# **THE STORY OF SULEMAN (SOLOMON) AND THE ANT**

# **(QUR’AN 27: 15-19)**

Prophet Suleman inherited his father Da’ud’s (David’s) kingdom after his death. Allah had blessed Soleman with many abilities. He could command the winds and understand and talk to birds and animals. During his time, horses were the main mode of transport. Suleman made sure that all his horses were well cared for to please Allah.

One day Suleman gathered his army which had different battalions of men, birds and animals. He marched them through his kingdom and was heading to the country of Askalon. While they were passing through the valley, an ant saw the approaching army and cried to warn the other ants: “Run to your homes! Otherwise unaware, Suleman and his army might crush you!”. Suleman hearing the cry of the ant, smiled. He was glad that the ant knew that Solomon would not intentionally harm Allah’s creation because he loved Allah very much. Suleman thanked Allah for giving him the ability to hear the ants and understand their talk. Suleman chose to listen to the ants and to act with modesty. He chose not to trample over the ants even when he had the power to do so. He chose to save the lives of the ants to please Allah.

\*To be modest in this context means to demonstrate a humility towards one’s own position/status/abilities and show deference towards others