Mohammad (May peace be upon him) returned to Makkah from Badia where he was living with Halima, his wet nurse, when he was about three years old. Amena, his mother, was very happy to see her little boy strong and healthy. She hugged him while her tears were rolling down her cheeks. She had really missed him.
Soon Mohammad became close to his grandfather, Abdul Muttalib. He spent most of his time with him. Abdul Muttalib was the chief of Quraish. Everybody respected him. He kept Mohammad with him as he listened and discussed Quraish men's problems.

Thus, Mohammad, at a young age, saw how his grandfather advised and solved the problems of his tribe. He admired and looked up to him. Mohammad was a happy child. He was raised by a kind and loving mother and a wise and gentle grandfather.
However, his happiness did not last long. One day, Amena thought she should visit her relatives in Yathreb (Madina) and decided to take her son Mohammad and his nanny Um-Ayman with her, as this would give Mohammad a chance to visit his father's grave.

Mohammad was excited to go on this trip. He spent a month with his relatives and played with their children. When Mohammad and Amena were on their way back to Makkah, Amena was weak, she became very sick and died.
Mohammad cried. Tears were running down his cheeks when his nanny hugged him. It was a great tragedy for him to lose his mother. He was only about six years old. Mohammad and his nanny felt sad as they continued their journey to Makkah. His grandfather, Abdul Muttalib, took him to his own home. So, he became more fond of his grandfather.

Abdul Muttalib, who was becoming weak with old age, stayed in bed most of the time. Mohammad spent most of his time beside him. He was listening to his grandfather as he asked his friends and relatives to take care of his grandson. Then Abdul Muttalib died when Mohammad was eight years old. Mohammad felt sad and lonely.
Abu Talib, Mohammad's uncle, was a powerful and well respected man among Quraish. He took his orphaned nephew to live with him.

He and his kind wife, Fatima, gave young Mohammad a lot of love and care. Mohammad grew up in his uncle's loving family. He played with his cousins and the Quraish children.

At that time, boys his age were tending the sheep. Mohammad started to take care of his uncle's sheep. He was taking his uncle's herd to a green place called Ajiad. He liked being a shepherd. This was one way to help his kind uncle and to have time to think about the world around him.
Most of the men in Quraish were merchants. They took business trips to Bilad- Ashaam (Syria) and Yemen on caravans. They would load their camels with goods to exchange. They made two trips a year: one in the summer to Bilad- Ashaam and one in the winter to Yemen.

Like most of Quraish, Abu Talib was a merchant. He was thinking whether to take with him his nephew to one of his business trips. Mohammad was about twelve years old. He was looking forward to go on this trip. Abu Talib was preparing to join the caravan. Mohammad asked his uncle if he could go with him on the trip.
After some thoughts, Abu Talib agreed. Mohammad was very happy because not many children at his age would have the chance to go on long journeys. When the caravan reached the Bosra Market, Abu Talib met Priest Bahira, who invited them for a meal.

Priest Bahira who was Christian and had read the holy books noticed many signs indicating that Mohammad was the "Expected Messenger". He asked Mohammad few questions. Then he said to Abu Talib that a prophet was coming from the Arab world and that Mohammad had all the signs.
He asked Abu Talib not to take his nephew into the heart of Bilad-Ashaam for Mohammad's safety. Abu Talib finished his business quickly and returned home to Makkah. Mohammad enjoyed the journey and started helping his uncle in his business. Under Abu Talib's care and guidance, Mohammad grew up to become a healthy and brave young man.