



The Birth and Childhood of the Prophet ﷺ

Sayyidina Ka'ab ﷺ who before accepting Islam was a great scholar of the Jews, stated: 'I have seen in the Torah that Allah ﷺ revealed the time of the coming of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ to Musa السُّلْطَانُ (Moses).' Moses told his nation of those signs preceding the coming of Muhammad ﷺ. Due to these signs being known to them, a few years and months prior to the birth of the Prophet ﷺ, the Jewish scholars were unanimous that the coming of the final Prophet was almost imminent. (*Jamiul Darari*, p540)

It is related from a saying of Abdul Muttalib: 'During the time of the birth of the Prophet ﷺ I was busy in performing Tawaff of the Ka'bah. It was the time of dawn and I heard the Takbir (Allahu Akbar) from the direction of the Ka'bah, and after this a messenger came and gave the news that Aminah ﷺ (the Prophet's ﷺ Mother) had given birth to a boy. At the time of his birth I saw (divine) light in every direction' (*Kasair Kubara*)

The Prophet ﷺ stated: 'Whilst my Mother was carrying me she saw a dream-from her body emanated a spiritual light, through which the palaces of Sham (Syria) and the east and west was illuminated.' (*Tabakat Ibn Sa'd*, vol 1, p146)

The day of the Prophet's ﷺ birth was a Monday, and the date is somewhat disputed but the well-known narration is that it was the 12th (2nd or 8th) day of the month of ربيع الأول Rabi Ul Awal. (*Tariq Tibari*, vol 2, p125)

In Sahih Muslim Abu Qatada رضي الله عنه related: 'The Prophet ﷺ was asked about keeping a fast on the day of Monday.' He ﷺ replied: 'I was born on the day of Monday and it is on this day that the 1st revelation of the Qur'an came upon me.'

Halima Sa'diya رضي الله عنها states: When I brought the Prophet ﷺ to my home from the arms of his Mother, my home was transformed into a place of happiness. It was my condition previously, that due to my weakness, I was unable to feed my son Abdullah bin Harith to his full, through the blessings of the Prophet ﷺ being in our care, I was able to feed him ﷺ and my son to their fill with ease.' (*Seerat Ibn Hisham*, p172)

Allah ﷺ has protected all the Prophets عليهم السلام from birth from the bad habits and actions performed by mankind. Abu Talib stated: 'It was the habit of my family that we would not take the name of anything upon partaking of food. However, it was the habit of Muhammad ﷺ to start food with the recitation of 'Bismillah' and end with 'Alhamdulillah.' I have not seen that Muhammad ﷺ spoke anything untruthful, or backbited or played and joked with the other children in childhood.' (*Rohul Ma'ani*)

Urwa bin Zubayr رضي الله عنه related: 'Sowayba was a slave girl of Abu Lahab, the Uncle of the Prophet ﷺ, (it was this uncle who was an obstacle to the Prophet ﷺ at every juncture of his preaching of Islam). When Abu Lahab heard the news of the birth of the Prophet ﷺ, out of happiness he freed his slave girl Sowayba. Sowayba was also responsible for feeding the Prophet ﷺ milk on occasion. When Abu Lahab died, somebody of his household saw him in a dream in a very distressful state, he asked him in the dream: 'how is your condition?' Abu Lahab replied: 'due to my freeing of Sowayba on the birth of Muhammad ﷺ I am granted a little water to drink.' (*Sahih Bukhari*)

In Fathul Bari, Sohaili رحمه الله has related a saying from Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه in which Ibn Abbas says: 'I saw Abu Lahab in a dream a year after his passing away and saw him in great difficulty,' Abu Lahab said: 'Ever since I died I have not experienced any comfort, only that on Mondays my punishment is lessened a little.' Abbas رضي الله عنه stated: 'the reason for this is that when the Prophet ﷺ was born, Abu Lahab freed Sowayba and that was on a Monday.' (*Sahih Bukhari*)

There were 4 occasions on which Shaitan screamed with great despair:

1. When he was cursed and rejected from the court of Allah due to his disobedience to the order of Allah.
2. When Allah ﷺ took him out of the Heavens and placed him on the Earth.
3. When the Prophet ﷺ was born and when his Prophethood was received.
4. When the opening chapter 'Al Fatiha' was revealed to the Prophet ﷺ. (*Tafsir ibn Mukalid*)

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