



A STORY TO READ ALOUD

The Story of Khadijah

خديجة

A wise woman of Makkah who saw the truth in people, and believed before anyone else.

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The Story of Khadijah

"I was granted her love."

Sahih Muslim · 2435

Come with me. Today, we're going on a journey... far, far away... and long, long ago.
It is night. A quiet night, in a quiet city, in a valley between dark mountains.

Inside one house, a lamp is glowing. Its light is soft, and gold, and warm.

And then... footsteps. Quick footsteps, coming down the mountain path. Coming closer.

The door opens. And a man comes in, and his heart is trembling.

He has just come down from a cave, high on a mountain. Something happened there tonight that has never happened to anyone in his whole city. Something so big that he is shaking.

And he says only a few words, to the woman waiting in the lamplight.

"Cover me... cover me."

The man is the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. And the woman in the lamplight is his wife.

Her name is Khadijah, radiyallahu anha.

And what she says next... is still remembered, all these years later.

But to understand why he ran home to her, of all the people in the world... we have to go back. Back to a long line of camels... and a woman who knew how to see the truth in people.

Long, long ago, in the city of Makkah, the Kaaba stood in the middle of the valley, and all around it the markets hummed.

Traders shouted. Camels grumbled. Spices filled the air, and cloth, and dust, and the smell of the warm desert.



The Caravan to the North

And in that busy city lived a woman named Khadijah.

She was one of the most respected people in all of Makkah. She came from a noble family. She was wise, and careful, and very good at trade. Her caravans travelled far across the desert, carrying goods to faraway lands, and coming home again.

But people did not only know her for her wealth. They knew her for her goodness.

Because in a city where many people worshipped statues, and many people did unkind things, Khadijah kept her heart clean. So the people of Makkah gave her a special name.

Aṭ-Ṭāhirah.

The pure one.

I wonder what it takes... to be known, by a whole city, for having a clean heart.

Now Khadijah did not travel with her caravans herself. She would choose honest men to lead them, and share the profit with them.

And choosing the right person was everything. Because a caravan is full of treasure. And out in the desert, far from home, Khadijah could not watch over it herself.

One day, Khadijah heard about a young man in Makkah. People said he always told the truth. People said that if you left something with him, you would get back every last bit of it. People even had a name for him.

Al-Amīn. The trustworthy one.

His name was Muhammad ﷺ.

So Khadijah sent for him, and asked him to lead her caravan north, to the land of Sham, where Syria and its neighbours are today. And she offered him more than she usually gave other traders.

He agreed. And off he went, with her camels, and her goods, and her servant Maysarah beside him.



The Wise Choice

Can you hear the camel bells? Ringing softly... all the way across the sand... all the way north.

And when the caravan came home again, two things came with it.

The first was her trade, full of more blessing than she had ever seen before.

And the second was Maysarah... telling her about the journey, and everything he had seen of this young man.

And Khadijah listened. And she thought very carefully about everything she heard.

Many important men of Makkah had wanted to marry Khadijah. She had said no to all of them.

But what drew Khadijah was not riches, and not fame. It was his character. His honesty. His trustworthiness. A truly good heart.

So Khadijah did something brave. She sent a friend to ask him, gently, whether he would like to marry her.

And he said yes.

His uncles went to her family, and Khadijah and Muhammad ﷺ were married. And their house became a home full of light.

Allah gave them children there. Among them four daughters... Zaynab, and Ruqayyah, and Umm Kulthum, and Fatimah.

And the Prophet ﷺ loved Khadijah so much that, all the years she was alive, he never married anyone else. Years later he would say something beautiful about her.

"I was granted her love."

As the years went by, Muhammad ﷺ began to love being alone, to think, and to worship.



Allah Will Never Disgrace You

He would climb a mountain just outside Makkah, to a small cave called Hira. He would stay there for nights at a time, looking out over the valley, turning his heart to his Lord.

And when his food ran out, he would come home to Khadijah. And she would pack more for him. And he would go back up the mountain.

Until one night... in that cave... the angel Jibril, alayhis salam, came to him.

And he brought the very first words of the Qur'an.

Iqra' bismi rabbika-lladhī khalaq.

"Read... in the name of your Lord, who created."

Nothing like this had ever happened to him before. And so he came down the mountain in the dark, with his heart trembling, and came home. Home to the lamplight. Home to Khadijah.

"Cover me," he said. "Cover me."

And she did. She wrapped him up, warm and close, and stayed beside him until the fear had gone.

Can you feel how warm a blanket is, when someone you love wraps it round you? Heavy, and soft, and safe.

Then he told her everything. And he said, "I was afraid for myself."

And here it is. The moment from the very beginning. The words Khadijah said.

Kallā wallāhi... mā yukhzīka-llāhu abadā.



The First Believer

"Never. By Allah... Allah will never disgrace you."

"Because you are good to your family. You carry the load of the weak. You help people who have nothing. You welcome guests. And you stand by people when hard times come."

Do you see what she did? She did not tell him that nothing had happened. She reminded him who he was. She reminded him that Allah does not let down a person like that.

And then she took him to her old cousin, Waraqah ibn Nawfal, a man who had read the books that came before. And when Waraqah heard what had happened, he said that this was the very same angel Allah had sent to Prophet Musa, alayhis salam.

Soon after, the message began. Muhammad ﷺ was the Messenger of Allah. There is no god but Allah, and the statues cannot help anyone.

And who was the very first person in the whole world to believe him?

Khadijah.

Before anyone else. Before a single friend. Before a single neighbour. She believed him straight away, because she knew him. She had seen his honesty with her own eyes, for years and years.

And when the angel taught the Prophet ﷺ how to pray, he taught Khadijah. And she prayed with him. Some of the very first prayers of Islam.

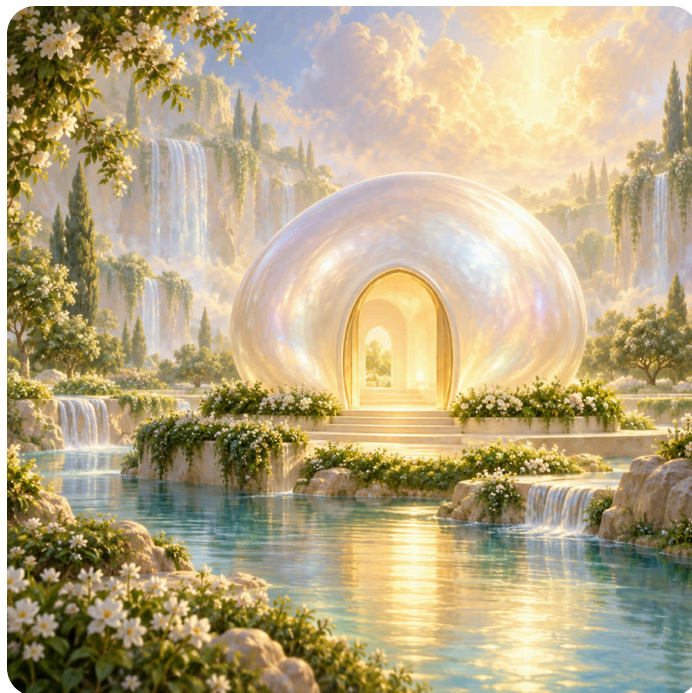
But not everyone was happy. Many people in Makkah said unkind things. They called him a liar. They turned away from him.

And Khadijah stood beside him, through all of it. She gave her wealth to help. She gave her time, her comfort, her whole heart.

Even when hard years came, and his family and the people who stood with him were cut off by a boycott, and food became scarce, Khadijah stayed right beside him.

Years later, the Prophet ﷺ remembered it like this. "She believed in me when people did not believe. She believed me when people called me a liar. She helped me with her wealth when people kept theirs away."

And now... the most wonderful part.



A Salaam from Allah

One day, Khadijah was on her way to the Prophet ﷺ, carrying a dish of food for him.

And the angel Jibril came to the Prophet ﷺ and said: here is Khadijah, coming to you. When she reaches you... give her greetings of peace... from her Lord... and from me.

Salām. Peace. From Allah Himself.

And give her good news, Jibril said. A house in Jannah, made of hollow pearl... where there is no noise... and no tiredness.

No noise. No tiredness. Only peace.

A greeting of peace... from the Lord of all the worlds... sent to one woman, carrying a dish of food, on an ordinary day in Makkah.

The Prophet ﷺ also said that the best of the women of her time was Khadijah. And after Khadijah returned to Allah, he never forgot her. He spoke of her again and again. And for the rest of his life, he would send gifts to her old friends, just because they had been dear to her.

Do you remember that night at the beginning? The footsteps on the mountain path, and the trembling heart, and the lamp glowing in the window?

Now you know why he ran home to her. Because Khadijah was the one who could see the truth in people. And she saw it in him before anyone else did.

And now... slowly... the lamp in that little house grows soft and far away. We leave the quiet valley and the dark mountains behind... and travel back home. To right here. Right now.

But keep Khadijah with you. Because she teaches us something very precious.

When someone you love is scared, you can be their blanket. You can remind them of the good in them. You can stand beside them. That is one of the most beautiful things a person can ever do.

So let us end with a dua from the Qur'an, for people who believe, and stand beside the truth, the way Khadijah did. It means... Our Lord, we believe in what You sent down, and we follow the Messenger, so write us among those who bear witness. Say it with me... slowly...

Rabbanā āmannā bimā anzalta wattaba'na-r-rasūla faktubnā ma'a-sh-shāhidīn.

Talk about it

Read a question aloud and let your child answer before you show the choices. Then ask: what would you have done?

1. Who first believed in Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ message?

- a. Khadijah (RA)
- b. Abu Bakr (RA)
- c. Bilal (RA)

2. In Khadijah (RA)'s story, what does al-Amin mean?

- a. The trustworthy one
- b. The strong one
- c. The rich one

3. In Khadijah (RA)'s story, what did the Prophet ﷺ ask for at home?

- a. To be covered up
- b. To have some water
- c. To have a lamp

4. What did the people of Makkah call Khadijah (RA)?

- a. At-Tahirah, the pure one
- b. Al-Amin, the trustworthy
- c. As-Siddiq, the truthful

5. In Khadijah (RA)'s story, who led her caravan to Sham?

- a. Muhammad ﷺ
- b. Waraqah, her cousin
- c. Maysarah, her servant

6. Which servant joined the caravan in Khadijah (RA)'s story?

- a. Maysarah
- b. Waraqah
- c. Abu Bakr (RA)

Answers: 1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 6a



Hear this story

Read it again online, or listen to it narrated in the Sukun Kids app.

sukunkids.app/stories/khadijah

Sukun Kids: stories of the prophets for Muslim children, narrated for bedtime.

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