



Prophet Stories
Prophet

Sulayman

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Prophet Sulayman

Prophet Dawud had ruled over the people of Banu Israil for many years. One day he sat listening to two men who were arguing with each other. His young son Sulayman stood by his side.

“My king!” said one of the men. “This man’s sheep broke into my field at night. They ruined my crops. I put so much work into my fields. My loss is great. I demand payment from him!”



Prophet Dawud turned to the man who owned the sheep.

“Is what your neighbor says about you true?” said the prophet.

“Yes, it is true your majesty,” replied the man with his head hung low. I forgot to close the sheep-pen door last night. While I was sleeping, the **sheep** broke into my neighbor’s field.”

“Then you will give your sheep to your neighbor,” **said Prophet Dawud.** “Your debt will be settled and justice served.”







But young Sulayman started thinking. The man with the sheep did not mean to harm his neighbor. It would be a disaster for him if he was forced to give away all of his sheep.

“Dear father!” interrupted Sulayman. “I have another solution to this case.”



Since Sulayman was a smart and honest child, Prophet Dawud valued his opinions.

“What’s that solution my son?” asked the king.

“The sheep will be given to the owner of the field as a loan,” answered Sulayman.

“He will benefit from their milk and wool. The owner of the **sheep** will plant crops in the field. When he finishes this, he will give the field back. The owner of the field will also give the sheep back.”










This was a very clever and very fair solution.


"Sulayman's plan is better," said Prophet Dawud. "Do it as he said." Both men were happy with the decision.

Sulayman was wise enough to figure out the truth even in his childhood. He became the ruler of Banu Israil when Prophet David passed away. Allah granted many **talents** to Sulayman and much **power** too. Allah made him a prophet like his father.







When he became king, Sulayman declared to his people:




"O people! Allah gave me everything necessary to be a prophet and a king. He taught me the language of birds. He put the wind under my control. Certainly these are great gifts that Allah has given to me."

Sulayman was a **powerful** and influential **king**. He used his might and wealth to help his people live in peace and comfort. All the while he lived a modest and simple life.







Sulayman had a great and well-arranged army. He had birds and Jinn in this army as well as people.

Sulayman often inspected his army. One day while he was inspecting he saw that a certain **Hoopoe bird** wasn't in its place. The Hoopoe often flew to faraway lands in order to bring news from there.

"Why can't I see the Hoopoe among you?" Sulayman told his commanders. "I hope he has a good reason for not being here. If not, he **will be punished.**"






The commanders were quiet. They did not know why the Hoopoe was not present. They had no answer for the king.

Suddenly the sound of flapping wings was heard. Everybody took a deep breath. They knew that the Hoopoe was coming from far away.

The bird perched directly on Sulayman's shoulder.

"Where have you been flying?" Sulayman asked with a sharp voice. "Why weren't you here?"





The Hoopoe had been to the land of Sheba and learned of something very strange and wonderful. It began to tell the king about its experience:

"Sheba is ruled by a queen. They called her Bilqis. She is **very beautiful, very smart** and **very rich**. But I saw that her people do not believe in the One God. Instead they worship the Sun. They cannot find the right way. They cannot see the truth."

Sulayman was listening curiously to the Hoopoe.

"We will see if your story is true or not," he said.

Then he wrote a letter to Bilqis. He put the letter in an envelope and sealed it.

"Take this letter to the queen," He said to the Hoopoe. "Wait until she reads the letter. Learn what she does and what she says."

