**Layla-tul-Miraj: The Miraculous Night Journey**

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**Layla-tul-Miraj holds great significance in the lives of Muslims across the globe**

*Knowledge*

For those who do not believe in the reality of miracles, are clearly unaware of our Holy Prophet Muhammad’s (PBUH) life and its incidences. Islamic history is a prime witness to these miracles. And one of the greatest miracles of his time was that of Layla-tul-Miraaj, the night of the Holy Prophet’s (PBUH) ascent to the Heavens. It is known to have been not only a spiritual journey but a physical one as well. This journey signifies the greatness and importance of the Prophet (PBUH) in Allah’s (SWT) eyes.

This night is also known as the event of “**Isra and Miraj**” which essentially denotes two parts of the journey. Isra, which means ‘walking in the night’, refers to the first part of the Prophet’s (PBUH) journey from [Mecca](https://www.islamicfinder.org/world/saudi-arabia/46541428/mecca-prayer-times?language=en) to [Jerusalem](https://www.islamicfinder.org/world/israel/281184/jerusalem-prayer-times?language=en). The Holy Prophet (PBUH) was visited by the angel Jibrael and was carried to [Masjid-al-Aqsa](https://www.islamicfinder.org/iqra/history-of-qibla-the-shift-from-bait-ul-maqdas-to-masjid-al-haram) (in Jerusalem) on “**buraq**”, the steed of the prophets. Allah (SWT) verifies the truth of this journey in the Quran as well:

*“Glorified (and Exalted) be He (Allaah) [above all that (evil) they associate with Him]. Who took His slave (Muhammad) for a journey by night from Al‑Masjid Al‑Haraam (at Makkah) to Al‑Masjid Al‑Aqsa (in Jerusalem), the neighborhood whereof We have blessed, in order that We might show him (Muhammad) of Our Ayaat (proofs, evidences, lessons, signs, etc.). Verily, He is the All‑Hearer, the All‑Seer” (Quran 17:1)*

The second part of the journey is known as Miraaj, which in the literal sense means “**ladder**”, and it alludes to the Holy Prophet’s (PBUH) ascension to Heaven itself. From Jerusalem, the Prophet (PBUH) was then transported to Paradise on his steed, where he roamed all seven levels of paradise and met a number of the prophets who had come before him, which included Adam (AS), Musa (AS), Isa (AS), Yahya (AS), Yusuf (AS), Ibrahim (AS) and many others. Upon reaching **Sidra-tul-Muntaha** in the seventh heaven, a tree marking the very end of paradise and the beginning of the abode of Allah (SWT), Jibrael halted as his entry was forbidden and let the Prophet (PBUH) pass. Here, our beloved Prophet (PBUH) got a chance to meet the Almighty and converse with Him. It is on this night, that the Prophet (PBUH) achieved a state of closeness with Allah (SWT) that is beyond human measure.

Moreover, it was on this occasion that Allah (SWT) on all Muslims enjoined the five daily prayers. It was originally supposed to be fifty daily prayers, but our Prophet (PBUH) beseeched on behalf of his ummah to make it easier for them and alas, Allah (SWT) brought the number down to five.

Allah (SWT) mentions a few details about the journey in another part of the Quran as well:

*“While he was in the highest part of the horizon: Then he approached and came closer, And was at a distance of but two bow-lengths or (even) nearer; So did (Allah) convey the inspiration to His Servant (conveyed) what He (meant) to convey. The (Prophet’s) (mind and) heart in no way falsified that which he saw. Will ye then dispute with him concerning what he saw? For indeed he saw him at a second descent. Near the Lote-tree beyond which none may pass: near it is the Garden of Abode. Behold, the Lote-tree was shrouded (in mystery unspeakable!) (His) sight never swerved nor did it go wrong! For truly did he see of the Signs of His Lord the Greatest” (Quran 53:7-18)*

The sole purpose of the Holy Prophet’s (PBUH) miraculous journey to the Heavens was an act of declaration about the exalted status of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in the realm of Islam and testified to the irreplaceable position he held in the eyes of Allah (SWT) and His creation.

However, the date of this journey is still unclear as there is no concrete indication in any Sahih hadith for its exact occurrence. It is thought to have taken place somewhere between the Prophet’s visit to Taif and the time of the Hijra, around the 27th of the Islamic month of Rajab, but this date is not officially recognized by Islamic scholars.

Layla-tul-Miraj serves as a witness to Allah’s (SWT) infinite grandeur and power and His bond with His creation. Allah (SWT) sent the Holy Prophet (PBUH) as a gift to His creation, an exemplary figure and role model for every human to look up to. This night marks itself as a test of faith in mankind and enjoins them to believe in the truth of all that Allah (SWT) is and all that only He is capable of.

Layla-tul-Miraj holds great significance in the lives of Muslims across the globe, where the Prophet’s (PBUH) ascension is remembered and the ultimate purpose of it is recollected. It is considered one of the most sacred of miracles of the Almighty, which He chose to bestow upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and only him.

Smart Thinker • 2 days ago

all Prophet's life show the greatness and importance of the Prophet (PBUH) in Allah’s (SWT) eyes.

Salatan wa salaman aliika ya RASUOLALLAH

Elliot • a year ago

How did he meet Isa if he isn't dead?

Majid Ghori Taji Elliot • a year ago

Allah has all powers. He is the greatest. The God of Jesus and Moses is same that of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Islam is the continuing of the same religion bestowed on Adam, Noah, David, Jesus, Moses and other prophets of Allah. So, to cut short, Muslims believe that Jesus is alive and lifted by Allah. He is going to return before the end of the world. So, Jesus and Muhammad met there alive.

 Elliot Majid Ghori Taji • a year ago

Thanks for the clarification.

 Isthi l Elliot • 2 days ago

Also he met isa alaihisalam on 2nd heaven along with yahiya alaihisalam. Every heaven contains 1 prophet but 2nd heaven till date contains 2 prophets for the mere reason wen isa alaihisalam comes back to earth and continue to live earthly life there will be 1 more original prophet left.