

WINTER SEERAH INTENSIVE



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DAY 1 | INTRODUCTION

|| — Virtues of Seeking Knowledge — ||

- One of the first verses revealed in the Quran is related to knowledge.
- There is nowhere in the Quran where Allah SWT told the Prophet SAW to ask for more, except when it came to knowledge.
 - Allah SWT ordered the Prophet SAW to ask for an abundance of knowledge, even though he is the most knowledgeable person.

فَتَعْلَمَ اللَّهُ الْمَلِكُ الْحَقُّ وَلَا تَعْجَلْ بِالْقُرْآنِ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يُقْضَى إِلَيْكَ
وَحْيُهُ وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا ﴿20:114﴾

Exalted is Allah, the True King! Hasten not with reciting the Qur'an before its revelation to you is finished, and pray: "Lord! Increase me in knowledge." (20:114)

- The Prophet SAW said: *Anyone that treads the path of knowledge, Allah SWT makes their path to paradise easy.*
- An old man once came to the Prophet SAW and said: "My bones are weak and I have come to you". The Prophet SAW asked him why he came. The man said: I have come to you in my old age to learn from you. The Prophet SAW said: "*Welcome to the student of knowledge. Verily the angels spread their wings beneath your feet.*"

- Allah elevates the status of those who seek knowledge in the Quran.

فُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الَّذِينَ يَعْلَمُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٣٩:٩﴾

Say, "Are those who know and those who do not know equal?" (39:9)

- The Prophet SAW said to Abu Dharr RA: *Oh Abu Dharr! If you go to the masjid to learn one verse of Quran, it is better for you than if you pray 100 rakah of nafl (additional) prayers and if you go to the masjid to learn one chapter of knowledge, it is better for you than if you pray 1000 rakah of additional prayers.*
- On the Day of Judgment, Allah SWT will weigh the ink of a scholar and the blood of a martyr and the ink of a scholar will be heavier than the blood of a martyr.
- On the Day of Judgement, Allah SWT will resurrect scholars with the Prophets.
- When a person dies, all of their good deeds are terminated except in 3 ways: a continuous charity they gave, a child that prays for them, and knowledge that they learned and taught to others.
- The Prophet SAW said: *Be a scholar, (and if not) then a student, (and if not) then a listener (of knowledge), (and if not) then someone who loves knowledge, but don't be like the fifth (someone who has ill feelings towards knowledge and scholars) or you'll be destroyed.*
- Just as Allah revives the dead earth with water, He revives the dead heart with knowledge.

INTRODUCTION

|| — Virtues of Seeking Knowledge — ||

- Baqi ibn Mukhallad was a scholar from Spain. He traveled all the way from Spain to Iraq to learn from Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal. When he arrived in Iraq, he was told that Imam Ahmad was not allowed to teach because he was put on house arrest by the king of that time due to a disagreement the king had with Imam Ahmad. Baqi ibn Mukhallad found Imam Ahmad and when he met him, he asked to learn from him and proposed a plan. He suggested to Imam Ahmad that he comes to his house every day disguised as a beggar and when he asks Imam Ahmad for some money, Imam Ahmad will narrate one hadith to him. Imam Ahmad agreed and in this way, Baqi ibn Mukhallad learned over 200 ahadith from Imam Ahmad. When the next khalifa came to rule, he honored and respected Baqi ibn Mukhallad and said this is a true student of knowledge.

|| — What is Seerah? — ||

- The root word of سیرة is سار which means to travel.
 - We are traveling along the journey of the Prophet SAW's entire life
- Ali RA said: We used to study and teach the seerah like we taught the Quran.
- As we study seerah we are studying several things including:
 - Tafseer of the Quran
 - Traditions of the Prophet SAW (hadith)
 - Those who were around the Prophet SAW (Sahabah)
 - Shamail: The characteristics of the Prophet SAW

- Some of the books on the biography of the Prophet SAW include:
 - Seeratul Mustafa - Idrees Kandahlawi
 - The Sealed Nectar - Safiur Rahman Mubarakpuri
 - Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources - Martin Lings
 - As-Seeratul Nabawiyyah - Ali As-Sallabi
 - Revelation - Meraj Mohiuddin
 - Al-Lulu Al-Maknoon - Musa ibn Rashid Al-Aazmi
- The most famous book written on the Shamail of the Prophet SAW is by Imam Tirmidhi.
 - These books provide a detailed description of the Prophet SAW
- Books that focus on the Dalail of the Prophet SAW revolve around presenting proofs of his prophethood.
 - If a person lacks faith in the Prophet SAW's prophethood, these books will help fortify one's belief in him.
 - Some famous works written on the Dalail of the Prophet SAW were written by Al-Bayhaqi, Imam Abu Dawud, and Abu Naeem Al-Asfahani.
- Khasais are books that focus on things that were specific to the Prophet SAW that no other prophet was given.
 - Imam Suyuti's famous work on this was called Khasais Al-Kubra
- Another way of studying the life of the Prophet is through his companions.
 - Sheikh Yusuf Kandahlawi has written extensively on the lives of the companions in his series titled Hayat As-Sahaba

INTRODUCTION

|| — Intentions for Studying Seerah — ||

- Why are we studying the seerah?
 - Allah commanded us to follow the Prophet in the Quran

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ ﴿٤:٥٩﴾

O you who believe! Obey God and obey the Messenger (4:59)

- His SAW life is a guidance for us
 - After the Quran, the Sunnah is the greatest source of revelation.
 - The Prophet SAW's life is the manual book of the Quran. Through it, the Quran is completely understood.
 - During the final Hajj of the Prophet SAW, he said to his companions: *I leave 2 things with you that if you follow them, you can never be misguided. The book of Allah and Sunnah of the Prophet.*
- In order to build love for the Prophet SAW
 - The more you study and learn about him, the more you will love him.
- The Prophet SAW's seerah is universal and timeless
 - No one's life has been documented in such great detail like the Prophet SAW's life
 - His life is relevant to people in every country and in any era.
 - The Prophet SAW had an amazing life and the only way we know about it is because he also had the best students, the sahabah.
 - Nothing went unnoticed by the companions. They noticed his pace when he walked and his moments of silence.
 - They noticed how long his tears were and where the Prophet SAW wiped that tear.

INTRODUCTION

|| — Intentions for Studying Seerah — ||

- Why are we studying the seerah?
 - The seerah is an inspiration
 - Imam Abul Hasan An-Nadwi said: "The life of the Prophet SAW and his companions are one of the strongest forms of inspiration and elevation for mankind."
 - Through learning these stories, we can acquire many lessons.
 - Allah tells stories in the Quran as a way to teach the people lessons.
 - Allah loves the Prophet SAW
 - Allah defends the Prophet SAW throughout the Quran, displaying His love for him.
 - When the people were calling the Prophet SAW crazy, Allah defended him in Surah Qalam
 - When they said he was not a messenger and he was misguided, Allah defended him in Surah Yaseen
 - Allah changed the entire direction of the prayer just to make the Prophet SAW happy.
 - Allah never called Prophet Muhammad SAW by his name in the Quran. He used nicknames to refer to him which shows His love for the Prophet SAW
 - When Allah uses the word ﴿ in the Quran, He is using it because He wants the Prophet to speak on His behalf to the people.
 - In the journey of Israa and Miraj, the Prophet SAW asked Allah what gift he was given like the other prophets were given gifts. Allah said that wherever He is mentioned, the Prophet SAW is also mentioned with Him.

INTRODUCTION

|| — Intentions for Studying Seerah — ||

- Why are we studying the seerah?
 - The Prophet SAW also loved us
 - The Prophet SAW said: *I wish I could meet my brothers.* The Prophet SAW's companions said, "Are we not your brothers?" The Prophet SAW said, "*You are my companions, but my brothers are those who have faith in me although they never saw me.*"
 - A sign that you love Allah is that you follow the Prophet SAW
 - The companions used to follow every single thing the Prophet SAW did.
 - Ibn Umar RA used to duck when he would travel on a certain path. When he was asked about why he is ducking when there is nothing there, he said that the Prophet SAW used to duck in that spot because there used to be a tree there.
 - People used to make major mistakes and the Prophet SAW would say: *leave him, he loves Allah and His prophet*
 - Umar said to the Prophet SAW, "O Messenger of Allah, you are more beloved to me than everything but myself." The Prophet said, "*No, by the one in whose hand is my soul, until I am more beloved to you than yourself.*" Umar said, "Indeed, I swear by Allah that you are more beloved to me now than myself." Then, the Prophet SAW said to him that now he is a true believer.

INTRODUCTION

|| — Importance of Loving the Prophet — ||

- A man asked the Prophet SAW "When will the Hour be established O Allah's Messenger? " The Prophet SAW said, "*What have you prepared for it?*" The man said, " I haven't prepared for it much of prayers or fast or alms, but I love Allah and His Apostle." The Prophet SAW said, "*You will be with those whom you love.*"
- After the Prophet SAW passed away, Umar ibn Al-Khattab heard a woman reciting poetry of praise of the Prophet SAW and he fainted when he heard it. When he woke up, he asked the woman to include his name with the mention of the Prophet SAW.
- When Uthman ibn Affan was on house arrest with people outside of his home trying to kill him, he fell asleep and woke up smiling. His wife asked him what he could possibly be smiling about. He responses that he had a dream that the Prophet SAW told him that he will break his fast with the Prophet SAW tonight. Uthman ibn Affan was fasting that day and that same night is when he passed away.
- Anas ibn Malik said: "I don't remember ever sleeping or snoozing in my life after the Prophet SAW passed away except that I see the Prophet SAW in my dream."

INTRODUCTION

|| — Virtues of Remembering the Prophet SAW — ||

- We can not love someone who we do not know.
- The Prophet SAW said: *You will be with those whom you love (on the Day of Judgment).*
- Once a person loses reverence for the Prophet SAW, their Iman will be affected.
- The Prophet SAW said: *The closest to me on the Day of Judgment are those who send salawat upon me.*
- Virtues of saying salawat - **صلى الله عليه و سلم**
 - You will be raised 10 ranks
 - 10 good deeds are written
 - 10 bad deeds are erased
 - You will receive peace and blessings from Allah SWT and the angels
 - Intercession is guaranteed for you if you say the dua after the adhan is given.
 - Anyone who sends salawat on the Prophet SAW in the beginning and end of their dua, their dua will be accepted.
 - The more salawat you say, the more Allah removes your anxiety and grief.
- There is an angel that stays near your mouth and its job is to listen to the salawat you say and report it to Allah and the Prophet SAW and the Prophet SAW replies to your salawat.
 - There are a total of 24 angels that surround us in a day. 12 angels surround us during the day and 12 angels surround us at night.

INTRODUCTION

|| — Virtues of Remembering the Prophet SAW — ||

- A man came to the Prophet SAW and asked how much time he should spend remembering the Prophet SAW. The Prophet SAW told him that he may spend however much time he wants. The man responded: I will dedicate $\frac{1}{4}$ of my prayers for you. The Prophet SAW said: This is good, but if you do more it is better. The man said he would dedicate $\frac{1}{3}$ of his prayers and the Prophet SAW said that more is better. The man said he would dedicate $\frac{1}{2}$ of his prayers and the Prophet SAW said more would be better. The man eventually said he would dedicate his entire dhikr for his (SAW) remembrance.

- The life of Prophet Ibrahim AS teaches us many lessons
- When Ibrahim AS isolated himself from his father, Allah gave him something better.
 - Ibrahim AS's entire life is an example of giving something up and getting something better in return.
- Ibrahim AS was called the father of the ummah
- When Ibrahim AS made dua, he kept the future generations in mind. He prayed for our ummah to receive a prophet.
 - In the same way that Ibrahim did not forget our ummah in his dua, we also remember him in our dua at the end of our salah.
 - Because Prophet Ibrahim made sure not to forget us, Allah made sure that we never forget him.
- One of the main focuses of Ibrahim AS's dua was his children
- Ibrahim made dua for Allah to protect him and his family from idol worship.
 - Whatever your distraction is in your life that is preventing you from getting closer to Allah, you have to make dua against it and ask Allah to save you from it.
- The concept of توكيل - reliance on Allah - was taught by Ibrahim AS
- Prophet Ibrahim made 3 duas for Mecca which we can see today:
 - Make salah established in this land
 - Make the hearts of the people incline towards this land
 - Fill this land with fruits and provisions
- Umrah is the sacrifice of the family of Prophet Ibrahim
 - Allah loved the walk of Hajar so much that a person's umrah will be incomplete until they walk the way she walked and run the way she ran.

- He is the great great grandfather of many prophets.
- Mecca was founded by Ibrahim AS.
 - He migrated with his wife Hajar and his son Ismail AS to a city called Becca, now known as Mecca.
- The Prophet SAW said: *I am the accepted supplication of my father Ibrahim AS and the glad tidings of Isa AS.*
- Ibrahim's AS dua for the Prophet SAW:

**رَبَّنَا وَابْعَثْ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِّنْهُمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ الْكِتَبَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ
وَيُزَكِّيْهِمْ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿2:129﴾**

Our Lord! Raise up in the midst of our offspring a Messenger from among them who shall recite to them Your verses, and instruct them in the Book and in Wisdom, and purify their lives.128 Verily, You are the Most Mighty, the Most Wise." (2:129)

- There are 3 duties of the Prophet SAW:
 - To convey the message - **يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ أَيْتَكَ**
 - To purify/spritually rehabilitate the people - **يُزَكِّيْهِمْ**
 - To educate the people - **وَيُعَلِّمُهُمْ الْكِتَبَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ**
- Similarities between Ibrahim AS and the Prophet SAW:
 - Salutations are sent on both prophets
 - Both sent to idol worshipping nations
 - Their relatives were their first opposing threat
 - Ibrahim's AS father was his biggest threat and enemy
 - He was not only an idol worshipper, but he was a man whose livelihood was built around selling idols.
 - When Ibrahim AS would go against his father it would also affect his financial state since his main income was from carving idols.
 - In Surah Maryam, Aazar is criticized.

- The Prophet's SAW uncle, Abu Lahab, was his biggest threat.
 - Abu Lahab was the brother of the Prophet's SAW father.
 - In Surah Al-Masad Abu Lahab is criticized.
- Both were orphans
- Both climbed mountains in search of Allah SWT
- Both persecuted and forced to migrate
 - Hijrah is to leave any opposition which threatens your religion.
- Their wives were the first to convert and their nephews were second
- Both had 2 harams
 - Ibrahim AS had Mecca and Palestine
 - The Prophet SAW had Mecca and Madinah
- When the Prophet SAW came back from the journey of Israa and Miraaj, he said that he saw Ibrahim AS and he looked very similar to him.
- Ibrahim AS had 2 sons who were great prophets:
 - Ishaaq AS
 - He had Yacoub AS
 - Yacoub AS had Yousuf AS
 - One of Yousuf's AS brothers was the father of Dawud AS
 - Dawud AS had Sulaiman AS
 - Ismail AS
- All the prophets which came after Ibrahim AS were from his lineage.
- When the Prophet SAW met Ibrahim AS in the heavens he said: Give all of your followers my salam and tell them that the land of Jennah is fertile and the water is fresh and the gardens of Jennah will only grow if you say subhanallah wa bihamdihi subhanallahil atheem.

Ibrahim's AS Migration

- Ibrahim AS migrated from Palestine to Mecca with his son and wife.
 - He was not told what his final destination would be.
 - He was sent with the guidance of Jibreel AS.
 - Every time he saw a civilization he would ask if they should settle there and Jibreel would tell him to keep going.
 - This happened until they reached an area which had no water and no fertile soil (Mecca).
 - He was in a valley which was surrounded by dark mountains.
 - He was told that when he drops his family off he can not talk to them.
- When Hajar was left alone with Ismail AS, she began to run between Safa and Marwa to search for water until the water of Zam Zam began to gush from beneath the heels of Ismail AS.
 - Although no one was there to witness Hajar's movements, Allah SWT accepted her actions.
 - Now, until the Day of Judgement, every Muslim will mimic her.
 - This is the definition of acceptance.
 - From this we learn that in order to have guidance, we must sacrifice.
 - The word Zam Zam is a Hebrew word which means "stop, stop".
 - When the Prophet SAW would recognize that something could have been done better, he would not criticise the person, but he SAW would say, "May Allah have mercy on so and so people"
 - He SAW would first make dua for them and then correct them.
 - The Prophet SAW would say: *May Allah SWT have mercy on the mother of Ismail. Had she not said Zam Zam, there would have been rivers flowing in Mecca.*

- When people came and settled in Mecca, Hajar still had custody over that well.
 - People would have to ask her permission to take from it.
 - As more tribes came later on they fought over the well of Zam Zam.

Construction of the Ka'bah

- Ibrahim AS and Ismail AS built the Ka'bah together.
- Those who are alive are facing the qiblah and those who have passed away are faced towards this qiblah.
 - This is evidence that Ibrahim and Ismail's AS actions have been accepted.
 - When Allah SWT preserves an action, it is a great sign of its acceptance.

The Sacrifice of Ismail AS

- The Jews claim that Ishaq AS was the one who was supposed to be sacrificed, but we know that it was Ismail AS.
- The results of our sacrifices may not always be shown in this life.
 - Mus'ab bin Umair RA was one example of this.
 - He sacrificed his entire youth, beauty, wealth, and luxury but he never enjoyed a day in this life.
 - He passed away in uhud.
- Ibrahim AS was given the order to sacrifice Ismail AS

فَلَمَّا بَلَغَ مَعْهُ السَّعْيَ قَالَ يَبْنَيَ إِنِّي أَرَى فِي الْمَنَامِ أَنِّي أَذْبَحُكَ فَانْظُرْ مَاذَا تَرَى قَالَ يَا بَيْتِ افْعُلْ مَا تُؤْمِرُ سَتَجْدِنِي إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْصَّابِرِينَ (37:102)

And when he was old enough to go about and work with him, (one day) Abraham said to him: "My son, I see in my dream that I am slaughtering you. So consider (and tell me) what you think." He said: "Do as you are bidden. You will find me, if Allah so wills, among the steadfast."(37:102)

- Ismail AS told him to do as he was ordered to do.
- When they both surrendered, Allah SWT said:

فَلَمَّا أَسْلَمَ وَتَلَهُ لِلْجَبَينِ (37:103) وَنَادَيْنَاهُ أَنْ يَا إِبْرَاهِيمُ (37:104)
قَدْ صَدَّقْتَ الرُّؤْيَا إِنَّا كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الْمُحْسِنِينَ (37:105)

So when they both submitted (to Allah), (Abraham) put him down upon his forehead. (37:103) And We called out to him saying: "O Abraham"! (37:104) You have indeed remained faithful to the dream (you have fulfilled the dream). Surely thus do We reward the Muhsinîn (good-doers). (37:105)

- Anyone that sacrifices will be given the reward for it like Ibrahim and Ismail AS.
- Ibrahim AS asked for 3 things when he left his family:
 - Make them establish the prayer
 - Make the hearts of the people attracted to this location
 - Give them an economy so they may be grateful

- A majority of the world was plagued by shirk at this time.
- This was the worst era of humanity in the history of the world because there was no leadership for so many years.
 - After Isa AS, there was a period of 570 years until the birth of the Prophet SAW.
 - This meant there were 610 years without revelation.
 - In these 6 centuries, the religion of christianity was diluted and changed.

- Several religions were created including:
 - Arabian Polytheism
 - Christianity
 - Judaism
 - Many of the Jews migrated to Medina knowing that the final Prophet was going to come there.
 - Zoroastrianism: Fire worshippers from Persia
 - Haneefism: Those who had pure belief of Allah SWT.
 - Includes Waraqa bin Nawfal
- Mecca was a land that was not heavily influenced by the other religions, so it made it easier for Islam to enter as a new religion.

|| — Three Distinct Groups of Arabs — ||

- The Pure Arabs
 - They were the people of Yemen
- The Perished Arabs
 - The descendants of 'Aad and Thamud
 - They were descendants of those saved from the flood of Nuh AS
- The Arabized Arabs
 - They were called the Arabized Arabs because Ismail AS married a woman from the tribe of Jurhum, which was the first tribe to migrate to Mecca when Ismail and Ibrahim AS went there.
 - This tribe spoke Arabic while everyone in Mecca spoke Hebrew or Aramaic.
 - Through the marriage of Ismail AS, the language of Arabic was ingrained into the culture of Mecca.
 - There were only 4 prophets who were sent to Arab nations: Salih AS, Hud AS, Shoaib AS, and Prophet Muhammad SAW

Negative Traits

- Gang-like clans
- Treatment of women
 - They used to treat their animals better than they treat their women
- Marital rights, inheritance, burying their daughters
 - Adultery and fornication were very common
 - Women never inherited anything and they did not have any rights unless they were from an elite family.
 - They buried their daughters because they viewed them to be a burden.
 - The Prophet SAW said: *Whoever raises 2 daughters correctly will be with me in Jannah*
- Gambling
 - They would even gamble their own families
- They were heavy drinkers
 - The word business was synonymous with alcohol
- Interest
 - Their interest-based transactions made it impossible for people to get out of debt
- Killing their sons out of fear of poverty

Positive Traits

- Hospitality
 - Even if they were in war with you, they would still feed you.
 - After the incident in Taif, one of the enemies of the Prophet SAW offered him grapes.
- Kept promises
- Simple lives
 - Romans and Persians had elaborate lifestyles while the Arabs were simple.
 - They would eat on the floor and eat with their hands.
 - The chiefs of the tribes would walk amongst the people
 - When Islam came they would become even more simple
- Language
 - Arabic is one of the most eloquent languages
 - A single word could have multiple meanings
- Memory
 - They were illiterate, so the only way of knowing something was by memorizing it.
 - They knew their own lineages and the lineages of their animals.
 - They would memorize poems right when they heard them.
 - When the Quran was revealed they would be able to memorize it immediately.
 - The best time to memorize is Fajr and the best time to review is in the evenings.
 - One of the things that weaken your memory is laziness
 - Imam Shafii complained to his teacher about his bad memory and his teacher told him to stop sinning. He said: "The noor of Allah does not enter into a heart of sins."
 - Shaytan also makes a person forget things easily

|| — Pre-Islam: Quraysh Tribe and Control of Mecca — ||

- Fihir coined the name of Quraysh.
 - Under Quraysh there were several tribes.
 - Quraysh: A creature from the sea which devours any creature that comes in its way.
 - They were given this title because they were very powerful and no one would beat them.
- Qusayy was the great great grandfather of the Prophet SAW.
- Lineage of the Prophet SAW: Muhammad bin Abdullah bin Abdul Muttalib bin Hashim bin Abdi Manaf bin Qusayy bin Kilab bin Murrah bin K'ab bin Mu'ayy bin Ghalib bin Fihir bin Maalik bin Nathar bin Kinanah bin Khuzaymah bin Mudrika bin Ilyas bin Mudar bin Nazzar bin Ma'ad bin Muqawim bin Naahur bin Tayrih bin Ya'rab bin Yashjib bin Naabit bin Ismail bin Ibrahim AS.
- Why was the Prophet SAW sent to the Arabs?
 - They had clean hearts. They were not influenced by other people
 - They were very simple
 - They were passionate
 - When Islam came, they were always ready to fight and spend in the path of Allah
 - They traveled a lot
 - When Islam came, they traveled with it and help spread the message to other areas.

Hashim bin 'Abd Manaf

- He was one of the leaders of Mecca.
- He would treat people very well and he was very generous.
- They were in charge of feeding those who came for Hajj.
 - The rituals of Hajj were diluted before Islam.
- His actual name was 'Amr.
 - He was called Hashim because when Mecca went through drought, he would cook food in a way that more people would eat.
 - The word **هَشَمٌ** means to crush.
 - He would crush bread and spread it around with meat so that more people could eat it.
- He was known for sending 2 trade caravans in the year.
 - One to Yemen in the winter
 - One to Syria in the summer
- Allah SWT speaks about this journey in the Quran in Surah Quraysh:
إِلَّا فِهِمْ رَحْلَةُ الشَّتَاءِ وَالصَّيفِ

Their covenants (covering) journeys by winter and summer (106:2)

- Hashim traveled to Madinah and married a woman named Salma.
 - Salma was originally from Yemen.
- After they got married, they continued their journey to Gaza and on the way, Hashim passed away.
 - Salma was pregnant with their son, Shaybah.
- Shaybah was the grandfather of the Prophet SAW.
- Hashim had a brother who was named Muttalib.
 - He lived in Mecca while Shaybah and Salma went back to Madinah after Hashim passed away.
- Eventually, Muttalib came to Madinah and asked Salma if he could take Shaybah back with him to Mecca so that he could grow up and be a leader like his father was.
- Salma agreed and Muttalib took Shaybah with him to Mecca.
 - When they arrived in Mecca, Shaybah had dust and dirt all over him from the desert and Muttalib was ashamed to tell people that he was his nephew so he said that he was his servant.
 - For that reason people began to call him Abdul Muttalib (the slave of Muttalib).
 - In Mecca he was never called Shaybah. He was always called Abdul Muttalib.

- He was named Shaybah because he was born with a strip of white in his hair.
- He was born in Madinah

- His famous qualities include:
 - He made alcohol forbidden upon himself.
 - He made things that were haram in Islam forbidden for him before Islam even came.
- He rediscovered the water of Zam Zam.
 - He was sleeping near the Ka'bah and he saw a dream in which he was told to dig up 'taybah'. He asked what taybah was but the voice disappeared.
 - The next day the same thing happened but the voice told him to dig 'barra'. He couldn't figure out what this was so he went back to sleep. A voice came to him again and told him to dig up 'al-mathnoonah'.
 - The Prophet SAW said: The difference between a Muslim and a hypocrite is that a Muslim is never satisfied by drinking Zam Zam and a hypocrite would become overwhelmed after drinking it.
 - A believer always enjoys Zam Zam and makes them want to drink even more.
 - On the fourth night he heard a voice tell him to dig up Zam Zam. He asked what Zam Zam was and the voice said that this is a well that when you drink its water it will never finish. The voice told him the specific location of Zam Zam.
 - He took his eldest son, Haarith, and they went to the location and began to dig.
 - No one would support him or help him because they thought he was crazy.
 - He became discouraged due to the lack of support so he made a vow that if he had 10 sons, he would sacrifice one of them.

- They were able to dig up Zam Zam and eventually, Abdul Muttalib had 10 sons.
- One of the virtues of Zam Zam is that if a person makes dua before drinking it, their dua is accepted.
 - The dua we should recite is **اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ عِلْمًا نَافِعًا وَرِزْقًا وَاسِعًا وَشِفَاءً مِنْ كُلِّ دَاءٍ**
 - "O Allah, I seek beneficial knowledge, wide sustenance and cure from all ailments from You"
- Additional special qualities:
 - When there would be a drought in Mecca, he would hold onto the curtains of the Ka'bah and make dua and rain would begin to fall.
 - He would put food in places where animals may get stuck so that they could eat.

|| — Abraha and the Army of Elephants — ||

- Abraha was the king of Yemen.
- He did not like that all of the money and economy was going to Mecca so he built a structure in Yemen in competition with Mecca.
- A man in Mecca heard about this and he went to Yemen and disgraced this structure by relieving himself in it.
- Abraha became extremely angry about this and he said that he would not be satisfied until he destroyed the Ka'bah.
 - He went from Yemen to Mecca with an army of elephants.
 - Anyone that he saw on the way would either have to join him or they would be killed.
 - The people of Mecca had never seen elephants so they were shocked.

|| — Abraha and the Army of Elephants — ||

- Abraha had heard about Abdul Muttalib and how noble he was and he wanted to meet him.
- At the same time, Abdul Muttalib had lost 200 of his camels and he wanted to speak to Abraha about this. He was connected to Abraha by Nafisa.
 - Abraha would build a tent which was like a palace everywhere he went.
 - Abdul Muttalib came to this palace and the minute that Abraha saw him, he was stunned by his beauty and demeanor.
 - Abraha stood up for him and wanted to honor him.
 - Rather than allowing him to sit on his throne, Abraha sat on the floor with Abdul Muttalib.
 - Abdul Muttalib told Abraha that his camels were stolen by some of his army and he wanted them back.
 - Abraha responded: When you came in I had this great respect for you, but I came to destroy the Ka'bah and you are not in defense of the Ka'bah.
 - Abdul Muttalib Responded: I am the owner of my camels and there is an Owner of the Ka'bah and He will protect His Ka'bah.
- Abdul Muttalib was given back his camels and then he went to the Ka'bah and held on to its ring and recited a poem.
- He said: Oh Allah you are the One that can stop anyone. You are the one who is responsible for stopping Abraha. Oh Allah do not let these Christians who worship Jesus come and destroy Your house. And if You allow them to do this, it is Your place and I ask You to protect.
- He then ordered all of the people of Mecca to evacuate the city and go into the mountains.

|| — Abraha and the Army of Elephants — ||

- The next day, the elephant of Abraha refused to take a step forward.
 - When his elephant did not move, the other elephants got up and moved forward.
 - Allah SWT speaks about this incident in Surah Al-Fil.
- After this, Abdul Muttalib became well known and people from other cities knew the people of Mecca are the people of Allah.
- This incident occurred 50-60 days before the birth of the Prophet SAW.
- Allah has 2 principles:
 - Sunnatullah is the natural way of Allah. It is the natural things that take place which do not usually change (ex: fire burns)
 - Qudratullah is the power and capability of Allah. It is the way that Allah reveals His power by breaking the natural way of things (ex: the fire that was cool for Prophet Ibrahim AS)
 - This entire event about Abraha and his army is a display of the Qudrah of Allah
 - When making dua, don't only ask for the Sunnah of Allah to happen, ask for the Qudrah of Allah to happen as well.

|| — Prophet Muhammad's SAW Parents — ||

- Abdullah ibn Abdul Muttalib was his SAW father.
- Abdul Muttalib had 10 children so he had to fulfill his commitment to Allah SWT and sacrifice one of them.
- He was going to sacrifice Abdullah and many people went against him and told him not to do it.
- He went to a scholar of the time for advice and the scholar told him to put all of his son's names in a basket and draw lots.
 - Every time he did this Abdullah's name was pulled out and the people continued to tell him not to kill him.
- Then the scholar told him to write 10 camels on one lot and Abdullah's name on the other. Every time the 10 camels are drawn he would have to sacrifice 10 camels but if Abdullah's name was drawn he would not have to sacrifice.
 - He continued to draw lots and the ballot of 10 camels came up 10 times.
 - He had to sacrifice 100 camels and Abdullah's life was saved.
- Later on, Abdullah got married to Aaminah bint Wahab.
 - The Jews would say that there were several signs in this family that a prophet would be coming from them.
 - They were all handsome and beautiful
 - They were generous
 - One Jew scholar from Rome said that his name would be Muhammad.
 - For this reason, people in Mecca began to name their sons Muhammad.
- Abdul Muttalib said that he would name his next grandson Muhammad.

- Umm Ayman
 - She was Abyssinian
 - Umm Ayman was the only person who witnessed the Prophet's SAW birth and his death.
 - She was the servant of Abdullah.
 - She was also one of the foster mothers of the Prophet SAW.
 - The Prophet SAW said: Umm Ayman is my mother after my mother.
 - She lost her first husband and later lost her son in the Battle of Hunayn.
 - She then married Zayd bin Haritha RA.
 - They had Osama bin Zayd RA.
 - Zayd bin Haritha RA was martyred in the 8th year in the battle of Muta.
 - It is said that every time she lost someone, she remained silent and was patient. When the Prophet SAW passed away she could not remain silent.

BIRTH AND EARLY LIFE

|| — Miracles Before the Prophet's SAW Birth — ||

- The attention that was placed on Mecca after the elephants were destroyed was not to show that they won.
- It was to bring the people's attention to the great Prophet SAW that would be born.
- Amina knew that there was something special about Muhammad
- Amina felt no pain during her pregnancy.
- She would hear voices and recitation from her stomach.
- In her sleep she would be told that she would have a special child.
- The fire of the magicians which had been blazing for thousands of years was extinguished.
 - They knew that this would only happen at the arrival of a prophet.
- The 14 turrets of Kisra's Palace collapsed
 - People knew that this would only happen when the final prophet arrived.
- Lake Sawah dried up
 - The People of the Book knew that this was a sign of the last prophet.
- Why did Allah SWT take both of the Prophet's SAW parents?
 - The only 2 people who have rights over us are our parents and our teachers.
 - Allah SWT cleared the way of anyone that would have rights upon him SAW so only Allah SWT had rights over him.

- When he SAW arrived, the entire room became illuminated.
- He SAW was born in the month of Rabi' Al-Awal.
 - Rabi' means Spring
 - Spring is the season in which the earth breaks and the blessings of Allah come out. On the day that the Prophet SAW was born, the blessings of Allah began to illuminate the world through his birth.
- The Prophet SAW was born on a Monday.
 - He SAW would fast on Monday and when someone asked why he said: Monday is the day I was born and the day I received revelation.
- When Amina gave birth to him, the palaces of Shaam were all lit up.
 - Scholars say this meant that during the life of the Prophet, Islam would reach every corner of Shaam.
 - It could have also meant that scholars will come from that land.
 - Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal said; "I don't know any hadith better than the ahadith from the scholars of Shaam."
- Everyone was excited at the birth of the Prophet SAW.
- Abu Lahab freed his slave, Thuwaybah, when he got the news of his SAW birth.
- Abdul Muttalib took him to the Ka'bah and began to pray for him.

- When a baby is born, Islamically we should:
 - Call adhan in the child's right ear and iqamah in their left ear
 - Tahneek - giving the baby something sweet (usually a date)
 - The date must be softened and then some of the fibers of the date are rubbed on the inside of the child's mouth
 - The hair of the baby is shaved and weighed.
 - The weight of the hair in gold value is then given in charity.
 - Aqiqah
 - A goat or lamb is sacrificed and people are invited to eat.
 - It is a sunnah to give the child a name by the 7th day of its life.
 - Give the child a good name
 - The Prophet SAW said: *Name your children after me but do not name them after my title (Abu Al-Qasim).*
- The Prophet's SAW name was inspired to Aaminah through several dreams.
 - It was not a common name amongst the Arabs
 - The name Muhammad means the one who is constantly praised.
 - Another name of the Prophet SAW is Ahmad.
 - This means the one who praises Allah SWT the most.
 - Not only is he SAW praised the most, but he SAW is also the best in praising Allah SWT.
 - Allah SWT has mentioned several prophets in the Quran by their names but He does not reference the Prophet SAW by his name.
 - If Allah SWT never called the Prophet SAW by his name, it is not permissible for any of the companions or us to call him by his name.
 - His SAW name is only brought in the Quran 4 times when Allah SWT is speaking about the Prophet SAW being a messenger.