Lesson 18

Level 3

Surah al-Masad: Ayahs 1-3



In this lesson, I will:

Reflect on how our hands can be used for good or bad actions

Recognise that being rich or powerful does not guarantee happiness

Explain why Allah cursed Abu Lahab

Key Words

يَدُّ - Hand

مَالً - Wealth

نَارُّ - Fire

TI TI

Thinking Starter

Do you think all rich people are happy?



IT'S STORY TIME!

The Horrible Uncle

For the first three years after the beginning of revelation, the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم would teach people about Islam in secret. Allah سبحانه وتعالى then told the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم to start preaching Islam openly, in public.

So, one day, the Prophet صلى stood on Mount Safa in Makkah, and asked everyone to come forward to listen to a very special and important announcement. Everyone came and gathered in anticipation of what the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم was about to say. He said to them:

"O people of Quraysh! If I told you an army is coming towards us from the other side of this hill in order to attack us, would you believe me?"

Someone in the crowd said: "Yes for sure we would believe you because we've never ever heard you tell a lie!"

Then the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said: "So now I'm warning you about a big punishment." (If you don't worship Allah Alone, you will be punished in the hereafter).

A very rude uncle of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم named Abu Lahab became very angry, and said:

"You gathered us here for this?! May you perish!"



Present Day Mount Safa



How does this story make you feel?



Think of how much pain the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم experienced in order to deliver the message of Islam to us!



R Let's Read Together



1. May the hands of Abu Lahab perish, and may He perish!

Abu Lahab cursed the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم so Allah cursed Abu Lahab. In this ayah, Allah is making duʻa against Abu Lahab that he is destroyed. Abu Lahab became very ill and got a deadly disease. He died slowly and this was his punishment in this world.

2. Neither his wealth nor his gains* will benefit him.

مَا أَغْنَى عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ

*his children/fame/money

Abu Lahab was a very popular and rich man. He believed his money would save him from punishment. But Allah is telling him that he is wrong to believe this. Only being a Muslim and doing good will save you from the punishment of Allah.

3. He will soon be roasting in a flaming fire.

This is the punishment Abu Lahab will get in the hereafter: He will roast in a burning fire.

May the hands of Abu Lahab perish!

In the first ayah of this Surah, Allah سبحانه وتعالى refers to the **hands** of Abu Lahab.

Our hands can be used for good actions that Allah سبحانه وتعالى likes, or for bad actions that Allah dislikes.





Task 1

Draw pictures and write a small description of some good actions that you can do with your hands.







Pick up rubbish







We learn from this Surah that being rich or powerful doesn't guarantee happiness, and it doesn't protect you from Allah's punishment.

I Act On What I Learn

I will always use my hand to do good.



Task 2

Circle the sentences which are false:

Abu Lahab was the uncle of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

Having wealth (مَالُ) will guarantee you success.

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم wanted the best for everyone.

If you are rude to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, you will enter the Hell-fire.

Being famous is the most important thing.



Can you correct the statements above that are incorrect?

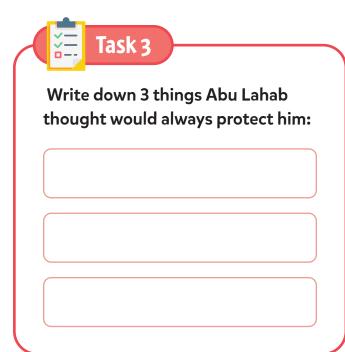
Abu Lahab: Fact File

Abu Lahab was the 4th richest man in Makkah.

Abu Lahab used to tell people to reject the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

Abu Lahab's brother was Hamzah رضي الله عنه, the uncle of the Prophet.

The meaning of 'Abu Lahab' is 'the father of flame'.





Progress Check



1. How can you use your hands for good actions?



2. Can your wealth save you from Allah's punishment?



3. Why did Allah curse Abu Lahab?

