

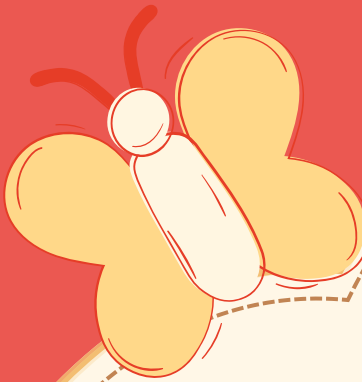


لِلْعَالَمِينَ



STORIES OF THE PROPHETS
INTRODUCTORY LEVEL

SOLOMON

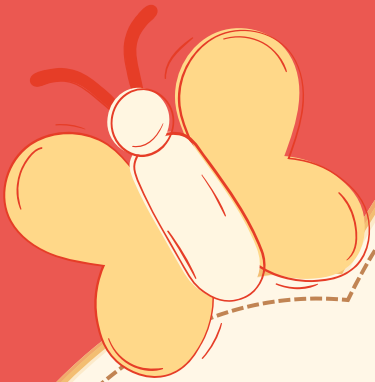
PEACE BE UPON HIM



Allah bestowed upon His Prophet David (peace be upon him) a son named Solomon, and Allah chose him among his siblings. He inherited knowledge, wisdom, kingship, and prophethood from his father.





Allah granted Solomon a vast kingdom; he could understand and communicate with birds and animals.

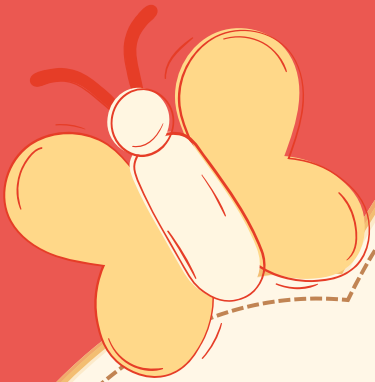


Allah also subjected animals, birds, and groups of humans and jinn to him.

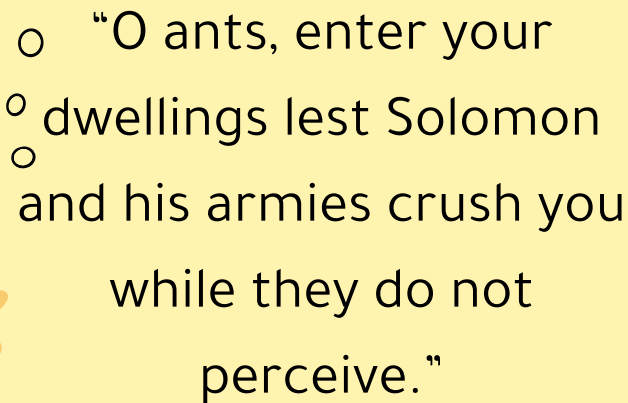
He was a king over them all,
commanding and forbidding them,
and punishing them if they disobeyed
his orders.



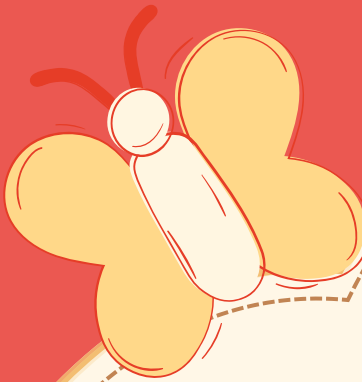
One day, Solomon (peace be upon him) led his armies of humans, birds, and jinn.





They were numerous, and as they approached a valley of ants, an ant warned her people, saying:




“O ants, enter your dwellings lest Solomon and his armies crush you while they do not perceive.”



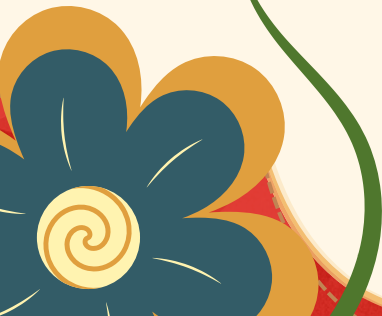
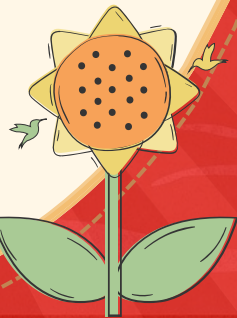
Solomon (peace be upon him) heard her, for he understood her language and that of all animals.

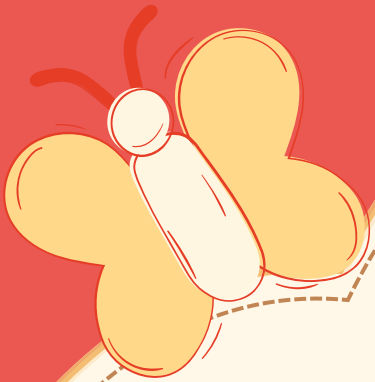


He smiled at her words and then prayed to Allah to inspire and help him to be grateful for the blessings Allah had given him and to use them in good deeds that please Allah.



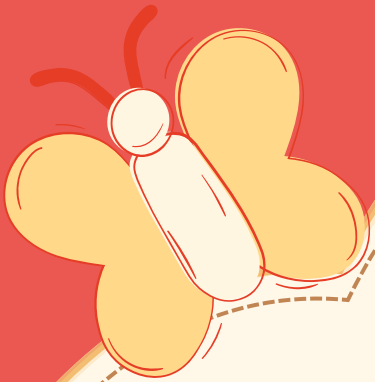
He also prayed to be gathered with the righteous on the Day of Judgment.







On another occasion, Solomon (peace be upon him) was inspecting the birds and checking their assignments.



He did not find the hoopoe and threatened to punish it severely if it did not have a valid reason for its absence.

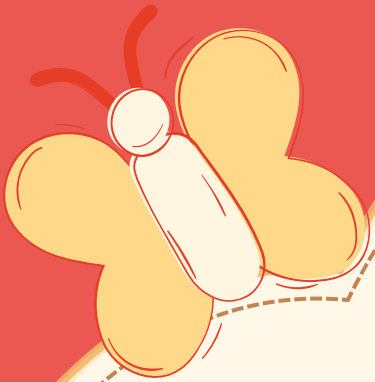


The hoopoe returned after a short while and said to Solomon (peace be upon him): “I have learned something you did not know.”



I come to you from Sheba with certain news. I found there a woman ruling over them, with a great throne. But Satan has led them astray from Allah; they worship the sun and prostrate to it.”

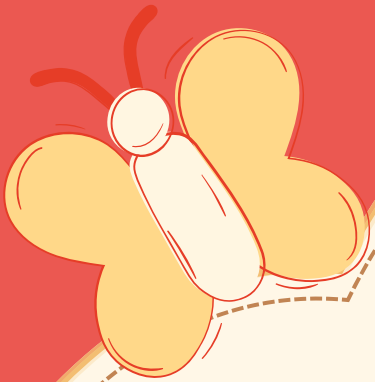




Solomon (peace be upon him) sent a letter with the hoopoe to this queen and her people, asking them to come to him and not to be arrogant.

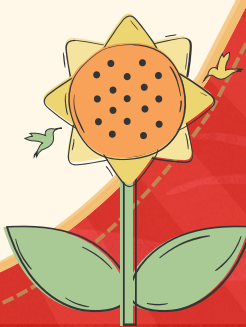







The hoopoe delivered the letter to the queen's chamber.

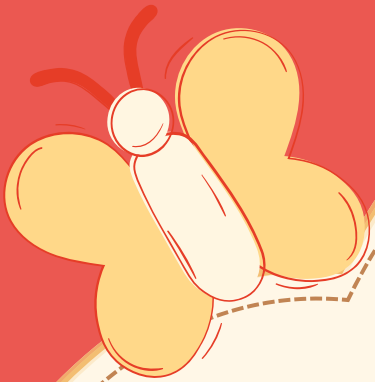
When she read it, she gathered her advisors and consulted them.



They told her they had strength,
wealth, and a powerful army, but the
decision was hers.

Being wise and intelligent, she told
them that kings, when they enter a
city, destroy it and humiliate
its people.

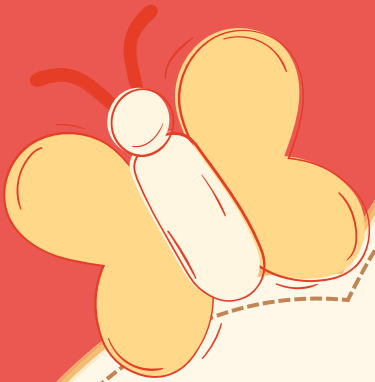




She decided to send a valuable gift to Solomon (peace be upon him) to see if he would be pleased with it.

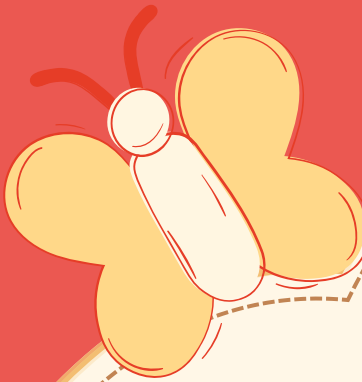
When her envoy arrived with the gift, Solomon became very angry!

He said: “Are you providing me with wealth? What Allah has given me in kingship, prophethood, knowledge, and wisdom is better than what He has given you in wealth.”



A yellow butterfly with white wings and a white body, positioned in the top left corner of the page.

But you rejoice in your gift because of
your love for the world and
its adornments.”

He then ordered the envoy to return
to his queen with her gift and inform
her that if they didn't come to him as
Muslims, he would come to them with
an army that they couldn't resist.
indeed they will be driven out of their
city in disgrace and humiliation.




Then Solomon (peace be upon him) said to the nobles and chiefs of his state, which can be translated as: "O chiefs! Which of you can bring me her throne before they come to me surrendering themselves in obedience?"



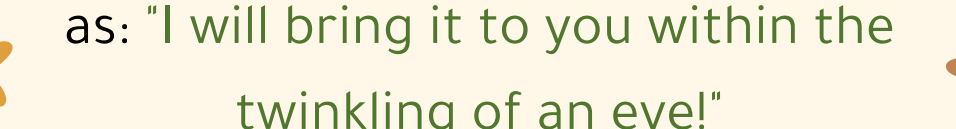
An Ifrit (strong) from the jinns said which can be translated as: "I will bring it to you before you rise from your

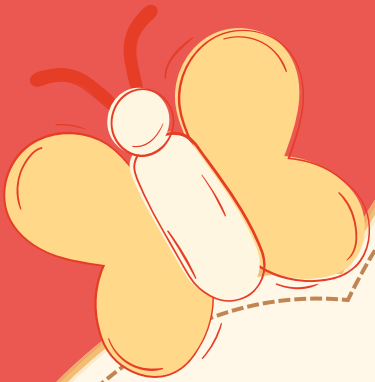






place (council). And verily, I am indeed strong, and trustworthy for such work."

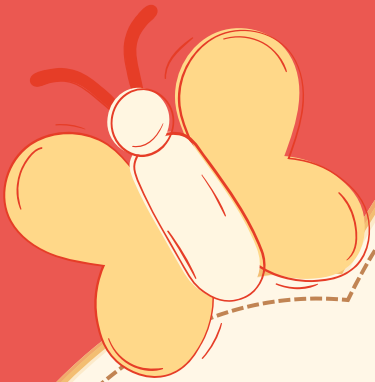
But One who had knowledge from the Scripture said which can be translated as: "I will bring it to you within the twinkling of an eye!"





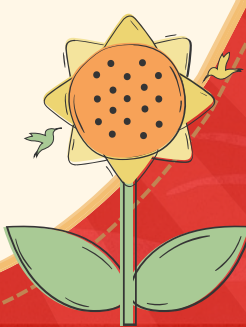



Then when [Sulaiman (Solomon)] saw it placed before him, he said which can be translated as: "This is by the Grace of my Lord to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And whoever is grateful, truly, his gratitude is for (the good of) his ownself, and whoever is ungrateful, (he is ungrateful only for the loss of his ownself). Certainly! My Lord is Rich (Free of all wants), Bountiful."

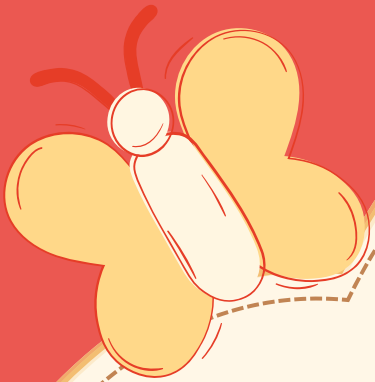




Solomon ordered the throne to be disguised so it would be difficult to recognize, to test the queen's wisdom.

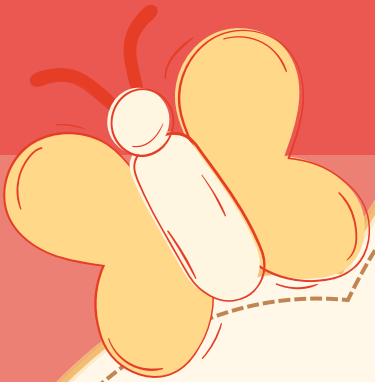
When the queen and her people arrived, she was asked, "Is your throne like this?" She looked at it, puzzled about how her throne could be here, given the great distance, and how it could be unrecognizable.





She said, "It seems to be the same,"
showing her intelligence
and prudence.

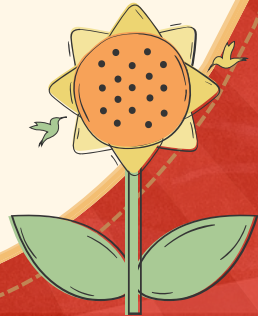
Solomon then sat in the hall of his
palace, which had a great pool of
water beneath it with many fish and
waves. The floor of the pool was
made of glass. With Solomon were
his soldiers from humans and jinn
surrounding him.

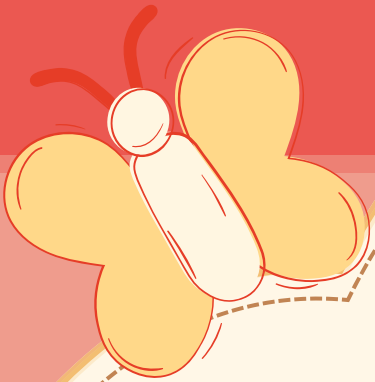


The queen was invited to enter the hall. Seeing the water, she thought it was a deep pool and lifted her skirt.

Solomon said, "It is a smooth palace of glass."

She was amazed and realized she had been wrong.





She declared, "My Lord, I have wronged myself, and I submit with Solomon to Allah, the Lord of the worlds."

Thus, she became a righteous Muslim.

Peace be upon Solomon, and may we be gathered with him in the gardens of Paradise with our Prophet (peace be upon him) and all the other prophets (peace be upon them).

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