

السَّلَامُ عَلَى مُوسَى كَلِيمِ اللَّهِ

Prophet Musa^[A.S]

نبي الله موسى (ع)

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

LEVEL 2

Prophet Mūsā (Moses (as))

The Ulul 'Azm prophets were five prophets whom Allah (SWT) gave bigger jobs to complete. Prophet Mūsā (as) was one of these prophets. In English we refer to Prophet Mūsā (as) as Moses. There are many interesting stories to learn about from the life of Prophet Mūsā (as) and therefore we will complete this topic over three lessons.

HIS SECRET BIRTH

The first special thing about Prophet Mūsā's (as) life is his birth. At that time there was a ruler by the name of Pharaoh or Fir'awn. Pharaoh thought that he was a god because he was rich and powerful. He wanted everyone to obey him.

Pharaoh used to have people around him who claimed to be able to tell the future. One day he was told that there was going to be a boy who will be born and grow up to destroy Pharaoh and take his kingdom from him.

Pharaoh became very worried and asked his soldiers to kill any baby boy that was born so that none of them could grow up to ruin his position. Therefore all the baby boys were killed... Except one!

DOWN THE RIVER HE WENT

Allah (SWT) kept Prophet Mūsā's (as) mother's pregnancy a secret. No one noticed that she was pregnant. She also gave birth to Prophet Mūsā (as) secretly. After she gave birth, Allah (SWT) made her put her baby into a flowing river so that the baby would not be taken and killed.

Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Learn about the stories from the early life of Prophet Moses
- Learn about the struggles of Prophet Moses when he returned to Egypt
- Learn about the results of Prophet Moses' mission

This was very hard for her but she really believed in Allah (SWT) and therefore she did what she needed to.

THE PLAN OF ALLAH (SWT)

As baby Moses was floating down the river in his cradle, it was not long until he was found. Pharaoh wanted to kill him but because Pharaoh's wife could not have any babies she begged Pharaoh to keep him and bring him up as their son.

They were going to raise him so they thought that he would not be the boy that would oppose the Pharaoh and therefore they kept him.

However baby Moses needed to drink milk and Pharaoh's wife could not breastfeed him. Therefore they asked if anyone could feed the baby. Baby Moses' sister heard this and told her mother. They quickly came to the palace of Pharaoh and told them that she could breastfeed the baby. Pharaoh and his wife had no idea that she was Prophet Moses' real mother. In this way Allah (SWT) reunited baby Moses and his mother, and saved Moses, just as he had promised his mother.

GROWING UP

Although Prophet Mūsā (as) was raised in the palace of Pharaoh who had so much money and gold and would treat people very rudely, he grew up to be a very good man. He would not treat people in a mean way and was always disagreeing with the way the Pharaoh acted. When he got old enough Prophet Mūsā (as) left the palace.

THE SOLDIER

One day, as Prophet Mūsā (as) was walking through the city, he saw one of the soldiers of Pharaoh bullying and abusing a man from the tribe of Prophet Mūsā (as). As Prophet Mūsā (as) went past, the man who was being bullied ask Prophet Mūsā (as) for help. Prophet Mūsā (as) came to help him and struck the soldier. He was only trying to stop the soldier from hurting this weak man, but when he struck the soldier, the soldier died.

Prophet Mūsā (as) realized that this was going to cause a lot of problems for himself and for his people. So he decided to run away from Egypt before he was killed.

THE TWO LADIES

Prophet Mūsā (as) ran away from Egypt. He had to travel through a desert and very tough terrain. He kept running and running until tired and exhausted, he arrived near a water well and slept.

When he woke up, he realized he was in a place called Madyan. He noticed there were many people near a well allowing their sheep to drink water. He then noticed there were two ladies standing back and waiting for the men to finish to take their turn. Prophet Moses went over to them and offered his help. He watered the sheep and gave them back to the ladies. He then went back to his place and rested again.



The father of these two ladies was Prophet Shu'ayb, who we will learn more about in future years. The two ladies told their father what had happened. He asked them to go back to Prophet Mūsā (as) and invite back to their home, so they could repay him.

Eventually, Prophet Mūsā (as) ended up marrying one of these two ladies, and worked for Prophet Shu'ayb for ten years.

RETURN TO EGYPT

After the ten years were over, Prophet Mūsā (as) decided to go back to Egypt. He now had a family, and he had learnt from being with the older and more experience Prophet Shu'ayb.

Prophet Mūsā (as) and his family had to pass through a desert again to get to Egypt. On their way, they got a little lost. Suddenly, Prophet Mūsā (as) saw a light and decided to go towards it to get some fire to warm his family.



As he got closer he noticed the fire was coming from a tree but was not burning the tree.

ALLAH (SWT) SPEAKS TO PROPHET MOSES

When he reached the tree, he found that there was sound coming from the tree. Allah (SWT) was speaking to Prophet Mūsā (as) through the tree. The fact that Allah (SWT) spoke to Prophet Mūsā (as) does not mean that Allah (SWT) has a mouth to speak with. What Allah (SWT) did was to use one of His creatures (a tree) to send a message to Prophet Mūsā (as) in a miraculous way. He made sound come from that tree.

Allah (SWT) told Prophet Mūsā (as) that he had been chosen as a Prophet. His mission was to go Pharaoh and teach him about Allah (SWT) and urge him to submit to Allah. His other mission was to free his people from the oppression of Pharaoh and to take them back to their home land to live in peace and freedom.

Review Questions

Q1. Why did Prophet Moses' mum place him in the river?

- Because she didn't want a baby
- Because Pharaoh was killing all the baby boys
- Because he wanted to swim

Q2. Why did Prophet Moses fight the soldier?

- He was hurting and abusing an innocent person
- He was very strong
- He hurt his mum

Q3. How did Allah (SWT) communicate with Prophet Moses?

- He wrote him a letter
- He sent the Qur'an
- Through a tree

Prophet Moses Returns to Egypt

Prophet Mūsā (as) was ordered by Allah (SWT) to go back to Egypt. He was sent to talk to Pharaoh and stop him from treating the people of Bani Israel badly. Pharaoh had also reached the point now where he thought he was god.

Allah (SWT) asked Prophet Mūsā (as) to speak with him kindly first and try to change him with kind advice and words.

In turn, Prophet Mūsā (as) asked if his brother Hārūn (Aaron) could help him. Allah (SWT) allowed him to have the help of his brother, who was also a prophet.

MOSES' MIRACLES

When they first met with Pharaoh, Prophet Mūsā (as) spoke with him about Allah (SWT) but Pharaoh did not believe. He acted arrogantly and tried to humiliate Moses and Aaron. Allah (SWT) had given Prophet Mūsā (as) two miracles to prove to everyone that he really was a prophet. He had a stick that he used to guide his sheep with. Allah (SWT) made this stick turn into a huge snake.

He also made his hand shine like a bright light when he placed it on his chest.

Therefore when Pharaoh didn't listen to Moses he threw his stick onto the ground and it turned into a huge snake as a sign to prove to him that Allah is the true God and that he gave him special powers. Pharaoh still didn't believe and said that Moses was only performing magic.

THE MAGICIANS

Pharaoh wanted to challenge Prophet Mūsā (as) and prove to people that he was only performing magic and not a miracle. He set a day when everyone could come and watch the challenge between Prophet Mūsā (as) and the magicians who worked for Pharaoh.

Everyone in the land gathered eagerly to see what would happen. The magicians began. They used their illusions to make it look to people that their sticks had turned into snakes. The people were all amazed. Then it came to the turn of Prophet Mūsā (as). He also threw down his stick. It suddenly turned into a real live snake and ate all of the sticks of the magicians.

Everyone, even the magicians, were amazed by this. In fact, the magicians immediately realized that this was not magic, but a miracle from God. They straight away prostrated to Allah (SWT).

Yet Pharaoh still would not believe. In fact, this made Pharaoh even angrier and he now wanted to kill Prophet Mūsā (as). One of Pharaoh's relatives, who secretly believed in Prophet Mūsā (as), convinced Pharaoh not to kill Moses.

Even though the Pharaoh did not kill Prophet Mūsā (as), he began to treat the Bani Israel even worse than he did before.

THE PLAGUES

Now that the Pharaoh and his people had ignored such amazing miracles of Allah (SWT), Allah began to send different types of problems to them. These problems were called the plagues. For one period of time, they all became ill with a terrible disease. Another time, locusts invaded everywhere and made their life very difficult. Each time, the Pharaoh and his people would come to Prophet Mūsā (as) and ask him to pray for them. They promised if this plague was removed, they would believe in Allah (SWT).

However, every time Prophet Mūsā (as) prayed for them and the plague was removed, they again went back to disbelieving in Allah (SWT) and treating the Bani Israel badly.

After giving the Pharaoh and his people so many changes, Allah (SWT) now ordered Prophet Mūsā (as) to take his people with him and leave Egypt.

Review Questions

Q1 What was the miracle with Prophet Moses' hand?

- It could turn into a snake
- It would shine brightly when he placed it on his chest
- He had two left hands

Q2. What happened when Prophet Mūsā (as) challenged the other magicians?

- They all did the same trick
- He taught the magicians a new trick
- His stick turned into a snake and ate all the other sticks

Prophet Moses Completes His Mission

PHARAOH'S WIFE

Sometimes we may be around people that are not well behaved or who may do the wrong thing. They might even put pressure on us to do the wrong thing. However, this does not mean that we should act like them, and it is definitely not an excuse for us to do the wrong thing.

One of the best examples of this was the wife of Pharaoh, whose name was Āsiyah. Despite being the wife of such an evil person, she believed in Prophet Mūsā (as) and his message. She was not interested in the wealth and comfort that Pharaoh was providing for her. Instead, she simply wanted to get away from him and his evil ways, and to be in the presence of Allah (SWT).

She suffered a lot at the hands of Pharaoh. Eventually, she asked Allah (SWT) to save her from Pharaoh and to build for her a house in heaven.

Allah (SWT) answered her prayers. Pharaoh found out about her belief in Prophet Mūsā (as) and killed her. She never gave up her belief in Allah (SWT) and put up with the pain and torture until she died as a believer.

THE MAGICIANS BECOME BELIEVERS

Pharaoh thought that Prophet Moses was just a magician and wanted to prove that his magicians can do the same tricks as him. Prophet Moses could throw down his stick and it would turn into a huge snake.

One day Pharaoh asked all the magicians to come and perform some magic and prove that Moses was just a magician. When they arrived they made some ropes or sticks look like snakes. Then Prophet Moses threw down his stick and it turned into a real snake and ate up all the other fake ones. When the magicians saw they immediately realised that Prophet Mūsā (as) was not a mere magician, and that this was a miracle from Allah (SWT). They straight away performed sujūd and showed their submission to Allah (SWT).

When Pharaoh saw this, he got very angry at them and threatened to kill them. They calmly told Pharaoh that they did not care about what he said, because he only had control of this world, and they were more worried about what would happen in the next world.

Pharaoh ended up killing the magicians, but this was one of the successes of Prophet Mūsā (as) and his mission.

CROSSING THE SEA

Pharaoh and his family had been oppressing the tribe of Prophet Mūsā (as), the Bani Israel, for many years. Finally, Allah (SWT) ordered Prophet Mūsā (as) to take his people and leave Egypt, and to try to reach their homeland of Palestine and attain freedom.

So one night Prophet Mūsā (as) took his people and led them out of Egypt. As they fled, the army of Pharaoh followed them. After a while, Prophet Mūsā (as) and his people reached the big river called Nile. They were now stuck between a river and the army of Pharaoh. They thought that they were either going to drown or be killed by the army of Pharaoh.

Some people thought that Pharaoh was going to catch them but prophet Moses never gave up hope in Allah (SWT). He knew that Allah would send him a sign or some help to rescue them.

Allah (SWT) then ordered Moses to use his miraculous stick and strike it against the river. Suddenly, the river split and a crossing suddenly appeared. The Bani Israel were able to cross the river safely and got to the other side.

Pharaoh and his army saw this. Still, he did not believe and ordered his soldiers to try to use the same crossing to get to the other side. As Pharaoh and his soldiers tried to cross, the crossing that had miraculously appeared collapsed and the Pharaoh and his soldiers all drowned.

Allah (SWT) tells us that while the Pharaoh was drowning, he finally called out that he believed in Allah (SWT). However, it was too late- he had ignored too many signs and now he was going to die as an unbeliever and be punished in the Hereafter.

WHAT DO WE LEARN?

Of all the prophets Allah (SWT) talks about Prophet Mūsā (as) the most in the Qur'an. This is because Allah (SWT) gave all the people around Prophet Mūsā (as) so many chances to submit to Him. Some of them chose to obey the signs of Allah, while others ignored them.

The main lesson we need to learn from all these stories from the life of Prophet Mūsā (as) is that we should never ignore the signs of Allah (SWT). When we see His signs, we should obey them and submit to them, before it is too late.

CLASS ACTIVITY

Your teacher will help you form into groups. Your task is to act out the story of Prophet Mūsā (as) and his people crossing the River Nile.

Review Questions

Q1. What was the name of Pharaoh's wife?

- Zaynab
- Aminah
- Āsiyah

Q2. What did Prophet Mūsā (as) use to split the river in two?

- His hand
- His stick
- All his followers

Q3. What should we do when we are going through something hard?

- Give up and complain to Allah (SWT)
- Pray to Allah (SWT) and believe He will help us
- Tell our parents