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Stories of Prophets...



(Peace be upon him)

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Stories of the Prophets...

Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (Peace be upon him)

Publication Department Lajna Ima'illah UK

INTERNATIONAL

Stories of the Prophets

Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (Peace be upon him)

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Publishers Note

References to the Holy Quran contain the name of the surah [i.e. chapter] followed by a chapter:verse citation, e.g. Surah al-Jumu'ah, 62:4, and count Bismillahir-Rahmanir-Rahim ['In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful'] as the first verse in every chapter that begins with it.

The following abbreviations have been used: sas

sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam, meaning 'peace and blessings of Allah be upon him', is written after the name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sas).

as *'alaihis-salam*, meaning 'peace be on him', is written after the names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sas).

Glossary Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)

Conqueror someone who gains, wins or obtains by effort

Holy Quran the holy book for Muslims revealed to the Holy Prophet

Mahdi a spiritual leader who will rule before the end of the world and restore religion and justice

Pious someone who is devotedly religious

Promised Messiah Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian

Prophet messenger of Allah

Prophesised an event foretold before it happens

Righteous acting in accordance with divine or moral law; free from guilt or sin

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, Ever Merciful

My Dear Children

Assalamo Alaikum

I hope and pray that you read the series of books on the stories of prophets and learn from them.

Allah the Almighty has sent hundreds of thousands of prophets over the course of humanity for our benefit. All prophets have one main message and that is to bring their people closer to God.

There is so much to learn from these books like power of prayers, importance of being truthful and kind, how brave and resilient they were and much more.

May Allah enable you to read these books and learn from them for your own benefit and knowledge. All that you learn at this age helps your understanding of your faith and makes it stronger. These stories are also very inspiring and have many moral lessons to learn. Please read them yourself or even better, with your parents. Wassalam Yours sincerely Fariha Khan Serving as Sadr Lajna UK

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, Ever Merciful

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, our thanks and praise are due to Almighty Allah without Whose boundless Grace and Blessings none of our work would be possible.

Lajna Ima'illah UK is privileged to receive the nurturing support and direct advice of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aba}. This inspires our women daily we earnestly pray that we continue to enjoy this Grace of Allah for a very long time. Ameen

I am grateful to Sadr Lajna Ima'illah UK, Dr Fariha Khan Sahiba for her numerous prayers and steady guidance on this project. Under her direction, a team of lajna members, co-ordinated by Mrs. Qudsia Ward worked together to produce this series of books suitable for young children. The following members of the writing team require a special mention for their splendid work together, sharing knowledge and experience in the process of producing these books. Humda Bilal, Aalia Rehman, Atia tul Saboor Bhatti, Fezia ul Haq, Mufleha Saleem, Atifa Ahmad, Tehmina Mirza, Wajeeha Ahmad, Nayyara Ahmad Qamar, Basma Javaid, Bareera Sohail and Hadiqa Asma.

May Almighty Allah bless them all and enable them to continue to work successfully in the service of Jamaat.

Mrs. Lubna Sohail Serving as Secretary Ishaat Lajna Ima'illah UK 2023

Guide for Parents

This book is one of a series of books, produced by Lajna Ima'illah UK based on the stories narrated in the Holy Quran.

They are designed for children of primary school age who can try to read by themselves and do the activities independently. It is intended that after reading these stories you can help your children to find the stories in the Holy Quran to read them for themselves.

We hope that you will be able to share the stories with younger children by reading to them and talking about the story. Then you can do the activities together.

May Allah enable us to follow the illuminating path of the righteous people who are beacons of light for humanity.

Have you heard of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)?

Do you know why the story of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) is so important?

This is because not only does the Holy Quran mention this Prophet's name but also uses this Prophet's story to give a hint to what may happen in the future. In other words, Allah prophesied the coming of the Promised Messiah (as) as the Mahdi and Reformer through the life of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as).

What is a prophecy?

A prophecy is an announcement about the future. When a prophecy is fulfilled, it is often an indicator of someone's truthfulness

Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)

Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) was a prophet of Allah. He believed in life after death and was a follower of Zoroaster and strongly disagreed with any religion that would worship people or objects.

سورة الكيف Surah Al-Kahf

The mention of this prophet comes in the 18th chapter of the Holy Quran, which is called Surah Al Kahf. According to the literal meaning of this Prophet's name, Dhu'l-Qarnain means the one who came in two centuries.

Qarn = century

This is a very important part of his story because it explains that Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) would be present in two centuries. This means someone with the characteristics described as 'Dhul-Qarnain' would be present, not that the same person would come in two centuries.

Century = 100 years

Prophecy about the Promised Messiah (as) in Surah Al-Kahf

وَيَسْتَلُوْنَكَ عَنْ ذِي الْقَرْنَيْنِ فَقُلْ سَاتُلُوْا عَلَيْكُمْ مِّنْهُ ذِكْرًا

And they ask thee about Dhul-Qarnain. Say, 'I will certainly recite to you *something* of his story.18:84

FUN FACT!

The Promised Messiah (as) and Dhul-Qarnain The Promised Messiah (as) has himself stated:

"I have lived in two centuries according to every calendar I know of, be it Islamic, Christian or Bikrami, and my birth and advent have not been confined to a single century, and, in this sense, I am Dhul-Qarnain".

In some Traditions, too, the Promised Messiah (as) has been called Dhul-Qarnain in this very sense.

ٳڹۜٛٵڡؘػؖڹۜٵ*ڶ*ۮ۬ڣ١ڵٲۯۻۅؘٵؾؽڹ۬ؗؗؗؗؗؗؗؗ؋ڝڹ۬ػؙڵۺؘؽ؏ٟڛؘڹۘب

We established him in the earth and gave him the means to *accomplish* everything. 18:85

The Holy Quran tells us four special characteristics of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as).

- 1. He was a righteous servant of God, blessed with Divine revelation
 - This means that he was a very pious man, close to Allah, and that Allah communicated with him.
- 2. He was a great conqueror, and a kind and just ruler
 - He treated the nations he conquered with love and justice
- 3. He made great conquests in the West and East
 - When he reached as far west as he could go (the sea) he turned and conquered the east.
 - His message would reach across the globe
- 4. He was linked to Gog and Magog
 - The story of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as), of each century relates to God and Magog. These are powers of evil that are present on the Earth.

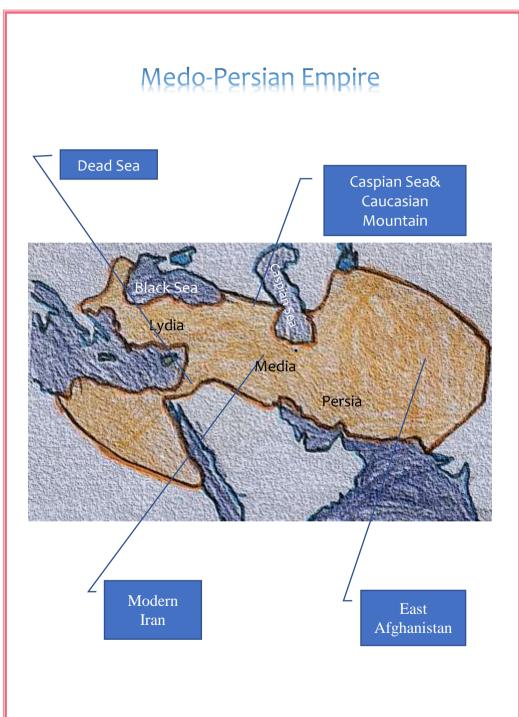
These special characteristics apply to both Dhul-Qarnain.

Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) of a past century was the founder of the Medo-Persian Empire. This means he was the king and ruler over Media and Persia. Media is a region in the north-west area of modernday Iran. He ruled over the people of south-west Asia. He conquered and journeyed in three directions:

- 1. The West, towards the Dead Sea
- 2. The East, in areas around Afghanistan
- 3. The north of Persia, between the Caucasian Sea and Mountains

Did you know?

- The Promised Messiah(as), who is also Dhul-Qarnain will encounter three kinds of people in the course of his mission.
- 1. People who live in the darkness by a smelling pool of water, meaning the Christians.
- 2. People who live in sun light of the Divine Unity, but get no benefit from it, meaning the Muslims
- 3. People who will be suffering from Gog and Magog. These will be religious and pious people and will seek help of the Promised Messiah and will accept him.



In his story, Gog and Magog are described as tribes living in the far north-west of Asia and eastern Europe, originating from Russia, Moscow and Tobolsk according to the Bible.

In southern parts of Asia, the land had a lot of potential to grow good crops so Gog and Magog made many roads in to south and south-west Asia. However, Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) set up an intimidating barrier which prevented Gog and Magog's spread into Asia and forced them to move to the west. That is why they become restricted in the extreme North-west of Asia and eastern Europe instead of entering into Asia they spread in to other parts of Europe. This is where they came in to contact with Christianity, which they accepted and made their national faith.

Despite being blocked out, Gog and Magog still looked at the fertile land (Land which has the potential to grow healthy crops) in Asia with jealous eyes and always had a desire to take over the land.



In the Holy Quran, most of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain's (as) story is mentioned in Surah Al Kahf, the 18th chapter of the Holy Quran. In verse 87 of this Surah, some important points are mentioned:

- 1. He [Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)] reached the setting of the sun.
- 2. Near a pool of murky water, he found some people.
- 3. He was told to punish them or to treat them with kindness.

What does this mean?

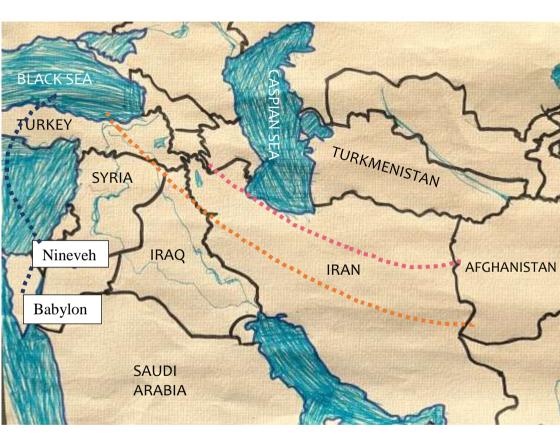
The first point explains that he journeyed towards the setting sun. This means he must have travelled west because the sun sets in the west.

In the Quran, it is explained that as he went to conqueror these lands, the King of Lydia, called Croesus, persuaded the rulers of other places to fight against Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as). However, within a few days Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) and his army crushed and defeated Croesus and made their way to the banks of the Black Sea.

Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) was a great warrior. He also conquered Babylon, Nineveh and Greek communities.

The 'murky water' that is described in this verse, refers to the Black Sea which is situated in between Europe and Asia.

Journey of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)



- Lydia is Turkey today
- 'Murky water' is the Black Sea
- North of Persia is Iran today

As for their treatment, Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) says in the following verses that those who do wrong will be punished by their Lord and those who are righteous will be rewarded by their Lord.

In verse 91, the story continues, when he ruled the West and reached the Black Sea, he turned to the other direction and went to the East.

The verse talks about the journey of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) towards Afghanistan and even Baluchistan. People of Afghanistan were simple people and they did not live in houses made of brick and stone but instead lived in huts and tents. Importantly, these people spoke a different language to Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as).

Finally, Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain's (as) third journey was to the north of Persia which was a place between the Caspian Sea and the Caucasian mountains.

This was where the tribes of Gog and Magog lived.

In the south parts of Asia, there were lots of land that were very healthy and could grow fresh crops. That's why Gog and Magog wanted to build roads into that area so they could take over the land and get more powerful. This would be detrimental to the people that lived there. These people wanted to be protected from Gog and Magog and asked Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) for help. So, he built a wall of iron and molten copper, with a gate to keep a path open for travellers.



Despite being blocked out, Gog and Magog still looked at the land in Asia with greedy eyes and always had a desire to take over the land.

Did you know...?

Copper, unlike iron, does not rust and when it is mixed with iron the mixture becomes so strong and doesn't crumble away.

Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) was loved by all people and everyone willingly obeyed his commands. The people of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) were so loyal to him and accepted to come under his government. Some of these people were also those who had not even seen Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) because they lived in far away places. Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) treated all the people of his large empire with justice and put in place rules so that his empire could function properly. Even though his people were from different cultures, had different religious beliefs and spoke different languages, Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) managed to help them all live in harmony. He accepted their religions and honoured the Gods of all the people within his kingdom.



There was a good reason why everyone had such trust in this leader and why he was better than the other kings. He never killed people or played with innocent people's lives compared to other rulers. He believed in equal rights for all and even sent gifts to the enemies. Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) was a leader who led by his own good example.



SNI

What is a prophecy?

Who was Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)?

Where did Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) travel?

What did Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) do?

What was the wall made of?

What are the evil tribes called?

Why did everybody trust Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)?

What does Kahf mean?

What is the similarity between Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) and the Promised Messiah (as)?

Can you trace the journey of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)?



Can you find these words? Allah, Messiah, Dhul Qarnain, Kahf, Gog, Magog, Wall, Iron, Copper

Q	W	D	E	R	Т	Μ	Y
U	I	Н	0	Р	А	А	S
D	F	U	G	G	0	G	А
W	А	L	L	Н	J	0	L
С	К	Q	L	Z	Х	G	L
0	К	А	Н	F	С	V	А
Р	В	R	Ν	М	W	E	Н
Р	Z	Ν	Х	I	R	0	N
E	С	А	V	В	S	E	М
R	А	I	S	F	К	Н	J
Х	Z	Ν	Y	Т	I	U	L
М	E	S	S		А	Н	F

Have you heard of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as)?

The story of Hazrat Dhul-Qarnain (as) is very important because Holy Quran mentions this Prophet's name and also uses this Prophet's story to give us a hint to what may happen in the future.

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