

# **Al-Lahab**

## **Makkan Period**

*In the name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate*

[1] Destroyed were the hands of Abu Lahab,<sup>1</sup> and he lay utterly doomed.<sup>2</sup>

[2] His wealth did not avail him, nor his acquisitions.

[3] Surely, he will be cast into a Flaming Fire

[4] along with his wife,<sup>3</sup> that carrier of slanderous tales;

[5] upon her neck shall be a rope of palm-fibre.

*1. This refers to an uncle of the Prophet (peace be on him) who was commonly known as Abu Lahab.*

*2. Much though Abu Lahab tried to obstruct the forward march of Islam, his efforts ended in utter failure. What is said here is in fact a prediction but is couched in terms that convey the impression of an event that had already taken place.*

*3. The woman concerned was called Umm Jamil. She was a sister of Abu Sufyan and was as staunch an enemy to Islam as her husband.*