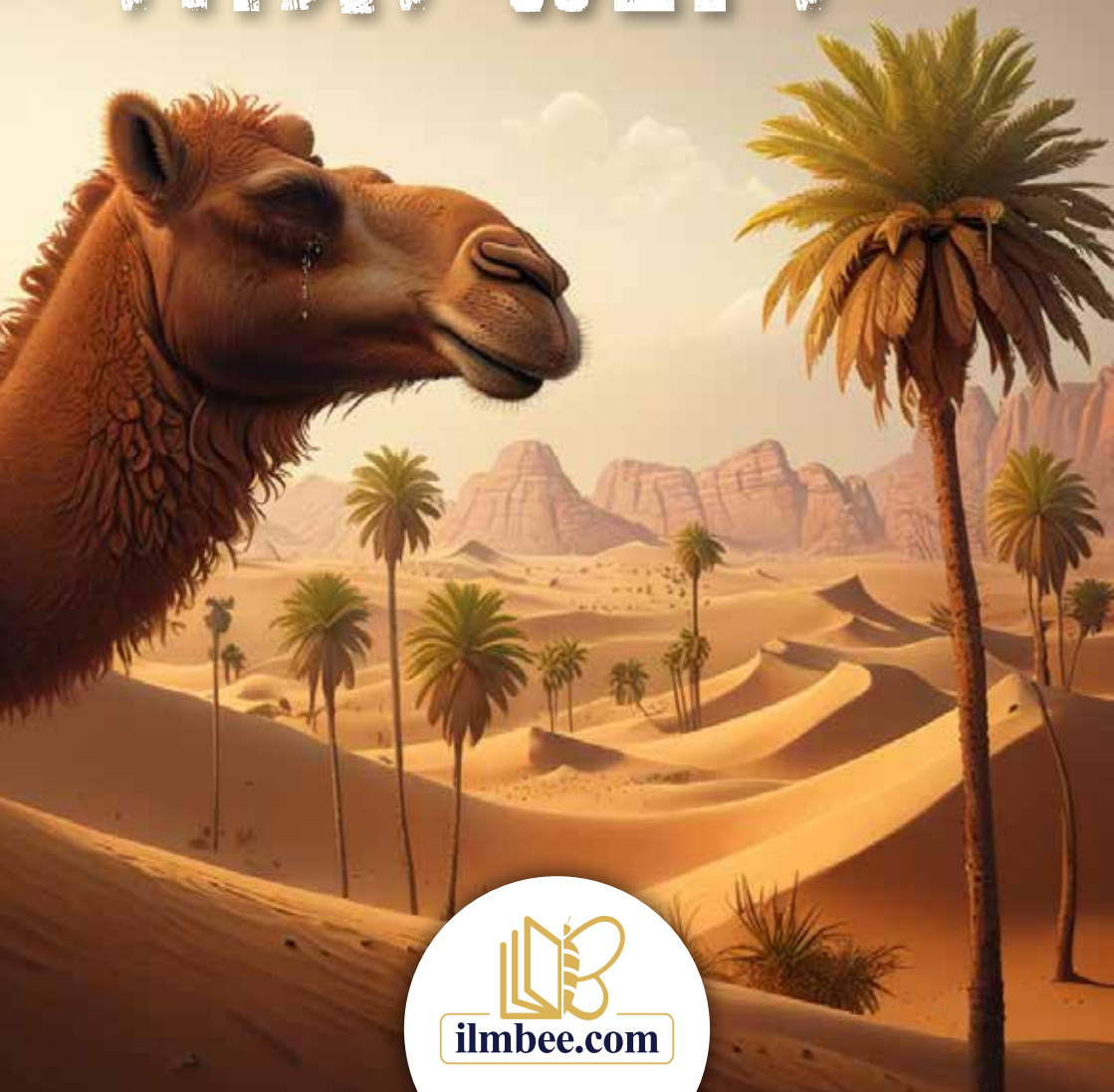


THE CAMEL THAT WEPT



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A HIVE OF ISLAMIC KNOWLEDGE

Note: The content of this book is based on the Qur'an, Hadith, and Islamic texts that have been written, verified, and approved by three scholars.



The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ
liked to relieve himself
behind a mound or a group
of trees so that he could
conceal himself properly.



One day in Madinah, he entered the garden of a man from the Ansaar, seeking a good place to relieve himself.



The Ansaar are the helpers—
those Muslims in Madinah
who welcomed the Prophet
Muhammad ﷺ and the
Muslims of Makkah when they
migrated to Madinah.



While looking for a good spot
to relieve himself, a camel
saw the Prophet ﷺ and
immediately started to weep.
Its tender weeping produced
yearning sounds, and its eyes
overflowed with tears.



The Prophet ﷺ walked up to it and wiped the temple of its head tenderly to comfort it until it stopped crying.



With anger, the Prophet ﷺ demanded to know the owner of the camel, so a young man from the Ansaar came forward and said: "This is mine, O Messenger of Allah."



The Prophet ﷺ scolded him, saying: "Don't you fear Allah about the beast that Allah has given in your possession? It has complained to me that you keep it hungry and load it heavily, which makes it tired."

[Abu Dawud:2549]



Compassion for animals is an important duty of every Muslim, especially when they are in our care. Treating them well can make Allah happy with us, and treating them harshly can make Allah angry with us.



In the case of camels, they are the most important animals in Islamic culture. Not only has Allah made them a means of transport and load-bearing for us, but He has also made them a source of food, clothing, and natural medicine through their meat, skin, milk, and urine.



Once, a group of eighty people from 'Ukl came to the Prophet ﷺ, but the climate of Al-Madinah did not suit them, so they fell sick.



They complained to the Prophet ﷺ, and he advised them to go out with the herdsmen and drink the milk and urine of the camels. They obeyed him and did as the Prophet ﷺ had instructed, so they were cured of their sicknesses. [An-Nasa'i:4024]



Camels are popularly known as the "Ship of the Desert" because they are the only means of transport found in deserts. Allah has created them in such a way that they can survive the hot and dry conditions of the desert.



You have probably heard that the humps of camels store water, but this is not true. They store fat, which is converted into energy and water when needed.



Camels are herbivores; they feed on plants. With the tough mouths Allah gave them, they can eat tough desert plants and even thorny plants without feeling discomfort.



Camels are the largest domestic animals, but despite their large size, they can run surprisingly fast. Allah made them so strong that they can carry heavy loads over long distances.



The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ had great affection for camels and tended them with kindness. He owned a number of camels, some of which included Al-Qaswaa', Al-'Adbaa', and Al-Jad'aa'.



In the Qur'an, Allah urges us to ponder over the creation of camels because of how amazing they are. One of these amazing traits is that they can live for about 40 to 50 years, thereby providing a longer benefit for us.



Despite the amazing benefits of camels, the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ has cautioned us to be mindful of certain things. One of them is to consciously mention the name of Allah before climbing onto their backs.



When you eat camel meat while you are in Wudoo (minor ablution), you must repeat Wudoo' for performing Salah. You must also remember not to offer Salaat in their pen, as this was prohibited by the Prophet ﷺ.

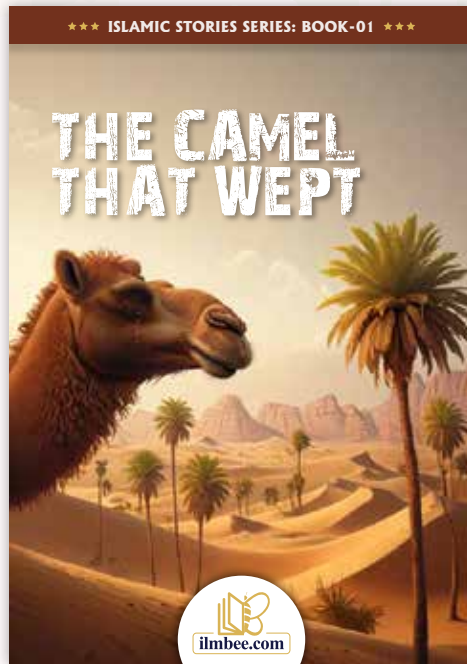


In the Holy Qur'an,
Almighty Allah invites us to
reflect on the remarkable
creation of camels as He
says: "Then do they not look
at the camels – how they are
created?" (The Qur'an: 88:17).

REVIEW YOUR READING

1. What did the camel do when it saw the Prophet ﷺ?
2. What did the camel's owner do wrong?
3. Which animal did Allah ask us to ponder upon in the Qur'an?





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