

2024 Junior Jeopardy

Study Guide for 2nd and 3rd Grade

TOPICS:

1. Stories From Quran
2. Arabic Vocabulary
3. Meccan Seerah
4. Muslim Countries and Capitals

1. Stories from Quran

Story of Prophet Yusuf (AS) (Surah Yusuf)

Prophet Yusuf (AS) was the son of Prophet Ya'qub (AS). Prophet Yusuf (AS) had 11 brothers. He was one of the youngest and possessed excellent character and manners. His father loved him dearly. Prophet Yusuf (AS) once dreamt that eleven stars and the sun and moon were prostrating to him. He related the dream to his father. Prophet Ya'qub (AS) realised that the dream outlined his son's destiny and greatness and cautioned him not to tell his brothers about the dream.

His brothers were jealous of the favour that he enjoyed in their father's eyes and planned to somehow get rid of him. Whenever they took their goats out for grazing they would ask their father if Yusuf (AS) could accompany them.

As soon as they were far enough from home, they began to plot about how to dispose of Prophet Yusuf (AS). Then, they came across a dry well. They removed Prophet Yusuf's (AS) shirt, and threw him into the well. They arrived home weeping and told their father that while they were grazing their sheep, a wolf came and ate their brother. He did not believe their story and could do nothing but remain patient and wait for Allah to reunite him with his beloved son.

Meanwhile a caravan of traders passing by the well stopped to draw some water. They were surprised to see Prophet Yusuf (AS) come up holding the bucket. They hid him with their merchandise and sold him to some slave traders for a few pieces of silver.

Thus, Prophet Yusuf (AS) arrived in Egypt. One of the leaders of Egypt and his wife, Zuleikha wanted to adopt Yusuf but then was falsely accused by Zuleikha and they decided to imprison Prophet Yusuf (AS), despite his innocence

People started to see that Prophet Yusuf (AS) was a noble and pious person and asked him if he could interpret their dreams. Prophet Yusuf (AS) took this opportunity to preach the religion of Allah to his

prison-mates. He promised to tell them the meaning of their dreams and informed them that this was a special power given to him by Allah. Before he did so, however, he explained to them how senseless it was to believe in various gods and explained to them about the Oneness of Allah and the Day of Resurrection.

Prophet Yusuf (AS) interpreted the dream by the power given to him by Allah. He said, "For seven years the crops will yield abundant food-grain for the people of Egypt. After that there will be a famine for seven years during which all the food-grain lying in the storehouses will be finished and people will starve. Therefore, the people should try to grow as much extra grain as possible so that it would stand them in good stead during the time of famine". On hearing this very reasonable and sensible interpretation of his dream from Yusuf, the king was delighted. He ordered that Prophet Yusuf (AS) be brought before him so he could make good use of his wisdom in solving his problems. Prophet Yusuf (AS) was released from the prison with his dignity and honour restored.

When his brothers arrived in Egypt, Prophet Yusuf (AS) was very pleased to see them. They did not recognize him at all, never expecting that he was alive. As a token of their gratitude to Allah at this reunion, his parents and 11 brothers prostrated themselves on the ground. Thus Allah made true the dream of Prophet Yusuf (AS), when he had seen eleven stars and the sun and the moon in prostration in front of him. After many trials, Allah raised him from the position of a slave to the highest rank in the land.

At the request of his son, Prophet Ya'qub (AS) settled in Egypt with his family for the next 17 years, and their clan came to be known as the Bani Israa'il. Prophet Ya'qub passed away at the age of 147 and Prophet Yusuf passed away at the age of 110.

Story of Maryam (Surah Maryam)

Maryam is venerated in [Islam](#). She is one of the most important and righteous women in Islam and the name Maryam literally means '*maidservant of Allah*'. She is mentioned in the [Quran](#) 34 times which is more than the New Testament. She is the only woman mentioned by name in the Quran. Many Muslim women look up to her as an example. According to the Quran, [Allah](#) (God) chose Mary above all women of all nations. The Quran states:

Behold! the angels said: "O Mary! Allah hath chosen thee and purified thee- chosen thee above the women of all nations.

—Quran, sura 3 (Al Imran), ayah 42.

Mary is mentioned in the Quran frequently. Her life narrative occurs in the earliest chapters. The 19th chapter is named after her. The chapter is called [Maryam](#)

Her father, Imran, and her mother, Hannah, are also mentioned in the Quran.

Maryam's guardian was Prophet Zakariyya (who was the husband of Maryam's maternal aunt) and was a very pious man and took good care of Maryam and raised her well. As Maryam became older, she devoted herself to the worship of Allah. Maryam fulfilled the promise of her mother and dedicated her life to the worship of Allah. She was modest, honorable, innocent, and dedicated to her task of worship.

The Quran states that Angel Jibril came to Maryam and told her she would be pregnant with a holy child despite any interaction with any man. And the pains of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a palm-tree: she cried (in her anguish): "Ah! would that I had died before this! Would that I had been a thing forgotten and out of sight!" But (a voice) cried to her from beneath the (palm-tree): "Grieve not! for thy Lord hath provided a rivulet beneath thee; "And shake towards thyself the trunk of the palm-tree: it will let fall fresh ripe dates upon thee.

When Mary showed the baby to her people, they said that this was truly an amazing thing that had happened. Although Maryam promised not to speak to any man the day he was born, she pointed to the child when confronted by other men at the temple. The newly born baby (Isa) replied to the people:

He said: "I am indeed a servant of Allah: He hath given me revelation and made me a prophet; "And He hath made me Blessed wheresoever I be and hath enjoined on me Prayer and Charity as long as I live; "(He) hath made me kind to my mother and not overbearing or miserable; "So Peace is on me the day I was born the day that I die and the Day that I shall be raised up to life (again)"! (Surah Maryam:30-33).

Even though Maryam is the mother of Isa and occupies a highest position among women, neither Maryam nor Isa have any divine attributes in them. The Holy Quran makes this clear.

The Elephant (Surah Al-Fil)

It is a story illustrating the fate of those who tried to attack the Ka'aba. The incident is supposed to have taken place just before the birth of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.S).

Before Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.S) was born, the governor of Abyssinia, Abraha Al-Ashram, had built a place of worship and asked all Arabs to worship there. This site was richly decorated with treasures from the collection of Bilquis, Queen of Saba.

But the Arabs refused to bow down. Their loyalty lay with the Ka'aba, built by Prophet Ibrahim (AS). Abraha was angered by this so much that he swore to destroy the Ka'aba. The Abyssinians had tame elephants that they used in wars. Abdul Muttalib Ibn Hashim, the Prophet's grand father, who was then, the leader of the Quraish prepared his people and evacuated many people from around the Ka'aba. As Abraha advanced towards the Ka'aba, he defeated the tribes, enslaving the people and seizing their property. Included in this were two hundred camels that belonged to Abdul Muttalib. Abraha gathered his army of men and elephants and marched towards Makkah. Abraha, arrogantly claimed that no one could defend the Ka'aba from him. The next morning, Abraha prepared himself, his troops and his elephant, Mahmoud, to enter Mecca. When Mahmoud was directed towards Makkah, Nufail Ibn Habib came near him and whispered in his ear: "Kneel down Mahmoud and go back home safe, you are in Allah's Sacred Town." He let go his ear and the elephant knelt down. Nufail Ibn Habib then went away and climbed up the mount till he was far and safe. The Abyssinians tried everything to make the elephant stand again but in vain. Allah the Almighty then sent birds from the seaside that resembled hawks. Each bird held three stones: one in its beak and one in its each leg. The birds dropped these stones on the Abyssinians killing them. Some Abyssinians fled while death pursued them every way they went. They tried to go back the way they had come and asked Nufail Ibn Habib to guide them back to Yemen. Allah the Almighty also sent a severe wind that added to the speed and strength of the

stones and caused the majority of the army to perish. This incident was revealed in the Sura Al Fil as a reminder to the Quraish of Allah's Favor bestowed on them through defeating the Abyssinians and defying them.

2. Arabic Vocabulary (2nd and 3rd Grades)

Square	مربع
Circle	دايرة
Elephant	فيل
Dog	كلب
Cow	بقرة
Ant	نمل
Fig	تين
Grapes	عنب
Palm	نخل
Sun	شمس
Moon	قمر
Star	نجم

Trees	شجر
Black	اسود
White	ابيض

3. Meccan Seerah

BACKGROUND HISTORY OF MAKKAH

- Long before the coming of Islam, Makkah was an important city in Arabia. • The city was established as Ibrahim (AS) settled his family in that place. He had also built the Ka'bah with his son Ismail (AS). Allah (SWT) asked Ibrahim (AS) to declare Hajj and so every year thousands of people came to perform Hajj in Makkah.
- During the time of Hajj, local people did good business and thus Makkah became a rich city.

THE YEAR OF THE ELEPHANT: 'Āmu l-Fīl (Arabic: الفيل عام)

- Yemen, located south of Makkah, at that time was ruled by Abraha. He didn't like the fact that Makkah became a rich city because large number of pilgrims came there every year for pilgrimage and did business. He wanted to attract the pilgrims to Yemen and make a profit from trade activities.
- He built a large church in Yemen hoping that pilgrims would come there every year, rather than going to Makkah.
- People did not go to Yemen since Ka'bah had a long history dating back to Ibrahim(AS). People respected Ibrahim (AS) and they believed the pilgrimage to Ka'bah was good for them.
- Abraha became furious and planned to attack Ka'abah and destroy it. • He prepared a huge army of elephants, and headed towards Ka'abah, but Allah (SWT) protected Ka'abah by sending a flock of birds that pelted pebbles over them and the entire army got disoriented and ultimately got destroyed. • This incident is mentioned in Quran in Surah al-fil. Later, that year (570 C.E.) was named Aml al-Fil or Year of Elephant.

EARLY LIFE OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (s)

- Prophet Muhammad (S) was born in the year of Aml al fil or the year of elephant.
- His father Abdullah had passed away few months before his birth, while on his way back from a trip to Syria.
- His mother's name was Aminah and Abdul-Muttalib was his grandfather. • Prophet Muhammad (s) belonged to the tribe of Quraish and the family of Banu Hashim.

CHILDHOOD

- In those days, people of Makkah sent their babies into the desert to be nursed by foster mothers from shepherd families, and so little Muhammad (s) spent the first years of his life in the care of Halimah Saadiyah of the tribe of Banu Sa'd.
- Muhammad (s) stayed with Halimah for four years and then came back to live with his mother.
- Prophet (S)'s mother Amina passed away when he was only 6 years old. Now he had lost both his parents.
- His grandfather Abdul Muttalib took him under his care but sadly, two years later, his grandfather also passed away, when Prophet Muhammad (s) was 8 years old. Now Prophet Muhammad (s) was under the care of his Uncle, Abu Talib, a respected leader of the Quraish. He took care of Prophet (s) like his own child and loved him very much.

LIFE BEFORE PROPHETHOOD

- Abu Talib, who was also a merchant, once took young Muhammad (s) on a business trip to Syria, with him.
- There they met a monk by the name of Bahirah, who was knowledgeable about religion and had read from ancient books that a prophet would come in Arabia. • Bahirah recognized at that time that one day Muhammad (S) will be that Prophet of Allah (SWT) and asked Abu Talib to take good care of him, because he is special.
- Muhammad (s) grew up to be a very kind, honest and a truthful young man. He was given the titles of SADIQ and AL AMIN for his honesty and trustworthiness. • When he was 25 years old, a business woman named Khadijah (RA), hired Muhammad (s) to trade her goods in Syria. She sent her servant, Maysarah along with the Prophet (s) on this business trip.
- Muhammad (s) did very well earning greater profits than ever before and

Maysarah also gave a shining report of our Prophet's superior and excellent character.

- Greatly impressed by Muhammad's (s) character and mannerism, Khadijah (RA) married him. She was 40 years old at that time and Prophet Muhammad (s) was 25 years old.
- They were blessed with six children, two boys and four girls. The boys died in infancy.
- Names of his children with Khadijah were: BOYS (Tahir and Qasim); GIRLS (Zaynab, Ruqayya, Umm'Kulthum and Fatima).
- Later in his life, Prophet (s) also had a son Ibrahim with his another wife, Maariyah Qibtiyya (R), but sadly Ibrahim also passed away at a very young age.

PROPHETHOOD

- Muhammad (s) used to spend a lot of time in Cave Of Hira, in a mountain named Jabal Nur near Makkah.
- Mount Jabal an Nur, is a few miles north-east of Makkah.
- Staying alone for days in that cave, he would ponder upon the truth of this life and spend his time in prayers.
- At the age of 40 years, while he was meditating in Cave Hira, during the last ten nights of Ramadan, Allah (SWT) sent Angel Jibril to Muhammad (s) to deliver the message of revelation and that he (Muhammad (s)), is a Prophet of Allah (SWT).
- The first five ayat (verses) of Surah al-'Alaq were revealed at that time. • Muhammad (S) returned home immediately shivering in fear and anxiety and was very disturbed, after this strange experience.
- After sharing the entire incident with Khadijah, she comforted him and took Muhammad (s) to her cousin Warqa bin Nawfil.
 - Warqa Bin Nawfil was a respected, knowledgeable person and based upon his knowledge, he reassured Muhammad (s) that it was Angel Jibril with divine revelation and that indeed Muhammad (S) was a prophet of Allah (SWT).

THE FIRST BELIEVERS

- The Prophet (s), after his first experience of revelation, came to accept his role as Allah's Messenger with Khadija's help.
- Along with Khadija (RA), the first believers in the message of Islam were Abu Bakar Siddiq (RA), Ali (RA), and Zaid Bin Harith (RA).
- At first Prophet Muhammad (s) taught khadija and a small group of friends how to pray, and they would pray together.
- Prophet (s) would preach Islam secretly and continued teaching it for three years.

PUBLIC CALL TO ISLAM

- Three years later, he was commanded to give the message of Islam openly and in public.
- The Quraysh were not happy with the message of Islam and tried to stop him several times from spreading the message.
- They treated Muhammad (s) very badly. Also his companions were not treated well and they were tortured.
- During the 5th year of his Prophethood, Muhammad (s) permitted his companions to migrate to Abyssinia, in East Africa.
- The ruler of Abyssinia at that time was a Christian named Najashi or Negus. He protected the new Muslims and allowed them to live in his country. • Later on he had also accepted Islam.

SOCIAL BOYCOTT OF THE MUSLIMS

- The situation of the Muslims changed with the conversion of two strong men - Hamza ibn Abd al-Muttalib and Umar ibn Al-Khattab.
- Hamza ibn Abd al-Muttalib was also an uncle of Prophet(s).
- The leaders of the Quraish felt really threatened because these men were strong and influential and their conversions had a good effect on the growing Muslim community.
- The tribes of Quraish decided to boycott the Muslims completely. • Muslims were forced to leave Makkah and they lived 3 very difficult years in a valley outside of Makkah, known as Shi'ib Abi Talib. They had to leave their houses and it was very difficult to sustain.
- Food supplies were always low and the few goods sent in by people who felt sorry for the Muslims were never enough.

THE YEAR OF SORROW

- After the boycott was over, Prophet Muhammad (s) lost two most important people in his life, the same year, few weeks apart.
- First his beloved uncle, his protector, Abu Talib passed away and few weeks later his beloved wife, Khadija (RA) passed away.
- It was a tough and very sad year for our beloved Prophet(s) and so it was called The Year Of Sorrow.

THE INCIDENT OF TA'IF

- Life became so difficult in Makkah due to continuous torture from the Makkans that after 10 years of spreading the message of Islam, Prophet Muhammad began thinking of leaving the city.
- He went to the nearby city of Ta'if accompanied with Zaid Bin Harith, to see if they can accept him and his message of Islam.
- The people of Ta'if didn't like what he has to say and chased him out of the city. He was treated in a worst manner by people throwing rocks at him and our beloved Prophet (s) was hurt badly.

THE NIGHT JOURNEY and THE ASCENSION: (Al Isra Wal Mairaj)

- After most traumatic experiences that the Prophet experienced in the year of the sorrow, Allah (S) gifted him with one of the greatest miracles of all time. • One night, Muhammad (s) was taken on a miraculous journey, by Angel Jibril. First they went from Makkah to Masjid-Al-Aqsa, located in a far away place called Jerusalem, on the BURRAAQ, a special horse like animal with a lightning speed.
- From Jerusalem, he went to seven heavens where he met all the previous Prophets.
- Allah (SWT) in this blessed journey, gave Muhammad (s) a gift of five daily Prayers (Salaah) and last two verses of Surah Al baqarah.

PLEDGE OF AQABAH

- During the last two years of Prophet (s)'s life in Makkah, a group of people from Yathrib (later to be called Medina) came to Makkah.
- Prophet (s) invited them to Islam and initially six of them accepted Islam and went back to Yathrib and invited others to Islam.
- The following year, 12 people came from Yathrib and met with Prophet(s) in a place called al-'Aqabah, near Makkah and made an agreement with him. This agreement is called THE FIRST PLEDGE OF AQABAH (a pledge is a promise or an agreement to do something).
- The pledge included oaths like to obey Allah (SWT), not to steal or do evil things.
- Also Prophet (s) sent, Musab Bin Umair (RA), from Makkah to Yathrib as a leader of the Muslims.
- The following year around 75 people (including 2 women), came from Yathrib to Makkah and took another oath, known as THE SECOND PLEDGE OF AQABAH. This pledge was more detailed than the first one.

- During these meetings, the people of Yathrib realized that the life of Prophet Muhammad (s) was getting very difficult and so they invited him to come and live with them in Yathrib, soon to be called Madina.
- These 75 people from Yathrib promised to protect Prophet Muhammad (S) from his enemies at all costs. This was also a main point of the second pledge.

EVIL PLANS OF THE MAKKANS

- When Makkans came to know about this pledge, they became furious and approached the people of Yathrib to cancel the pledge, which they refused to do so.
- Makkans realized that if Muhammad (s) migrated to Yathrib, more people will become Muslims and this will create problems for the Makkans.
- So the idol worshippers of Makkah plotted a plan to kill Muhammad (s). • Allah (SWT) had other plans for our beloved Prophet (s) and informed the Prophet through Jibril.
- Prophet (s) secretly moved out of his house at night when the attack was about to happen.
- Ali (RA), his cousin, took Prophet's place instead and thus Allah (SWT) saved Prophet Muhammad (s).

MIGRATION TO MADINAH

- Allah (SWT) commanded Muhammad (s) to leave Makkah for Yathrib. • The Prophet (s), therefore accompanied by his companion and friend Abu Bakr Siddiq (RA), left Makkah for Yathrib in the 13th year of his prophethood. • They stayed in the Cave of Thawr for three days, before eventually migrating to Madinah.
- The Prophet's (s) journey from Makkah to Madinah is called HIJRA. • This migration was the first real step towards the world wide spread of Islam.

4. Muslim Countries and Capitals

COUNTRY	CAPITAL
Nigeria	Abuja
Sierra Leone	Freetown

Morocco	Rabat
Algeria	Algiers
Tunisia	Tunis
Niger	Niamey
Libya	Tripoli
Egypt	Cairo
Sudan	Khartoum
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa
Somalia	Mogadishu
Tanzania	Dodoma
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh
Jordan	Amman
Indonesia	Jakarta
Tajikistan	Dushanbe
Turkey	Ankara
Azerbaijan	Baku
Yemen	Sana'a
Bangladesh	Dhaka