Once upon a time long

Once upon a time, long, long ago, lived a little girl named Layla. Layla loved to play under the warm sun, but one day, she saw something truly amazing. Far from any river or sea, a kind, old man with a long white beard, Prophet Nuh (A.S.), was building a giant wooden boat!

"Baba, Mama!" Layla asked, her eyes wide with wonder, "What is Prophet Nuh building?"

Her Baba smiled. "Layla, Prophet Nuh is a special Prophet of Allah. He is building an ark, a big boat, because Allah has told him a great flood is coming."

Many people in the village laughed at Prophet Nuh (A.S.). "Why build a boat on dry land?" they would tease. But Prophet Nuh (A.S.) never got angry. He just smiled kindly, kept working hard, and continued to tell everyone about Allah. Layla watched him, learning about **patience** and **respect** for Allah's commands.

Layla wanted to help too! One afternoon, she saw Prophet Nuh (A.S.) looking tired. She asked her Mama, "Can I help Prophet Nuh carry some wood?"

Mama hugged her. "My sweet Layla, Prophet Nuh has a very big task from Allah. But you can always help your parents and be **kind** to everyone around you. That makes Allah very happy! Helping us clean, or fetching water with a smile, is also a wonderful way to follow Allah's path." Layla nodded,

feeling good. She spent the rest of the day helping Mama clean their home, humming a happy tune, knowing she was helping her **parents**.

Days turned into weeks, and weeks into months. The ark grew bigger and bigger. One day, the sky turned dark, darker than Layla had ever seen. Prophet Nuh (A.S.) called out, "Come, everyone who believes in Allah! Enter the ark now!"

Layla and her family, who believed in Allah and Prophet Nuh (A.S.), quickly went inside. Then, a wondrous sight! Animals of all kinds, two by two, walked into the ark, calm and obedient. Layla saw birds, lions, elephants, and tiny mice, all finding their spots.

Inside, as the rain began to fall heavily, Layla watched Prophet Nuh (A.S.) raise his hands in **dua**. He prayed to Allah, asking for safety and protection for everyone on board. Layla quietly joined him, making her own little dua in her heart.

Inside the ark, everyone was safe. People shared their food, spoke with gentle voices, and helped each other. Layla saw how **kindness** and **cooperation** made everyone feel secure.

Finally, after many days, the rain stopped. A beautiful rainbow stretched across the sky, painting it with vibrant colours. Prophet Nuh (A.S.) thanked Allah with all his heart. Layla learned that Allah always listens to our **dua** and protects us when we **trust** Him and follow His Prophets.

From Prophet Nuh (A.S.), Layla learned to be **honest**, to work with **patience**, to be **kind** to everyone, to **help her parents**, and always to make **dua** to Allah. She knew that these were the ways to live a life that pleased Allah.