

# SEERAH OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD(PBUH)

## LESSON:64 (IN ENGLISH)

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Assalamu 'alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



### SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD

(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON 64



TOPIC:



The Night Journey and Ascension.



THE NIGHT JOURNEY



AND ASCENSION



Perhaps two of the most significant and remarkable events in the Prophet's life were his "Israa" (Night Journey) and "Mi'raaj" (Ascension). "Israa" refers to how one night Allah took Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) from the Ka'bah to Bait Al-Maqdis (the "Sacred Mosque of Worship") in Jerusalem, and "Mi'raaj" refers to the Prophet's actual ascension to heaven from Jerusalem.



The Prophet's (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) "Israa" is mentioned in the Qur'an in the following ayah:



"Glory to Allah who took His slave on a journey by night from the Sacred Mosque to the Farthest Mosque whose precincts I did bless, in order that I might show him some of My signs. Verily, Allah hears and sees all

things."



(17: 1)



Some sources indicate that the "Mi'raaj" (Ascension) is also described in Surah An-Najm from the seventh to the eighteenth ayaah. There is a difference of opinion concerning when the "Israa" and "Mi'raaj" occurred.



Some sources place the event in the first year of prophethood, while others place it in the fifth year. Other sources indicate that it took place on Rajab 27, during the tenth year of prophethood, or Ramadan 17, during the twelfth year of prophethood, or in Muharram or Rabi' Al-Awwal in the thirteenth year of prophethood.



The story of the Prophet's (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) Night Journey and Ascension is both beautiful and instructive. It began when the angel Jibra'eel descended on the Ka'bah with a "Burraq" — an animal bigger than an ass and smaller than a donkey, that could travel to the farthest horizon with one stride. The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and Jibra'eel rode the Burraq to the Sacred Mosque of Worship in Jerusalem. Once there, the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) tethered the animal outside the mosque where former prophets had tied their mounts.



The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) entered the mosque to find assembled there all the previous prophets, whom he then led in prayer. Jibra'eel brought two vessels to the Prophet, one filled with wine, the other with milk. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) chose the second vessel. Jibra'eel commented on the Prophet's (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) choice:



□ "You chose milk in accordance with the purity of your nature. Hence you have received guidance and your followers have too. Had you chosen wine, your followers would have been astray."



The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) was then taken to the first level of heaven, which was the first stage of his Ascension. Jibra'eel asked for the door to be opened for the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), and there stood Adam ('alaihi salaam) the first man and prophet. Adam ('alaihi salaam) said, "Peace be upon you," to which the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) responded, "And upon you be peace."



Adam ('alaihi salaam) then testified that Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) was the Prophet of Allah. Adam looked to his right and smiled, and then looked to his left and wept. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) saw two groups of people on either side of Adam ('alaihi salaam), and the ones he smiled at were the believers, while the ones that caused him to weep were unbelievers.

To Be Continued...

