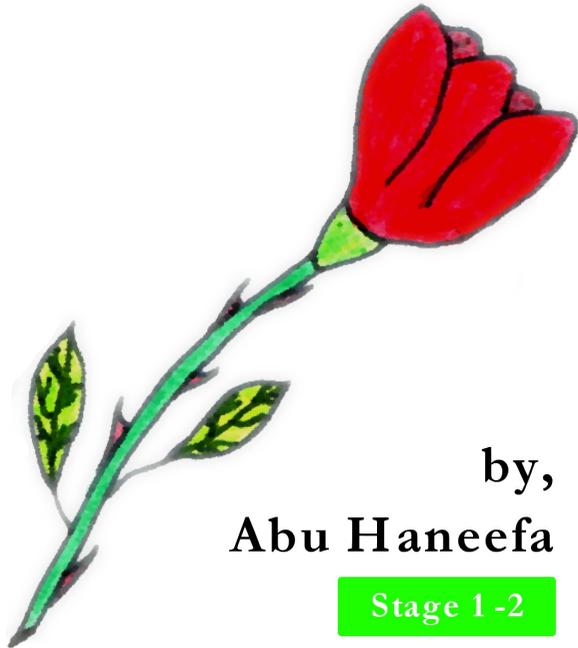


The Seerah

The life of Prophet Muhammad
peace and blessings of Allah be upon him

The Year of the Elephant



by,
Abu Haneefa

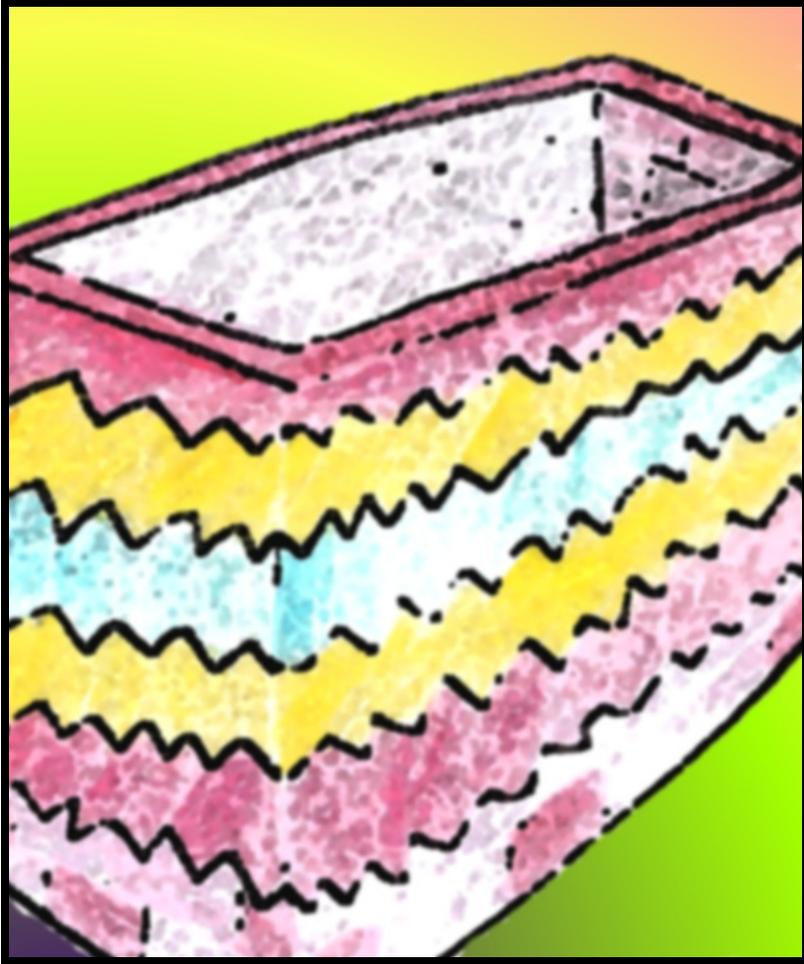
Stage 1 -2



In the Name of Allah

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In Makkah lived a wise chief.

The chief was called Abdul-Muttalib.

(**Ab-dul-Mut-ta-lib**)

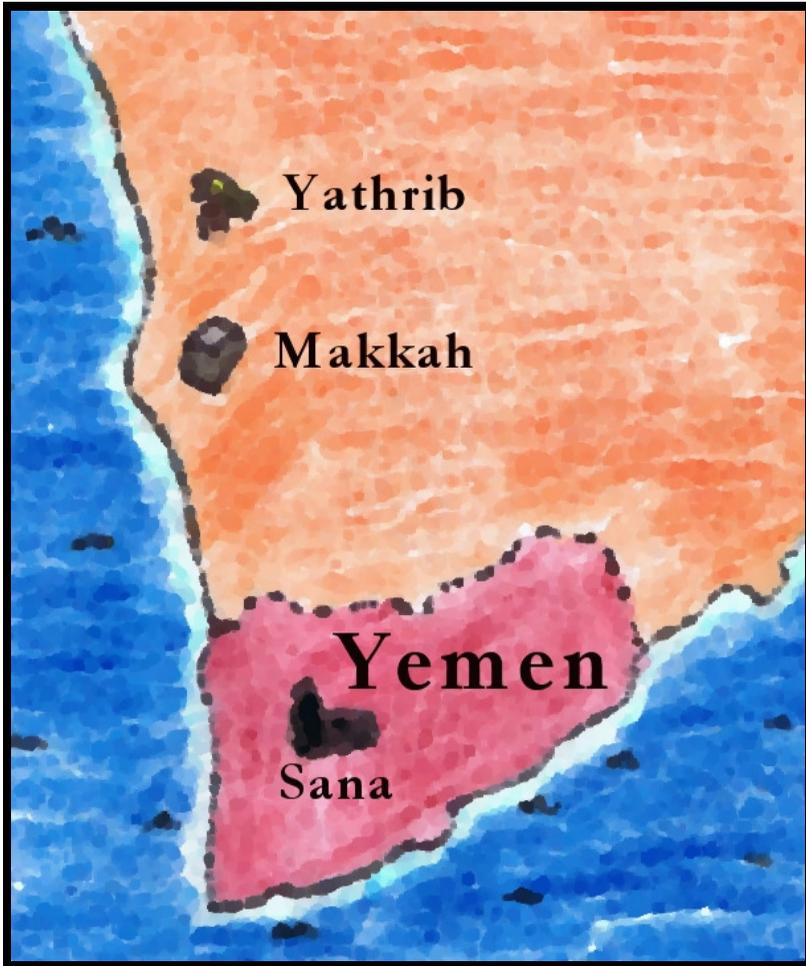
His job was to look after the Kabah.



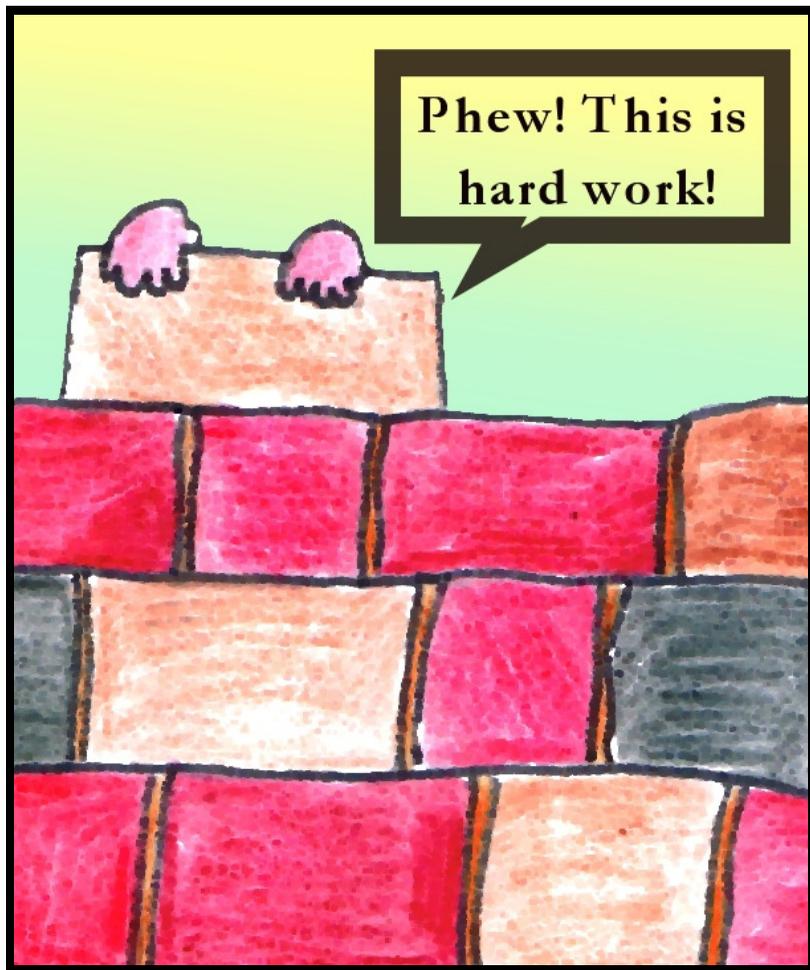
People came to visit the Kabah.

Abdul-Muttalib looked after the people.

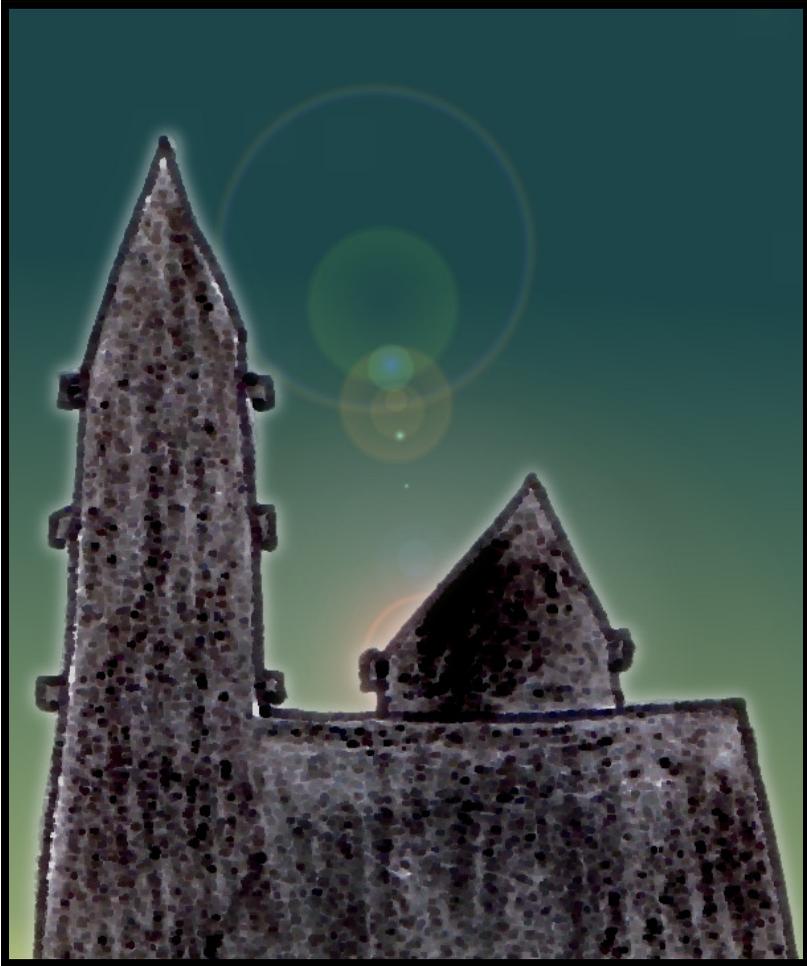
When they came they also spent money to buy things in Makkah.



Makkah was very busy and very rich.
Far away in another land, there lived a king called Abraha. (**Ab-ra-ha**)
He was a Christian (**Ka-ris-tee-an**) and the country he lived in was Yemen.



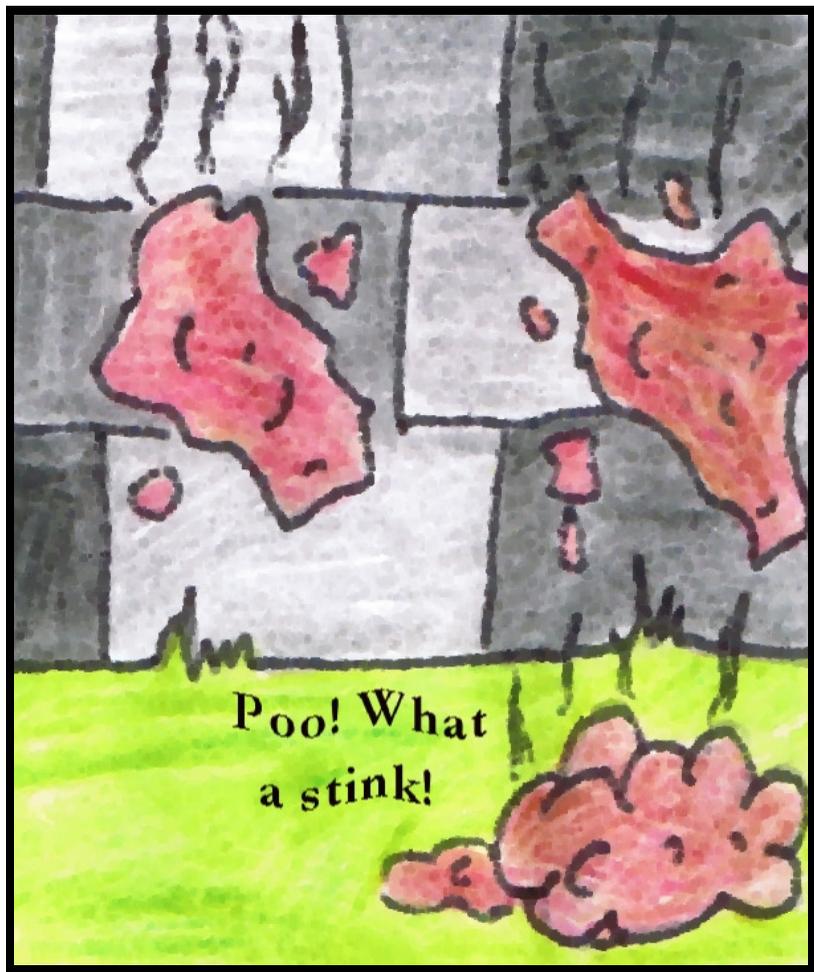
He heard about the Kabah in Makkah.
He wanted people to come to visit his
place to make it rich like Makkah.
So he told his workers to make a big
church.



They made a huge church.

It looked very nice.

One day a man from Makkah came to
Yemen.



He saw the church and was not happy.
He got some dirt and put it all over the
walls of the church.
When Abraha saw this, he became
mad.



Abraha wanted to smash the Kabah so no one would go there any more.

He got a huge army together and set off to Makkah to break the Kabah.



At the front of the army was a big elephant, marching on to Makkah. When the army of the elephant came near to Makkah they found some camels.



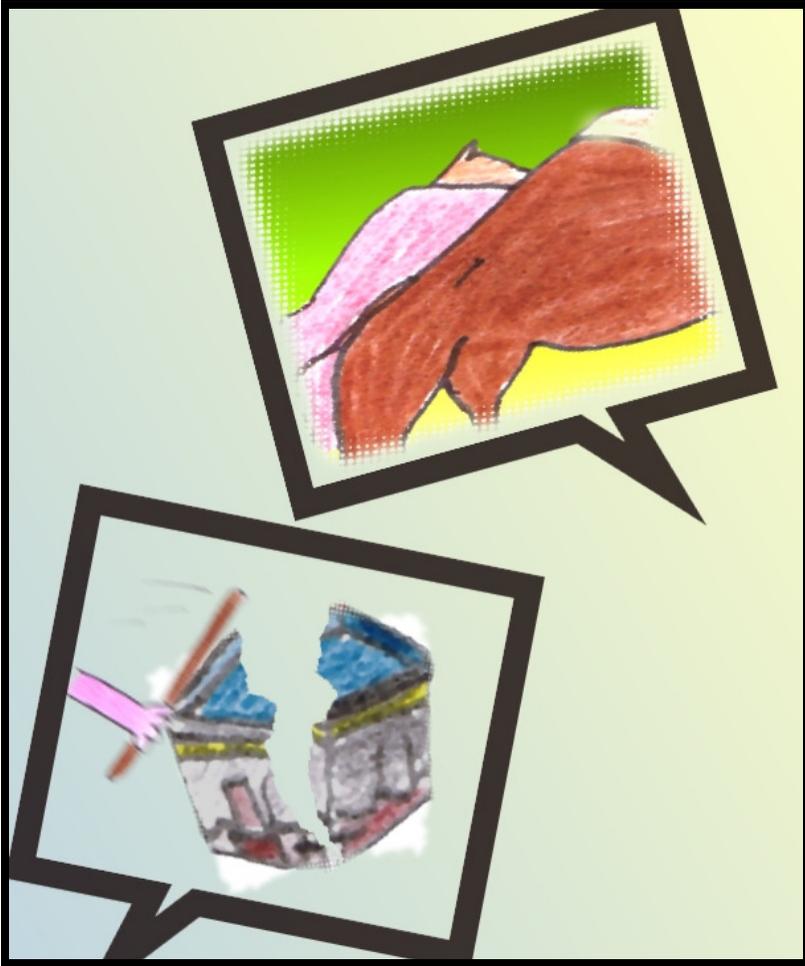
They belonged to the leader of Makkah, Abdul-Muttalib.

Abraha stole the camels and then he went to rest in his tent.



When Abdul-Muttalib found out about the army, he went to their leader Abraha.

The two leaders met and spoke to each other.

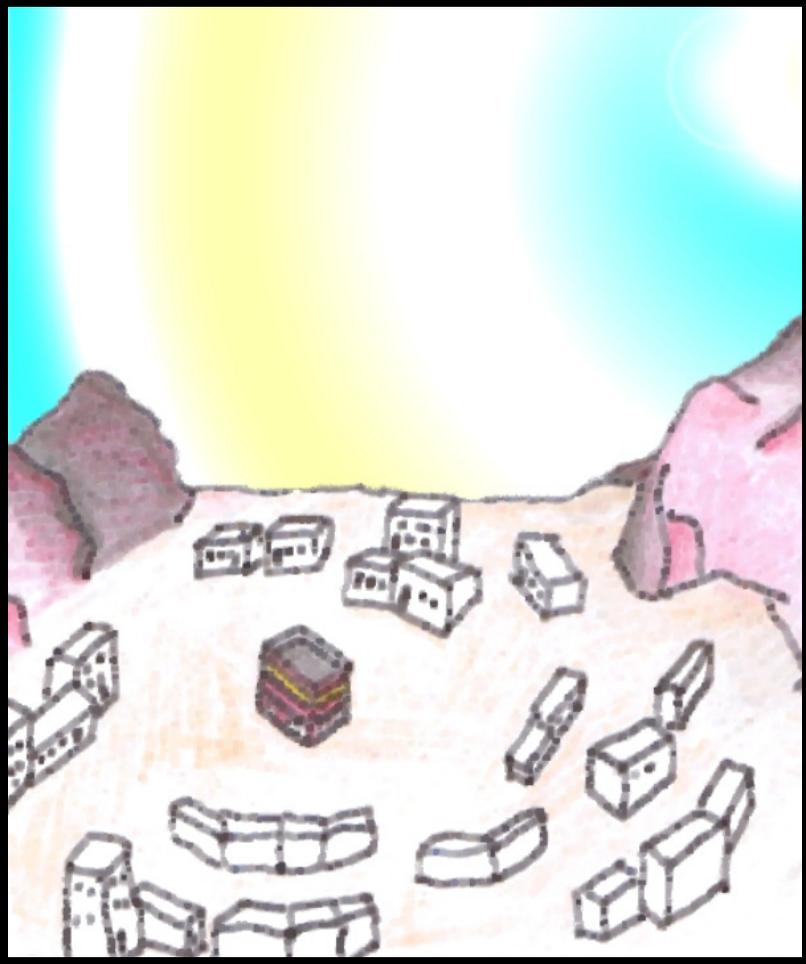


Abdul-Muttalib said, “Give me back my camels.”

Abraha shouted to Abdul-Muttalib, “You ask me about camels when I have come to destroy the Kabah!”



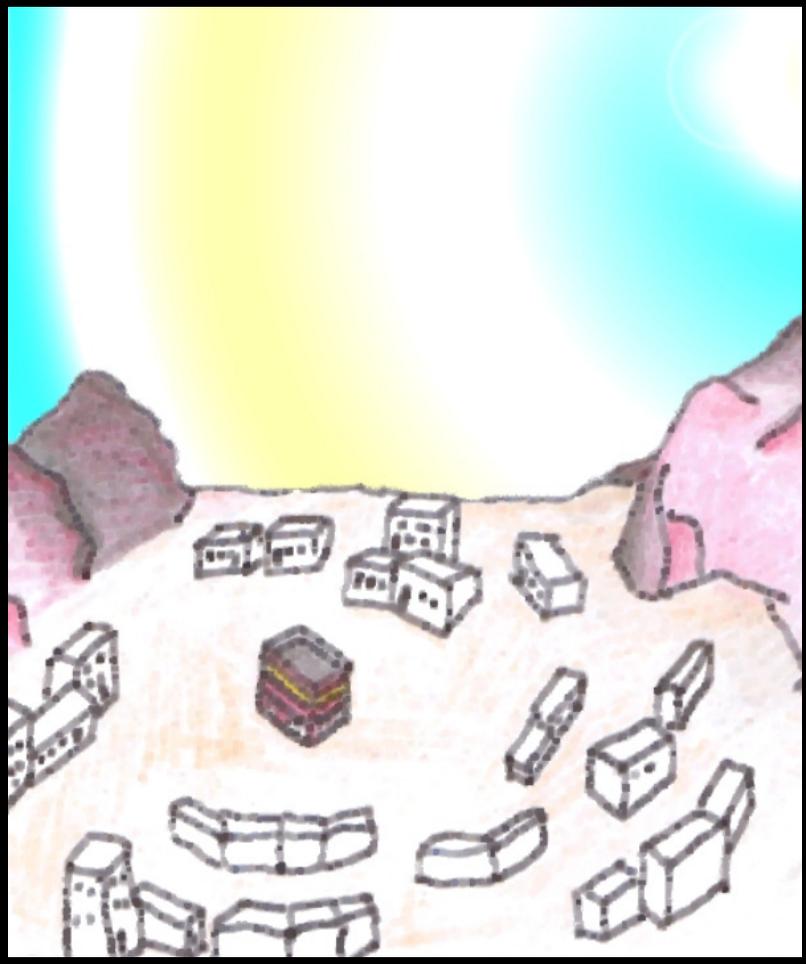
Abdul-Muttalib told Abraha, “The camels belong to me, but the Kabah belongs to Allah, he will look after it.” When Abraha heard this, he gave the camels back to Abdul-Muttalib.



Abdul-Muttalib went back to Makkah, he told all his people to take their families into the hills because Abraha is about to attack the Kabah.



Abdul-Muttalib got his family together, including his son Abdullah and with the rest of the people of Makkah went to hide in the hills.

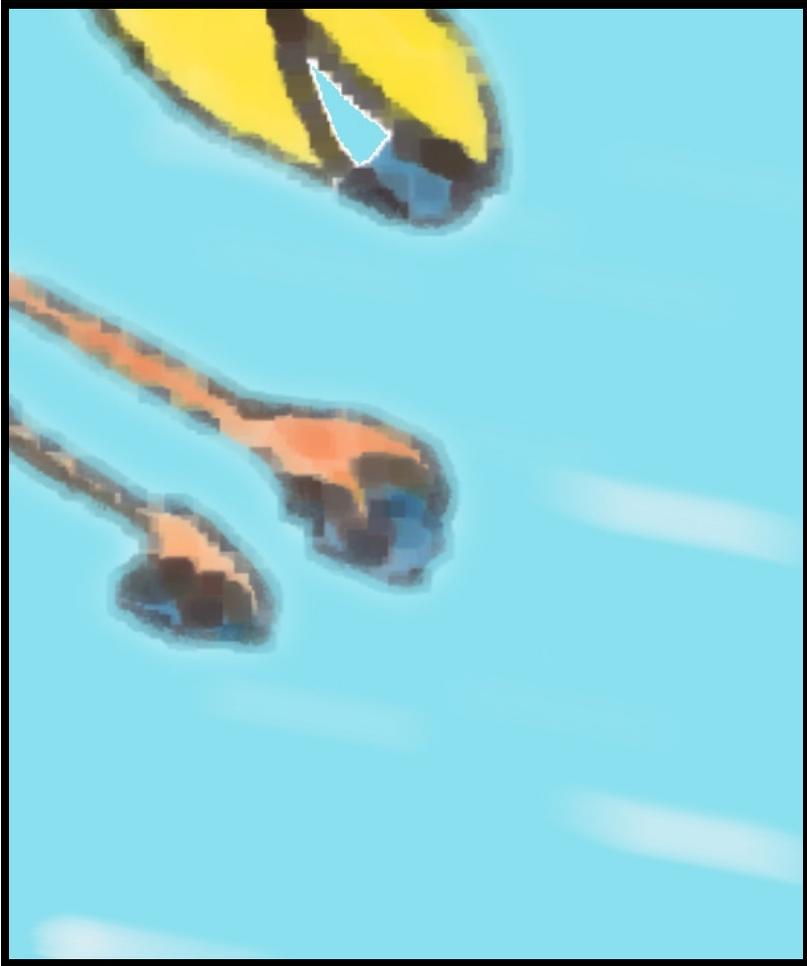


Abraha started to move his giant elephant and huge army towards Makkah.

When the elephant came near to the town, he stopped and sat down.



The army poked the poor elephant with their sticks and hit it with their axes, but the elephant did not move. Then they saw lots of birds coming from far away.



The army watched as more and more birds started to come near the army.

The birds held little stones in their beaks and claws.

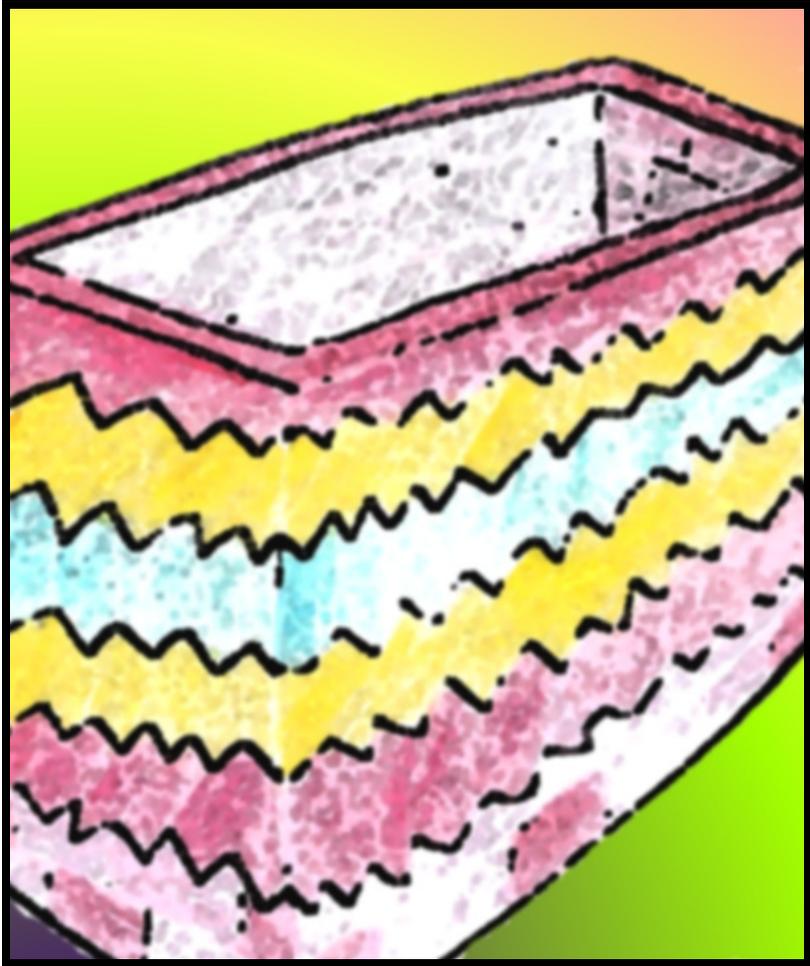


When the birds came near to the army they dropped the small stones on the army.

When the stones hit the bad men, they started to die.

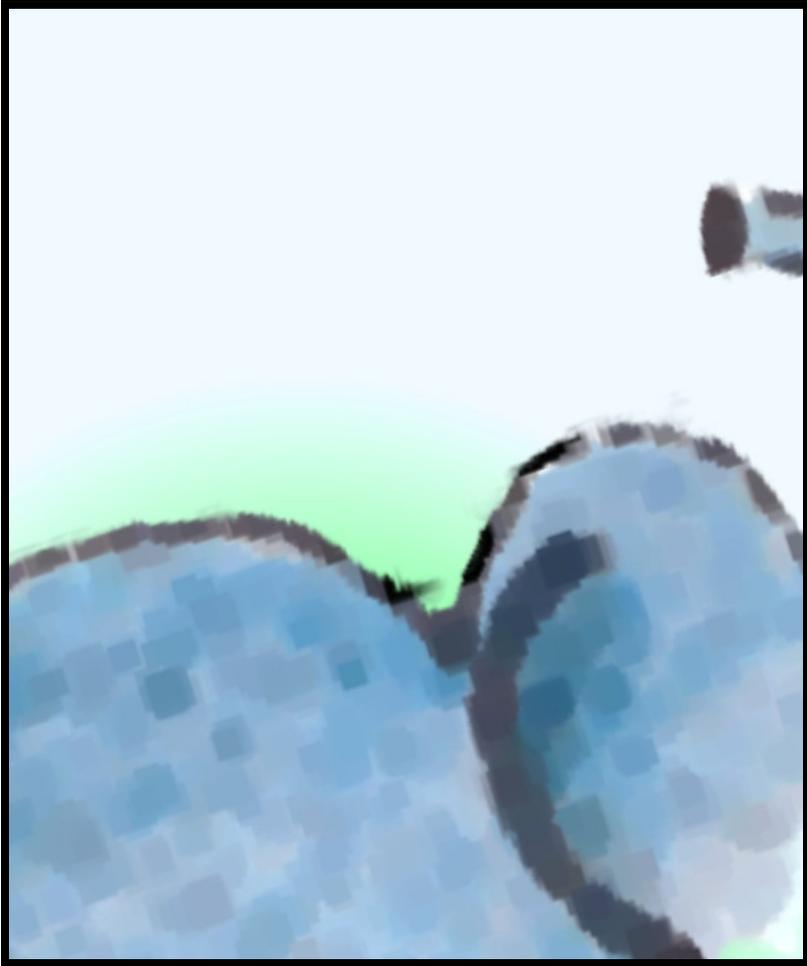


The evil army tried to run away, but the birds kept throwing stones until all the army was dead. When the birds had gone away, the people of Makkah came down from the mountains.



The people came to the Kabah and thanked Allah for saving them and the Kabah.

The evil army of Abraha had lost and the Kabah was safe.



Everybody remembered the time when the evil army was killed, they called that year the Year of the Elephant.

Glossary

Axe – a tool used for chopping things.

Chief – a person who is in charge. A leader.

Church – a place where Christians pray.

Claw – sharp nail of a bird or animal.

Destroy – to break into pieces.

Leader – a person who is in charge. A chief.