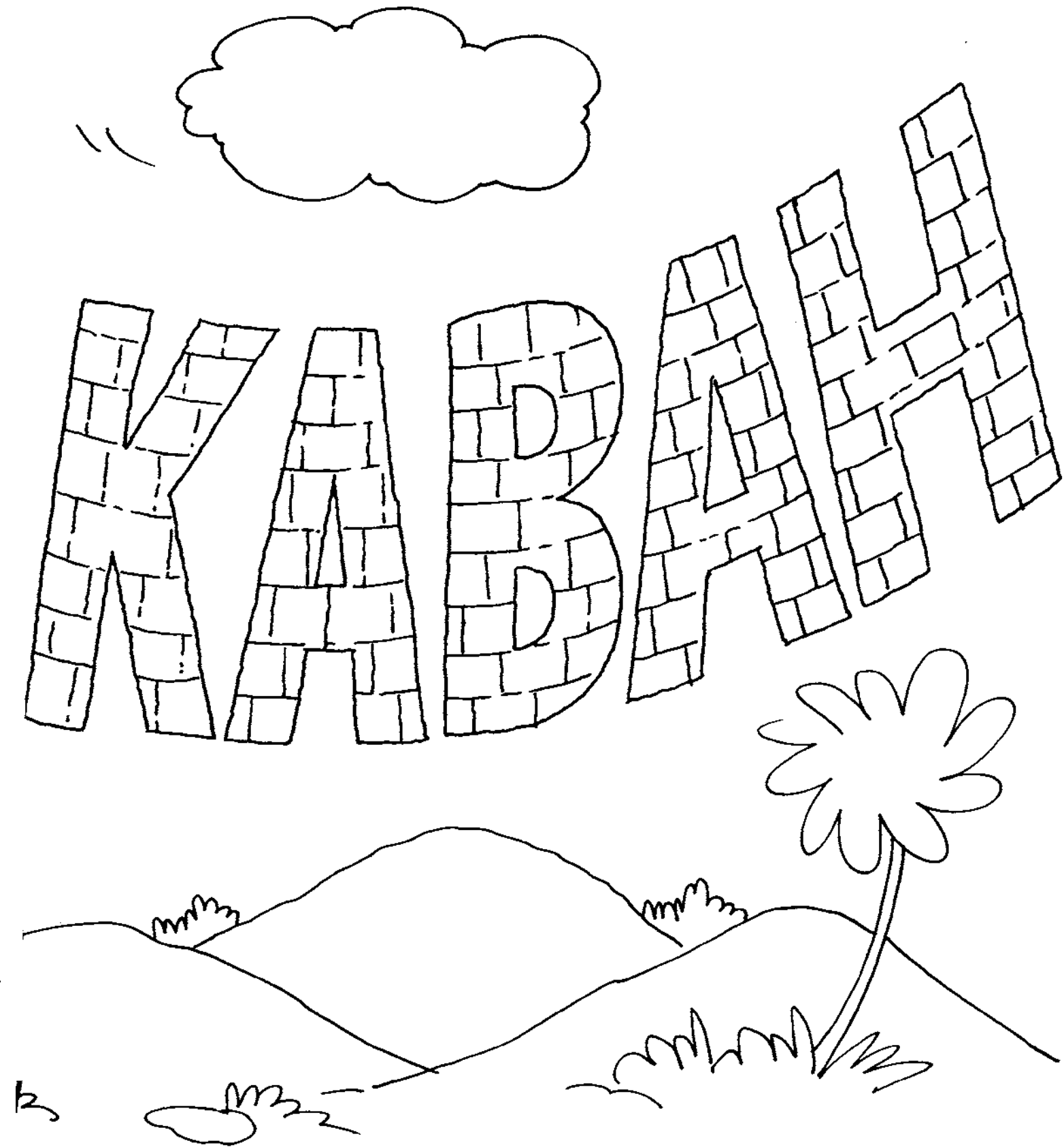
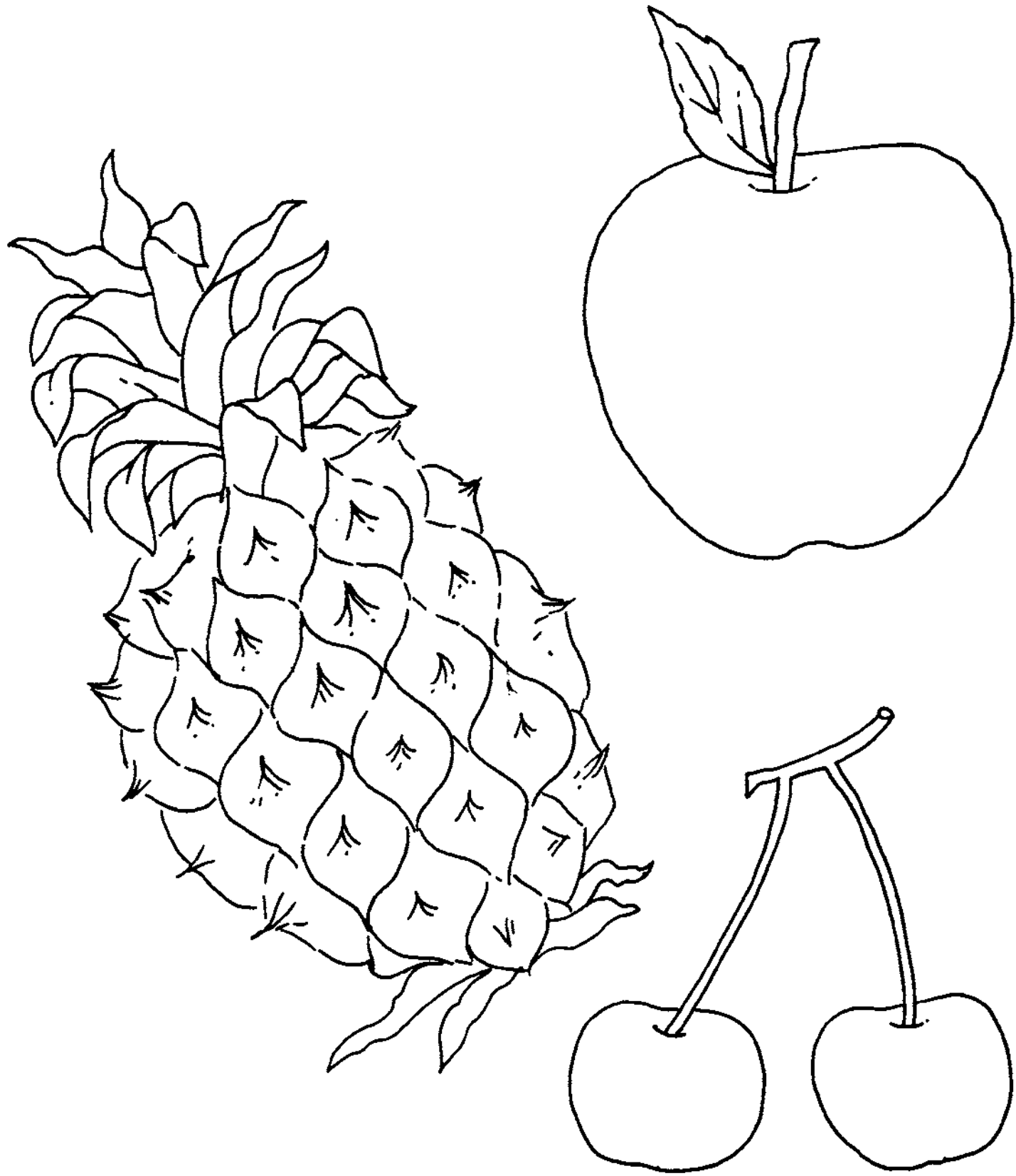


Long, long ago the Prophet Ibrahim عليه السلام settled his wife Hajar and baby Ismail عليه السلام in a lonely valley in Arabia. Thanks to the miracle of the Zamzam spring there, some people began to live there. Slowly it became a small city, which later came to be known as Makkah.



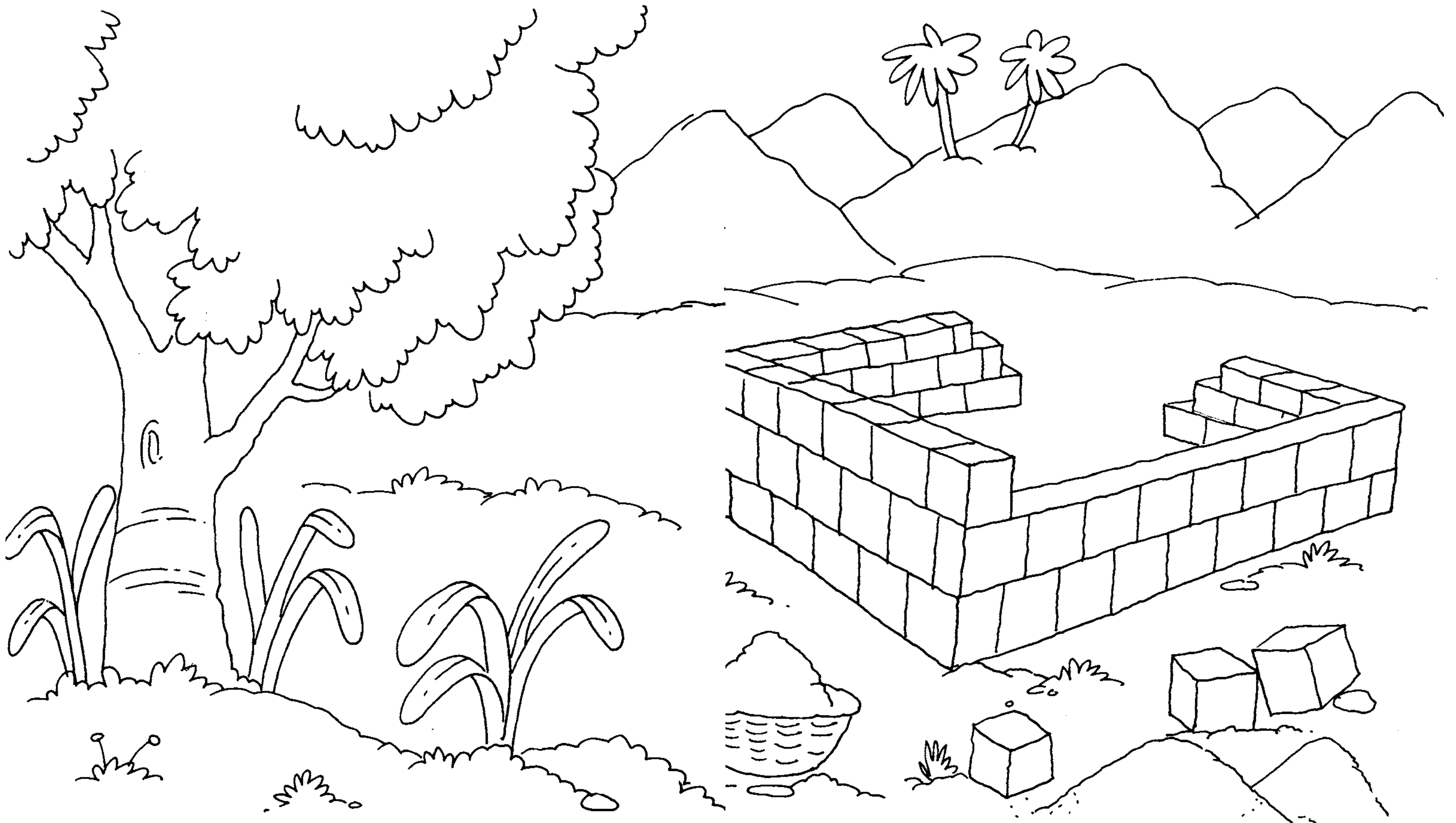
Ismail عليه السلام grew up a strong and loving youth. The Prophets Ibrahim عليه السلام and Ismail عليه السلام were ordered by Allah to build the House of God — the Kabah in Makkah.



They took stones from the nearby hills and started to work.

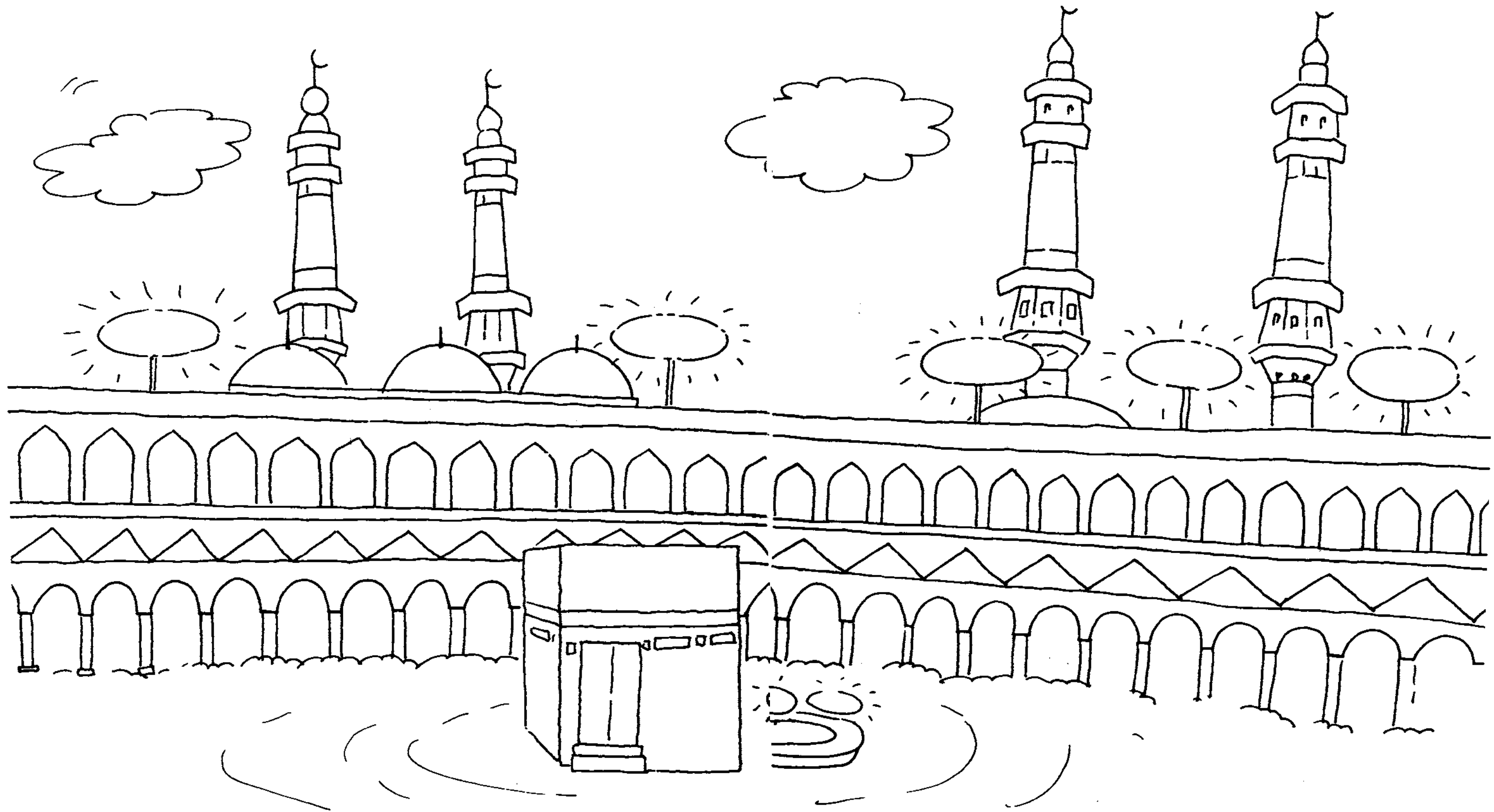


For this sacred land, Ibrahim عليه السلام prayed, "My Lord, make this land secure, and provide its people with fruits, such of them as believe in Allah and the Last Day."



As the Prophets Ibrahim عليه السلام and Ismail عليه السلام laid the very first stones on which the Kabah would stand, they prayed,

"Our Lord, accept this from us! You are the All-hearing, the All-seeing."



They further prayed, "Our Lord, make us bow to You, and make our offspring a nation which bows to You and show us our ways of worship."

They also prayed for a prophet to be born in their family, who would teach wisdom to the people and purify their faith.