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Stories of The Prophets

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Simple English accounts of the lives of many Prophets, including Prophets Adam, Nuh, Ibrahim, Yusuf, and Musa (a).



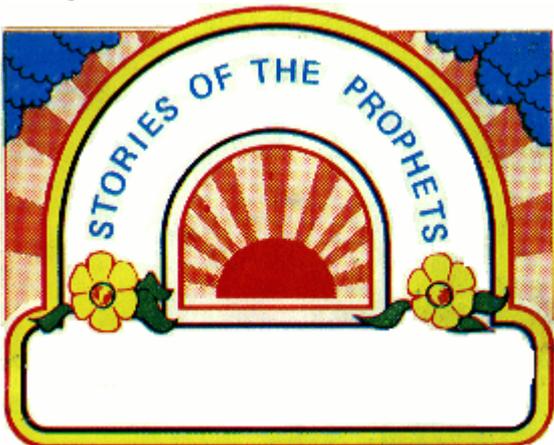
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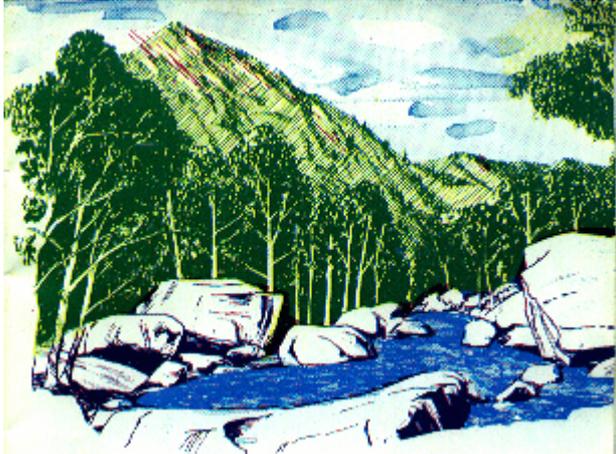
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Prophet Adam (a)



Allah made the mountains and the seas.

He made all the animals.

He made the heavens and the stars.

He made the sun and the moon

and he made the angels.

The angels were like Allah's servants

and did everything He ordered.

Then Allah decided to make a man.

He called this first man Adam.

He taught him many things

so that Adam had more knowledge

than the angels.

There was one Jinn,

called Iblis and he thought

he was better than Adam

so Allah would not let him

stay with the other angels.

He was to be called

'Shaytan', the Devil.

Shaytan blamed Adam for what had happened to him and was very angry.

Allah let Adam live in

a beautiful place because

he was good. The place was called Paradise.

It was a very nice place but

Adam was a little lonely,

on his own all of the time.

Allah decided to help Adam.

He made Hawa to be Adam's wife.

They were happy and

liked living in Paradise.

There was, however,

one thing they were not allowed to do.

There was a special

tree and Allah had told them they must not

eat any fruit from that tree.

At first Adam and Hawa were

very good and kept away

from the tree.

Shaytan decided to do

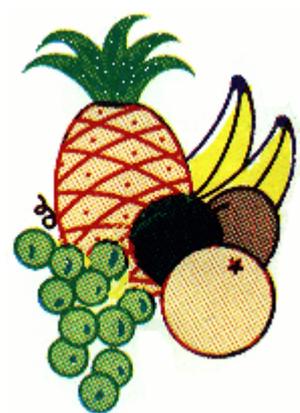
something very naughty.

He told them they were silly

to keep away from the tree.

He said nothing would happen
if they ate its fruit.

He said the fruit was delicious
and they should try it.



After a while they began to
listen to Shaytan and thought
they would have just a little
taste of the fruit, just to see
what it was like.

Shaytan was very happy because
he had made them disobey Allah.

As soon as they had eaten
the fruit,

Adam and Hawa

realised that they had been

very naughty and

they felt guilty

for what they had done.

Allah forgave them

But He wouldn't let them

stay in Paradise any more

So He sent them to live on earth.



Habil and Qabil

Adam had two sons
called Habil and Qabil.

Adam thought that
Habil, the younger son,
should take over after him.

But Qabil didn't like this
idea and was very
jealous.

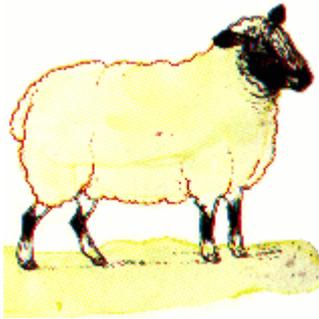
To settle the argument
Adam thought of an idea.

He told his sons to think
of a present to give to
Allah and to leave it
on top of a certain hill.

The one whose
present Allah accepted,
would win the
argument.

Allah chose Habil's

present because Habil
had taken a lot
of time and trouble
to choose his present.



Qabil was very upset and
angry. He was so angry
that he killed his
own brother. Afterwards,
when he realised what
he had done, he cried
and cried but it was
too late to be sorry.

Prophet Nuh (a)

After many years Adam
had grandchildren and even
great grandchildren.
There were now lots of
people on earth.
Many of them obeyed Allah
but some were not so good
and did just what they

wanted to do all the time.

This made Allah very unhappy.

Allah chose Nuh,

a good man, to tell the

people that what they

were doing was wrong.

But they wouldn't listen

to him and carried on

doing bad things.

Allah decided that

all the naughty people

should be punished.

He told Nuh to build

a big ark near

his house.

Nuh quickly got busy

choosing good wood and

building it up into a

fine ark.

A lot of people laughed

at him but he did not

take any notice of them,

because Allah had told

him what to do.

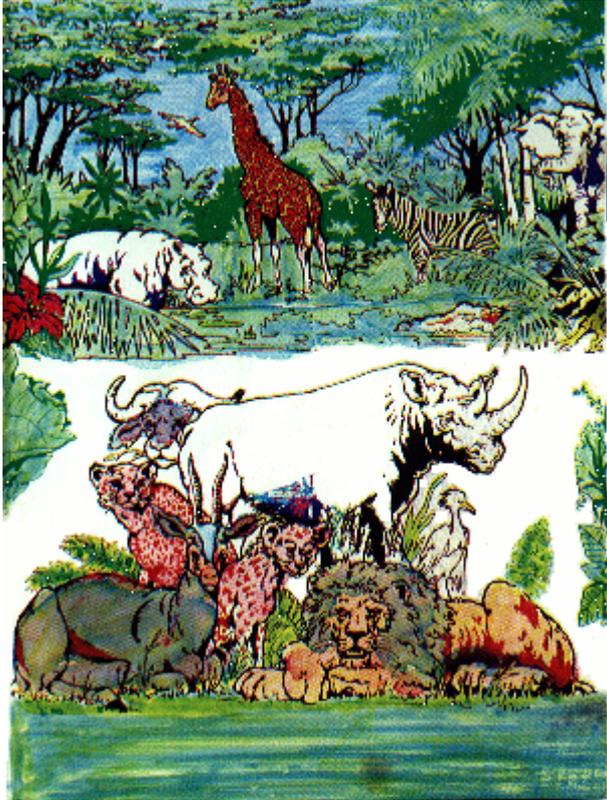
When he had finished,

he put lots of food

into the ark and collected

the good people together.

They also took lots of animals with them into the ark, two of every kind.



One day, all of a sudden, the sky went very dark and it started to rain. Lightly at first, then more and more heavily. Soon there was water everywhere. The bad people were not laughing any more. They were frightened because they had no shelter from the water.



Only the good people
in the ark were
safe and dry.

Prophet Hud (a)

A long time ago,
a great tribe lived in the
South of Arabia.
They were called Ad.
They were very clever and
could do many things.
They used the mountains
for their homes.
They carved out great mansions
with wonderful pillars.
They called their city Iram.
It was very famous.
As time went on,
the people of Ad
thought more about themselves
and less about Allah.
They thought they
didn't need Allah,

because they had
lots of money
and power.



They thought they were
being clever but really
they were foolish.

Before long they turned
to bad ways.

Gangs of them used to
rob and kill people
travelling by.

There was still one good man
among them.

His name was Hud.

He did not belong to any of
the gangs.

He did not agree
with the things they did.

He tried to tell them
to stop their bad ways

and told them
to follow Allah's ways.
Hud said Allah would punish
the bad ones but most of the
people still would not listen.
They thought they were
more clever than
the messenger of Allah.
Allah told Hud to take all the
good people into a big cave
near the city. The very next
day a terrible tornado
came and only the
good ones,
the ones who had
listened,
were saved.

Prophet Salih (a)

The people of Thamud
lived in a valley
called al-Hajr
in the north of Arabia.
It was a good land
so everything grew very easily.
Cattle and sheep grazed
on the land.

Everyone
had plenty of everything.
When people have a lot
they sometimes forget
who provides everything,
they sometimes forget Allah.
When this happens
Allah sends a messenger
or a prophet
to try to help the people.
To the people of Thamud,
Allah sent Salih.
Salih told the people
to remember Allah
but a lot of people just
laughed
at him and would
not listen.
He did not give up.
He still tried to persuade
them to worship Allah
and soon people
began to listen.
They realised Salih was right.
The leaders of Thamud
were upset by this.
They did not want people
to listen to Salih.

They did not believe Salih
was sent by Allah.
They wanted him to prove it,
they wanted a sign.
They told Salih
to bring them a camel
but it had
to be a
special camel.



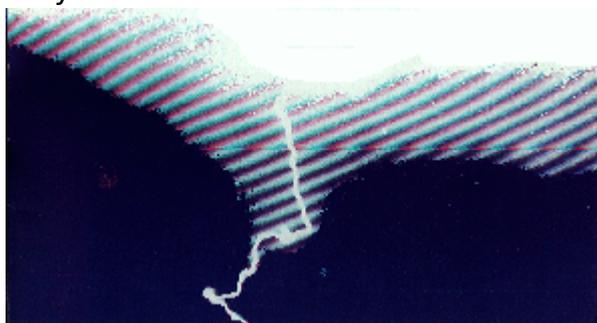
Salih prayed to Allah
and Allah sent
the special camel.
The camel gave lots and
lots of milk so all the poor
people had enough to drink,
and they were very happy.
The leaders of Thamud
became
angry again to see Salih
and his followers so happy.
They decided
to kill the camel.

Salih told them that Allah
would punish them.

Salih took all the good people
away from the valley.

A terrible earthquake came
and destroyed the valley
and all the bad people.

If they had listened to Salih
they would have been saved.



Prophet Ibrahim (a)

Many years ago a boy
called Ibrahim lived
in Canaan.

he was very clever and was always asking questions.

Most of the people he knew
worshipped idols but
Ibrahim did not.

The people had
forgotten the messages
that Adam, Hud, Nuh
and Salih had
brought them.

Instead of praising
Allah they worshipped
statues.

Ibrahim told his father
he didn't think people should
worship objects they had
made themselves. His father
was angry and told him
not to say anything about
the gods again.

Ibrahim decided he must
show the people they were
wrong so he thought of a
plan.

One night he sneaked into
the place where all
the statues were
kept. With an axe
he chopped off the
heads from all but
one of the statues.

The biggest one
he left.

The next morning the
people were very angry
and upset at what had
happened. They were
sure Ibrahim had done it.

They gathered in the public square and asked him if he had done it. Ibrahim told them to ask their big idol if he knew who was responsible. But, of course, the statue could not speak and the people knew it was only stone. Ibrahim shouted at them and asked how they could worship lumps of stone. The bad people were even more angry.

They started to collect wood for a fire. They were going to burn Ibrahim to death.

They made a big bonfire and put Ibrahim on the top. Everyone came to watch. They lit the wood. The fire burned, the flames grew higher and higher. The people had to back away from the heat of the flames.

Ibrahim was a good person. He believed in Allah.

Allah would protect him.

Allah would not let the fire harm him. When the flames dies down the people could not believe their eyes.

They saw that Ibrahim was alive and the flames had not harmed him at all.

How had this happened?

They all knew this was a great miracle and they fell to their knees.



This wonderful thing had made them believe in Allah.

Some people would still not listen. They thought

Ibrahim was just a magician Nimrod, the king of Canaan, heard all about Ibrahim.

He wanted to talk to him.

He asked Ibrahim about Allah.

Ibrahim told him that

Allah could do all things.

He could give life and death.

Nimrod said that he too
could do that.

His soldiers brought
two men in. Nimrod
ordered one to be
killed and the
other to be saved.



Nimrod thought that
this made him like Allah.

Ibrahim told him that
Allah brings the sun
every morning from the
East.

He asked Nimrod if
he could bring the sun
from the west next

day, of course, Nimrod
was unable to do that.

Prophet Ibrahim (a) II

Ibrahim married a girl
called Sarah. They lived
very happily in Palestine.

They worked and had
plenty of everything.

Ibrahim became very
wealthy, but he was
a good man. He
always helped
other people too.

After many years Ibrahim
and Sarah still had no
children. This made
them very sad. They
both wanted a
child to share
their life with.

Sarah told Ibrahim
that he should marry
her servant Hajar too,
so that Ibrahim and
Hajar could make a
child together.

Prophet Ismail (a)

After a while Ibrahim
did marry Hajar and
she had a son.

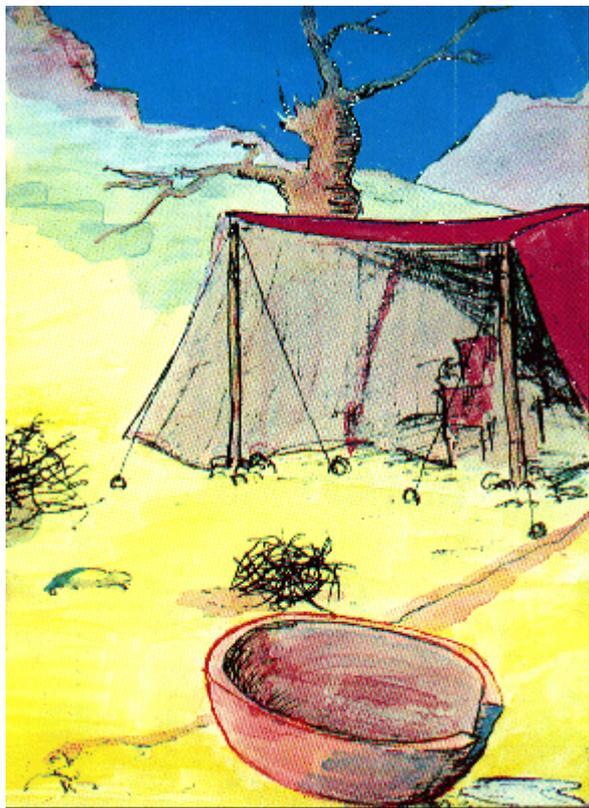
They called him Ismail.

They were all very
happy.

Ibrahim, Hajar and Ismail
moved to a valley in
Arabia. They settled in
a good place with hills
and mountains on all
sides to protect them.

After a while Ibrahim
said that he should go
back to see Sarah and
to get more food and water.

Before he left he prayed
to Allah to look after
his wife and son because
they did not have much
food and water left.



The food and water
soon began to run low.

Hajar was very worried. What
could they live on?

They prayed to Allah.

Hajar went to the top of
the mountain, Mount Safa,
to look for Ibrahim.

Now their water was all gone
and they were desperate.

She went to the other
side of the valley and
climbed to the top of Mount
Marwa. She looked towards
the North, East, West and
South for help but found

none.

Hajar kept running
backwards and forwards
between Mount Safa and
Mount Marwa.

She did this seven times.

Suddenly she saw
Ismail kick the ground
with his heel.

A spring of water gushed
out - beautiful, pure water,
they were saved.

Even today this water, called
Zamzam, still flows in the
Valley of Hijaz and when
people go to Makkah on Hajj
they go seven times between
the two mounts in memory
of this miracle that saved
the lives of Hajar and Ismail.

When Ibrahim returned he was
amazed to see the valley.

The water had made the place
very fertile. All the animals
and caravans visited and
made it a prosperous place.



The Sacrifice of Prophet Ibrahim (a)

One night Ibrahim had
a bad dream.

He dreamt Allah told
him to sacrifice Ismail.

Ibrahim thought it was
Shaytan playing nasty
tricks on him.



The next night Ibrahim had
the same horrid dream.

Ibrahim knew that

Allah would only

ask him to do such

a thing if he had good
reason.

Even though he loved

his son dearly, he was
prepared to do this
difficult thing for Allah.

Ibrahim told

Ismail they

had to go to

Mount Arafat.

He took a knife

and a rope with him.



On the way they passed
a place called Mina.

The devil, Shaytan, came
to Ibrahim and
tried to talk him
out of sacrificing
his son.

Ibrahim turned his back
on him and would not listen.

When they reached Mount
Arafat, Ibrahim told Ismail
what Allah wanted him to do.
Ismail listened and accepted
what was to happen. He was

an exceptional child.

He too was a
great prophet.

Ismail told his father to tie
his hands and legs and blindfold
himself so he would not struggle and
make his father even more upset than
he was going to be and Ibrahim was
blindfolded so he would not see his
son suffer.

Ibrahim did as Ismail
had said. He then took
the knife and did what
Allah had told him to
do. When he took
the blindfold from his
eyes he looked down, not
at his son but at a
dead ram.

Ismail was at his side.

Ibrahim was afraid.

He thought he had disobeyed
but then he heard a voice
telling him not to worry.

Allah looks after his
followers. Ibrahim and Ismail
had passed a difficult test.



Each year, during the month of Dhul Hijjah, many Muslims, from all over the world, travel to Makkah.

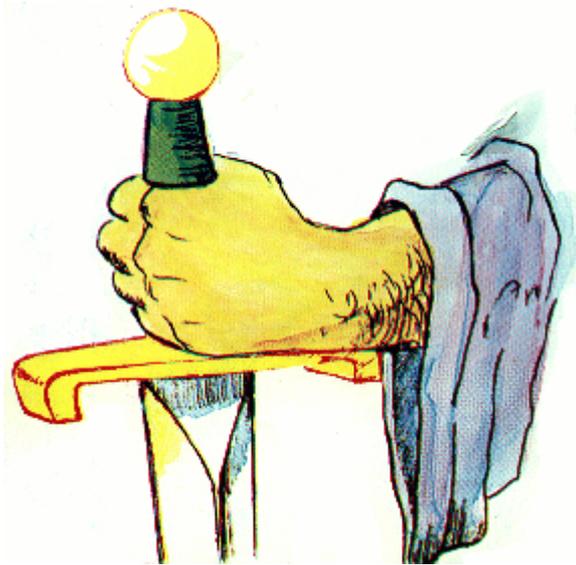
They want to remember what Ibrahim and Ismail did.



In the month of Dhul Hijjah these pilgrims go to Makkah, Mina and Arafat.

They visit places where Ibrahim and Ismail lived and preached.

They give a sacrifice just as Allah commanded Ibrahim to do. The pilgrims sacrifice animals in memory of the deed.



We must obey
Allah's commands
as Ibrahim and
Ismail did. We
obey by doing
the things we
know are right,
praying, obeying
our parents and
always telling
the truth.

Prophet Ibrahim (a) & Prophet Ishaq (a)

The Well of Zamzam
where water first flowed
to save the lives of
Hajar and Ismail, became
a popular place for the
caravans to stop.

Some people liked the place so much they decided to stay there.

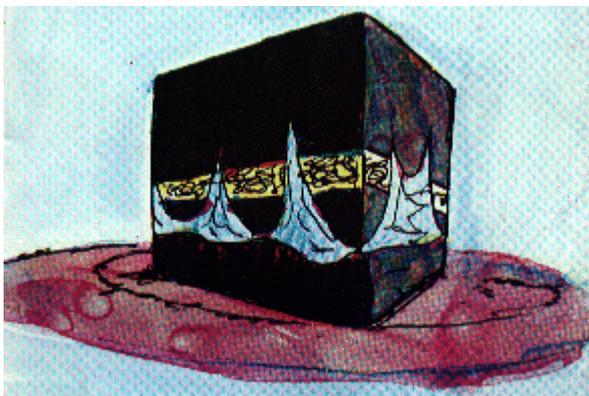
This place became known as Makkah.

One day Ibrahim had a message from Allah.

He and Ismail were to build a place for people to pray.

They were to build an altar, it was to be known as the Ka'aba.

The angel Jibrail brought the message saying that the Ka'aba should be built near the Well of Zamzam, the most sacred place on earth.



The foundation stone for the Ka'aba was to

come from heaven.

It is found today in a corner of the Ka'aba and is known as the black stone.

When Ibrahim was building the Ka'aba he was standing on a large rock. Allah softened the rock and the shape of Ibrahim's bare feet was left in it. It is still there, for all to see.

When Ibrahim was very old the angels came to see him and said Allah was going to give a son to him and Sarah.

Sarah could not believe it was true. She too was old. The angels said that all things are possible to Allah. They said the son was to be called Ishaq. He was to be a prophet. Sure enough, Sarah did have

a son and they called
him Ishaq. he grew
up to be a great
prophet.

Ishaq married a
girl called Rebecca.

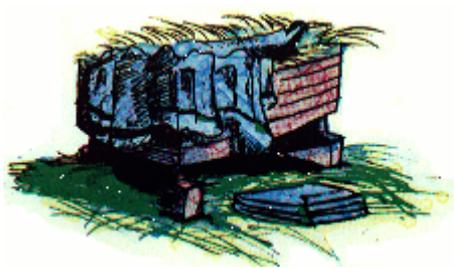
They had two sons,
called Esau and Yaqub.

Yaqub became a
great prophet.

Yaqub grew up and
married Zia and they
had lots of children,
both boys and girls.

His second wife

Rohsie had two sons,
Yusuf and Benjamin.



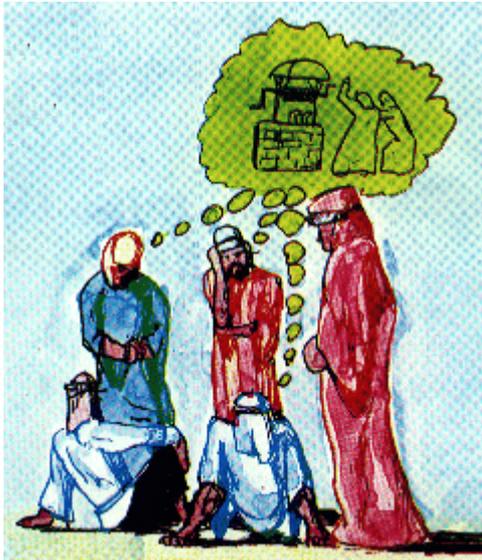
Yusuf and Benjamin
were very good, obedient
sons and they became
Yaqub's favourites because
of their good behaviour.

Yusuf too grew up
to be a prophet.

All of these great prophets were descendents of Ibrahim. He is known as the father of all the prophets. Muhammad (s), our great and beloved prophet, the last of all the prophets was a descendant of Ismail.

Prophet Yaqub (a) & Prophet Yusuf (a)

Yaqub was also known as Israil. Israil's children could see that Yusuf was their father's favourite. This made them very jealous. They became so jealous, some of them actually wanted to kill him. The jealous brothers finally decided to throw Yusuf into a deep well.



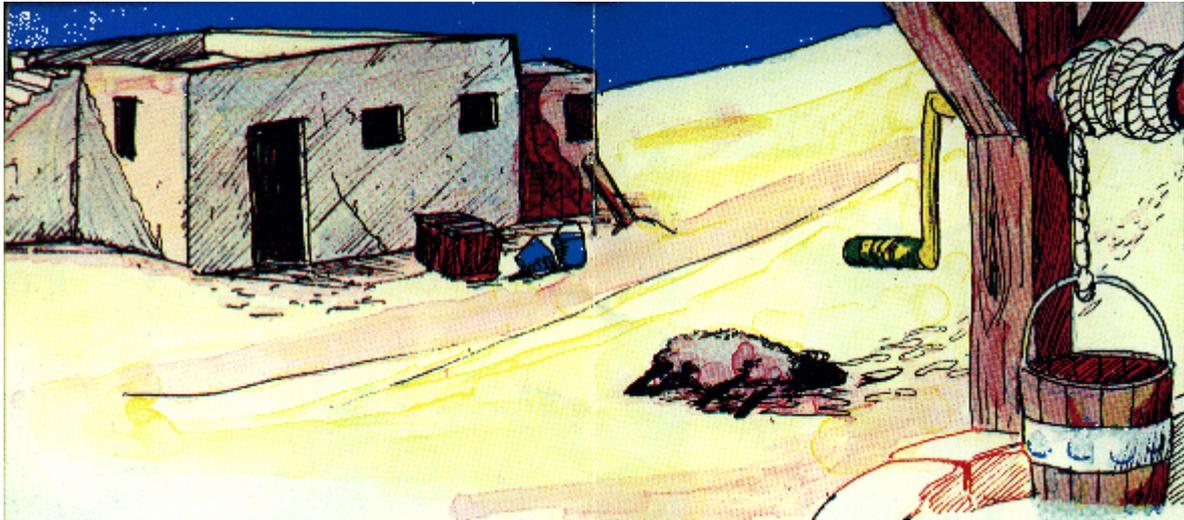
They went to Israil, their father, to ask if they could take Yusuf out with them; they said they would teach him to be a good shepherd. Israil would not let Yusuf go because he thought the others were planning to do something bad.

One day Yusuf went to Israil and said that he had had a strange dream.

In the dream Yusuf had seen the sun, the moon and eleven stars bowing down to him!



Israil felt that
the dream had a
message, Yusuf was
going to have a
great future. He
told Yusuf not to
tell his brothers
about the dream.
Israil's son were
still thinking of their
plan to kill Yusuf.
They pestered Israil
to let them take
Yusuf with them
to their work.



At last Israil agreed,
but he made them promise
to look after him.

They were so bad they
knew they would break
their promise.

At the end of the day
they asked Yusuf to take
off his shirt. They killed
a sheep and put blood all
over Yusuf's shirt; then they
threw Yusuf into a well.

They went home and
showed the shirt to Israil.

Pretending to be very upset;
they told their father that Yusuf
had got left behind and a
wolf had eaten him!

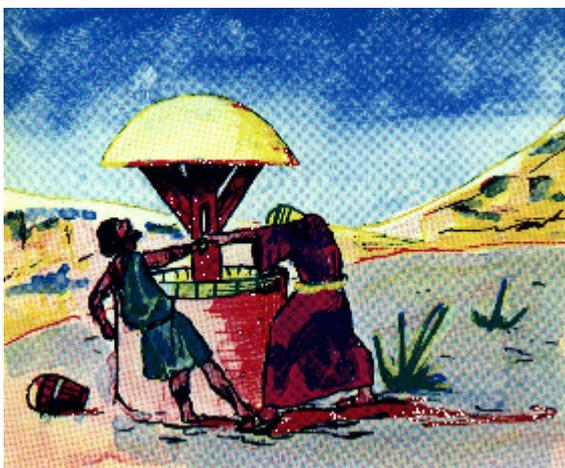


Israil was very
upset but he
did not believe
the story.

He knew that one
day Allah would
bring Yusuf back
to him.

Poor Yusuf spent the
night in the well.

The next morning, when
someone put the
bucket down the
well to get water,
he sat in the bucket.



The man had to get help

to pull the bucket up.

He was very surprised to see
a boy in it.

The man was a merchant.

The merchant decided

to take Yusuf with

him to Egypt and to

sell him as a slave.

When they arrived in

Egypt, one of the noble

families bought Yusuf.



The man who

bought him told

his wife that they

should take care of

him, as he was a

good-looking child

and they had no

children of their own.

Yusuf became one

of the family.

Prophet Yusuf (a)

The Pharaoh of Egypt

called Firawn had many

people working for him.

One of his assistants had a very wicked wife who said many things about Yusuf that were quite untrue. She thought she loved him but he told her that she should honour her husband.

She became very angry and persuaded her husband to have Yusuf put in prison.

While he was in prison, Yusuf used to tell everyone what their dreams meant and his explanation of the dreams always came true.

Allah had given Yusuf this great gift.

Firawn kept having a strange dream and none of his wise men could explain what it meant.

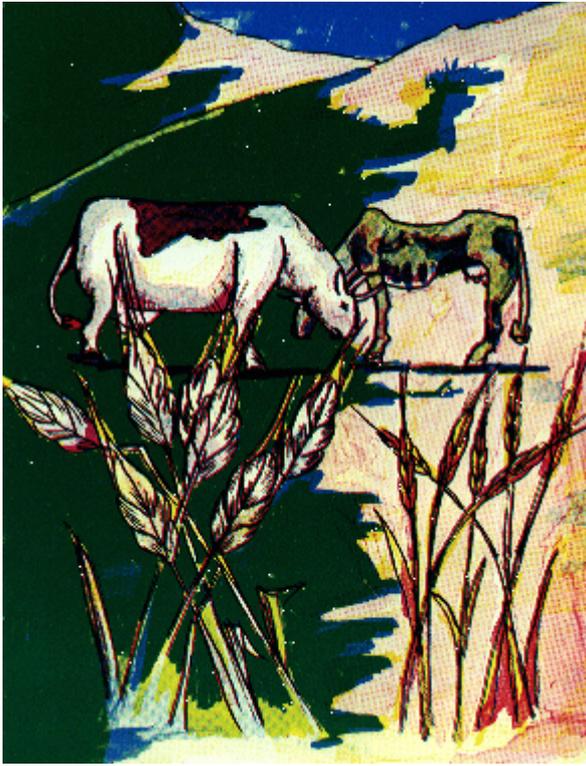
Then Firawn heard of Yusuf's great gift and sent for him.

Yusuf would not leave

the prison until he had proven his innocence. Firawn had an inquiry and discovered that Yusuf really was innocent, so he was able to leave prison.



Firawn's dream was most unusual. In it, he saw seven skinny cows eat seven big fat ones and there were seven skinny ears of wheat and seven fat ears of wheat. Yusuf explained that this meant there would be seven years of plenty but seven years of famine would follow, when there would be no water and no food for anyone.



After that there would
be a year of rain.

Firawn liked and trusted
Yusuf so he put him in
charge of all the store houses
in the land.

Yusuf had worked himself
up to a very powerful position.

Allah always rewards
good people.

Yusuf worked hard; he
made sure the store houses
were filled with wheat and
grain.

Just as he had said,
there were seven years
of plenty. Those years

passed very quickly.

Soon the seven years of
famine came. The crops
failed. People were
hungry. Others were
starving.

Yusuf had planned for
this. He opened his
stores and let everyone
have some of the wheat.

Back in Palestine,
Israil too was facing
a hard time with
no food for his family
or the animals.

He sent his sons to
Egypt to get grain from
the famous treasurer of
Egypt. When they arrived
they were told that they
must get permission from
the governor to buy grain.

They went to see him, but
did not realise that the
fine man, in splendid robes was
really their brother. He told
them they could have some
grain, but if they wanted

any more, they would have
to come with their youngest
brother and parents.

Yusuf had recognised them
straight away and he longed
to see his father, mother
and young brother Benjamin
again.

Eventually the eleven
brothers returned with
their mother and father.

They bowed down before Yusuf.

Yusuf put his father on his
throne and reminded him of
the dream he had had so long ago.

The sun, the moon and
eleven stars had bowed
down before him just as
his father, mother and
brothers had done at this
meeting, This was a great
moment in his life
and he thanked
Allah, for all He
had done for him.

Prophet Shu'ayb (a)

The Prophet Shu'ayb
was a descendent
of the Prophet Ibrahim.
He was sent to Midian and the
Dwellers of the wood to give
them Allah's message.

The Midianite people
committed many sins.
They gave short measures
and weights,
they robbed people and
caused mischief but most
seriously they tried to stop
people from
worshipping Allah.

Shu'ayb tried to make
them change but they
would not listen to him.

They wanted to throw
him out and all the
people who had
listened to his words.

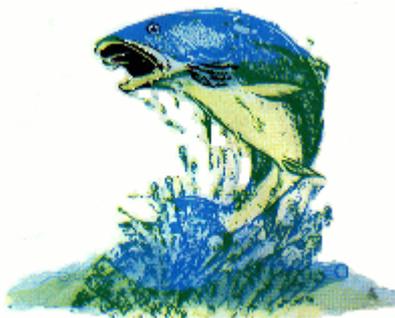
Then Allah sent an
earthquake and all
the evil people were
destroyed because they
would not obey the
word of Allah.

Prophet Yunus (a)

The prophet Yunus
was sent to Ninevah.

He became known as the
Lord of the Fish (Dhan-Nun).

He warned the people about
their evil ways and told them
to follow Allah but they
would not listen.



Yunus was so angry he left.

He sailed away but the ship
was so full and heavy,

poor Yunus

was thrown

overboard.

He was

swallowed by an

enormous fish and he

lived in its belly

for three days.

Then the fish spewed

him out on a shore.

He was very ill but
Allah was protecting him.
A plant grew
and its leaves protected
Yunus from the sun and
kept the flies away.
A wild goat provided him
with milk. When he became
better he went back to
Ninevah and gave the
people Allah's message
once more. This time
the people listened
and Allah forgave them.

Prophet Ayyub (a)

The Prophet Ayyub had
been a wealthy man.
He was a very good
man but he lost his family
and his wealth.
He became ill and had terrible
sores all over his body.
However he never gave up.
He spent his time praying.
He was very patient and
always kept his faith in Allah.

Eventually Allah showed mercy.

He told Ayyub to strike the earth with his foot and miraculously a fountain appeared.

He drank the water and used it to wash his body.

All his sores were healed and everything was returned to him as before.

Allah had rewarded him for keeping his faith despite the terrible afflictions he had tested him with.

Prophet Musa (a)

Israil's family decided

to stay in Egypt. For a

long time they were

happy. The family grew.

There were many people

related to Israil and they

became known as the

Bani Israil.

For some reason the

Egyptian people did not

like the Bani Israil.

A new Firawn became ruler

of Egypt. Israil's people became slaves to the government. They were forced to do many unpleasant jobs and were treated very badly.



One night Firawn had a dream. His high priest, Haman, told him what he thought the dream meant. An Israil boy would be born and he would grow up and cause the death of Firawn.



This made Firawn very angry and so he thought of

a horrible plan.

All the boys born to the

Israilites would be

killed at birth.

He thought this would

stop the dream from

coming true.



Imran and his wife had two

children, a girl called Maryam

and a boy called Iram. Soon

after Firawn told of his

plan, Imran's wife found out that

she was going to have another

baby.

They were pleased but they were

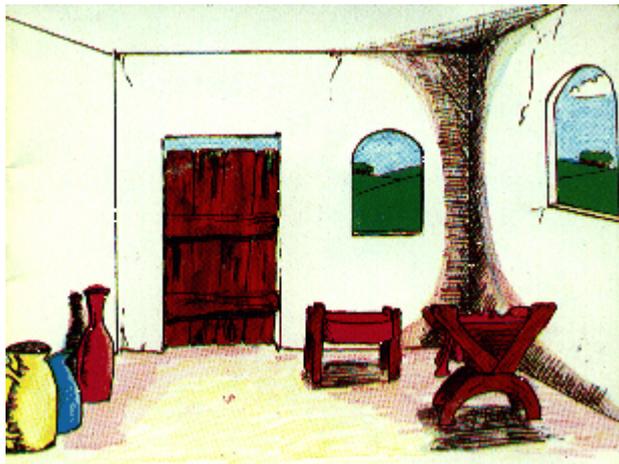
also worried that if the baby was

a boy, he would be killed.

She did not tell anyone that she was

going to have a baby. She stayed at

home and kept her secret until the baby was born.



It was a boy.

She loved the baby very much but realised that if she kept him, he might be killed.

She put the baby in a special box and Maryam went with her to the river Nile.

They carefully put the box in the river and prayed that it would sail to safety.

Allah was watching over the baby. No harm would come to him.

The box sailed into Firawn's gardens. Some maids were there and saw the box caught in the bullrushes. They pulled it out and were amazed to find a beautiful baby inside.

They took him to Firawn's wife,
Asia, who looked at him and
knew at once that he was an Israili.

Firawn wanted to kill the
baby but Asia cried and
cried and was so upset that
eventually he said she could
keep him and even adopt him.

The baby was called Musa.

He was not happy. He cried
because he was hungry but
would not take milk from
anyone.

Maryam heard of this and she let
it be known that she knew someone
who might be able to help.

She went to her mother
and told her

what had

happened. They

went to the

palace and when

Musa was put

in her arms he

stopped crying

and took milk

from her.



With Allah's help

Musa and his

mother were reunited.

She was able to look after

Musa for a long time and

he loved her dearly.

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