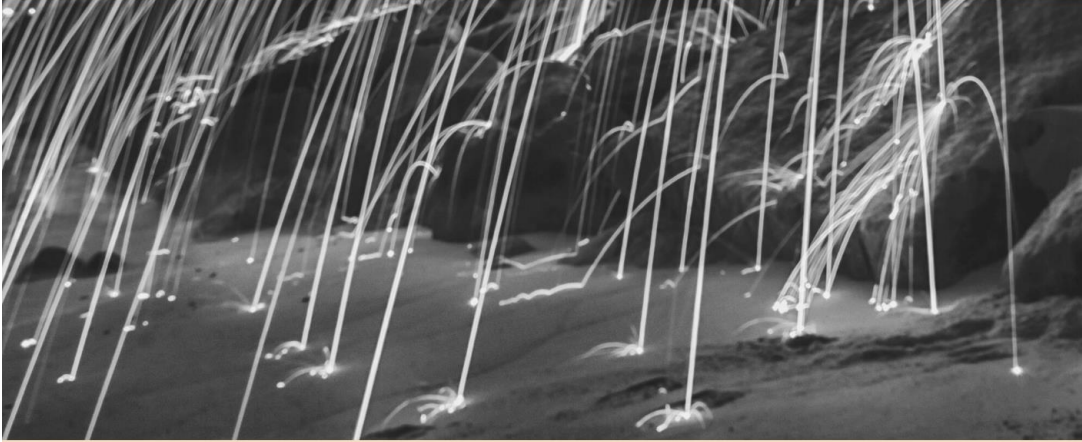


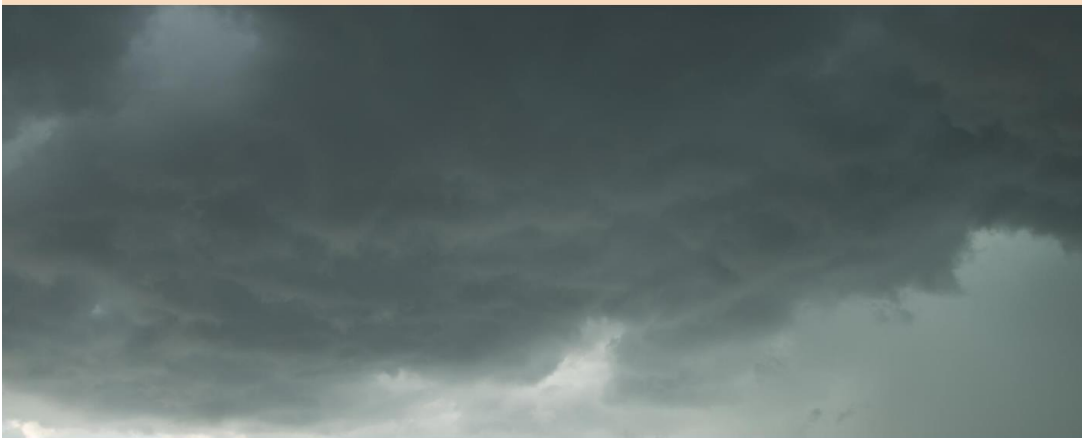
PROPHETS OF ISLAM SERIES



THE BIOGRAPHIES OF

LOOT AND SHUAIB

عليهما السلام



SHAIKH MIR ASEDULLAH QUADRI

THE BIOGRAPHIES OF LOOT AND SHUAIB

(عليهما السلام)

Written By

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله رب العالمين، والصلاة والسلام على
سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين

LOOT (عليه السلام)

Loot (عليه السلام) was the nephew of Ibrahim (عليه السلام). When Ibrahim (عليه السلام) became famous among his people after the miracle of fire, people were amazed and talked about how he had been saved from the blazing fire. But they were confused about the miracle. They considered him to hold miraculous power rather than be the truthful Apostle of Allah. Several years passed and no one was willing to accept the message of Islam. Therefore, Ibrahim (عليه السلام) decided to migrate from that place.

It is in Quran [Loot (عليه السلام) was the one who believed in him (Ibrahim (عليه السلام) and said, I shall migrate to another land for the sake of my Lord. He is Almighty, All Wise.] **(Al-Ankaboot - 26)**

Ibrahim (عليه السلام), along with his wife Sayyeda Sara (عليها السلام) and Loot (عليه السلام) who was his distant nephew, travelled together to Canaan (Syria) where Ibrahim and Loot (عليهما السلام) separated and took other routes as per Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) command. From Canaan, Loot (عليه السلام) traveled to Sodom. Sodom was a city located on the western shore of the Dead Sea.

Ibrahim (عليه السلام) traveled to Palestine and lived there for some years.

A few years later, Ibrahim (عليه السلام) was visited by two angels in Palestine who gave him the good tiding of son Ishaq and grandson Ya'qoob (عليهما السلام) and informed him that they have been sent to the people of Loot (عليه السلام) for the decreed punishment.

It is in Quran - فَلَمَّا - وَقَدْ جَاءَتْ رُسُلُنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ بِالْبُشْرَى قَالُوا سَلَامًا قَالَ سَلَامٌ قَدْ لَبِثْتُ أَنْ جَاءَ بِعِجْلٍ حَنِيذٍ - فَلَمَّا - رَأَى أَيْدِيَهُمْ لَا تَصِلُ إِلَيْهِ نَكَرَ هُمْ وَأُوْجَسَ مِنْهُمْ خِيفَةً قَالُوا لَا تَخَفْ إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا إِلَى قَوْمِ لُوطٍ - وَأَمْرًا تَهُ فَايَمَةً فَصَحَّكَتْ فَبَشَّرْنَاهَا بِإِسْحَاقَ وَمِنْ وَرَاءِ إِسْحَاقَ يَعْقُوبَ - قَالَتْ يَا وَيْلَتَى أَأَلِدُ وَأَنَا عَجُوزٌ وَهَذَا بَعْلِي شَيْخًا إِنَّ هَذَا لَشَيْءٌ عَجِيبٌ [And Our messengers (angels) came to Ibrahim (عليه السلام) with good news. They said, peace (be on you)! He answered, peace (be on you). And he hastened in bringing a roasted calf (for them to eat). But when he saw their hands not reaching for it (they were not inclined to eat), it was strange, and he felt apprehension from them. They said, 'fear not. We have been sent to the people of Loot (عليه السلام)'. And his wife (Sara - عليها السلام) was standing (by), so she laughed when they were given the good news of (a son) Ishaq, and after Ishaq, of (a grandson) Yaqoub (عليهما السلام).

She said, 'Woe to me! Shall I give birth while I am an old woman and this, my husband, is an old man? Indeed, this is an amazing thing'. They said, 'are you amazed at the decree of Allah? The mercy of Allah and His blessings be upon you (and the) people of the house. Indeed, He is Praiseworthy and Honorable.'](Hood 69-73)

THE PEOPLE OF SODOM

The people of Sodom were notorious as they used to way laid travelers, rob and kill them. In addition, most of them were homosexuals and/or bisexuals.

Prophet Loot (عليه السلام) called his people towards Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and advised them to shun this practice as it is not allowed by their Creator. Loot's (عليه السلام) advice did not have the desired effect on them and they threatened to drive Loot (عليه السلام) and his followers out of their territory.

It is in Quran - كَذَّبَتْ قَوْمُ لُوطٍ الْمُرْسَلِينَ - إِذْ قَالَ لَهُمْ أَخُوهُمْ لُوطٌ أَلَا تَتَّقُونَ - يَا لَكُمْ رِسُولُ أَمِينٍ - فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ - وَأَطِيعُوا - وَمَا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ مِنْ أَجْرٍ - إِنْ أَجْرِيَ إِلَّا عَلَى رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ - أَتَأْتُونَ الذُّكْرَانَ مِنَ الْعَالَمِينَ - وَتَذَرُونَ مَا خَلَقَ لَكُمْ رَبُّكُمْ مِنْ أَزْوَاجِكُمْ بَلْ أَنْتُمْ قَوْمٌ عَادُونَ - قَالُوا لَئِنْ لَمْ تَنْتَهِ يَا لُوطُ لَتَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْمُخْرَجِينَ - قَالَ إِنِّي لِعَمَلِكُمْ مِنَ الْقَالِينَ - [The people of Loot (عليه السلام) also rejected the Apostles. When their brother Loot (عليه السلام) said to them, 'Will you not fear (Allah)? Indeed, I am to you a trustworthy Apostle. So, fear Allah and obey me. I do not seek any compensation from you. My reward exists only with the Lord of the worlds. Why do you (men) lust after fellow men, leaving the wives that your Lord has created for you? In fact, you are a transgressing people.' They said, If you do not desist, O' Loot (عليه السلام), you will surely be banished (from the land). (Loot عليه السلام) said: 'I am disgusted with your actions.'](Ash-Shu'ara - 160-168)

Their insistence upon their ways was unabated while Loot (عليه السلام) struggled to bring them to the right path. Years passed, and no one believed in him. Instead, they became more and more fearless and challenged him to bring the torment of their Creator upon them if he was a truthful Apostle.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF LOOT (عليه السلام)

When things were out of control, the angels visited Ibrahim (عليه السلام) on their way to Loot (عليه السلام).

It is in Quran - فَلَمَّا - وَقَدْ جَاءَتْ رُسُلُنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ بِالْبُشْرَى قَالُوا سَلَامًا قَالَ سَلَامٌ قَدْ آتَيْتُمْ بَعْجَلٍ حَنِيزٍ - فَلَمَّا - [رَأَى أَيْدِيَهُمْ لَا تَصِلُ إِلَيْهِ نَكِرَهُمْ وَأَوْجَسَ مِنْهُمْ خِيفَةً قَالُوا لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّا أُرْسِلْنَا إِلَى قَوْمٍ لُوطٍ And Our messengers (angels) came to Ibrahim (عليه السلام) with good news. They said, peace (be on you)! He answered, peace (be on you). And he hastened in bringing a roasted calf (for them to eat). But when he saw their hands not reaching for it (they were not inclined to eat), it was strange, and he felt apprehension from them. They said, 'fear not. We have been sent to the people of Loot (عليه السلام).']
(Hood 69-70)

The angels came to Loot (عليه السلام) in the shape of two handsome youth. Looking at them, Loot (عليه السلام) was anguished because he knew that when the people of Sodom will look at them, they will be tempted to sodomy and will attempt to harm them with their desires. He was fearful that he will not be able to protect them from his people.

As he apprehended, the news of two handsome youth visiting Loot (عليه السلام) was spread in the town and a mob stormed his house. Addressing the mob, Loot (عليه السلام) said, 'O my people there are my daughters (girls in your community) who are like my daughters, marry them and do not let me feel ashamed in front of my guests.

Loot (عليه السلام) did not have children. He had a wife who was not a believer. His family members living in his house consisted of some relatives who were living with him. It is wrongly mentioned in corrupted versions of Bible (Genesis 19:30-38 New International Version) that he had two daughters.

The mob said, 'surely you know that we have neither any need nor any desire for women, and indeed you know well what we want. Give these youth to us. As the menacing crowd was adamant and they moved blindly in frenzy to catch hold of the angels, Loot (عليه السلام) felt helpless in protecting them. He said to himself, indeed, it was a trying day for him. After several attempts, when they were unable to catch hold of the angels, the mob left with a vow to come back again in the morning.

When the angels saw the concern of Loot (عليه السلام), they told, 'O Loot (عليه السلام) we have been sent by your Lord. Do not worry, they will never be able to harm you or us. We have come to

inform you to leave your home late at night with your family. No one should turn back to look. Your nonbelieving wife will not accompany you as she will be among the people who will be punished. Their hour of doom is in the morning.

As per the command of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), Loot (عليه السلام) and his family members left the house in the darkness. Early in the morning, when the decreed moment arrived, the people were seized by the mighty shriek and Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) turned the entire habitation upside down. There was a rain upon them of the stones of hardened lava in quick succession. Each stone was marked as to who it will hit.

Loot (عليه السلام) and his family were saved except his wife who remained with the wrongdoing people.

The town of Sodom with all marks of punishment still survives. It lies on Hijaz-Syria highway. Travelers come across the signs of destruction in the region that lies southeast of the Dead Sea.

Loot (عليه السلام) proceeded towards Palestine and met with Ibrahim (عليه السلام) and told him the what had happened to the people of Sodom. He was surprised to know that Ibrahim (عليه السلام) already knew about it.

Loot (عليه السلام) lived for as long as Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) wished him and continued his preaching to people until he died.

SHUAIB (عليه السلام)

Shuaib (عليه السلام) is the father-in-law of Musa (عليه السلام). Musa (عليه السلام) married one of the daughters of Shuaib (عليه السلام) when he went to Madian. Musa (عليه السلام) lived with Shuaib (عليه السلام) for 10 years along with his wife and children after which he went back to Egypt. The details in this context can be read in the book titled '[The biography of Musa \(عليه السلام\), Part I.](#)

THE PEOPLE OF MADIAN

The people of Shuaib (عليه السلام) were known as the people of Aiyka (wood-dwellers) who lived near Madian. They were Arabs. The Madian region consisted of the territory north-west of Hijaz and south of Palestine on the coast of the Red Sea. Part of Madian stretched to the northern border of the Sinai Peninsula. Madiani towns were located on the trade routes of Yanbu-Syria and Iraq-Egypt along the Red Sea. Long after the destruction of these towns, the Arabs trade caravans to Syria and Egypt passed through the ruins of these towns.

At the time of the advent of Shuaib (عليه السلام), the people of Madian suffered from two major evils, polytheism, and dishonesty in business dealings. Their traders gave short measure, falsely praised their goods beyond their worth, hiding their goods' defects. They lied to their customers, thereby cheating them.

Shuaib (عليه السلام) devoted his efforts to reform them in these aspects.

Shuaib (عليه السلام) told them, 'will you not fear Allah? Indeed, I am to you a trustworthy Apostle. Fear Allah and obey me. I do not seek any compensation from you. My reward exists only with the Lord of the worlds. Weigh correctly in your trading transaction and do not cause (buyers) any loss. Weigh with honest scales. Do not mislead people and avoid spreading corruption on earth.'

'Do not be seated on every road to scare the travelers, and to prevent people from Allah's path who believe in Him, wishing to distort it. Remember when you were few, He increased your numbers. Keep in mind what was the end of the mischief mongers (before you). And if a group

among you believes in what I have been sent with, and another group does not believe, then wait until Allah judges between us; and Allah's judgement is the best of all.'

They said, 'you are only a human being like us, and we think you are a liar. It seems you are bewitched. If you are truthful, then let the pieces of the sky fall upon us.' The Chiefs among the people were arrogant. They said, 'we will surely evict you and your followers from our town, unless you return to our religion.'

Shuaib (عليه السلام) said, 'how can we return to your religion when Allah has rescued us from it; and it is not for any of us to return to your religion except if Allah, Who is our Lord, wills. The knowledge of our Lord encompasses all things. In Allah only we have trust. Shuaib (عليه السلام) supplicated, O' Our Lord, decide between us and our people, and (surely) Yours is the best decision.'

The chiefs among his people who did not believe (said to the people who believed) 'if you follow Shuaib (عليه السلام) and his way, you will surely be ruined.'

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF SHUAIB (عليه السلام)

One day, the disbelievers seized the belongings of Shuaib (عليه السلام) and his followers and drove them out of the city. Shuaib (عليه السلام) turned to Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) for help from their tyranny.

After Shuaib (عليه السلام) and his followers left the town, the people of Aiyka were exposed to unbearable hot scorching sun for over a week. They tried to cool down by using water, but it was of no avail. Then they tried to escape into a desert and found what they believed to be relief under a dark and gloomy cloud which will rain to give them relief. Instead the cloud burst, hurling thunderbolts, and fire. They heard a thunderous sound from above which caused the earth under their feet to tremble. Thus, they were perished in the state of horror.

Shuaib (عليه السلام) turned away from them and said, O' people, I conveyed to you the message of my Lord, and warned you. (But you paid no heed). How can I grieve for a people who do not believe?'

The stories of the Prophets and their people in the Quran are reminders to the people that if they reject the faith and involve in transgression, they should know that they are under the

wrath of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) in the world. By recounting the tragic end of each of these nations people are cautioned that they may face the same end as had been the case of earlier nations.

It is in Quran - وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا فِي قَرْيَةٍ مِنْ نَبِيٍّ إِلَّا أَخَذْنَا أَهْلَهَا بِالْبَأْسَاءِ وَالضَّرَّاءِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَضُرَّغُونَ - ثُمَّ بَدَّلْنَا مَكَانَ السَّيِّئَةِ الْحَسَنَةَ حَتَّىٰ عَفَوْا وَقَالُوا قَدْ مَسَّ آبَاءَنَا الضَّرَّاءُ وَالسَّرَّاءُ فَأَخَذْنَاهُمْ بَعْتَةً وَهُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ - وَلَوْ أَنَّ أَهْلَ الْقُرَىٰ آمَنُوا وَاتَّقَوْا لَفَتَحْنَا عَلَيْهِم بَرَكَاتٍ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَلَكِنْ كَذَّبُوا فَأَخَذْنَاهُمْ بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ [And never did We send any Prophet to a place but We seized its people with hardship and adversity so that they may become humble. But when We changed hardship to ease, and they became numerous and prospered, (they forgot Our favors) and said : 'Our ancestors had also known suffering and joy.' So, We caught them unawares. But if the people of these regions had believed and feared Allah, We would surely have showered on them blessings of the heavens and the earth; but they only denied, and We punished them for their deeds.] (Al-A'raaf - 94-96)

When we look the present situation of Muslims in the world, we realize that it is the result of unabated sinfulness and insistence on wrong doings that has brought the downfall and destruction of Muslims in the world. They should know that nothing can save them except Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). And to become eligible for Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) Mercy, they need to come back to Sahih Iman, repent for the wrong doings and walk on the straight path of Islam.