



# المُدَّثِّرُ

## 74. Al-Muddathir: The Cloaked One

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This is a Makki surah. The first seven verses of this surah were revealed during the early period at Makkah. The rest of the surah (vv. 8–56) was revealed on the occasion of the first Hajj, after the Prophet started preaching Islam openly. It consists of 56 verses and the title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

مِنْ فَضْلِ هَذِهِ السُّورَةِ أَنَّهَا تَجْمَعُ الْكَثِيرَ مِنَ الْمَعَانِي السَّامِيَةِ فَهِيَ تُكْرَمُ النَّبِيَّ (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)، وَتَأْمُرُ بِالذَّعْوَةِ، وَتُعَلِّمُ وَحِدَانِيَةَ اللَّهِ، وَتَأْمُرُ بِالتَّطَهْرِ الْحَسِيِّ وَالْمَعْتَوِيِّ، وَتَنْبِذُ الْأَصْنَامَ، وَتَأْمُرُ بِالصَّبْرِ، وَتُنذِرُ الْمُشْرِكِينَ بِهَوْلِ الْبَعْثِ، وَتُهَدِّدُ مَنْ تَصَدَّى لِلطَّغْنِ فِي الْقُرْآنِ. (التحرير والتنوير ص. 293)

One aspect of the merit of this surah is that it gathers supreme meanings. It honors the Prophet (saw) and commands him to call for the path of Allah. It declares the oneness of Allah, enjoins material and spiritual purification, rejects idol worship, commands patience, forewarns the polytheists of the calamitous events of Resurrection, and threatens those who attempt to insult the Quran. (At-Tahrir wa At-Tanwir of Ibn Ashur, p. 293).

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Instructions to the Prophet for cleanliness and patience.
- The Day of Judgement will be very difficult especially for those who deny Allah's revelations and oppose His Cause.
- Actions which lead to the Hellfire are: not offering salah, not feeding the poor, wasting time in vain talk and denying the Day of Judgement.

### SELECTED VERSES

**74:1-7** Contribute for the sake of contribution

﴿يَأْتِيهَا الْمُدَّثِّرُ ﴿١﴾ فَمَرَّ فَاذْدَرَّ ﴿٢﴾ وَرَبَّكَ فَكَبَّرَ ﴿٣﴾ وَثِيَابَكَ فَطَهَّرَ ﴿٤﴾ وَالرُّجْزَ فَاهْجَرَ ﴿٥﴾ وَلَا تَمْنُنْ تَسْتَكْبِرُ ﴿٦﴾ وَلِرَبِّكَ فَاصْبِرْ ﴿٧﴾﴾

"O you who covers himself [with a garment], Arise and warn. And your Lord glorify. And your clothing purify. And uncleanness avoid. And do not confer favor to acquire more. But for your Lord be patient."

**74:40-47** Neglecting societal obligations

﴿فِي جَنَّتِ يَتَسَاءَلُونَ ﴿٤٠﴾ عَنِ الْمُجْرِمِينَ ﴿٤١﴾ مَا سَلَكَكُمْ فِي سَقَرٍ ﴿٤٢﴾ قَالُوا لَمْ نَكُ مِنَ الْمُصَلِّينَ ﴿٤٣﴾ وَلَمْ نَكُ نَطْعِمُ الْمَسْكِينِ ﴿٤٤﴾ وَكُنَّا نَخُوضُ مَعَ الْخَائِضِينَ ﴿٤٥﴾ وَكُنَّا نَكْذِبُ بِيَوْمِ الدِّينِ ﴿٤٦﴾ حَتَّىٰ آتَيْنَا الْيَقِينِ ﴿٤٧﴾﴾

[Who will be] in gardens, questioning each other. About the criminals, [And asking them], 'What put you into Saqar?' They will say, "We were not of those who prayed, Nor did we used to feed the poor. And we used to enter into vain discourse with those who engaged [in it], And we used to deny the Day of Recompense. Until there came to us the certainty. "

**74:49-51** Turning away from the reminder

﴿فَمَا لَهُمْ عَنِ التَّذْكَرَةِ مُعْرِضِينَ ﴿٤٩﴾ كَانَتْهُمْ حُمْرٌ مُسْتَنْفِرَةٌ ﴿٥٠﴾ فَرَّتْ مِنْ قَسْوَرَةٍ ﴿٥١﴾﴾

"Then what is [the matter] with them that they are from the reminder, turning away. As if they were alarmed donkeys. Fleeing from a lion?"

**74:54-56** The Quran is a reminder

﴿كَلَّا إِنَّهُ تَذْكِرَةٌ ﴿٥٤﴾ فَمَنْ شَاءَ ذَكَرْهُ ﴿٥٥﴾ وَمَا يَذْكُرُونَ إِلَّا أَنْ يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ ﴿٥٦﴾ هُوَ أَهْلُ التَّقْوَى وَأَهْلُ الْغَفْرِ ﴿٥٧﴾﴾

"No! Indeed, the Quran is a reminder. Then whoever wills will remember it. And they will not remember except that Allah wills. He is worthy of fear and adequate for [granting] forgiveness."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Enveloped [v.1] **الْمَدِّيْرُ**      In abundance [v.12] **مَمْدُوْدًا**      To remain behind [v.37] **يَتَأَخَّرُ**  
 To go forward [v.37] **يَتَقَدَّمُ**



# الْقِيَامَةِ

## 75. Al-Qiyamah: The Resurrection

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 40 verses. Its title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عُمَرَ بْنِ الْخَطَّابِ أَنَّهُ قَالَ فِي شَأْنِ سُورَةِ الْقِيَامَةِ: "مَنْ سَأَلَ عَنِ الْقِيَامَةِ أَوْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَعْرِفَ حَقِيقَةَ وُقُوعِهَا فَلْيَقْرَأْ هَذِهِ السُّورَةَ". (الدر المنثور ص. 75)

Umar Ibn al-Khattab is reported to have said regarding surah Al-Qiyamah: "Whoever asks about the Resurrection or wants to know the reality of its occurrence let him read this surah." [Ad-Durr Al-Manthur, p.75]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The Day of Judgement is certain, there is no escape from it.
- Allah Himself took the responsibility of preserving the Quran.
- The last moments of disbeliever's death.
- Take Allah's warning about the Day of Judgement seriously.

### SELECTED VERSES

**75:1-4** Allah will reassemble our bones

﴿لَا أَقْسِمُ بِيَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ ﴿١﴾ وَلَا أَقْسِمُ بِالنَّفْسِ اللَّوَّامَةِ ﴿٢﴾ أَحْسَبُ الْإِنْسَانَ أَلَّنْ يَجْمَعَ عِظَامَهُ ﴿٣﴾ بَلَىٰ قَدَرِينِ ﴿٤﴾ عَلَيَّ أَنْ تُسَوَّىٰ بَنَانُهُ ﴿٥﴾﴾

"I swear by the Day of Resurrection. And I swear by the reproaching soul [to the certainty of resurrection]. Does man think that We will not assemble his bones? Yes. [We are] able [even] to proportion his fingertips."

**75:14-18** Man will be a witness against himself

﴿بَلِ الْإِنْسَانِ عَلَىٰ نَفْسِهِ بِصِيرَةٌ ﴿١٤﴾ وَلَوْ أَلْقَىٰ مَعَاذِيرَهُ ﴿١٥﴾ لَا تَحْرِكْ بِهِ لِسَانَكَ لِتَعْجَلَ بِهِ ﴿١٦﴾ إِنَّ عَلَيْنَا جَمْعَهُ وَقُرْآنَهُ ﴿١٧﴾ فَإِذَا قَرَأْتَهُ فَاتَّبِعْ قُرْآنَهُ ﴿١٨﴾﴾

"Rather, man, against himself, will be a witness, Even if he presents his excuses. Move not your tongue with it, [O Muhammad], to hasten with recitation of the Quran. Indeed, upon Us is its collection [in your heart] and [to make possible] its recitation."

**75:22** Radiant faces

﴿وُجُوهُ يَوْمَئِذٍ نَّاصِرَةٌ ﴿٢٢﴾﴾

"[Some] faces, that Day, will be radiant,"

**75:23** The ultimate reward

﴿إِلَىٰ رَبِّهَا نَاظِرَةٌ﴾

"Looking at their Lord."

**75:36** Everything has a purpose

﴿أَتَحْسَبُ الْإِنْسَانُ أَنْ يُتْرَكَ سُدًى﴾

"Does man think that he will be left neglected?"

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Self reproaching **الْلَّوَامَةَ**  
[v.2]

The present life **الْعَاجِلَةَ**  
in this world [v.20]

Shall be radiant **نَاطِرَةٌ**  
[v.22]



# الإنسان

## 76. Al-Insan: Man

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 31 verses. It is sometimes called 'Ad-Dahr' and both titles are derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ "أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانَ يَقْرَأُ يَوْمَ الْجُمُعَةِ فِي صَلَاةِ الصُّبْحِ الْم تَنْزِيلًا، وَهَلْ أَتَى عَلَى الْإِنْسَانِ، وَفِي صَلَاةِ الْجُمُعَةِ بِسُورَةِ الْجُمُعَةِ، وَالْمُنَافِقِينَ" (النسائي 1748)

Ibn Abbas is reported to have said that "The Messenger of Allah (saw) used to recite on Friday in the Fajr prayer [the surah that starts with] 'Alif Lam Meem. [This is] the revelation' [i.e. surah As-Sajdah] and [the surah that starts with] 'Has it ever occurred to man that there were eons [in the course] of time' [i.e. surah Al-Insan]; and in Friday prayer [he used to recite] surah Al-Jumu'ah and Al-Munafiqun." [Nasai 1748]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The universe was there before mankind existed, then Allah created man, provided him with guidance and let him use his free will: either to believe or to disbelieve.
- An exemplary life in Paradise for those who choose to believe.
- Allah gradually sent this Quran according to the issues faced by mankind.
- This Quran is an admonition for those who want to adopt the way to their God.

### SELECTED VERSES

**76:1** Insignificance of human existence

﴿هَلْ أَتَى عَلَى الْإِنْسَانِ حِينٌ مِّنَ الدَّهْرِ لَمْ يَكُن شَيْئًا مَّذْكُورًا ۝١﴾

"Has there [not] come upon man a period of time when he was not a thing [even] mentioned?"

**76:3** The two choices

﴿إِنَّا هَدَيْنَاهُ السَّبِيلَ إِمَّا شَاكِرًا وَإِمَّا كَفُورًا ۝٣﴾

"Indeed, We guided him to the way, be he grateful or be he ungrateful."

**76:8-9** Sincere charity

﴿وَيُطْعَمُونَ عَلَىٰ حُبِّهِ مِسْكِينًا وَيَتِيمًا وَأَسِيرًا ۝٨ إِنَّمَا نُطْعِمُكُمْ لِوَجْهِ اللَّهِ لَا نُرِيدُ مِنكُمْ جَزَاءً وَلَا شُكْرًا ۝٩﴾

"And they give food in spite of love for it to the needy, the orphan, and the captive, [saying], "We feed you only for the countenance of Allah. We wish not from you reward or gratitude."



**76:22** Accepted endeavours

﴿إِنَّ هَذَا كَانَ لَكُمْ جَزَاءً وَكَانَ سَعْيُكُمْ مَشْكُورًا﴾

"[And it will be said], Indeed, this is for you a reward, and your effort has been appreciated."

**76:27** Short term objective

﴿إِنَّ هُنَّ لَأَكْثَرُ حُبًّا لِلْعَاجِلَةِ وَيَذُرُونَ وَرَاءَهُمْ يَوْمًا ثَقِيلًا﴾

"Indeed, these [disbelievers] love the immediate and leave behind them a grave Day."

**76:29** The Quran is a path to Allah

﴿إِنَّ هَذِهِ تَذْكِرَةٌ فَمَنْ شَاءَ اتَّخَذْ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِ سَبِيلًا﴾

"Indeed, this is a reminder, so he who wills may take to his Lord a way."

**76:30** Allah's decree

﴿وَمَا تَشَاءُونَ إِلَّا أَنْ يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلِيمًا حَكِيمًا﴾

"And you do not will except that Allah wills. Indeed, Allah is ever Knowing and Wise."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Time [v.1] **الدَّهْر**

To be mentioned [v.1] **مَذْكُورًا**

Silk garments [v.12] **حَرِيرًا**



# المُرْسَلَاتُ

## 77. Al- Mursalat: The Emissaries

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 50 verses. The title is taken from the first verse.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ قَالَ: قَالَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَدْ شَيْبَتْ، قَالَ: "شَيْبَتْنِي هُوْدٌ، وَالْوَاقِعَةُ، وَالْمُرْسَلَاتُ، وَعَمَّ يَتَسَاءَلُونَ، وَ (إِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ)". (الترمذي 3297)

Ibn Abbas is reported to have said: Abu Bakr said: O Messenger of Allah, your hair grew grey. He said, "[The surahs of Prophet] Hud, Al-Waqi'ah, and Al-Mursalat together with [the surah that starts with] 'About what are they asking one another' [i.e. surah An-Naba] and [the surah that starts with] 'When the sun enfolds' [i.e. surah At-Takweer] made my hair grow grey." [Tirmidhi 3297]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah swears in the name of life giving winds, rain and angels that the Day of Judgement will be established.
- On that Day, the disbelievers will be asked to walk towards Hell which they used to deny, and the righteous will be given all that they desire.
- A warning to the disbelievers and a question as to what statement after this Quran (the last revelation) will they believe?

### SELECTED VERSES

77:7 The promise

﴿إِنَّمَا تُوعَدُونَ لَوَاقِعٌ﴾

"Indeed, what you are promised is to occur."

77:35-40 The Day of Judgement

﴿هَذَا يَوْمٌ لَا يَنْطِقُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾ وَلَا يُؤْذِنُ هُمْ فَيَعْتَدِرُونَ ﴿٣٦﴾ وَيَلُّ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلْمُكَذِّبِينَ ﴿٣٧﴾ هَذَا يَوْمُ الْفَصْلِ جَمَعْنَاكُمْ وَالْأُولَىٰ ﴿٣٨﴾ فَإِنْ كَانَ لَكُمْ كَيْدٌ فَكِيدُونَ ﴿٣٩﴾ وَيَلُّ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلْمُكَذِّبِينَ ﴿٤٠﴾﴾

"This is a Day they will not speak, Nor will it be permitted for them to make an excuse. Woe, that Day, to the deniers. This is the Day of Judgement; We will have assembled you and the former peoples. So if you have a plan, then plan against Me. Woe, that Day, to the deniers."

77:44 Doers of good are compensated

﴿إِنَّا كَذَّالِكَ نَجْزِي الْمُحْسِنِينَ﴾

"Indeed, We thus reward the doers of good."

**77:46** Punishment for the disbelievers

﴿كُلُوا وَتَمَتَّعُوا قَلِيلًا إِنَّكُمْ مَجْرُمُونَ﴾

"[O disbelievers], eat and enjoy yourselves a little; indeed, you are criminals."

**77:48** Difficulty of submission

﴿وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمُ ارْكَعُوا لَا يَرْكَعُونَ﴾

"And when it is said to them, "Bow [in prayer]," they do not bow.""

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

A shadow [v.30] ظِلِّ

Comfortably [v.43] هَنِيئًا

Enjoy yourselves [v.46] تَمَتَّعُوا



# النَّبَأُ

## 78. An-Naba: The Tidings

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 40 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ قَالَ: قَالَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَدْ شَيْبَتْ، قَالَ: "شَيْبَتْنِي هُوْدُ، وَالرَّوَابِعَةُ، وَالْمُرْسَلَاتُ، وَعَمَّ يَتَسَاءَلُونَ، وَإِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ". (الترمذي 3297)

Ibn Abbas is reported to have said: Abu Bakr said: "O Messenger of Allah, your hair grew grey. He said, "[The surahs of Prophet] Hud, Al-Waqi'ah, and Al-Mursalat together with [the surah that starts with] 'About what are they asking one another' [i.e. surah An-Naba] and [the surah that starts with] 'When the sun enfolds' [i.e. surah At-Takweer] made my hair grow grey." [Tirmidhi 3297]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Creation of the heavens, earth, mountains and vegetation clearly points out towards the Day of Judgement.
- Resurrection and man's accountability in the court of Allah.
- The righteous will be well pleased, while the disbelievers will be put in Hell where they will be treated with scalding water and decaying filth.

### SELECTED VERSES

**78:1-4** The great news

﴿عَمَّ يَتَسَاءَلُونَ ﴿١﴾ عَنِ النَّبِإِ الْعَظِيمِ ﴿٢﴾ الَّذِي هُمْ فِيهِ مُخْتَلِفُونَ ﴿٣﴾ كَلَّا سَيَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٤﴾﴾

"About what are they asking one another? About the great news -That over which they are in disagreement. No! They are going to know."

**78:7** Mountains are likened to pegs

﴿وَالْجِبَالُ أَوْتَادًا ﴿٧﴾﴾

"And the mountains as stakes?"

**78:29** Everything is recorded

﴿وَكُلَّ شَيْءٍ أَحْصَيْنَاهُ كِتَابًا ﴿٢٩﴾﴾

"But all things We have enumerated in writing."

**78:31** The greatest success

﴿إِنَّ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ مَفَازًا﴾

"Indeed, for the righteous is attainment "

**78:36** A generous gift

﴿جَزَاءً مِّن رَّبِّكَ عَطَاءً حِسَابًا﴾

"[As] reward from your Lord, [a generous] gift [made due by] account,"

**78: 40** Plea of the disbeliever

﴿أَنْذَرْنَاكُمْ عَذَابًا قَرِيبًا يَوْمَ يَنْظُرُ الْمَرْءُ مَا قَدَّمَتْ يَدَاهُ وَيَقُولُ الْكَافِرُ يَلَيْتَنِي كُنْتُ تُرَابًا﴾

"Indeed, We have warned you of a near punishment on the Day when a man will observe what his hands have put forth and the disbeliever will say, 'Oh, I wish that I were dust!'"

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

A vast expanse [v.7] مَهْدًا

Livelihood [v.11] مَعَاشًا

Gives permission, allow أَدْنًا  
[v.38]





# النَّازِعَاتُ

## 79. An-Nazi'at: Those who Drag Forth

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

The surah is Makki and it consists of 46 verses. The name of this surah is derived from the word *wan-nazi'at* with which the surah opens. According to Abdullah Ibn Abbas, this surah was sent down after surah An-Naba. Its subject matter also testifies that it belongs to the earliest period at Makkah.

### VIRTUE

اشْتَمَلَتْ عَلَىٰ إِبْطَاتِ الْبُعْثِ وَالْحِزَاءِ، وَتَهْوِيلِ يَوْمِهِ وَمَا يَعْتَرِي النَّاسَ حِينَئِذٍ مِنَ الشَّدَّةِ. (ابن عاشور، التحرير والتنوير، ص. 59، جزء 30)

It encompasses the affirmation of the Resurrection, Day of Judgment, and the frightful and hard conditions that people will go through on that day. [At-Tahrir wa At-Tanwir of Ibn Ashur, 30/59]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Death, the Day of Resurrection and life after death.
- The story of Prophet Musa when he called Pharaoh to his Lord, who denied Allah and was subsequently punished.
- The creation of man is not harder than the creation of the heavens, earth and its contents.
- Punishment and reward on the Day of Judgement.

### SELECTED VERSES

**79:15** News of the story of Musa

﴿هَلْ أَتَاكَ حَدِيثُ مُوسَىٰ﴾

"Has there reached you the story of Moses?"

**79:24** Allah the most High

﴿فَقَالَ أَنَا رَبُّكُمُ الْأَعْلَىٰ﴾

"And said, 'I am your most Exalted Lord.'"

**79:26** An admonition

﴿إِنَّ فِي ذَٰلِكَ لَعِبْرَةً لِّمَن يَخْشَىٰ﴾

"Indeed in that is a warning for whoever would fear [Allah]."

**79:27** The power of Allah

﴿ءَأَنْتُمْ أَشَدُّ خُلُقًا أَمْ السَّمَاءُ بِنهَا﴾

"Are you a more difficult creation or is the heaven? Allah constructed it."

**79:37** Those who exceed the limits

﴿فَأَمَّا مَنْ طَغَى﴾

"So as for he who transgressed."

**79:38-41** Preference of this life

﴿وَأَثَرُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا﴾ فَإِنَّ الْجَحِيمَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَى ﴿٣٨﴾ وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ وَنَهَى النَّفْسَ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ ﴿٣٩﴾ فَإِنَّ الْجَنَّةَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَى ﴿٤٠﴾

"And preferred the life of the world, Then indeed, Hellfire will be [his] refuge. But as for he who feared the position of his Lord and prevented the soul from [unlawful] inclination, Then indeed, Paradise will be [his] refuge."

**79:46** Perception of time in the Hereafter

﴿كَأَنَّهُمْ يَوْمَ يَرَوْنَهَا لَمْ يَلْبَثُوا إِلَّا عَشِيَّةً أَوْ ضُحًى﴾

"It will be, on the Day they see it, as though they had not remained [in the world] except for an afternoon or a morning thereof."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

A return [v.12] كَرَّةٌ

In the valley بِالْوَادِ الْمُقَدَّسِ  
sacred [v.16]

A clear admonition لَعِبْرَةٌ  
[v.26]



# عَبَسَ

## 80. Abasa: He who frowned

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and consists of 42 verses and it takes its title from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

تُبَيِّنُ هَذِهِ السُّورَةُ بَيَانًا وَاقِعِيًّا أَنَّ أَصْحَابَ الْعَمَى وَسَائِرَ الْعَاهَاتِ يَسْتَحِقُّونَ مَزِيدَ الرَّفْقِ وَالرَّأْفَةِ. (الرازي، مفاتيح الغيب، جزء 31، ص. 51)

This surah clarifies that the blind and disabled people are worthy of further kindness and compassion. [Mafateeh Al-Ghayb of Ar-Razi,, 31/51]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The commandment that the seekers of guidance should be given preference in conveying Allah's message.
- Man is reminded to recognise his Creator.
- On the Day of Judgement man will be so concerned about himself that he will not even care about his own mother, father, brother or children.

### SELECTED VERSES

**80:1-4** The blind man

﴿عَبَسَ وَتَوَلَّى ﴿١﴾ أَنْ جَاءَهُ الْأَعْمَى ﴿٢﴾ وَمَا يُدْرِيكَ لَعَلَّهُ يَزَّكَّى ﴿٣﴾ أَوْ يَذَّكَّرُ فَتَنْفَعَهُ الذِّكْرَى ﴿٤﴾﴾

"The Prophet frowned and turned away. Because there came to him the blind man, [interrupting]. But what would make you perceive, [O Muhammad], that perhaps he might be purified. Or be reminded and the remembrance would benefit him?"

**80:11-12** The Quran is an admonition

﴿كَلَّا إِنَّهَا تَذْكِرَةٌ ﴿١١﴾ فَمَنْ شَاءَ ذَكَرْهُ ﴿١٢﴾﴾

"No! Indeed, these verses are a reminder; So whoever wills may remember it."

﴿قُلْ لِلْإِنْسَانِ مَا أَكْفَرَهُ ﴿١٧﴾﴾

**80:17** "Cursed is man; how disbelieving is he."

﴿فَلْيَنْظُرِ الْإِنْسَانُ إِلَى طَعَامِهِ ﴿٢٤﴾﴾

**80:24** "Then let mankind look at his food."

**80:34-37** A scene on the Day of Judgement

﴿يَوْمَ يَفِرُّ الْمَرْءُ مِنْ أَخِيهِ ﴿٣٤﴾ وَأُمِّهِ وَأَبِيهِ ﴿٣٥﴾ وَصَاحِبَتِهِ وَبَنِيهِ ﴿٣٦﴾ لِكُلِّ امْرِئٍ مِّنْهُمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ شَأْنٌ يُغْنِيهِ ﴿٣٧﴾﴾

"On the Day a man will flee from his brother. And his mother and his father. And his wife and his children, For every man, that Day, will be a matter adequate for him."

**SELECTED VOCABULARY**

He frowned [v.1] عَبَسَ

Honoured [v.13] مُكْرَمَةً

Date palms [v.26] تَخَلَّأَ



# التكوير

## 81. At-Takwir: The Overthrowing

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah is Makki and consists of 29 verses. Its title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ ابْنِ عُمَرَ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: "مَنْ سَرَّهُ أَنْ يَنْظُرَ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ كَأَنَّهُ رَأَى عَيْنٍ فَلْيَقْرَأْ إِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ انْفَطَرَتْ وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ انشَقَّتْ وَأَحْسَبُهُ قَالَ: "وَسُورَةُ هُودٍ". (أحمد 4934)

Ibn Umar is reported to have said that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: "He who is pleased to look at the Day of Resurrection as if seeing it with his naked eyes let him read [the surah that starts with] 'When the sun enfolds (At-Takwir)', [the surah that starts with] 'When the sky breaks apart (i.e. Al-Infitar)', and [the surah that starts with] 'When the sky has split [open] (i.e. Al-Inshiqaq)'. "I think he added: "And surah Hud." [Ahmad 4934]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- A scene from the scenes of Judgement Day.
- The Quran is conveyed to the Prophet through Angel Gabriel.
- This message of the Quran is for all the people of the world.

### SELECTED VERSES

**81:8-9** For what sin was she killed?

﴿وَإِذَا الْمَوْءُودَةُ سُئِلَتْ بِأَيِّ ذَنْبٍ قُتِلَتْ﴾

"And when the girl [who was] buried alive is asked. For what sin she was killed"

**81:14** Accountability of actions

﴿عَامَتِ نَفْسٌ مَّا أَحْضَرَتْ﴾

"A soul will [then] know what it has brought [with it]."

**81:26-29** Then where are you going?

﴿فَأَيْنَ تَذْهَبُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾ إِنَّ هُوَ إِلَّا ذِكْرٌ لِلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٧﴾ لِمَنْ شَاءَ مِنْكُمْ أَنْ يَسْتَقِيمَ ﴿٢٨﴾ وَمَا تَشَاءُونَ إِلَّا أَنْ يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ رَبُّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٩﴾﴾

"So where are you going? It is not except a reminder to the worlds. For whoever wills among you to take a right course. And you do not will except that Allah wills - Lord of the worlds."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Wound round [v.1] كُوِّرَتْ Shall move away [v.3] سِيرَتْ The planets [v.16] الْجَوَارِ





# الأنفطار

## 82. Al-Infitar: The Cleaving

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah and surah at-Takwir closely resemble each other in their subject matter and were sent down in the same period which is the very early stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. It consists of 19 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ ابْنِ عُمَرَ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: "مَنْ سَرَّهُ أَنْ يَنْظُرَ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ كَأَنَّهُ رَأَى عَيْنٍ فَلْيَقْرَأْ إِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ انْفَطَرَتْ وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ انشَقَّتْ" وَأَحْسِبُهُ قَالَ: "وَسُورَةَ هُودٍ". (أحمد 4934)

Ibn Umar is reported to have said that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: "He who is pleased to look at the Day of Resurrection as if seeing it with his naked eyes let him read [the surah that starts with] 'When the sun enfolds (At-Takwir)', [the surah that starts with] 'When the sky breaks apart (i.e. Al-Infitar)', and [the surah that starts with] 'When the sky has split [open] (i.e. Al-Inshiqaq)'. "I think he added: "And surah Hud." [Ahmad 4934]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- A description as to what will happen on the Day of Judgement.
- Guardian angels are assigned to each individual who are recording each and every action.
- Allah Himself will be the Judge on the Day of Judgement.

### SELECTED VERSES

**82:6-7** Man is careless

﴿يَتَأْتِيهَا الْإِنْسَانُ مَا عَرَكَ بَرَبِّكَ الْكَرِيمِ ﴿١﴾ الَّذِي خَلَقَكَ فَسَوَّنَكَ فَعَدَلَكَ ﴿٢﴾﴾

"O mankind, what has deceived you concerning your Lord, the Generous, Who created you, proportioned you, and balanced you?"

**82:10-12** Appointed angels

﴿وَأَنَّ عَلَيْكُمْ لِحَافِظِينَ ﴿١﴾ كِرَامًا كَاتِبِينَ ﴿٢﴾ يَعْلَمُونَ مَا تَفْعَلُونَ ﴿٣﴾﴾

"And indeed, [appointed] over you are keepers, Noble and recording. They know whatever you do."

**82:17-19** The decision on that Day will be with Allah

﴿وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا يَوْمَ الدِّينِ ﴿١﴾ ثُمَّ مَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا يَوْمَ الدِّينِ ﴿٢﴾ يَوْمَ لَا تَمْلِكُ نَفْسٌ لِنَفْسٍ شَيْئًا وَالْأَمْرُ يَوْمَئِذٍ

لِلَّهِ ﴿٣﴾﴾

"And what can make you know what is the Day of Recompense? Then, what can make you know what is the Day of Recompense? It is the Day when a soul will not possess for another soul [power to do] a thing; and the command, that Day, is [entirely] with Allah."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Cleft asunder [v.1] **أَنفَطَرَتْ**      Burst forth [v.3] **فُجِرَتْ**      Made you careless [v.6] **غَرَّكَ**



# المُطَفِّفِينَ

## 83. Al-Mutaffifin: The Defrauding

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in the earliest stage at Makkah, when surah after surah was being revealed to impress the doctrine of the Hereafter upon the people's minds. This surah was revealed when the disbelievers started ridiculing the Muslims and disgracing them publicly in the streets and in their assemblies, but persecution of the Muslims had not yet started. It consists of 36 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ قَالَ: «قَدِمْتُ الْمَدِينَةَ وَرَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - بِخَيْبَرَ وَرَجُلٌ مِنْ بَنِي غِفَارٍ يُؤْمُ النَّاسَ، فَقَرَأَ فِي الرَّكْعَةِ الْأُولَى بِسُورَةِ مَرْيَمَ وَفِي الثَّانِيَةِ: وَيَلُّ لِلْمُطَفِّفِينَ أَحْسَبُهُ قَالَ: فِي صَلَاةِ الْفَجْرِ» (جمع الزوائد 2714)

Abu Hurayra narrated: "When I came to Madina the Prophet (saw) was in Khaybar and a man from the tribe of Ghifar was leading people in congregational prayer. The man read surah Maryam in the first rak`ah and the surah that starts with 'Woe to those who give less [than due] (i.e. surah Al-Mutaffifin)' in the second one. (The Companion who reported it from Abu Hurayra said,) I think he said (Abu Hurayra): 'in fajr prayer.'" [Majma` Az-Zawa'id 2714]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Defrauders will be called to account and punished while the righteous will be rewarded with soft couches, the choicest wine and special spring water.
- Today disbelievers laugh at the believers, a Day will come when they themselves will be laughed at.

### SELECTED VERSES

#### 83:1-6 Against defrauding

﴿وَيْلٌ لِّلْمُطَفِّفِينَ ﴿١﴾ الَّذِينَ إِذَا اكْتَالُوا عَلَى النَّاسِ يَسْتَوْفُونَ ﴿٢﴾ وَإِذَا كَالُوهُمْ أَوْ وَزَنُوهُمْ يُخْسِرُونَ ﴿٣﴾ أَلَا يَظُنُّ أُولَئِكَ أَنَّهُمْ مَبْعُوثُونَ ﴿٤﴾ لِيَوْمٍ عَظِيمٍ ﴿٥﴾ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ النَّاسُ لِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٦﴾﴾

"Woe to those who give less [than due], Who, when they take a measure from people, take in full. But if they give by measure or by weight to them, they cause loss. Do they not think that they will be resurrected For a tremendous Day -The Day when mankind will stand before the Lord of the worlds?"

#### 83:29 Attitude of the disbelievers

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ أَجْرَمُوا كَانُوا مِنَ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا يَضْحَكُونَ ﴿٢٩﴾﴾

"Indeed, those who committed crimes used to laugh at those who believed."

**83:30** Making mockery of them

﴿وَإِذَا مَرُّوا بِهِمْ يَتَغَامَزُونَ﴾

"And when they passed by them, they would exchange derisive glances."

**83:34** The last laugh

﴿فَالْيَوْمَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنَ الْكُفَّارِ يَضْحَكُونَ﴾

"So Today those who believed are laughing at the disbelievers."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Woe [v.1] وَيْلٌ

Those who give less in weight and measure [v.1] لِّلْمُطَفِّفِينَ

The righteous [v.18] الْأَبْرَارِ



# الْإِنْشِقَاقُ

## 84. Al-Inshiqaq: The Asunder

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This is one of the earliest surahs revealed at Makkah. The persecution of the Muslims had not yet started; however, the message of the Quran was being openly opposed and the people were refusing to acknowledge that resurrection would ever take place and that they would have to appear before Allah to render an account of their deeds. The surah contains 25 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ ابْنِ عُمَرَ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: "مَنْ سَرَّهُ أَنْ يَنْظُرَ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ كَأَنَّهُ رَأَى عَيْنٍ فَلْيُقِرَّ إِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ انْفَطَرَتْ وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ انشَقَّتْ" وَأَحْسِبُهُ قَالَ: "وَسُورَةَ هُودٍ". (أحمد 4934)

Ibn Umar is reported to have said that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: "He who is pleased to look at the Day of Resurrection as if seeing it with his naked eyes let him read [the surah that starts with] 'When the sun enfolds (At-Takwir)', [the surah that starts with] 'When the sky breaks apart (i.e. Al-Infitar)', and [the surah that starts with] 'When the sky has split [open] (i.e. Al-Inshiqaq)'. "I think he added: "And surah Hud." [Ahmad 4934]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- On Judgement Day, the heavens will split asunder and earth will be spread out.
- The books of deeds will be distributed and the righteous will be happy while disbelievers will be calling for death.
- The people are asked to believe while they have time during their life on earth.

### SELECTED VERSES

**84:7-13** The book of deeds

﴿فَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِيَ كِتَابَهُ بِيَمِينِهِ ﴿٧﴾ فَسَوْفَ مُحْسَبًا حِسَابًا يَسِيرًا ﴿٨﴾ وَيُنْقَلِبُ إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهِ مَسْرُورًا ﴿٩﴾ وَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِيَ كِتَابَهُ وَرَاءَ ظَهْرِهِ ﴿١٠﴾ فَسَوْفَ يَدْعُوا ثُبُورًا ﴿١١﴾ وَيَصْلَىٰ سَعِيرًا ﴿١٢﴾ إِنَّهُ كَانَ فِي أَهْلِهِ مَسْرُورًا ﴿١٣﴾﴾

"Then as for he who is given his record in his right hand, He will be judged with an easy account. And return to his people in happiness. But as for he who is given his record behind his back, He will cry out for destruction And [enter to] burn in a blaze. Indeed, he had [once] been among his people in happiness."

﴿وَإِذَا فُرِئَ عَلَيْهِمُ الْقُرْءَانُ لَا يَسْجُدُونَ ﴿١٤﴾﴾

**84:21** "And when the Quran is recited to them, they do not prostrate [to Allah]?"

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Exerting [v.6] كَادِحٌ

Happy, glad [v.9] مَسْرُورًا





# البُرُوج

## 85. Al-Buruj: The Mansions of the Stars

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah during the period when persecution of the Muslims was at its peak and the disbelievers of Makkah were trying their utmost by tyranny and coercion to turn away the new converts from Islam. It contains 22 verses and its title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ جَابِرِ بْنِ سَمُرَةَ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ «كَانَ يَقْرَأُ فِي الظُّهْرِ وَالْعَصْرِ بِالسَّمَاءِ وَالطَّارِقِ، وَالسَّمَاءِ ذَاتِ  
الْبُرُوجِ وَتَحْوِهِمَا مِنَ السُّورِ» (أبو داود 805)

Jabir Ibn Samurah narrated: "The Messenger of Allah (saw) would recite in zuhr prayer and asr prayer [the surah that starts with] 'By the sky and the Night-Comer! (i.e. At-Tariq)', [the surah that starts with] 'By the sky full of constellations (i.e. Al-Buruj),' or the likes surahs." [Abu Dawud 805]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Those who torture the believers will be given the punishment of conflagration on the Day of Judgement.
- He Who created you for the first time will bring you back to life again for accountability.

The story of the People of the Ditch who had burnt the believers to death by casting them into pits full of fire is related. By means of this story the believers and the disbelievers have been taught a few lessons:

1. Just as the People of the Ditch became worthy of Allah's curse and punishment, the chiefs of Makkah are also becoming worthy of it.
2. Just as the believers at that time had willingly accepted to sacrifice their lives by being burnt to death in the pits of fire instead of turning away from their faith, so also should the believers now endure every persecution and never give up faith.
3. That Allah, to Whom belongs the Kingdom of the earth and heavens, is Praiseworthy and is watching what the two groups are striving for.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿قُتِلَ أَصْحَابُ الْأُحُدِّ﴾

85:4 "Cursed were the companions of the trench."

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ هُمْ جَنَّاتُ جَعْرِى مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْكَبِيرُ﴾

85:11 "Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds will have gardens beneath which rivers flow. That is the great attainment."

﴿إِنَّ بَطْشَ رَبِّكَ لَشَدِيدٌ﴾

85:12 "Indeed, the vengeance of your Lord is severe."

﴿وَهُوَ الْغَفُورُ الْوَدُودُ﴾

85:14 "And He is the Forgiving, the Affectionate."

﴿فَعَالٌ لِّمَا يُرِيدُ﴾

85:16 "Effector of what He intends."

﴿بَلْ هُوَ قُرْآنٌ مَّجِيدٌ ﴿١١﴾ فِي لَوْحٍ مَّحْفُوظٍ ﴿١٢﴾﴾

85:21-22 "But this is an honored Quran. [Inscribed] in a preserved slate."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

The big star [v.1] **الْبُرُوجِ**

The burning fire **الْحَرِيقِ**  
[v.10]

Preserved Tablet **لَوْحٍ مَّحْفُوظٍ**  
[v.22]



# الطَّارِقُ

## 86. At-Tariq: The Morning Star

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This is one of the earliest surahs revealed at Makkah. It was sent down at a stage when the disbelievers of Makkah were employing all sorts of devices and plans to defeat and frustrate the message of Islam. It contains 17 verses and its title is taken from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ جَابِرِ بْنِ سَمُرَةَ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ «كَانَ يَقْرَأُ فِي الظُّهْرِ وَالْعَصْرِ بِالسَّمَاءِ وَالطَّارِقِ، وَالسَّمَاءِ ذَاتِ  
الْبُرُوجِ وَنَحْوِهِمَا مِنَ السُّورِ» (أبو داود 805)

Jabir Ibn Samurah narrated: "The Messenger of Allah (saw) would recite in Zuhr prayer and Asr prayer [the surah that starts with] 'By the sky and the Night-Comer! (i.e. At-Tariq)', [the surah that starts with] 'By the sky full of constellations (i.e. Al-Buruj),' or the likes surahs." [Abu Dawud 805]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah has appointed a guardian angel over each soul.
- The Quran is the decisive word of Allah.

This surah discusses two themes:

1. That man has to appear before God after death.
2. That the Quran is a decisive Word which no plan of the disbelievers can defeat.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿فَلْيَنْظُرِ الْإِنْسَانُ مِمَّ خُلِقَ﴾

**86:5** "So let man observe from what he was created."

﴿إِنَّهُ لَقَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ﴾

**86:13** "Indeed, the Quran is a decisive statement."

﴿وَمَا هُوَ بِأَهْزَلٍ﴾

**86:14** "And it is not amusement."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

The back bone [v.7] **الْصُّلْبِ**

Separates [v.13] **فَصْلٌ**

For amusement [v.14] **بِأَهْزَلٍ**



# الأعلى

## 87. Al-A'la: The Most High

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This is one of the earliest surahs revealed at Makkah. It was sent down at a stage when the disbelievers of Makkah were employing all sorts of plans to defeat the message of Islam. It consists of 19 verses and takes its name from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ جَابِرٍ قَالَ: قَامَ مُعَاذٌ فَصَلَّى الْعِشَاءَ الْآخِرَةَ فَطَوَّلَ، قَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: «أَفْتَانُ يَا مُعَاذُ، أَفْتَانُ يَا مُعَاذُ؟ أَيْنَ كُنْتَ عَنِ سَبْحِ اسْمِ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى وَالضُّحَى وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ انْفَطَرَتْ؟» (النسائي 1071)

Jabir is reported to have said: Mu`adh led [his people] in `Isha prayer and he prolonged it. The Prophet (saw) said, "O Mu`adh, are you putting people on trial? O Mu`adh, are you putting people on trial? Where was your mind from [the surah that starts with] 'Highly exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High (i.e. surah Al-A'la)', surah al-Dhuha and [the surah that starts with] When the sky breaks apart (i.e. surah Al-Infitar)'" [Nasai 1071]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Tawhid: Allah is Almighty, always glorify Him.
- Allah has eased the responsibility of Prophet Muhammad's memorisation of the Quran by assuring him that he will not forget any portion of it.
- Those who heed Allah's reminders will be successful in the Hereafter.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿سَبِّحْ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى﴾

**87:1** "Exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High."

﴿فَذَكِّرْ إِن نَّفَعَتِ الذِّكْرَى ﴿٩﴾ سَيَذَكِّرُ مَنْ يَخْشَى ﴿١٠﴾﴾

**87:9-10** "So remind, if the reminder should benefit; He who fears [Allah] will be reminded."

﴿فَدَأْفَلَحَ مَنْ تَزَكَّى ﴿١٤﴾ وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ رَبِّهِ فَصَلَّى ﴿١٥﴾﴾

**87:14-15** "He has certainly succeeded who purifies himself. And mentions the name of his Lord and prays."

﴿بَلْ تُوْثِرُونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا ﴿١٦﴾ وَالْآخِرَةَ خَيْرٌ وَأَبْقَى ﴿١٧﴾﴾

**87:16-17** "But you prefer the worldly life, While the Hereafter is better and more enduring."

87:19 "The scriptures of Abraham and Moses."

SELECTED VOCABULARY

Proportioned [v.2] فَسَوَّى

You prefer [v.16] تُؤْتِرُونَ

The scriptures اَلصُّحُفِ  
[v.18]





# الغاشية

## 88. Al-Ghashiyah: The Overwhelming

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This is one of the earliest surahs revealed at Makkah revealed during the period when the Prophet (s) had started preaching his message publicly, and the people of Makkah were hearing it and ignoring it carelessly and thoughtlessly. It contains 26 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنِ الثُّعْمَانَ بْنِ بَشِيرٍ قَالَ: "كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ -صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ- يَقْرَأُ فِي الْعِيدَيْنِ وَفِي الْجُمُعَةِ بِـ (سَبِّحْ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى) وَ (هَلْ أَتَاكَ حَدِيثُ الْغَاشِيَةِ)". قَالَ: "وَإِذَا اجْتَمَعَ الْعِيدُ وَالْجُمُعَةُ فِي يَوْمٍ وَاحِدٍ يَقْرَأُ بِهِمَا أَيْضًا فِي الصَّلَاتَيْنِ". (مسلم 2065)

Nu'man Ibn Bashir is reported to have said: "The Messenger of Allah (saw) used to recite in the two [Islamic] feasts and in Friday [prayer the surah that starts with] 'Highly exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High (i.e. Al-A'la)' and [the surah that starts with] 'Has the account of the Whelming [Event of Resurrection] come to you? (i.e. Al-Ghashiyah)' When feast prayer and Friday prayer happened to co-occur on that same day, he would recite both of them also in both prayers. [Muslim 2065]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The condition of the disbelievers and the believers on the Day of Judgement.
- The wonders of nature, admonition and accountability.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿وَجُوهٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ نَّاعِمَةٌ ﴿٨﴾ لِسَعْيِهَا رَاضِيَةٌ ﴿٩﴾ فِي جَنَّةٍ عَالِيَةٍ ﴿١٠﴾﴾

**88:8-10** "[Other] faces, that Day, will show pleasure. With their effort [they are] satisfied. In an elevated garden,"

﴿أَفَلَا يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَى الْإِبِلِ كَيْفَ خُلِقَتْ ﴿١٧﴾ وَإِلَى السَّمَاءِ كَيْفَ رُفِعَتْ ﴿١٨﴾ وَإِلَى الْجِبَالِ كَيْفَ نُصِبَتْ ﴿١٩﴾ وَإِلَى الْأَرْضِ كَيْفَ سُطِحَتْ ﴿٢٠﴾﴾

**88:17-20** "Then do they not look at the camels - how they are created? And at the sky - how it is raised? And at the mountains - how they are erected? And at the earth - how it is spread out?"

﴿فَذَكِّرْ إِنَّمَا أَنْتَ مُذَكِّرٌ ﴿٢١﴾﴾

**88:21** "So remind, [O Muhammad]; you are only a reminder."

﴿أَلَيْسَ عَلَيْهِمْ مُمْصِطِرٌ﴾

88:22 "You are not over them a controller."

SELECTED VOCABULARY

Has [v.1] هَلْ

Hunger [v.7] جُوعٍ

The camels [v.17] الْإِبِلِ



# الفجر

## 89. Al-Fajr: The Dawn

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed during the period when persecution of the new converts to Islam had begun in Makkah. It consists of 30 verses and derives its title from the oath expressed in verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ جَابِرٍ قَالَ: صَلَّى مُعَاذٌ صَلَاةً، فَجَاءَ رَجُلٌ فَصَلَّى مَعَهُ فَطَوَّلَ، فَصَلَّى فِي نَاحِيَةِ الْمَسْجِدِ ثُمَّ انْصَرَفَ، فَبَلَغَ ذَلِكَ مُعَاذًا، فَقَالَ: مُنَافِقٌ، فَذَكَرَ ذَلِكَ لِرَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَسَأَلَ الْفَتَى، فَقَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، جِئْتُ أُصَلِّي مَعَهُ فَطَوَّلَ عَلَيَّ، فَأَنْصَرَفْتُ وَصَلَّيْتُ فِي نَاحِيَةِ الْمَسْجِدِ، فَعَلَفْتُ نَاضِحِي، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لِمُعَاذٍ: " أَقْتَانَا يَا مُعَاذُ، فَأَيُّنَ أَنْتَ مِنْ (سَبِّحِ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى)، (وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَاهَا)، (وَالْفَجْرِ)، (وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَى)؟" (النسائي 11609)

Jabir is reported to have said: "Mu`adh led [his] people in a prayer and a man came to pray with him but he prolonged the prayer. Therefore, the man went to the side of the mosque and prayed and then left. When Mu`adh was informed about that, he said, 'a hypocrite'." The case was mentioned to the Messenger of Allah (saw) and he asked the man who said, "O Messenger of Allah I came to pray with him but he prolonged the prayer and so I turned aside and prayed in one side of the mosque and went to feed my watering camels." The Messenger of Allah (saw) then said to Mu`adh, "Are you putting people on trial O Mu`adh? Where was your mind from [the surah that starts with] 'Highly exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High (i.e. Al-A`la)' , [the surah that starts with] 'By the sun and its [morning] radiance! (i.e. Ash-Shams)', [the surah that starts with] 'By the dawn (i.e. Al-Fajr)', and [the surah that starts with] 'By the night as it whelms [the world] in darkness! (i.e. Al-Layl)?" [Nasai 11609]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The admonition for social welfare through the examples of prior nations.
- What should be avoided to do real social welfare?
- The Day of Judgement will be too late to heed the admonition.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿وَالْفَجْرِ ﴿١﴾ وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ ﴿٢﴾ وَالشَّفْعِ وَالْوَتْرِ ﴿٣﴾﴾

**89:1-3** "By the dawn. And [by] ten nights. And [by] the even [number] and the odd."

﴿كَلَّا ۗ بَلْ لَا تُكْرِمُونَ الْيَتِيمَ ﴿١٧﴾ وَلَا تَحْضُرُونَ عَلَىٰ طَعَامِ الْمَسْكِينِ ﴿١٨﴾﴾

**89:17-18** "No! But you do not honor the orphan. And you do not encourage one another to feed the poor."

﴿وَتُحِبُّونَ الْمَالَ حُبًّا جَمًّا ﴿٣٠﴾﴾

89:20 "And you love wealth with immense love."

﴿يَتَأْتِيهَا النَّفْسُ الْمُطْمَئِنَّةُ ﴿٢٧﴾ أَرْجِعِي إِلَىٰ رَبِّكِ رَاضِيَةً مَّرْضِيَّةً ﴿٢٨﴾ فَادْخُلِي فِي عِبَادِي ﴿٢٩﴾ وَادْخُلِي جَنَّاتٍ ﴿٣٠﴾﴾

89:27-30 "[To the righteous it will be said], "O reassured soul, Return to your Lord, well-pleased and pleasing [to Him], And enter among My [pious] servants. And enter My Paradise."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Dealt [v.7] فَعَلَ

Satisfaction [v.27] الْمُطْمَئِنَّةُ

Well pleased and رَاضِيَةً مَّرْضِيَّةً  
well pleasing [v.28]



# الْبَلَدِ

## 90. Al-Balad: The City

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in the period when the disbelievers of Makkah started to oppose the Prophet committing tyranny and excesses against him. It consists of 20 verses and the title is derived from a reference to Makkah, the city where Prophet Muhammad was born.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَمْرِو بْنِ مَيْمُونٍ قَالَ: "صَلَّيْتُ مَعَ عُمَرَ فِي الْعَامِ الَّذِي قُتِلَ فِيهِ بِمَكَّةَ صَلَاةَ الصُّبْحِ، فَقَرَأَ لِي أُقْسِمُ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ، وَالتِّينِ وَالزَّيْتُونِ." (مصنف عبد الرزاق 2736)

Amr Ibn Maymun is reported to have said: "I prayed Fajr prayer with `Umar in Mecca, in the year when he was killed, and he recited [the surah that starts with] 'No, indeed! I do swear by this [sacred] City (i.e. Al-Balad)' and [the surah that starts with] 'By the fig and the olive (i.e. At-Tin)'. [Musannaf of Abd Ar-Razzaq, 2736]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- An admonition to the disbelievers.
- Allah has given you two eyes, one tongue and two lips to control your tongue.
- The qualities of a righteous person: freeing a slave, feeding the hungry, being patient, advising others about piety and compassion.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿لَا أُقْسِمُ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ﴾

90:1 "I swear by this city, Makkah."

﴿أَلَمْ نجعل له عينين﴾

90:8 "Have We not made for him two eyes?"

﴿بَيْتِمْأَا ذَا مَقْرَبَةٍ ﴿١٥﴾ أَوْ مِسْكِينًا ذَا مَتْرَبَةٍ ﴿١٦﴾﴾

90:15-16 "An orphan of near relationship. Or a needy person in misery."

﴿ثُمَّ كَانَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْمَرْحَمَةِ ﴿١٧﴾﴾

90:17 "And then being among those who believed and advised one another to patience and advised one another to compassion."

﴿أُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الِّمِّمَّةِ ﴿١٨﴾﴾

90:18 "Those are the companions of the right."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

City (Makkah) [v.1] الْبَلَدِ

Does he think [v.5] اَلْحَسْبُ

A pair of lips [v.7] شَفَتَيْنِ





# الشَّمْسُ

## 91. Ash-Shams: The Sun

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in the early period when opposition to the Prophet (saw) during his residence at Makkah had grown very strong and intense. It contains 15 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ جَابِرٍ قَالَ: صَلَّى مُعَاذٌ صَلَاةً، فَجَاءَ رَجُلٌ فَصَلَّى مَعَهُ فَطَوَّلَ، فَصَلَّى فِي نَاحِيَةِ الْمَسْجِدِ ثُمَّ انْصَرَفَ، فَبَلَغَ ذَلِكَ مُعَاذًا، فَقَالَ: مُنَافِقٌ، فَذُكِرَ ذَلِكَ لِرَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَسَأَلَ الْفَتَى، فَقَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، جِئْتُ أُصَلِّي مَعَهُ فَطَوَّلَ عَلَيَّ، فَأَنْصَرَفْتُ وَصَلَّيْتُ فِي نَاحِيَةِ الْمَسْجِدِ، فَعَلَفْتُ نَاضِحِي، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لِمُعَاذٍ: " أَفْتَانًا يَا مُعَاذُ، فَأَيْنَ أَنْتَ مِنْ (سَبَّحَ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى)، (وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَاهَا)، (وَالْفَجْرِ)، (وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَى)؟ " (النسائي 11609)

Jabir is reported to have said: "Mu`adh led [his] people in a prayer and a man came to pray with him but he prolonged the prayer. Therefore, the man went to the side of the mosque and prayed and then left. When Mu`adh was informed about that, he said, 'a hypocrite'." The case was mentioned to the Messenger of Allah (saw) and he asked the man who said, "O Messenger of Allah I came to pray with him but he prolonged the prayer and so I turned aside and prayed in one side of the mosque and went to feed my watering camels." The Messenger of Allah (saw) then said to Mu`adh, "Are you putting people on trial O Mu`adh? Where was your mind from [the surah that starts with] 'Highly exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High (i.e. Al-A`la)' , [the surah that starts with] 'By the sun and its [morning] radiance! (i.e. Ash-Shams)', [the surah that starts with] 'By the dawn (i.e. Al-Fajr)', and [the surah that starts with] 'By the night as it whelms [the world] in darkness! (i.e. Al-Layl)?" [Nasai 11609]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Success depends on keeping the soul pure and failure depends on corrupting it; the people of Thamud were levelled to the ground for that very reason.

This surah teaches that:

1. Just as the sun and the moon, the day and the night, the earth and the sky, are different from each other and contradictory in their effects and results, so are good and evil different from each other and contradictory in their effects and results; they are neither alike in their outward appearance nor can they be alike in their results.
2. Allah, after giving the human his body, sense and mind has not left him uninformed in the world, but has instilled into his subconscious, by means of a natural inspiration, the distinction between good and evil, right and wrong.
3. The future of man depends on recognising these differences, developing the good and suppressing the evil tendencies of the self. If he develops good inclinations and frees himself of evil inclinations, he will attain eternal success, and if, on the contrary, he suppresses good and promotes evil, he will meet with disappointments and failures.

## SELECTED VERSES

﴿وَنَفْسٍ وَمَا سَوَّاهَا ﴿٧﴾ فَأَهْمَهَا جُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا ﴿٨﴾ قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَن زَكَّاهَا ﴿٩﴾ وَقَدْ خَابَ مَن دَسَّاهَا ﴿١٠﴾﴾

**91:7-10** "And [by] the soul and He who proportioned it. And inspired it [with discernment of] its wickedness and its righteousness, He has succeeded who purifies it, And he has failed who instills it [with corruption]."

﴿فَقَالَ لَهُمْ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ نَاقَةَ اللَّهِ وَسُقْيَاهَا ﴿١٣﴾﴾

**91:13** "And the messenger of Allah [êaliú] said to them, '[Do not harm] the she-camel of Allah or [prevent her from] her drink.'"

## SELECTED VOCABULARY

He inspired him [v.8] فَأَهْمَهَا      Purifies oneself [v.9] زَكَّاهَا      He fails [v.10] خَابَ



# الليل

## 92. Al-Layl: The Night

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah so closely resembles surah Al-Shams that each surah seems to be an explanation of the other. It is one and the same thing which has been explained in Surah Al-Shams in one way and in this surah in another. This indicates that both these surahs were sent down in about the same period. This surah contains 21 verses and its title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ جَابِرٍ قَالَ: صَلَّى مُعَاذٌ صَلَاةً، فَجَاءَ رَجُلٌ فَصَلَّى مَعَهُ فَطَوَّلَ، فَصَلَّى فِي نَاحِيَةِ الْمَسْجِدِ ثُمَّ انْصَرَفَ، فَبَلَغَ ذَلِكَ مُعَاذًا، فَقَالَ: مُتَافِقٌ، فَذَكَرَ ذَلِكَ لِرَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَسَأَلَ الْفَتَى، فَقَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، جِئْتُ أُصَلِّي مَعَهُ فَطَوَّلَ عَلَيَّ، فَأَنْصَرَفْتُ وَصَلَّيْتُ فِي نَاحِيَةِ الْمَسْجِدِ، فَعَلَفْتُ نَاضِحِي، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لِمُعَاذٍ: " أَفْتَانَا يَا مُعَاذُ، فَأَيْنَ أَنْتَ مِنْ (سَبَّحَ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى)، (وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَاهَا)، (وَالْفَجْرِ)، (وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَى)؟" (النسائي 11609)

Jabir is reported to have said: "Mu`adh led [his] people in a prayer and a man came to pray with him but he prolonged the prayer. Therefore, the man went to the side of the mosque and prayed and then left. When Mu`adh was informed about that, he said, 'a hypocrite'." The case was mentioned to the Messenger of Allah (saw) and he asked the man who said, "O Messenger of Allah I came to pray with him but he prolonged the prayer and so I turned aside and prayed in one side of the mosque and went to feed my watering camels." The Messenger of Allah (saw) then said to Mu`adh, "Are you putting people on trial O Mu`adh? Where was your mind from [the surah that starts with] 'Highly exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High (i.e. Al-A`la)' , [the surah that starts with] 'By the sun and its [morning] radiance! (i.e. Ash-Shams)', [the surah that starts with] 'By the dawn (i.e. Al-Fajr)', and [the surah that starts with] 'By the night as it whelms [the world] in darkness! (i.e. Al-Layl)?" [Nasai 11609]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- For good people, Allah will facilitate the easy way and for the wicked, the hard way.
- What benefit will one get from his wealth if he himself is doomed?

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿فَأَمَّا مَنْ أَعْطَى وَاتَّقَى ﴿٥﴾ وَصَدَّقَ بِالْحُسْنَى ﴿٦﴾ فَسَنبِيئِرُهُ لِلْيُسْرَى ﴿٧﴾ وَأَمَّا مَنْ بَخِلَ وَاسْتَغْنَى ﴿٨﴾ وَكَذَّبَ بِالْحُسْنَى ﴿٩﴾ فَسَنبِيئِرُهُ لِلْعُسْرَى ﴿١٠﴾﴾

**92:5-10** "As for he who gives and fears Allah. And believes in the best [reward], We will ease him toward ease. But as for he who withholds and considers himself free of need. And denies the best [reward], We will ease him toward difficulty."

﴿الَّذِي يُؤْتِي مَالَهُ يَتَزَكَّى ﴿٩٢﴾ وَمَا لِأَحَدٍ عِنْدَهُ مِنْ نِعْمَةٍ تُجْزَى ﴿٩٣﴾ إِلَّا ابْتِغَاءَ وَجْهِ رَبِّهِ الْأَعْلَى ﴿٩٤﴾ وَلَسَوْفَ يَرْضَى ﴿٩٥﴾﴾

**92:18-21** "[He] who gives [from] his wealth to purify himself. And not [giving] for anyone who has [done him] a favor to be rewarded. But only seeking the countenance of his Lord, Most High. And he is going to be satisfied."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

The night [v.1] اللَّيْلُ

By the day [v.2] الْبَهَارِ

The first [v.13] الْأُولَى



# الضحى

## 93. Ad-Duha: The Morning Hours

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 11 verses. It was revealed during the early period at Makkah when the revelations were suspended for a time in the initial stage of prophethood due to the fact that Muhammad (saw) was not yet accustomed to bearing the intensity of revelation. The title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ جَابِرٍ قَالَ: كَانَ مُعَاذٌ، يُصَلِّي مَعَ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ثُمَّ يَأْتِي فَيَوْمُ فَوْمَهُ، فَصَلَّى لَيْلَةً مَعَ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ الْعِشَاءَ ثُمَّ أَتَى فَوْمَهُ فَأَمَّهُمْ فَافْتَحَ بِسُورَةِ الْبَقَرَةِ فَانْحَرَفَ رَجُلٌ فَسَلَّمَ ثُمَّ صَلَّى وَحْدَهُ وَأَنْصَرَفَ فَقَالُوا لَهُ: أَنْأَقْتِ يَا فُلَانُ؟ قَالَ: لَا وَاللَّهِ وَلَأَتَيْنَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَلَأُخْبِرَنَّه. فَأَتَى رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَقَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّا أَصْحَابُ نَوَاضِحٍ نَعْمَلُ بِالنَّهَارِ وَإِنَّ مُعَاذًا صَلَّى مَعَكَ الْعِشَاءَ، ثُمَّ أَتَى فَافْتَحَ بِسُورَةِ الْبَقَرَةِ فَأَقْبَلَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ عَلَى مُعَاذٍ فَقَالَ: "يَا مُعَاذُ أَفْتَانُ أَأَنْتَ؟ اقْرَأْ بِكَذَا وَاقْرَأْ بِكَذَا" قَالَ سُفْيَانُ: فُقِلْتُ لِعَمْرٍو، إِنَّ أَبَا الزُّبَيْرِ، حَدَّثَنَا عَنْ جَابِرٍ، أَنَّهُ قَالَ: "اقْرَأْ وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَاهَا وَالضُّحَى، وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَى، وَسَبِّحْ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى". (مسلم)

(1068)

Jabir is reported to have said: Mu`adh would pray with the Prophet (saw) and then come to his people to lead them in prayer. One night he prayed with the Prophet (saw) the `Isha' prayer and then he went to his people and led them in prayer. He started to recite surah Al-Baqarah. Thus a man took a side, ended his prayer by pronouncing salam, prayed alone and then went out. People said to him, "Are you a hypocrite, O so and so?" He said, "No, by Allah I will go to the Messenger of Allah (saw) and tell him." So he went to the Messenger of Allah and said, "O Messenger of Allah, we are people who have watering camels and so we labor during the daytime. Mu`adh prayed Isha prayer with you and then came and started to recite surah al-Baqarah 'i.e. while leading us in prayer'." So, the Messenger of Allah (saw) faced Mu`adh and said to him, "O Mu`adh are you putting people on trial? You should recite such and such surahs." Sufyan said: I said to `Amr: Abu Al-Zubayr told us on the authority of Jabir that he (the Prophet) said: "You should recite [the surah that starts with] 'By the sun and its [morning] radiance!' (i.e. Ash-Shams), [the surah that starts with] 'By the Sunshine' (i.e. Ad-Duha), [the surah that starts with] 'By the night as it whelms [the world] in darkness!' (i.e. Al-Layl), and [the surah that starts with] 'Highly exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High. (i.e. Al-A`la)' [Muslim 1068]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Good news to the Prophet Muhammad (saw) that the later period will be better for him than the earlier.

The theme of this surah is to console the Prophet (saw) and its object is to remove his anxiety and distress, which was caused by the suspension of revelation. The Prophet is reassured: "Your Rabb has not at all forsaken you, nor is he displeased with you." Then, he is given the good news

that the hardships that he was experiencing in the initial stage of his mission will not last long and the later period of life for him will be better than the former period. Before long, Allah will bless him so abundantly that he will be well pleased. This is one of the express prophecies of the Quran, which proved literally true later on. When this prophecy was made, there seemed not to be the remotest chance that the helpless and powerless man who had come out to wage a war against ignorance and paganism would ever achieve such wonderful success.

The Prophet (saw) is then told: "What made you think that your Lord has forsaken you, and that We are displeased with you? Whereas the fact is that We have been good to you with kindness after kindness ever since the day of your birth. You were born an orphan, We made the best arrangement for your upbringing and care: you were unaware of the Way, We showed you the Way; you were indigent, We made you rich. All this shows that you have been favoured by Us from the very beginning and Our grace and bounty has been constantly focused on you." These are similar words which Allah said to console Prophet Musa when he was sent to Pharaoh as described in Surah TaHa vv. 37–42: "We have been looking after you with kindness ever since your birth; therefore, you should be satisfied that you will not be left alone in this dreadful mission. Our bounty will constantly be with you."

#### SELECTED VERSES

﴿مَا وَدَّعَكَ رَبُّكَ وَمَا قَلَىٰ ﴿١﴾ ۖ وَلَلْآخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ لَّكَ مِنَ الْأُولَىٰ ﴿٢﴾ ۖ وَلَسَوْفَ يُعْطِيكَ رَبُّكَ فَتَرْضَىٰ ﴿٣﴾﴾

**93:3-5** "Your Lord has not taken leave of you, [O Muhammad], nor has He detested [you]. And the Hereafter is better for you than the first [life]. And your Lord is going to give you, and you will be satisfied."

﴿فَأَمَّا الْيَتِيمَ فَلَا تَقْهَرْ ﴿٩﴾ وَأَمَّا السَّائِلَ فَلَا تَنْهَرْ ﴿١٠﴾﴾

**93:9-10** "So as for the orphan, do not oppress [him]. And as for the petitioner, do not repel [him]."

﴿وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ ﴿١١﴾﴾

**93:11** "But as for the favor of your Lord, embody it."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

By the forenoon [v.1] وَالضُّحَىٰ      Destitute [v.8] عَائِلًا      Chide him not [v.10] فَلَا تَنْهَرْ





# الشَّارْحُ

## 94. Ash-Sharh: Solace

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah is Makki and consists of 8 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَبِي جَعْفَرٍ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ حَاتِمِ الْكَاشْتَنِيِّ، أَنَّ عَبْدَ بْنَ حُمَيْدٍ قَالَ لِرَجُلٍ يَشْكِي إِلَيْهِ الْعُسْرَةَ فِي أُمُورِهِ:  
"أَلَا أَيُّهَا الْمَرْءُ الَّذِي فِي عُسْرِهِ أَصْبَحَ إِذَا اشْتَدَّ بِكَ الْأَمْرُ فَلَا تَنْسَ أَلَمْ نَشْرَحْ" (شعب الإيمان للبيهقي 9553)

Abu Ja'far Muhammad Ibn Hatem al-Kashtey reported that Abd Ibn Hamid said to a man who complained of difficulty: "O the person who has been afflicted with hardship, when things become hard for you, do not forget Alam Nashrah [surah Ash-Sharh]." [Shu'ab Al-Iman of Bayhaqi, 9553]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah expanded the chest of the Prophet, relieved his burden and exalted his fame.
- This surah is also to console and encourage the Prophet (saw).
- This surah states that Allah has bestowed three major favours on the Prophet:
  - The blessing of sharh sadr (opening up of the breast),
  - Removing from him the heavy burden that was weighing down his back before the call,
  - Exalting his status the like of which has never been granted to any man before.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿وَرَفَعْنَا لَكَ ذِكْرَكَ﴾

94:4 "And raised high for you your repute."

﴿فَإِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا ﴿٥﴾ إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا ﴿٦﴾﴾

94:5-6 "For indeed, with hardship [will be] ease. Indeed, with hardship [will be] ease."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

So verily [v.5] فَإِنَّ

The hardship [v.5] الْعُسْرُ

Release/ease [v.5] يُسْرًا



# التِّينِ

## 95. At-Tin: The Fig

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

The majority of scholars regard this as a Makki revelation. It consists of 8 verses and takes its title from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ الْبَرَاءِ: "أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانَ فِي سَفَرٍ فَقَرَأَ فِي الْعِشَاءِ فِي إِحْدَى الرَّكَعَتَيْنِ: بِالتِّينِ وَالزَّيْتُونِ." (البخاري 767)

Al-Bara' is reported to have said that the Prophet (saw) was in a travel and recited in `Isha' (Night) Prayer in one of the two rak'ahs [the surah that starts with] 'By the fig and the olive! (i.e. surah At-Tin)' [Bukhari 767]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Man is the best creature of all, except the disbelievers.
- Mention of rewards and punishments in the Hereafter.
- Man has been blessed with such excellent capabilities that he can attain the highest position which has not been attained by any other creature.

There are two kinds of men:

- Those who in spite of having been created in the finest of moulds, become inclined to evil and their moral degeneration causes them to be reduced to the lowest of the low.
- Those, who by adopting the way of faith and righteousness, remain secure from degeneration and are consistent with the noble position, which is the necessary demand of their having been created in the best of moulds.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي أَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيمٍ ۝ ثُمَّ رَدَدْنَاهُ أَسْفَلَ سَافِلِينَ ۝﴾

95:4-5 "We have certainly created man in the best of stature; Then We return him to the lowest of the low."

﴿أَلَيْسَ اللَّهُ بِأَحْكَمِ الْحَاكِمِينَ ۝﴾

95:8 "Is not Allah the most Just of Judges?"

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

The fig [v.1] التِّينِ

The olive [v.1] الزَّيْتُونِ

The judges [v.8] الْحَاكِمِينَ

Stature [v.4] تَقْوِيمٍ



# العَلَقُ

## 96. Al-'Alaq: The Clot

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah, revealed at Makkah, has two parts: the first part consists of first revelation sent down to the Prophet. The second part, when he began to perform the prescribed prayer in the precincts of the Kabah and Abu Jahl tried to prevent him from this with threats. It consists of 19 verses and the title of its surah is derived from verse 2.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا، "أَوَّلُ مَا بُدِيََ بِهِ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ الرَّؤْيَا الصَّادِقَةَ جَاءَهُ الْمَلَكُ، فَقَالَ: (اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ، خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ، اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ)". (البخاري 4956)

Aisha (ra) is reported to have said: "It was true vision that came first to the Messenger of Allah (saw). Then the angel came to him and said 'Read, [O Prophet] in the name of your Lord who has created! He has created man from a clinging clot. Read! For your Lord is the Most Gracious [One], who has taught by the pen'." [Bukhari 4956]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The very first revelation (Read in the name of your Lord Who created – what he did not know).
- Read in the name of Allah, Who created man and taught him by the pen.
- Those who forbid others from the worship of Allah will be dragged to Hell by their forelock.

The second part of this surah vv. 6–19 was revealed when the Prophet began to perform his prayer in the Islamic way. The other people were watching it with curiosity, but Abu Jahl in his arrogance and pride threatened the Prophet and forbade him to worship in that way at the Kabah.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ﴿١﴾ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ﴿٢﴾ اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ﴿٣﴾ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ﴿٤﴾ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ﴿٥﴾﴾

**96:1-5** "Recite in the name of your Lord who created -Created man from a clinging substance. Recite, and your Lord is the most Generous -Who taught by the pen -Taught man that which he knew not."

﴿كَلَّا إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَيْطَغَى ﴿٦﴾ أَنْ رَأَاهُ اسْتَغْفَى ﴿٧﴾ إِنَّ إِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ الرُّجْعَى ﴿٨﴾﴾

**96:6-8** "No! [But] indeed, man transgresses. Because he sees himself self-sufficient. Indeed, to your Lord is the return."

﴿كَلَّا لَا تُطِيعُهُ وَأَسْجُدْ وَاقْتَرِبْ﴾

**96:19** "No! Do not obey him. But prostrate and draw near [to Allah]."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Read [v.1] أَقْرَأَ

By the pen [v.4] بِالْقَلَمِ

Draw near [v.19] اقْتَرَبَ

Prostrate [v.19] اسْجُدْ





# الْقَدْرُ

## 97. Al-Qadr: The Power

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 5 verses. The title is taken from the reference to the Night of Power.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَلِيٍّ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: "كَانَ رَسُولُ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يُوتِرُ بِتِسْعِ سُورٍ فِي ثَلَاثِ رَكَعَاتٍ: أَلْهَاكُمُ التَّكَاثُرُ، وَإِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ، وَإِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ فِي رَكْعَةٍ، وَفِي الثَّانِيَةِ: وَالْعَصْرِ، وَإِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ، وَإِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ، وَفِي الثَّلَاثَةِ: قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ، وَتَبَّتْ، وَقُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ". (المعجم الصغير للطبراني 457)

Ali (ra) is reported to have said: "The Messenger of Allah (saw) would pray with prayer reciting nine surahs in three rak'ahs: in one rak'ah he recited [the surah that starts with] 'Vying for [worldly] abundance diverts you (i.e. At-Takathur)', [the surah that starts with] 'Indeed, [it is] We have sent this [Quran] down on the Night of Decree (i.e. Al-Qadr)', and [the surah that starts with] 'When the earth quakes with its [final] quaking (i.e. Az-Zalzalah)'; and in the second [rak'ah the surah that starts with] 'By [the decline of] Time! (i.e. Al-'Asr)', [the surah that starts with] 'When the victory of God comes and triumph (i.e. An-Nasr)' and [the surah that starts with] 'Indeed, We have given you, [O Prophet,] abundant goodness (i.e. Al-Kawthar)'; and in the third [rak'ah the surah that starts with] 'Say: O you disbelievers! (i.e. Al-Kafirun)' and [the surah that starts with] 'Perish. (i.e. Al-Masad)' and [the surah that starts with] 'Say: He is God. One. (i.e. Al-Ikhlâs)'" [Al-Mu'jam Al-Sagheer of Bayhaqi 457]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The night of Qadr in which the Quran was revealed is better than one thousand months.
- The theme of this surah is to acquaint man with the value, worth and importance of the Quran.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ﴾

97:1 "Indeed, We sent the Quran down during the Night of Decree."

﴿لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ﴾ تَنْزِيلُ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّوحِ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ ﴿١﴾ سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ ﴿٥﴾

97:3-5 "The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months. The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter. Peace it is until the emergence of dawn."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

A thousand [v.3] أَلْفٍ

The appearance [v.5] مَطْلَعٍ

Dawn [v.5] الْفَجْرِ



# البَيِّنَات

## 98. Al-Bayyinah: The Clear Proof

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

Commentators disagree on whether this was revealed in Makkah or at Madinah. It contains 8 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ، قَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لِأُبَيٍّ: "إِنَّ اللَّهَ أَمَرَنِي أَنْ أَقْرَأَ عَلَيْكَ (لَمْ يَكُنِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ) قَالَ: "وَسَمَّانِي؟" قَالَ: "نَعَمْ" فَبَكَى. (البحاري 3809)

Anas Ibn Malik (ra) is reported to have said that the Prophet (saw) said to Ubayy: "Allah commanded me to recite before you [the surah that starts with] 'Never would those who have disbelieved among the People of the Scripture.' (i.e. Al-Bayyinah" He said: "Did He mention my name?" He (The Prophet) said, "Yes" Thus "He (Anas) wept." [Bukhari 3809]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The People of the Book (Jews and Christians) did not divide into sects until after receiving guidance.
- The People of the Book were also commanded to establish salah and pay zakah as it is commanded in the Quran.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ وَيُقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَذَلِكَ دِينُ الْقَيِّمَةِ ﴿٥﴾﴾

**98:5** "And they were not commanded except to worship Allah , [being] sincere to Him in religion, inclining to truth, and to establish prayer and to give zakah. And that is the correct religion."

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أُولَئِكَ هُمْ شَرُّ الْبَرِيَّةِ ﴿٦﴾﴾

**98:6** "Indeed, they who disbelieved among the People of the Scripture and the polytheists will be in the fire of Hell, abiding eternally therein. Those are the worst of creatures."

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ أُولَئِكَ هُمْ خَيْرُ الْبَرِيَّةِ ﴿٧﴾﴾

**98:7** "Indeed, they who have believed and done righteous deeds - those are the best of creatures."

﴿جَزَاءُهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ جَنَّاتُ عَدْنٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ ذَلِكَ

لِمَنْ حَشِيَ رَبَّهُ ﴿٨﴾﴾

**98:8** "Their reward with Allah will be gardens of perpetual residence beneath which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever, Allah being pleased with them and they with Him. That is for whoever has feared his Lord."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Clear evidence [v.1] **الْبَيِّنَةُ**

Purified [v.2] **مُطَهَّرَةٌ**



# الزلزلة

## 99. Az-Zalzalah: The Earthquake

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and consists of 8 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَنَسٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ: «مَنْ قَرَأَ إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ عُدِلَتْ بِرُبْعِ الْقُرْآنِ، وَمَنْ قَرَأَ إِذَا زُلْزِلَتْ عُدِلَتْ بِنِصْفِ الْقُرْآنِ وَقُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ تُعَدَّلُ بِرُبْعِ الْقُرْآنِ وَقُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ تُعَدَّلُ بِثُلُثِ الْقُرْآنِ.» (مختصر قيام الليل للمروزي 179)

Anas (ra) reported that the Prophet (saw) said: "Whoever recites [the surah that starts with] 'Indeed, We sent the Quran down during the Night of Decree. (i.e. Al-Qadr)' gets the reward of reciting a quarter of the Quran. Whoever recites [the surah that starts with] 'When the earth is shaken. (i.e. Az-Zalzalah)' gets the reward of reciting half of the Quran. Whoever recites [the surah that starts with] 'Say, 'O disbelievers!' (i.e. Al-Kafirun)' gets the reward of reciting a quarter of the Quran and the reward of reciting [the surah that starts with] 'Say, 'He is Allah, [who is] One' (i.e. Al-Ikhlās)' is equivalent to that of reciting one third of the Quran." [Mukhtasar Qiyam Al-Layl of Al-Marwazi, 179]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- On the Day of Judgement, the earth will report whatever happened on her and human beings shall be shown their Books of Deeds.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ ﴿٧﴾ وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ شَرًّا يَرَهُ ﴿٨﴾﴾

**99:7-8** "So whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it, And whoever does an atom's weight of evil will see it."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Its burdens [v.2] أَثْقَالَهَا

What is the مَا هِيَ matter with it [v.3]

Its information [v.4] أَحْبَابَهَا



# العَادِيَاتِ

## 100. Al-'Adiyat: The Coursers

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

The subject matter of the surah and its style clearly indicate that it is not only Makki, but was revealed in the early stage of Makki period. It consists of 11 verses and the title is derived from the first verse.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَلِيٍّ قَالَ: "كَانَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يُوتِرُ بِـ إِذَا زُلْزِلَتْ، وَالْعَادِيَاتِ، وَالْهَاجِمِ التَّكَاثُرُ، وَتَبَّتْ، وَقُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ." (حلية الأولياء للأصبهاني 182 /7)

Ali (ra) is reported to have said: "The Prophet (saw) would pray Witer prayer reciting [the surah that starts with] 'When the earth quakes with its [final] quaking (i.e. Az-Zalzalah)', [the surah that starts with] 'By the racers (i.e. Al-'Adiyat)', [the surah that starts with] 'Vying for [worldly] abundance diverts you (i.e. At-Takathur)', [the surah that starts with] 'Perish (i.e. Al-Masad)', and [the surah that starts with] ' Say, "He is Allah , [who is] One. (i.e. Al-Ikhlās)" [Hilyat Al-Awliya of Al-Asbahani, 7/182]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- An example that horses are more grateful to their owners than men are to their Lord.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لِرَبِّهِ لَكَنُودٌ ﴿١﴾ وَإِنَّهُ عَلَىٰ ذَٰلِكَ لَشَهِيدٌ ﴿٢﴾ وَإِنَّهُ لِحُبِّ الْخَيْرِ لَشَدِيدٌ ﴿٣﴾﴾

**100:6-8** "Indeed mankind, to his Lord, is ungrateful. And indeed, he is to that a witness. And indeed he is, in love of wealth, intense."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

A flint [v.2] قَدْحًا

Dust [v.4] نَفْعًا





# القَارِعَةُ

## 101. Al-Qari'ah: The Calamity

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed at Makkah and is one of the earliest surahs and contains 11 verses. It takes its name from the first verse.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: "شَيْبَتِي سُورَةُ هُودٍ وَأَخَوَاتُهَا: الْوَاقِعَةُ، وَالْقَارِعَةُ، وَالْحَاقَّةُ، وَإِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ" وَ(سَأَلَ سَائِلٌ). " (الجامع الصغير 4915)

Anas Ibn Malik is reported to have said that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: "The surah of [Prophet] Hud and its sisters made my hair grow grey: surah Al-Waqi'ah, surah Al-Qari'ah, surah Al-Haqqah, [the surah that starts with] 'When the sun enfolds (i.e. At-Takwir)' and [the surah that starts with] 'A [mocking] questioner has asked (i.e. Al-Ma'arij)'." [Al-Jami' As-Sagheer 4915]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- A scene explaining the Day of Judgement.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿يَوْمَ يَكُونُ النَّاسُ كَالْفَرَاشِ الْمَبْثُوثِ ﴿١﴾ وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ الْمَنْفُوشِ ﴿٢﴾﴾

101:4-5 "It is the Day when people will be like moths, dispersed, And the mountains will be like wool, fluffed up."

﴿فَأَمَّا مَنْ ثَقُلَتْ مَوَازِينُهُ ﴿٦﴾ فَهُوَ فِي عِيشَةٍ رَاضِيَةٍ ﴿٧﴾﴾

101:6-7 "Then as for one whose scales are heavy [with good deeds], He will be in a pleasant life."

﴿وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَفَّتْ مَوَازِينُهُ ﴿٨﴾ فَأُمُّهُ هَاوِيَةٌ ﴿٩﴾﴾

101:8-9 "But as for one whose scales are light, His refuge will be an abyss."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

What will make you know [v.3] مَا أَدْرَاكَ

A life [v.8] عَيْشَةٍ

Pleasant [v.8] رَاضِيَةٍ



# التكاثُر

## 102. At-Takathur: Rivalry in Worldly Increase

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah. It consists of 8 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَلِيِّ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: "كَانَ رَسُولُ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يُوتِرُ بِتِسْعِ سُورٍ فِي ثَلَاثِ رَكَعَاتٍ: أَلْهَاكُمُ التَّكَاثُرُ، وَإِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ، وَإِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ فِي رَكْعَةٍ، وَفِي الثَّانِيَةِ: وَالْعَصْرُ، وَإِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ، وَإِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ، وَفِي الثَّلَاثَةِ: قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ، وَتَبَّتْ، وَقُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ". (المعجم الصغير للطبراني 457)

Ali (ra) is reported to have said: "The Messenger of Allah (saw) would pray with prayer reciting nine surahs in three rak'ahs: in one rak'ah he recited [the surah that starts with] 'Vying for [worldly] abundance diverts you (i.e. At-Takathur)', [the surah that starts with] 'Indeed, [it is] We [who] have sent this [Quran] down [from on high] on the Night of Decree (i.e. Al-Qadr)', and [the surah that starts with] 'When the earth quakes with its [final] quaking (i.e. Az-Zalzalah)'; and in the second [rak'ah the surah that starts with] 'By [the decline of] Time! (i.e. Al-'Asr)', [the surah that starts with] 'When the victory of God comes and triumph (i.e. An-Nasr)' and [the surah that starts with] 'Indeed, We have given you, [O Prophet,] abundant goodness (i.e. Al-Kawthar)'; and in the third [rak'ah the surah that starts with] 'Say: O you disbelievers! (i.e. Al-Kafirun)' and [the surah that starts with] 'Perish. (i.e. Al-Masad)' and [the surah that starts with] 'Say: He is God. One. (i.e. Al-Ikhlās)'" [Al-Mu`jam Al-Sagheer of Bayhaqi 457]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The cause of man's destruction is mutual rivalry for worldly gains, and real success is in working for the life Hereafter.
- The people are warned about the evil consequences of worldly worship
- The rivalry with one another, bragging and boasting about their acquisitions is not going to end until death.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿الْهَنَكُمُ التَّكَاثُرُ ۖ حَتَّىٰ زُرْتُمُ الْمَقَابِرَ﴾

102:1-2 "Competition in [worldly] increase diverts you. Until you visit the graveyards."

﴿ثُمَّ لَتُسْأَلُنَّ يَوْمَئِذٍ عَنِ النَّعِيمِ﴾

102:8 "Then you will surely be asked that Day about pleasure."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

You come to know تَعْلَمُونَ  
[v.4]

Sure knowledge عِلْمٌ الْيَقِينِ  
[v.5]

With certainty عَيْنَ الْيَقِينِ  
of sight [v.7]



# العصر

## 103. Al-'Asr: Time Through the Ages

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

Early Makkan surah consisting of only 3 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنِ الدَّارِمِيِّ قَالَ: "كَانَ الرَّجُلَانِ مِنْ أَصْحَابِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِذَا التَّقِيَا، وَأَرَادَا أَنْ يَتَفَرَّقَا، قَرَأَ أَحَدُهُمْ سُورَةَ وَالْعَصْرِ إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَفِي خُسْرٍ، ثُمَّ سَلَّمَ أَحَدُهُمَا عَلَى الْآخَرِ أَوْ عَلَى صَاحِبِهِ ثُمَّ تَفَرَّقَا." (شعب الإيمان للبيهقي 8639)

Al-Darimi is reported to have said: "When two of the companions of the Prophet (saw) met and then intended to separate, one of them would recite the surah [that starts with] 'By [the decline of] Time! Indeed, humankind is in [a condition of utter] loss (i.e. Al-'Asr)'; and then one of them would salute his fellow and then get separated." [Shu`ab Al-Iman of Bayhaqi 8639]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The formula for the way to salvation is to become a believer, do good deeds, be truthful and patient and advise the same to others.
- Imam Shafi'i has said that if the people only comprehend this surah well, it alone would suffice them as guidance.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿وَالْعَصْرِ ﴿١﴾ إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَفِي خُسْرٍ ﴿٢﴾ إِلَّا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْحَقِّ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ ﴿٣﴾﴾

**103:1-3** "By time, Indeed, mankind is in loss, Except for those who have believed and done righteous deeds and advised each other to truth and advised each other to patience."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

By the time [v.1] وَالْعَصْرِ

Loss [v.2] خُسْرٍ

Recommend one another [v.3] تَوَاصَوْا



# المُهَزَّة

## 104. Al-Humazah: The Slanderer

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 8 verses.

### VIRTUE

تُحَذِّرُ مِنْ فِتْنَةِ الْمَالِ وَأَنَّهُ قَدْ يَأْمَلُ صَاحِبُهُ وَيُمْنِيهِ الْأَمَانِيَّ الْبَعِيدَةَ حَتَّى يَحْسَبُ لِفِرَاطِ غَفْلَتِهِ وَطُولِ أَمَلِهِ أَنَّ الْمَالَ سَيُحْلِدُهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا فَيَسُوءُ خُلُقَهُ وَيَفْسُدُ عَمَلُهُ. (انظر أبي السعود، إرشاد العقل السليم إلى مزايا الكتاب الكريم، جزء 9، ص. 198)

It warns against the temptation of wealth which raises long and far hopes in man to the extent that man thinks that he will abide in this world eternally. Upon that, his good manners deteriorate and his deeds become evil. [Tafsir of Abu As-Sa`ud, 9/198]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The slanderer, defamer and stingy shall be thrown into the blazing fire.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿الَّذِي جَمَعَ مَالًا وَعَدَّدَهُ ﴿٣﴾ يَحْسَبُ أَنَّ مَالَهُ أَخْلَدَهُ ﴿٤﴾﴾

**104:2-3** "Who collects wealth and [continuously] counts it. He thinks that his wealth will make him immortal."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Has gathered [v.2] جَمَعَ

He thinks [v.3] يَحْسَبُ

The crushing fire [v.5] الْحَطْمَةُ





# الفيل

## 105. Al-Fil: The Elephant

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and consists of 5 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَمْرِو بْنِ مَيْمُونٍ قَالَ: "صَلَّى بِنَا عُمَرُ صَلَاةَ الْمَغْرِبِ، فَقَرَأَ فِي الرَّكْعَةِ الْأُولَى بِـ التِّينِ وَالزَّيْتُونِ، وَفِي الرَّكْعَةِ الثَّانِيَةِ أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ وَلِيَلْبِأَفِ قُرَيْشٍ." (مُصَنَّفُ ابْنِ أَبِي شَيْبَةَ 3593)

Amr Ibn Maymun is reported to have said: "Umar led us in maghrib prayer and he read in the first rak'ah [the surah that starts with] 'By the fig and the olive (i.e. At-Tin)' and in the second rak'ah [the surah that starts with] 'Have you not seen, [O Prophet,] how your Lord dealt with the Companions of the Elephant? (i.e. Al-Fil)' and [the surah that starts with] 'If only for the perennial security of the [people of] Quraysh. (i.e. Quraysh)' [Musannaf of Ibn Abu Shaybah, 3593]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- An example that Allah can save His house (Kabah) by destroying an army of 60,000 with elephants, through a flock of birds.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ ﴿١﴾ أَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ كَيْدَهُمْ فِي تَضَلُّلٍ ﴿٢﴾﴾

105:1-2 "Have you not considered, [O Muhammad], how your Lord dealt with the companions of the elephant? Did He not make their plan into misguidance?"

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

The elephant [v.1] الْفِيلِ

Their plot [v.2] كَيْدَهُمْ

Baked clay [v.4] سِجِّيلٍ



# قُرَيْشٌ

## 106. Quraysh: Quraysh Tribe

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah and contains 4 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَمْرِو بْنِ مَيْمُونٍ قَالَ: "صَلَّى بِنَا عُمَرُ صَلَاةَ الْمَغْرِبِ، فَقَرَأَ فِي الرَّكْعَةِ الْأُولَى بِـ النَّيْنِ وَالزَّيْتُونِ، وَفِي الرَّكْعَةِ الثَّانِيَةِ أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ وَلِيَلْبَافِ قُرَيْشٍ." (مُصَنَّفُ ابْنِ أَبِي شَيْبَةَ 3593)

Amr Ibn Maymun is reported to have said: "Umar led us in maghrib prayer and he read in the first rak'ah [the surah that starts with] 'By the fig and the olive (i.e. At-Tin)' and in the second rak'ah [the surah that starts with] 'Have you not seen, [O Prophet,] how your Lord dealt with the Companions of the Elephant? (i.e. Al-Fil)' and [the surah that starts with] 'If only for the perennial security of the [people of] Quraysh. (i.e. Quraysh)' [Musannaf of Ibn Abu Shaybah, 3593]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- An admonition to believe in Allah, who is the provider of your sustenance.
- Importance of economic stability and security.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿فَلْيَعْبُدُوا رَبَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ ﴿٣﴾﴾

106:3 "Let them worship the Lord of this House."

﴿الَّذِي أَطْعَمَهُمْ مِنْ جُوعٍ وَآمَنَهُمْ مِنْ خَوْفٍ ﴿٤﴾﴾

106:4 "Who provided them with food lest they go hungry and saved them from fear."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

The journey [v.2] رِحْلَةً

Winter [.2] الشِّتَاءِ

Summer [v.2] الصَّيْفِ



# المَاعُونُ

## 107. Al-Ma'un: The Small Kindnesses

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

There is a difference of opinion on whether this is a Makki or Madani Surah. Some say that it is a Madani revelation because it holds out a threat of destruction to those who offer the salah (prayers) but are unmindful of their salah since they want only to be seen offering the prayers. These kind of hypocrites were only at Madinah. It consists of 7 verses and its title is derived from verse 7.

### VIRTUE

ثُبِينُ هَذِهِ السُّورَةُ بِأَوْجَزِ وَأَبْلَغِ عِبَارَةٍ أَنَّهُ لَا يَلِيقُ بِالْعَاقِلِ أَنْ يَبِيعَ الْكَثِيرَ الْبَاقِي بِالْقَلِيلِ الْفَآئِي. (الرازي، مفاتيح الغيب، ص. 104، جزء 32)

This surah clarifies most briefly and eloquently that it is not proper for the reasonable person to forsake the great everlasting pleasure for the transient one. [Mafateeh Al-Ghayb, of Ar-Razi, 104/32]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Disbelief in the Hereafter is the main cause of moral decay.
- God consciousness, social welfare and caring about other people's necessities of life are the main purposes of salah.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿أَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي يُكَذِّبُ بِالدِّينِ ﴿١﴾ فَذَلِكَ الَّذِي يَدْعُ الْيَتِيمَ ﴿٢﴾ وَلَا تَحْضُ عَلَىٰ طَعَامِ الْمَسْكِينِ ﴿٣﴾ فَوَيْلٌ ﴿٤﴾ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ ﴿٥﴾ الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُونَ ﴿٦﴾ الَّذِينَ هُمْ يُرَاءُونَ ﴿٧﴾ وَيَمْنَعُونَ الْمَاعُونَ ﴿٨﴾﴾

**107:1-7** "Have you seen the one who denies the Recompense? For that is the one who drives away the orphan. And does not encourage the feeding of the poor. So woe to those who pray. [But] who are heedless of their prayer - Those who make show [of their deeds]. And withhold [simple] assistance."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Have you seen [v.1] أَرَأَيْتَ

So woe [v.4] فَوَيْلٌ

Heedless [v.5] سَاهُونَ



# الكوثر

## 108. Al-Kawthar: The Abundance

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in Makkah during the early stages when the Prophet was enduring extremely difficult conditions. It consists of 3 verses and its title is taken from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَنَسٍ قَالَ: بَيْنَمَا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ذَاتَ يَوْمٍ بَيْنَ أَظْهُرِنَا إِذْ أَغْفَاءَةً ثُمَّ رَفَعَ رَأْسَهُ مُتَبَسِّمًا، فَقُلْنَا: مَا أَضْحَكَكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَالَ: «أُنزِلَتْ عَلَيَّ آيَاتُ سُورَةٍ» فَقَرَأَ: بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ﴿إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ. فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَنْحَرْ. إِنَّ شَانِكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ﴾ ثُمَّ قَالَ: «أَتَدْرُونَ مَا الْكَوْثَرُ؟» فَقُلْنَا اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمُ، قَالَ: " فَإِنَّهُ نَهْرٌ وَعَدْنِيهِ رَبِّي عَزَّ وَجَلَّ، عَلَيْهِ خَيْرٌ كَثِيرٌ، هُوَ حَوْضٌ تَرِدُ عَلَيْهِ أُمَّتِي يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ، آيَتُهُ عَدَدُ النُّجُومِ، فَيُخْتَلَجُ الْعَبْدُ مِنْهُمْ، فَأَقُولُ: رَبِّ، إِنَّهُ مِنْ أُمَّتِي فَيَقُولُ: مَا تَدْرِي مَا أَحَدَنْتُ بَعْدَكَ. " (مسلم 400)

Anas is reported to have said: "While the Messenger of Allah (saw) was one day among us, he fell asleep and then raised his head smiling. We said, "What caused you to laugh, O Messenger of Allah?" He said, "A surah has just been sent down unto me" and he recited 'In the name of Allah, the All-Merciful, the Mercy-giving. Indeed, We have given you Al-Kawthar. So pray to your Lord, and sacrifice [charitable-offerings to Him alone]. As to one who detests you, he is [utterly] cut off [from all goodness].' [Al-Kawthar] Then he said, "Do you know what is Al-Kawthar?" We said, "Allah and His Messenger know best." He said, "This is a river that the Almighty Allah promised to give me. It has abundant goodness. It is a basin where all my ummah (Muslim nation) will come to on the Day of Resurrection. Its cups are as many as the stars. When someone of my ummah is taken away, I will say, 'O my Lord, he is one of my ummah.' He will say, 'You do not know what he has done after you.'" [Muslim 400]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah has made Muhammad's name everlasting

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَنْحَرْ﴾

108:2 "So pray to your Lord and sacrifice [to Him alone]."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Al-Kauthar (a river in paradise) [v.1] الْكَوْثَرُ

Sacrifice [v.2] وَأَنْحَرْ





# الْكَافِرُونَ

## 109. Al-Kafirun: The Disbelievers

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This is a Makki surah and consists of 6 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ فَرَوَةَ بْنِ نَوْفَلٍ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، قَالَ لِنَوْفَلٍ: «اقْرَأْ قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ ثُمَّ نَمْ عَلَى خَاتِمَتِهَا، فَإِنَّهَا بَرَاءَةٌ مِنَ الشِّرْكِ.» (أبو داود 5055)

Farwah Ibn Nawfal reported from his father that the Prophet (saw) said to Nawfal, "Recite [the surah that starts with] 'Say: O you [inveterate] disbelievers! (i.e. Al-Kafirun)' and then sleep; for it is a declaration of denunciation of polytheism." [Abu Dawud 5055]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah's commandment not to compromise in the matters of religion.
- Co-existence of religions.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ ۖ وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ﴾

109:2-3 "I do not worship what you worship. Nor are you worshippers of what I worship."

﴿لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ﴾

109:6 "For you is your religion, and for me is my religion."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

I shall worship [v.3] أَعْبُدُ

To you be your لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ  
religion [v.6]

For me my وَلِيَ دِينِ  
religion [v.6]



# النَّصْرُ

## 110. An-Nasr: The Help

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

Abdullah Ibn Abbas states that this is the last surah of the Quran which was revealed, i. e. no complete surah was revealed to the Prophet after this. According to Abdullah Ibn Umar, this surah was revealed on the occasion of the Farewell Pilgrimage at Mina, and after it the Prophet rode his she-camel and gave his Farewell Sermon. It consists of 3 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ لِرَجُلٍ مِنْ أَصْحَابِهِ: هَلْ تَزَوَّجْتَ يَا فُلَانُ؟ قَالَ: لَا وَاللَّهِ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، وَلَا عِنْدِي مَا أَتَزَوَّجُ بِهِ، قَالَ: أَلَيْسَ مَعَكَ قُلٌ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ؟ قَالَ: بَلَى، قَالَ: تُلُتُ الْقُرْآنَ، قَالَ: أَلَيْسَ مَعَكَ إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ؟ قَالَ: بَلَى، قَالَ: رَبُّعُ الْقُرْآنِ قَالَ: أَلَيْسَ مَعَكَ قُلٌ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ؟ قَالَ: بَلَى، قَالَ: رَبُّعُ الْقُرْآنِ قَالَ: أَلَيْسَ مَعَكَ إِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ؟ قَالَ: بَلَى، قَالَ: رَبُّعُ الْقُرْآنِ قَالَ: تَزَوَّجْ تَزَوَّجْ. (الترمذي 2895)

Anas Ibn Malik is reported to have said that the Messenger of Allah asked one of his companions: "Have you got married O so and so?" The man said: "By Allah! O Messenger of Allah! I have not and I do not have what can be a suitable dowry." The Prophet asked: "Do you not memorize [the surah that starts with] 'Say, 'He is Allah, [who is] One' (i.e. Al-Ikhlās)?" The man said: "Yes." The Prophet replied: "It is equivalent to one third of the Quran." Then he asked: "Do you not memorize [the surah that starts with] 'When the victory of Allah has come and the conquest. (i.e. An-Nasr)?" The man said: "Yes." The Prophet replied: "It is equivalent to a quarter of the Quran." Then he asked: "Do you not memorise [the surah that starts with] 'Say, 'O disbelievers!' (i.e. Al-Kāfirun)?" The man said: "Yes." The Prophet replied: "It is equivalent to a quarter of the Quran." Then he asked: "Do you not memorize [the surah that starts with] 'When the earth is shaken. (i.e. Az-Zalzalah)?" The man said: "Yes." The Prophet replied: "It is equivalent to a quarter of the Quran." Then he added: "Take a spouse! Take a spouse!" [Tirmidhi 2895]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Victory is not an occasion of exultation, but to glorify Allah, it comes with the help of Allah.
- Indication is given that the mission of the Prophet has been fulfilled.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ﴾

**110:1** "When the victory of Allah has come and the conquest."

﴿فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَأَسْتَغْفِرْهُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا﴾

**110:3** "Then exalt [Him] with praise of your Lord and ask forgiveness of Him. Indeed, He is ever accepting of repentance."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

In crowds [v.2] أَفْوَاجًا

So glorify [v.3] فَسَبِّحْ

Oft-Forgiving [v.3] تَوَّابًا



# المَسَدُ

## 111. Al-Masad: Palm Fibre

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed at Makkah during the period when Abu Lahab had transgressed all limits in his hostility to the Prophet, and his attitude was becoming a serious obstruction in the progress of Islam. The surah is also known as Al-Masad and consists of 5 verses. It derives its title from verse 5.

### VIRTUE

عَنِ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ، قَالَ: "إِنَّ أَوَّلَ مَا خَلَقَ اللَّهُ الْقَلَمَ، فَأَمَرَهُ فَكَتَبَ مَا هُوَ كَائِنٌ، فَكَتَبَ فِيهَا هُوَ كَائِنٌ تَبَّتْ يَدَا أَبِي لَهَبٍ." (الإبانه الكبرى 219)

Ibn Abbas is reported to have said: "The first thing Allah created was the Pen, He commanded it to write down everything that will come to existence. Thus it wrote down among what will come into existence 'Perish the hands of Abu Lahab! And perish he!'" [Al-Ibanah Al-Kubra of Ibn Battah, 219]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah has cursed Abu Lahab and his wife who were the opponents of the Prophet.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿تَبَّتْ يَدَا أَبِي لَهَبٍ وَتَبَّ ﴿١﴾ مَا أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ ﴿٢﴾﴾

**111:1-2** "May the hands of Abu Lahab be ruined, and ruined is he. His wealth will not avail him or that which he gained."

﴿وَأَمْرَأَتُهُ حَمَّالَةَ الْحَطَبِ ﴿٤﴾﴾

**111:4** "And his wife [as well] - the carrier of firewood."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

He earned [v.2] كَسَبَ

The wood [v.4] الْحَطَبِ

Twisted rope [v.5] حَبْلٌ



# الإِخْلَاصُ

## 112. Al-Ikhlās: The Sincerity

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed during the earliest period at Makkah when detailed verses of the Quran dealing with the essence and attributes of Allah Almighty had not yet been revealed, and the people, hearing the Prophet's invitation to Allah, wanted to know what his God, whose worship and service he was calling them to, was like. It consists of 4 verses.

### VIRTUES

عَنْ أَنَسٍ، أَنَّ رَجُلًا قَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ إِنِّي أُحِبُّ هَذِهِ السُّورَةَ: قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ. فَقَالَ: إِنَّ حُبَّكَ إِيَّاهَا يُدْخِلُكَ الْجَنَّةَ. (الترمذي 2901)

Anas mentioned that a man said to the Prophet (saw), "I really love this surah, 'Say, "He is Allah , [who is] One (i.e. Al-Ikhlās)"'. The Prophet replied, "And your love for it will enable you to enter Paradise" [Tirmidhi 2901]

عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ الْخُدْرِيِّ: أَنَّ رَجُلًا سَمِعَ رَجُلًا يَقْرَأُ: {قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ} فَرَدَّهَا، فَلَمَّا أَصْبَحَ أَتَى رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَذَكَرَ ذَلِكَ لَهُ، فَكَانَ الرَّجُلُ يَتَقَالُّهَا، فَقَالَ لَهُ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: «وَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ إِنَّهَا لَتَعْدِلُ ثُلُثَ الْقُرْآنِ.» (ابن حبان 791)

Abu Sa'id al-Khudri is reported to have said: "A man heard another reciting and repeating [the surah that starts with] 'Say: He is God. One (i.e. Al-Ikhlās).' He went to the Messenger of Allah (saw) in the morning and mentioned that to him and it seemed that he (the man) was deeming that something little. The Messenger of Allah (saw) thus said to him "By the One in whose Hand my soul is, it is equal to one third of the Quran." [Ibn Hibban 791]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The unique attributes of Allah.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ﴿١﴾ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ﴿٢﴾ لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ﴿٣﴾ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ﴿٤﴾﴾

**112:1-4** "Say, "He is Allah , [who is] One, Allah , the Eternal Refuge. He neither begets nor is born, Nor is there to Him any equivalent."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Say [v.1] قُلْ

The Self-Sufficient [v.2] الصَّمَدُ

Co- equal or كُفُوًا  
comparable [v.4]





# الفَلَق

## 113. Al-Falaq: The Daybreak

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed together with surah An-Nas in Makkah when opposition to the Prophet had grown very intense. It consists of 5 verses and the title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUES

عَنْ عُقْبَةَ بْنِ عَامِرٍ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ (لَهُ): "لَنْ تَقْرَأَ شَيْئًا أَبْلَغَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ مِنْ قُلِّ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ." (السنن الكبرى للنسائي 1027)

Uqbah Ibn Amir is reported to have said that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said (to him), "You would never recite a surah more profound in Allah's sight than [the surah that starts with] 'Say, "I seek refuge in the Lord of daybreak this surah" (i.e. Al-Falaq).'" [Nasai 1027]

عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ قَالَ: "كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَتَعَوَّذُ مِنَ الْجَانِّ وَعَيْنِ الْإِنْسَانِ حَتَّى نَزَلَتْ الْمُعَوَّذَاتَانِ فَلَمَّا نَزَلَتَا أَخَذَ بِهِمَا وَتَرَكَ مَا سِوَاهُمَا." (الترمذي 2058)

Abu Sa'id is reported to have said: "The Prophet (saw) used to seek refuge from the Jinn as well as from the evil eye until surah Al-Falaq and An-Nas were revealed. When they were revealed, he used them and left others." [Tirmidhi 2058]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Seek refuge with Allah from all evils.
- Seek refuge with Allah from the slinking whisperers.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ﴾

**113:2** "From the evil of that which He created."

﴿وَمِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ﴾

**113:5** "And from the evil of an envier when he envies."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

I seek refuge [v.1] أَعُوذُ

The day break [v.1] الْفَلَقِ

Envier [v.5] حَاسِدٍ

Darkness [v.3] عَاسِقٍ



# النَّاسُ

## 114. An-Nas: The People

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed together with Surah Al-Falaq in Makkah when opposition to the Prophet had grown very intense. It consists of 6 verses and its title is derived from verse 1.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا: "أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانَ إِذَا اشْتَكَى يَقْرَأُ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ بِالْمُعَوِّذَاتِ وَيَنْفُثُ، فَلَمَّا اشْتَدَّ وَجَعُهُ كُنْتُ أَقْرَأُ عَلَيْهِ وَأَمْسَحُ بِيَدِهِ رَجَاءَ بَرَكَتِهَا." (البخاري 5016)

Aisha (ra) reported that "Whenever the Prophet (saw) became sick, he would recite Mu'awwidhat (surah Al-Falaq and surah An-Nas) and then blow his breath over his body. When he became seriously ill, I used to recite (these two surahs) and rub his hands over his body hoping for its blessings." [Bukhari 5016]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Seek refuge with Allah from all evils.
- Seek refuge with Allah from the slinking whisperers.

### SELECTED VERSES

﴿قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ ﴿١﴾ مَلِكِ النَّاسِ ﴿٢﴾ إِلَهِ النَّاسِ ﴿٣﴾ مِنْ شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ ﴿٤﴾ الَّذِي يُوَسْوِسُ فِي صُدُورِ النَّاسِ ﴿٥﴾ مِنَ الْجِنَّةِ وَالنَّاسِ ﴿٦﴾﴾

**114:1-6** "Say, "I seek refuge in the Lord of mankind, The Sovereign of mankind. The God of mankind, From the evil of the retreating whisperer -Who whispers [evil] into the breasts of mankind - From among the jinn and mankind."

### SELECTED VOCABULARY

شَرِّ The evil [v.4]

الْوَسْوَاسِ The whispers [v.4]