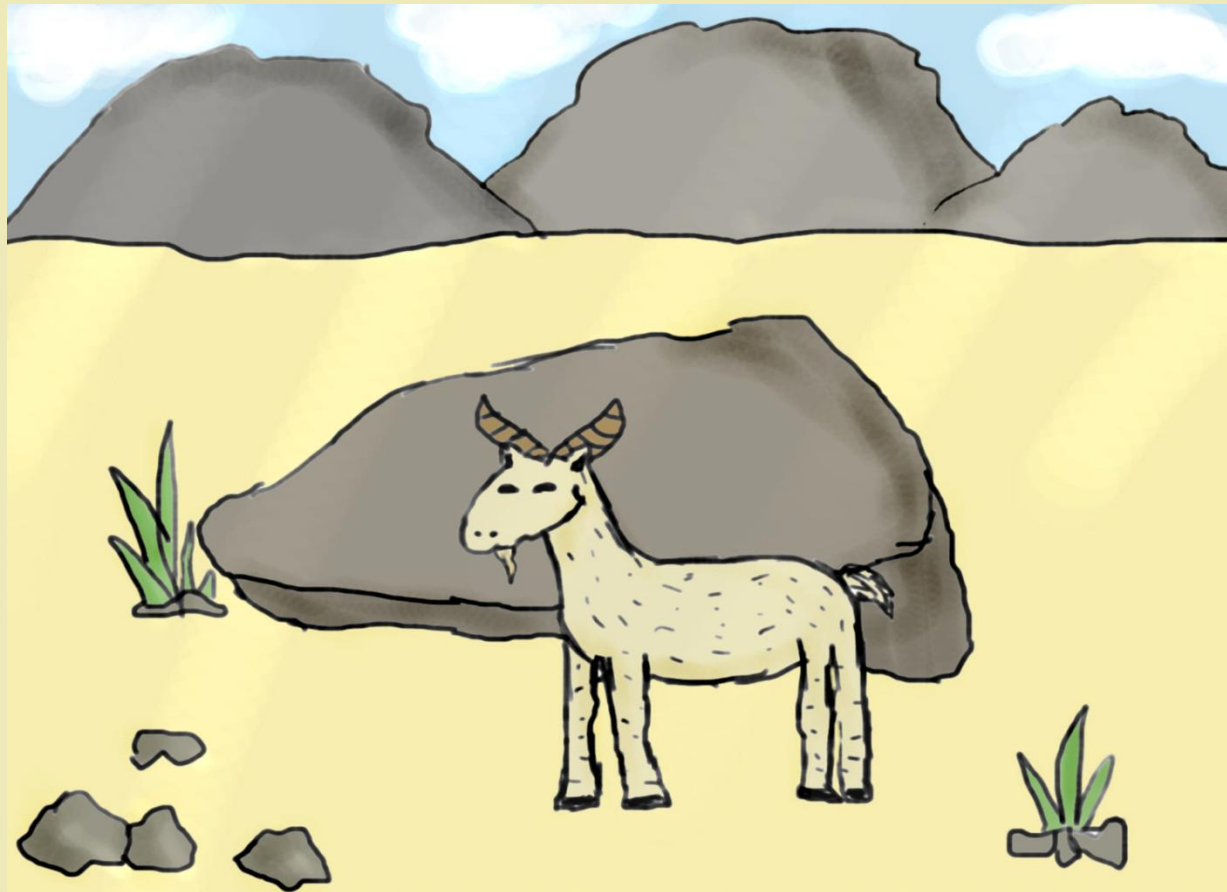


Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as}

The Defender of Allah.

Story one

Long long ago in a small Town called Ur (in Iraq) there lived a young man called Ibrahim^{as}. Not only was he a good kind and gentle person but he was very wise and intelligent.



Allah Taala could see that people had forgotten Him and that He needed to send a prophet to tell them all about Him. He decided that Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} was the perfect person. When Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} was ready, Allah told him that he was a prophet of God. Whenever Allah told Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} to do something, he never asked why, as he completely trusted Allah. Allah Taala loved Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} very much. He called him Khalil which means Special Friend of Allah.



Special friend of Allah

From a very young age, Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} spent a lot of his time thinking about Allah. Many of his people did not believe in Allah. Instead they worshipped the stars the sun, the moon and they also worshipped idols.



Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} found this very strange. How could they worship something that they had made themselves?

Even when he was young, Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} would tell his people all about Allah.

Once he asked them “why do you worship idols?” they would answer “because our fathers did the same before us”. Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} did not think that this was a good enough answer. His father, Azar, made idols but that never made any difference to him Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} did only what Allah said.



Whenever Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} had the chance he would tell his people about Allah. One night Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} sat looking at the sky with its sparkling stars and silvery moon. He looked at the brightest star and said to his people “can that star be my Lord?” then he looked at the bright moon and said “can this be my Lord?”



But as the night began to fade the stars and the moon disappeared and the glorious sun began to rise spreading its golden rays across the land. Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} said to his people again “This is the greatest, can this be my Lord?” The sun also set bringing darkness again.



Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} turned to his people and said I do not like those things that set, I worship the one who has created everything. He said:



“I have turned my face toward Him Who created the Heavens and the earth being ever inclined to God and I am not of those who associate gods with God”. (6:80)

Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as} was trying to teach his people that there is only one God and He created everything; so it is Allah that they should worship, not the sun the moon the stars or idols.

When we begin our Namaz we start it with the words of Hadhrat Ibrahim^{as}. These words remind us that that when we stand in front of Allah to pray, we should think only about Him. His words remind us that we only worship Allah and that it is He who created all things. We promise that we will never be like those people who worship idols.

‘We only worship Allah!’