

Who is Asiya Bint Muzahim?

Asiya Bint Muzahim is also often referred to as Asiya Zawjatu Firawn or Asiya, wife of the Pharaoh.

Asiya is the one who found the baby Musa (Moses) floating in a crate in the Nile river and rescued him, bringing him home to live in the palace as her own child, hiring his own mother as a wet nurse for him.

During that time, Firawn ordered all baby boys born to the Children of Israel to be killed, after a worrying dream had come to him showing that one of these boys would grow up to adulthood and then take his throne from him.

This is why the baby Musa had been floating in the river, in an attempt by his mother to save his life - which was successful.

Firawn was one of the greatest tyrants of history, demanding that he should be worshipped as a god. He could not stand to see anyone worshipping anyone or anything other than himself, so monotheism and worshipping Allah was outlawed and punishable by torture and death. He insisted "I am your Lord, Most High!"

In this society, despite being a very rich queen, and being married to the most powerful man, Asiya Bint Muzahim was kind and merciful and knew wrong from right. In the end she was not afraid to stand against her husband, the Pharaoh and speak for what is right by declaring her belief in God, accepting the monotheism and the message of the Prophet Musa alayhi salam.

When Firawn found out that Asiya was following the message of Musa alayhi salam, he had her tortured and killed and Allah showed her her home within paradise.

The story of Asiya is given as an example to us in Surah Tahrim, as one of the women of Paradise.

And God sets forth, as an example to those who believe the wife of Pharaoh: Behold she said: 'O my Lord! Build for me, in nearness to Thee, a mansion in the Garden, and save me from Pharaoh and his doings, and save me from those that do wrong'

[Chapter 66 : Verse 11]