

A great part of Arabia is desert. (صحرا) Here there is nothing but sand and rock. (چٹان) The sand is so hot that you cannot walk over it with your bare feet (نئے پاؤں) in day time. Here and there in the desert are springs of water (پانی کے چشمے) that come from deep down under the ground. These springs are few and far apart, (ور) but wherever there is one, green grass very soon covers the ground all around it. Soon fig trees (انجیر کے درخت) and palm trees grow tall and graceful, (پروتار) making a cool, green shady place around the spring. Such a place is called oasis (نخلستان).

The Arabs who are not in the cities live in the desert all the year around. They live in tents (خیمے) that can be put up and taken down very easily and quickly, so that

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they can move from one oasis to another. These desert Arabs eat ripe, sweet figs and also the dates that grow upon the palm trees. They dry them, too, and use them as food all the year round.)

# LIFE IN A DESERT

Arabia is made up largely of deserts. In the deserts, there are oases which are springs of water with greenery and palm trees around them. Arabs who live in deserts, live nearby these oases. They eat fruits that grow on the palm trees.