the pure one.”
- ◆ When the Holy Prophet (S) was 25 years old, Abu Talib was looking for employment for his nephew. Lady Khadija (A) had still not found a reliable agent to take her summer trade caravans. So, Abu Talib asked her to consider his nephew for the job.
- ◆ She had heard of the Holy Prophet (S)’s good reputation and although he lacked in experience she had no hesitation in hiring him. That year the profits were unusually high. When Maysara, her slave returned to Makka, he spoke very highly of the Holy Prophet (S)’s character and personality.
- ◆ That is why Lady Khadija (A) immediately agreed to the marriage proposal from the Holy Prophet (S). Abu Talib took charge of the marriage preparations. At the time of their marriage the Holy Prophet (S) was 25 years old and Lady Khadija (A) was 40 years old.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 13

LADY KHADIJA (A) - PART 2

After her marriage to the Holy Prophet (S), Lady Khadija (A) began to lose interest in her business deals. She settled down happily in her new life as a wife. Because her business was so large, she could not close it overnight. Therefore she slowly began to cut down its size. After a few years, she was no longer a trader, although she was still a very rich lady.

Lady Khadija (A) made it her duty to serve her husband and make him happy. In this she was very successful. Their marriage was blessed with happiness and children.

Their first child was Qasim. After his birth, the Holy Prophet (S) was called Abul Qasim - the father of Qasim - as per the custom of the Arabs. The second child was also a boy. His name was Abdullah. He was also called Tahir and Tayyib.

Both boys did not survive very long and died while still very young. These losses made the Holy Prophet (S) very sad and when his cousin Imam Ali (A) was born, he brought him up in his house as his own son.

The Holy Prophet (S) used to spend a lot of time in the cave of Hira on a mountain near Makka. Here he would think about Allah and wonder at His creations. He would also think about the actions of the people of Makka and their bad habits made him sad. Sometimes, he would remain in Hira for a few days before he returned. At these time Lady Khadija (A) would bring him food and drink and making sure he was comfortable.

When the Holy Prophet (S) was finally commanded by Allah to begin his mission to preach Islam, Lady Khadija (A) was the first woman to accept his message and become a Muslim.

She gave her entire wealth to serve the cause of Islam. Her money was used to buy the freedom of the early Muslims, many of whom were

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slaves. Later on, her money also financed the two migrations that the Muslims made to Abyssinia to escape the cruelties of the Quraish. As the Holy Prophet (S) continued preaching Islam, many of the Quraish became his enemies. They began to call him names and insult him. Some of them called him "Abtar" which means an animal whose tail has been cut off. By this word they meant that the Holy Prophet (S) had no children who would inherit him and carry forward his name.

This mockery made the Holy Prophet (S) sad, until Allah revealed the Suratul Kawthar in reply:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

Verily, We have given you (O Muhammad) the Kawthar. So pray to your Lord and offer sacrifice. Verily, your enemy shall be "Abtar."

(Suratul Kawthar, 108 : 1 – 3)

In these verses Allah promised the Holy Prophet (S) that he would not be childless, and soon afterwards his last child was born. She was a girl and he named her Fatima Zahra. Lady Fatima (A) became the mother of our Holy Imams (A).

Today the descendants of the Holy Prophet (S) are present throughout the world and they are called Sayyids. They can be identified by their turbans, which are black or green in colour. However, no one claims to be the descendants of Umar bin Aas or Abu Sufyan or Abu Jahl or any of the other enemies of the Holy Prophet (S). This is because of the promise of Allah in the above Sura, when He said to the Holy Prophet (S) that, "Verily your enemy will be Abtar."

Lady Khadija (A) was married to the Holy Prophet (S) for 25 years. She died on the 10th of Ramadhan in 10 A.H. She is buried in Makka. In the same year the Holy Prophet (S) lost his uncle, Abu Talib. Saddened by these two great losses, he called that year "Aamul Huzn", which means "The Year of Sadness".

While Lady Khadija (A) lived, the Holy Prophet (S) did not marry another woman he always said that she was the best of his wives. The Holy Prophet (S) had said that Lady Khadija (A) was one of the

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four perfect women who had ever lived. The other three are: Lady Aasiya the wife of Fir'aun, Lady Maryam the mother of Prophet Isa (A) and Lady Fatima Zahra (A).

Now you know...

- ◆ After her marriage, Lady Khadija (A) began to lose interest in her business and slowly began to close it down. Instead she made it her duty to serve her husband.
- ◆ Their marriage gave birth to two sons: Qasim and Abdullah. Sadly, both sons died at a very young age. Therefore when Imam Ali (A) was born the Holy Prophet (S) brought him up as his own son.
- ◆ When the Holy Prophet (S) was commanded by Allah to begin to preach Islam, Lady Khadija (A) was the first woman to become a Muslim. She gave her entire wealth to serve the cause of Islam.
- ◆ As the Holy Prophet (S) began to preach Islam the Quraish began to insult him and call him “Abtar” which means an animal whose tail has been cut off. This is because he had no children to inherit him. To comfort him, Allah revealed Suratul Kawthar.
- ◆ Allah promised he would not be childless and soon Lady Khadija (A) gave birth to a daughter Fatima Zahra. She became the mother of the Holy Imam (A) and her descendants are known all over the world as Sayyids.
- ◆ However, no one claims to be the descendant of Abu Sufyan or Abu Jahl (who were enemies of Islam), since Allah said: “Verily your enemy shall be Abtar.”
- ◆ After 25 years of marriage Lady Khadija (A) died. In the same year Abu Talib also died. The Holy Prophet (S) called this year “Aamul Huzn” – The Year of Sadness.

REVISION EXERCISE FOUR

Section A

Answer the following questions:

1. Why was Lady Khadija (A) called the Princess of Arabia?
2. Lady Khadija (A) was influenced by her uncle's ideas, which ideas were these?
3. What work did the Holy Prophet (S) do for Lady Khadija (A)?
4. Who recited the marriage ceremony of the Holy Prophet (S) and Lady Khadija (A)?
5. How old were the Holy Prophet (S) and Lady Khadija (A) when they got married?

Section B

Answer the following questions:

1. Why did Lady Khadija begin to lose interest in her business?
2. What were the names of the two boys of the Holy Prophet (S) and Lady Khadija (A), and what happened to them?
3. What was the name that the enemies of the Holy Prophet (S) called him and why did they call him that?
4. What Surah in the Holy Qur'an was revealed as an answer to this name calling, and explain how Allah kept His promise that He made to the Holy Prophet (A) in this Surah?
5. When did Lady Khadija (A) die and who else died in the same year?

CLASS 5 - LESSON 14

PROPHET AADAM (A) - PART 1

Prophet Aadam (A) was the first man ever to be created. After Allah had created the earth, the heavens, the sun and the moon, He created angels and the jinn. Finally, He created Prophet Aadam (A) and then Lady Hawwa (A).

When Allah informed the angels that He was going to make a new creation who would live on earth, they were surprised and said,

"O Allah, why are you creating new creatures while we are already busy worshipping You and are reciting Your Names all the time? These creatures will fight amongst themselves over the blessings of the earth and kill each other".

The angels said this because they had seen the jinn act in this way on the earth. However, a few of the jinn were very pious and some like Azazeel or Iblees used to worship Allah with the angels.

Allah gave the angels an answer that satisfied them. He said,

"I know that which you do not know. The creature that I will make will be my deputy on earth. His children will occupy the whole earth and will eat things, which will grow on it. After I have created him I will give him life and then you should prostrate yourselves (do sajdah) before him".

Allah made the body of Prophet Aadam (A) from a special clay and then gave him a soul which turned him into a perfect human being. He then commanded the angels to prostrate before Prophet Aadam (A). All the angels immediately obeyed this command and paid their respects to Prophet Aadam (A). However, Iblees (Shaitan) refused to prostrate.

Allah asked Shaitan why he had disobeyed His command. Shaitan replied that he had been created from fire and was better than Prophet Aadam (A), who had been created from clay. He therefore openly disobeyed Allah due to his pride.

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Allah was very displeased with the disobedience of Shaitan and He said to him, "Get out of Heaven. You are cursed until the Day of Judgement". Shaitan asked to be allowed to live till that day and this request was granted.

Instead of being grateful to Allah, Shaitan promised that he would forever lead Prophet Aadam (A) and his children away from the right path. However, Allah told him that he would not be able to mislead those people who were good Muslims.

Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) began to live in Heaven, where they enjoyed the blessings of Allah. They had everything they wished for and were very happy.

Exercise

In the Holy Qur'an in Suratul Baqarah, Allah describes how Iblees refused to prostrate before Prophet Aadam (A). Write down the translation below.

Extension Exercise

In the wordsearch below, find seven words associated with the creation story of Prophet Aadam (A).

A	J	T	S	O	F	D	H	A	W	W	A
K	P	O	E	U	Y	T	R	E	W	S	D
T	F	R	A	G	H	A	K	L	M	N	B
A	V	C	R	Z	U	A	A	D	R	T	L
D	O	P	T	R	C	J	E	D	A	T	U
J	I	P	H	J	G	I	D	A	A	C	B
A	M	Z	M	X	D	F	V	G	B	M	H
S	E	E	L	B	I	J	U	Y	T	R	E
D	P	K	L	O	R	P	R	I	D	E	U

Now you know...

- ◆ After Allah created the heavens and the earth He created Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A).
- ◆ When the angels found out that Allah was going to make a new creation they were surprised and asked Allah why he was going to create new creatures when they were already worshipping Him, while the new creatures would only fight amongst each other.
- ◆ Allah told them that He knew what they did not know and that He would make the new creature his deputy on earth.
- ◆ Allah created Prophet Aadam (A) out of special clay and then gave him a soul. He then commanded the angels to prostrate to Prophet Aadam (A). The angels immediately obeyed Allah, except Iblees (a jinn) refused to prostrate. He told Allah that he was created from fire and was better than Prophet Aadam (A) who was created from clay.
- ◆ Allah was displeased and ordered that Iblees (Shaitan) get out from heaven and that he was cursed till the Day of Judgement. Shaitan asked to be allowed to live till that day, and his request was granted. Shaitan promised to forever lead Prophet Aadam (A) and his children away from the right path. However, Allah told him he would not be able to mislead those who were good Muslims.
- ◆ Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) began to live in Heaven

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where they enjoyed the blessings of Allah.

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CLASS 5 - LESSON 15

PROPHET AADAM (A) - PART 2

When Allah let Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) live in Heaven, he allowed them to do anything they liked, except for one thing. He told them not to go near one of the trees of Heaven and not to eat its fruits.

Shaitan could not bear to see how happy Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) were in Heaven. He blamed Prophet Aadam (A) for his bad luck and wanted revenge. His jealousy made him decide to mislead Prophet Aadam (A) into making a mistake.

Although Shaitan was not allowed to live in Heaven anymore, he had not been stopped from visiting. One day Shaitan entered Heaven and started talking to Prophet Aadam (A). He pretended to be his friend and when he had convinced Prophet Aadam (A) that he meant him no harm, he said,

"Did you know that you have been kept away from the best thing in Heaven? If you eat the fruit of that tree you will remain in Heaven forever or you can even become angels."

When Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) heard these words they remembered Allah's command to stay away from that tree and they became frightened. But Shaitan was very clever and he swore by the Name of Allah that he was their real friend and he would not tell them something that would harm them.

Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) had never heard anyone lie before in their lives and because Shaitan swore by Allah, they believed him. He told them to first smell the sweet scent of the tree and look at its beautiful colour. At last, he got them to disobey Allah and eat one fruit from the tree.

This was a mistake by Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) and one they were very sorry for.

Allah told them,

"Did I not tell you not to go near that tree and that Shaitan was your enemy?"

Both of them told Allah how sorry they were and begged for his forgiveness. But Allah said,

"Leave Heaven. From now on your homes will be on the earth. From today your easy life is over and you will have to work to feed yourself and your family."

So Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) came to this world. They settled in a place called Eden. In the beginning, they hated it and wished that they were back in Heaven.

They use to cry and beg Allah to forgive them and let them come back. After a while Allah forgave them for their mistake but he told them that they would now have to earn their place in Heaven by their actions.

He taught them that there were two paths in life. One is the path of obedience to Allah, which leads to happiness, and Heaven and the other path is that of the sinners, which leads to sorrow and Hell.

He also warned them that Shaitan would always try to make them and their children take the second path and that he was their enemy.

Slowly, Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) got used to their new home and Allah blessed them with children which made them very happy. Lady Hawwa (A) gave birth to two sets of twins. Qaabil and his sister were born first and then Haabil and his sister some years later.

Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) loved their children very much and watched proudly as they grew up strong and healthy. When they reached the age of marriage, Allah sent down two women from heaven to be the wives of Qaabil and Haabil.

While the sisters helped Lady Hawwa (A) in the home, Qaabil became

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a farmer and grew crops and Haabil kept cattle and sheep. The two brothers were very close and the family of Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) passed their days happily.

Now you know...

- ◆ When Allah let Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) live in Heaven, he allowed them to do anything except eat from a particular tree.
- ◆ Shaitan blamed Prophet Aadam (A) for his bad luck and wanted to take revenge. One day he entered heaven and pretended to be Prophet Aadam (A)'s friend. He tried to convince him to eat from the forbidden tree. However, Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) remembered Allah's command, but Shaitan was clever and swore in the Name of Allah. At last they agreed to disobey Allah and eat from the tree.
- ◆ Allah was angry at the disobedience of Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A). Although they begged Allah for their forgiveness, Allah told them to leave heaven and live on earth where they would have to work to feed themselves and their family.
- ◆ At first they hated living in Eden, and they begged Allah for forgiveness. He forgave them, but said that they would have to earn their place in heaven. He taught them that there were two paths in life. One is of obedience to Allah that leads to Heaven and the other of disobedience to Allah that leads to Hell.
- ◆ Slowly, Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) settled down and got used to their new life and they were blessed with children. First Qabil and his twin sister and then Habil and his twin sister. When Habil and Qabil reached marriageable age, Allah sent down two women from Heaven to be their wives.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 16

PROPHET AADAM (A) - PART 3

Prophet Aadam (A) thought that as his sons were now grown up, he would appoint one of them as his successor. Allah told him to choose Haabil because he was better than his brother. This made Qaabil very angry and he told his father that he should be the one to succeed because he was older than Haabil.

At last Prophet Aadam (A) told them to each make a sacrifice to Allah, and the one whose sacrifice was accepted would be the more deserving one.

Haabil decided to sacrifice the best animal from his herd and he brought a strong, healthy sheep. Qaabil thought to himself that since Allah would not eat his crops, he did not have to sacrifice his best grain. So he brought some spoilt corn to sacrifice.

Suddenly a fire came down from heaven and burnt the sheep to ashes while the corn was left untouched. This meant that Haabil's offering had been accepted while Qaabil's was rejected. Haabil thus became the successor of Prophet Aadam (A).

Now Qaabil became jealous of his brother and he began to hate him. He started to do evil things and threatened to kill Haabil. Allah mentions these events in the Holy Qur'an as follows:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

Narrate to them the story of the two sons of Aadam. When each of them offered a sacrifice to Allah, but it was accepted from one of them and not accepted from the other. One of them (Qaabil) said, "I will murder you", and the other (Haabil) replied, "Allah only accepts from those who guard (themselves against evil)."

Suratul Maa'idah, 5 : 27

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Haabil loved his brother and tried his best to calm him down and told him,

"O Brother, you have gone astray from the right path and whatever intention you have in your heart is sinful. Seek the forgiveness of Allah and do not seek the punishment of Hell."

The words of his brother had no effect on Qaabil. He had become proud and selfish. Finally, his jealousy was too much for him to bear and one day he killed Haabil.

Akhlaq Box

The Holy Prophet has said,

"....."

Why is jealousy so evil? Relate your answer to the story of Haabil and Qaabil.

When Haabil did not return home, Prophet Aadam (A) was very worried and he asked Qaabil if he knew where his brother was. Qaabil replied rudely, *"Did you leave him in my care?"* This reply made Prophet Aadam (A) suspect that his son was dead and he was full of grief at the loss.

Meanwhile Qaabil did not know what to do with the body of his brother. He put it in a sack and carried it on his back. He was ashamed of what he had done and thought all night about what he should do with the body.

At this time Allah decided to guide this foolish and proud young man. Since he was not worthy of receiving direct instructions from Allah, he had to learn from a crow.

Allah sent down two crows before Qaabil. Qaabil saw that one crow killed the other one. It then dug a hole in the ground with its beak and

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buried the dead crow. After that it levelled the ground with its feet. Qaabil realised that this was what he had to do, and with much sadness he buried the body of his brother Haabil.

Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) missed Haabil very much because he had been a good son. They prayed to Allah to give them another son like him. At last their prayers were answered and they had a son, Prophet Sheeth (A).

Qaabil went to settle in the east of Eden and became a fire-worshipper. When the flood of Prophet Nuh (A) came, the descendants of Qaabil were all drowned, and the world was populated by the descendants of Prophet Sheeth (A).

Now you know...

- ◆ Allah told Prophet Aadam (A) to appoint Habil as his successor. This decision angered Qabil, who said he should succeed his father because he was the elder of the two brothers.
- ◆ To settle the dispute, Prophet Aadam (A) told his sons to each make a sacrifice to Allah and the one whose sacrifice was accepted would succeed him. Qabil offered some spoilt corn (thinking that Allah would not take the corn) and Habil offered a strong, healthy sheep. Habil's sacrifice was accepted.
- ◆ Qabil became jealous of Habil and he started to do evil things and he threatened to kill his brother. Habil tried his best to calm him down and advised him to seek forgiveness of Allah.
- ◆ Qabil's jealousy was too much for him to bear and one day he killed Habil.
- ◆ Qabil did not know what to do with the body of Habil. Allah sent two crows to guide him. One crow killed the other one; then it dug a hole and buried the dead crow. Qabil realised what he had to do.
- ◆ Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) missed Habil very much because he was a good son. They prayed to Allah for another son like him and soon their prayers were answered. Lady Hawwa (A)

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gave birth to a third son, Prophet Sheeth (A).

REVISION EXERCISE FIVE

Section A

Answer the following questions:

1. When Allah informed the angels that He was going to make a new creation, what was their reply and why?
2. What did Allah say in answer to what the angels had said?
3. How did Iblees disobey Allah, and why?
4. What did Iblees promise that he would do to Prophet Aadam (A) and his children?

Section B

Answer the following questions:

1. What did Shaitan tell Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) about the forbidden tree?
2. Why did Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) listen to Shaitan?
3. Allah forgave Prophet Aadam (A) and Lady Hawwa (A) for their mistake but he told them that they would now have to earn their place in Heaven, How?
4. Who did the sons of Prophet Aadam (A) marry?

Section C

Answer the following questions:

1. Why did Qaabil say that he should have been chosen to succeed his father?
2. What test was put to Haabil and Qaabil and who passed it?
3. Who killed who of the two brothers?
4. How did Allah guide Qaabil?

CLASS 5 - LESSON 17

PROPHET IDRIS (A)

The Holy Qur'an says:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

And mention Idris in the Book (Qur'an). He was a truthful person and a Prophet. And We raised him to a high station.

Suratul Maryam, 19 : 56,57

Prophet Idris (A) was the great-grandson of Prophet Sheeth (A) and was born 100 years after the death of Prophet Adam (A). He was the third Prophet of Allah.

Prophet Idris (A) used to tell the people to worship Allah and not to commit sins. He was a clever man and taught the people many new skills. He was the first man to introduce the art of writing and showed people how to measure weights with a balance. He taught them about the movements of planets. He was the first man to make weapons for hunting and defence and he also taught people how to stitch clothes.

Research Box

Which Imam (A) is famous for his knowledge? _____

What does his title mean? _____

At the time of Prophet Idris (A.) there was a cruel king who had full control over the life and property of the people. One day the king went out of his capital for an outing.

On the way he saw a beautiful garden which he liked very much. He called the owner and told him to hand over the garden to him. The owner, who was a God-fearing man, replied that the garden supported his family and he would not hand it over. The king offered to buy the

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land but the owner refused. The king then returned to his palace in an angry mood.

The king's wife was a mean woman. When she heard what had happened, she advised the king to call a few of his faithless friends as witnesses in the court. She asked them to swear that the owner of the garden was no longer a believer in God and furthermore, he was plotting against the king. When these liars gave evidence in the court the owner was called and accused of these crimes. Although he swore that he was innocent, the king did not listen to him and killed him. He then took the dead man's land for himself.

This murder by the greedy king displeased Allah and He commanded Prophet Idris (A) to go to the king and say to him that, not only had he killed a pious man, but he had stolen his land and left his family penniless. Prophet Idris (A) was also commanded to tell the king that Allah would punish him by taking his kingdom from him and destroy his capital and cause the flesh of his evil wife to be eaten by dogs.

When Prophet Idris (A) brought this message to the palace, the king was furious and he told him, "It is better that you leave before you are killed by my hand." Prophet Idris (A) left, but the queen decided to send some men after him and kill him.

Prophet Idris (A) learnt that his life was in danger so he left the town and hid himself. He took shelter in a cave on a mountain and an angel used to provide him with food. He prayed to Allah saying, "*O Lord! do not send your blessings on this town.*"

Prophet Idris's (A) prayer was granted and Allah's punishment descended on the king. He lost his throne and died a shameful death. His capital was destroyed and his wife's flesh was eaten by wild dogs. The kingdom passed into the hands of another cruel king.

Twenty years passed after the disappearance of Prophet Idris (A). During this time not even a drop of rain fell and the people suffered terribly. They realised that their troubles were due to the curse of Prophet Idris (A) and they prayed to Allah to forgive them. Allah accepted their prayers and sent Prophet Idris (A) back to the town. People gathered all around him and promised that they would obey him and worship Allah. He then prayed for rain and the drought ended. Prophet Idris (A) guided his people for many years. He was one Prophet who had the respect and love of all his people. Finally Allah raised him to the heavens where he is alive even today.

Now you know...

- ◆ Prophet Idris (A) taught people to worship Allah. He was a very clever man: he was the first to introduce the art of writing, he was the first man to make weapons for hunting and defense and he also taught to stitch clothes.
- ◆ At the time of Prophet Idris (A) there was a cruel king in power. Once he unjustly accused a God-fearing man of not being a believer in God. He had the man killed and then stole his land leaving his family penniless.
- ◆ Allah was displeased by the king's actions and He commanded Prophet Idris (A) to go to the king and tell him of his sin, and that Allah would punish him severely. When Prophet Idris (A) went and told him the king was furious and threatened to kill him if he did not leave. So, Prophet Idris (A) left, but the queen sent some men after him to kill him.
- ◆ Prophet Idris (A) hid in a cave and prayed to Allah: "O Lord! Do not send your blessings on this town."
- ◆ Allah accepted Prophet Idris (A) prayer and also punished the king. However, the kingdom passed on to another cruel ruler.
- ◆ Twenty years passed and Prophet Idris (A) had not been seen. During this time not a drop of rain had fallen and the people were suffering terribly. They realised the mistake and prayed to Allah for forgiveness. Prophet Idris (A) returned to them and prayed to Allah to end the drought.

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- ◆ Prophet Idris (A) had the love and respect of all his people. Allah raised him to the heavens where he is alive even today.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 18

PROPHET NUH (A)

A long time ago there was a group of people who worshipped idols. Then Allah sent Prophet Nuh (A) to guide these people to the right path.

Prophet Nuh (A) was a wise and patient man and he tried to teach the people about Allah and His blessings and told them not to worship pieces of clay or wood as their god. In spite of his efforts the people did not listen to him and turned away from him. When he warned them to be afraid of Allah's punishment, they laughed at him.

Prophet Nuh (A) did not give up preaching and continued to try and guide his people. However, only a few accepted his teachings, while the rest used to say things like,

"You are just a human being like us. If your God wanted to send us a Prophet, He should have sent an angel, then we would have listened to him."

Others said,

"O Nuh, if you want us to believe in you, you should get rid of your present followers, many of whom are poor. How can we believe in a religion that treats rich people and beggars with the same respect?"

Prophet Nuh (A) replied to them,

"My religion is for everyone, the wise and the foolish, the famous and the unknown and the rich and the poor. How can I leave the people who supported me when I was alone? These people are true believers in Allah."

The people did not like the words of Prophet Nuh (A) and they proudly said,

"O Nuh, ask your God to punish us if you like."

But Prophet Nuh (A) said,

"I am just a human being. I cannot bring down the punishment on you or stop the punishment from you if Allah wills. Remember that you have to return to Him one day and be sorry for your wrong ways before it is too late."

Although the people of Prophet Nuh (A) were stubborn, he remained patient and continued to preach the message of Allah to them for 950 years. He ignored their insults and abuses in the hope that one day the light of faith would enter their hearts. But as time passed, they grew worse, and began to attack him with stones whenever he tried to talk to them.

Finally his patience was exhausted and he complained to Allah about the people and asked Him to provide a solution to the problem. Allah accepted the prayer of Prophet Nuh (A) and ordered him to build a large boat, an ark, and also told him that there would be a great flood in which all the sinners would be drowned. The Holy Qur'an says:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

We sent Nuh to his people to warn them before the painful punishment came upon them. He said, "O my people, I warn you clearly that you should worship only Allah and fear Him, and follow me.

Suratu Nuh, 71 : 1 – 3

In response to the command of Allah, Prophet Nuh (A) planted saplings and waited for them to grow up into strong trees. Then he cut them down and began to make the ark. It took 80 years to complete the construction of the ark, and during this time the people began teasing him saying that he had given up being a Prophet and become a carpenter.

When the ark was ready, Allah commanded Prophet Nuh (A) to instruct his followers to go inside the ark and also to take one pair of each type of animal. Suddenly, it began to rain heavily and streams of water erupted from the ground. Soon the land was covered with water and the ark began to float.

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Three sons of Prophet Nuh (A), Aam, Sam and Yafas, and their wives were safely on board the ark, but his son Kanaan, who was an unbeliever, had refused to come with them.

Prophet Nuh (A) saw his son Kanaan struggling in the water and tried once more to convince him to have faith and come into the ark. But Kanaan replied that he would go to top of a mountain and be safe there. Prophet Nuh (A) warned him that there was no shelter from Allah's Curse, except in the ark.

In the meantime, a huge wave came and swept Kanaan off forever. Allah had promised Prophet Nuh (A) that his family and followers would be safe and now Prophet Nuh (A) begged Allah to keep His promise and save his son. The Holy Qur'an says:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

And Nuh cried to his Lord and said, "My Lord! Verily my son is of my family, and verily Your promise is true and You are the most just of the judges." (God) said, "O Nuh, verily he is not of your family, his conduct is not righteous..."

Suratul Hud, 11 : 45,46(Part)

Allah told Prophet Nuh (A) that Kanaan was not really his son because he did not show it by his deeds and did not deserve to be saved. Prophet Nuh (A) realised his mistake and asked Allah for his forgiveness.

The ark floated for a long time while the whole land was flooded so that nobody was left alive on it. Finally, the punishment of Allah was over and it stopped raining. The water level began to decrease and the ark came down onto solid ground on Mount Judi.

Prophet Nuh (A) was commanded to come out of the ark with his followers and the animals. In this new land they began their lives afresh under the blessings of Allah.

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Exercise

Write down one lesson you have learnt from this story.

Now you know...

- ◆ Allah sent Prophet Nuh (A) to a group of people who worshipped idols. For 950 years Prophet Nuh (A) taught the people to worship One God, Allah, but most of them laughed at him and challenged him to ask Allah to punish them. Prophet Nuh (A) was a patient man and he tried to convince them of their errors.
- ◆ But the people of Prophet Nuh (A) were stubborn, and they ignored him. When the people began to attack him with stones he prayed to Allah to provide a solution to the problem.
- ◆ Allah responded to Prophet Nuh (A)'s plea and ordered him to build an ark. It took him 80 years to complete the construction of the ark.
- ◆ When the ark was complete, Allah ordered Prophet Nuh (A) to take his followers and one pair of each type of animal to go inside the ark. Three of his sons also boarded the ark, but his fourth son, Kanaan, an unbeliever, refused to come with them.
- ◆ Suddenly it began to rain heavily and the land began to flood. Prophet Nuh (A) begged Allah to save his son. But Allah said no, since Kanaan was not really his son because his deeds showed that he did not deserve to live.
- ◆ The ark floated for a long time; none of the unbelievers were left alive. The punishment of Allah was over and it stopped raining. Soon the water level began to decrease and the ark came down on Mount Judi.
- ◆ Prophet Nuh (A) and his followers began their lives afresh under the blessings of Allah.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 19

PROPHET HUD (A)

The people of the tribe of Aad lived in Ahqaaf, a place between Yemen and Oman. They lived in peace and comfort. Allah had granted them many blessings. They were clever people and had built beautiful cities. They were very strong physically and there was no disease in their society.

Despite all the favours that Allah had granted them, the people of Aad did not believe in One God and worshipped idols which they carved out of stone. When anything good happened to them they would thank their idols and when they were in trouble, they used to pray to these idols for help.

Religious Studies Box

Which religions are known to worship idols? What is wrong with idol worship?

After some years, the tribe of Aad began to lose its unity. The powerful people treated the weak and poor members very badly. To guide these proud and ignorant people, Allah sent Prophet Hud (A) to them.

Prophet Hud (A) was from the tribe of Aad itself, and was respected because of his noble family and his good manners. He was the son of Abdullah, grandson of Sam and the great-grandson of Prophet Nuh (A).

Prophet Hud (A) was a very patient and kind man. When he received the command of Allah to spread His message, he came to the people

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and said,

"O Brothers, why do you worship stones that you have carved yourself. The idols can not give you anything or take anything away from you. You are not fools but what you are doing is against your intelligence. Your Lord is only One, and He alone should be worshipped. He has created you, given you health and wealth, and made you a powerful nation. Do not rebel against Allah in case you meet the fate of the people of Prophet Nuh (A)."

Prophet Hud (A) tried hard to make the people understand the error of their ways, but instead of listening to him, they became more stubborn. They said,

"O Hud, you are saying foolish things. Why should we worship one god and give up what our forefathers used to do?"

Prophet Hud (A) explained to them that the idols would only take them further away from Allah and that he was a Prophet sent to guide them. The Holy Qur'an says:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

And We sent to the people of Aad their brother Hud, who said, "O my people, worship Allah, you have no other god besides He. (As for the idols), You are only inventing lies. O my people, I ask no reward for it (my work), my reward is with Him Who created me. Will you not then understand?"

Suratul Hud, 11 : 50-51

However, the people of Aad became angry at his words and said,

"O Hud, what gives you the right to talk to us in this way? You eat and drink just like us, you are no better than us. Why should you be chosen as a Prophet? We think you are a liar or perhaps one of our idols has cursed you and made you lose your senses."

The people thus made fun of Prophet Hud (A). His tireless preaching brought him only a few followers. When he warned the people of Aad

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about the punishment of Allah, the Holy Qur'an says that they said:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

Then bring down on us what you have threatened, if you are truthful.

Suratul A'araf 7: 70(Part)

When the people of Aad invited Allah's punishment with their proud words, the rain stopped falling for three years and there was a terrible drought.

During this time Prophet Hud (A) told the people to be sorry for their actions and seek the forgiveness of Allah before it was too late. But they were blind to the truth and continued praying to their idols for rain. Finally, Prophet Hud (A) gave up and said,

"You can do what you want. I only depend on Allah Who is my protector."

At last the punishment of Allah appeared. Suddenly, a huge dark cloud came. When the people of Aad saw it, they thought it was going to rain, but instead, there was a strong and terrible wind that uprooted their houses and tossed the animals into the air. Instead of rain, showers of sparks began to come down from the dark cloud. The violent storm continued for eight days and by the end of it the proud people of Aad were totally destroyed. The Holy Qur'an says:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

And as for Aad, they were destroyed by a roaring violent blast. He made it rage against them for seven nights and eight days, uprooting, so you might see the people bowing like the trunks of hollow palm trees. Do you then see any of them surviving?

Suratul Haq, 69 : 6 - 8

At the first sign of the storm, Prophet Hud (A) had gathered his followers and family and taken them to a safe place, and they were the only survivors of the terrible punishment from Allah. When the storm was over, Prophet Hud (A) took his companions to Hazramaut where

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they passed the rest of their days.

Now you know...

- ◆ The people of Aad lived in peace and comfort , enjoying the blessings of Allah. They were very strong physically and there was no disease in their society. Sadly, they did not believe in One God and they worshipped idols.
- ◆ After some years the tribe of Aad began to lose its unity. So, Allah sent Prophet Hud (A) to guide them. He was from the tribe of Aad itself, and he was respected because he was from a noble family and very well mannered. He advised them to worship Allah and to give up idol worship.
- ◆ Prophet Hud (A) tried hard to the people understand, but they refused saying that it was what their forefathers had done. They began to make fun of him and called him a liar. His tireless preaching only brought him a few followers.
- ◆ When Prophet Hud (A) told them that Allah would punish them, they were proud and invited Allah’s punishment. In response, there was a drought for three years.
- ◆ The people of Aad were still blind to the truth and continued praying to the idols. Prophet Hud (A) told the people to be sorry to Allah, but they refused to listen and Prophet Hud (A) gave up.
- ◆ The punishment of Allah came. A dark cloud came. Suddenly, there was a strong wind that uprooted everything. Lightening came down from the cloud and a violent storm continued for eight days.
- ◆ Before the storm came, Prophet Hud (A) gathered his followers and left in safety; they were the only survivors of the punishment of Allah.

CLASS 5 - LESSON 20

PROPHET SALIH (A)

The land of the people of Aad was taken over by the tribe of Thamud. They were strong workers and they made many gardens and parks and built beautiful buildings.

In order to protect themselves they built their houses inside the mountains. The people of Thamud passed their life with ease and comfort. However, they were not thankful to Allah for His many blessings, and they were proud. They thought that their good life was a result of their own strength. Instead of turning to Allah, they used to worship part of a mountain and offer sacrifices to it.

Allah sent Prophet Salih (A) to the people of Thamud to guide them to the right path. He was from their own tribe, and was respected because he was kind-hearted and wise, even as a young man.

Intelligence Box

Why was it so important that Prophet Salih (A) was from the same tribe as the people of Thamud?

Prophet Salih (A) invited the people to worship only Allah, Who was their Creator. He tried to teach them how useless it was to worship a mountain, which could not harm or help anyone. He reminded them that he was from their own tribe and had their best interests at heart. He said,

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"You are all my brothers. I am not saying anything that will harm you. Come and seek the forgiveness of Allah and He will answer your prayers and grant your wishes."

However, the people of Thamud turned a deaf ear to him. They said,

"O Salih, we thought you were a sensible man. We saw in you signs of goodness and wisdom, and wanted to rely on your advice in difficult times. Why have you started talking this nonsense now? Do you want us to stop worshipping what our ancestors worshipped for a long time? We will never listen to you!"

Prophet Salih (A) patiently tried to teach them the truth. He made it clear that he was only guiding them so they could benefit themselves, and he did not want anything from them. He said that his reward would come from Allah. He reminded them of the many blessings that Allah had given them. He warned them not to continue in their ways in case the punishment of Allah came on them.

When Prophet Salih (A) had started his mission he was 16 years old. Although he continued to preach till he was 120 years old, his words were accepted by only a few people. Most of the people of Thamud called him names, saying he was a madman or a liar. Prophet Salih (A) replied to them by saying,

"O People, I am not a liar. I have clear arguments from Allah as a proof of my Prophethood."

The leaders of Thamud had not listened to Prophet Salih (A) because they were afraid that he might become powerful and they would lose their position as heads in the community. They decided to make Prophet Salih (A) look weak in front of the people.

Therefore, they challenged him to prove his words by bringing out a she-camel from the side of their holy mountain. Prophet Salih (A) caused this miracle to happen with the permission of Allah.

The people had never seen such a camel in their lives. On one day, it

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would drink all the water in the town and on the next it would allow the people to drink the water. On the day that the she-camel drank all the water, it would give the people as much milk as they wanted.

The Holy Qur'an says:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Kind, the Merciful

And to (the people of) Thamud, (we sent) their brother Salih. He said, "O my people, worship Allah. You have no god but Him. Indeed a clear proof from your Lord came to you. This she-camel of Allah is a Sign for you. Leave it free to graze on Allah's earth and do not harm her, otherwise you will be overtaken by a painful punishment.

Suratul A'araf, 7 : 73

This powerful miracle made a lot of people believe the words of Prophet Salih (A) and they embraced his faith. It also made the leaders of the tribe worried because they knew that as long as the people could see the she-camel, they would listen to Prophet Salih (A). The cruel leaders decided to kill the animal, although Prophet Salih (A) had warned them that the punishment of Allah would certainly come if they harmed the she-camel.

A few wicked men ambushed the she-camel when it was returning after drinking the water. One man shot an arrow at its leg and another came forward and cut the muscles of its back legs so that the she-camel fell down. Then a man called Qadar struck the animal's neck with his sword and killed it. Then they came to Prophet Salih (A) and proudly said,

"O Salih! Bring us the punishment if you really are a Prophet."

Prophet Salih (A) told them that they had committed a great sin and asked them to return to their homes for three days and beg for Allah's forgiveness. But the people only laughed at him.

After three days, Prophet Salih (A) received a command from Allah to leave the town with his followers. Then the punishment of Allah came down on the people of Thamud. A great thunderbolt came from the sky and a powerful earthquake shook the town and totally destroyed the buildings and houses. The people fell down dead and the fire from the sky turned their bodies to ashes. No one was left alive in the town after that terrible day.

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When Prophet Salih (A) saw the tragic end of the people of his own tribe, he turned to their remains and said,

"O People, I delivered to you the message of Allah and guided you to the right way, but you always thought I was your enemy."

The Holy Prophet (S) has said,

"The most wicked person from the olden times is the one who killed the innocent she-camel of Prophet Salih (A) and the most wicked person in these times is the one who will murder Imam Ali (A)."

Exercise

Describe a few lessons you have learnt from the story of Prophet Salih (A) and the people of Thamud.

Now you know...

- ◆ The tribe of Thamud lived in ease and comfort. They built beautiful buildings, gardens and parks. Instead of turning to Allah in thanks, they worshipped part of a mountain, making sacrifices to it.
- ◆ Prophet Salih (A) was sent to guide the people of Thamud on to the right path. He was respected because he was kind-hearted and wise.
- ◆ He taught the people to worship Allah, explaining that the mountain could not harm or help anyone. But the tribe of Thamud turned a deaf eye to him. He reminded them of the bounty of Allah and the many blessings he had given to them and warned them that the punishment of Allah would come down upon them if they continued in their ways.
- ◆ He preached to them from the age of 16 years till he was 120 years old. In that time only a few people followed him.
- ◆ One day the chiefs of Thamud challenged Prophet Salih (A) to prove his words. They asked him to cause a miracle and bring out a she-camel from the side of their holy mountain. The miracle happened with the permission of Allah. Most of the people of Thamud were amazed since the she-camel on one day would drink all the water in town and the next day it would give as much milk as they wanted. The miracle made a lot of people believe in Allah.
- ◆ The leaders became worried that the people would turn to Prophet Salih (A) so they decided to kill the she-camel. They shot the camel with an arrow in its leg, cut the muscles of its back legs and struck the animal's neck with a sword, killing it.
- ◆ Prophet Salih (A) told them they had committed a sin and would be punished if they did not ask Allah for forgiveness.
- ◆ The people only laughed at him. After three days Prophet Salih (A) took his followers outside the town. Allah then sent down his punishment on the people of Thamud. A great thunderbolt came from the sky and an earthquake shook the ground. No one was left alive as a fire from the sky turned the dead bodies to ashes.

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REVISION EXERCISE SIX

Section A

Answer the following questions:

1. How was Prophet Idris (A) related to Prophet Aadam?
2. How did the king at the time of Prophet Idris (A) obtain the beautiful garden from the pious man?
3. What did Allah command Prophet Idris (A) to go and tell the king?
4. Why did Prophet Idris (A) go back to the same town 20 years later?
5. What finally happened to Prophet Idris (A)?

Section B

Answer the following questions:

1. What did the people at the time of Prophet Nuh (A) tell him?
2. How long did Prophet Nuh (A) preach to the people?
3. What solution did Allah give to Prophet Nuh's (A) prayers?
4. Were all of Prophet Nuh's (A) family saved?
5. Where did the ark land? Which people was Prophet Salih (A) sent to, and which land had these people taken over?

Section C

Answer the following questions:

1. What blessings had been granted to the people of Aad by Allah?
2. From which tribe was Prophet Hud (A) and how was he related to Prophet Nuh (A)?
3. What was Allah's first punishment to the people of Aad?
4. What was Allah's next punishment and how long did it last?
5. What did Prophet Hud (A) do in response to Allah's punishment each time?

Section D

Answer the following questions:

1. What blessings had been granted to the people of Aad by Allah?
2. How did the leaders of Prophet Salih's (A) tribe try to make him look weak?
3. What was so unusual about the she-camel?
4. What was the fate of this she-camel?
5. What happened to the people who did not listen to Prophet Salih

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