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See also: ABROGATION; AGRICULTURE; ATOM; AYYŪB, UPON HIM PEACE; BLOOD MONEY; CHILDREN OF ISRĀʾĪL; CREATION; DREAMS AND THEIR INTERPRETATION; EXPIATION; FOOD AND DRINK; HAJJ; HONEY; HUNTING AND GAME; LAWFUL AND UNLAWFUL; MIRACLES; OCEANS; PARABLES OF THE QURʾĀN; PEOPLE OF THE CAVE; PEOPLE OF THE ELEPHANT; POSSESSIONS; SACRED MONTHS; SACRED PRECINCTS; SATAN; TWO SONS OF ĀDAM; ʿUMRA; WATER; WEALTH AND PROSPERITY.

GIBRIL FOUAD HADDAD

Animals of the Prophet, upon him blessings and peace

The Prophet, upon him blessing and peace, herded goats for others in his youth. He was to later say, “Allah has not appointed a Prophet who did not her sheep.”

The Companions asked, “You too, O Messenger of Allah?” He replied, “Yes, I used to shepherd for the Makkans for *qarārīt*” (Bukhārī, Ijārāt, raʿyi l-ghanam ‘alā qarārīt), where commentators understand *qarārīt* to refer either to an area on the outskirts of Makkah also known as Ajyād or to a minor unit of currency (Ibn Ḥajar, *Fath al-bārī*).

The Prophetic biographies mention, Qaṣwāʾ, his camel which he rode from Makka to Madina during the Hijra (*q.v.*). Qaṣwāʾ was originally bought for the Prophet by Abū Bakr, for the Hijra trip, but the Prophet insisted on paying her price of four hundred dirhams. Ten years later, he rode Qaṣwāʾ back to Makka for his Farewell Pilgrimage (*q.v.*). He rode other camels and also horses, both saddled and bareback, sometimes at a galloping pace. He often rode alone but sometimes with one of his wives or Companions sitting behind him.

In Madina, the Prophet, upon him blessings and peace, kept animals pastured at Dhū-l-Jadr, about six miles from the city (Ibn Qayyim, *Zād al-maʿād* 1:128-130; Yāqūt, 2:114). These included:

- forty-five milking camels, names of some of which are recorded in his biographies;
- five or six mules, one of which, the grey she-mule Duldul, was gifted him by al-Muqawqis (variously identified as the Sassanid governor of Egypt or the Patriarch of Alexandria, who administered Egypt on behalf of the Byzantine Empire);
- a flock of one hundred sheep and goats—a number he maintained by giving away or slaughtering any increase; and
- seven milking goats tended by Baraka, better known as Umm Ayman, whom the Prophet described as “my mother after my own mother; she is the rest of my family” (Ibn Kathīr, *Sīra* 4:643; al-Qārī, *Sharḥ al-Shifāʾ* 1:172; al-Maqrīzī, *Imtāʿ al-asmāʿ* 6:340) (see FAMILY OF THE PROPHET).

Biographies note as many as twenty-three horses owned by the Prophet, but are unanimous regarding the following seven named in a couplet by Ibn Jamāʿ:

*And the horses—Sakb, Luḥayf, Sabḥa, Zarīb,
Lizāz, Murtajaz, Ward—all have secrets*

Ibn Qayyim, *Zād al-maʿād* 1:128

Murtajaz (*lit.* “one who declaims verse in the meter rajaz”) was a white horse so named due to the musicality of its neighing (Ibn Sayyid al-Nās, *Uyūn al-athar* 2:389). An incident during the purchase of Murtajaz from a Bedouin of the clan Banū Murra was significant several