Fourney of Faith

# From well to throne

STORY OF PROPHET YUSUF (A.S.) FOR CHILDREN

C+

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## بيئ أَرْجِينِ

لِوَجْهِ ٱللَّهِ لَا نُرِبدُ مِنكُمْ جَزَآءً وَلَا شُكُورًا

Only for Allah's pleasure! We neither seek reward from you nor thanks.

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It is based on a course exploring Surah Yusuf's story over several weeks, turning its lessons into a resource for young readers to learn and grow.

## **Acknowledgements:**

Special thanks to Br. Asad Qazi for his time and effort in proofreading this book.



#### **Foreword**

Asalamu Alaikum wrb - Peace and Blessings be upon you!

This book narrates the story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) as mentioned in the Qur'an. The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) is timeless and is filled with captivating events and profound lessons. It explores his life, from being a beloved son to becoming a powerful figure in Egypt. Throughout his journey, he faces trials such as betrayal, isolation, and false accusations. However, his unwavering faith in Allah SWT, resilience, and commitment to righteousness lead him to triumph.

The book delves into the valuable lessons from Prophet Yusuf's (AS) experiences, including the importance of faith, patience, honesty, forgiveness, and knowledge. It highlights the concept of divine justice and the power of sincere repentance and reconciliation.



Whether seeking inspiration or guidance, the narrative of Prophet Yusuf (AS) offers a wealth of wisdom and insights. It reminds us to find strength in faith during difficult times, trust Allah's plan, and strive for personal growth and righteousness.

Join us on this enlightening journey as we explore the captivating story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) and unlock its timeless lessons that can enrich and transform our lives. The content of this book draws from reputable sources, including Tafheem-ul-Quran by Maulana Syed Abul'ala Maudodi (RA), Tafseer Bayan-ul-Quran by Dr Israr Ahmed (RA), Tafseer-e-Usmani by Mufti Taqi Usmani, and lectures by Ustad Nauman Ali Khan.

Shahood Alam Melbourne, 04 Aug 2023



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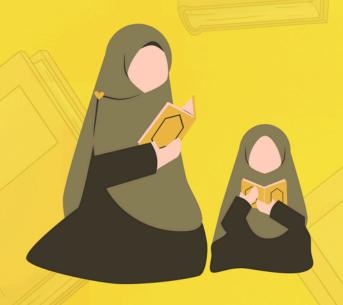
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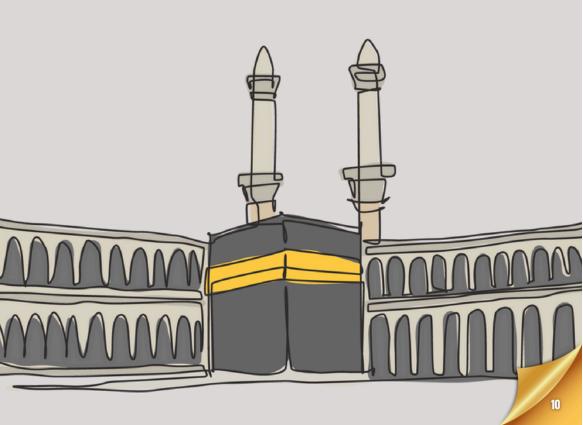
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# Yusuf's Lineage, Ibrahim's Legacy, and the Message

(Peace be upon them)

Once upon a time, in a land filled with ancient stories and noble prophets, there lived a young boy named Yusuf. He belonged to a remarkable family, a lineage that stretched back to the great prophet Ibrahim (AS). Ibrahim (AS) was not an ordinary man; he was a prophet chosen by Allah SWT, and his faith was unwavering.



Ibrahim (AS) had two well-known sons, Isma'il (AS) and Ishaq (AS). Isma'il (AS) became the forefather of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), while Ishaq (AS) became the forefather of the Israelites. Yusuf (AS) was directly descended from Ishaq (AS), making him a descendant of Ibrahim (AS).

The message that Ibrahim (AS) and subsequent prophets, including Yusuf (AS), carried was one of unity. They all invited people to the same core beliefs, emphasising the oneness of Allah SWT and the importance of righteousness and compassion. This divine message transcended time and connected all the prophets and their followers, regardless of their specific lineage.





As Yusuf (AS) grew, he exemplified the virtues of his ancestors, carrying forward the legacy of Ibrahim (AS) with grace and wisdom. His life became a testament to the enduring power of faith and the significance of family heritage, reminding all who came after him of the greatness of Ibrahim (AS) and the unified message of love and devotion to the Creator.

### **The Year of Grief**

Let's pause the story of Yusuf (AS) for a moment and go fast-forward to the time of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

In the city of Makkah, where Yusuf's (AS) story would later be revealed, a significant event took place. It was known as the year of grief, for it was during this time that Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) experienced profound sadness. His beloved wife, Hazrat Khadeejah (RA), and his supportive uncle, Abu Talib, passed away. Meanwhile, the dominant tribe in Makkah, called the Quraish, began plotting against the Prophet (PBUH), considering ways to harm or eliminate him.



## The reason of revelation

As the Quraish sought to test Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) knowledge, they posed a question influenced by the Jews: "Why did the Israelites go to Egypt?" This question was designed to challenge the Prophet (PBUH), to see if he would falter or expose himself by seeking help from any Jew.

But Allah SWT, the Most Merciful, had other plans. Instead of being caught off guard, the entire story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) was divinely revealed to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) on the spot.



## **The Tables Turned**

The unexpected revelation of Yusuf's (AS) story turned the tables on the Quraish. Their scheme to test and expose the Prophet backfired. They found themselves in an awkward position, for the story served as a warning to them. It became clear that their mistreatment of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) mirrored the behaviour of Yusuf's (AS) brothers. The implication was clear: if they continued mistreating the Prophet (PBUH), they would meet a similar fate and would stand shamefully in front of him.





Surah Yusuf (AS) served multiple purposes:

- 1. Firstly, it served as proof of Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) prophethood, demonstrating that his knowledge was based on divine revelation.
- 2. Secondly, it warned the Quraish about the consequences of their actions and prophesied the events that would unfold in the following years.
- 3. Lastly, it emphasised the themes of mercy and forgiveness, showcasing the Prophet's (PBUH) generosity and forgiveness, mirroring Yusuf's (AS) character.

## Yusuf's (AS) Life and Times

Yusuf's (AS) journey began around 906 B.C., in the land of Hebron, Palestine, where his ancestors Ibrahim (AS) and Ishaq (AS) had lived. He experienced hardships, including being thrown into a well and unjustly imprisoned. However, his patience and faith in Allah SWT guided him through these trials. At the age of 30, Yusuf (AS) became the ruler of Egypt, just as Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) would later gain power in Al-Madinah. Let's go through his story.



## The Dream and the Scheme

In his childhood, Prophet Yusuf (AS) had a dream that would change the course of his life. He dreamt of eleven stars, the sun, and the moon, all prostrating before him. Excited by this divine vision, Yusuf (AS) shared it with his father, Yaqub (AS), seeking guidance and understanding.

Yaqub (AS), a wise and loving father, cautioned Yusuf (AS) not to reveal the dream to his brothers. He knew their hearts and feared they would plot against him. Yaqub (AS) reminded Yusuf (AS) of the lurking presence of Satan, who seeks to sow discord among people. He assured his young son that Allah SWT would choose him for a special purpose and bless him with wisdom, just as He had done for their forefathers.

## **The Unknown Names**

Prophet Yusuf (AS) had several siblings, his brothers, who played pivotal roles in the story. The Quran does not explicitly mention their names; they are referred to as his "brothers" or "siblings." However, based on various traditions and narrations, some names have been attributed to Yusuf's (AS) brothers. Among the commonly mentioned names are Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin. These names are found in other scriptures which provide some additional details about the story.

It's important to note that the Quranic narrative focuses on spiritual teachings and lessons rather than providing extensive details about specific individuals. The emphasis is on the wisdom and guidance imparted by Allah SWT through Prophet Yusuf's (AS) experiences, rather than the specific names of his brothers.



This gives us a powerful reminder that Allah SWT does not encourage us to be engaged in matters that are not of benefit to us or others. We should rather focus our energies on beneficial matters.



### The Evil Scheme Unveiled

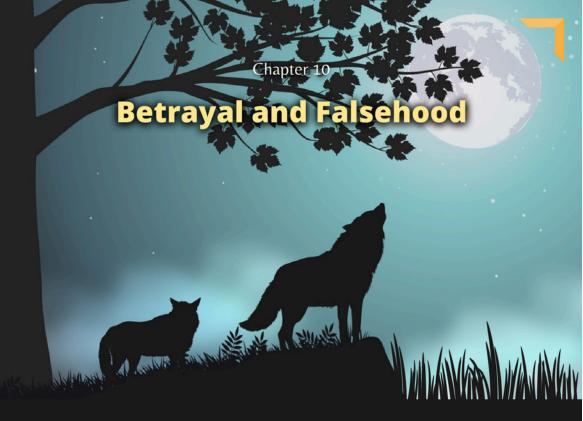
Meanwhile, Yusuf's (AS) brothers observed their father's fondness for him. Jealousy consumed their hearts, and they hatched an evil plan to rid themselves of Yusuf's (AS) presence. In a secret consultation, they plotted to kill him, hoping that, after they get rid of their brother, their father's attention would turn solely to them. But one of them, more compassionate than the rest, suggested they throw Yusuf (AS) into a well instead, hoping a passing caravan would rescue him..



With the plan set, they approached their father with a seemingly innocent request. They asked Yaqub (AS) to send Yusuf (AS) with them the next day, assuring him they would take good care of their younger brother and ensure his safety. But Yaqub (AS), filled with a father's intuition, expressed his fear of a wolf attacking Yusuf (AS) in their absence.

Undeterred by their father's concerns, Yusuf's (AS) brothers convinced him to send their brother with them, and as the night fell, they carried out their sinister plan.





In the cover of darkness, Yusuf's (AS) brothers led him to the well. Yusuf (AS), unaware of their intentions, sensed something was amiss. Unbeknownst to him, Allah SWT revealed to him that a time would come when he would admonish his brothers for their actions. But in their ignorance, Yusuf's (AS) brothers failed to comprehend the gravity of their deeds. Returning to their father, they feigned distress and sorrow, claiming that a wolf had devoured Yusuf (AS). They presented Yaqub (AS) with Yusuf's (AS) shirt stained with false blood as evidence of their fabricated story. Yaqub (AS), wise and perceptive, saw through their deception, recognising the evil souls of his sons at work.

## The Patience of Yaqub (AS)

Yaqub (AS), devastated by the apparent loss of his beloved son, refused to succumb to despair. With patience and grace, he resolved to bear this trial, seeking solace and help from Allah SWT alone. He knew that his sons had plotted this heinous act, but he chose to respond with forbearance.

Yaqub's (AS) heart ached for Yusuf (AS), but he entrusted his affairs to Allah SWT and remained steadfast in his faith. In the face of his sons' concocted story, Yaqub (AS) sought strength from The Almighty, knowing that He alone had power over their schemes.



### Sold as a Slave

As fate would have it, a caravan happened to pass from the well where Yusuf (AS) had been left. Their water carrier, in need of water, let down his bucket and was astonished to find a young lad in the depths of the well. Excitedly, he called out the good news to his companions. Sensing an opportunity, the caravan decided to conceal Yusuf (AS) among their merchandise, unaware that Allah SWT was fully aware of their actions. They sold him for a meagre price without expecting a substantial profit.

Yusuf's (AS) purchaser in Egypt, a man of influence, recognised his potential usefulness. He said to his wife, "Treat him with kindness. Perhaps he will prove beneficial to us, or we may even adopt him as our son." And thus, Allah paved the way for Yusuf's (AS) establishment in the land, providing him with knowledge and understanding. Allah's plans are always fulfilled, but most people fail to comprehend this truth.

## The Temptation and the Accusation

As Yusuf (AS) grew into maturity; endowed with immense physical beauty, wisdom and judgment from Allah SWT; he faced a new challenge. The woman in whose house he resided attempted to seduce him. One day, she closed the doors and made her intentions clear. But Yusuf (AS), resolute in his devotion to Allah SWT, sought refuge from such temptation. He proclaimed, "May Allah SWT protect me from this! My Lord has granted me a good abode, and the wrongdoers never prosper."



Undeterred by Yusuf's (AS) refusal, the woman continued her advances. However, Yusuf (AS), guided by Allah's wisdom, never treaded on the path to immodesty. In a moment of struggle, Yusuf (AS) and the woman raced towards the door, resulting in the tearing of his shirt from behind. At that very moment, they encountered the woman's husband at the door. The woman cried out. accusing Yusuf (AS) of evil intentions towards her. Yusuf (AS) defended himself, stating that it was she who was trying to trap him. A member of her own family provided circumstantial evidence by stating that if Yusuf's (AS) shirt was torn from the front, the woman spoke the truth, but if it was torn from the back, she lied and Yusuf (AS) was truthful. When they observed that the shirt was indeed torn from the back, the husband accused his wife of deceit, recognising her cunning devices.



## The Gossip and the Banquet

Word of this incident spread among the women of the town, who began to gossip about the wife of Al-Aziz and her infatuation with her young slave. To counter these rumours, the woman invited the gossiping women to a banquet at her house. She provided pillows for comfort and placed a knife before each guest, intending to reveal Yusuf (AS) to them. As the women engaged in cutting fruit, she discretely signalled Yusuf (AS) to appear before them. To their astonishment, when they caught sight of him, they were struck with awe and accidentally cut their own hands in amazement. They exclaimed, "Good God! He is no man; he is a noble angel!"

The woman proudly proclaimed to the gossiping women that Yusuf (AS) was the very person they had blamed her for trying to seduce. She threatened Yusuf (AS), saying that if he did not comply with her desires, he would be cast into prison, humbled and disgraced. But Yusuf (AS), guided by his unwavering faith, turned to Allah SWT and prayed, expressing his preference for imprisonment over succumbing to their wicked intentions. He sought protection from Allah SWT against their cunning devices.



## **The Plot Unfolds**

Unable to fulfil their desires, the woman and her companions devised a plan to cast Yusuf (AS) into prison, despite witnessing the clear signs of his innocence and their own guilt. The truth was evident, yet they allowed their jealousy and deceit to cloud their judgment. And so, Yusuf (AS) was unjustly imprisoned, while his captors remained blinded by their schemes.

The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) continues, filled with twists and turns, trials and triumphs. Through it all, the lessons of faith, patience, and trust in Allah SWT shine brightly. Yusuf's (AS) steadfastness in the face of temptation and false accusations sets an example for believers of all ages, reminding them to remain firm in their convictions, seek refuge in Allah SWT, and rely on His wisdom and guidance.

## **Dreams and Interpretations**

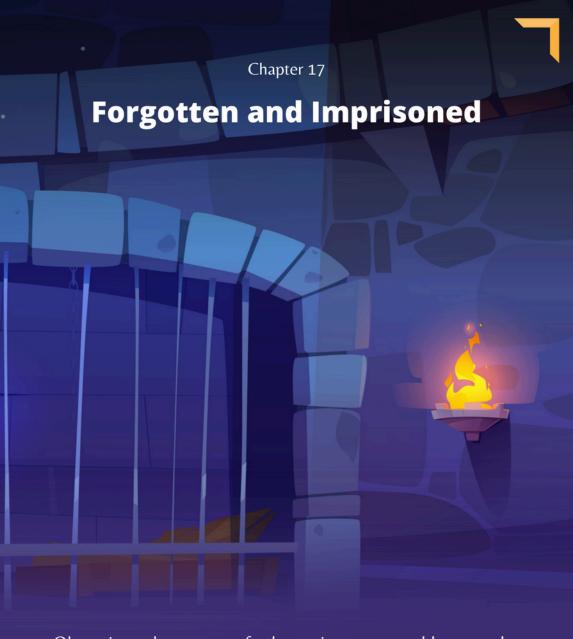


Prophet Yusuf (AS) found himself in prison alongside two other prisoners. One day, these prisoners shared their dreams with Yusuf (AS), seeking his interpretations. One of them dreamt of pressing grapes into wine, while the other dreamt of carrying loaves of bread on his head, which were being eaten by birds.

Yusuf (AS), aware of Allah's bestowed knowledge upon him, assured them that he would provide the interpretations before their next meal. He considered this as an opportunity to give dawah. He acknowledged his adherence to the monotheistic faith of his forefathers, Ibrahim, Ishaq, and Yaqub (peace be upon them). He rejected the worship of false gods and emphasised the sovereignty of Allah SWT alone.

Addressing his fellow prisoners, Yusuf (AS) posed the question of whether it is better to worship multiple gods or to believe in the One Omnipotent God. He explained that the gods they worshipped were mere names invented by humans, lacking any authority from Allah SWT. He emphasised that true worship is to dedicate oneself solely to Allah SWT. However, he acknowledged that most people are unaware of this truth.

Yusuf (AS) then proceeded to interpret their dreams. He informed one prisoner that he would soon serve wine to his master, the king of Egypt. As for the other prisoner, Yusuf (AS) revealed that he would be crucified, and birds would eat from his head. The matter had been decreed as Yusuf (AS) had shared.



Observing that one of the prisoners would soon be released, Yusuf (AS) seized the opportunity and requested him to mention his situation to the king of Egypt. He hoped that this act would lead to his release from prison and bring an end to his unjust confinement.

However, Satan intervened, causing the prisoner to forget Yusuf's (AS) request. As a result, Prophet Yusuf (AS) remained in prison for several more years, and his patience and faith were tested further.

We can also be made to go through long trials in our lives. We are informed by our beloved Prophet (PBUH) that "if Allah SWT loves a people, then He afflicts them with trials. Whoever is patient has the reward of patience, and whoever is impatient has the fault of impatience." We should aim to remain steadfast and patient like Yusuf (AS).



The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) demonstrates resilience in the face of adversity. Despite the hardships he endured, from being abandoned by his brothers to being falsely accused and imprisoned for many years, Yusuf (AS) maintained his righteousness and relied on Allah's guidance. His steadfastness and wisdom eventually opened doors to a brighter future. As the story unfolds, it reveals the unfolding plan of Allah SWT, guiding Yusuf (AS) towards a position of authority and influence that would shape the destiny of his people.



#### **The Kingdom's Savior**

As the years passed, Prophet Yusuf (AS) found himself in the service of the Egyptian king, holding a position of great trust and authority. All this began with a dream. The king saw a troubling dream; he became restless to know its interpretation. The king's dream depicted seven fat cows being devoured by seven lean cows, and seven green ears of corn consumed by seven withered ones. Perplexed, the king sought an interpretation from his courtiers, but they could not provide a satisfactory explanation. The news reached the cupbearer. He recollected the dream he had in prison and how Yusuf (AS) correctly interpreted it for him. He informed the king that only Yusuf (AS) could interpret his dream. Upon hearing the dream, Prophet Yusuf (AS) revealed its significance: Egypt would experience seven years of abundant harvest, followed by seven years of severe famine.



Recognising the wisdom and righteousness of Prophet Yusuf (AS), the king appointed him as a high-ranking official responsible for managing the kingdom's resources during the years of plenty. Prophet Yusuf (AS) implemented a meticulous plan, ensuring that surplus grain was stored to sustain the people during the impending hardship. True to Prophet Yusuf's (AS) interpretation, the years of plenty were followed by a devastating famine. Yet, thanks to his foresight and administration, Egypt was well-prepared to endure the crisis. The people, grateful for his wisdom and benevolence, hailed him as a saviour.

Prophet Yusuf (AS) used his position of power to alleviate the suffering of the people, distributing grain generously and fairly. Despite holding immense authority, he remained humble, acknowledging that all blessings and success come from Allah SWT alone.



Through this exempler of Prophet Yusuf's (AS) rise to power, the Quran emphasises the importance of knowledge, wisdom, and foresight in leadership. It illustrates the rewards that come to those who practice righteousness and selflessness, putting the welfare of others above their own desires.

Moreover, the story showcases the principle of divine justice, where the righteous are ultimately rewarded for their patience and faith in Allah's plan. The lessons of Prophet Yusuf's (AS) journey teach us to persevere through life's trials, maintain integrity in the face of adversity, and trust in Allah's wisdom and mercy.



As we delve into the intricacies of Prophet Yusuf's (AS) life, we find inspiration and guidance to navigate our own journey of faith. The lessons learned from his experiences resonate across time and culture, offering valuable insights for young hearts and minds to embrace and apply in their lives.



#### **Confrontation and Reunion**

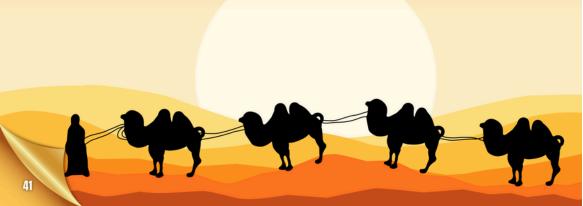
Prophet Yusuf (AS) faced a pivotal moment when his brothers, unaware of his true identity, stood before him in Egypt, seeking provisions during the famine. He decided to test their sincerity and remorse, as well as their willingness to sacrifice for their youngest brother, Bin'Yamin, just as they had callously abandoned him in the past. Accusing them of being the owner of bags from which Yusuf (AS)'s missing bowl was found, Prophet Yusuf (AS) detained Bin'Yamin and allowed the others to return home with the provisions they sought. He wanted to observe whether his brothers had truly changed and if they would demonstrate genuine concern for their brother's well-being. When Prophet Yusuf's (AS) brothers returned to Egypt with their father Prophet Yagub (PBUH), they expressed their deep regret and acknowledged the gravity of their past actions. As the story unfolds, Prophet Yusuf (AS) orchestrates a series of encounters and tests that bring his brothers face-



to-face with their past actions and the consequences of their jealousy and betrayal. Through these encounters, their remorse and repentance gradually emerged.

Prophet Yusuf (AS), witnessing their genuine remorse, revealed his true identity to them and forgave them wholeheartedly, bringing about a powerful moment of reconciliation and forgiveness. Overwhelmed with emotion, his brothers bow before him, acknowledging their wrongdoing and expressing deep regret.

Prophet Yusuf (AS), demonstrating immense wisdom and compassion, forgave his brothers and reassured them that there would be no retribution for their past actions. He recognised that their reunion was a testament to Allah's divine plan and the fulfilment of his own prophecy. He embraced them, inviting them to Egypt to live under his care and protection, and urging them to bring their father, Prophet Yaqub (AS), to join them.



#### The whole family unites

As per the command of Yusuf (AS), his brothers brought the whole family to Egypt. He (AS) took care of his family, seating his parents alongside himself and ensuring their well-being. He acknowledged the fulfilment of his prophetic dream, recognising Allah's grace and wisdom in bringing him out of prison and reuniting him with his loved ones.

In gratitude and submission to Allah's will, Prophet Yusuf (AS) prayed for a righteous life and a peaceful end, expressing his trust and reliance on Allah SWT as the Creator of the heavens and the earth. He acknowledged that Allah SWT had given him kingdom and knowledge to navigate the complexities of life. With his family by his side, Prophet Yusuf (AS) assumed the position of power and authority in Egypt. He governed with justice and wisdom, utilising the knowledge and skills bestowed upon him by Allah SWT.



This moment of confrontation and reunion serves as a turning point in the story, highlighting important themes of justice, forgiveness, and personal growth. It showcases the transformative power of forgiveness and the potential for redemption, even in the face of deep betrayal and past wrongdoings. Prophet Yusuf's (AS) story encompasses the trials, tribulations, and ultimate triumph of a noble and righteous individual. His journey exemplifies the strength of character, resilience, and unwavering faith in Allah SWT that can guide believers through the darkest moments of their lives. Through forgiveness and reconciliation, Prophet Yusuf (AS) demonstrated the power of compassion and mercy in healing past wounds and rebuilding broken relationships.



#### The Message of the Quran

The stories of the past, including the narrative of Prophet Yusuf (AS), are not merely tales of history but hold valuable lessons for those who possess common sense. The Qur'an is thefinal revelation which serves as a confirmation of the previous scriptures establishing the unity of the divine message throughout history. It provides detailed explanations, guidance, and blessings for the believers. The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) is just one example among the many narratives and lessons found in the Qur'an. It emphasises the importance of faith, patience, and trust in Allah's plan among many other things which can bring us success in this world and the next.



It reminds us that the Prophets before Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) faced similar challenges and hardships but ultimately achieved victory through their unwavering commitment to Allah SWT. This struggles will be faced by anyone who stands up for the mission of the Prophets. Allah swt, through the stories of Prophets, has clarified for us the approach we should adopt when we come across these situations while exerting in His path.

The story of Yusuf (AS) and other narratives in the Qur'an affirm that it is a comprehensive guide for humanity which addresses all aspects of human life and provides guidance for individuals and societies. Believers are encouraged to reflect on the profound wisdom and lessons embedded in it. Through introspection and contemplation, they can seek guidance and inspiration for their own lives. It serves as a source of comfort, guidance, and blessing for those who embrace its teachings.

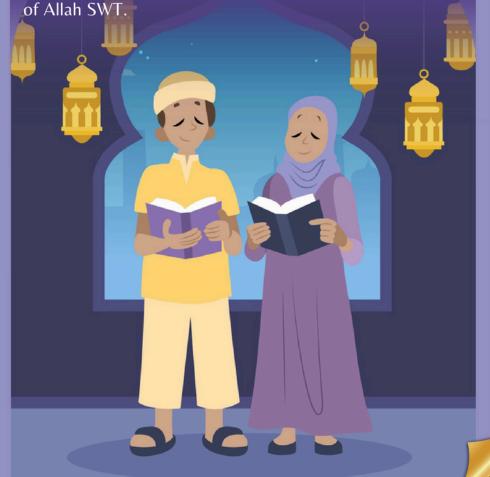


The message of the Qur'an goes beyond the narratives of the past; it encompasses a comprehensive framework for personal and societal well-being. It addresses matters of belief, worship, morality, ethics, law, and social justice. It illuminates the path of righteousness and encourages believers to strive for excellence in all aspects of life.

In conclusion, the story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) and the lessons it imparts are part of the broader message of the Qur'an. The Qur'an calls upon people to reflect, believe, and strive for righteousness. It affirms the truth of previous revelations and provides comprehensive guidance for all aspects of life. The Qur'an serves as a beacon of light and a blessing for those who wholeheartedly follow its teachings with sincerity and devotion. May we seek guidance from its wisdom and strive to embody its noble principles in our lives.



In this section, we will summarize some of the key lessons from this inspiring story. The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) is not only captivating but also holds numerous valuable lessons for us. It teaches important principles and values that can guide us in our journey of personal growth and development. This story is an enduring source of inspiration and guidance for believers. It demonstrates the power of forgiveness in healing wounds and rebuilding relationships, righteousness, humility, submitting to Allah's will, and believing in the immense mercy and compassion



#### Lesson 01

#### **Have trust in Allah's Plan**

The story reminds us that everything happens according to Allah's plan. It emphasises the overarching theme of divine justice. Prophet Yusuf's (AS) journey from betrayal and isolation to triumph and forgiveness showcases the ultimate vindication of truth and righteousness in the face of adversity. It reaffirms the belief that Allah's plan unfolds with wisdom and precision, ultimately leading to justice, resolution, and spiritual growth for those who persevere in their faith and integrity. It reminds us that even when things don't go as we want, we should trust Allah's wisdom and find contentment in knowing that there's a purpose behind every experience.



### Let nothing shake your faith

Prophet Yusuf's (AS) rise to power in Egypt was not just a testament to his wisdom and administrative abilities, but also a reflection of his resilience and commitment to righteousness. Having faith can give us comfort and guidance in the times of hardship and while undergoing challenges. From his early years as a favoured son to his time as a slave and prisoner, he consistently demonstrated unwavering faith and integrity. It teaches us that even in the face of adversity and betrayal, maintaining trust in Allah SWT and embodying noble qualities can lead to eventual triumph and reconciliation.



# Believers display beautiful patience

The story teaches us that patience is essential. Just like Prophet Yusuf (AS), we may face hardships, but if we stay patient and strong, we can overcome them. Remember, tough times don't last forever, and our perseverance will be rewarded.



#### **Beat Jealousy and Envy!**

The story warns us about the dangers of being jealous or envious of others. Instead of comparing ourselves to others, let's appreciate our own unique qualities and talents. Celebrating others' achievements creates a positive and supportive atmosphere.



### Triumph through Adversity

The greatest lesson from Yusuf's (AS) story was that a believer with true Islamic character and wisdom can triumph even in the most adverse circumstances. Despite being thrown into a well and sold as a slave, Yusuf (AS) displayed exceptional character, eventually rising to become the ruler of Egypt. His example demonstrated that high moral qualities could lead to success, regardless of the challenges faced.



# Don't let the temptations take over and drive you!

Prophet Yusuf (AS) had great self-control when faced with temptation. We can learn to make wise choices and resist things that might lead us away from our values and principles. This helps us stay on the right path.



#### **Seek Knowledge and Wisdom**

Prophet Yusuf (AS) was known for his wisdom and knowledge, which he used to help others. Learning and developing critical thinking skills can empower us to positively impact our community.

Lesson 08

#### **Be Honest! Live integrity!**

Prophet Yusuf (AS) always told the truth and stayed honest, even when others accused him unfairly. What others did to him did not shake his integrity. He remained on the path of the truth and stood firmly upon it.



## Sincere and self-less efforts bring respect

Yusuf (AS)'s ability to manage the food supply during the famine and his just governance earned him widespread recognition and respect. This is a universal principle that applies to everyone. If we decide to become sincere in our conduct and aim to be just in whatever we do, Allah SWT will soften the heart of creation towards us.



## Recognie your mistakes, repent, and positively move on

The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of confronting past wrongs, seeking forgiveness from Allah SWT as well as those who we have wronged, and embracing the opportunity for personal growth and redemption. It highlights the significance of recognising one's mistakes, repenting sincerely, and extending mercy and forgiveness to others.



#### Be forgiving and compassionate

Prophet Yusuf (AS) forgave his brothers for their mistakes and showed compassion towards them. We can learn from this and understand that forgiveness is a beautiful attribute. Holding grudges only makes things worse, but forgiving others brings harmony and peace.



#### Lesson 12

#### **Be a True Leader**

Prophet Yusuf (AS) presented his case for leadership with two essential qualities - being dutiful and having the right expertise. We should also embody these principles if we want to lead in the fields we choose for ourselves.



## Look for opportunities to mend relationships

Prophet Yusuf (AS) could have chosen to seek revenge on his brothers, who had betrayed and abandoned him. However, he displayed extraordinary forgiveness and chose the path of reconciliation. His act of forgiving his brothers is a testament to the transformative power of mercy and the healing it can bring to strained relationships.



### Know that trials come to make you stronger

The story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) highlights the growth and development of his character throughout his trials and tribulations. Many a times Allah SWT sends challenges our way to make us stronger by facing them. This principle can be understood from the example of how body-builders develop their muscles and strength by putting themselves under pressure and hardwork.



### Allah's help might come from unexpected sources

Yusuf's (AS) story teaches the Muslims, young and old, that Allah's plans cannot be defeated by human efforts. Often, actions intended for personal gain end up serving Allah's purpose. His help can come from people and situations that one does not expect it to come from. Allah SWT made Yusuf (AS) the king by making him fall into the well and getting imprisoned. It emphasises the importance remaining satisfied with what Allah SWT wills for us and adhering to the Divine Law seeking success through pure aims and lawful measures. Furthermore, it encourages believers to put their trust in Allah SWT, persevere without fear, and face opponents with confidence and courage.



### Some of the author's other books are for young readers and future leaders.

