

## **SAFAR ISLAMIC STUDIES BOOK 7**

### **UNIT 4 – THE HISTORY OF ISLAM**

#### **Stories of the Prophets : Zakariyya, Yahya & Aal Imran (A.S)**

Notes:

1. All Ahadith have been highlighted **blue**.
2. All revision questions have been highlighted **yellow**.

#### **Q1. Who was Imran?**

- A man who lived many centuries before the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).
- He was from the tribe of Banu Israel and was from the descendants of Yaqub (A.S).

#### **Q2. Describe Imran.**

- A pious man.
- Imam of Al-Baytal Maqdis (Masjid ul Aqsa) in Jerusalem.

#### **Q3. Who was Hannah?**

- She was the wife of Imran.
- Just like Imran, she was pious and loved and worshipped Allah a lot.

#### **Q4. What was the name of Imran and Hannah's child?**

- They had a baby girl and named her Maryam.

#### **Q5. Who was Zakariyya?**

- Hannah had a sister named Eesha who was married to Zakariyya.
- Zakariyya (A.S) was another prophet of Allah.

#### **Q6. Who was Zakariyya (A.S)'s child?**

- He had a son named Yahya.
- Yahya was also a prophet of Allah just like his father.

#### **Q7. Which people are mentioned in the Qur'an as being chosen by Allah over all others?**

- Prophet Adam, Prophet Nuh, the family of Ibrahim and the family of Imran (A.S).

**Q8. What did Hannah wish for?**

- Hannah and Imran had been married for many years and longed for a child. Hannah wished to have a son and would pray to Allah for this because it was a tradition to dedicate a son to a place of worship to show your love for Allah. Hannah wanted to do this and show her love for Allah.

**Q9. What did Hannah vow?**

- After finding out she was pregnant, Hannah made a vow to Allah out of gratitude and said that she dedicated what is in her womb entirely to Allah. She asked Allah to accept this from her.

**Q10. Did Hannah fulfil her vow?**

- Hannah did not give birth to a boy. Instead, she gave birth to Maryam, a baby girl. However, she knew that this was from Allah and His wisdom so she still wanted to complete her vow and gave Maryam into Allah's protection.

**Q11. What did Maryam (A.S) need before she could be entrusted to Allah?**

- A guardian to look after her.

**Q12. Who became Maryam's guardian?**

- Zakariyya, who was the uncle of Maryam, a prophet and also a guardian of Baytal Maqdis.
- Maryam's original guardian was to be her father, but he passed away before she was born.

**Q13. What was Zakariyya's job?**

- To look after Maryam.
- Guide the people of Banu Israel to listen to the commands of Allah.

**Q14. What corruption did Zakariyya see in the people of Banu Israel?**

- Instead of following the Tawrah, the people attempted to change the laws according to their desires and aims.

### Q15. What did Zakariyya wish for and why?

- Zakariyya wished for a son who could lead Banu Israel as a prophet because he was worried for Banu Israel and how they would be if they didn't have a prophet to lead them.

### Q16. What was the Du'a made by Zakariyya?

- "My Lord, my bones have become weak, my head is covered in grey hair but never has my prayer to You been left unanswered. I fear for what my people will do when I am gone, as my wife is childless. So bless me with a child as a gift from you so he can be my heir and the heir of the family of Yaqub, and be pleasing to You."

### Q17. What did the angels say to Maryam?

- Allah has chosen you and made you pure. He has chosen you above all women.

### Q18. How did Allah favour Maryam?

- He made her a Waliyyah (a person who has special closeness with Allah) and because of this, favoured her with miracles.

### Q19. What were the miracles Maryam was favoured with?

- Allah would send special fruits for Maryam, fruit that wasn't even in season and nobody would even visit Maryam, so how would she get this fruit?!
- When Zakariyya would visit Maryam, he would find her with these fruits in her mihrab (a place where she was devoted to prayer and worship).

### Q20. What gave Zakariyya hope?

- Maryam told Zakariyya that Allah gives to whoever He wills.
- When Zakariyya saw that Maryam was receiving the special fruits from Allah, it gave him hope and inspiration that if Allah can perform these miracles with Maryam, maybe He can also give Zakariyya a child despite him being old.

### Q21. What Du'a did Zakariyya make?

- "My Lord, from Your favours, grant me virtuous offspring, You certainly hear all prayers."

### Q22. Who came to Zakariyya after his Du'a and what did they say?

- Angels descended and told Zakariyya that he would have a son named Yahya. Yahya was a name nobody had used before.
- The angels also told Zakariyya that Yahya will come to confirm and believe in the word of Allah. He will be a leader, a pure man and a prophet.

### Q23. What sign did Allah send for Zakariyya regarding the birth of Yahya?

- Allah informed Zakariyya that 3 days before the birth of Yahya, Zakariyya would not be able to speak or anyone except through gestures and signs. This was not an illness and Zakariyya was still able to do dhikr. This sign was a great blessing as Zakariyya stayed busy in dhikr for 3 days until Eesha, his wife, gave birth to his son Yahya.

### Q24. What did Yahya do from a young age?

- Yahya (A.S) was a unique individual. From a young age, he spent time in worshipping Allah and remembering Him, when other people his age used to play with toys and games.
- Yahya would think about Allah's creation and how wonderful it is.
- He was blessed with knowledge and wisdom.
- He was loving and kind to all life, and to his parents.

### Q25. What did Yahya do after the death of his father Zakariyya?

- Yahya followed in the footsteps of his father and continued to teach the people of Banu Israel the Tawrah.
- He would spend much of his time among nature and animals, doing dhikr.
- Yahya also lived to see the birth and mission of his cousin Isa (A.S).

**Important keywords to learn:**

Mihrab	A place or a chamber that a person uses for prayer and worship. It is also the hollow part of the Masjid where the Imam stands to lead Salah.
Wali / Waliyyah	A person who gains a special closeness to Allah through prayer and worship.
Karamah	Miracles and extraordinary abilities that Allah blesses his Wali with. This is different to Mu'jizah which are the miracles given to prophets.

**Lessons from the story:**

1. Zakariyya and Hannah never lost hope in Allah. We should always remain hopeful even when life has setbacks. Never fall into despair.
2. With devotion and effort in worship, both men and women can be Wali's and Waliyyah's of Allah. This is also possible for young people.
3. If someone becomes a Wali, Allah opens the doors of His treasures for him and can also bless them with Karamah.
4. For Allah, men and women are both equal. Women can gain Allah's love just like men.
5. We learn how to make Du'a from the Du'a of Zakariyya. Start off by drawing attention to your weakness, make Du'a in a soft and gentle voice and show that you are humble. There is more chance of the Du'a being accepted.
6. Yahya was a gentle and kind person towards everyone and everything. These are qualities that Allah loves so be kind if you want to be shown kindness by Allah.

The Prophet (S.A.W) said, "The Most Merciful showers the ones who are kind with His mercy. Be kind to those on earth and the One who is in the heavens will be kind towards you."

7. If children grow up to be pious and loving and mindful of Allah, they will be a source of reward for their parents even if they have passed away.

The Prophet (S.A.W) said, "When the son of Adam dies, his book of deeds are closed. He does not receive any good deeds except from three things: a continuing charity, knowledge that people benefit from and a righteous child who makes Du'a for him."

**END OF CHAPTER**