

The Great Messengers

HAZRAT LUT عليه السلام



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GUIDANCE • UBUNTU • EMPOWERMENT

HAZRAT LUT ﷺ

Hazrat Lut ﷺ is mentioned by name seventeen times in the Qur'an.

Hazrat Lut ﷺ was the nephew of Hazrat Ibraheem ﷺ. Both uncle and nephew hailed from the city of Babylon, close to Basrah in Iraq. The city of Babylon is mentioned in the Qur'an in Surah Baqarah. He lived under the care of Hazrat Ibraheem ﷺ and grew up in his house. Despite the tireless efforts of Hazrat Ibraheem ﷺ to convince his father, family and nation to accept Tawheed, they refused. He was eventually forced to leave the city with his wife Hazrat Sarah and his nephew Hazrat Lut ﷺ.

They travelled for a while to spread the message of Alla's Oneness, and it was when they reached the Jordan River that Allah commanded Hazrat Ibraheem ﷺ to settle in Can'aan, which was close to Baytul Muqaddas. At the same time, Allah instructed Hazrat Lut ﷺ to settle to the South West of the dead sea between Jordan and Baytul Muqaddas where Sodom and Gomoroh were situated. There he was to preach the message of Tawheed to the people.

The Overturned Cities

The area Lut ﷺ settled in was a region that comprised of five cities. The cities were called:

1. Sodom
2. Gomorrah
3. Admah
4. Sabubim
5. Baali/Soghar

The Qur'an refers to these cities as the overturned cities. The city of Sodom was the capital and it was there that Hazrat Lut ﷺ lived. It was a lush and fertile area, with plenty of crops and food. Allah had blessed the people of Sodom with an abundance of bounties. However, they were so inundated with wealth and riches that it

started to intoxicate them. As a result, they lost their natural modesty and the ability to distinguish between what was morally correct and what was not. They started to engage in acts that diametrically opposed human nature.

The sin they engaged in was to have sexual intercourse with men and young boys rather than with women. Such a despicable act was unheard of at that time and they were the first to do it. This unnatural act later became known as sodomy (after the city of Sodom). To make matters worse, they were not ashamed of their behaviour and even boasted about it. This city was filled with evil. Its residents waylaid, robbed and killed travellers.

Lut عليه السلام's Message

It was at the height of these crimes and sins that Allah revealed to Prophet Lut عليه السلام that he should summon the people to give up their indecent behaviour. Hazrat Lut عليه السلام preached to these morally depraved people by explaining to them the evil of what they were doing and encouraged them to lead lives of purity and to be morally upright. He left no stone unturned to convey the message of Allah to them and also related to them the plights of the nations of the past that disobeyed Allah but they were so deeply sunk in their immoral habits that they were deaf to Lut عليه السلام's preaching. Immersed in their unnatural desires, they refused to listen, even when Lut عليه السلام warned them of Allah's punishment. Instead, the people chose to reject him and even threatened to banish him if he kept on preaching.

Hazrat Ibraheem عليه السلام and the angels

While this was happening to Nabi Lut عليه السلام, Nabi Ibraheem عليه السلام who lived approximately fifteen miles away from Sodom had an experience. He was out one day, when he met three men by the road. Being the generous and hospitable man, he was renowned to be, he promptly took the men home for a meal. He was always ready to entertain guests. He roasted a calf for them and served the meal. However, when they refused to eat any of it, Hazrat Ibraheem (Alayhis Salam)

became worried, thinking that they had perhaps come with sinister motives. Sensing his worry, the men put him at ease by informing him that they were angels bound for Sodom, where they were charged with destroying the nation. At the same time, they also gave him the good news of the birth of his son Ishaq عليه السلام.

Ibraheem عليه السلام being soft hearted, sympathetic, merciful and compassionate asked the angels how they could destroy a nation when there were good people like Hazrat Lut عليه السلام amongst them. He told them that Hazrat Lut عليه السلام was a Mu'min who had brought Iman. The angels told him that they knew all about Hazrat Lut عليه السلام, but their orders were to destroy the nation because of their immorality and evil ways. However, they assured him that Hazrat Lut عليه السلام and his followers will be safe from the punishment, with the exception of his wife, who will perish with the people she supported.

The Angels meet Hazrat Lut عليه السلام

If home is the place of comfort and rest, then Lut عليه السلام found none, for he was tormented both inside and outside his home. His life was a continuous chain of challenges and he suffered greatly, but he remained patient and steadfast with his people. The years rolled by, and still, they did not believe in him.

Instead, they belittled his message and mockingly challenged him: "Bring Allah's Torment upon us if you are one of the truthful!" (29:29).

Overwhelmed with despair, Lut عليه السلام prayed to Allah to grant him victory and destroy the corrupt.

The time now came for the angels charged with punishment to visit Hazrat Lut عليه السلام and inform him of Allah's decision to punish the people. Therefore, the angels left Ibraheem عليه السلام and headed for Sodom the town of Lut عليه السلام where they became the guests of Nabi Lut عليه السلام.

When they met Hazrat Lut عليه السلام, he became worried about their safety because they appeared in the form of very handsome young men and it was men like this that the people of Sodom desired to satisfy their lusts with. He did not know that these were angels yet.

Just as he feared, the people came running to him to tell him to hand over the guests to them for their purposes. Disgusted with them, Hazrat Lut عليه السلام told them that the men were guests and that they should not embarrass him in front of them. He again reminded them that they ought to satisfy themselves with the women of their nation through marriage since there was no shortage of women. However, they made it clear to him that they no longer had any interest in women and that he ought to have known that if he brought any guests such as these, it would only arouse and excite them.

However, despite him pleading with them, they forced their way in and Hazrat Lut عليه السلام grieved about not having the ability to restrain them. Seeing his concern, the angels consoled him by telling him that since they were angels, the people would be unable to get close to them. They also told Hazrat Lut عليه السلام that they were commissioned to destroy the nation and that he should leave the area with his followers that night. In addition to this, they told him to warn his followers not to look back as they left. However, they informed him that his wife would perish with the rest since she supported them and not him.

Hazrat Lut عليه السلام therefore left with his followers that night, but his wife refused to go along with them. Hazrat Lut عليه السلام and his followers heard a frightening sound from the cities and the entire area with the buildings and inhabitants ripped from the ground, lifted into the air and thrown back upside-down. Stones were then rained down upon the place and destroyed them so that not a trace remained.

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About Darul Ihsan

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.

