

# The Great Messengers

HAZRAT MUSA & HARUN عليهما السلام



Published By:



**DARUL IHSAN**  
HUMANITARIAN CENTRE  
GUIDANCE • UBUNTU • EMPOWERMENT

# HAZRAT MUSA ﷺ AND HAZRAT HARUN ﷺ

Hazrat Musa ﷺ is mentioned by name one hundred and thirty-six times in the Qur'an. Hazrat Harun ﷺ is closely linked to his brother. Harun ﷺ is mentioned twenty times by name in the Qur'an.

## Description of Fir'oun - Pharaoh of Egypt

Fir'oun who ruled Egypt was a tyrant who oppressed the Bani Israeel. He used every means to demean and disgrace them. They were kept in bondage and forced to work for him for a pittance or nothing. Under this system the people obeyed and worshipped the Pharaoh, and the ruling class carried out his orders. Fir'oun wanted the people to obey him only.

The Bani Israeel were awaiting a prophet who was prophesied in the divine scriptures. This news reached the ears of Fir'oun. He instantly issued a decree to slay any male child that would be born to Bani Israeel, as he perceived this prophet to be a threat to his throne.

This took place for a while until some people from among the coptics realised that if all the males of the Bani Israeel were killed, there will eventually be no male slaves, resulting in a depletion of the workforce. The coptics will then have to do all the work. Since they were not comfortable with this prospect, the rule was changed to kill the male children of the Bani Israeel every alternate year, thereby sparing half the workforce.

## The Birth of Harun ﷺ and Musa ﷺ

Musa ﷺ's mother was pregnant with Harun ﷺ in a year that boy children of the Bani Israeel were spared. However, Musa ﷺ was born during a year in which the boys were to be slain. Allah Ta'ala consoled her and said she should nurse him secretly.

Musa's ﷺ mother suspended her baby to a casket which she would lower into the river with rope when she sensed fear of the authroites.

When the police would disperse she would pull the casket back. On one occasion it happened that the casket cut loose and floated away. She instructed her daughter to follow the basket and to report back to her.

The casket came to rest at the riverbank, in front of Fir'oun's palace. The palace servants found the casket with the baby and took it to the queen. When the queen beheld the lovely infant, Allah instilled in her a strong love for this baby. She requested her husband: "Let me keep the baby and let him be a son to us."

Fir'oun's wife began to search for someone to suckle the child, but he would not drink from any of the women who tried to nurse him. Musa's عليه السلام sister blurted that she knew someone who would suckle the child affectionately. Her mother was waiting with a heavy heart, worried about the fate of her baby. Just then her daughter rushed in with the good news.

## Exit from Egypt

Musa عليه السلام grew up in the palace until he reached his youth with good health, strength, knowledge, and wisdom. One day he saw two men fighting. One was an Israelite and the other an Egyptian.

When the Israeeli saw Hazrat Moosa عليه السلام approach, he called to him for help. Hazrat Musa عليه السلام responded to his call, but the Egyptian would not yield. As he separated the two, Hazrat Musa عليه السلام struck the Egyptian who died on the spot. Musa عليه السلام's heart was filled with deep sorrow, and immediately he begged Allah for forgiveness.

The next day he saw the same Israelite involved in another fight. Musa عليه السلام went to him and said: "You seem to be a quarrelsome fellow." Fearing that Musa عليه السلام might strike him, the Israelite warned Musa عليه السلام: "Would you kill me as you killed the person yesterday?"

This was enough for the Egyptian to hear and he immediately reported it to the authorities. When Fir'oun heard about it, he issued

orders for the arrest of Hazrat Musa عليه السلام and the troops went out in search of him. Fortunately, someone from another part of the city happened to hear about the arrest warrant and immediately warned Hazrat Musa عليه السلام to leave the city. Nabi Musa عليه السلام accepted his advice and quietly slipped out of Egypt in the direction of Madyan.

## Assistance at the Water Well

On reaching Madyan, he saw the people crowding the waterhole as they took their animals to drink water. A little distance away he saw two young ladies standing with their animals, but keeping the animals away from the water. Upon seeing this, Hazrat Musa عليه السلام went to them and enquired if he could help them in any way. They replied, “We have to wait until these people have finished and then we water our animals. We are here because our father (Shuayb عليه السلام) is very old and does not have the strength to bring the animals here.” Hazrat Musa عليه السلام offered to take their animals for them and, because of his tremendous strength and agility, he watered the animals in no time at all and returned them to the ladies.

The young ladies returned home earlier than usual, which surprised their father, Shuayb عليه السلام. They related the incident at the well which was the reason that they were back early. Their father sent one of his daughters to invite the stranger to his home. She left and brought Hazrat Musa عليه السلام home. He introduced himself and told the old man about the misfortune that had befallen him and had compelled him to flee from Egypt.

## Musa عليه السلام as a Shepherd

One of the daughters suggested to her father that he employ Musa عليه السلام, as he was strong and trustworthy. The old man was pleased to hear this. The father then proposed to Hazrat Musa عليه السلام that he may marry one of the daughters on condition that he worked for him for eight years. Of course, if he preferred to stay on for ten years, he was most welcome to do so. Musa عليه السلام completed the time of 10 years.

## Return to Egypt

After ten years of obedience to Allah's, destinies impelled him to make a decision to return to Egypt. However, he lost the way and found himself stranded without a way of making a fire. It was then that he saw a fire burning brightly in the distance on the mountain of Tur, which was really not fire, but Nour from Allah. Hazrat Musa عليه السلام made his way towards the 'fire' to get a firebrand, but it was there that he was told that he was a Nabi of Allah and shown the miracles of his staff and shining hand.

Allah Ta'ala then commanded Musa عليه السلام; "You have two signs from Your Lord; go to Fir'oun and his chiefs, for they are an evil gang and have transgressed all bounds." Hazrat Musa عليه السلام was concerned that he would have difficulty going alone to Fir'oun to deliver the message of Tawheed because they would want to punish him for the unintentional death of the Egyptian and he also did not feel confident because of his stutter. He therefore requested Allah if he could take his brother Harun عليه السلام along as well. Allah Ta'ala therefore conferred the mantle of prophethood to Hazrat Harun عليه السلام.

### Musa عليه السلام defeats the Magicians

Musa عليه السلام and Harun عليه السلام went together to Firoun and delivered their message. Fearing that his rule was in danger, Fir'oun dispatched courtiers all over the land to gather the best magicians so that they could oppose Musa عليه السلام. On the customary festival day, Fir'oun arranged for a public contest between Musa عليه السلام and the magicians. The people came in droves when they heard of the greatest contest ever between Firoun's many magicians and a single man who claimed to be a prophet. The magicians were overwhelmed by their greed for money and glory. They hoped to impress the people with their magic and to expose Musa عليه السلام as a fraud and a cheat.

Musa عليه السلام asked the magicians to perform first. They threw their magical objects down on the ground. Their staffs and ropes took the forms of wriggling serpents while the crowd watched in amazement.

Fir'oun and his men applauded loudly. Then Musa ﷺ threw his staff. It became an enormous serpent. Musa ﷺ's huge serpent swallowed all the snakes of the magicians. Musa ﷺ bent to pick it up, and it became a staff in his hand.

When the magicians saw this miracle, they all fell into prostration to Allah Ta'ala, declaring: "We believe in the Lord of Musa ﷺ and Harun ﷺ." Firoun was angry and exclaimed that the demonstration had been arranged secretly between Musa ﷺ and the magicians. Fir'oun threatened to cut off their hands and feet and to crucify them on the trunks of palm trees.

## **Bani Israeel Flee Egypt**

Almighty Allah decided to put an end to Fir'oun's crimes. Allah Ta'ala commanded Musa ﷺ to depart. In the darkness of night, Musa ﷺ led his people towards the Red Sea, and in the morning, they reached the beach. By then, Firoun was aware of their departure, so he mobilised a huge army to pursue them and caught up with them. Allah then instructed Hazrat Musa ﷺ to strike the sea with his staff, the water split and stood like two mountains. They then walked through the sea unharmed. However, as Fir'oun and his hordes followed, the sea closed up upon them and they were all drowned.

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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.

