



By Abu al-Hasan Ali ibn Abd al-Hayy al-Nadwi

(1914–1999 C.E., 1333–1420 A.H.) May Allah have mercy on him.

Stories of the Prophets – Part Five is a book about the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. It begins with the world before Islam and tells the story of his birth, childhood, Prophethood, the call to Islam, the Hijrah, the major events in Madinah and his final years. It also teaches us about his kindness, patience and good manners. These lessons help children understand his life, worship Allah alone and follow the Sunnah. These lessons are taught upon The Qur'aan & Sunnah as Understood by the Salaf (Pious Predecessors) of this Ummah.

Source and References

These notes follow the uploaded Arabic edition of Qasas an-Nabiyyin, Part Five. PDF page numbers are given for each topic so teachers can find the original lesson. Qur'an references are included where they directly support the subject. The notes are summaries for revision and are not a word-for-word translation.

The Author and the Purpose of the Book

The author's introduction

Shaykh Abu al-Hasan Ali al-Nadwi wrote this volume to teach the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. It continues the earlier stories of the Prophets. The author wanted young readers to learn what happened, love the Prophet ﷺ and follow his guidance. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 4–7).

Part One: Before the Birth of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

The world before Islam

The author describes a time when many people had moved away from the true worship of Allah. Some people worshipped idols or other created things. The world needed guidance from Allah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 8–11).

Arabia before Islam

The people of Arabia had different customs and tribes. Some were known for courage, keeping promises and welcoming guests. Other customs included unfair fighting, pride in family names and wrong treatment of weaker people. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 11–15).



Why the final Prophet came to Arabia

Allah chose Prophet Muhammad ﷺ to call people to worship Him alone. Makkah was already known for the Kaabah which Prophet Ibrahim and Prophet Ismail had built for worshipping Allah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 13–15; Qur'an 3:96).

Prophet Ibrahim and the valley of Makkah

Ibrahim took Hajar and their little son Ismail to the valley of Makkah by Allah's command. There was very little water or food. Hajar trusted Allah and Allah provided water through Zamzam. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 16–18; Qur'an 14:37).

Building the Kaabah

Ibrahim and Ismail raised the walls of the Kaabah. They asked Allah to accept their work and to send a Messenger to their descendants who would teach them the Book and wisdom. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 17–19; Qur'an 2:127–129).

Makkah and the Quraysh

The descendants of Ismail settled in Makkah. Over time Quraysh became an important tribe there. The people respected the Kaabah and visitors came from other parts of Arabia. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 19–21).

How idol worship spread in Makkah

Some people brought idols into Makkah and taught others to worship them. Many people began asking idols for help instead of worshipping Allah alone. The Kaabah was surrounded by idols. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 21–22).

Abraha and the Year of the Elephant

Abraha tried to attack the Kaabah with an army that included elephants. Allah protected His Sacred House and destroyed that army. This event took place close to the year when Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was born. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 22–27; Qur'an 105:1–5).



Part Two: His Birth and Childhood

His family and birth

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was born in Makkah in the family of Banu Hashim from Quraysh. His father was Abdullah and his mother was Aminah. His father died before his birth. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 27–29).

His name and family line

His grandfather Abdul Muttalib named him Muhammad. The Prophet ﷺ came from the descendants of Ismail son of Ibrahim (peace be upon them). (Arabic book, PDF pp. 28–29).

Halimah and his early childhood

As was the custom of some Makkah families, Muhammad ﷺ stayed as a small child with Halimah al-Sadiyyah in the desert. She cared for him and the family saw blessings during his stay. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 29–32).

The death of his mother

His mother Aminah died while he was still young. His grandfather Abdul Muttalib then took care of him with love and kindness. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 31–33).

Living with Abu Talib

After his grandfather died, his uncle Abu Talib cared for him. The Prophet ﷺ grew up known for being trustworthy, gentle and honest. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 32–34; Qur'an 93:6–8).

Good character as a young man

The Prophet ﷺ stayed away from many wrong customs around him. People trusted his words and called him Al-Amin which means the trustworthy one. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 33–35).

His marriage to Khadijah

Khadijah was a respected businesswoman in Makkah. She knew of Muhammad's honesty and good manners. They married and built a loving family. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 34–36).

Placing the Black Stone

When Quraysh rebuilt the Kaabah the tribes argued about who would put the Black Stone back in its place. Muhammad ﷺ found a fair way for the tribes to carry it together before he placed it in position. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 36–39).



The agreement to help the wronged

Before becoming a Prophet he joined an agreement called Hilf al-Fudul. The people in this agreement wanted to help anyone treated unfairly and to return people's rights. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 39–41).

Part Three: Revelation and the Call in Makkah

The Prophet's love of quiet reflection

Muhammad ﷺ disliked idols and the wrong customs of his society. He would spend time alone in the Cave of Hira thinking about Allah and His creation. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 41–43).

The first revelation

Angel Jibril came to Muhammad ﷺ in the Cave of Hira. Allah revealed the first words of Surah Al-Alaq. These verses began his mission as the final Messenger. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 43–45; Qur'an 96:1–5).

Khadijah comforts him

When the Prophet ﷺ returned home after the first revelation, he was frightened. Khadijah comforted him and reminded him of his good character, kindness and care for others. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 45–47).

Waraqah ibn Nawfal

Khadijah took the Prophet ﷺ to Waraqah ibn Nawfal who knew about earlier scriptures. Waraqah recognized that the message came from the same angel sent to earlier Prophets. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 47–49).

The first Muslims

Khadijah believed in him. Ali ibn Abi Talib, Zayd ibn Harithah and Abu Bakr al-Siddiq were among the earliest people to accept Islam. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 49–51).

Abu Bakr invites others to Islam

Abu Bakr spoke to people he knew about Islam. Several respected men accepted Islam through his invitation. The number of Muslims grew little by little. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 50–52).



Teaching Islam quietly

At first the Prophet ﷺ called people to Islam quietly. The early Muslims learned the Qur'an and worshipped Allah while facing pressure from their own families and tribes. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 51–53).

Calling people openly

Allah commanded the Prophet ﷺ to warn his family and the people. He stood at Mount Safa and called Quraysh to worship Allah and prepare for the Last Day. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 52–55; Qur'an 26:214; 15:94).

Quraysh opposes the message

Many leaders of Quraysh disliked the call to Tawheed because it went against their idols and customs. They insulted the Prophet ﷺ and tried to stop people from listening to him. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 54–59).

Abu Talib protects his nephew

The leaders of Quraysh asked Abu Talib to stop the Prophet ﷺ. Abu Talib continued protecting his nephew even though he did not accept Islam. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 55–59).

The Prophet does not give up

The Prophet ﷺ kept calling people to Allah despite threats and offers meant to make him stop. He did not exchange Allah's message for wealth or power. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 57–60).

The first Muslims face harm

Some Muslims were beaten, mocked or kept away from their homes because they believed in Allah. The Prophet ﷺ taught them patience and trust in Allah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 59–65).

Bilal and the Muslims who suffered

Bilal ibn Rabah was treated cruelly for worshipping Allah alone. He stayed firm in Tawheed. Abu Bakr helped free him from slavery. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 59–66).

Abu Bakr stands by the Prophet

Abu Bakr spoke up for the Prophet ﷺ when people hurt and threatened him. He used his wealth and effort to help believers in need. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 64–66).



Learning about the Prophet's character

Even people who did not accept Islam knew that the Prophet ﷺ spoke truthfully and kept his promises. He taught mercy, fairness and good manners. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 66–69).

The first migration to Abyssinia

Some Muslims travelled to Abyssinia to escape persecution. Its ruler was known for fairness and gave them safety. The Muslims explained their faith and the teachings of Prophet Isa to him. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 69–76; Qur'an 19:16–36).

The ruler of Abyssinia listens

Jafar ibn Abi Talib spoke about how Islam changed their lives and read verses about Maryam and Isa. The ruler listened and refused to hand the Muslims over to their enemies. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 71–76).

Hamzah accepts Islam

Hamzah ibn Abdul Muttalib became Muslim after seeing the wrong done to the Prophet ﷺ. His acceptance gave strength to the early Muslim community. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 69–71).

Umar accepts Islam

Umar ibn al-Khattab accepted Islam and became a strong helper of the Muslims. His conversion gave the believers courage to practice their religion more openly. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 76–88).

The boycott of the Prophet's family

Quraysh placed a harsh boycott on Banu Hashim and those who protected the Prophet ﷺ. Families suffered hunger and hardship until the unfair agreement ended. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 88–93).

The Year of Sorrow

Khadijah and Abu Talib died during a difficult period. The Prophet ﷺ felt deep sadness because he had lost his loving wife and the uncle who protected him. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 92–96).

The journey to Taif

The Prophet ﷺ went to Taif to invite its people to Islam. They rejected him and treated him badly. He continued to ask Allah for help and did not seek revenge. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 95–99).



The Night Journey

Allah took the Prophet ﷺ by night from Al-Masjid al-Haram to Al-Masjid al-Aqsa. The journey was a great sign from Allah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 99–101; Qur'an 17:1).

The five daily prayers

During the blessed journey Allah gave the Muslim community the five daily prayers. Salah became a daily act of worship that connects Muslims to Allah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 98–101).

The Prophet speaks to visitors at Hajj

The Prophet ﷺ invited people visiting Makkah to Islam. Some people from Yathrib listened and accepted the message. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 101–106).

The pledges at Aqabah

Muslims from Yathrib promised to worship Allah alone and support the Prophet ﷺ. These promises helped prepare a safe home for the Muslim community. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 102–107).

Part Four: Hijrah and the New Community in Madinah

Permission to leave Makkah

The Muslims began leaving Makkah for Yathrib. Many left their homes and belongings so they could worship Allah in safety. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 106–110).

The plan against the Prophet

Leaders of Quraysh planned to stop the Prophet ﷺ from leaving. Allah protected His Messenger. Ali remained behind briefly while the Prophet ﷺ left with Abu Bakr. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 109–114; Qur'an 8:30).

In the Cave of Thawr

The Prophet ﷺ and Abu Bakr hid in a cave during the journey. Abu Bakr was worried for the Prophet ﷺ but Allah protected them. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 112–117; Qur'an 9:40).

The journey to Madinah

After leaving the cave they travelled toward Madinah with a guide. The journey was difficult but Allah helped them reach their destination. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 116–119).



Arrival in Quba

The Prophet ﷺ stayed at Quba near Madinah. The Muslims welcomed him with happiness and he helped establish a mosque there. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 118–121).

The people welcome the Prophet

The Muslims in Madinah welcomed the Prophet ﷺ and those who had migrated from Makkah. The helpers of Madinah were called Ansar and the migrants were called Muhajirun. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 119–123).

Building the Prophet's Mosque

The Prophet ﷺ built a mosque in Madinah. It became a place for Salah, learning, helping people and meeting as one Muslim community. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 122–125).

Brotherhood between Muslims

The Prophet ﷺ joined the Muhajirun and Ansar in brotherhood. The Ansar shared what they had and helped their new brothers settle in Madinah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 125–128; Qur'an 59:9).

The agreement in Madinah

The Prophet ﷺ made agreements about rights, duties and safety among the people living in Madinah. These agreements helped the community live with order and responsibility. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 126–129).

The call to prayer

The Adhan called Muslims together for the daily prayers. Bilal became one of the first callers to prayer in Madinah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 126–128).

The direction of Salah changes

Allah commanded the Muslims to face the Kaabah when praying. The direction of Salah changed from Jerusalem to Makkah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 129–132; Qur'an 2:142–150).

Fasting Ramadan and giving Zakah

The Muslims learned important duties including fasting Ramadan and giving Zakah. These acts of worship help Muslims obey Allah and care for people in need. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 132–135; Qur'an 2:183; 9:60).



Part Five: The Major Battles and Tests

The Battle of Badr begins

The Muslims faced an army from Quraysh at Badr. The Muslim army was smaller and had fewer supplies. The Prophet ﷺ prayed to Allah for help. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 135–145; Qur'an 3:123–127; 8:9–12).

Help from Allah at Badr

Allah gave the Muslims victory at Badr. The believers learned to trust Allah while also making effort and following the Prophet ﷺ. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 143–151; Qur'an 8:17).

How prisoners were treated

The Prophet ﷺ gave instructions about the prisoners after Badr. The Muslims were taught to act with care and justice rather than cruelty. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 151–153).

The Battle of Uhud

Quraysh returned with an army. The Muslims went to Uhud and the Prophet ﷺ gave careful instructions to the archers. Some archers left their posts too early and the battle became very difficult. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 154–162; Qur'an 3:121–152).

The Prophet is hurt at Uhud

The Prophet ﷺ was injured and many Muslims were killed. The believers learned that following instructions and staying patient are very important. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 160–171; Qur'an 3:152–155).

Courage and sacrifice at Uhud

The companions protected the Prophet ﷺ during danger. Many showed bravery and some gave their lives while defending the Muslim community. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 163–176).

Lessons after Uhud

The Muslims faced sadness and hardship after the battle. The Prophet ﷺ taught them to trust Allah, stay united and continue doing what is right. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 170–181; Qur'an 3:159–160).

Other threats to Madinah

The Muslims faced danger from some groups around Madinah. The Prophet ﷺ worked to protect the people and respond to broken agreements. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 180–185).



The Battle of the Trench

Many enemies came together to attack Madinah. The Muslims dug a trench to help protect the city. They faced hunger and fear but Allah protected them. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 185–202; Qur'an 33:9–27).

Working together during the Trench

The Prophet ﷺ worked alongside his companions. They shared the hard work of digging and showed patience while waiting for Allah's help. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 187–198).

What happened after the Trench

The attacking army left without taking Madinah. There were serious problems with people who broke agreements during the siege and the Prophet ﷺ dealt with those events. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 199–211; Qur'an 33:25–27).

Part Six: Peace, Messages and More Victories

The journey toward Makkah

The Prophet ﷺ and his companions travelled intending to perform Umrah. Quraysh would not allow them to enter Makkah that year. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 212–216).

The Pledge of Ridwan

Some companions promised to remain loyal to the Prophet ﷺ at a difficult time near Hdaybiyyah. Allah praised the believers who gave that pledge. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 214–217; Qur'an 48:18).

The Treaty of Hdaybiyyah

The Prophet ﷺ agreed to a peace treaty with Quraysh. Some terms seemed difficult to the Muslims but the agreement later helped Islam spread. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 216–226; Qur'an 48:1).

Muslims return from Hdaybiyyah

The believers returned without performing Umrah that year. They learned to accept the Prophet's decision and to trust Allah's wisdom. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 222–227).

Letters inviting rulers to Islam

The Prophet ﷺ sent letters to several rulers inviting them to worship Allah alone. Different rulers answered in different ways. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 228–233).



The campaign of Khaybar

The Muslims travelled to Khaybar where there were strong forts. The book describes the fighting there and the Muslims' victory. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 234–246).

Umrah after the treaty

The Prophet ﷺ and his companions later entered Makkah and completed the Umrah they had been unable to make at Hudaibiyyah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 246–249).

The Battle of Muth

A Muslim army faced a much larger force at Muth. The leaders Zayd ibn Harithah, Jafar ibn Abi Talib and Abdullah ibn Rawahah were killed. Khalid ibn al-Walid helped lead the army afterward. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 250–257).

The road to the opening of Makkah

When the peace agreement was broken the Prophet ﷺ prepared to go to Makkah. He wanted to stop further harm and return people to the worship of Allah alone. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 258–265).

Entering Makkah

The Prophet ﷺ entered Makkah with a large Muslim force. Most people did not fight. Many people were afraid but the Prophet ﷺ showed mercy and told them they could be safe. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 264–274).

The Kaabah is cleared of idols

The Prophet ﷺ removed the idols from around the Kaabah. He taught people that Allah alone deserves worship and that false worship has no place in His Sacred House. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 268–275; Qur'an 17:81).

The Prophet forgives his enemies

Many people who had harmed the Muslims were forgiven. The Prophet ﷺ showed that strength should be joined with justice and mercy. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 270–281).

Equality and the end of unfair pride

The Prophet ﷺ taught that people must not be proud because of tribe, wealth or family. Allah judges people by faith and their actions. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 276–281; Qur'an 49:13).



The Battle of Hunayn

After the opening of Makkah, the Muslims fought at Hunayn. At first some Muslims fell back but Allah helped them stand firm and gave them victory. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 283–288; Qur'an 9:25–26).

The siege of Taif

After Hunayn the Muslims went toward Taif. There was difficult fighting and the Prophet ﷺ later returned. The people of Taif eventually accepted Islam. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 289–299).

The expedition to Tabuk

The Prophet ﷺ called the Muslims to prepare for a long journey in difficult heat. Some gave what they could and others made excuses. The Muslims learned the value of sacrifice and truthfulness. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 300–309; Qur'an 9:38–42).

Part Seven: The Final Years

Delegations come to Madinah

More tribes and visitors came to Madinah to learn about Islam and meet the Prophet ﷺ. Many groups accepted Islam as the message spread across Arabia. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 310–313; Qur'an 110:1–3).

Teaching the duties of Islam

The Prophet ﷺ taught new Muslims to pray, give Zakah, fast and obey Allah. He sent teachers to help people understand the Qur'an and Sunnah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 311–314).

The Farewell Hajj

The Prophet ﷺ performed Hajj near the end of his life. He taught the Muslims how to perform the pilgrimage and reminded them to obey Allah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 314–319).

The Farewell Sermon

During Hajj the Prophet ﷺ taught that people's lives, property and honour are sacred. He spoke about fair treatment, family rights and holding firmly to Allah's guidance. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 317–321).

The completion of the religion

Allah revealed that He had completed the religion of Islam. The Prophet ﷺ had taught the message Allah gave him. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 318–323; Qur'an 5:3).



The Prophet's final illness

Near the end of his life the Prophet ﷺ became very ill. He continued caring about Salah and the Muslims even while he was weak. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 322–330).

Abu Bakr leads the prayers

During the illness the Prophet ﷺ instructed Abu Bakr to lead the Muslims in Salah. This showed the importance of keeping the prayer even in difficult times. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 329–335).

The Prophet's passing

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ died in Madinah. The companions were deeply saddened. Abu Bakr reminded them that Allah is Ever-Living and that Muslims must worship Allah alone. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 337–345; Qur'an 3:144).

Love and sorrow among the companions

The companions loved the Prophet ﷺ deeply. They wept and helped one another after his death. Islam continued through the Qur'an and Sunnah he had taught them. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 338–348).

His last advice and concern for Salah

The book describes the Prophet's care for his community and his repeated concern for prayer. He wanted Muslims to treat others properly and remain faithful to Allah. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 326–350).

Part Eight: The Prophet's Character and Manners

His honesty and trustworthiness

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ spoke truthfully and kept the trusts placed with him. People knew him for honesty before and after he became a Prophet. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 33–41; 340–353).

His mercy toward others

He showed mercy to children, the poor and people who were weak. He helped those in need and taught Muslims not to be cruel. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 343–353).

His simple way of living

He did not live with pride or act like a king. He lived simply and cared about worship, family and helping people. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 340–352).



His patience and forgiveness

The Prophet ﷺ stayed patient through rejection, hunger and loss. He forgave people when he could and taught kindness without accepting wrong actions. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 340–353).

His manners at home

He treated his family with kindness and spoke gently. His example teaches Muslims to use good words, be fair and help one another. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 339–353).

His love for Salah and the Qur'an

Prayer and Allah's Book were central to the Prophet's life. He taught Muslims to worship Allah alone and follow the guidance revealed to him. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 330–353).

His care for the whole community

He gave advice to the rich and poor, the strong and weak and the young and old. He taught people to be fair, trustworthy and helpful. (Arabic book, PDF pp. 330–353).