

The Great Messengers

HAZRAT DAWUD عليه السلام



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DARUL IHSAN
HUMANITARIAN CENTRE
GUIDANCE • UBUNTU • EMPOWERMENT

HAZRAT DAWUD ﷺ

The name of Hazrat Dawud ﷺ is mentioned sixteen times in nine Surahs of the Qur'an, sometimes with details and sometimes without.

Hazrat Dawud ﷺ was short in stature, had light coloured eyes, sparse hair on his body and his face and body exuded his pleasant temperament and pure soul.

Hazrat Dawud ﷺ had tremendous courage and this earned him great prestige and respect amongst the Bani Israeel and it was not long afterwards that Allah blessed him with Nubuwwah for the guidance of Bani Israeel. He earned the titled of Khalifatullah for the vibrant social development of the nation. The rule of Bani Israeel was in Dawud ﷺ hands.

He was very eloquent in the field of public speaking and he would speak in such a manner that every thought and word was well understood. His judgement on truth and falsehood was such that it was the final word.

Kingship and Prophethood

Until Hazrat Dawud ﷺ arrived, the kings of the Bani Israeel always belonged to the progeny of Hazrat Ya'qub's ﷺ son Ifraheem, while messengers always hailed from the progeny of his son Yahooda. However, with Hazrat Dawud ﷺ, both kingship as well as Nubuwwah were conferred to the progeny of Yahooda.

It is also worth noting that apart from Hazrat Adam ﷺ, no other Nabi besides Hazrat Dawud ﷺ received the title of 'Khalifatullah' (the representative of Allah on earth). This special honour and title is mentioned in the Qur'an.

A Unique Kingdom

Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام was a man of great courage and a masterful strategist. These qualities coupled with his spiritual power ensured that his people were always victorious in all their military expeditions with the help of Allah, regardless of the strength and numbers of the enemy.

It was not long after he started to reign over the Bani Israeel that he was blessed with Nubuwwah and started to lead them in Jihad. In a short period of time, they conquered Shaam, Iraq, Palestine, Eastern Jordan and several other territories. The people knew, that because Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام received revelation from Allah, he could solve the most difficult problems that they faced. Therefore, the humans and Jinn over whom he ruled did not dare to disobey him.

The Zabur

The messengers of the Bani Israeel followed the teachings of the Torah, which was their primary scripture revealed to them. However, as times and condition changed, Allah revealed the Zaboor to Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام, which contained injunctions like the Torah, but with extra details and a large proportion devoted to the praises of Allah. Allah also blessed him with such a melodious voice that when he recited the Zabur, humans, Jinn, birds and even the animals in the wild were moved by it. But like the Torah and Injeel, the Bani Israeel changed the wordings of the Zabur knowingly.

Speaking to the Animals

Dawud عليه السلام recited his scripture and glorified Allah while the mountains joined him in praise and the birds rallied around him.

His sincerity was not the only factor responsible for the birds and beasts joining with him in glorifying Allah, nor was the sweetness of his voice. It was a miracle from Allah. This was not his only miracle, for Allah also endowed him with the faculty of understanding the languages of birds and animals.

Devotion to Worship

Dawud عليه السلام fasted every other day. Abdullah Ibn Amr Ibn Al-As narrated: Nabi ﷺ said to me: "The most beloved fasting to Allah was the fasting of the Nabi Dawud عليه السلام, who used to fast alternate days. And the most beloved prayer to Allah was the prayer of Dawud عليه السلام, who used to sleep the first half of the night, and pray for one third of it and again sleep for a sixth of it." (Sahih Al-Bukhari).

Iron Becomes Soft and Pliable

Allah granted Dawud عليه السلام great influence. His people had a number of wars in their time, but they had a problem in that the iron armour was too heavy for the fighter to move and fight as he wished. Despite the fact that the kingdom of Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام was so vast, Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام made du'a to Allah to make means for him to earn through the effort of his own hands rather than having to depend on the state treasury. Allah therefore made iron and steel like wax in his hands so that he could shape them as he liked without the need for tools. Almighty Allah had made it flexible for him: "And We made the iron soft for him." (34:10)

Passing Sound Judgement

Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام was renowned for the sound judgement that he passed in disputes between people since he had been blessed with the rare ability to understand the depths of a dispute and solve it.

The Qur'an also makes mention of an incident concerning the judgement of Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام. This dispute was intended as a test for him. When Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام erred during this test, he immediately supplicated to Allah and sought forgiveness. Allah loved his humility so much in this incident that Allah has related it in the Qur'an. It is cited as a lesson to all those who are close to Allah and who happen to err. The incident exhorts them to immediately turn to Allah and seek His forgiveness.

The incident of Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام concerned the time when he hastened to resolve a dispute between two men without first hearing both parties plead their case. The Qur'an does not relate the details of the case and no authentic Ahadith contain the details either. Keep in mind that the lesson of every story is more important than knowing the details.

Allamah ibn Hazam (Rahimahullah) stated that the two disputants who came to Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام to have their dispute settled were in a great hurry because they scaled the wall to his place of worship rather than entering in the conventional manner.

Hazrat Abdullah bin Abbas رضي الله عنه, reports that Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام had allocated separate days to tend to his affairs, which rotated every four days. The first day was allocated exclusively for Ibadah (worship), the second day for hearing and settling disputes, the third day for the guidance and reformation of the Bani Israeel and the fourth day for personal matters.

When the two men scaled his wall and barged into his presence on the day when he was engaged in Ibadah, Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام was naturally shocked. The men therefore bade him not to be frightened and explained that they needed judgement in their dispute. The one started to explain that he owned only one ewe, whereas the other person owned ninety-nine ewes. Despite this, he explained, the other man wanted his one ewe as well and was being harsh in demanding it. Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام told him that the man was being oppressive in demanding the single ewe and that it often happened that one partner in a business behaved in this manner.

Because the silence of the defendant suggested that he had no counter claim, Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام passed judgment in favour of the plaintiff. However, when he realised that his judgement seemed partial, he immediately repented to Allah, realising that he had been tested. Allah then forgave him since the error of judgement was not irreparable.

Age and Demise

Dawud عليه السلام worshipped Allah and glorified Him till the end. It is reported that Hazrat Dawud عليه السلام lived for a hundred years. The Torah and some books of history state that he ruled over the Bani Israeel for forty years other narrations mention seventy years.

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Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre provides education, guidance, social, empowerment and welfare services to the community. In providing this service, we adopt a holistic approach, that gives due importance to basic needs as well as human rights and dignity of those that we serve.

Founding Philosophy

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre is a multi-purpose, humanitarian-services providing organisation. 'Ihsan' means compassion towards mankind and to act with excellence. The Centre was established in the year 2000 with the primary objective of serving humanity and alleviating poverty and hardship locally and abroad. Since its inception, it has developed and established many humanitarian projects and provides a variety of free services to the community.

Key Objectives

One of the key objectives of the Centre is to promote a better understanding of humanity and peace, thereby serving as a bridge-builder between faiths and communities. Through guidance, Ubuntu and empowerment, the organisation hopes to train and develop the youth to become torch bearers of hope, peace and compassion to humanity.



أَهْلًا وَسَهْلًا

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