



Nibras Network Presents

The Year of the Elephant (عام الفيل)

An epic story of divine protection, a massive
army, and the miracle of the birds.

A Year that Changed History



The Attack on Makkah:
A massive foreign army marches to completely destroy the Kaaba.

570
CE

Because of these epic events, the Arabs used this as their main calendar, calling it 'Ām al-Fīl (The Year of the Elephant).



A Blessed Arrival:
Approximately 50 days later, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is born!

The Tale of Two Sanctuaries

The Threat from the South

Abraha, a powerful viceroy in Yemen, grew furious when his newly built monument failed to steal pilgrims away from Makkah.



Al-Qullays

- **Location:** Sana'a, Yemen
- **Builder:** Abraha
- **Features:** Magnificent, massive, and expensive.
- **The Problem:** The Arabs refused to visit it!

The Kaaba

- **Location:** Makkah
- **Builders:** Prophets Ibrahim & Ismail
- **Features:** Simple, ancient, revered.
- **The Reality:** Pilgrims continued traveling here.



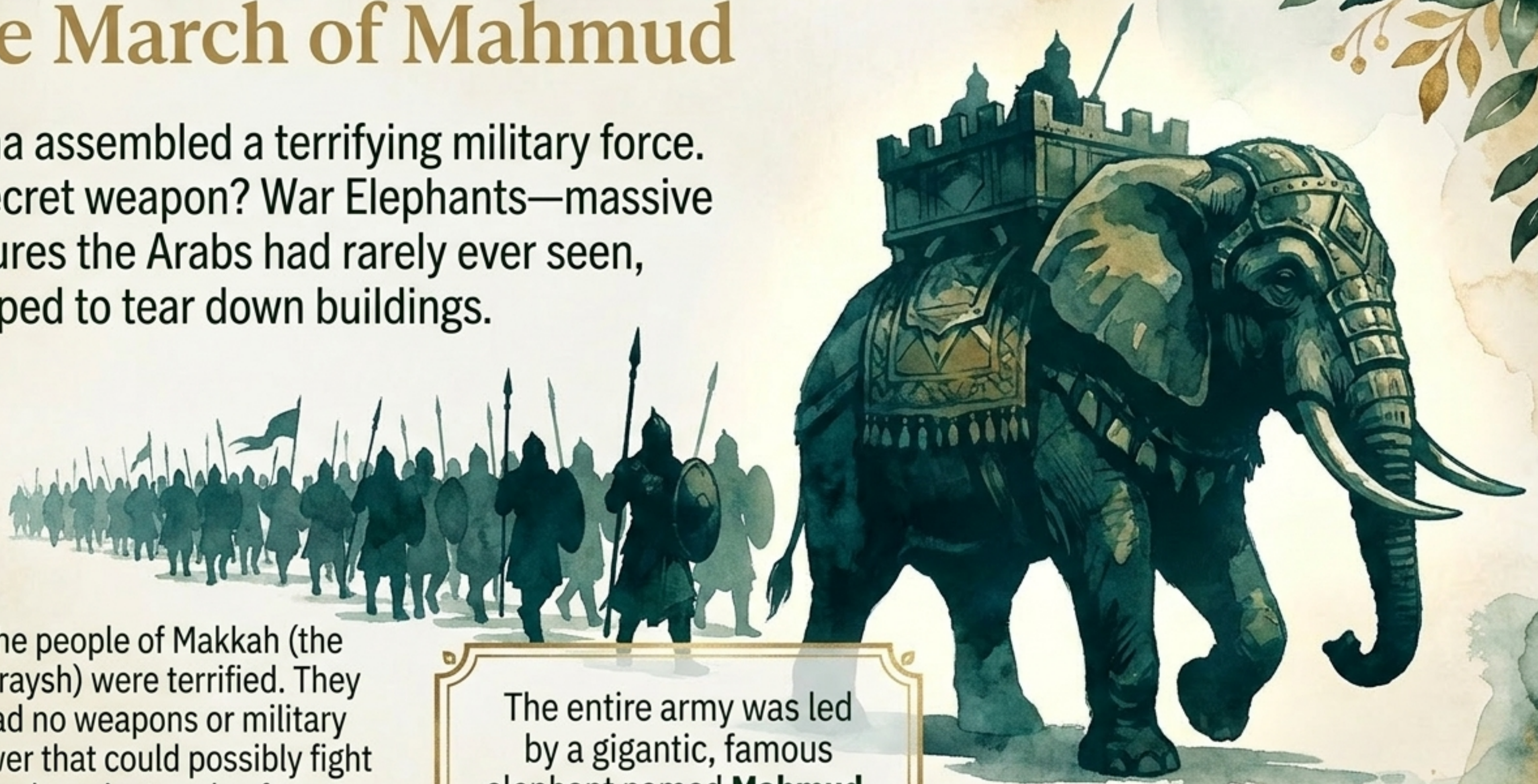
Furious at his failure, Abraha assembled an army and vowed to march to Makkah to completely destroy the Kaaba.

The March of Mahmud

Abraha assembled a terrifying military force. His secret weapon? War Elephants—massive creatures the Arabs had rarely ever seen, equipped to tear down buildings.

The people of Makkah (the Quraysh) were terrified. They had no weapons or military power that could possibly fight back against such a force.

The entire army was led by a gigantic, famous elephant named **Mahmud**.



A Demand for Camels, Not Peace

Abdul Muttalib (the chief of Makkah and the Prophet's future grandfather) went to Abraha's camp. He didn't beg for the city. He asked for his stolen camels back.



I came to destroy your holy house, and you only ask about your camels?



I have come for my camels... As for the House, it has a Lord who will protect it.

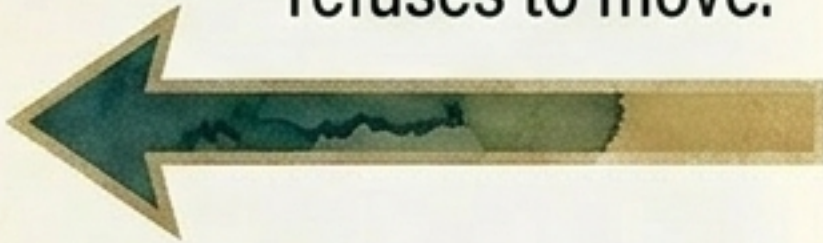
Abdul Muttalib returned to Makkah, told the people to seek refuge in the mountains, and prayed at the door of the Kaaba.

Mahmud Says No

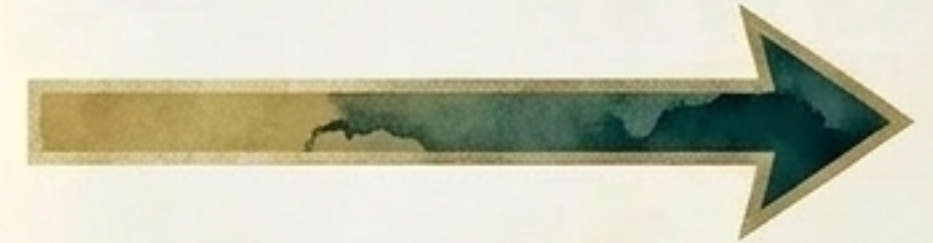
As the massive army prepared to strike the Kaaba, something strange happened. Mahmud simply sat down.



Turn him toward the Kaaba?
He kneels and absolutely
refuses to move.



Turn him toward Syria?
He marches fast.



Turn Mahmud toward
Yemen? He marches
fast.



The massive, unstoppable army was suddenly
stuck on the outskirts of Makkah.



The Miracle in the Sky

As the army stood frozen, a dark cloud rapidly approached from the direction of the sea.

"It wasn't a rainstorm. Allah had sent flocks of miraculous birds, known as the Ababil (swallows)."



Small Birds, Devastating Power

Carried **one** stone here.

Carried **two** stones here.



The stones were **incredibly small**, made of hard, baked clay called **Sijjil**.

The birds rained these stones down like bullets. They tore straight through Abraha's armor and soldiers, causing terrible wounds and a plague-like destruction.

Like Eaten Straw



The Quran describes Abraha's destroyed army as being left like "eaten straw" — completely hollowed out, crushed, and powerless.

Abraha's mighty army was wiped out in moments. Abraha himself barely escaped, only to die miserably on his way back to Yemen. The Kaaba remained untouched and totally safe.

Surah Al-Fil (Chapter 105)

Have you not considered how your Lord dealt
with the companions of the elephant?
Did He not make their plan into misguidance?
And He sent against them birds in flocks,
Striking them with stones of hard clay,
And He made them like eaten straw.

What Do We Learn?



Divine Protection:
Even when the people of Makkah were too weak to fight, Allah defended His House. True protection comes only from Him.



Size Doesn't Matter:
False power was exposed. The biggest army and giant elephants were easily defeated by tiny birds carrying small stones.



A Blessed Era: This miraculous defense of the Kaaba cleared the way for the birth of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in the very same year, changing the world forever.



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