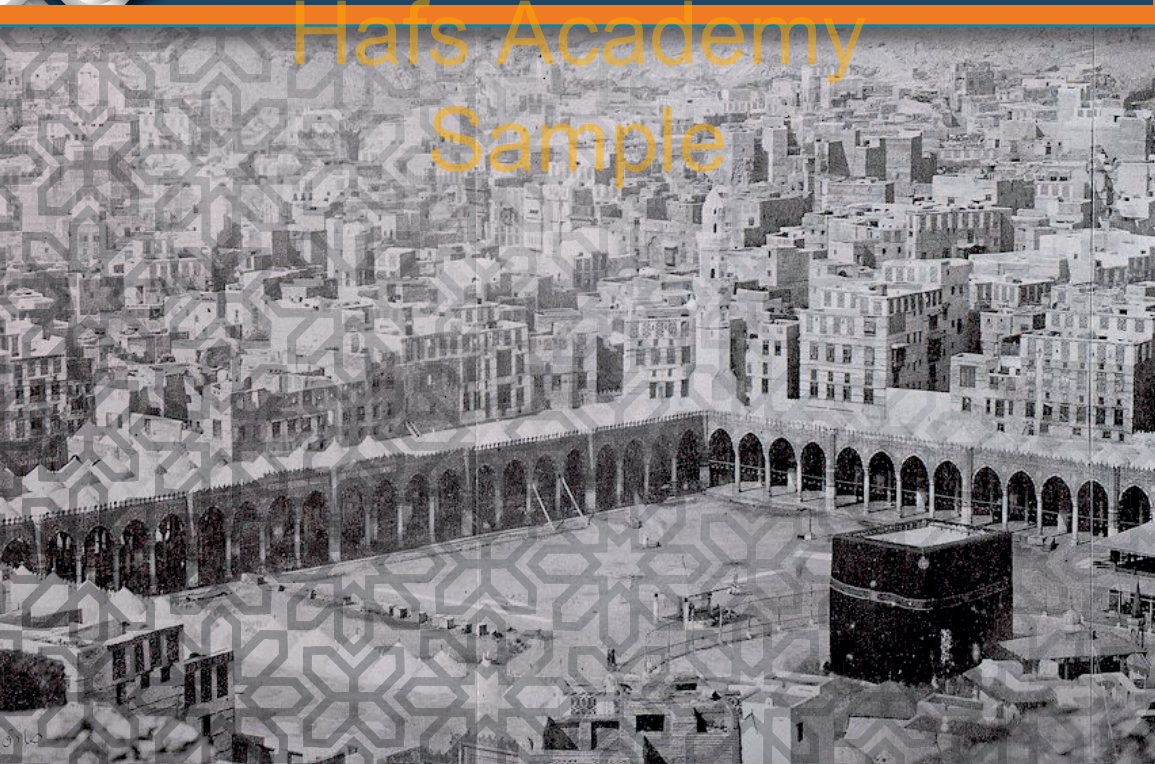




The Seerah of the Prophet Muhammed ﷺ

The life and legacy
of the best of creation

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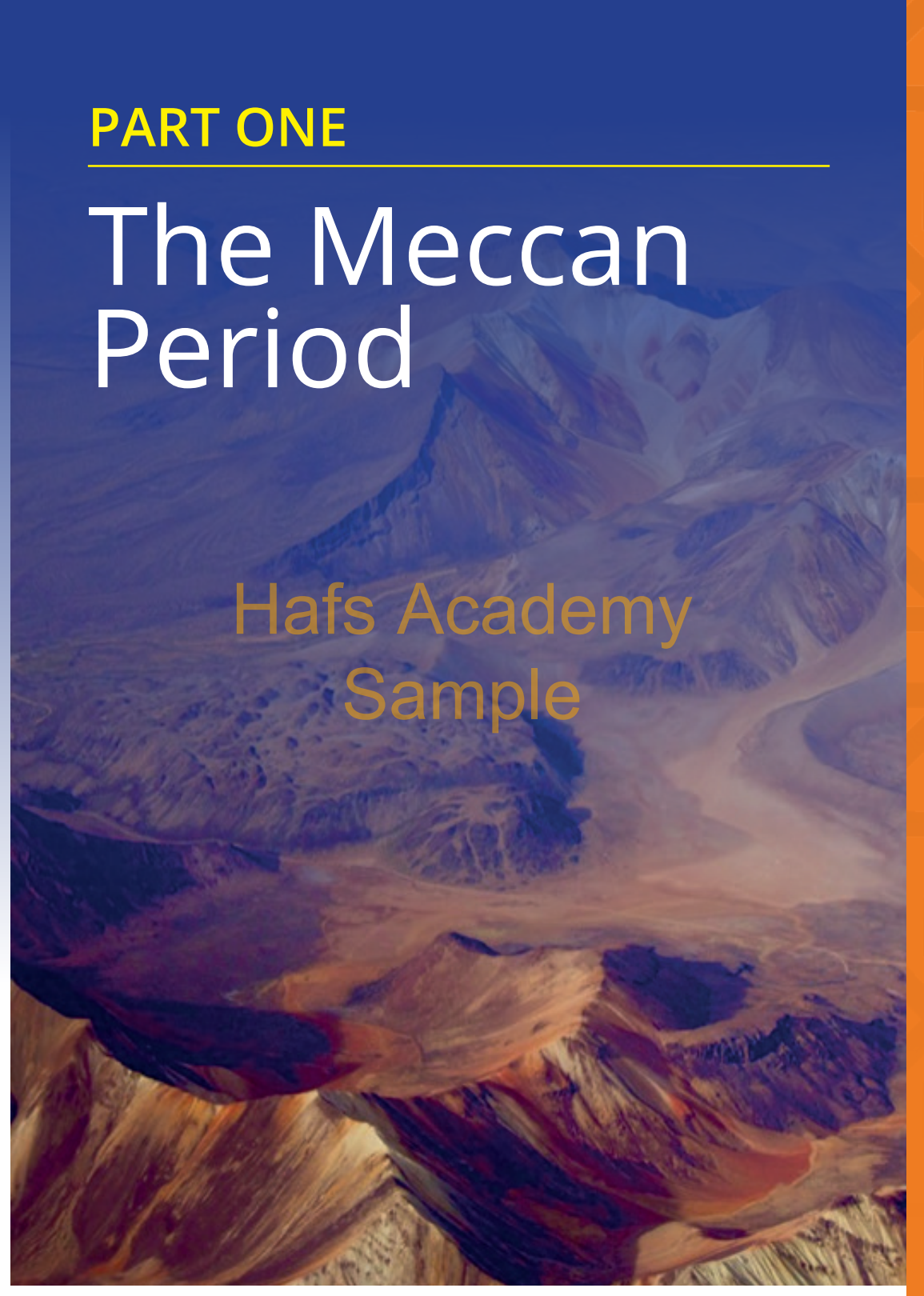
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PART ONE

The Meccan Period

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UNIT 1

In this Unit you will cover:

- Ibrahim, Hajar and Isma'il
- The Year of the Elephant
- The Prophet's Lineage

About this Unit

This unit explores the father of Islam, the Prophet Ibrahim (AS), the great event before the birth of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and the lineage of the greatest man in history.

Ibrahim, Hajar and Isma'il

KEY WORDS: WILDERNESS, ESSENCE, ZAMZAM, NOMADS



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To explore the connection between the Prophet Ibrahim (AS) and Muhammad
- To understand the history of Makkah

Ibrahim migrates to Makkah with his family

Makkah, the city that Allah was to choose to send his final Messenger, was once just a desert filled with mountains. Allah ordered his beloved friend and prophet, Ibrahim (AS) and his family, Hajar and Isma'il (AS), to migrate there over 4,000 years ago. Ibrahim (AS) fulfilled the command and left his family there, in what seemed to be the jaws of death. He then returned back to Palestine to another family of his, his wife Sara and his son Ishaq (AS). Before leaving his wife and baby in this harsh **wilderness**, he raised his hands to the heavens and prayed:

رَبَّنَا إِنِّي أَسْكَنْتُ مِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي بِوَادٍ غَيْرِ ذِي زَرْعٍ عِنْدَ بَيْتِكَ
الْمُحَرَّمِ رَبَّنَا لِيُقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ فَاجْعَلْ أَفْعَدَةً مِنَ النَّاسِ تَهْوِي
إِلَيْهِمْ وَارْزُقْهُمْ مِنَ الثَّمَرَاتِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٣٧﴾

Our Lord, I have settled some of my descendants in an uncultivated valley near Your sacred House, our Lord, that they may establish prayer. So make hearts among the people incline toward them and provide for them from the fruits that they might be grateful.

رَبَّنَا وَأَبْعَثْ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْهُمْ يَتْلُوا عَلَيْهِمْ ءَايَاتِكَ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ
 الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿١٢٩﴾

Our Lord, and send among them a messenger from themselves who will recite to them Your verses and teach them the Book and wisdom and purify them. Indeed, You are the Exalted in Might, the Wise."

Du'a` of Ibrahim (AS) gets answered

Allah would answer the prayer of the Prophet Ibrahim (AS) approximately 4,000 years later, when he would send Muhammad ﷺ, an Arab among his own people, as a final prophet for the entire mankind. Hajar, too was a woman of impenetrable faith, and although she was in the middle of a desert, when she realised that Ibrahim (AS) was acting on Allah's command, she said confidently 'إِذَا لَنْ يَضِيعَنَا اللَّهُ' 'In that case, Allah will never destroy us!'

Safa and Marwah

Allah surely acted beyond her expectation; after a while, she ran out of dates and water and began running between the two mountains of Safa and Marwah. Now, there were many mountains in Makkah, but Allah chose these two mountains to be holy just as he chose this very action of Hajar to be a ritual for Hajj until the day of judgement!

Allah loved the action of Hajar, later to be called Sa'ee, for even though she was facing sure death, she still done everything in her power to save herself and her son, and this is the true essence of reliance in Allah.

Zamzam

Through her action the miraculous water, [Zamzam](#), came about, at the heels of Isma'il (AS). Some traditions state that it was in reality the invisible wing of Jibra'il that caused the holy water to spring forth from his feet. Whatever the case was, Hajar wasted no time in trying to confine the water. Later, the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ would say that had she let it flow, it would have flowed across the world!



DID YOU KNOW?

Zamzam is an ancient Egyptian word that means Stop! Stop! Hajar said these words addressing the water, because she did not want the water to flow away from her.

A community starts in Makkah

Water is the source of life; especially in the desert, if water is found, it is seen as a lifesaver. The Zamzam fountain did not go unnoticed; birds from above very soon began to encircle it and hover above it. From afar, Arab nomads, travellers coming from the south, Yemen, spotted the birds hovering; they knew they had found water! These travellers were from a tribe known as Jurhum, and had started a journey in search for a new home, ever since a great dam they had built in Yemen burst. If they had truly found water, then they need not travel any further, as they had the most basic element to start a civilisation.

When they drew closer, they realised a woman and her baby had beaten them to the find. However, Hajar and Isma'il (AS) were welcoming and appreciated the company, yet they made it clear that the water would always remain in their ownership. An agreement was made; and a community formed. Isma'il (AS) grew

up among the tribe of Jurhum and even married into it, and before long Isma'il's offspring flourished in a place, not long before, was a certain death trap.

The Ka'bah

Any prophet's main job is to establish God's worship on Earth.

Ibrahim and Isma'il were no different.

Ibrahim (AS) would occasionally visit Isma'il and Hajar in the newly formed community of Makkah. On one of these occasions he built the holiest mosque in Islam, the Ka'bah. The

Ka'bah was a cube shaped structure; each of its four corners would point to one of the four directions, north, south, east and west, as if to call the whole world to it.

Ibrahim (AS) and Isma'eel (AS) built this together, under the command of Allah, making the following du'a`:

رَبَّنَا تَقَبَّلْ مِنَّا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ
"Our Lord! Accept (this service) from us. Surely.
You are the All-Hearer, the All-Knower."



Thinking time...

1. Where did the prophet Ibrahim (AS) leave his family behind?
2. Who did he leave behind?
3. Where did he go to?
4. What is Safa and Marwa?
5. What does Sa'ee mean?
6. What does Zamzam mean?
7. Which tribe came and found the Zamzam water? Which country were they from?

The history of the building the Ka'ba





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