



# SEERAH DAYS OF GOLD

ﷺ  
How he can inspire your  
children

**“You have in the  
Messenger of Allah,**

صلى الله عليه وسلم

**a good example.”**

(33:21)

## Why Study Seerah?

My Journey towards Deen, began with The Seerah! Raised in the era of feminism and women's Rights, I had a hard time coming to terms with some of the "biased" laws of Islam against women. I also came across a lot of propaganda against our Prophet (s) peddled by orientalist and a strong critique of some events in Seerah.

But it all changed when I listened to Life of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم . I still remember binge listening to all the CDs in a time span of two days! That was the turning point of my life. That was when I started my study of Seerah and purchased many books. That is how important Seerah is.

Seerah is the history of Islam as it unfolded. It is the touchstone for instilling the love of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم into our hearts - a criterion of *Imaan*, of faith. It's the blueprint for best practices we strive to emulate in our day-to-day lives. It's the template that guides us emotions, our reactions in different life situations. It also gives a deeper understanding of the Quran as *ayat* can be better understood in the context of revelation.

As Ali Ibn Talib said,

*"We were taught the Seerah of Rasūlullāh صلى الله عليه وسلم like we were taught Qurān."*

Our identity as a Muslim is wholly built upon our role as his صلى الله عليه وسلم disciples. Needless to say, Seerah plays a monumental role in shaping us as a Muslims. It is the foundation on which our Muslim Identity stands. There is a serious identity crisis in the Ummah and this can only be countered by having a deep connection to our roots which can only be nurtured by a deep study of Islamic history. Especially the life of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم

Often parents find themselves struggling to convey *Deen* to their children. The life story of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم presents the most inspiration for instilling the love of the messenger and positive values in ourselves and our children. The question is, how to go about it.

## Seerah for Children

Seerah should be introduced to children from a very young age. Prior to that children should be made aware of certain basic Islamic concepts.

- Allah is One
- He is our Creator and the Creator of all things.
- The story of creation, of Adam and Iblis
- Allah sent prophets to previous nations
- All the prophets came with the same message - *Tawheed*
- Concept of Jannah (Paradise)

The level of details we provide, depends a great deal on the children and their maturity level. In this document I will outline how I, as a homeschooling mother of three, went about teaching Seerah during different phases of our homeschool journey.

## Seerah for Young Children (Aged 2-6)

Bulk of my home-schooling in the early years revolved around story-telling. Children love stories, especially at bed time when they are most receptive.

At the beginning of our homeschooling journey, I found it hard to find Islamic books that were engaging for this age bracket, so I started improvising and narrated stories in my own words. I kept the stories short and interesting, narrating them in an evocative manner, chock full of emotions and feelings.

At this stage, I kept reiterating the following stories:

1. Story of Creation: Prophet Adam عليه السلام, Iblis and the beginning of mankind
2. Story of Nuh (عليه السلام)
3. Story of Yunus (عليه السلام)
4. Story of Ibrahim (عليه السلام)
5. Story of Musa & Firaun
6. Story of Birth of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم and few facts about his life
7. Story of Cave of Hira.
8. Story of Al Isra Wal Mairaj
9. Cave of Thawr and Hijrah
10. Discussion on Jannah

As you tell the stories, it is important to keep them interactive. Let them interrupt, ask questions. But at the same time, give allowance for their wild imaginations.

It's important not to rebuke for any mistakes related to theology, or any wild questions they may have about Allah. At the same time, we should be careful not to laugh, so as not to encourage them.

Once my daughter came running to her father and asked "Aboo will you take me to Masjid e Aqsa?" This just proves how much children retain from stories and how much it affects them and has a lasting impact SubhanAllah. I just want to emphasize that western fairy tales should be totally avoided at such an impressionable age. Telling children fairy tales and then telling them this is just fiction and cannot and did not happen in real life makes them dismiss or doubt the amazing true stories of Prophets.

After covering all the Prophets, then I focused on the stories about Prophet Muhammad ﷺ every time a different story about different aspects of Seerah. I also used some books which are mentioned in the Resources list at the end. In the following pages, you will find guidance and recommended books for teaching Seerah to your children of different age brackets.

## Seerah for Children (Aged 6-8)

At this age some simple books of Seerah can be introduced and read aloud. Initially I used "**Sab Sai Sachi Kahani**" which is written very effectively, in the form of an adventure story of a sailor stranded on an Island. Also used workbooks on Seerah printed by Iqra. The text in the workbooks is boring no doubt, so my children would color in while I would narrate the story in my own words.

The large sized **Seerah Trail** printed by Learning Roots was a favorite of my children as it provided a visual map for the entire Seerah which I would just narrate taking them through the Seerah Trail. We also used some simple books as well such as **Story of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ** by Darussalam and **Prophet Muhammad ﷺ** by flowers of Islam.

Though I would like to add that most of these books are not written very effectively for young children and hence should be used as a guide only and converted into interesting, child friendly narrations. Also at times I just used various booklets to provide a visual aid for Seerah. I used books with photos of Makkah and Medina and all the important locations. So at times we would simply skim through the booklet and I would tell them what each place was. Pictures of the cave of Hira would spark the story of the first Wahi, picture of the Cave of Thaur would lead to the event of the Hijrah journey, picture of Masjid Nabawi and how it was built, the Mountain of Uhud and the great battle fought there and so on.



## Seerah for Children (Aged 9+)

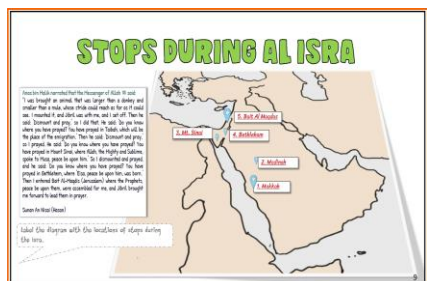
### I. Reading and Read Aloud

At this stage children mostly started reading on their own and read simple short stories and books on their own. If your children are not yet reading, then these books can be easily incorporated into Read aloud at bedtime.

Marvelous stories from the life of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم is a collection of short stories from Seerah. Stories of the Companions are great to incorporate at this point and are an extension of the Seerah as they give a totally different perspective about the personality of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم and the events that folded in Seerah.

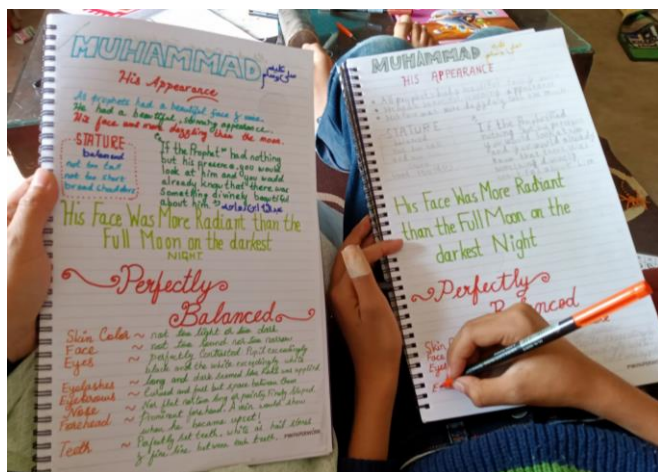
Small booklets on Companions written by Khurram Murad, published by Islamic Foundation were a favorite in the house! The Long Search- story of Salman Farsi (r), The Longing Heart –Story of Abu Dhar Ghafari and some other stories from the set were read again and again.

## II. Workbook Based Lessons



I wanted to incorporate some written work with regards to Seerah, so we did the Story of *Isra Wal Mairaj* in great detail. I prepared a workbook after reading about it from various sources. The children had to fill in the sheets as we moved through different aspects of the story. These workbooks are available as eBooks for free download on my blog. ([javeria.wordpress.com](http://javeria.wordpress.com))

## III. Note booking



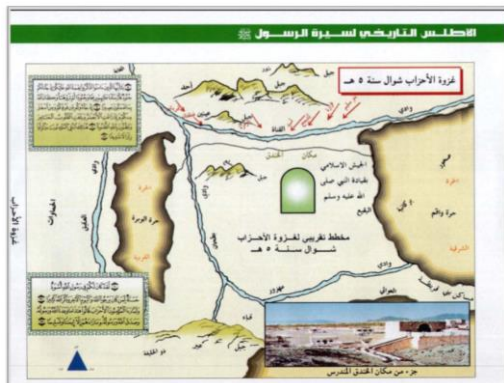
Nowadays we are Journaling about the Shamail e Rasool (صلى الله عليه وسلم). The children have to take notes from the topic under discussion and then fair it out using colorful markers. We started with his appearance and moved on to different aspects of his beautiful character and his dealing with others.

I was really struggling to get my 10 year old to write and to improve his handwriting. But when I started journaling and he saw my work, he asked me to write it in pencil for him, which he traced over with markers and MashaAllah he does this diligently with a lot of care and his handwriting has improved along with spellings and vocabulary.



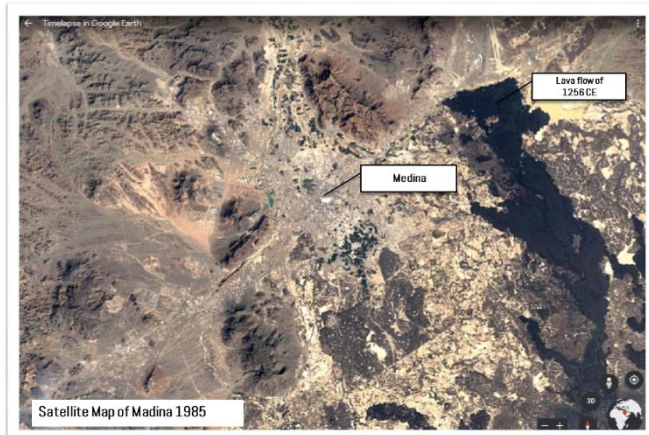
## IV. In Depth Study

Certain topics in Seerah can easily be incorporated with other sciences such as geography, geology, and archeology. We studied the Battle of the Trench in this manner.



**Research:** Read about the battle from various books, such as The Sealed Nectar, Life of Muhammad by Tahia Al Ismail, Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم by Martin Lings, Life of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم by Muhammad Husayn Haykal, Atlas on the Prophet's Biography by Darussalam and also used some Arabic Atlases which we found online.

**Geography & Geology:** Since the digging of the trench was closely linked to the geology of Madinah, thus went into a little detail about these aspects. Used various maps to understand the natural protection of Madinah by Lava fields and mountains.



Also looked at various sources to find out the dimensions and the location of the trench. Read articles about the volcanic cones around Madinah and the volcanic eruption of 1256CE. Traced out routes as to why the enemies could only enter Madinah from one direction only.

Planning to incorporate in depth study of various geological eras, which we have not yet covered.



## History of Madina:



Love for Madinah is embedded in the hearts of Muslims. Studying the history of Madina, locations of Madina, masjids of Madina, historical places of Madina, history of Masjid e Nabawi, renews this love and makes the Seerah come alive. I have collected various books on this topic and like to go through them with my children now and then. We covered the Masjids built around *Jabl Silah* as a memorial to important events during the battle of Khandaq.

There are some museums in Madinah which are displaying 3D models of Madinah at the time of the Prophet, Models of Masjid e Nabawi at different stages of Seerah, the chambers of the wives and even models of the locations of the Ghazwaat. I visited these museums on my Umrah trip and showed the pictures to the children of Ghazwa e Khandaq as well.



## Seerah for Teenagers

One of the first books on Seerah I read myself was **Life of Muhammad** صلى الله عليه وسلم

by Tahia Al Ismaili. It's written in flow and makes for easy reading. Just 263 pages long, it not only includes the Seerah but short biographies of his wives as well as the beautiful characteristics of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم such as his mercy and kindness. My daughter who is 13 just started this book and is enjoying it.

**Atlas on the Prophet's Biography** by Darussalam is also another great book which reviews the biography of the Prophet and tracks the places he visited and the battles he fought. As it includes photos and maps, makes for an interesting read.

**The History of Islam**, VOL 1 includes a brief and a factual overview of Seerah. The books introduction to History as a subject is also very apt, going in depth into benefits of history, sources of history, and types of history and why preservation of Islamic history in comparison to other sources of history was foul proof.

Even though my older two aged 13 and 11 can read themselves, from time to time I read aloud to them as well, as they still enjoy it.

These days I am reading to them The *Great Women of Islam*. Stories of the Mothers of the Believers sheds a very different light on the personality of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم.

## CONCLUSION

I feel totally undeserving of this honor to represent the Seerah of the beloved of Allah. I am in no way claiming that our journey through Seerah is the best or unique, nor are we perfect in implementing his Sunnah or his beautiful demeanor in our daily lives. This was just a humble overview of my struggle to study Seerah and try and implement the noble characteristics of the greatest man that ever lived, in hopes that it may inspire someone to give this subject a deeper look and give it priority over other subjects when it comes to educating our children.

## INTERNET LINKS

Kids Class - By Tim Humble

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLdUDkYS6dU27GkQMu7LLuwAquW3gYXJZy>

Seerat for Kids by Mufti Syed Adnan Kakakhel :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VcnYqPzCI&list=PLD2ryLtY13NcunfpN1mpxtM1sKpGWGzL7>

[Seerah by Huma Najamul Hasan](#)

<http://www.al-ilm.com/audios/seerah/>

Life of Muhammad

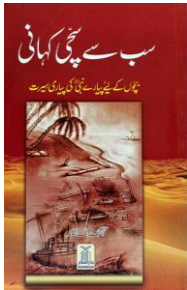
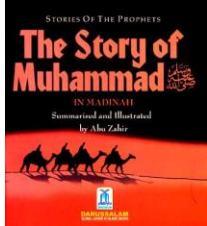
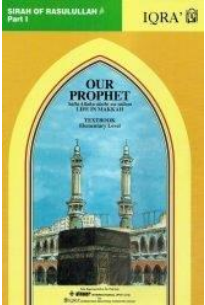
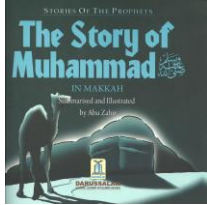
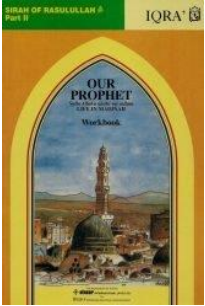
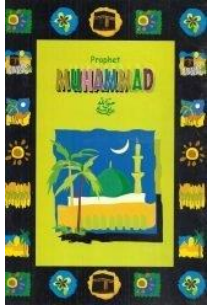
<https://www.kalamullah.com>

Transcript available for download

<https://javeria.files.wordpress.com/2007/07/lifeofmuhammadmakkanperiodcomplete.docx>

<https://javeria.files.wordpress.com/2007/07/the-madeenan-periodcomplete.doc>

### Seerah Books for Children (Age 2-8)

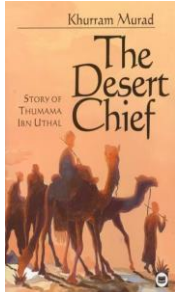
	<p><b>Sab sai sachi Kahani</b> By Iftikhar Khoker <i>Darussalam</i></p>		<p><b>The Story of Muhammad</b> Darussalam</p>
	<p><b>Our Prophet in Makkah</b> Workbook IQRA</p>		<p><b>The Story of Muhammad</b> Darussalam</p>
	<p><b>Our Prophet in Madinah</b> Workbook IQRA</p>		<p><b>Prophet Muhammad</b> By Amina Murad Flowers of Islam</p>

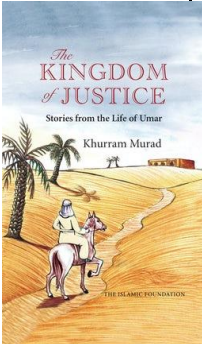



	<p>Seerah Trail Learning Roots</p>		<p>Haroon sai Rahmatlil Alameen MAQBOOL BOOKS</p>
	<p>Spider the and Doves Islamic Foundation</p>		<p>Short Seerah Stories on different titles by Maqbool Books</p>
	<p>The Prophets Pond Learning Roots</p>		<p>Life and Sayings of Rasulullah s Iqra International</p>

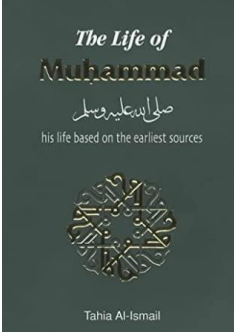
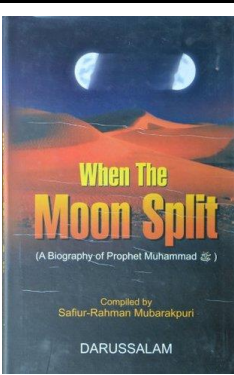
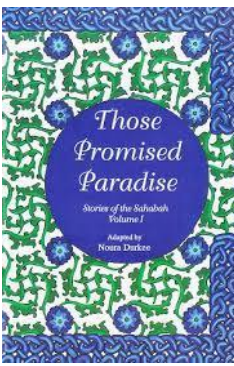
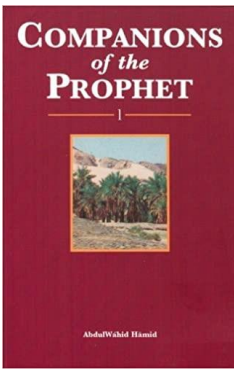


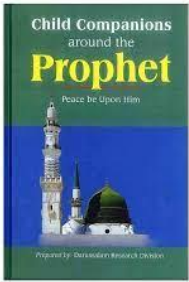
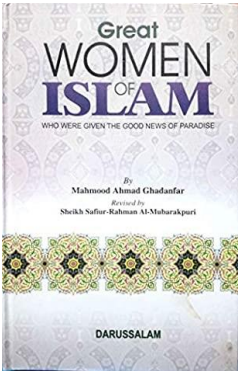
## Seerah and Companion Stories for Children (Age 9+)

	<p><b>Marvellous Stories from the Life of Prophet Muhammad Peace Be Upon Him.</b>  <b>Author: Mardijah Aldrich Tarantino</b>  <b>The Islamic Foundation</b></p>
	<p><b>Atlas of the Prophets Biography</b>  <b>Darussalam</b></p>
	<p><b>Khadija</b>  <b>Fatimah Barkatullah</b>  <b>Learning Roots</b></p>
	<p><b>Stories from Islamic History</b>  <b>Author: Syed Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi</b></p>
	<p><b>The Desert Chief</b>  <b>Khurram Murad</b>  <b>Islamic Foundation</b></p>

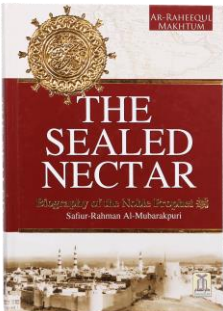
	<p>The Kingdom of Justice Stories from the life of Umar Author: Khurram Murad</p>
	<p>Sahaba Cards Learning Roots</p>
	<p>Companion Quest Game Learning Roots</p>


## Seerah and Companion Stories for Teenagers

	<p><b>Life of Muhammad</b> By Tahia Al Ismail Taha Publishers UK</p>
	<p><b>When the Moon Split</b> Safi Ur Rahman Mubarakpuri Darussalam</p>
	<p><b>Those Promised Paradise</b> IQRA International Educational Foundation</p>
	<p><b>Companions of the Prophet Vol 1</b> By Abdul Wahid Hamid MELS</p>

	<p>Child Companions around the Prophet Darussalam</p>
	<p>Great Women of Islam Darussalam</p>

## Seerah for Adults

	<p><b>The Sealed Nectar</b>  <b>Author: Safiur Rahman Mubarakpuri</b>  <b>Darussalam</b></p>	<p>Darussalam</p>
	<p><b>Muhammad (s) His life based on earliest sources</b>  <b>Author: Martin Lings</b>  <b>Millat Book Center</b></p>	<p>Millat Book Center</p>
	<p><b>Nabi Kareem sai Muhabbat</b>  <b>Prof Dr Fazal Elahi</b></p>	<p>Dar ul Anwaar</p>

	<p>Insaan or Rehbar e Insaniyat Hafiz Mubashir Hussain Mubashir Academy</p>	