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How to Use These Books

The Mini Tafseer Book Series is designed to teach children the Tafseer (exegesis) of all the suwaar (chapters) in the 30th Part of the Qur'aan. Each book in this 38 book series covers a different surah. The books feature:

- Special facts about the surah
- Arabic text of the surah
- English transliteration (to assist non-Arabic speakers)
- English translation
- Simplified Tafseer
- Illustrations/Coloring pages (no animals/humans)
- Highlighted Arabic vocabulary
- Sahih Ahadith
- One sentence summary of what the surah is about
- Review section
- Notes on the text (additional facts and information)

Teaching Tips:

If your younger child has trouble going through the whole book in one sitting, or does not retain all of the information taught, then just focus on the Tafseer pages first (i.e. those that explain the verses of the surah) and save the additional information contained in the Quick Facts, What's Special, Asbaab An-Noozool, and Vocabulary sections* for later when your child has mastered the Tafseer.

For older or advanced students who need more of a challenge, you can take time to go through all sections and discuss the lesson notes for that section (located at the end of the text). This will make lessons more challenging and provide a deeper understanding of the Tafseer, and Allah knows best.

**Some books may not contain all of these sections.*

Preview

Mini Tafseer Book Series

Suratul-Feel

Quick Facts About Suratul-Feel...

Suratul-Feel was
revealed in **Makkah**.

“Feel”, means **elephant** in Arabic.

Suratul-Feel talks about an
attack on Makkah when Abraha, the
Abyssinian governor of Yemen, tried to
destroy the Kabah with his army of
elephants. ¹

Suratul-Feel is named after
Abraha’s elephants that would not go
and destroy the Kabah.

Rasulullah ﷺ was **born the same year** that
the attack on Makkah happened. ²

So what is Suratul-Feel about?

Suratul-Feel is about the time when
Abraha came with his army of men and
elephants to destroy the Kabah,
but Allah protected the Kabah from harm.

SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!

**Now let's learn what makes
Suratul-Feel so...**

~~SPECIAL!~~
SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!

The thing that is **so special**
about Suratul-Feel is that...

**Suratul-Feel is related to
Suratu-Quraysh.**

It is related to **Suratul-Quraysh**
(the last surah you studied).

These two surahs both talk about how a
man named Abraha, brought an army of
elephants to destroy the Kabah.

Allah protected the people of Makkah,
and the Kabah, from being destroyed by
the army. This was a huge blessing!

Suratul-Feel and Suratu-Quraysh both talk
about this special blessing, so that makes
them very special, too!

Now that we have learned what is so special about Suratul-Feel, let's learn even more!

We will start by learning **5 new words** from the Qur'aan.

The more words you know from the Qur'aan, the better you will understand each surah that you learn insha-Allah.

Understanding the Qur'aan is what Allah wants us to do!

So let's get started
right now!

5 NEW WORDS!

Vocabulary List

Keep a look out for the following vocabulary words while you read! These words will help you remember the meaning of Suratul-Feel, insha-Allah!

how	كَيْفَ (kay-fa)
the elephant	الْفِيلِ (al-feel)
birds	طَيْرًا (tay-run)
stones/rocks	حِجَارَةٍ (he-jaa-ra-tin)
eaten (in this case, "like corn husks after being eaten by cattle")	مَأْكُولٍ (ma'-kool)

Now that we are ready,
we need to start the right way...

There are **two things** we should say before
we start reading a surah from the Qur'aan,
can you remember what they are?



Color in your numbers!

#1 We say the Isti'aadhah³...

I seek refuge with Allah from the cursed Shaytaan.

(‘A-‘oo-thoo-bil-laa-he-me-nash-shay-taa-nir-ra-jeem)

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ
الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

We start reading Qur'aan by asking
Allah to protect us from Shaytaan
and...

#2 We say the Basmallah⁴...

In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful,
the Especially Merciful.

(Bis-mil-laa-hir-rah-maa-nir-ra-heem)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

We remember Allah and say how
great He is for giving us so many
wonderful blessings!

Okay!

We are ready to go now! You know your **new words** and you've said the **Isti'aadhah** and **Basmallah**...

Now it is time to learn
more about Suratul-Feel...

Blessed from Beginning to End!

Many of the ayaat (verses) in the Qur'aan have a story behind them that tells why they were revealed. These stories are called...

Asbaab

An-Noozool

The story behind the revelation of Suratul-Feel is blessed from beginning to end! ⁵

The Blessed Kabah...

You see, Allah had blessed the Kabah since the time that it was built by **Ibraheem** ﷺ. Generations of people had lived around it until the time of the Quraysh came.

The Quraysh were the tribe (that is a large group of people who are related to each other) who were responsible for taking care of the Kabah, and giving water to the pilgrims who visited it, at the time of Rasulallah ﷺ.

Abdul-Moottalib

(Rasulallah's grandfather) was one of the leaders of the Quraysh.

The Quraysh were famous all over Arabia because of the Kabah. As we learned in Suratu-Quraysh, they lived in peace and prosperity. There was no other tribe that was as **wealthy and as safe**, all of this because of the blessed Kabah.

The neighbors of Quraysh...

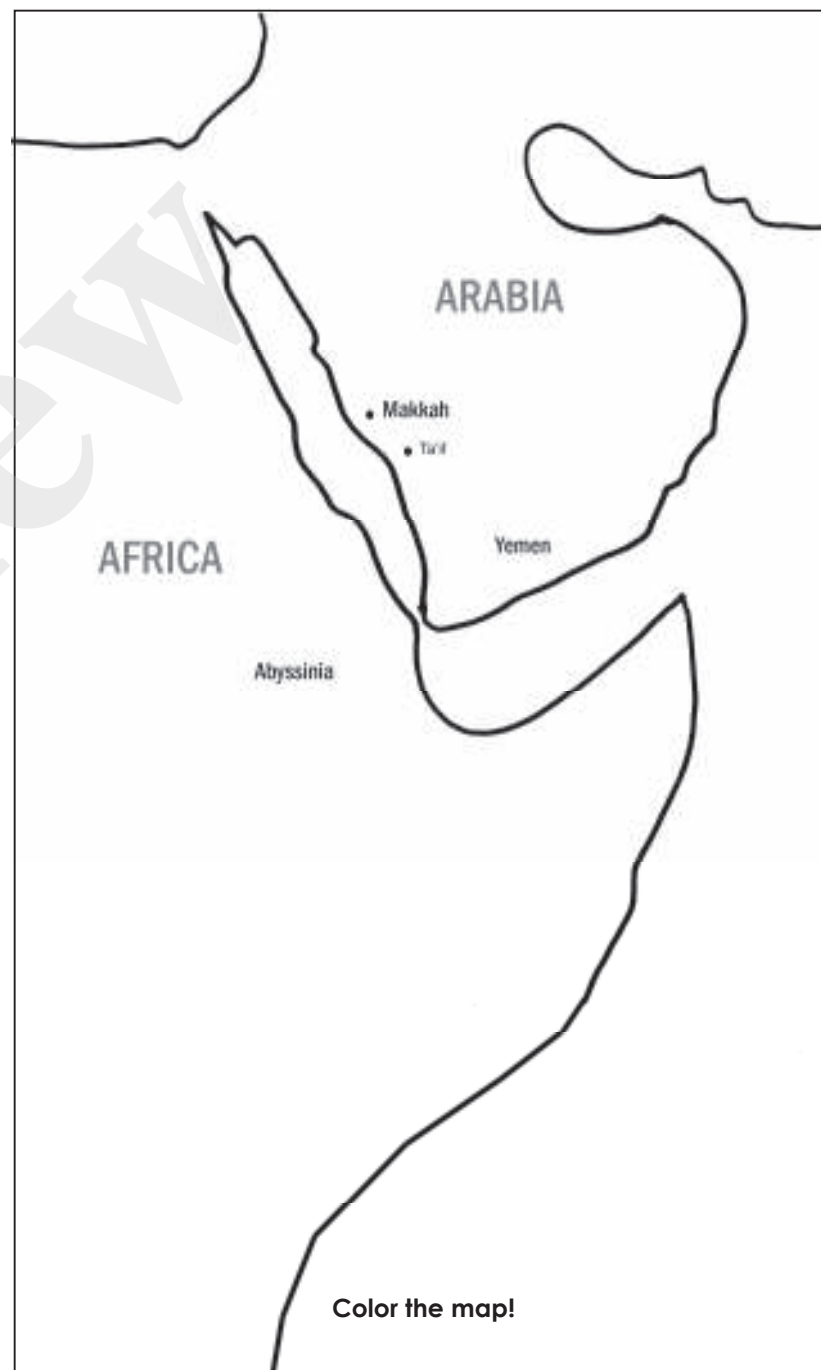
The Quraysh were friends with all of the Arab tribes around them, and they traded with all the countries around them as well, but soon there would trouble with one of their neighbors, **here is how it all started...**

The Christian King of Abyssinia, **An-Najashi**, sent his army to take over a country called Yemen (to the south of Makkah). He wanted to take over Yemen because the Christians living there had been treated badly by their king, Dhoo Noowas.

An-Najashi's army was led by two men, **Aryat and Abraha**.

When Aryat and Abraha had taken over Yemen, An-Najashi appointed them to be the governors of Yemen. However, they fought with each other and Abraha's servant killed Aryat. Then Abraha became the only governor of Yemen.

An-Najashi was **not happy** with Abraha for fighting with Aryat and told him that. Abraha did not want An-Najashi to be angry with him, so he promised to build a **great church** in honor of An-Najashi.



Al-Qoolays and the Quraysh...

An-Najashi was happy to hear this, so Abraha built the church, and it was called **Al-Qoolays**. It was covered in beautiful decorations. It was the most wonderful building of its time.

Once it was finished, Abraha decided that everyone in Yemen should visit Al-Qoolays, even if they were not Christians.

Now the Arabs did not like this because they wanted to go to the **Kabah** and did not want to be told what to do.

According to some people, a few young men from the Quraysh, who were angry about Abraha trying to stop the Arabs from going to the Kabah, went to Al-Qoolays, **put filth in it, or set a fire in it that destroyed it.**

Allah knows best if the young people did this, but we do know that soon after this, Abraha prepared an army and set out towards Makkah in order to **destroy the Kabah.**

Who will save the Kabah?

When the Arab tribes heard that Abraha was coming, they decided to **fight back** to save the Kabah.

The first group of Arabs that Abraha met in battle was led by a man named **Dhoo Nafr**. His army fought hard, but they lost, and Abraha kept marching towards Makkah.

The second group of Arabs that Abraha met in battle was led by a man named **Noofayl bin Habeeb**. But his army was beaten as well, and Abraha forced Noofayl to guide them towards Makkah, since Abraha did not know the way.

Finally, Abraha reached **Ta'if**, which is a city not far from Makkah. The people of Ta'if knew they could not fight Abraha, so they did not even try. They were afraid that he would destroy their temples, but he did not. He told them that **all he wanted was the Kabah**. So Abraha left Ta'if and continued to march towards Makkah.

The Quraysh asked Allah alone for help...

By now, the Quraysh knew they could not protect the Kabah.

Abraha was just outside of Makkah with an army of **60,000 men, and many powerful elephants**, ready to attack.

All the other Arab tribes had tried to stop Abraha, but they were no match for him.

The Quraysh knew **only Allah could protect the Kabah.**

Although the Quraysh worshipped idols, they knew that when there was something really important that they needed, they had to ask Allah alone.

So with Abraha about to enter the city, they went to the Kabah, prayed to Allah to protect it, and then **fled to the mountains** around Makkah to wait and see what happened.

Allah saves the Kabah...

Meanwhile, Abraha was now camped right outside of Makkah. He commanded his men to capture the **camels and grazing animals** of the Quraysh, and then sent a messenger to the Quraysh asking to see their leader.

The Quraysh sent **Abdul-Moottalib**, the grandfather of Rasulullahﷺ, to speak with Abraha. He told Abraha that the Quraysh would not fight him; they did not have the power to do so. Abdul-Moottalib, however, did want one thing...

he wanted his camels back.

Abraha was surprised, but agreed to return them. Then he asked Abdul-Moottalib why he wanted the camels, but would not defend the Kabah, which was much more valuable?

Abdul-Moottalib told Abraha that the camels belonged to him and he would take care of them, **but the Kabah belonged to Allah, and Allah would defend His house...and he was right!**

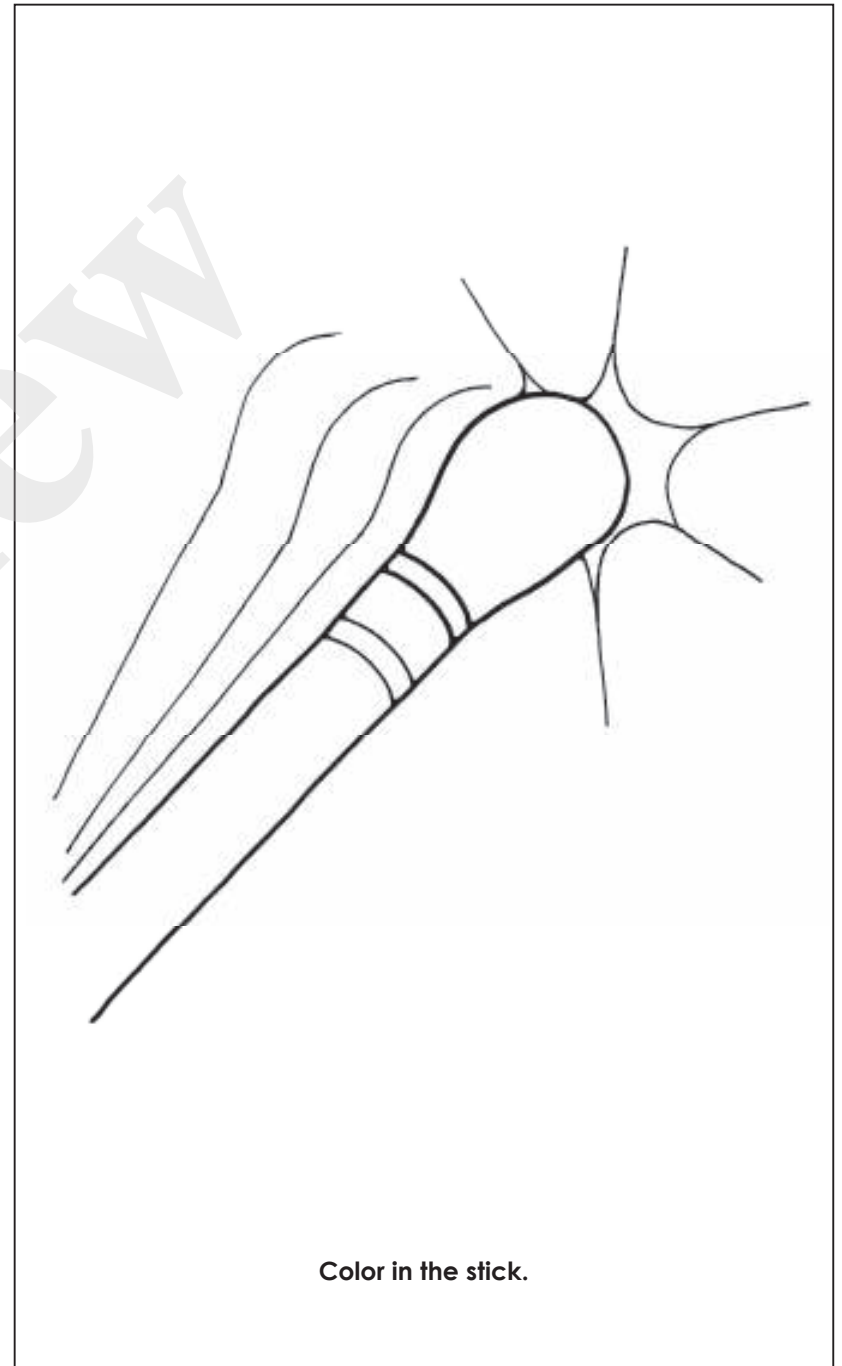
Abraha and his army are stopped!

The next morning Abraha had his army and elephants prepared. Some scholars say there were **eight** elephants, and others say there were **thirteen**, but Allah knows best.

When the biggest elephant, **Mahmood**, was ready, the soldiers tried to get him walking towards Makkah, but **he would not budge!**

If they turned him in any other direction, he would get up and walk without a problem. But as soon as they turned him back to the Kabah, he would sit down again.

They tried everything to get Mahmood to move. They **beat him with a stick** and cut his ears, yet he still would not go to destroy the Kabah.



Color in the stick.

The Blessed ending!

Then a **huge flock of green and black birds** appeared in the sky and started throwing stones at the army. The stones killed everyone they hit, and soon the whole army, including Abraha, was running away back towards Yemen trying to get away.

Abraha's great plan to destroy the Kabah was stopped by **an elephant and flocks of birds** sent to protect the Kabah by the order of Allah.

Suratul-Feel is a reminder for the Quraysh to be thankful to Allah for His greatest blessing to them, protecting the Kabah from being destroyed...

... Allah revealed Suratul-Feel to remind the Quraysh (and us) that Allah is the one who sends us blessings, so we should be grateful by listening to Him and being good Muslims.

Now that we know why Allah revealed Suratul-Feel, let's learn what Suratul-Feel says...

“Have you not considered (Oh Muhammad), how your Lord dealt with the Companions of the Elephant?”

(A-lam ta-ra kay-fa fa-a'-la rab-boo-ka bee-as-haa-bil feel)

أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ

بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ



Allah starts by asking a question...

“Didn’t you see how Allah dealt with the People of the Elephant (Abraha and his army)?”

The Quraysh remembered very well; **how could they forget!** All of the Quraysh remembered it because they had been there at the time, or had been told about it by their families.

The Quraysh were so grateful to Allah for saving them from Abraha, but as time passed, and they felt safe again, **they got busy worshipping their idols.** ⁶

So Allah sent Rasulullah ﷺ, and revealed suwaar like **Suratul-Feel and Suratu-Quraysh**, to remind the Quraysh of how much they needed to listen to Allah.