

SURAH AL-MASAD

LEVEL: BEGINNER

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

تَبَّتْ يَدَا أَبِي لَهَبٍ وَتَبَّ (1) مَا أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ (2)

سَيَصْلَىٰ نَارًا ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ (3) وَأَمْرَأَتُهُ خَمَّالَةٌ الْخَطَبِ (4) فِي

جِيدِهَا حَبْلٌ مِّن مَّسَدٍ (5)

TRANLITRATION

TRANSLATION

Tabbat yadaa abee Lahabinw-wa
tabb

May the hands of Abu Lahab be
ruined, and ruined is he.

Maa aghnaa 'anhu maaluhoo wa
ma kasab

His wealth will not avail him or
that which he gained.

Sa-yaslaa naaran thaata lahab

He will burn in a Fire of [blazing]
flame

Wamra-atuhoo hammaa latal-
hatab

And his wife [as well] – the carrier
of firewood.

Fee jeedihaa hablum mim-
masad

In her neck is a twisted rope of
palm fiber.

- 1- It is a Makkan surah.
- 2- The Surah consists of 5 verses.
- 3- It was sent down after surah Al-Fatihah.

VERSE-BY-VERSE EXPLANATION

1- "May the hands of Abu Lahab be ruined, and ruined is he."

This verse curses Abu Lahab, saying his efforts and actions are doomed to fail. "Hands" here symbolizes his power and influence, which will ultimately be destroyed because he used it to oppose the Prophet Muhammad and Islam.

2- "His wealth will not avail him, nor will that which he gained."

This verse indicates that neither his wealth nor his social status will save Abu Lahab from the consequences of his actions. Despite his wealth and influence, he cannot escape divine justice.

3- "He will burn in a Fire of [blazing] flame,"

Abu Lahab is promised severe punishment in the afterlife, specifically a blazing fire, because of his actions against the Prophet and his constant attempts to harm and humiliate him.

4- "And his wife [as well] - the carrier of firewood."

This verse also condemns Abu Lahab's wife, who is described as a "carrier of firewood." This phrase has a dual meaning: she literally supported her husband in his hostility, spreading harmful gossip and lies (symbolized by carrying firewood to fuel a fire), and will face punishment in the afterlife alongside her husband.

5- "Around her neck is a rope of [twisted] fiber."

Abu Lahab's wife is described with a rope of palm fiber around her neck, symbolizing her actions binding her to her punishment. This could also refer to the materials she used to carry the firewood and spread harm, now being used to punish her.

CAUSE OF REVELATION

When Allah commanded Prophet Muhammad ﷺ to call people to Islam, the Prophet raised the mount of Al-Safa and called on the families and tribes of Quraysh. The people of Makkah came from everywhere, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said to them, "If I tell you there is an army behind this mountain about to attack you, would you believe me? They said, "Yes, you never lie." The Prophet said: "I am a Messenger from Allah to you. Say la ilaha illa Allah and you will go to Jannah." The first one to speak was Prophet Muhammad's evil uncle, Abu Lahab, who said: "May you perish, is it for this reason you called us?"

KEY LESSONS FROM THE SURAH

1- The Consequences of Opposition to Truth:

This Surah highlights the outcome for those who openly oppose and harm the message of Islam and its messengers. It demonstrates that despite wealth and power, no one can avoid divine punishment.

2- Warning Against Arrogance and Pride:

Abu Lahab was proud of his wealth and status, thinking it would protect him. However, the Surah emphasizes that arrogance and pride do not hold any value when one is unjust and hostile toward others.

3- Family Does Not Guarantee Support:

Although Abu Lahab was the Prophet's uncle, his familial relation did not save him from judgment. This Surah reminds us that one's family connection to righteousness is not enough if their own actions oppose truth and justice.

4- Accountability for One's Actions:

Both Abu Lahab and his wife faced consequences for their actions, showing that each person is accountable, regardless of status or relationship.

5- Divine Protection of the Prophet and His Mission:

Despite Abu Lahab's efforts, his plans failed, reflecting that Allah protects the Prophet and the message of Islam.

ACTIVITIES

CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER

1- Who is specifically mentioned in Surah Al-Masad for his hostility towards the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)?

- a) Abu Jahl
- b) Abu Bakr
- c) Abu Lahab
- d) Abu Sufyan

2- In Surah Al-Masad, what material is mentioned in reference to Abu Lahab's wife?

- a) Wool
- b) Cotton
- c) Palm Fiber
- d) Silk

3- What does the Surah warn about regarding wealth and status?

- a) Wealth protects from punishment
- b) Wealth increases punishment
- c) Wealth cannot save from punishment
- d) Wealth guarantees paradise

TRUE OR FALSE

1- Abu Lahab's wife used to spread harm by placing thorns on the Prophet's path.

2- Surah Al-Masad implies that wealth and children can save a person from Allah's punishment.

3- Abu Lahab welcomed the Prophet's message and supported him.

4- The phrase "palm fiber" in Surah Al-Masad refers to a punishment awaiting Abu Lahab's wife.

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING

1- What does Surah Al-Masad teach us about the consequences of opposing Islam?

2- How did Abu Lahab and his wife try to harm the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)?

3- Why does the Surah say Abu Lahab's wealth will not benefit him?