

السَّلَامُ عَلَى آدَمَ صَفْوَةِ اللَّهِ

Prophets and Messengers:

Adam [A.S]

Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Review basic facts about Prophethood and prophets
- Be introduced to Prophet Adam (as) the first Prophet of Allah (SWT)
- Discuss briefly the story of the creation of Adam and Eve
- Review the importance of total obedience to God

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 1

Prophet Ādam (as)

Prophethood is called *Nubuwwa* in Arabic, and is one of the five roots of Islam. We Muslims believe that Allah sent us Prophets as role models to follow.

What is a role model?

Do you have someone you admire a lot and want to be like? Your favourite superhero, or a famous soccer player or tennis champion? That person is your role model because you like him or her a lot, and would like to be like them.

Allah sent Prophets to be our role models because their character and behaviour made them perfect examples for us to follow. They show us the best way to live as good Muslims.

Two special things about Prophets:

- **They are sent by Allah:** Prophets are chosen by Allah and sent to guide us and be our role models. Some Prophets were sent with messages from Allah to people.
- **They don't commit sins:** If a superhero did wrong things and hurt people, or a soccer player always got red cards and bit the other team players, would that make them a good role model? No way! In the same way, it makes no sense if our Prophets were sinners but also our role models. Allah (SWT) only chooses the purest of people to become prophets, people who were sinless and perfect role models for all Muslims.

PROPHET ADAM

Allah sent thousands of Prophets to guide people all through history. There are 124,000 Prophets in Islam. Prophet Muḥammad (SAW) was the last prophet.

Do you know who our first Prophet was? It was Prophet Adam (AS). Prophet Adam was also the first human being to be created in this world. Before Allah created Prophet Adam, only angels and jinn existed in the world.

Allah (SWT) says in the Qur'an that the best of his creations is the human being. When Allah created Prophet Adam, he wanted to show this to the angels and jinns. So He asked all the angels to bow down and offer *sujūd* to Prophet Adam (as). All the angels obeyed Allah and offered *sujūd* together.

THE JINN WHO DISOBEYED ALLAH

There was one Jinn disobeyed Allah and refused to bow down. Do you know who that was?

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah (SWT) tells us this story in Surah al-Baqarah, the second surah. He says that all the angels offered *sujūd*, but Iblis or Satan did not. Now Iblis was not an angel, but a Jinn. However, because he used to worship Allah so much, Allah (SWT) let him be among the angels.

Satan did not want to bow down to the Prophet because he was thought he was better than Prophet Adam (as). Allah (SWT) tells us Satan's exact words in the Qur'an:

Allah (SWT): "Why did you not bow down when I asked you to Iblis?"

Iblis: "I am better than Adam, You created me from fire, and You created him from clay"



Satan was proud and thought he was better than Prophet Adam, because he was made of fire, while Prophet Adam was only made of clay! Because he was proud of himself, he disobeyed the commands of Allah (SWT).

Satan also made a promise to Allah (SWT) that he would trick and lead astray all the children and grandchildren of Adam from that day on. Satan wants us to disobey Allah (SWT) just like he did on that day. He is always whispering to us and trying to trick us to do things which Allah (SWT) has forbidden us from doing.

Has this ever happened to you? For example, if you are watching TV when it is prayer time, and Mum asks you to switch off the TV, do you get upset? Do you say No? Satan whispers in your ears and tells you that the programme is fun and you'll miss out. If you listen to him and don't switch off the TV, you are disobeying Allah and disobeying your parents.

OBEYING ALLAH (SWT)

It is very important to obey Allah (SWT) all the time. Allah (SWT) doesn't *need* us to obey Him. But He wants us to obey him because it is good for us!

Allah is our Creator, and knows everything about us better than we know ourselves. Have you ever made a house or a car out of Lego? If anyone needs to ask questions about how it was built or what's inside the house, you are the best person to ask, because you built it, and know all about it, right?



In the same way, Allah knows us best, and knows what we need and what makes us happy and healthy. Then He set out rules for us in the Qur'an and sent the Prophets as teachers and role models for us to know how to pray, fast or give charity because those actions are good for us.

This is why we need to obey Allah completely – for our own good! If we disobey Allah and listen to Satan's whispers, we are only harming ourselves.

Review Questions

1. Why did Allah send Prophets? (Fill in the blanks with correct answers)
 - a. To _____ people to the right path
 - b. To be good role _____ for human beings
 - c. To bring a _____ from Allah to people
2. Our Prophets have special qualities. What are they? Choose the correct answers from below.
 - a. They are good at sport
 - b. They are sinless
 - c. They are very tall and handsome
 - d. They are chosen especially by Allah
 - e. They can run very fast
3. Who was our first Prophet?
4. Who was the last Prophet?
5. How many Prophets did Allah send altogether?
6. Who disobeyed Allah's order to offer *sujūd* before Prophet Adam?
7. Why was Satan proud?