

THE FAITHFUL FUTURE GAZETTE

SUNDAY SCHOOL ●

2ND EDITION ●

MASJID-UT-TAQWA

The students of Masjid Taqwa's Sunday School have come together again and created their second edition of "**The Faithful Future Gazette**" Newsletter.



This issue will address the character, creed and story of a few of the most important Prophets in Islam.

The newsletter has been compiled and edited by the entire team of Sunday School Teachers.

WELCOME NOTE

It is my pleasure to write the preface for the second release of the Masjid-ut -Taqwa Sunday School newsletter.

This edition's theme revolves around "Allah's SWT Messengers". Our Sunday School students have done a wonderful job compiling the lives of four of the great Prophets in Islam.

Over the years they've discussed missions of these Prophets, their distinct qualities, struggles, and the consequences of those who did not follow the message of Allah SWT.

Additionally, such learning provides children with examples to follow. When faced with trials, they can look to guidance from the Prophets' stories on how to navigate challenges. Our hope is that by imparting these lessons during their formative years, children will mature into strong and resilient Muslims who will be able to withstand the societal pressures surrounding them.

May Allah SWT guide our children to remain steadfast on this beautiful religion, following the noble examples set by the beloved Messengers. Ameen.

Seyad Mubarak

Principal - Sunday School (Masjid-ut-Taqwa)



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Prophet Ibrahim AS

In the year 1996 BC, Prophet Ibrahim AS was born in a kingdom called Babylon where people worshipped idols as they thought they were Gods. These idols were crafted from stone and wood. As a child, Ibrahim AS would watch his father work on the idols and when finished, he used the idols as playthings.

As Ibrahim AS grew older, he didn't understand why people worship idols. When he asked his father, his father said to him that the idols represented Gods and people would offer food and gifts to the idols when asking for favours. However, this didn't appease Ibrahim AS. As Ibrahim AS grew much older, he was assured that the idols were fake and started to tell the people to stop worshipping idols.



One night, Ibrahim AS looked towards the stars and thought of them being his lord. But when he woke up and the star was gone, he realized the star could not have been his lord as it had disappeared. The next night he looked towards the moon and thought the moon was his lord. However, in the morning when the moon disappeared, he realized that the moon was not his lord. He looked towards the sun and once again, he thought that the sun could be his lord as it was big and lit up the world.

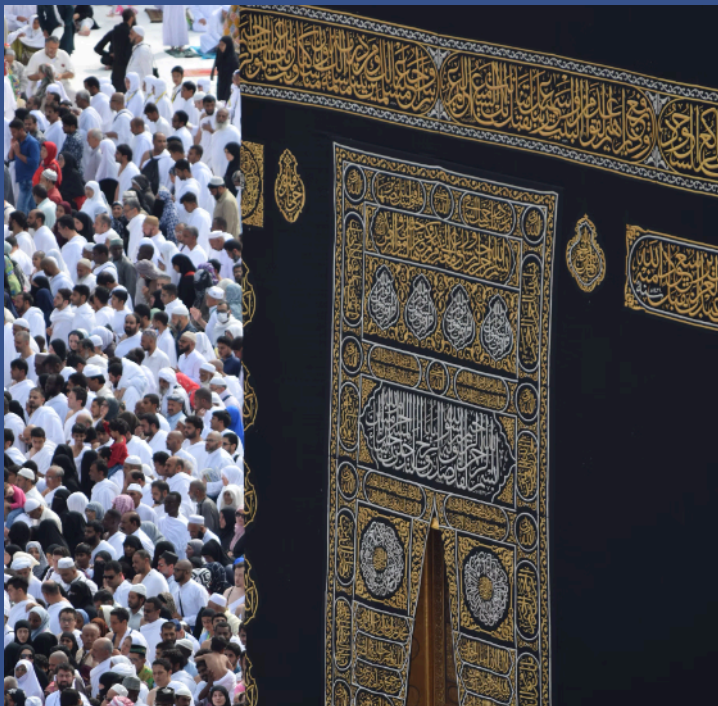
However, when the sun set at night he realized the sun was not his lord either. He realized his Lord was the being that controlled the entire universe including the stars, moon, and sun. He told the local villagers but they refused and, threatened him with violence. This inspired Ibrahim AS to approach in a different way to the hearts and minds of people.



Ibrahim AS continued to spread the word of Allah SWT. He travelled to Syria and Palestine to spread the word of Allah SWT with his wife Sarah, and his nephew Lut AS. Ibrahim AS married Sarah so he could get children to spread the words of Allah SWT. However, Sarah did not have a child for a very long time, and she was very sad and offered Hajar as a second wife for Ibrahim AS. Soon, after praying to Allah SWT, Ibrahim AS and Hajar were given a baby boy whom they named Ismail. Later on, he was blessed with another child named Ishaq with his wife Sarah

Many prophets came through the lineage of Ishaq AS, like Musa AS and Isa AS. Muhammad SAW came through the lineage of Ismail AS. Thus Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are referred to as the Abrahamic faiths, because the Prophets were all descendents of Ibrahim AS.

Ibrahim AS is a great example of perseverance and true love for Allah SWT. He continued to search for Allah SWT when all that surrounded him was the ignorance and idolatry of his people. He did not give up calling his people to the truth that Allah SWT had guided him towards, even after they persecuted him in the fire. Rather he moved to another place and continued to spread the truth. From the life of Ibrahim AS we can learn that love for Allah SWT makes us strong and gives us the ability to bear difficulties for His sake



FUN FACTS:

- Ibrahim AS is known as Khaleel-ullah, which means Friend of Allah.
- Many great prophets of Allah connect their lineage back to Ibrahim AS, through either Ismail AS or Ishaq AS
- The sacrifices of Ibrahim AS and his family went through many centuries ago, are now traditions and practices we do when we perform Hajj

Prophet Sulaiman AS

The son of Prophet Dawud AS, Sulaiman AS was a wise and honourable Prophet of Allah SWT, born in Jerusalem. Sulaiman AS was a very fair and just ruler of his people. He learned from his father's extensive experience, and wisdom by attending hearings with him frequently. He would occasionally participating in conversations. Sulaiman AS had the power of talking to animals and understanding them along with Jinns. He commanded the Jinns to build Masjid Al-Aqsa also known as Bayt Al-Maddison.

Sulaiman AS was also a wealthy king but he didn't take his wealth and money for granted. In the Qur'an, Allah SWT has mentioned that Sulaiman AS has been given knowledge and wisdom. We are constantly reminded of Sulaiman AS in the past few months because of his history in Palestine and the importance Palestine is to Islam



Mecca and Medina are regarded as the two most holy cities in Islam, with Jerusalem coming in third. Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine. It is where Masjid Al-Aqsa is located. The masjid is located in the courtyard referred to as Al-Quds.

Jerusalem was the first qibla for Muslims when the Prophet Muhammad SAW received the commandment of Salah on the night known as "Isra' wal mi'raj." Palestine is also a holy land for the Christians as this is where Isa AS was born. It is a holy place for the Jewish people too as this is mentioned as the holy land in the Torah.

Shortly after World War 2, many of the Jewish people who were fleeing from Europe came to Palestine as refugees. Later in 1948 the Zionist movement, which is a political movement based on colonialism (often disguised as Judaism), expelled Palestinians from their homeland. This was when "Israel" was born. Since then Palestinians have been kicked out of their homes, arrested, killed, abused and tortured. The land and the people are both occupied.

This is a land where many of our Prophets either lived or visited such as Ibrahim AS, Ishaq AS, Yaqub AS, Yusuf AS, Musa AS, Dawud AS, Sulaiman AS, Zakariya AS, Yahya AS, Isa AS and Maryam AS.

“... and the Prophets lived in it, and there is not an inch in Bait Al-Maqdis where a Prophet has not prayed or an angel has not stood” (Tirmidhi 4335).

This land was mentioned by Allah SWT as one of the holy lands on earth. Our Prophet Muhammad SAW said “No journey should be made except to three masjids. Masjid al Haram, Masjid an Nabawi and Masjid al Aqsa” (Bukhari : 1132).

The reward of praying at Masjid al Aqsa is 500 times more than praying in any other Masjid. This is also the land where Isa AS will return to fight Dajjal. For many years people of all faiths lived in this land peacefully. The virtues of this land are reflected in the people of the land, where they teach what bravery, courage and patience look like. They continue to show the rest of the world that no one is our helper but Allah SWT. Reminding us that help and victory only come from Allah SWT

FUN FACT!

Sulaiman AS was endowed with the gift of communicating with jinns, birds, and insects alike. Sulaiman AS was given copper by Allah SWT to flow like a long stream of water. It was even made cool enough to form and make utensils and other necessary items with ease.



PROPHET (AS) WORD SEARCH

N	R	Y	U	N	U	S	I	M	U	I	D	U	L
F	D	A	A	I	S	M	A	I	L	B	D	Y	N
S	A	A	U	I	S	E	M	A	A	D	A	M	E
A	M	A	L	A	A	S	R	A	S	Y	I	M	M
S	M	E	S	U	L	E	I	M	A	N	A	M	M
A	A	A	M	H	I	S	A	F	W	Y	I	W	A
Y	H	I	A	U	A	A	Y	M	E	U	B	F	Y
Y	U	I	M	R	Y	M	I	D	Y	H	R	U	H
I	M	D	N	A	D	A	H	A	D	N	A	S	A
R	R	S	D	U	A	N	I	N	R	U	H	U	Y
A	L	A	W	R	M	Y	U	F	H	A	I	Y	Y
K	H	A	A	U	U	A	Y	H	D	A	M	M	Y
A	D	S	U	N	S	Y	S	I	A	L	Y	A	D
Z	A	S	U	S	A	S	N	A	A	N	D	U	N

ISA
YUNUS
ZAKARIYYA
NUH
IBRAHIM
YUSUF
SULEIMAN
ADAM
MUHAMMAD
YAHYA
MUSA
DAWUD
ISMAIL

"Prophets Quest" - Unveil the Wisdom

1. Who was the first Prophet?
2. Who was Maryam AS's son?
3. Who did Allah SWT replace with a ram at the time of Sacrifice?
4. Which Prophet was given the Injeel?
5. Which Prophet built the Kabah?
6. Which Prophet built a boat to escape a huge flood?
7. Which Prophet was raised in the household of the Pharaoh (Fir'aun)?
8. Who was the father of Ishaq and Ismail AS?
9. Which Prophet had 11 brothers?
10. Which Prophet spoke as a baby to defend his mother's Honour?
11. Which Prophet was able to split the Red Sea, with the help of Allah SWT?
12. Which Prophet was in the belly of a whale?
13. Who was the brother of Musa AS?

ART CORNER



Prophet Musa AS

Prophet Musa AS was born in Egypt in the year 1931 BC. He belonged to the Bani Israil tribe as he was a descendant of Hazrat Yusuf AS. During the time of his birth, Fir'awn ruled Egypt and treated Bani Israil with cruelty. Firawn ordered the killing of every male child from Bani Israil as a soothsayer told him a boy from the progeny of Yaqub AS (Bani Israil) was going to destroy his kingdom. To save baby Musa AS, Allah SWT guided Musa's AS mother to put Musa AS in a basket and let it flow along a river called the Nile. Once the basket reached the palace of Fir'awn, Aasiyah, the wife of Fir'awn saw the beautiful baby and pleaded to Fir'awn to spare the life of the infant. Musa AS grew up in Fir'awn's palace.

One day, Prophet Musa AS saw an Egyptian and a person from the Bani Israil fighting. He found out that the Egyptian was at fault and he slapped him so hard that Eypyton died. Soon, everybody heard the news that Musa AS had killed an Egyptian to protect someone from the Bani Israil. Fir'awn became angry with him, and so Musa AS left Egypt.

Without food or water, Musa AS left Egypt and came across a place called Madyan. He saw 2 girls waiting for their turn to get water from a well and he helped them get the water. The girls told him that their father, who was at home, asked them to bring Musa AS to offer his gratitude. When Musa AS arrived at their home, he offered his daughter in marriage to him and also asked Musa AS to stay with them for 8 - 10 years. Musa AS accepted the offer.



Musa AS then decided to go back to Egypt as he longed back to his homeland. During the journey back to Egypt, Musa AS needed help to return to Egypt. During that time, it was very dark and cold. Prophet Musa AS then saw a light from afar and he told his wife and children to wait for him, while he went towards the light to investigate. He wanted to find some wood to create a fire to keep him and his family warm. As he got closer, he discovered an illuminated tree. During that time, Allah SWT spoke to him and gave him the glad tidings of Prophethood.



Allah SWT then commanded Prophet Musa AS to head back to Egypt and invite Fir'awn to the path of Allah SWT. He granted Musa AS with a staff that can turn into a serpent. In addition, he also illuminated Musa's AS hand with a bright light and showed him the way towards the palace. With the help of his brother Harun AS, Musa AS went to Egypt and preached the message of Allah SWT. Fir'awn however, refused to listen. Musa AS took Bani Israil and left Egypt while Fir'awn and his men were chasing him. Fir'awn then drowned while chasing Musa AS.

Allah SWT granted Musa AS with the Tawrat (Torah). The Tawrat's original words have been changed by the Jews. This is why we cannot follow the Tawrat today.

MIRACLES OF MUSA AS

Allah SWT bestowed Musa AS with some miracles to deal with the people of Bani Israel. Some of them were:

1. Turning the stick into a snake
2. Split/divide the sea into two
3. His radiant hand

Prophet Isa AS

The Prophets that were sent by Allah SWT all shared one common message, there is one god, and the Prophet AS is a messenger to those people. However certain Prophets were given books or faced certain practices that had to further solidify the ethical and moral bases of the people's beliefs.

The religion that was created from the teachings of Isa AS was Christianity. Injil was the book given to Isa AS. The Injil is now known as the Bible. Although the Injil was a book that was given from Allah SWT, we are unable to follow its modern day teachings. This is because the bible is not reliable anymore, since the teachings of the book has been changed by people. It does not contain the original message anymore. The people of Isa AS believed that since Isa AS had special powers and had many miracles (all provided by Allah SWT) he was more than just a messenger. Some of the miracles were, he can breathe life into clay birds, and cure the blind and people with leprosy.

Since he did not have a father, the people came up with the conclusion that he must be the son of God. All the miracles that he performed were what also convinced people to separate his existence into a new religion. Mariyam AS, the mother of Isa AS, was the chosen one to have him. One day, an angel came to her home in the form of a human, and told her she has been given the gift of a righteous son. This was a message from Allah SWT. She was confused about how she could have a son. Soon after, Mariyam AS left the village for 9 months, in order to give birth to Isa AS in private. When she had him, she was scared, because she didn't have a husband, and she never wanted a child as she devoted herself to worshipping Allah SWT alone.

With fear growing in Maryam AS, Allah SWT mentions "You must not fear, Allah SWT has placed a small river under you, and shake the trunk of the date palm, it will let fresh ripe dates upon you." After that, Isa AS mother remained calm and she regained the strength that she lost. When she returned to town, the people accused her of indecency and shunned her. Maryam AS remained silent, and Isa AS spoke for her. He told the people he was the messenger of Allah SWT and was here to guide them. The birth of Isa AS was a miracle of Allah as well, however the people thought this made him the son of Allah.

Prophet Yusuf AS

Yusuf AS was the son of Yaqub AS and one of the youngest of 11 brothers. He is mentioned in the Quran as one of the Great Prophets of Allah SWT. His life story is the only story that was revealed in order in one surah (Surah Yusuf). Yusuf AS faced many difficulties throughout his life, all of which he endured with resilience and faithfulness. Due to his brothers' jealousy he was separated from his beloved father at a young age. He was brought to Egypt by a caravan and spent the rest of his life there.

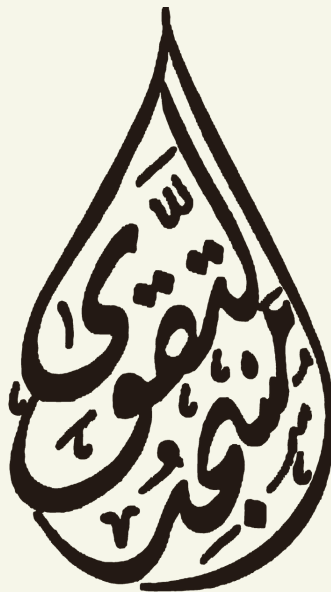


Yusuf AS showed a lot of resilience throughout his life. When his brothers' threw him in a well at such a young age, he did not waver in faith and had trust that Allah SWT would take care of him. Another time Yusuf AS showed great resilience was when he was accused of indecency by Aziz's wife Zulaika. He decided to stay in prison as it would protect him from the evils of the world. He was still able to teach the teachings of Allah SWT and eventually gain the favor of the king and become one of his trusted ministers. Yusuf AS is a great example for us whenever we go through challenges in life.

When Muhammad SAW conquered Makkah, he asked the Quraish "What do you think I will do to you?" The Quraish then replied, "You will do good, for you are a noble brother and a son of a noble brother." Muhammad SAW replied, "Then I will say to you what Yusuf AS has said to his brothers, 'There is no blame upon you' You are all free!" This shows the exemplary kindness Yusuf AS held, as his brothers tried to get rid of him and separated him from his family for many years. Despite being wronged, he let everything go, when they reunited and greeted them with open arms. The example of his kindness was applied in the life of the Prophet Mohammad SAW, and it can be applied to our life too. If we have the compassion to forgive and care for our kin, Allah SWT will surely be merciful toward us on the day of judgment.

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