



AL-FEEL - THE ELEPHANT



DIVINE PROTECTION OF THE KA'BA
PORTRAIT OF ONE WHOSE GOD IS WEALTH AND POWER AND THUS DOESN'T SEE THE
SACREDNESS OF DIVINE SYMBOLS

105

1

DIVINE PROTECTION OF THE KA'BA FROM DESTRUCTION BY ABRAHA AND HIS ARMY

A confrontation between strength and power of great magnitude and its direct opposite.
The destruction of the army sent to destroy the Ka'ba by flocks of tiny creatures with stones of baked
clay annihilating them as dried stubble.
Divinity gives protection from any plot to destroy the axis of faith and reinforces the status of Makka
for the year of the elephant heralded the birth of the Prophet.



Ayaat 1-5

105. Al-Feel ~ The Elephant

5 Ayaat (Makki)

FOCUS

DIVINE PROTECTION OF THE KA'BA
PORTRAIT OF ONE WHOSE GOD IS WEALTH AND POWER AND
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DID YOU KNOW?

MAKKA WAS AN ECONOMIC HUB UNIFYING THE ARABS. ABRAHA WAS BENT
ON DESTROYING THE KA'BA TO ERADICATE ITS STATUS AND COLONISE THE
REGION.

THIS EVENT GAVE MAKKA ITS INDEPENDENCE AND STATUS AND THE YEAR
WAS CALLED 'THE YEAR OF THE ELEPHANT'. THE PROPHET WAS BORN IN THIS
YEAR.

SELECTED AYAAT

- 105:1 Have you not considered how your Lord dealt with the troops of the
elephant?
105:2 Did He not cause their strategy to end in confusion?
105:3 And send down flocks of flying creatures onto them.
105:4 Raining on them stones of baked clay.
105:5 Making them like consumed stubbles of grain.

NARRATIVE

THE CHAPTER TAKES ITS TITLE FROM THE DISCUSSION OF THE COMPANIONS
OF THE ELEPHANT WHOSE DESTRUCTION IT RELATES.

THE GENERAL WHO RULED YEMEN NAMED ABRAHA, HAD BUILT AN OPULENT
CHURCH IN SANA'A IN ORDER TO DIVERT PILGRIMS FROM THE KA'BA IN
MAKKA. A NARRATION STATES THAT A FEW MEMBERS OF THE QURAYSH HAD
GONE TO YEMEN AND DEFILED THE CHURCH.

WHEN THE VISITATIONS TO THE KA'BA WERE NOT ABANDONED, HE SENT AN
ARMY WITH AN ELEPHANT TO DESTROY THE KA'BA. DIVINITY PROTECTED THE
KA'BA BY SENDING A SWARM OF BIRDS THAT PELTED THE ARMY DESTROYING
THEM.

THIS CHAPTER AND THE NEXT (AL QURAYSH 106) ARE A PAIR WHICH TOGETHER
ARE A WARNING TO THE QURAYSH THAT THEY WERE PROTECTED NOT
BECAUSE OF THEIR STATUS BUT BECAUSE ALLAH WISHED TO PROTECT THE
KA'BA AND TO MAKE WAY FOR THE COMING OF HIS FINAL MESSENGER.