

سُورَةُ الْمَسَدِ – Palm Fibre – Sūratu l-Masad

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

تَبَّتْ يَدَا أَبِي لَهَبٍ وَتَبَّ ۝ مَا أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ ۝ سَيَصْلَىٰ نَارًا ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ ۝ وَامْرَأَتُهُ حَمَّالَةَ الْحَطَبِ ۝ فِي

جِيدِهَا حَبْلٌ مِّن مَّسَدٍ ۝

In the name of Allāh, the Unimaginably Merciful, the All-Merciful:

¹ May the hands of Abu Lahab be ruined! May he be ruined too! ² Neither his wealth nor his gains will help him: ³ he will burn in the Flaming Fire— ⁴ and so will his wife, the firewood-carrier ⁵ with a palm-fibre rope around her neck.
[M. A. S. Abdel Haleem]

Vocabulary Words

carrier [1 F]	حَمَّالَةٌ	it was destroyed (little by little) [1 F]	تَبَّتْ
firewood	الْحَطَبِ	the two hands of...	يَدَا
neck	جِيدٍ	flame	لَهَبٍ
rope	حَبْلٌ	it benefitted [1 M]	أَغْنَىٰ
palm fiber	مَسَدٍ	he gained	كَسَبَ

Short-Answer Questions

1. Is this a مَكِّيَّة or a مَدَنِيَّة sūrah? What does that mean?

- a. This sūrah is مَكِّيَّة , meaning it was revealed 1) while the Prophet Muḥammad, صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ , was residing in Makkah, 2) in the first 13 years of receiving waḥy (revelation), 3) before the hijrah (migration).

2. How does this sūrah connect to the two before it, al-Kāfirūn and an-Naṣr?

Connection	al-Kāfirūn	an-Naṣr	al-Masad
a.	This surah describes two very different types of religions: that which is true and that which is false.	This surah describes how truth will overcome falsehood.	This sūrah describes how falsehood will be destroyed, as 'Abū Lahab was.

3. Who was 'Abū Lahab and why was he given this nickname?
 - a. He was one of the most famous and wealthy people in Makkah before 'Islām and one of the Uncles of the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam.
 - b. He was given this nickname because he had a reddish complexion on his skin, which was considered good-looking and the same color as lahab, a flame.

4. What are two examples of terrible things 'Abū Lahab and his wife used to do?
 - c. As next-door neighbors of the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, they would throw filth into his house whenever he would read Qur'ān.
 - d. He ordered his sons to divorce the daughters of the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam.
 - e. When al-Qāsim, the son of the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, passed away, he came out of his house screaming, dancing, and saying, “batara Muḥammad,” which means: “his lineage has been cut off.”

5. What ended up happening to 'Abū Lahab?
 - f. Although he and his wife were rich, popular, and good looking, '**Abū Lahab developed a disease, which slowly destroyed his body**. Even his own family did not want to come near him or touch him because they did not want to contract it.