

❖ **Second Lesson : Muhammad's marriage to Khadijah (My Allah be pleased with her)**

By the time *Muhammad (pbuh)* was twenty-five he was famous for his honesty. He was respected by everyone. Muhammad (pbuh) was the most kind, truthful and reliable person in Mecca. Among Quraysh there was a respected and wealthy woman named Khadijah. She was involved in trade and on hearing of *Mohammed's* reputation, sent for him and asked him to take her goods and trade with them in Syria, while she would pay him more than any other she had paid before. *Muhammad (pbuh)* agreed and left for Syria with one of Khadijah's caravans. With him went her slave called *Maysarah*. Who soon came to admire *Muhammad (pbuh)*. He thought he was quite different from all the other men of Quraysh, The trading was very successful and *Muhammad (pbuh)* made more profit for Khadijah than she had ever received before. When they arrived back in Mecca *Maysarah* told Khadijah everything about the trip and what he had noticed about *Mohammed's* character and behavior.

Khadijah was a widow in her forties and as well as being rich and highly respected. When she heard the news. However, she thought he was very special. She sent a friend to ask *Muhammad (pbuh)* why he was not married. *Muhammad (pbuh)* said that it was because he had no money, to which the friend replied: '*Supposing a rich, beautiful and noble lady agreed to marry you?*'. *Muhammad (pbuh)* wanted to know who that could be. The friend told him it was Khadijah. *Muhammad (pbuh)* was happy, because he greatly respected Khadijah. He went with his uncles, AbuTalib and Hamzah, to Khadijah's uncle, and asked his permission to marry her. Soon after, *Muhammad (pbuh)* and Khadijah were married. Their marriage was a joyful one. They were blessed with six children, two sons and four daughters.

The Rebuilding of Kaabah: For a few years *Muhammad (pbuh)* lived a calm and quiet life as a merchant in Mecca. One such time was when Quraysh decided to rebuild the Kaabah. Each tribe brought stones and they built it up until they reached the place where the black stone was to be set. They then began to argue about who should have the honor of carrying the black stone and lifting it to its place in one of the corners of the Ka'bah. **They** almost came to blows but fortunately one of the men offered a solution. He suggested that they should be guided by the first person to enter the place of worship. They all agreed and as *Muhammad* was the first to enter everyone was pleased, because they all trusted him. They told him the cause of the argument and he asked them to bring a large cloak. They did as he asked, and after spreading the cloak on the ground he placed the black stone in the centre of it. Then he asked a man from each tribe to hold one edge of the cloak and together to raise it to the height where the stone should be set. When this was done, he took the stone off the cloak and put it into place himself.

This story shows how all Quraysh respected and trusted Muhammad (pbuh) and how, by his wisdom and good sense, he was able to keep the peace.