



## *A Slave Girl*

*H*undreds of years ago people would kidnap boys and girls, men and women and sell them in markets as though they were things with no souls or feelings. The people who were sold were called slaves and those who bought these unfortunate beings were called their masters.

The slaves were used as servants and did all kinds of hard labour. Many of these slaves were treated with cruelty. They were made to work very hard day and night. These slaves had no rights. If the master was not pleased they were tortured or whipped mercilessly. Sometimes the slaves would run away from these masters and if they were caught they were punished even more severely.

# *A Strange Dream*

*A*t dawn, two months after Abdullah's departure, with her face beaming with joy Aminah called out. "Barakah, O Barakah, I had a strange dream!"

Barakah asked, "Is it something good, my lady?"

Aminah continued, "I saw lights shooting from my abdomen and lighting up the mountains, the hills and the valleys around Makkah!"

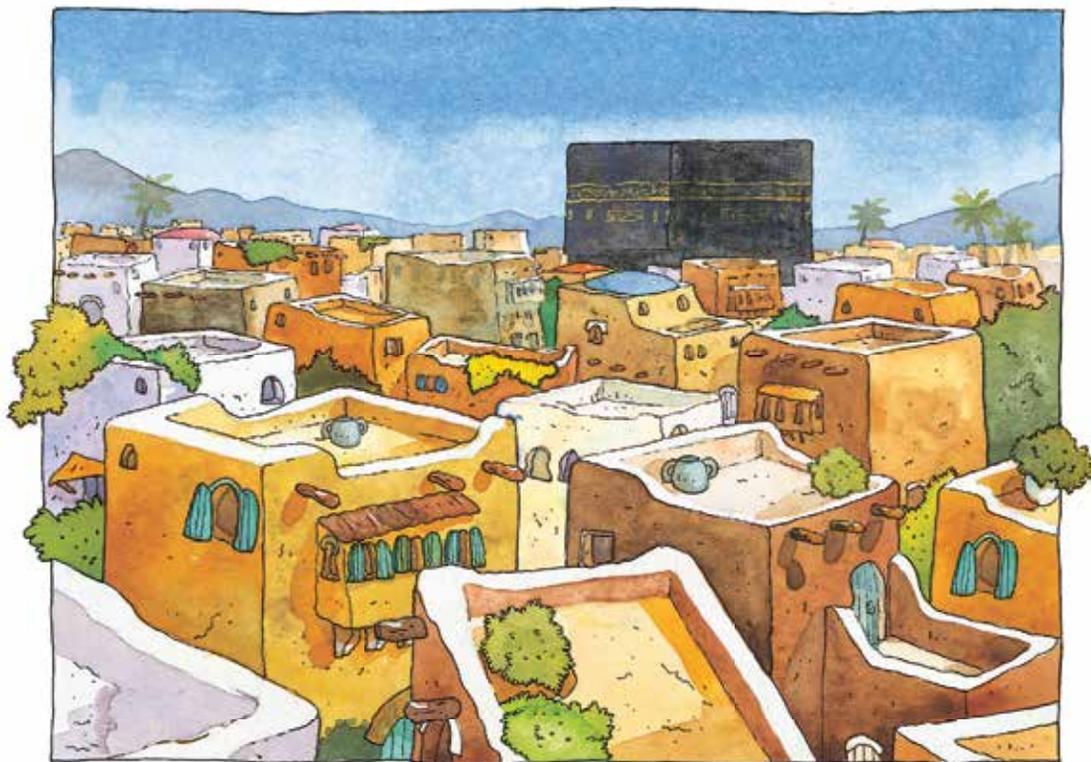


# The Birth of the Prophet

As there was no one else in the household, it was Barakah who nursed Aminah day and night until the birth of the baby. According to Barakah that night “the heavens lightened with a brilliant light of the Lord.”

When the baby was born, Barakah was the first person to hold him in her arms.

Abdul Muttalib was thrilled with the birth of his grandchild. He took the baby and carried him straight to the Kabah. He named the baby



# Among the First Muslims

Fifteen years after his marriage, Allah chose Muhammad ﷺ as His last Messenger. Umm Aiman was one of the first people to take the 'shahada' along with Khadija, Ali ibn Talib, Abu Bakr and Zaid.

In the early years, the new Muslims used to secretly hold meetings in the House of Arqam. Umm Aiman and Zaid often risked their lives to gather information about the plots and conspiracies of the Makkans against the Prophet and the new Muslims. Once the Prophet started teaching Islam openly, the Muslims