

Moosa



A Prophet of Allaah

Pt. 1

by Umm Ilhaam



DK Learn About Islam Series

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The word "Copt" takes its origin from Kpt, which is the way Arabs pronounced the Greek word for Egypt, Aigyptos. So "Copt" originally had an exclusively geographic meaning.

A long time ago there lived in Egypt, the Copts and the Children of Israeel.

The Children of Israeel were the descendants of Ibrahim ﷺ from his grandson Yaqoob ﷺ who was called Israeel.

They were worshippers of Allaah ﷺ

Their ruler was a Pharaoh who possessed a lot of wealth and property, and was a very proud and wicked man.

The Pharaoh or Firawn saw in a dream that a man from the Bani Israeel was going to overpower him and take from him his kingdom and all that he possessed.

He became so afraid that he ordered that all baby boys from the Bani Israeel be killed, but the baby girls be allowed to live.

They did this for some years, but then the people complained to him. They said that if they killed all the male children, in the future they would not have enough men to do their work for them.

It was the Bani Israeel who did all their hard work for them. They treated the Bani Israeel like slaves.

So Firawn changed the rule and said, the boys should be killed every alternate year.

Moosa ﷺ was born in the year that the male children were to be killed.

The mother of Moosa ﷺ had kept his birth a secret, so she was worried, fearing that if they got to know, the baby would be killed.

But, Allaah ﷺ had a great plan for this baby, and would not let him be harmed.

As they lived along the river Nile, Allaah ﷺ inspired her to place him in a box and put him on the river.

So she would feed the baby, then place him in the box and anchor it, so that it would not float away.



One day, when someone came into her home, she quickly put the baby into the box, but forgot to anchor it.

The box floated along the river Nile. When it was passing the palace of Firawn, one of the servants saw the box and picked it up and took it to the wife of Firawn.

When the box was opened, they saw a beautiful baby. Allaah عزوجل filled the heart of Firawn's wife Aasiyah bint Muzahim, with love for the baby.

As they did not have children of their own,
she asked Firawn if they could keep the child.

Firawn's first reaction was to kill the child,
fearing he may be one of the Bani Israeel.

But Aasiyah pleaded with him and said,
"... Kill him not, perhaps he may be of benefit
to us, or we may adopt him as a son.
And they perceived not."

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 9

They did not realize that the very boy who
Firawn was afraid of, was going to live in
their palace and be looked after by them.

In the meantime the mother of Moosa 
was very worried.

She did not know what had happened to the baby. She nearly disclosed her secret. But Allaah gave her strength and patience.

She told the sister of Moosa ﷺ to go into the city and find out whatever she could.

She learnt that the baby was in the palace of Firawn, and they were looking for a wet nurse*, as the baby was refusing to feed.

So she approached them and asked, "Shall I direct you to a household who will rear him for you, and look after him in a good manner?"

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 12

*A wet nurse is a woman who breast feeds and cares for another's child.



When they agreed, she went back and brought her mother with her to the palace. When the mother nursed the baby, he started feeding again. In this way Allaah restored the baby back to his mother.

Aasiyah did not know that this was the true mother of Moosa, but she treated her kindly and generously.

So Moosa grew up in the palace of Firawn. He was dressed in clothes that were given to him by Firawn and was raised amongst the family of Firawn.

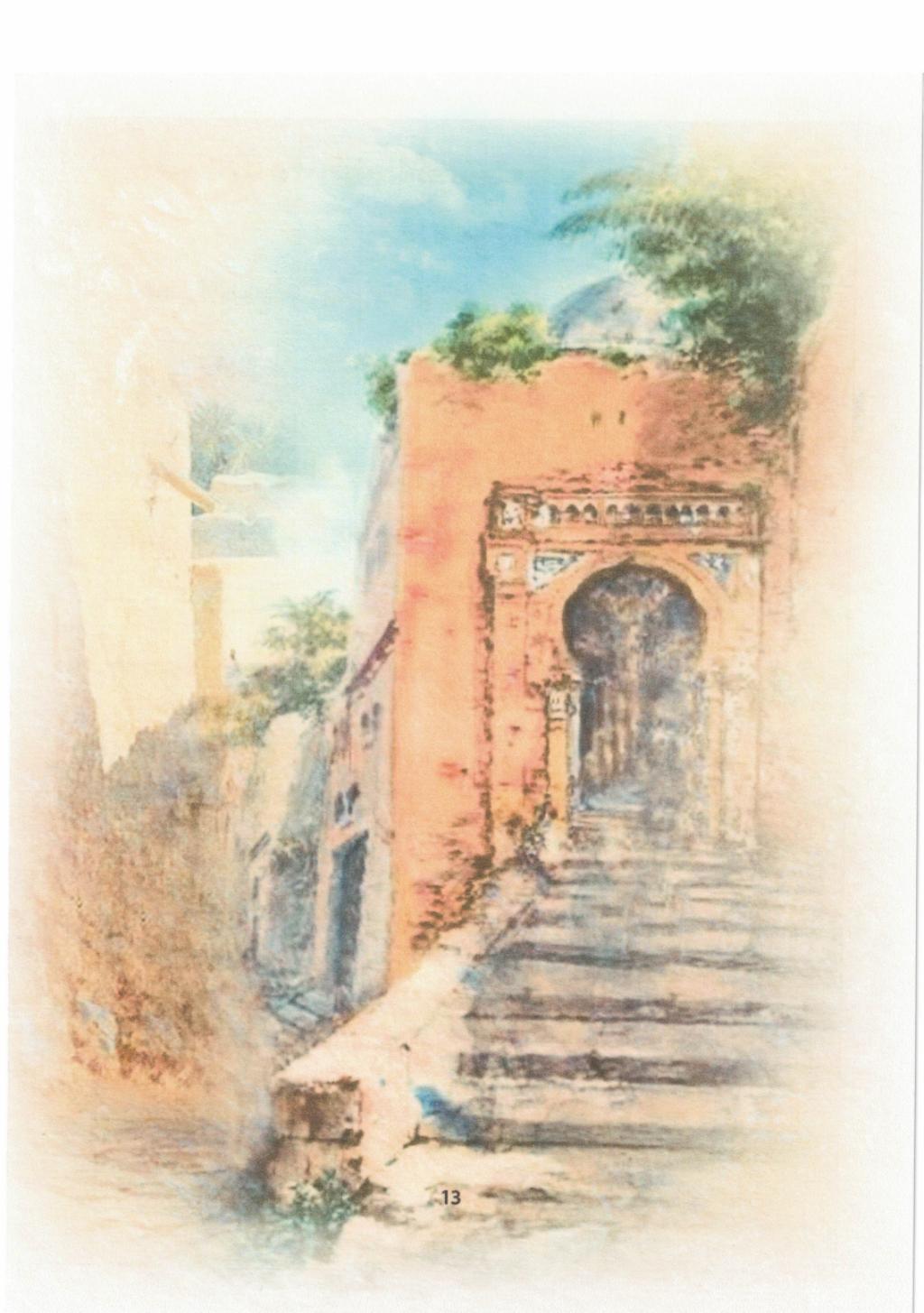
Moosa ﷺ had now grown and reached adulthood.

One day when he went into the city, he saw two men fighting. One of them was from the Bani Israeel, and he called Moosa ﷺ to help him.

Moosa ﷺ went to his aid, but when he hit the other man with his fist, it killed him. He had not meant to kill him and so, was very upset. He said,

"This is of Shaytan's doing: verily, he is a plain misleading enemy."

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 15



He immediately asked Allaah to forgive him. He said,

"My Lord! Verily, I have wronged myself, so forgive me."

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 16

Although no one had seen the killing, Moosa ﷺ was afraid that the news would reach the palace, but it did not. So it was between himself and the man of Bani Israeel.

On another occasion when he came to the city, he saw the same man fighting again. This time too he asked Moosa to help him.

But Moosa ﷺ refused, thinking this man to be quarrelsome.

The man then asked him,
"O Moosa! Is it your intention to kill me as
you killed a man yesterday?"

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 19

The man he was fighting with heard this,
and went to the palace and reported it
to Firawn.

When Firawn heard the news he was very
angry and decided to kill Moosa ﷺ.
He sent out his forces to capture him.

But before the forces could get to him,
a man from the palace came and told
Moosa ﷺ of Firawn's decision and
asked him to escape.

So Moosa ﷺ left Egypt. He had no idea where he was heading, but Allaah عَزَّوجَلَّ guided him to Madyan*.

It was a very long and tiring journey. When he reached Madyan he came to a waterhole or spring, where he saw the shepherds giving water to their animals.

He noticed two women standing a little away, with their flock of animals.

When he inquired, they told him that they could not water their flock until the other shepherds had finished.



They also told him that their father was a very old man.

Moosa  watered their animals for them.

He was very tired after his long journey, so he sat in the shade and said,

"My Lord! Truly I am in need of whatever good that You bestow on me!"

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 24

The two women heard this.

When they returned home, the women related to their father, what had taken place and advised him to employ

Moosa , to look after their flock.

They knew he needed help and they in turn needed someone to help them.

It seemed to them that he was a strong and trustworthy man.

He later discovered they were the daughters of the Prophet Shuaib whom Allaah had sent as a Prophet to the people of Madyan.

Moosa ﷺ was then invited to their home. He related his story to Prophet Shuaib.

So Shuaib ﷺ suggested that Moosa ﷺ work for him, and if he agreed to work for eight years, he would give him one of his daughters in marriage.

Moosa ﷺ agreed and so he married the daughter of Shuaib ﷺ.

When he had finished his contract, he thought he should return to Egypt to the land he grew in, to his own people.

So he decided to take his wife and family back to Egypt. On their journey back, during a dark, cold night they lost their way, so they sheltered in a valley.

Moosa ~~had~~ tried to light a fire so they would have some light and also to keep them warm, but it was difficult.

He looked around and noticed a fire that was burning close to a mountain.

He told his family,

"Wait, I have seen a fire; perhaps I may bring you from there some information, or a burning fire-brand that you may warm yourselves."

But when he approached that area, what he had thought was fire was actually a light that Allaah ﷺ had cast upon the bush.

Then he was called by name, "O Moosa!"

Then he was told, "Verily I am your Lord!
So take off your shoes; you are in the sacred valley, Tuwa.

And I have chosen you. So listen to that which will be revealed (to you).

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 9



"Verily! I am Allaah! None has the right to be worshipped but Me, so worship Me, and perform As-Salat for My remembrance."

Surah Ta-Ha 20 vs. 11-14

Allaah ﷺ spoke to Moosa ﷺ directly.

Then Allaah ﷺ asked him, "And what is that in your right hand O Moosa?"

Moosa ﷺ said, "This is my stick . . ."

Allaah said: "Cast it down, O Moosa!" He cast it down, and behold! It was a snake, moving quickly.

Allaah said: "Grasp it and fear not; We shall return it to its former state . . ."

Surah Ta-Ha 20 vs. 17-20

When Moosa ﷺ threw down his stick it changed into a huge, terrifying snake, similar to a long python. It had a huge mouth, with jaws that were snapping, and despite its size it moved very quickly.

When he saw this he turned and ran
and did not look back. He was afraid.
But Allaah ﷺ said to him.

"O Moosa! draw near, and fear not.
Verily, you are of those who are secure."

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 31

Allaah ﷺ also said, "O Moosa! Fear not:
verily the Messengers fear not
in front of Me."

Surah al Qasas 27 vs. 10

So Moosa ﷺ came back.

Allaah ﷺ then told him.
"Put your hand into the opening of your
garment, it will come forth white
without a disease;"

Surah al Qasas 28 vs. 32

When Moosa ﷺ did this, his hand was shining white, as if it was a piece of the moon or a flash of lightning.

The snake and his shining hand were two of the many signs that Allaah ﷺ gave Moosa, preparing him to meet Firawn.

Then Allaah ﷺ said, "Go to Fir'aun; verily he has transgressed all bounds."

Allaah commanded Moosa ﷺ to go back to Egypt and to invite Firawn to worship Allaah alone, Who has no partners.

He also told him to tell Firawn to treat the Bani Israeel well and not to persecute them.

Moosa ﷺ was afraid to go and meet Firawn, for many reasons. Firawn now knew about the murder.

Besides, Moosa ﷺ had grown up in his household and he knew what a tyrant Firawn was, and how he could be.

So he asked Allaah to give him his brother Haroon as a helper.

Allaah عَزَّوجَلَّ granted him his request. Haroon was also made a Prophet.*

*Please read Surah Ta-Ha vs. 25-35

End of Part One

What will Firawn's response be to Moosa ﷺ and Haroon ؑ ؑ ?

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