



THE MERCY THAT TAMED THE BEASTS

Witness the true miracles that turned the forest upside down!



WHEN THE LION
BOWED...
TO WHOM?!



WHEN THE LION BOWED... TO WHOM?!

Once, a man from the Arabian Peninsula boarded a ship and set out to sea. As the waves carried the vessel onward, the wind suddenly grew fierce and the sea became violent, until the ship sank.

The man clung to a wooden plank and began swimming, struggling against the waves, until the sea cast him onto the shore of a remote forest where there was no sign of any human being.

No sooner had he caught his breath and praised Allah for saving him than his eyes fell upon a terrifying scene:

A lion stood motionless before him, staring at him steadily. It roared like a predator and began approaching him... slowly, step by step.

The man was about to become its next meal!

Yet, astonishingly, he did not run away or scream. Instead, he stood perfectly still, looked confidently at the lion, and said in a calm voice:

"Take it easy, O Abu al-Harith. I am the servant of..."

Then he mentioned the name of a man.

At that moment, something completely unexpected happened!





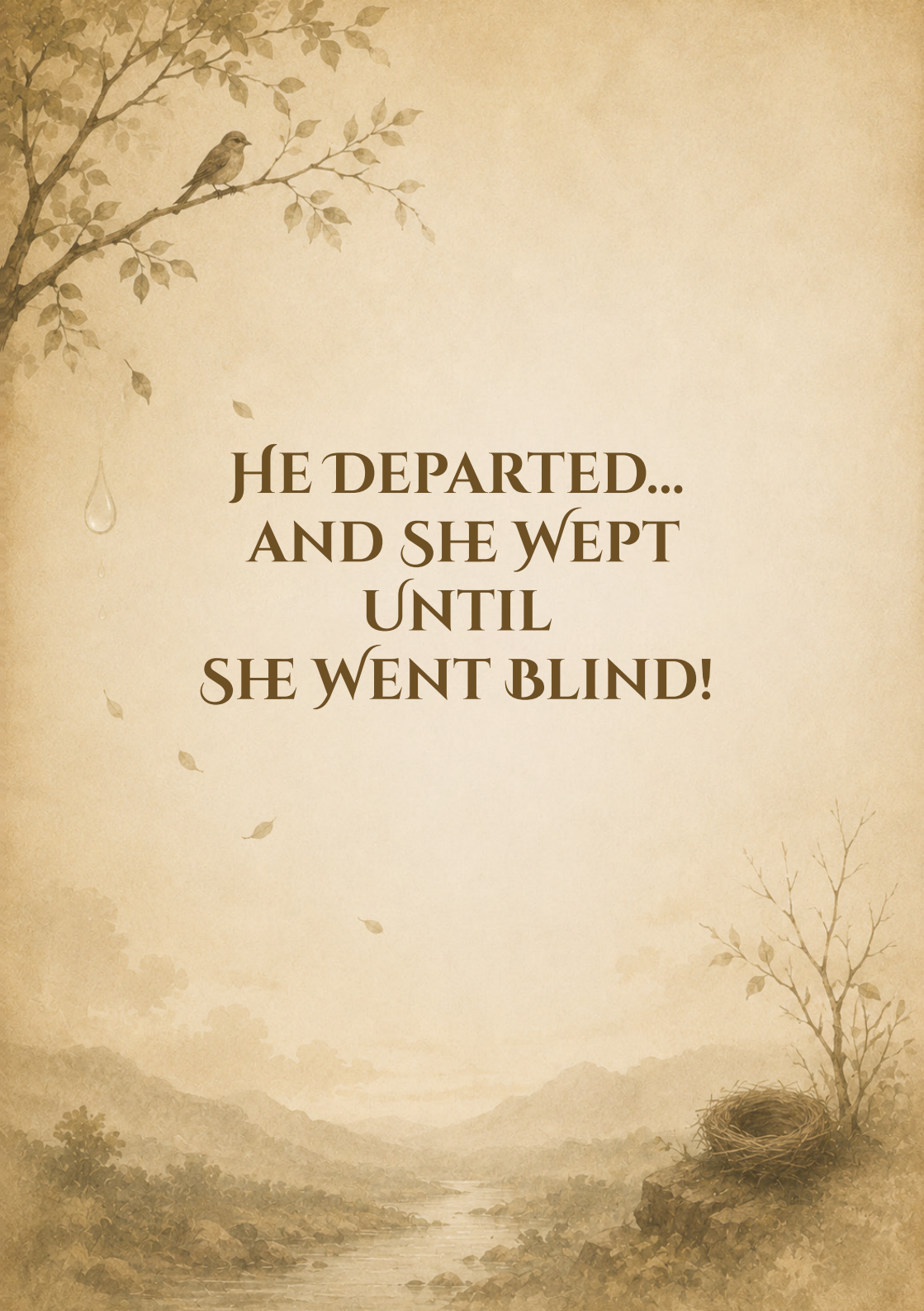
As soon as the lion heard that name, its roaring ceased, its gaze softened, and its ferocity faded. It approached the man affectionately and gently nudged him with its head, as though saying:

“Follow me...”

The man walked safely behind the lion, sheltered by it as though it were one of his companions, until it led him out of the depths of the forest and guided him to the beginning of the road.

At the moment of farewell, the lion turned towards him and made a sound resembling a soft purr, as though it were bidding him goodbye! (1)

This story is not a work of fiction, nor is it one of the legends of ancient times. It is a true story that actually took place—and you will now see for yourself that it is true!



HE DEPARTED...
AND SHE WEPT
UNTIL
SHE WENT BLIND!



HE DEPARTED... AND SHE WEPT UNTIL SHE WENT BLIND!

Yet the question remains:

Who was that great man whose name caused the lion's behaviour to change?

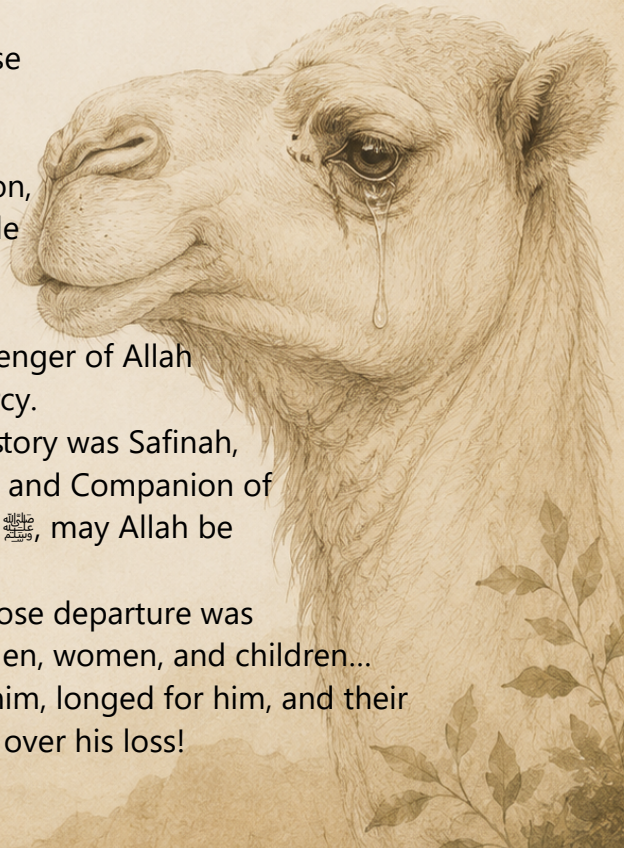
Who was the man whose very name transformed savagery into safety, predation into protection, and roaring into a gentle farewell?

It was Muhammad ibn Abdullah ﷺ—the Messenger of Allah and the Prophet of Mercy.

The Companion in the story was Safinah, the freed slave, servant, and Companion of the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, may Allah be pleased with him.

He was the Prophet whose departure was mourned not only by men, women, and children...

Even animals wept for him, longed for him, and their hearts withered in grief over his loss!





After the death of the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, his she-camel, al-Qaswa', refused food and water. She continued weeping for him for days until she became blind, and then died only a few months after him—longing for his voice and yearning for the days when he used to ride her.

What made the animals love him to such an extent? What kind of relationship existed between the Messenger of Allah ﷺ and these creatures, causing them to be more faithful to him than many human beings?

This is what we will discover together now...

THE ANIMAL THAT
COMPLAINED TO THE
PROPHET...

AND HE UNDERSTOOD IT
BEFORE IT COULD SPEAK!





THE ANIMAL THAT COMPLAINED TO THE PROPHET... AND HE UNDERSTOOD IT BEFORE IT COULD SPEAK!

When a person is tender-hearted and sensitive in dealing with other human beings like himself, this reflects the mercy within his heart.

But when someone does not merely feel compassion for those of his own kind, but also for creatures of other kinds—animals, plants, and even inanimate objects—then this shows that he is unlike the rest of creation...

One day, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ entered a garden be





One day, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ entered a garden belonging to a man from the Ansar, accompanied by one of his Companions named Abdullah.

As soon as the Prophet ﷺ stepped into the garden, he noticed a camel standing at its far end...

The moment the camel saw the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, it became distressed, let out a sorrowful sound, and tears began to flow from its eyes!

These were no ordinary tears...

They were the tears of a creature that could not speak, yet it recognised him, loved him, and brought its complaint to him.

It was as though its heart, filled with pain, had found no one to confide in except this merciful heart.

It was as though it said to him with its eyes:

**"You know... You alone understand me,
O Messenger of Allah..."**

The Prophet ﷺ approached it with steps of compassion. He extended his noble hand and gently stroked its back, its hump, and its ear.

It was as though he were comforting it, calming its fear, and soothing its pain.



As though he were whispering to it:

"You are not alone... I am with you."

The camel became still, and its groaning subsided...

It was as though its soul had been cooled beneath the touch of a merciful hand—

a hand that had so often rescued the distressed, comforted the broken, and wiped away the tears of an orphan.

The Prophet ﷺ then turned to those around him and asked:

"Who is the owner of this camel?"

A young man stepped forward and said:

"It belongs to me, O Messenger of Allah."

The Prophet ﷺ looked at him with a gaze filled with tenderness and sorrow, and gently reproached him, saying:

"Do you not fear Allah regarding this animal which Allah has placed in your possession?! (2)

It has complained to me that you keep it hungry and exhaust it with work!" (1)

O Allah...

Even a camel, when wronged, finds someone to defend it. Even an animal, when mistreated, finds someone to comfort its heart. Even a creature that cannot speak—its suffering is heard by the Messenger of Allah ﷺ!

A MERCY EXTENDING
FROM THE CAMEL
TO THE DONKEY,

FROM THE EARTH
TO THE HEAVENS





A MERCY EXTENDING FROM THE CAMEL TO THE DONKEY, FROM THE EARTH TO THE HEAVENS

The Prophet ﷺ taught his nation and warned them, saying:

"Fear Allah regarding these animals that cannot speak."

He reminded us that even though these creatures remain silent, their Lord hears them, and that we will be questioned about them on the Day of Resurrection.

He forbade us from striking them, branding them on their faces, or burdening them with more than they can bear...

For the Messenger of Allah ﷺ was not merely a Prophet sent to humanity...

He was the Prophet of Mercy—
a mercy walking upon the earth.

**THE TERROR
OF THE CURSE !**



THE TERROR OF THE CURSE!

One day, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ passed by a donkey that had been branded on its face.

When he saw it, the Prophet ﷺ became angry with the anger of mercy and said in a voice that shook the Companions:

“May Allah curse the one who branded it!” (3)

A curse is not a matter to be taken lightly...

It means being cast away from the mercy of Allah!

Can you imagine?

A weak creature that has no tongue with which to complain and no hand with which to defend itself against injustice...

Yet the Prophet ﷺ became angry for its sake, and pronounced the strongest words against the one who had wronged it!

For this reason, the scholars of the Muslim nation unanimously agreed that branding an animal on its face is forbidden, and that harming it in this manner is never permissible under Islamic law.

THE NOBILITY OF
THE SHARIAH:

FEED YOUR ANIMAL
BEFORE YOU FEED
YOURSELF!



THE NOBILITY OF THE SHARIAH: FEED YOUR ANIMAL BEFORE YOU FEED YOURSELF!

Islam did not elevate the status of human beings alone. It also elevated the status of animals, commanding that they be respected, cared for, and protected from abuse. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

"Ride them while they are in good condition, and leave them while they are in good condition..."

In other words: do not harm them, exhaust them, or burden them beyond their strength.

Give them their food and water, and treat them gently. They are part of Allah's creation, and they have rights protected by His law.

Some scholars even said:

"It is recommended in Islamic law that you feed your riding animal before you eat, once you stop to rest or reach your destination!"

The Prophet ﷺ also gave this clear prohibition:

"Do not use them as chairs while you hold conversations in the roads and marketplaces!"

In other words, even though these animals were created to serve you...



Even though they are animals and this is their role in life, that does not make it lawful for you to overburden them or force them to carry more than they can bear.

“For perhaps the animal being ridden is better than the one riding it...” (4)

Yes, the human being has been honoured. Allah Almighty says:

{Indeed, We have honoured the children of Adam.}
[Al-Isra': 70]

Humanity, as a species, has generally been honoured above the animal species.

Yet there are animals that glorify Allah, submit to His greatness, and revere His command...

While some human beings deny Him, turn away, behave arrogantly, and reject His blessings!

Allah Almighty says:

{The seven heavens and the earth and whatever is in them exalt Him. And there is not a thing except that it exalts [Allah] by His praise, but you do not understand their [way of] exalting. Indeed, He is ever Forbearing and Forgiving}
[Al-Isra': 44]

Not everyone who can speak is necessarily wiser...

And not everyone who prostrates is necessarily more devoted...

An animal whose heart is at peace with the remembrance of Allah may be better in the sight of Allah than an arrogant, distracted human being who is heedless of his Creator!



THE TREMBLING
OF A BIRD ANGERED

THE ONE SENT AS
A MERCY TO ALL
WORLDS!





THE TREMBLING OF A BIRD ANGERED THE ONE SENT AS A MERCY TO ALL WORLDS!

One day, the Prophet ﷺ was travelling with his Companions.

During the journey, he left them briefly to relieve himself, then returned.

When he came back, he saw a scene that he could not simply overlook.

Some of the Companions had taken the two chicks of a small bird resembling a sparrow, known as the hummarah. Their mother was fluttering above them in the air, crying out and beating her wings...

Overcome with anxiety, terror, and heartbreak for her young!

The Prophet ﷺ saw her...

He saw a weak mother who could not speak...

Yet her heart was speaking through the intensity of her fear.

The Prophet ﷺ stopped and said to his Companions with a gentle rebuke overflowing with mercy:

"Who has distressed this bird by taking her young?!" (5)



In other words:

Who has caused her grief?

Who has terrified her heart and taken her young from beneath her wings?!

He immediately ordered them to return her two chicks to her...

Restoring calm to her trembling wings and comfort to her wounded heart.

This was the Messenger of Allah ﷺ...

He could not bear the sight of injustice, even when it was committed against a weak creature that could express itself only through the movement of its wings.

The Prophet ﷺ also said in another hadith:

“Whoever shows mercy, even to a sparrow being slaughtered, Allah will show mercy to him on the Day of Resurrection.” (6)

Reflect upon this...

A sparrow being slaughtered!

Your mercy towards a tiny creature that has no control over its fate...

may become a reason for Allah to show mercy to you on a Day when no one will be able to show mercy to another!

A Day when a brother will flee from his brother...

A son will turn away from his mother and father...

And a person will forget his wife and children!

{On the Day when a person will flee from his brother, his mother and his father, his wife and his children}

[‘Abasa: 34–36]



A Day when status will be of no benefit, wealth will offer no protection, and family lineage will be of no use...

{The Day when neither wealth nor children will be of any benefit, except for one who comes to Allah with a sound heart}

[Ash-Shu'ara': 88–89]

Imagine...

The sound heart that you present before Allah...
was sound because it softened towards a sparrow,
felt compassion for an animal,
and could not bear the cry of a mother whose wings were broken by grief!

In complete contrast to mercy, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

"Whoever kills a sparrow without a rightful reason will be questioned by Allah about it on the Day of Resurrection..."

He was asked:

"What is its right, O Messenger of Allah?"

He replied:

"That he slaughters it and eats it."

[Reported by al-Nasa'i] (7)



Meaning: it must not be killed pointlessly, nor should its life be taken for amusement or luxury. Rather, it may be slaughtered for food when there is a need. This is the lawful purpose that Allah has prescribed concerning it.

At this point, someone may ask:

"Is slaughtering animals and eating them not a form of cruelty?"

We say in response:

Are you more merciful to these creatures than their Creator?!

Their Creator—the One who formed and fashioned them—is the One who subjected them for our use, explained through His law the limits governing our treatment of them, and granted them dignity even at the moment of slaughter.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ, the Prophet of Mercy, never lacked mercy for a single moment.

Even when an animal's life was taken for a lawful need... his heart remained tender, his gaze compassionate, and his words full of guidance.



THE TENDERNESS OF
PROPHETHOOD



AT THE MOMENT OF
SLAUGHTER!





THE TENDERNESS OF PROPHETHOOD AT THE MOMENT OF SLAUGHTER!

The Prophet ﷺ once passed by a man who had placed his foot upon the neck of a sheep and had begun sharpening his blade in front of its eyes!

The sheep could see and was trembling...

It understood what awaited it, yet it had no means of escaping or protesting.

The Prophet ﷺ said to the man in a rebuke overflowing with mercy:

**“Why did you not sharpen your blade before
doing this?!”**

Do you intend to make it die twice?!”

[Reported by al-Hakim] (8)

Allahu Akbar...

The slaughter itself was permitted because of necessity, yet there was still sin involved because the sheep had been tortured through the sight, the fear, and the trembling of its eyes!

For this reason, the Prophet ﷺ prohibited every method by which animals are tortured before death— such as imprisoning them until they die of hunger, striking them with a spear, electrocuting them, or leaving them to bleed slowly while people mock them!



The slaughter of an animal in Islam is not merely a physical act.

It is an act of worship, an act of mercy, and a precise balance between necessity and compassion.

How great is this religion...

A religion that does not permit cruelty even towards the animals we eat,

and does not remain silent in the face of injustice, even when the victim is a creature that cannot speak...

A religion that teaches us how to remain human even at the moment of slaughter.

The Prophet's ﷺ prohibition was not limited to the methods used to kill animals.

His mercy extended even beyond their death.

He prohibited mutilating them, cutting off their body parts, or disfiguring their remains.

It was as though the body—even after the soul had departed—still retained a sacred dignity under his law!

O DAMUN...
DO DISPUTE WITH
ME ON THE DAY OF
JUDGEMENT!





O DAMUN... DO DISPUTE WITH ME ON THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT!

The fruits of this mercy became visible in the hearts of the Companions who had been raised under the guidance of the Prophet ﷺ.

They went out into the world with remarkable tenderness and unparalleled gentleness.

Abu al-Darda', one of the noble Companions, owned a camel named Damun.

Whenever someone borrowed it from him, he would warn them:

"Do not burden it beyond its capacity, for it cannot carry more than such-and-such an amount." (9)

This concern did not end during his lifetime...

When death approached Abu al-Darda', he turned towards his camel as though speaking to a human member of his household and said:

"O Damun, do not call me to account tomorrow before my Lord, for I never made you carry more than you were able to bear..." (9)

Reflect upon this...

A Companion speaking to a camel as he approached death, asking it for pardon, fearing that it might bring a complaint against him before Allah...



seeking its forgiveness as though a covenant and bond of loyalty existed between them!

This is the effect of Prophethood...

This is the upbringing that transformed human hearts until they became tender towards the hearts of animals.

And this is only a single drop from an ocean.

Were I to recount to you all the incidents found in the Prophet's biography and all the instructions contained in the hadiths, entire volumes would not be enough, nor would a complete series of episodes contain them all!

Such was the way of the Prophet of Islam ﷺ...

A way that was comprehensive, complete, and just...

It nurtures within you strength, mercy, gentleness, and justice... And teaches you how to be truly human—before other human beings, before animals, and before your Lord.

Has the time not come for you to draw closer to this great Prophet?

Has the time not come for your heart to know him?

To become attached to him?

To experience the purity of his life, the light of his character, and the warmth of his message?

By Allah, no one has ever truly known him without loving him ﷺ

May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.



REFERENCES

1. Al-Bidayah wa al-Nihayah — Ibn Kathir, Isma'il
ibn 'Umar ibn Kathir al-Qurashi al-Dimashqi,
Vol. 9, p. 32.



2. Narrator: 'Abdullah ibn Ja'far ibn Abi Talib
Hadith scholar: Al-Albani
Source: Sahih Abi Dawud
Hadith no.: 2549



3. Narrator: [Jabir ibn 'Abdullah]
Hadith scholar: Al-Dhahabi
Source: Al-Kaba'ir by Al-Dhahabi
Page: 365



4. Narrator: Mu'adh ibn Anas
Hadith scholar: Al-Haythami
Source: Majma' al-Zawa'id
Vol. 8, p. 110





5. Narrator: 'Abdullah ibn Mas'ud
Hadith scholar: Al-Nawawi
Source: Riyadh al-Salihin
Hadith no.: 519



6. Narrator: Abu Umamah al-Bahili
Hadith scholar: Al-Haythami
Source: Majma' al-Zawa'id
Vol. 4, p. 36



7. Narrator: 'Abdullah ibn 'Amr
Hadith scholar: Al-Albani
Source: Sahih al-Targhib
Hadith no.: 2266



8. Narrator: 'Abdullah ibn 'Abbas
Hadith scholar: Al-Ruba'i
Source: Fath al-Ghaffar
Vol. 2, p. 1121



9. Reported by Abu al-Hasan al-Ikhmini in his Hadith Collection, folio 63/1. It was cited by Al-Albani in Al-Silsilah al-Sahihah, no. 30, and mentioned by Al-Suyuti in Jami' al-Masanid wa al-Marasil, no. 9284.

