

How long was the Virgin Maryam pregnant?

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The Faqeeh of the Era

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: [mtws.posthaven.com](http://www.mtws.posthaven.com)  
([http://www.ibnothaimeen.com/all/noor/article\\_7763.shtml](http://www.ibnothaimeen.com/all/noor/article_7763.shtml))

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

**Question:** The questioner asks, O noble Shaykh, concerning the virgin Maryam. When she became pregnant was her pregnancy like the normal pregnancy, nine months, or how long was it?

**Shaykh al-'Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)**<sup>1</sup>: Before answering this question I would like to mention that these types of questions in which the answers may be void of benefit, it is not befitting for the person to busy himself with questions like this. Man has responsibilities towards Allaah (عزوجل)<sup>2</sup>. And concerning his worship of Allaah he has responsibilities to Allaah (سبحانه)<sup>3</sup>, as it relates to the 'Aqeedah, statements and actions. Therefore it is incumbent upon him to be concern with that as opposed to these affairs that are from the unessential matters of knowledge. Thus it is not befitting for the person to busy himself with that which has no benefit for him while leaving off that which will benefit him.

It is not befitting that he asks about the colour of the dog belonging to the people of the cave<sup>4</sup>. It is not befitting that he asks about the name of the man Allaah caused to die for one hundred years then He raised him to life<sup>5</sup>. It is not befitting that he asks about the nationality of those who abandoned their homes while they were thousands in numbers<sup>6</sup>. It is not befitting that he asks about those from the children of Israaeel that Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى)<sup>7</sup> ordered to strike the dead body with part of the sacrificed cow<sup>8</sup>. It is not befitting that he asks about issues such as these; those affairs in which being ignorant of them will not bring about any harm. If there was benefit in knowing them Allaah (عزوجل) would have clarified them to His slaves. Similarly is this question conveyed by the questioner: 'Was the pregnancy of Maryam (رضى الله عنها)<sup>9</sup>, a pregnancy like normal women, or was it different?' We say, it is known, that which concerns us about this, is her pregnancy

<sup>1</sup> (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

<sup>2</sup> (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

<sup>3</sup> (سبحانه) (Subhanahu) The Exalted

<sup>4</sup> Reference to سورة الكهف – Soorah al-Kahf [18:18]

<sup>5</sup> Reference to سورة البقرة – Soorah al-Baqarah [2:259]

<sup>6</sup> Reference to سورة البقرة – Soorah al-Baqarah [2:243]

<sup>7</sup> (سبحانه وتعالى) (Subhanahu wa-ta'ala) The Exalted, The Most High

<sup>8</sup> Reference to سورة البقرة – Soorah al-Baqarah [2:73]

<sup>9</sup> (رضى الله عنها) (rad iyallaahu `anhaa) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with her

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(رضى الله عنها), was not by way of a man like other women; rather Allaah explains the details in Soorah Maryam.

He said:

**[Relate in the Book (the story of) Maryam, when she withdrew from her family to a place in the East.**

**She placed a screen (to screen herself) from them; then We sent to her Our angel, and he appeared before her as a man in all respects.**

**She said: "I seek refuge from you with (Allaah) Most Gracious: (come not near) if you fear Allaah."**

**He said: "Nay, I am only a Messenger from your Lord, (to announce) to you the gift of a righteous son."**

**She said: "How can I have a son, when no man has touched me, nor am I unchaste?"**

**He said: "So (it will be), your Lord said: 'That is easy for Me (Allaah): And (We wish) to appoint him as a sign to mankind and a mercy from Us (Allaah), and it is a matter (already) decreed, (by Allaah).'"<sup>10</sup>**

And Allaah explains in another verse that this was by way of blowing inside of her, a soul. Allaah (سبحانه) said:

**[And Maryam the daughter of Imraan who guarded her chastity; and We breathed into (the sleeve of her shirt or her garment) through Our Rooh [i.e. Jibrael (Gabriel)]],<sup>11</sup>**

Thus she became pregnant with a son, and Allaah (سبحانه) mentions the rest of the story.

Therefore that which concerns us is how this pregnancy came into existence. As for how long he stayed in her womb, was the duration long or short? This does not concern us. And this is why Allaah (سبحانه) did not clarify this for us in His book.

<sup>10</sup> سورة مريم - Soorah Maryam [19:16-21]

<sup>11</sup> سورة التحريم - Soorah at-Tahreem [66:12]