



The Prophet's ﷺ ANIMALS

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Designed by Khadija Musa



Bismillah

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Recite With Love

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A special thank you to Hafiz M. Saad Yacoob, Ustadha Sulma Badrudduja, and Zainab Khan for their valuable suggestions.

Dedicated to my grandfather, Colonel Akhtar Ahmad Khan. May Allah have mercy on him. Ameen. - SY





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“Grandpa, where’s our family?” asked Thunder.



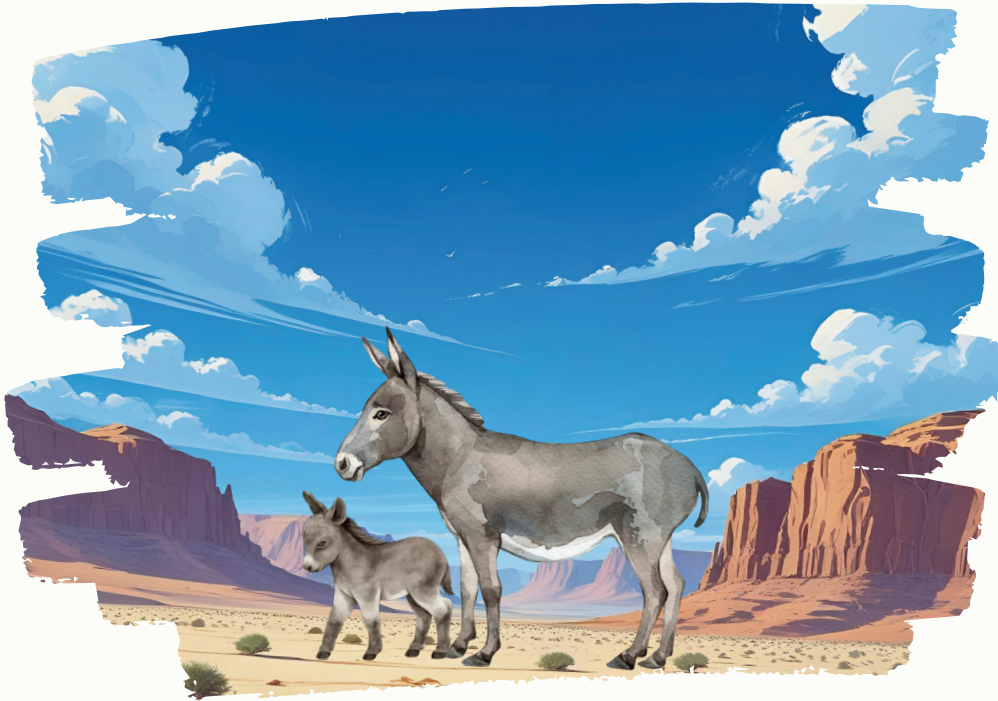


“This is where the animals have met for twenty-four years. The meeting place must have changed, otherwise everyone would be here.”

“Maybe because the water is gone,” said Thunder.

“I think you’re right,” said Grandpa.

“Thunder, we need to find the new meeting place.
Start looking for signs of certain animals,” Grandpa
said.



“Which animals?” Thunder asked.

“The ones that served the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ:
Camels, horses, mules and goats.”



Grandpa became quiet. Thunder knew he was asking Allah for help.

“Let’s walk east. I remember there was another watering hole that way. Look for animal tracks in the sand,” Grandpa said.



Thunder was alert, swiveling his ears back and forth. This was his first time at the special meeting. He didn't know what the meeting was for, but he wanted to be with the rest of his family again.



“Grandpa, why do **we** attend the meeting?”

“Because one of our ancestors, a donkey named Ufair, served the Prophet ﷺ. He was grey like us.”



“The Prophet ﷺ was very kind to animals.
He never let people hurt them or even
make them sad.”

“Even make them sad?” Thunder asked.





“Yes. Once, he saw a mother bird flying around, upset. Someone had taken her babies. The Prophet ﷺ told them to return the chicks to their nest.”

Then, Thunder noticed something in the sand.

“Grandpa...why are there flowers stamped
into the sand?”



“Flowers?” Grandpa bent down, almost touching the sand with his nose. His eyesight had weakened as he grew older.

“Good job, Thunder. These are goat hoofprints!

“Let’s follow them,” Grandpa said.





“Grandpa, why do **goats** attend the meeting?” Thunder asked.

“Seven of their ancestors served the Prophet ﷺ.
They were kept for milk. One of them was named Ghawthah.”

“That’s so cool!” said Thunder.

Suddenly, Grandpa stopped. He felt the wind getting stronger and there were bits of sand in his nostrils.

“Thunder! We need to take cover! It’s a sandstorm!” Grandpa and Thunder huddled together behind a bush. The storm howled around them.





Tears rolled down Thunder's soft snout. "I wish I hadn't been sick. Then we could have left with the rest of the family," he thought to himself.

Grandpa felt Thunder's tears on his own fur and nuzzled him gently.

Afraid that he would never see his family again, Thunder made dua to Allah, “Ya Allah, please help us. I want to be with my mommy and daddy again. Ameen.”



Just then, Grandpa and Thunder heard something,
“Assalamu Alaikum.”

“Sandstorms talk?” thought Thunder, feeling even more
scared.





Then, they both felt a soft nudge in their forelegs.

“There is someone here,” thought Thunder. Thunder huddled even closer to Grandpa, who scratched his neck with his snout to reassure him.

In just a few more minutes, the storm passed.

And, just as Grandpa thought, a herd of camels was standing in front of them.

Thunder heard Grandpa laugh. He opened his eyes slowly.



“I knew it was a camel!” Grandpa said. The camels were laughing too.

“Are you on your way to the meeting?” asked the largest camel of the herd.

“Yes, but the meeting place changed, and we don’t know the new location,” said Grandpa.



“That’s okay. We know the way,” said the camel.

“Come with us.”

“Thank you,” said Grandpa.

Thunder jumped in the air, thanking Allah in his heart.





“Uncle Camel, why do camels attend the meeting?”

“Camels are very special. The Prophet ﷺ had a camel named Qaswa. He rode her when he moved to Madinah. He even gave the Hajj speech while sitting on her.”

“Wow! Camels are so important!” said Thunder.





Thunder was so busy talking that he didn't notice they had arrived.

The new watering hole was small, but the water was clean and cool. Thunder looked around for his family. They were sitting with the other donkeys.

As Thunder ran towards them, he could see his mother galloping towards him.

Happy to be with his family again, Thunder looked around. These were the animals that served the Prophet ﷺ, donkeys, camels, horses, mules, and goats.

He wanted to ask Grandpa what the meeting was for, but seeing the large crowd of animals, he decided to stay quiet.



An old camel stood up and walked forward.
She spoke slowly but loudly.

“Welcome, brothers and sisters. Every year
we gather to make dua.”



“Ya Allah, we are the children of the animals that served your Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ was kind to us. He never hurt us.

But now, some people forget. They beat us. They make us work too hard. They don't feed us well. Please guide them, Ya Allah. Help them remember the way your Prophet treated us. Ameen.”





“We will stay for three days and keep making dua,”
Grandpa whispered to Thunder.

Thunder sat very still. The animals looked tired, but they
had hope. They believed that Allah would answer them.

One day, people would remember to be kind again.



As night fell, Thunder felt grateful to Allah.

He was happy to be with his family and he felt proud to be a donkey—one of the animals that served the Prophet ﷺ.



He settled in between his mother and Grandpa, closed his eyes, and thought, “Maybe one day, I’ll meet the Prophet ﷺ too. I’ll ask him if I can serve him, just like Ufair did.”

More Information

In addition to the animals mentioned in the book, the Prophet ﷺ also kept the following animals. Some of them are alluded to in the story, but their names were not mentioned.

1. **Horses:** The scholars agree on the names of seven of the Prophet's ﷺ horses. Their names were Sakb, Luḥaif, Lizāz, Sabḥah, Ḥarīb, Murtajiz, and Ward. The Prophet ﷺ rode on Sakb in the battle of Uhud.

2. **Mules:** The Prophet ﷺ owned three mules, Duldul, Fiḍḍah, and Īlyah. All three of them were gifts from various rulers to the Prophet ﷺ. Duldul was distinguished because after the Prophet ﷺ, Ali (RA), Hasan (RA), and Husain (RA) rode on him as well.

Suggested Activities

1. Older children who can read and write can choose one of the animals that are mentioned in the book and prepare a presentation about that animal. What are the different breeds, temperaments, needs, etc. of the animal?
2. Teachers or parents can start a conversation with children about the concept of sunnah. How can we follow the example of the Prophet ﷺ in the way we treat others, humans and animals, caring for the environment, decreasing waste?
3. Make a list of all the things that Thunder learned on his trip with his grandfather. This can be verbal or written. For example, he learned to make dua when you need help and to look for solutions to a problem. He also learned how being connected to the Prophet ﷺ makes us special.
4. If easily available, the children may try a few sips of goat milk.
5. This book can also be read before a field trip to a farm or petting zoo. It will help the children to connect to the animals in a different way, realizing that these kinds of animals were a part of the life of our Beloved Prophet ﷺ.
6. The children can make outlines of their own feet and paint them or decorate them since Grandpa and Thunder were following hoofprints.

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