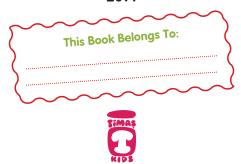


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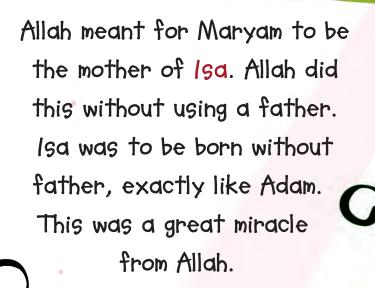
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Prophet Isa is a remarkable figure. He was born without a father. His mother's name was Maryam. Maryam was a young woman of pure character. She spent most of her time praying to Allah. In fact, she lived in a small room in the temple of Jerusalem. Maryam stayed in this room, never meeting people.





Maryam's relatives could not believe that she had a baby. Maryam wasn't married. Moreover, she never met with people. But now she was standing with a newborn in her arms! "O Maryam! Who is this baby? they asked. "You have certainly done something strange!"

Because Allah ordered her not to speak for a while, Maryam tried to answer them with hand signals.





But Maryam's relatives became angry. They knew what a good young w_0 , man she was.

"You must explain this, Maryam!" they demanded
Maryam
remained
quiet. She
then pointed
to her baby as
if to say, "Ask
him!"

"How can we speak to one who is such a small baby?" they said.



Maryam's relatives became very annoyed. But suddenly they heard a voice that surprised all of them.

"Indeed! I am the servant of Allah," said baby Isa. "He has given me re-Velation and made me a prophet."



No baby could speak such words! Maryam's family realized that this was a miracle from Allah.

However, little **15a** never spoke like this again until he grew into a child.





Maryam's family now believed her. Yet they knew that people would say bad things about her and her baby because she wasn't married. Maryam had to leave their homeland of Palestine. With Allah's help the two travelled to Egypt. They lived there for many years.

Allah blessed ISA with very special abilities when he was a child. He could tell his friends what their mothers were cooking for dinner. He knew where people hid their treasures.

When Isa turned twelve he and his mother returned to Palestine. They settled in the small town of An-Nasira.

Isa's manners were different from ot—
her youths. He beha—
ved like an adult. He was very wise and he often gave good advice. He was understanding and kindhearted.



When Isa turned thirty, declared that he was now to be a prophet.

of Banu Israil. They had been given many prophets and messages in the past. Because they had again gone astray, Allah sent them Prophet Isa.



