# HOW ALLAH INFLUENCED THE LIFE OF YUSUF (JOSEPH) – PART ONE

When prophet Yusuf was eighteen years old, he was very handsome and robust with a gentle temperament. He was respectful, kind and considerate. His father loved him very much. His brothers were jealous of him. Together they decided to get rid of him.

The brothers went to their father and said, “O our father! Why do you not trust us with Yusuf, when we are indeed his well-wishers? Send him with us tomorrow to enjoy himself and play, and verily, we will take care of him.”

He said, “Truly, it saddens me that you should take him away. I fear lest a wolf devour him, while you are careless.”

They said, “If a wolf devours him, while we are guarding him then surely, we are the losers.” (Qur’an 12: 11-14)

They coaxed their father into sending Yusuf with them. They were excited that they could now get rid of Yusuf. On leaving home, they went directly to the well, as they had planned, on the pretext of drinking water. One of them put his arms around Yusuf and held him tightly. Startled by this unusual behaviour, Yusuf struggled to free himself. The rest of his brothers rushed to hold him. One of them removed his shirt, while the others lifted Yusuf and threw him into the deep well. Yusuf’s pleas made no difference to their cruel hearts. There was water in the well which buoyed Yusuf’s body, so he was not harmed. He sat lonely in the water, then clung to a rock ledge overhead and climbed on top of it. His brothers left him in this desolate place. Then they killed a sheep and soaked Yusuf’s shirt in its blood. They went back home. They went to their father in the early part of the night weeping, “O our father! We went racing with one another, and left Yusuf by our belongings and a wolf devoured him; but you will never believe us even when we speak the truth” and they bought his shirt stained with false blood.

The broken-hearted father burst into tears, “Nay, but your ownselves have made up a tale. So, for me patience is most befitting. And it is Allah alone whose help could be sought against that which you assert.” (Qur’an 12: 16-18)

Yusuf surrendered himself to Allah’s will. A caravan was on its way to Egypt. They stopped at the well for some water. As a man from the caravan lowered his bucket into the well Yusuf was startled and he then grabbed hold of the bucket. As the man began to bring the bucket up, he felt the load unusually heavy, so he peeped into the well. What he saw shocked him. A man was clinging to the rope! He shouted to his friends, “Better give me a hand fellow! Looks like I found real treasure in the well!”

They got Yusuf out of the well, they clapped iron shackles on his feet and took him along to Egypt, where he was sold as a slave to the chief minister of Egypt called Aziz.