

Story 1078 1980 Tape 1)

Narrator: Hacı Mahmut Gürbüz

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Mohammed Rescues His Enemy Ebu Cehil¹

There was once a man named Ebu Cehil who was the enemy of Mohammed. Several different times he tried to kill Mohammed in Mecca, but he was unable to do so. When he decided to make still another attempt on Mohammed's life he said to himself, "Let me have a deep pit dug in the path along which Mohammed passes every day. If I do this, Mohammed will probably fall into it, and then we shall be rid of that man." Accordingly, he had a pit dug in the path, and he covered this over with light branches and leaves.

When Mohammed walked along that path, however, God sent an angel to protect him. The angel prevented him from falling into the pit. Later when Ebu Cehil passed that way, he forgot exactly where the pit was, and he himself fell into it. He began shouting loudly, "Bring a rope and rescue me from this pit!"

People who heard him shouting went to help him. They discovered that the pit was ten meters deep, and so they got a rope slightly longer than that to use in rescuing him. But when they lowered this rope to pull him out, the

¹This name is not listed in the Encyclopaedia of Islam.

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depth of the pit was increased to twenty meters. (Of course it was God who did this.

Ebu Cehil shouted, "Bring another length of rope to tie to this one!"

When a second length of rope was brought, the depth of the pit increased to fifty meters. After additional rope was brought, the depth reached 100 meters. They continued bringing more and more rope until the total supply of rope in Mecca was exhausted.

Ebu Cehil now began to think that he would die there in that pit. After a while he called up to the people at the mouth of the pit, "Go and inform Mohammed about my situation. He can help me. Ask him to come and rescue me."

Some of the people there went and explained the whole situation to Mohammed. The Prophet went to the edge of the pit and he said to Ebu Cehil, "Give me your hand Mohammed then pulled him up and lifted him out of the pit.

Ebu Cehil then said, "I did not know, O Mohammed, that you were a magician."

This is a true story that I have told you. I always tell true stories. But again, no one really knows the truth but God.