

لِلْعَالَمِينَ



Quran Stories

The Generation of the Caliphate - Preliminary Level

# THE PEOPLE OF THE CAVE



In a certain era, there was a town where its inhabitants and king worshipped idols and statues, and they disbelieved in the one and only God.

This king was unjust; he prevented people from worshipping Allah and forced them to worship these idols.

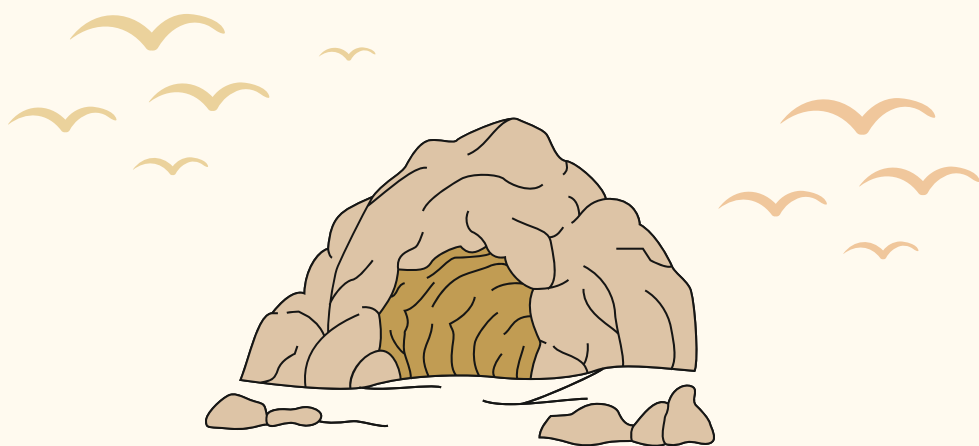
In this town, there were righteous young men who believed in Allah alone, without associating any partners with Him.





They followed what Allah had permitted and  
refrained from what He had forbidden.

They worshipped Allah alone and supported  
one another in obedience to Him,  
the Almighty.





**Allah said which can be translated as:**

{And We made their hearts firm and strong  
(with the light of Faith in Allah and bestowed  
upon them patience to bear the separation  
of their kith and kin and dwellings, etc.)  
when they stood up and said: "Our Lord is  
the Lord of the heavens and the earth, never  
shall we call upon any ilah (god) other than  
Him; if we did, we should indeed have  
uttered an enormity in disbelief.}

[Quran Translated Meaning, Surah Al-Kahf 18:14]



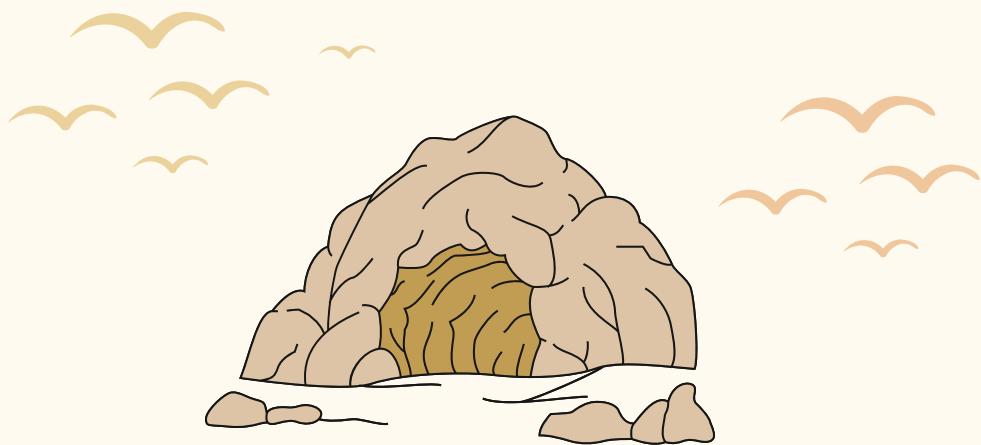


The king learned of them and summoned them. He ordered them to worship the idols as everyone else did, otherwise he would torture or kill them. They all stood before the king and his people with determination and strength saying to him with confidence and dignity: "We do not worship anyone other than Allah, the Almighty. If we were to do what you command, then we would be lying in a great falsehood.





We will never do that, and if you, O king, and your people are truthful in worshipping these idols that neither benefit nor harm, then provide us with proof of the truthfulness of your claim."





No one could argue them, and the king became furious and ordered to imprison them. Fearing for their faith and lives, they decided to flee to a cave a little far from their city, where they could hide and pray to Allah, the Almighty, to have mercy on them, save them from the king and his disbelieving people, and ease their escape to the cave.





**Allah said which can be translated as:**

{(Remember) when the young men fled for refuge (from their disbelieving folk) to the Cave, they said: "Our Lord! Bestow on us mercy from Yourself, and facilitate for us our affair in the right way!}

[ Quran Translated Meaning, Surah Al-Kahf 18:10]

When they reached the cave, they were exhausted and tired, so they all fell asleep, including the dog that was with them.





Allah, the Almighty, honored them and granted them a miracle.

He protected them from all sounds so that their ears did not hear any noises or movements, and He veiled their cave from the eyes of people so that no one saw them.

They slept for many years, over a hundred years.

Then, by Allah's command, they woke up after this long period, by the grace of Allah.





One of them asked the others, "How long  
have we slept?"

One of them replied, "It seems we have  
slept for a whole day. We came to this cave  
in the morning and woke up now  
in the evening."

Another said, "Allah knows best how long  
this period is." They all agreed with him.





**Allah said which can be translated as:**

{Likewise, We awakened them (from their long deep sleep) that they might question one another. A speaker from among them said: "How long have you stayed (here)?" They said: "We have stayed (perhaps) a day or part of a day. They said: "Your Lord (Alone) knows best how long you have stayed (here). So send one of you with this silver coin of yours to the town, and let him find out which is the good lawful food, and bring some of that to you. And let him be careful and let no man know of you.}

[Quran Translated Meaning, Surah Al-Kahf 18:19]





They felt hungry and thirsty, so they chose one among them to go to their city to bring them food and drink, carefully selecting permissible food to buy for them.

They gave him a silver coin that their people used as currency in that time, and they advised him to remain hidden from people so that no one from the disbelievers would recognize him, for they might kill them or force them to worship other than Allah, the Almighty.





The young man went to the town and noticed that the features of the village had changed and that the people were different. The money he possessed was no longer in use for hundreds of years.

The townspeople asked him about his story, and he told them what had happened. They were amazed by the situation of these youths and became certain of the power and wisdom of Allah, the Almighty.





The story of these youths remained a tale that strengthens and encourages everyone who refuses to submit to a tyrant or disbelievers.

The earth of Allah is vast, and He provides a way out for them. Remaining steadfast in the oneness of Allah and obedience to Him is the most important goal that believers aspire to.



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