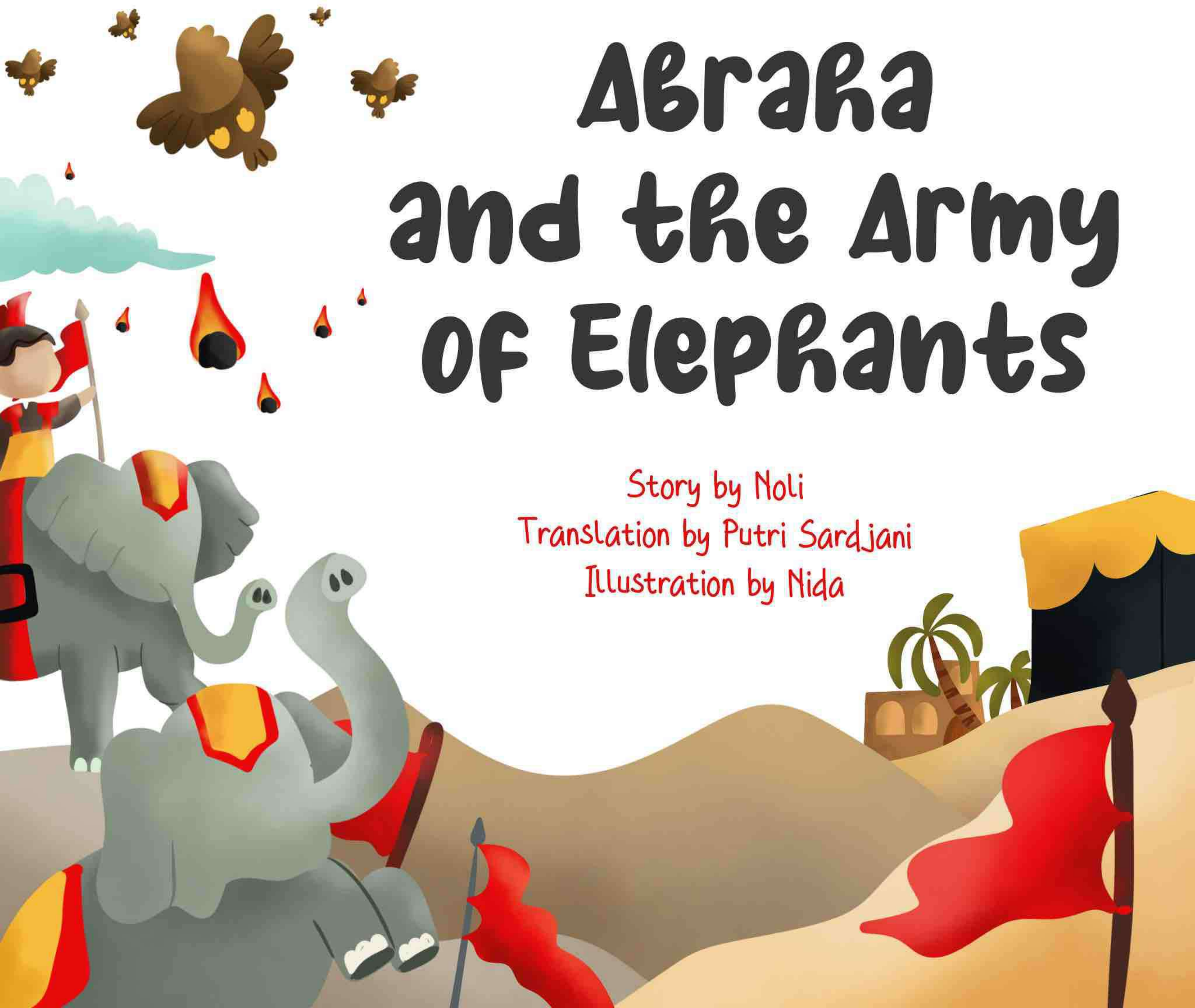


Abraha and the Army of Elephants

Story by Noli

Translation by Putri Sardjani

Illustration by Nida





Abrahamah was a governor in Yaman.
One day he planned to attack
Mecca. He brought a large
number of army with him.

There were a few big elephants in
his army. Among those big
elephants, there was the biggest
one that Abrahamah rode on.

When Abrahah's army was approaching Mecca, 'Abdul Muthalib ~ one of Quraisy prominent leaders in Mecca ~ told the people of Mecca to flee to mountains.

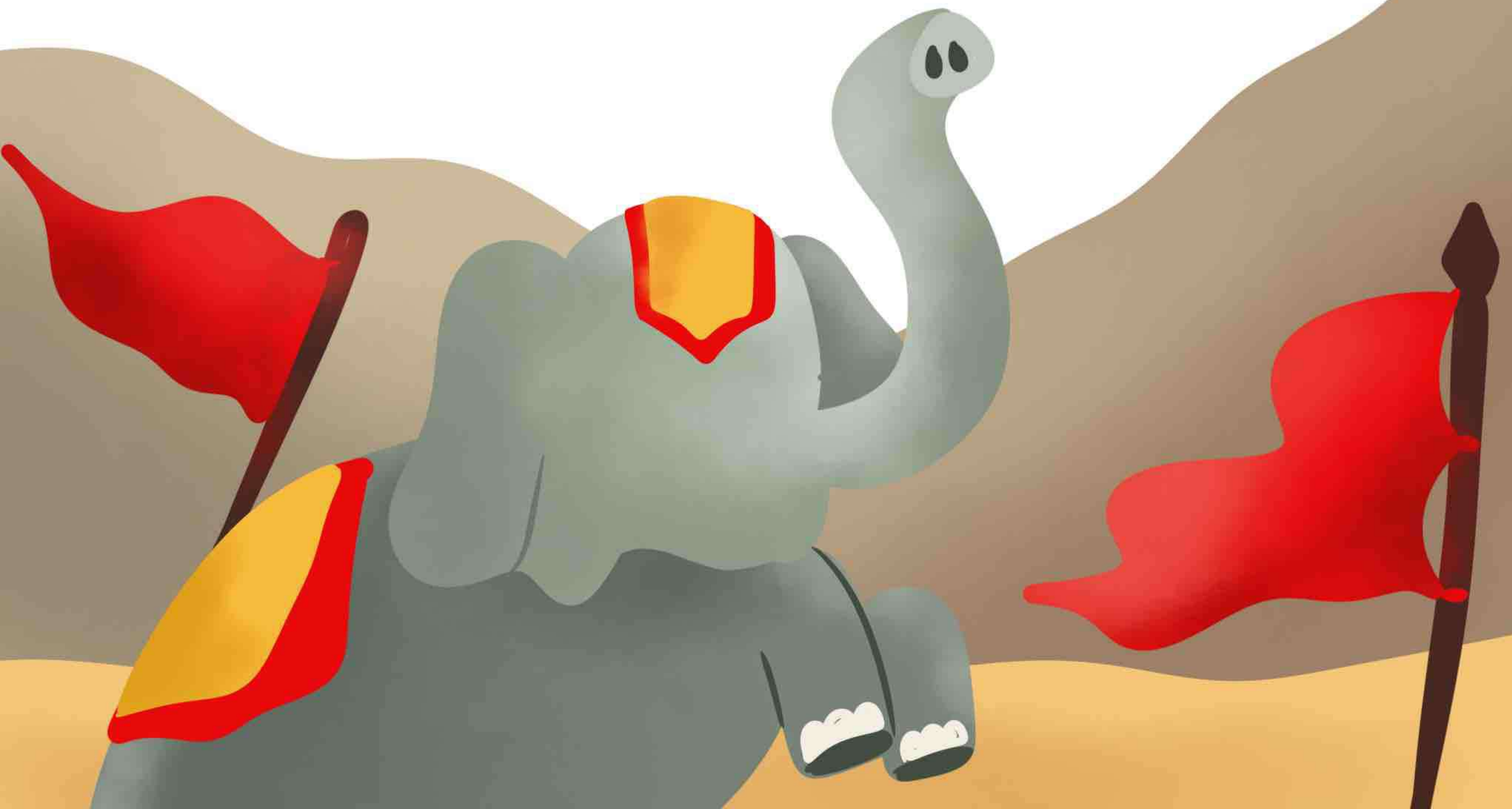
'Abdul Muthalib realized that the Quraisy had no power to fight against Abrahah's army.



Before going to the mountain, 'Abdul Muthalib and some other Quraisy prayed in front of the Ka'ba. He said "Lord, men can only protect their homes. Therefore, please protect Your holy home."



In the next morning, the army prepared to proceed towards the Ka'ba. Then suddenly weird thing happened. The elephants refused to move further. They remained still, no matter how hard the mahouts tried to push them to walk. The elephants would walk if only they were turned to other directions than to Ka'ba.



Not long after, a big flock of birds came approaching the army. Each one of the birds carried hot pebbles in the mouth and feet. The hot pebbles were dropped at the army so that many of them were wounded and even died.

Abraham fled from Mecca and later died in his journey.

That's how Allah protected the Ka'ba and the city of Mecca.



Because of the attack, that year was known as The Elephant Year. In the same year, our prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was born in Mecca, fifty days after the attack.

