**Personalities in the Qur'an**

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Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And We appointed, from among them, leaders, giving guidance under Our Command, so long as they persevered with patience and continued to have faith in Our Signs." Allah also said: "And We made them (but) leaders inviting to the Fire; and on the Day of Judgment no help shall they find."

Personalities mentioned in the Qur'an include both believers and disbelievers, pious and obscene. The Qur'an mentioned the best, the most generous and the master of the creation; Muhammad peace be upon him, the seal of Prophets and Messengers. It also mentioned the most wretched, the worst and the ugliest of the creation; the cursed Iblis (i.e. the Satan), who is expelled from mercy of the Lord of the worlds (Allah).

The Qur'an includes the Prophets, the pious and the wretched; it includes both righteous and evil people. The purpose behind mentioning these personalities is to follow the example of good people, to beware of resembling evil people, to support the righteous and to keep away from the wicked. And it is Allah the Al-Mighty Who "leaves to stray whom He wills and guides whom He wills", and so we ask Allah to guide us to the Straight Path.

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Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Behold! We said to the angles: "Bow down unto Adam": They bowed down except Iblis: He said, "Shall I bow down to the one whom You created from clay?" \* He (Iblis) said: "See? This one whom You have honored above me, if You give me respite to the Day of Judgment, I will surely seize and mislead his descendants – all but a few!" \* He (Allah) said: "Go; if any of them follow you, verily Hell will be the recompense of you (all) – an ample recompense." \* "Lead to destruction those whom you can among them, with your (seductive) voice; make assaults on them with your cavalry and your infantry; mutually share with them wealth and children; and make promises to them." But Satan promises them nothing but deceit. \* "As for My servants, no authority shall you have over them": All-Sufficient is your Lord as a Guardian."

Allah has honored Adam peace be upon him with several matters: Allah created him with His Own Noble Hand, breathed into him something of His Spirit, commanded the angles to prostrate to him, taught him names of all things, made him and his wife live in Paradise, accepted his repentance and chose him after Adam had eaten from the tree that Allah prohibited him to eat from it, and finally chose him as a Prophet.

In addition, Allah has honored the sons of Adam and gave them preference above many of those whom He has created. Moreover, Allah has humiliated and disgraced Adam's enemy, Iblis, and expelled him and his rebellious offspring, the enemies of humanity.

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**3-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Behold! We said to the angles, "Bow down to Adam": They bowed down except Iblis. He was one of the Jinn, and he broke the Command of his Lord. Will you then take him and his progeny as protectors rather than Me? And they are enemies to you! Evil would be the exchange for the wrong-doers." Allah also said: "(Allah) said: "What prevented you (O Iblis) from prostrating when I commanded you?" He (Iblis) said: "I am better than him (Adam); You created me from fire, and him You created from clay."

This cursed devil deserved to be cursed and deprived of Allah's Mercy, as Allah said: "(Allah) said (to Iblis): "Get out from this (Paradise), disgraced and expelled." Allah also said: "And the curse shall be on you till the Day of Judgment." And because the soul of Iblis is evil, he opposed Allah's Command and showed his arrogance, and he pledged that he would turn people away from Allah's obedience. And his justification for his disobedience was so bad.

God forbids that this fire, evil race be among the light, angle race.

It was narrated in Sahih Muslim that 'Aisha reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "Angels were created from light, jinn were created from a smokeless flame of fire, and Adam was created from that which you have been told (i.e. sounding clay like the clay of pottery)."

Al-Hasan Al-Basri said: "Iblis was never from the angles."

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**4-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Verily, this (the Qur'an) is a Revelation from the Lord of the Worlds. \* With it, came down the trustworthy Ruh."

This verse refers to Gabriel peace be upon him, the owner of the high rank. He is like representative of the king. He is the best angle, the most honorable and the closest to Allah. He was the messenger of Allah to His Prophet (Muhammad), with Qur'an and Hadith which are considered the spirit of the real life. Gabriel was a spirit and mercy, and was also so strong, as Allah said: "He was taught by one mighty in power (Gabriel)." And so he earned the honor of learning and several powers. He carried the village of the people of Lot on his wing and blocked the space with his wings; for he has six hundred wings. Sufficient as honor and rank to Gabriel is Allah's saying when describing him, "Verily, this is the word of a most honorable messenger"; meaning Gabriel, "Endued with power" that no other power equalizes it, "With rank before the Lord of the Throne"; this shows his high rank before Allah, "Obeyed, (and) trustworthy"; this shows that angles obey him and that he is trustworthy before Allah on His Revelation and Message and all things He pledged to him. What any other honor greater than this honor?!

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**5-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Ibrahim was indeed a model, devoutly obedient to Allah, (and) true in Faith." Allah said to him: "I will make you an Imam to the nations."

Allah has chosen His Khalil Ibrahim peace be upon him. He is the leader of monotheists, the father of Prophets and Messengers and a model to all people

**It is not hard for Allah to gather all qualities of people in one personality**

Ibrahim is the best of creation after his grandson Muhammad peace be upon him. Allah has characterized them with making us mention both of them in prayer.

Ibn Abbas said: The commands that Allah tried Ibrahim with and he fulfilled them are: Departing from his people for the sake of Allah when he was commanded to leave them, debating with Namrood for the sake of Allah, showing patience when Namrood threw him in fire to burn him for the sake of Allah, migrating from his home for the sake of Allah when Allah commanded him to leave them, showing patience when introducing the right of hospitality with himself and his money, and being tried with the command to slaughter his son.

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And of Ibrahim who fulfilled his engagements." This means that Ibrahim fulfilled all commands and prohibitions perfectly, and that he submitted to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds.

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**6-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Has you not turned your vision to the one who disputed with Ibrahim about his Lord, because Allah has granted him power? Ibrahim said: "My Lord is He Who gives life and death." He said: "I give life and death." Ibrahim said: "But it is Allah that causes the sun to rise from the east: Do you then cause it to rise from the west." Thus was he confounded who (in arrogance) rejected faith. Allah does not give guidance to a people unjust."

This Taaghout is called Numrood bin Kan'an bin Kush bin Sam bin Nuh. He made use of ignorance of his people and befooled their minds, and denied the Divinity of the Lord the Al-Mighty.

Qatada said: "The person mentioned in the verse is called Numrood. He was the first king on the earth to act tyrannically. He was the owner of the lofty palace in Babel." Mujahid said: "Four persons ruled the whole land, its east and its west: two of them were believers and the other two were disbelievers. The believers were Suliman bin Dawood and Dhul-Qarnayn (lit. the King with two Horns). And the disbelievers were Bukhtansar and Numrood bin Kan'an. None other than them ruled it.

Ibrahim peace be upon him refuted the claim of such person who denied (Allah's) favor and rejected the Faith that it is Allah the Al-Mighty is the Lord, the Creator, the Arranger, Who deserves the Deity and to be worshipped Alone. And when Numrood act arrogantly, Allah empowered the most trivial and the smallest creature, a mosquito, against him. It entered into his nose, until he was hit with a hammer on his head to relieve its pain, but it was not relieved until he died.

**7-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "We (once) sent Nuh to his people, and he stayed among them a thousand years less fifty years." This verse refers that he stayed among them this period inviting them to the Oneness of Allah (Monotheism), at night and day, secretly and publicly.

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Who is better in speech than one who calls (men) to Allah, works righteousness, and says, "I am one of the Muslims"?" Al-Hasan said: This kind of people mentioned in the verse is those whom Allah loves, whom Allah supports, whom Allah chooses, who are the best before Allah, and who are the most beloved among creation to Allah.

Allah has praised Nuh with being engaged in worshipping Allah, and with expressing much his gratitude to Allah. Allah the Al-Mighty said: "O you that are sprung from those whom We carried (in the Ark) with Nuh! Verily he was a devotee, most grateful." It was said that Nuh used to thank Allah for his food, drink, clothes and all of his affairs.

Qatada said: All people are the offspring of those whom Allah rescued in this Ark. It was said to us that those who were rescued that day were Nuh and his wife, three women, and three sons to him. These sons were: Sam, Ham and Yafith. Sam is the father of the Arab, Ham is the father of the Abyssinians and Yafith is the father of the Romans.

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**8-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "So it (the Ark) floated with them on the waves (towering) like mountains and Nuh called out to this son, who had separated himself (from the rest): "O my son! Embark with us, and be not with the unbelievers. \* The son replied: "I will betake myself to some mountain: it will save me from the water." Nuh said: "This day nothing can save, from the Command of Allah, any but those on whom He has mercy!" And the waves came between them, and the son was among the drowned."

Allah caused Yam bin Nuh to be drowned because of his unbelief.

Ibn Jarir narrated that Qatada said: I was present at Al-Hasan, and he said: "Nuh called out to his son. By Allah, he is not his son, but he brought him up." I said to him: "O Abu Saeed! How is this while Allah said, 'Nuh called out to his son'." Thereupon he said: "Have not you recited Allah's saying, 'He is not of your family'?" I said: "This verse means that he is not among the family of Num whom Allah promised him to save with him." I said to him: "But People of the Book agree that he is his son." He said: "People of the Book lie."

Ibn Abbas said: "He is his son. No wife of any Prophet committed adultery."

Saeed bin Jubair reported that a man came to him and asked him: "Do you see that the son of Nuh is his real son?" He (Saeed) celebrated much glorification of Allah and then said: "No god but Allah! Allah says to Muhammad, 'Nuh called out to his son', and you say that he is not his son?! He just disagreed with him regarding faith, and those who did not believe are not of him."

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Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And mention in the Book (the Qur'an) thee case of Idris: He was a man of truth, (and) a Prophet. \* And We raised him to a lofty station."

Allah has praised His Prophet Idris that he is a truthful Prophet and of a lofty station. Al-Bukhari and Muslim mentioned while reporting the Hadith of the Isra' (the Night Journey): The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him passed by Idris in the fourth heaven. And Allah praised Idris that he is among the patients.

Ibn Abi Hatem narrated that Ibn Abbas reported: Idris was a tailor. Whenever he pricked a needle, he used to say: "Glory be to Allah." And every evening, none on the earth had a deed better than that of Idris.

It was said: Idris was the first son of Adam to be given Prophecy after Adam and his son Sheith peace be upon them.

Ibn Ishaq said that Idris was the first person to write with the pen.

Al-Bukhari reported: Ibn Masood and Ibn Abbas mentioned that Elias and Idris are one person. They depended on Hadith reported by Al-Zuhari from Anas about the Isra' (the Night Journey) that when the Prophet peace be upon him passed by him (Idris), he said: "Welcome, O righteous brother and righteous Prophet"; meaning that he did not say, 'O righteous son'.

Al-Bukhari also reported: Idris peace be upon him is the grandfather of the father of Nuh. It was also said that he is the grandfather of Nuh peace be upon them.

**10-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "So also was Elias among those sent (by Us). \* Behold, he said to his people, "Will you not fear (Allah)? \* "Will you call upon Ba'l (i.e. a well-known idol of his nation whom they used to worship) and forsake the Best of Creators, \* "Allah, your Lord and the Lord of your forefathers." \* But they rejected him, and they will certainly be called up (for punishment), \* except the sincere and devoted servants of Allah (among them). \* And We left (the blessing) for him among generations (to come) in later times: \* Peace and salutation to Elias! \* Thus indeed do We reward those who do right; \* for he was one of our believing servants."

Interpreters said: Elias is from the offspring of Haroon bin 'Imran, a Prophet from Banu Israel (the children of Israel). He is not Idris who is one of the offspring of Sheith bin Nuh. It was disagreed about their home: It was said that Idris was in Babel, and Elias was in Baalbek.

Al-Bukhari said: It was reported that Ibn Masood and Ibn Abbas said that Idris and Elias are the same person. The same was reported about some Followers.

What supports that Idris is not Elias peace be upon them is that many scholars gave preponderance to that Idris was before the time of Nuh. Moreover it was said that Idris lived more than three hundred years during the lifetime of Adam.

All people during the period between Adam and Nuh were Muslims. It was reported in Sahih Al-Bukhari that Ibn Abbas said: There were ten centuries between Adam and Nuh. During them, all people were Muslims.

**11-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Whoever is an enemy to Allah and His angles, His Messengers, Gabriel and Michael, then verily, Allah is an enemy to the disbelievers."

The first question is: Why Allah mentioned Gabriel and Michael while they are already included among the angles:

**The answer:** Allah characterized them with mentioning their names to honor them.

'Aisha may Allah be pleased with her reported: When the Prophet of Allah peace be upon him got up at night, he would commence his prayer with these words: "O Allah, Lord of Gabriel, and Michael, and Israfil, the Creator of the heavens and the earth …" (Narrated by Muslim)

Mentioning these angles specially is for great value: Gabriel, the protector of the Revelation, is authorized with guidance. Michael, the responsible for rain and plant, is authorized with sustenance. And Israfil is authorized with blowing the Trumpet.

Anas bin Malik may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said to Gabriel: "Why I never saw Michael laughing?" He (Gabriel) said: "Michael has never laughed since the Fire was created."

Al-Haithamy said: This Hadith was narrated by Ahmed, through the transmitted chain of Isma'il bin Ayash, from the people of Madina. This narration is weak. The other narrators of this Hadith are trustworthy.

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**12-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "To David We gave Suliman (for a son). How excellent in Our service! Ever did he turn (to Us) (in repentance."

Is there any other praise greater than this Divine praise?! Blessed and honored is the Prophet of Allah Suliman. He was much celebrating in remembrance of Allah and acts of obedience. He was much turning to Allah and repenting to Him.

Suliman is the son of Allah's Prophet David peace be upon him, to whom Allah granted both power and Prophecy, granted him the good of the world and of the Hereafter.

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And Suliman was David's heir. He said: "O you people! We have been taught the speech of birds, and on us has been bestowed (a little) of all things: this is indeed Grace manifest (from Allah)." Allah has characterized him with a kingdom that none before him got it, and none after him will get it.

Allah the Al-Mighty said about his Prophet Suliman: "He said: "O my Lord! Forgive me and grant me a kingdom which, (it may be), suits not another after me: for You are the Bestower." \* Then We subjected the wind to his power, to flow gently to his order, whithersoever he willed, \* as also the devils, (including) every kind of builder and diver, \* as also others bound together in fetters. \* Such are Our Bounties: whether you bestow them (on others) or withhold them, no account will be asked. \* And he enjoyed, indeed, a Near Approach to Us, and a beautiful place of (Final) Return."

Allah gathered for him the bliss of life that none other than him will get it and the bliss of the Hereafter.

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**13-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And David killed Goliath, and Allah gave him power and wisdom and taught him whatever (else) He willed."

Allah also said: "And remember Our servant David, the man of strength: for he ever turned (in repentance) (to Allah). \* It was We that made the hills declare, in unison with him, Our Praises, at eventide and at break of day, \* and the birds gathered (in assemblies): all with him did turn (to Allah). \* We strengthened his kingdom, and gave his wisdom and sound judgment in speech and decision."

David peace be upon him was a Prophet and a king. Allah subjected to him what he did not subject to anybody else, except his son Suliman peace be upon him.

Allah has given David a great power, an effective rule and a piercing understanding.

Qatada said: David was given strength in worshipping, and understanding in Islam.

The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "The most beloved prayer to Allah is that of David, and the most beloved fasting to Allah is that of David." (Agreed upon)

No hour, at day and night, except when the family of David was engaged in worshipping.

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And We made the iron soft for him (David)." This is a power.

Abu Hurairah reported that the Prophet said: "The reciting of the Zabur (i.e. Psalms) was made easy for David. He used to order that his riding animals be saddled, and would finish reciting the Zabur before they were saddled. And he would never eat except from the earnings of his manual work." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari)

David was of good voice; the Jinn, mankind, birds and animals were keeping to listening to him.

Sufficient honor for him is Allah's saying: "And among his progeny David, Suliman …. Those were the (Prophets) who received Allah's guidance. So follow their guidance.

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**14-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And he enjoyed, indeed, a Near Approach to Us, and a beautiful place of (Final) Return. \* O David! We did indeed make you a successor on earth."

By Allah, this is a lofty rank for David peace be upon him. He is one of the offspring of Khali Allah Ibrahim peace be upon him. Allah has made David near to Him, lifted his degree, raised his rank, and made him a close Prophet and a majestic king. This is the Grace of Allah, which he gives to whom He wills. Allah the Al-Mighty said: "We had already given the people of Ibrahim the Book and wisdom, and conferred upon them a great kingdom."

Adam had specialized his son David with increasing his age, by bestowing him forty years from his age that reaches thousand years. And so the age of David became hundred years.

Ahmed narrated this tradition from Ibn Abbas; At-Tirmidhi, Ibn Khuzaimah and Ibn Heban narrated it from Abu Hurairah, and At-Tirmidhi authenticated it. Al-Hakem said: This tradition was narrated according to the condition of Muslim.

Abu Hurairah may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "David peace be upon him was so jealous (on his women). Whenever he got out, he used to close the doors, and no one could enter upon his family until he would return. One day, he got out and closed the door. Then his wife came and saw a man standing at the middle of the house. She said to those in the house, 'How this man entered while the door is closed?! By Allah, David will know and be angry.' Then David came and saw the man standing at the middle of the house. David said to him, 'Who are you?' He said, 'I am the one who fear not the kings, and the veil does not prevent me (from getting in).' Thereupon David said, 'Then, by Allah, you are the angle of death. Welcome to the Command of Allah.' Then he stayed until his soul was taken (i.e. he died). After he was washed and wrapped in the shroud, the sun rose up on him. Suliman said to the birds, 'Shade on David'. The birds shaded on him until the earth became dark. Then Suliman said to the birds, 'constrain your wings'."

Abu Hurairah added: The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him kept showing us what the birds did. The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him constrained his hand, and hawks of long wings were too much that day.

Ibn Kathir said: Only Ahmed narrated this Hadith. The transmitted chain of this Hadith is strong and its narrators are trustworthy.

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**15-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Their Prophet said to them: "Allah has appointed Talut as king over you." They said: "How can he exercise authority over us when we are better fitted than he to exercise authority, and he is not even gifted, with wealth in abundance?" He said: "Allah has chosen him above you, and has gifted him abundantly with knowledge and bodily prowess: Allah grants His authority to whom He pleases. Allah cares for all, and He knows all things."

Allah had chosen Talut from among the honorable people of Banu Israel and their riches; Allah made him the king over them for his excellence, He raised him with knowledge, gave him preference with straight figure, strength of the body and health.

Allah made him achieve victory in spite of fewness of those who followed him. Al-Bara' reported: "One day, we, the Prophet's Companions, were talking about that the number of the people of Badr and the number of the followers of Talut who passed the river with him. All those who passed with him were believers, and their number was three hundred and from eleven to nineteen persons." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari)

They showed patience on the affliction, and passed the test. They drank not from the river, except one handful of water.

Ibn Abbas and others said: This river is between Jordan and Palestine; meaning the well-known river of Shari'ah. Those people who passed with Talut were afraid of their enemy Goliath for abundance of his disbelieving soldiers, but scholars fixed them by telling them victory is from Allah, not with the number or materials. And so they supplicated to Allah, and He granted them victory. And David killed Goliath, the prince of the giants. People introduced him, under the Command of Allah, and finally he got the kingdom that was with Talut, and became a Prophet after Shamweel.

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**16-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Truly Pharaoh elated himself in the land and broke up its people into sections, depressing a small group among them: their sons he slew, but he kept alive their females: for he was indeed a maker of mischief."

Pharaohs had inherited the dominion of Egypt from the Giants. The Pharaoh mentioned in the story of Musa, whose name as it was said is Al-Waleed bin Mus'ab, he was the most arrogant, the most unbelieving, the most unjust, the coarsest, the cruelest and the worst ruler in Egypt on Banu Israel (the Children of Israel). He was insulting and humiliating them; he made them servants and used them in performing his affairs. He afflicted them, as Allah said, with 'a horrible torment', and lived among them for a long life.

It was reported about Ibn Abbas, Ibn Masood and some among the Prophet's companions that the Pharaoh saw in a dream that a fire came from Bait al-Maqdis (Jerusalem) until it reached houses of Egypt; it burnt the Copts and left Banu Israel and destroyed houses of Egypt. Thereupon the Pharaoh called for the witches and the Priests, and asked them about his dream. They told him that a boy from the country from where Banu Israel came (i.e. meaning Bait al-Maqdis) will be born and he will cause destruction of Egypt. Accordingly, the Pharaoh commanded that any boy born from Banu Israel would be killed.

The Holy Qur'an has shown the story of Musa peace be upon him with his enemy the Pharaoh in a magnificent way, from Allah's saying: "So We sent this inspiration to the mother of Musa: "Suckle (the child), but when you has fears about him, cast him into the river, and fear not nor grieve: for We shall restore him to you and We shall make him one of Our messengers," until His the Al-Mighty saying: "We took the Children of Israel across the sea: Pharaoh and his hosts followed them in insolence and spite. At length, when overwhelmed with the flood, he said: "I believe that there is no god except Him Whom the Children of Israel believe in: I am of those who submit (to Allah in Islam)." (It was said to him): "Ah now, but a little while before was you in rebellion, and you did mischief (and violence)!" Allah the Al-Mighty said: "In this world We made a curse to follow them and on the Day of Judgment they will be among the loathed (and despised)."

This trivial Taaghot was oppressing and tyrannizing over people in Egypt. He belied, disobeyed, elated himself in the land, corrupted it, exaggerated in killing, oppression and torturing in insolence, spite, injustice and tyranny, apostatized, and moreover he claimed that he is the god; however, he was sure of Oneness of Allah the Al-Mighty. He made use of those of weak minds among his people; and they obeyed and followed him. Ibn Taimiah said: "The most famous person known of his pretending in ignoring and denying the Creator (Allah) was the Pharaoh; however, he was in his inner sure of existence of Allah."

Ibn Abbas and Mujahid said about Allah's saying, "But Allah did punish him (the Pharaoh) for his last and first (sayings)": The first is when he said, "O chiefs! I know not that you have a god other than I", and the last was when he said, "I am your lord, most high".

Allah has punished the Pharaoh and his followers in life and in the Hereafter.

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "So We took him and his forces, and threw them into the sea; and his was the blame." He also said: "In front of the Fire will they be brought, morning and evening: And (the sentence will be) on the Day that Judgment will be established: "Cast you the people of the Pharaoh into the severest Penalty!"

Their souls in Al-Barzakh life (i.e. the interval between the life of this world and the Resurrection) are presented to the Fire in the morning and in the evening till the Day of the Hour. And on this Day, their souls and bodies will be gathered in the Fire.

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**17-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Allah sets forth, for an example to the Unbelievers, the wife of Noah and the wife of Lut: they were (respectively) under two of Our righteous servants, but they were false to their (husbands), and they profited nothing before Allah on their account, and were told: "Enter you the Fire along with (others) that enter!"

Al-Qurtoby said: "Name of the wife of Noah was walehah, and name of the wife of Noah was Wale'ah; as Moqatil said."

Allah has drowned the wife in Noah in the flood, for she was among the unbelievers and the wrongdoers.

Ad-Dahak said: "Drowning was Allah's Punishment in the world for the overtaken people, from men and women, and (in the Hereafter), they will be in Fire."

Allah has destroyed the wife of Lut with her wronging people of the People of Sodom.

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "(The Messengers) said: "O Lut! We are Messengers from your Lord! By no means shall they reach you! Now travel with your family while yet a part of the night remains, and let not any of you look back: but your wife (will remain behind): To her will happen what happens to the people. Morning is their time appointed: Is not the morning nigh?"

Abdulrazeq, Al-Firyaby, Saeed bin Mansour, Abd bin Humaid, Ibn Abu Ad-Dunia, Ibn Jarir, Ibn Al-Mondher, Ibn Abu Hatem and Al-Hakem narrated that Ibn Abbas may Allah be pleased with them said about Allah's saying, "they were false to their (husbands)": "They did not commit adultery. Falsehood of the wife of Noah was that she was telling people that he is mad, and falsehood of the wife of Lut was that she was telling her people about the host. These were their treachery."

Ibn Abbas also said: "Their treachery was that they were following their religion. When the wife of Noah knew about his secret and when knowing that anyone believed with him, she was telling one of the wronging people among the people of Noah about him. As for the wife of Lut, when Lut was hosting anyone, she was telling people of the town who were doing the evil deed about him."

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**18-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "And Allah set forth, as an example to those who believe the wife of Pharaoh: Behold she said: "O my Lord! Build for me, in nearness to You, a mansion in the Garden, and save me from Pharaoh and his doing, and save me from the wrong-doers."

Name of the wife of Pharaoh is Asiyah bin Muzahem. Abu Rafi' said: The Pharaoh was called "the lord of stakes"; for he made four stakes for his wife and put a great mill on her back until she died.

Ibn Jarir narrated that Al-Qasem bin Abu Bazah said: Wife of the Pharaoh was asking, "Who won?" And it was said, "Musa and Haroun won." Thereupon she was saying, "I believe in the Lord of Musa and Haroun." The Pharaoh sent to her and said (to his soldiers): "Bring the heaviest rock you can find: if she approved her saying, throw the rock on her. And if she left her saying, then she is my wife." When they brought (Asiyah), she lifted her sight to the heavens and she saw her house in Paradise. She approved her saying. Then her soul was taken, and the rock was thrown on her dead body.

As for her saying, "O my Lord! Build for me, in nearness to You, a mansion in the Garden": Scientist said that she has chosen the neighbor before the house.

As-Sayoty said in 'Ad-Dur Al-Manthor': Ibn Abu Shaibah, Abd bin Humaid, Ibn Jarir, Ibn Al-Mondher, Al-Hakem, and Al-Baihaqi in 'Divisions of Faith' narrated that Salman said: Wife of the Pharaoh was tortured by the sun, and when the people left her (under the sun), the angles were shading her with their wings, and she was saying her house in Paradise.

Abu Ya'ly and Al-Baihaqi narrated through an authentic transmitted chain that Abu Hurairah said that the Pharaoh put four stakes on her hands and legs. And when the people left her, the angles were shading her. And when she said, "O my Lord! Build for me, in nearness to You, a mansion in the Garden", (Allah) made her see her house in Paradise.

Abd bin Humaid narrated that Abu Hurairah reported that the Pharaoh put four stakes on her hands and legs, made her lie on her chest, put a mill on her back, and made her face the sun. she raised her head to the heavens and said, "My Lord! Build for me, in nearness to You, a mansion in the Garden", and Allah made her see her house in Paradise.

Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "Many amongst men attained perfection but amongst women none attained the perfection except Mary, the daughter of `Imran and Asiyah, the wife of Pharaoh, and the superiority of 'Aisha to other women is like the superiority of Tharid (i.e. an Arabic dish) to other meals." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Muslim)

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**19-**

Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Behold! The woman of 'Imran said: "O my Lord! I do dedicate unto You what is in my womb for Your special service: So accept this of me: For You are the All-Hearer, the All-Knowing. \* When she delivered her (child), she said: "O my Lord! Behold! I am delivered a female child" – And Allah knew best what she brought forth – "And no wise is the male like the female. I have named her Mary (Mariam), and I command her and her offspring to Your Protection from the Devil, the Rejected." \* Right graciously did her Lord accept her: He made her grow in purity and beauty: To the care of Zakariya was she assigned. Every time that he entered (her) chamber to see her, he found her supplied with sustenance. He said: "O Mary! When (comes) this to you?" She said: "From Allah: for Allah provides sustenance to whom He pleases without measure."

Al-Baghawi said: "The woman of 'Imran" is Hannah bint Qafoza, the mother of Mariam, and 'Imran is the son of Mathan and he is not 'Imran, the father of Musa peace be upon him. Between them (i.e. 'Imran bin Mathan and 'Imran the father of Musa) was one thousand and eighty years. Children of Mathan were the offspring, the rabbis and the kings of the Children of Israel.

Mother of Mariam made a vow that she will dedicate what is in her womb for Allah's service and worshipping. When she begot her, she found her a female and named her 'Mariam'. And Allah knows where He puts His Honor; Allah has chosen her. Allah the Al-Mighty said: "Behold! The angles said: "O Mary! Allah has chosen you and purified you; chosen you above the women of all nations." She was a grateful slave (to Allah). And example for this was that she was observing and prolonging prayers until her heels were swollen.

In addition, Allah has praised her with being a highly truthful woman. He said: "And Mary the daughter of 'Imran, who guarded her chastity; and We breathed into (her body) of Our spirit (Gabriel); and she testified to the truth of the words of her Lord and of His Revelations, and was one of the devout (servants)."

Moreover, Allah has made her mother of His honorable, close and righteous Prophet 'Isa peace be upon him. He is not attributed to her or to a father, but he is the slave and Messenger of Allah, and His Word which He bestowed on Mary, and a spirit proceeding from Him. He is the companion of supernatural miracles.

Ali may Allah be pleased with him reported: I heard the Prophet peace be upon him saying: "The best of the women of her time was Mary, daughter of 'Imran, and the best of the women of her time was Khadija, daughter of Khuwailid." Waki' pointed towards the sky and the earth. (Agreed upon)

Jabir reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "The master over all women in Paradise after Mariam the daughter of 'Imran are Khadija bint Khuwailid, Fatimah bint Muhammad and Asiyah bint Muzahem the wife of Pharaoh." (Narrated by At-Tabrany) Al-Haithamy said: Narrators of this Hadith are those of authentic Hadith, except Muhammad bin Marawan Al-Zuhli who was graded as trust by Ibn Heban.

Ibn Abbas reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "The best women over all women in Paradise are Khadija bint Khuwailid, Fatimah bint Muhammad, Mariam bint 'Imran and Asiyah bint Muzahem the wife of Pharaoh." (Narrated by Ahmed, At-Tabrany and Al-Hakem who authenticated it)

Anas bin Malik may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "Sufficient for you among the women of mankind are Mariam bint 'Imran, Khadija bint Khuwailid, Fatimah bint Muhammad and Asiyah the wife of Pharaoh." (Narrated by At-Tirmidhi who graded it as authentic)

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