

Sayyidatina Ummu Kulthum (Radiyallahu Anha)

Written and illustrated by
Ummu Abdullah

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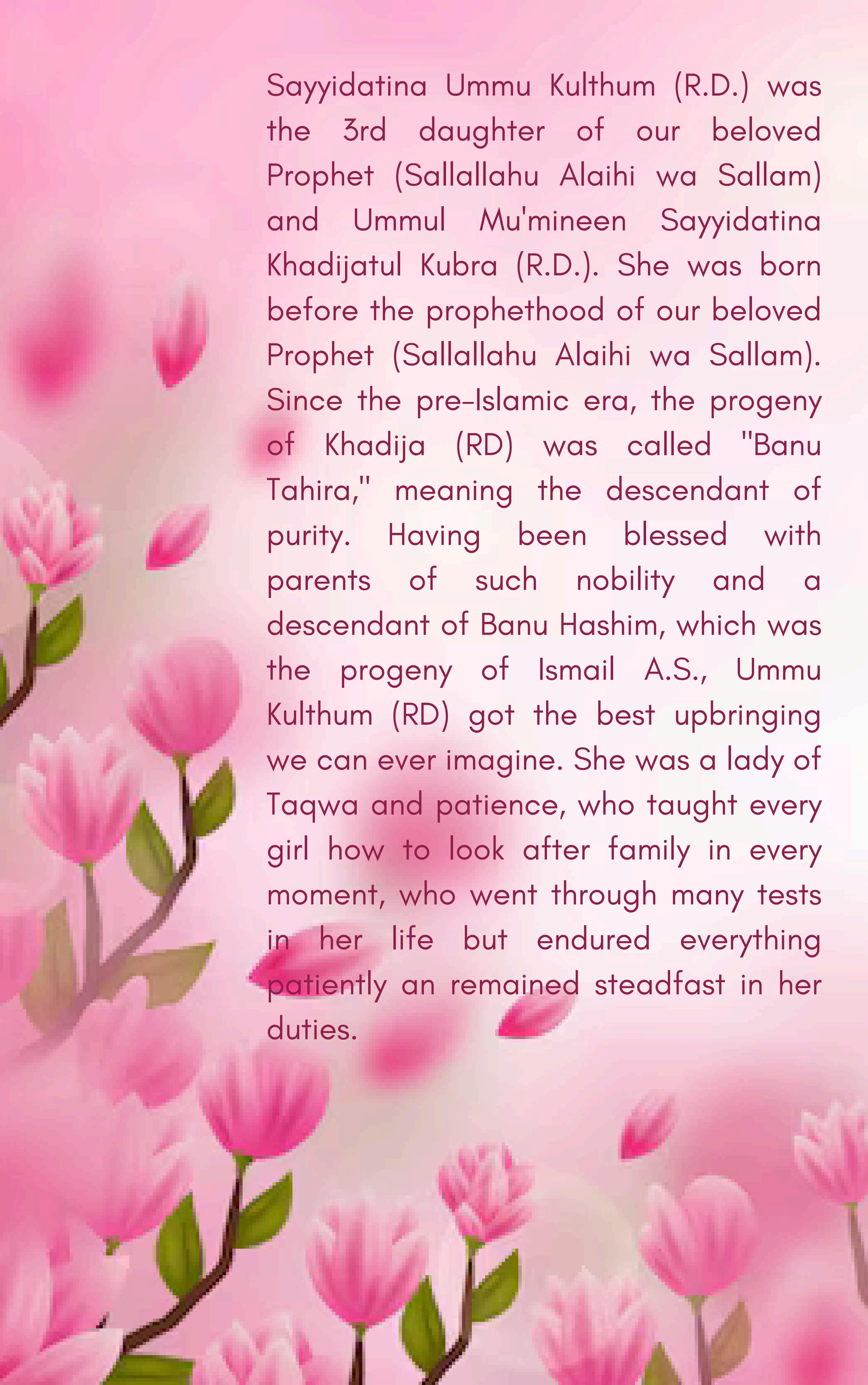
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Sayyidatina Ummu Kulthum (R.D.) was the 3rd daughter of our beloved Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) and Ummul Mu'mineen Sayyidatina Khadijatul Kubra (R.D.). She was born before the prophethood of our beloved Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam). Since the pre-Islamic era, the progeny of Khadija (RD) was called "Banu Tahira," meaning the descendant of purity. Having been blessed with parents of such nobility and a descendant of Banu Hashim, which was the progeny of Ismail A.S., Ummu Kulthum (RD) got the best upbringing we can ever imagine. She was a lady of Taqwa and patience, who taught every girl how to look after family in every moment, who went through many tests in her life but endured everything patiently and remained steadfast in her duties.

Ummul Mu'mineen Khadijah (RD) was the wealthiest woman of Mecca; therefore, Sayyidatina Ummu Kulthum (RD) was not only given good tarbiyyah but also blessed with a life of ease in her childhood. When she grew up, according to the Arab custom of that time, she was given in marriage to her own family, with the son of Abu Lahab, Utaibah. Abu Lahab was the uncle of our beloved prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam); therefore, Utaibah was a near family of her.

However, she was staying with her parents, as there was a custom of that time; girls would stay with their parents until the parents would set a time for Rukhsati. Only after Rukhsati could girls leave their parents house. The protection of girls of noble families was a very big priority, and that's what should be done for all the girls of our time as well. We should teach them dignity so that their dignity does not lead them to do anything ill. When a lady remains dignified Allah SWT protects a complete nation by her, she becomes the pillar of a society.

As soon as, our beloved prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) was blessed with prophet hood, his own uncle Abu Lahab turned his bitter enemy. He and his wife Ummu Jamil did not leave any stone unturned to put every type of hardship on our beloved prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam). Allah SWT revealed Surah Lahab, with the description of the punishment of Abu Lahab and his wife will have in hell. Abu Lahab heard it, he got angry and was thinking how to punish Muhammad (SAW), he rushed home and said to his son's,

" Unless you both divorce the daughters of Muhammad, I am not going to see your face." That's how some unfortunate and egotistic parents bring the destruction of their own children by their own hands.

Both of foolish boy divorced their wives then and there and lost the most wonderful girls of this earth from their lives. But Utaibah not only divorced but also went to our beloved prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) and said the most disrespectful words he knew. It was such hard time of life, the prophet-hood just given, people turned enemy from every direction, two daughters got divorced in a single day then this unfortunate boy also came to say such bad words. The prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) said to him only these words in return,

"O Allah! Depute one of your dogs to punish him."

As soon as Abu Lahab heard, although he was a Kaafir, he had a firm belief that whatever Muhammad Saw said would come true, so he said to his son,

"You have no way to escape now."



On the other hand, Ummu Kulthum (RD) became a divorcee at her tender age without having any fault, although she was among the most wonderful and pure girls, but that was the first test of Imaan that she had to give. In every era, divorce was a scary term for a lady, and it was a time when women were considered bad luck, considered a burden; it was a very big test for Ummu Kulthum (RD).

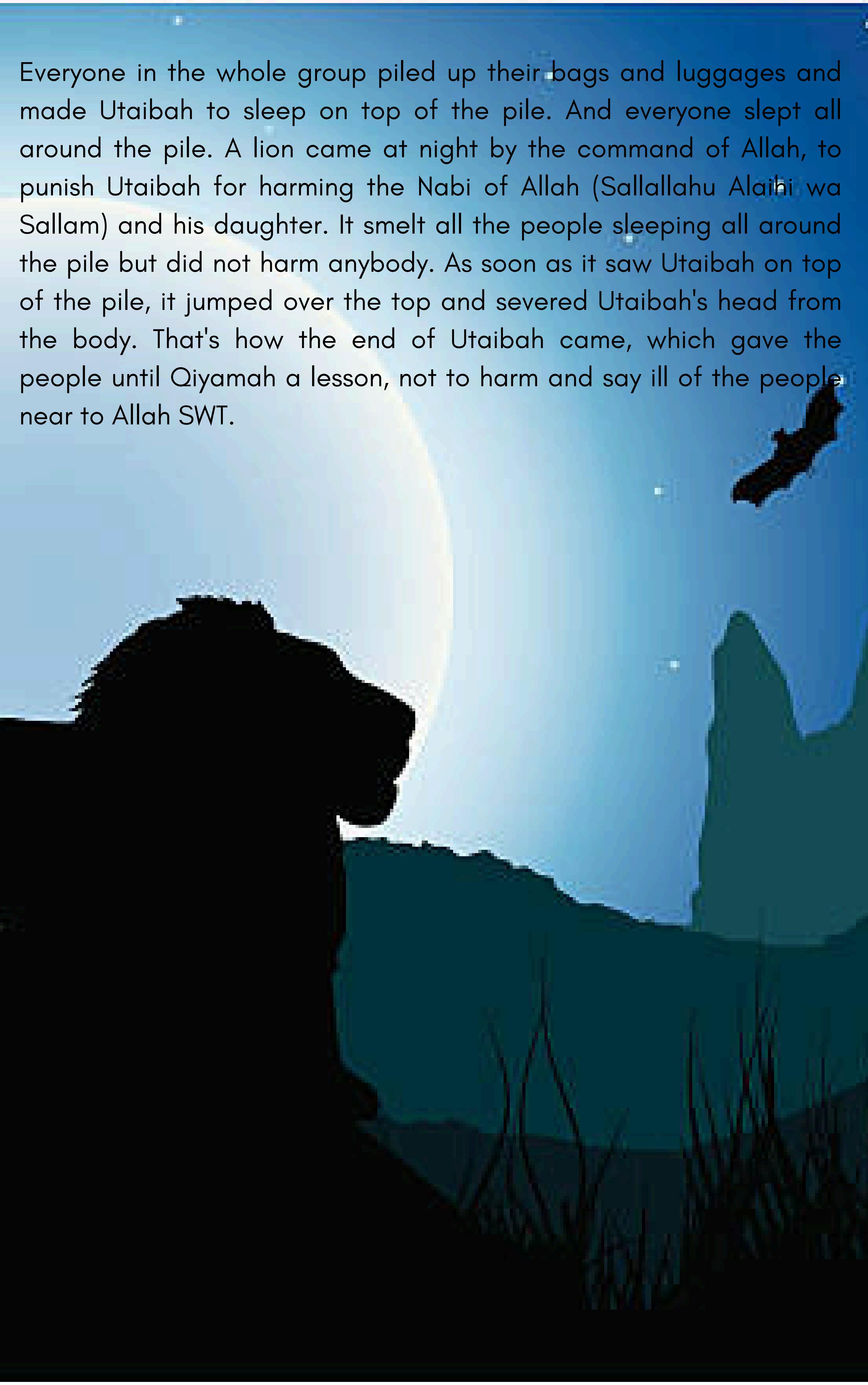
Fortunately, Utaibah also got punished by Allah for causing harm to the Nabi of Allah and to his family. Abu Lahab used to go for trade to Syria like all other Meccans. One day he was going to Syria with his trading group and caravans; Utaibah was going with him too. Meanwhile, the night fell, and the place they halted, was inhabited by lions. Abu Lahab became cautious, and as they needed to halt their travel to gain strength for the next day,. He called all members of the group for the protection of his son saying,

"I'm scared of Muhammad's curse; everyone be careful of my son."

Subhanallah! A Kaafir had such belief on our beloved prophet (Sallallahu alahi wa Sallam's) word's. How strange we claim to be his Ummah but don't follow His path! Are we truthful in our words? May Allah forgive us.



Everyone in the whole group piled up their bags and luggages and made Utaibah to sleep on top of the pile. And everyone slept all around the pile. A lion came at night by the command of Allah, to punish Utaibah for harming the Nabi of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) and his daughter. It smelt all the people sleeping all around the pile but did not harm anybody. As soon as it saw Utaibah on top of the pile, it jumped over the top and severed Utaibah's head from the body. That's how the end of Utaibah came, which gave the people until Qiyamah a lesson, not to harm and say ill of the people near to Allah SWT.



Ummu Kulthum's (RD's) other sister, Sayyidatina Ruqaiyyah (RD), soon after the divorce, got married again with Uthman (RD) and left Mekka towards Abyssinia with her husband. And Ummu Kulthum's (RD's) fate was a bit harsher; she had to go through the tough situation of being divorced for a long time. But she remained with her family to look after the younger sister, ill mother, a father who was going through trial upon trials of prophet hood. She was right there to support everyone.

More tests of Imaan kept coming, the torture on our beloved prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) increased by the Quraishites, the whole family of Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) was boycotted and was isolated from the community in the gorge of Ibn Abi Talib for a complete 3 years; it was such hard time that no food was available inside it, no ease was there, all the Muslims were running away to take refuge in foreign lands due to the persecution of the Quraish. In an environment like a hidden volcano that was ready to erupt at any moment. living in that environment was a huge test along with so many other tests Ummu Kulthum RD was going through. On the other hand, Ummul Mumineen Khadija (RD), turned very ill that took her near to deathbed, Ummu kulthum RD took the responsibility of the whole house and took care of her mother. Looked after small Syyidatina Fatima RD. So many responsibilities was handled by her in her young age, when she was only a teenager. On top of all that, during those hard days, the most tragic incident was her mother past away. In a world full of calamity, she became more lonelier, but even after that she was a lady of patience. Whatever situation came in life, she showed outstanding patience in every single moment. She did not break rather stood strong by the side of her family.



The Hukm of Allah came to migrate from their own land and go to an unknown land to protect Imaan. Ummu Kulthum (RD) showed the strength of Imaan again, along with her youngest sister Fatima (RD) and a group of Sahaba (RD) migrated to Madinah.

After 13 years of trials the Muslims got the air of safety and security, the Ansaar's were ready to give life to protect our beloved Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) and his family and Muhajireen. It was a moment of happiness, and to increase that happiness, Ummu Kulthum RD's sister Ruqayyah RD, her husband Usman RD, and their only child Abdullah came back from Abyssinia, both of them were close aged, therefore both sisters had great bond. After many days, all the family members got together in a new and secured place.

This indeed could be a happy moment but Ruqaiyyah RD came back with very weak and ill health condition, her health situation was going worse day by day, her condition reached to such situation that during the battle of Badr the prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) did not take Usman (RD) rather he left behind to do Khidmah of Ruqaiyyah (RD), the day Muslim army brought victory of Badr, same day Ruqaiyyah RD also passed away. Ummu Kudthum (RD) was such a lady who observed all the tragic moments of the family patiently and remained as a support for the family in every moment. Fatima (RD) was small when Ummul Mumineed Khadijah (RD) passed away; other sisters were not near, but Ummu Kulthum (RD) remained with her at that time. When Ruqaiyyah (RD) passed away, she left a little boy behind; it was she who wished he would be looked after by Ummu Kulthum (RD). She was a caring woman who nurtured her family even upon her own fragile situation; she remained steadfast in her duties. We don't find her in the history much because the people care-gives mostly remains hidden. They give without seeking anything in return.



After the sad demise of Ruqaiyyah (RD), Uthman (RD) was mournful with a small baby boy, Umar (RD) came to him with the proposal of Hafsa (RD) to get married again. But Uthman (RD) refused, the match of the noble characteristic of the daughter of Nabi could not be found except with another daughter of a Nabi. Nabi (sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) called Uthman (RD) and blessed him with another Noor of his life, Ummu Kulthum (RD).

The Hukm from Allah came for this union, Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wa Sallam) gave her in marriage to Uthman (RD). We can see her care for family, Ruqaiyya RD left a small child, Uthman RD lost his precious family, in this hard moment who could look after the little child and Uthman RD properly than Immu Kulthum (RD), who has mastered to take care of family in every hardships? It was Ummu Kulthum (RD) who was ready to support her family in every moment. She and Uthman (RD) got married in 3 A.H.

She happily looked after the son of her deceased sister, little baby Abdullah, but he also left her just in one year. Her life is a lesson for every housewife and girl to learn how to be steadfast and stick to the family in every hardship and how to remain strong in every moment.

This great lady left the world in Shabaan 9 A.H. but left behind a legacy of her beautiful life and patience which will remain a provision for all the ladies until Qiyamah. Assalamu Alaika Ya Umma Kulthum RD.



My dear little hearts, this life will teach us in every moment, we don't belong here, but the Deen will show us in every moment, we belong to Akhirah. We are the people of Akhirah; this world is nothing but a place of journey. Let's make this journey as beautiful as possible to make our final abode the most beautiful one, where we truly belong, inshaAllah.

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