

# الكهف

## 18. Al-Kahf: The Cave

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This is the first of those surahs which were revealed in the third stage (from the fifth to the tenth year) of prophethood at Makkah. The persecution of Muslims was severe but migration to Abaysinnia had not yet taken place. It consists of 111 verses and its title is derived from the narrative about the People of the Cave.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَبِي الدَّرْدَاءِ، أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، قَالَ: «مَنْ حَفِظَ عَشْرَ آيَاتٍ مِنْ أَوَّلِ سُورَةِ الْكَهْفِ عُصِمَ مِنَ الدَّجَالِ». (مسلم 257) وفي رواية: "مِنْ آخِرِهَا." (النسائي 10722)

Abu al-Darda' is reported to have said that the Prophet (saw) said, "Whoever memorizes ten verses from the beginning of Surah al-Kahf will be immune from the Antichrist." [Muslim 257] According to another narration: "... from the end of Surah al-Kahf." [Nasai 10722]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Story of the Companions of the Cave who were woken from their sleep after hundreds of years.
- Saying "Insha Allah (If Allah so wills)" when promising to do something in the future
- Similitude of this worldly life and its relationship with the life after death.
- Story of the Prophet Musa as a student of the Prophet Khidr.
- Story of King Dhul-Qarnayn.
- The favours of Allah are countless and cannot be recorded even if all the oceans were to be used as an inkwell and other such oceans are brought to replenish this ink.
- Muhammad (saw) is but a human being like you.

### SELECTED VERSES

Four key stories:

1. Companions of the Cave (As-habul Kahf) [9–26]
2. Man with the Two Gardens [32–44]
3. Musa and Khidr [60–82]
4. Dhul-Qarnayn [83–101]

**18:23-24** Mentioning 'insha'Allah' before an action

﴿وَلَا تَقُولَنَّ لِشَيْءٍ إِنِّي فَاعِلٌ ذَٰلِكَ غَدًا ﴿٢٣﴾ إِلَّا أَنْ يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ...﴾

"And never say of anything, "Indeed, I will do that tomorrow", except "If Allah wills."..."

**18:29** Freedom of belief

﴿وَقُلِ الْحَقُّ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ ﴿٢٩﴾ فَمَنْ شَاءَ فَلْيُؤْمِنْ وَمَنْ شَاءَ فَلْيُكْفِرْ...﴾

"And say, "The truth is from your Lord, so whoever wills - let him believe..."

**18:39** "Masha Allah, La Quwwata illa Billah"

﴿وَلَوْلَا إِذْ دَخَلْتَ جَنَّتَكَ قُلْتَ مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ ۚ إِنَّ تَرِنَ أَنَا أَقَلُّ مِنكَ مَالًا وَوَلَدًا ﴿٣٩﴾﴾

"And why did you, when you entered your garden, not say, 'What Allah willed [has occurred]; there is no power except in Allah '? Although you see me less than you in wealth and children."

**18:103-104** Losers

﴿قُلْ هَلْ نُنَبِّئُكُمْ بِالْأَخْسَرِينَ أَعْمَالًا ﴿١٠٣﴾ الَّذِينَ ضَلَّ سَعْيُهُمْ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَهُمْ يَحْسَبُونَ أَنَّهُمْ يُحْسِنُونَ صُنْعًا ﴿١٠٤﴾﴾

"Say, [O Muhammad], "Shall we [believers] inform you of the greatest losers as to [their] deeds?, [They are] those whose effort is lost in worldly life, while they think that they are doing well in work."

**18:109** One of the most powerful passages in the Quran

﴿قُلْ لَوْ كَانَ الْبَحْرُ مِدَادًا لِكَلِمَاتِ رَبِّي لَنَفِدَ الْبَحْرُ قَبْلَ أَنْ تَنفَدَ كَلِمَاتُ رَبِّي وَلَوْ جِئْنَا بِمِثْلِهِ مَدَدًا ﴿١٠٩﴾﴾

"Say, 'If the sea were ink for [writing] the words of my Lord, the sea would be exhausted before the words of my Lord were exhausted, even if We brought the like of it as a supplement'."

#### SUPPLICATION

﴿رَبَّنَا آتِنَا مِن لَّدُنكَ رَحْمَةً وَهَيِّئْ لَنَا مِنْ أَمْرِنَا رَشَدًا ﴿١٠٩﴾﴾

**18:10** "Our Lord, grant us from Yourself mercy and prepare for us from our affair right guidance."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Crookedness [v.1] عَوَجًا	Render useless [v.30] نُضِيعُ	Never will you be able [v.67] لَنْ تَسْتَطِيعَ
Son [v.4] وَوَلَدًا	Raised stones [v.31] عَلَى الْأَرْيَاقِ	Ship [v.71] السَّفِينَةِ
Companions [v.9] أَصْحَابَ	Reward [v.31] الثَّوَابُ	Wall [v.77] جِدَارًا
Cave [v.9] الْكَهْفِ	Wealth [v.46] قُبُلًا	Parting [v.78] فِرَاقُ
Wonder [v.9] عَجَبًا	Face to face [v.55] أَمَلًا	Treasure [v.82] كَنْزٌ
Young men [v.13] فِتْيَةٌ	Forgets [v.57] نَسِيَ	Interpretation [v.82] تَأْوِيلُ
Guide [v.17] مُرْشِدًا	Fixed time [v.59] مَوْعِدًا	He followed [v.92] أَتْبَعَ
Left [v.18] الشِّمَالِ	Slave [v.65] عَبْدًا	



# مَرْيَمَ

## 19. Maryam: Mary

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed before the migration to Abyssinia during the third stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. Sayyiduna Ja'far recited vv. 1–40 of this surah in the court of the King of Abyssinia, when he called the Muslims to his court upon the extradition request of the Quraysh. The surah contains 98 verses and its title is taken from the story of Maryam as narrated in verses 16–35.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ مَسْعُودٍ قَالَ: "بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَالْكَهْفُ وَمَرْيَمُ وَطَهُ وَالْأَنْبِيَاءُ: هُنَّ مِنَ الْعِتَاقِ الْأَوَّلِ، وَهُنَّ مِنْ تِلَادِي." (البيخاري 4739)

Abdullah Ibn Masud is reported to have said, "[The surahs of] the Children of Israel, al-Kahf (the Cave), Maryam (Mary), Taha and al-Anbiya' (the Prophets) are from among the first revealed surahs and they are from among my old learnt surahs." [Bukhari 4739]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Story of Zakariya (Zachariah) and the birth of Prophet Yahya (John).
- Story of Maryam and the miraculous birth of Prophet Isa (Jesus).
- Prophet Isa's address to his people from his cradle.
- Isa is not the son of Allah, and that it is not befitting to the Majesty of Allah that He needs a son (i.e. for name, fame, help or continuity of race).
- Story of Prophet Ibrahim and his father.
- All the prophets of Allah were divinely guided and chosen people.
- Life of the believers and the non-believers in this world and in the Hereafter.
- Those who say, "Allah has begotten a son," utter a monstrous lie that if they could hear it, the heavens would crack, the earth would split and the mountains would crumble.
- Allah has made the Quran easy for mankind.

### SELECTED VERSES

**19:23** Feeling of despair and longing to be non-existent

﴿فَأَجَاءَهَا الْمَخَاضُ إِلَى جِذْعِ النَّخْلَةِ قَالَتْ يَلَيْتَنِي مِتُّ قَبْلَ هَذَا وَكُنْتُ نَسِيًّا مَنْسِيًّا﴾

"And the pains of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a palm tree. She said, "Oh, I wish I had died before this and was in oblivion, forgotten."

**19:59** Abandoning Salah

﴿خَلَفَ مِنْ بَعْدِهِمْ خَلْفٌ أَضَاعُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَاتَّبَعُوا الشَّهْوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقَوْنَ غِيًّا﴾

"But there came after them successors who neglected prayer and pursued desires; so they are going to meet evil."

**19:96** "Those who believe and do good deeds, the Most Merciful will bestow love on them"

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَيَجْعَلُ لَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ وُدًّا ﴿٩٦﴾﴾

"Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - the Most Merciful will appoint for them affection."

**19:98** A question to think about

﴿وَكَمْ أَهْلَكْنَا قَبْلَهُم مِّن قَرْنٍ هَلْ تُحِسُّ مِنْهُمْ مِّنْ أَحَدٍ أَوْ تَسْمَعُ لَهُمْ رِكْرًا ﴿٩٨﴾﴾

"And how many have We destroyed before them of generations? Do you perceive of them anyone or hear from them a sound?"

#### SUPPLICATION

﴿رَبِّ إِنِّي وَهَنَ الْعَظْمُ مِنِّي وَاسْتَعَلَ الرَّأْسُ شَيْبًا وَلَمْ أَكُنْ بِدُعَائِكَ رَبِّ شَقِيًّا ﴿٤﴾﴾

**19:4** "My Lord, indeed my bones have weakened, and my head has filled with white, and never have I been in my supplication to You, my Lord, unhappy."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

Call [v.3]	نِدَاءٌ	Has been decided [v.39]	قُضِيَ	Lusts [v.59]	الشَّهَوَاتِ
Sign [v.10]	ءَايَةٌ	Heedlessness [v.39]	غَفْلَةً	(They) will enter [v.60]	يَدْخُلُونَ
Intelligent [v.19]	زَكِيًّا	O my father [v.43]	يَتَابَتِ	We destroyed [v.74]	أَهْلَكْنَا
Unchaste [v.20]	بَغِيًّا	Rebel [v.44]	عَصِيًّا	Intercession [v.87]	الشفعة
Date-palm [v.23]	النَّخْلَةَ	Unblessed [v.48]	شَقِيًّا		



# طه

## 20. Ta-Ha

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

The period of this surah's revelation is the same as that of Surah Maryam. Some authentic traditions indicate that this surah was revealed before Umar embraced Islam. It consists of 135 verses and its title is composed of two letters of the Arabic alphabet. Some scholars are of the opinion that Ta Ha is one of the names of Prophet Muhammad.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ أَبِي أُمَامَةَ الْبَاهِلِيِّ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: "اسْمُ اللَّهِ الْأَعْظَمُ فِي سُورِ مِنَ الْقُرْآنِ ثَلَاثٌ: فِي (الْبَقَرَةِ) وَ (آلِ عِمْرَانَ) وَ (طه)". (صحيح ابن ماجه 3856)

Abu Umamah al-Bahilii is reported to have said that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said, "The greatest name of Allah is found in three surahs of the Quran: al-Baqarah, Al-Imran, and Taha." [Ibn Majah 3856]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The Quran is but a reminder for those who fear Allah.
- In the Hereafter, the life of this world shall appear to be no more than a day or a part of a day.
- Story of Prophet Musa, Pharaoh and his chiefs.
- Famous prayer of Prophet Musa before starting his mission.
- Dialogue between Prophet Musa and Pharaoh.
- Confrontation of Prophet Musa and Pharaoh's magicians, who after witnessing the miracles accepted Islam.
- A scene from the Day of Judgement.
- The Quran is sent in the Arabic language for easy understanding, so read it and say: "O my Lord, increase my knowledge."
- The story of Adam's creation and Satan's temptations.
- Those who do not read the Quran and follow its directions shall be raised to life as blind people on the Day of Resurrection.
- Do not envy the worldly riches of others.

### SELECTED VERSES

**20:8** Unity of Allah

﴿اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ﴾

"Allah - there is no deity except Him. To Him belong the best names."

**20:14** Purpose of prayer

﴿إِنِّي أَنَا اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنَا فَاعْبُدْنِي وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ لِذِكْرِي﴾

"Indeed, I am Allah. There is no deity except Me, so worship Me and establish prayer for My remembrance."

**20:15** Reward for striving

﴿إِنَّ السَّاعَةَ آتِيَةٌ أَكَادُ أَحْفِيهَا لِتُجْزَىٰ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ بِمَا تَسْعَىٰ﴾

"Verily the Hour is coming and My will is to keep it hidden- so that every person may be rewarded for what they strive."

**20:25-28** Prayer of Musa

﴿قَالَ رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي ﴿٢٥﴾ وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي ﴿٢٦﴾ وَأَحْلِلْ عُقْدَةً مِن لِسَانِي ﴿٢٧﴾ يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي ﴿٢٨﴾﴾

[Musa] said, "My Lord, expand for me my breast [with assurance]. And ease for me my task. And untie the knot from my tongue. That they may understand my speech."

**20:29-30** Musa's prayer for his leadership to be strengthened

﴿وَأَجْعَلْ لِي وَزِيرًا مِّنْ أَهْلِي ﴿٣٠﴾ هَارُونَ أَخِي ﴿٣١﴾﴾

"And appoint for me a minister from my family, Aaron, my brother."

**20:44** The difficult balance between excessive/harsh/severe opposition and 'selling out'

﴿فَقُولَا لَهُ، قَوْلًا لِّبِنَا لَعَلَّهُ يَتَذَكَّرُ أَوْ يَخْشَىٰ﴾

"And speak to him (Pharaoh) with gentle speech that perhaps he may be reminded or fear [Allah]."

**20:55** Reality of the earth – to be recited at burials

﴿مِنْهَا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ وَفِيهَا نُعِيدُكُمْ وَمِنْهَا نُخْرِجُكُمْ تَارَةً أُخْرَىٰ﴾

"From the earth We created you, and into it We will return you, and from it We will extract you another time."

**20:99-101** Consequence of turning away from the Quran

﴿كَذَٰلِكَ نَقُصُّ عَلَيْكَ مِمَّنْ آتَيْنَاهُ مَا قَدْ سَبَقَ وَقَدْ آتَيْنَاكَ مِن لَّدُنَّا ذِكْرًا ﴿٩٩﴾ مِّنْ أَعْرَضَ عَنْهُ فَإِنَّهُ يَحْمِلُ يَوْمَ

الْقِيَامَةِ وِزْرًا ﴿١٠٠﴾ خَالِدِينَ فِيهِ وَسَاءَ لَهُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ حِمْلًا ﴿١٠١﴾﴾

"Thus, [O Muhammad], We relate to you from the news of what has preceded. And We have certainly given you from Us the Quran. Whoever turns away from it – then indeed, he will bear on the Day of Resurrection a burden. Abiding] eternally therein, and evil it is for them on the Day of Resurrection as a load."

**20:114** Dua for increasing knowledge

﴿... وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا﴾

"...and say, "My Lord, increase me in knowledge."

**20:124** Consequence of neglecting the Quran



﴿وَمَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَن ذِكْرِي فَإِنَّ لَهُ مَعِيشَةً ضَنْكًا وَنَحْشُرُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ أَعْمَى﴾

"And whoever turns away from My remembrance - indeed, he will have a depressed life, and We will gather him on the Day of Resurrection blind."

**20:131** Wordly life as a test

﴿وَلَا تَمُدَّنَّ عَيْنَيْكَ إِلَىٰ مَا مَتَّعْنَا بِهِ أَزْوَاجًا مِنْهُمْ زَهْرَةَ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا لِنَفْتِنَهُمْ فِيهِ وَرِزْقُ رَبِّكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَبْقَىٰ﴾

"And do not extend your eyes toward that by which We have given enjoyment to [some] categories of them, [its being but] the splendor of worldly life by which We test them. And the provision of your Lord is better and more enduring."

**20:132** Responsibility of sustenance

﴿وَأْمُرْ أَهْلَكَ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَاصْطَبِرْ عَلَيْهَا لَا نَسْأَلُكَ رِزْقًا نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُكَ وَالْعَاقِبَةُ لِلتَّقْوَىٰ﴾

"And enjoin prayer upon your family [and people] and be steadfast therein. We ask you not for provision; We provide for you, and the [best] outcome is for [those of] righteousness."

## SUPPLICATIONS

﴿رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي ﴿٢٥﴾ وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي ﴿٢٦﴾ وَأَحْلِلْ عُقْدَةً مِن لِسَانِي ﴿٢٧﴾ يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي ﴿٢٨﴾﴾

**20:25-28** "My Lord, expand for me my breast [with assurance]. And ease for me my task. And untie the knot from my tongue. That they may understand my speech."

﴿رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا﴾

**20:114** "My Lord, increase me in knowledge."

## SELECTED VOCABULARY

My chest [v.25] صَدْرِي	Generations [v.51] الْقُرُونِ	The threats [v.113] أَلْوَعِيدِ
My task [v.26] أَمْرِي	The magician [v.69] سَاحِرٍ	Increase me [v.114] زِدْنِي
My tongue [v.27] لِسَانِي	Flowing [v.76] تَجْرِي	A term [v.129] أَجَلٍ
My speech [v.28] قَوْلِي	They will abide forever [v.76] خَالِدِينَ	Determined [v.129] مُسَمًّى
My family [v.29] أَهْلِي	Pharaoh [v.76] فِرْعَوْنُ	Provision [132] رِزْقًا
My brother [v.30] أَخِي		



# الأنبياء

## 21. Al-Anbiya: The Prophets

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

Both the subject matter and the style of the surah indicate that it was sent down in the third stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. It consists of 112 verses. The title is derived from a major portion of the surah devoted to describing the lives of many prophets.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ مَسْعُودٍ قَالَ: "بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَالْكَهْفُ وَمَرْيَمُ وَطَهُ وَالْأَنْبِيَاءُ: هُنَّ مِنَ الْعِتَاقِ الْأُولَى، وَهِنَّ مِنْ تِلَادِي." (البخاري 4739)

Abdullah Ibn Masud is reported to have said, "[The surahs of] Banu Israel, Al-Kahf, Maryam, Taha and Al-Anbiya are from among the first revealed surahs and they are from among my old learnt surahs." [Bukhari 4739]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- People should consider the message of Allah rather than disputing about whether a human can be a prophet.
- The creation of heaven and earth is not a game.
- If there were more than one God, the heavens and earth would have been in a state of disorder.
- The skies and earth once were one mass; Allah split them asunder and created the different planets.
- Allah has created all living beings from water.
- Allah has not granted immortality to any human being.
- Human-invented gods cannot even defend themselves; how can they defend their worshippers.
- Prophet Ibrahim was not an idol worshipper but an idol breaker.
- Mankind is but a single brotherhood.
- Whoever will do good deeds provided he is a believer, his endeavour shall not be rejected.

### SELECTED VERSES

**21:16** Creation as mere play?

﴿وَمَا خَلَقْنَا السَّمَاءَ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا لَعِبِينَ﴾

"And We did not create the heaven and earth and that between them in play."

**21:22** Argument for monotheism

﴿لَوْ كَانَ فِيهِمَا آلِهَةٌ إِلَّا اللَّهُ لَفَسَدَتَا فَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ﴾

"Had there been within the heavens and earth gods besides Allah , they both would have been ruined. So exalted is Allah , Lord of the Throne, above what they describe."

**21:35** Every soul shall taste death.

﴿كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ وَنَبَلُّوكُم بِالشَّرِّ وَالْحَيْرِ فِتْنَةً وَإِلَيْنَا تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾﴾

"Every soul will taste death. And We test you with evil and with good as trial; and to Us you will be returned."

**21:45** Authority of the Sunnah

﴿قُلْ إِنَّمَا أُنذِرُكُم بِالْوَحْيِ وَلَا يَسْمَعُ الصُّمُّ الدُّعَاءَ إِذَا مَا يُنذَرُونَ ﴿٤٥﴾﴾

"Say, 'I only warn you by revelation.' But the deaf do not hear the call when they are warned."

**21:50** The Quran as a reminder

﴿وَهَذَا ذِكْرٌ مُبَارَكٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ أَفَأَنْتُمْ لَهُ مُنْكَرُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾﴾

"And this [Quran] is a blessed message which We have sent down. Then are you with it unacquainted?"

**21:92** The ummah as one nation

﴿إِنَّ هَدْيَهُ أُمَّتُكُمْ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً وَأَنَا رَبُّكُمْ فَاعْبُدُونِ ﴿٩٢﴾﴾

"Indeed this, your religion, is one religion, and I am your Lord, so worship Me."

**21:107** The prophet as a mercy to mankind

﴿وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٠٧﴾﴾

"And We have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds."

## SUPPLICATIONS

﴿أَنِّي مَسَّنِيَ الضُّرُّ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ ﴿٨٣﴾﴾

**21:83** "Indeed, adversity has touched me, and you are the Most Merciful of the merciful."

﴿لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ سُبْحَانَكَ إِنِّي كُنْتُ مِنَ الظَّالِمِينَ ﴿٨٧﴾﴾

**21:87** "There is no deity except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have been of the wrongdoers."

﴿رَبِّ لَا تَذَرْنِي فَرْدًا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْوَارِثِينَ ﴿٨٩﴾﴾

**21:89** "My Lord, do not leave me alone [with no heir], while you are the best of inheritors."

## SELECTED VOCABULARY

A poet [v.5] شَاعِرٌ

Night [v.20] أَلَيْلٌ

Your proof [v.24] بُرْهَانُكُمْ

Body [v.8] جَسَدًا

Bring [v.24] هَاتُوا

Safe and well <sup>مَحْفُوظًا</sup>  
guarded [v.32]  
Immortality [v.34] <sup>الْخُلْدَ</sup>  
Soul [v.35] <sup>نَفْسٍ</sup>  
Weight [v.47] <sup>مِثْقَالَ</sup>

Seed [v.47] <sup>حَبَّةٍ</sup>  
Burn him [v.68] <sup>حَرَّقُوهُ</sup>  
Coolness [v.69] <sup>بَرْدًا</sup>  
You (all) [v.80] <sup>أَنْتُمْ</sup>  
A ban [v.95] <sup>حَرَامٌ</sup>

As a mercy [v.107] <sup>رَحْمَةً</sup>  
Openly [v.110] <sup>الْجَهْرَ</sup>  
Whose help is <sup>الْمُسْتَعَانُ</sup>  
sought [v.112]



# الحج

## 22. Al-Hajj: The Pilgrimage

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

As this surah contains the characteristics of both Makki and the Madani surahs, the commentators have differed as to its period of revelation. From its style it appears that a part of it (vv. 1–24) was sent down in the last stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah, shortly before migration and the rest (vv. 25–78) after migration, most probably in the month of Dhul-Hijjah, during the first year of his residence at Madinah. That is why this surah combines the characteristics of both Makki and the Madani surahs. It consists of 78 verses and its title is drawn from verses 26–30 which provide instructions about the pilgrimage.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عُقْبَةَ بْنِ عَامِرٍ قَالَ: قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ أَفْضَلَتْ سُورَةُ الْحَجِّ عَلَى سَائِرِ الْقُرْآنِ بِسَجْدَتَيْنِ قَالَ نَعَمْ فَمَنْ لَمْ يَسْجُدْهُمَا فَلَا يَقْرَأْهُمَا. (أحمد 17364)

Uqbah Ibn Amir is reported to have said: I said, "O Messenger of Allah! Surah Al-Hajj was made superior to the rest of the Quran with two sajdah (places where bowing down to the ground is recommendable)." He said, "Yes; so he who is not willing to bow down to the ground upon reading them should not read them." [Ahmad 17364]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- A scene from the Hour of Doom.
- Human life cycle: life in this world and life in the Hereafter.
- Behaviour of those individuals who were standing at the verge of faith is identified.
- Allah always helps His messengers.
- Divine law granting equal rights to all believers in Masjid-al-Haram, whether they are natives or foreigners.
- Allah Himself identified the site and asked Prophet Ibrahim (s) to build the Kabah and call mankind to come for Hajj (Pilgrimage).
- Someone who commits shirk is like someone who falls from the sky and his body is snatched away by birds.
- It is not the blood or the flesh of a sacrificed animal which reaches Allah but the piety of the individual who is offering the sacrifice.
- The first commandment of Allah granting permission to the believers to defend themselves and fight against the unbelievers and polytheists.
- On the Day of Judgement, Allah Himself will be the Judge for all.
- Allah's promise to those who migrate for His sake that He will reward them generously.
- Allah called the believers Muslims in the prior scriptures and also in the Quran.

### SELECTED VERSES

22:7 The coming of the Hour

﴿وَأَنَّ السَّاعَةَ آتِيَةٌ لَّا رَيْبَ فِيهَا وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْعَثُ مَنْ فِي الْقُبُورِ﴾

"And [that they may know] that the Hour is coming - no doubt about it – and that Allah will resurrect those in the graves."

#### 22:8-9 Disputing without knowledge

﴿وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن تُجَادِلُ فِي اللَّهِ بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ وَلَا هُدًى وَلَا كِتَابٍ مُّنبِئٍ ﴿٨﴾ ثَانِي عَطْفِهِ لِيُضِلَّ عَن سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ لَهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا خِزْيٌ وَنُذِيقُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ عَذَابَ الْحَرِيقِ ﴿٩﴾﴾

"And of the people is he who disputes about Allah without knowledge or guidance or an enlightening book [from Him], Twisting his neck [in arrogance] to mislead [people] from the way of Allah. For him in the world is disgrace, and We will make him taste on the Day of Resurrection the punishment of the Burning Fire [while it is said]."

#### 22:17 Various religious traditions

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَالَّذِينَ هَادُوا وَالصَّابِئِينَ وَالنَّصْرِيَّةَ وَالْمَجُوسَ وَالَّذِينَ أَشْرَكُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَفْصِلُ بَيْنَهُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ ﴿١٧﴾﴾

"Indeed, those who have believed and those who were Jews and the Sabeans and the Christians and the Magians and those who associated with Allah - Allah will judge between them on the Day of Resurrection. Indeed Allah is, over all things, Witness."

#### 22:35 Characteristics of the mukhbitin

﴿الَّذِينَ إِذَا ذُكِرَ اللَّهُ وَجِلَّتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ وَالصَّابِرِينَ عَلَىٰ مَا أَصَابَهُمَ وَالْمُتَّقِمِينَ الصَّلَاةِ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنفِقُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾﴾

- whose hearts melt when Allah is mentioned
- those who patiently bear whatever (calamity or misfortune) befalls them
- those who establish prayers
- those who spend what We have provided them.

#### 22:37 Reality of sacrifice

﴿لَنْ يَنَالَ اللَّهُ خُومَهَا وَلَا دِمَاؤها وَلَكِن يَنَالُهُ التَّقْوَىٰ مِنْكُمْ...﴾

"Their meat will not reach Allah, nor will their blood, but what reaches Him is piety from you.."

#### 22:39 First commandment for Jihad

﴿أُذِنَ لِلَّذِينَ يُقْتَلُونَ بِأَنَّهُمْ ظَلَمُوا وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ نَصْرِهِمْ لَقَدِيرٌ ﴿٣٩﴾﴾

"Permission [to fight] has been given to those who are being fought, because they were wronged. And indeed, Allah is competent to give them victory."

#### 22:40 The sunnah of confrontation

﴿... وَلَوْلَا دَفَعُ اللَّهُ النَّاسَ بَعْضُهُمْ بِبَعْضٍ هُدَمَتْ صَوَامِعُ وَبِيْعٌ وَصَلَوَاتٌ وَمَسْجِدٌ يُذَكَّرُ فِيهَا اسْمُ اللَّهِ كَثِيرًا...﴾

"...And were it not that Allah checks the people, some by means of others, there would have been demolished monasteries, churches, synagogues, and mosques in which the name of Allah is much mentioned..."



**22:41** Duties of an empowered community or a Muslim society

﴿الَّذِينَ إِنْ مَكَّنَّاهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ أَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَوُا الزَّكَاةَ وَأَمَرُوا بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَنَهَوْا عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ عَاقِبَةُ الْأُمُورِ﴾

"[And they are] those who, if We give them authority in the land, establish prayer and give zakah and enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong. And to Allah belongs the outcome of [all] matters."

**22:73** Parable of those who commit shirk

﴿يَتَأْتِيهَا النَّاسُ ضُرْبٌ مِثْلُ مَا سَمِعُوا لَهُ ۗ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ تَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ لَنْ يَخْلُقُوا ذُبَابًا وَلَوْ اجْتَمَعُوا لَهُ ۗ وَإِنْ يَسْلُبْهُمُ الذُّبَابُ شَيْئًا لَا يَسْتَنْقِذُوهُ مِنْهُ ۗ ضَعُفَ الطَّالِبُ وَالْمَطْلُوبُ﴾

"O people, an example is presented, so listen to it. Indeed, those you invoke besides Allah will never create [as much as] a fly, even if they gathered together for that purpose. And if the fly should steal away from them a [tiny] thing, they could not recover it from him. Weak are the pursuer and pursued."

**22:77** Verse of Prostration (sajdah)

﴿يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَرْكَعُوا وَاسْجُدُوا وَاعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمْ وَأَفْعَلُوا الْخَيْرَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ﴾

"O you who have believed, bow and prostrate and worship your Lord and do good - that you may succeed."

**22:78** Striving in the cause of Allah

﴿وَجَاهِدُوا فِي اللَّهِ حَقَّ جِهَادِهِ ۗ هُوَ اجْتَبَاكُمْ وَمَا جَعَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ فِي الدِّينِ مِنْ حَرَجٍ ۗ مِلَّةَ أَبِيكُمْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ ۗ هُوَ سَمَّاكُمُ الْمُسْلِمِينَ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَفِي هَذَا لِيَكُونَ الرَّسُولُ شَهِيدًا عَلَيْكُمْ وَتَكُونُوا شُهَدَاءَ عَلَى النَّاسِ فَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَاعْتَصِمُوا بِاللَّهِ هُوَ مَوْلَانَكُمْ فَنِعْمَ الْمَوْلَىٰ وَنِعْمَ النَّصِيرُ﴾

"And strive for Allah with the striving due to Him. He has chosen you and has not placed upon you in the religion any difficulty. [It is] the religion of your father, Abraham. Allah named you "Muslims" before [in former scriptures] and in this [revelation] that the Messenger may be a witness over you and you may be witnesses over the people. So establish prayer and give zakah and hold fast to Allah. He is your protector; and excellent is the protector, and excellent is the helper."

**SELECTED VOCABULARY**

In a drunken state [v.2]	سُكْرَىٰ	Mixed drops of semen [v.5]	نُطْفَةٍ	Infants [v.5]	طِفْلًا
Without [v.3]	بِغَيْرِ	Clot [v.5]	عَلَقَةٍ	Graves [v.7]	الْقُبُورِ
Resurrection [v.5]	الْبَعْثِ	Foetus [v.5]	مُضْغَةٍ	Dispute [v.8]	تُجَادِلُ
		Womb [v.5]	الْأَرْحَامِ	Flowing [v.14]	تَجْرِي

Beneath them [v.14] تَحْتَهُمَا

The stars [v.18] النُّجُومُ

Silk [v.23] حَرِيرٌ

Deep [v.27] عميقٍ

The poor [v.28] الْفَقِيرَ

Ancient [v.29] الْعَتِيقِ

Sacred things [v.30] حُرْمَتِ

Lying [v.30] الزُّورِ

Symbols [v.36] شَعَائِرِ

Defends [v.38] يُدَافِعُ

Matters [v.41] الْأُمُورِ

The breasts [v.46] الصُّدُورِ

A warner [v.49] نَذِيرٌ

The ships [v.65] الْفُلُكِ

Easy [v.70] يَسِيرٌ

The seeker [v.73] الطَّالِبِ

The sought [v.73] الْمَطْلُوبِ

Hold fast [v.78] اَعْتَصِمُوا



# المؤمنون

## 23. Al-Mu'minun: The Believers

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed during the middle stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. It was the climax of the famine in that region (vv. 75–76). From the contents of this surah, it appears that a bitter conflict had begun between the Prophet Muhammad and the disbelievers, though the persecution had not yet begun. The surah consists of 118 verses and its title is based on the reference to believers in the surah.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ بْنِ عَبْدِ الْقَارِيِّ قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ عُمَرَ بْنَ الْخَطَّابِ يَقُولُ: كَانَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِذَا أُنزِلَ عَلَيْهِ الْوَحْيُ سَمِعَ عِنْدَ وَجْهِهِ كَدْوِيَّ النَّحْلِ فَأُنزِلَ عَلَيْهِ يَوْمًا فَمَكَّنْنَا سَاعَةً فَسَرَّيْ عَنْهُ فَاسْتَقْبَلَ الْقِبْلَةَ وَرَفَعَ يَدَيْهِ وَقَالَ: اللَّهُمَّ زِدْنَا وَلَا تَنْقُصْنَا، وَأَكْرِمْنَا وَلَا تُهِنَّا، وَأَعْطِنَا وَلَا تَحْرِمْنَا، وَآثِرْنَا وَلَا تُؤْثِرْ عَلَيْنَا، وَارْضِنَا وَارْضَ عَنَّا، ثُمَّ قَالَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: أُنزِلَ عَلَيَّ عَشْرُ آيَاتٍ، مَنْ أَقَامَهُنَّ دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ، ثُمَّ قَرَأَ: (قَدْ أَفْلَحَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ) حَتَّى خَتَمَ عَشْرَ آيَاتٍ. (الترمذي 3173)

Abd al-Rahman Ibn Abd al-Qary said: I heard Umar Ibn al-Khattab saying, "When the revelation was sent down to the Prophet (saw), a buzzing sound like that of bees was heard near his face. One day something was sent down to him and so we stayed about an hour till he was relieved. Then he faced the qiblah and raised his hands and said, 'O Allah, increase us and do not decrease us; honor us and do not dishonor us; give us and do not deprive us [of Your blessings]; give us preference over others and do not give others preference over us; and make us pleased and be pleased with us.' Then he (saw) said, 'Ten verses have just been sent down to me; whoever practices them thoroughly will enter the Paradise.' Then he read, "Truly, the believers shall realise [everlasting] success" until he finished ten verses. [Tirmidhi 3173]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Characteristics of "true believers."
- Stages of human creation.
- The story of Prophet Nuh and the great flood.
- The story of Hud and the blast of destruction.
- Allah has not charged any soul with more than it can bear.
- Guidance to repel evil with good and to seek the protection of Allah against the temptations of Satan.
- On the Day of Judgement it will appear as if the life of this world was less than one day.
- The disbelievers will never get salvation.

### SELECTED VERSES

**23:1-9** Qualities of successful believers

﴿قَدْ أَفْلَحَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿١﴾ الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي صَلَاتِهِمْ خَاشِعُونَ ﴿٢﴾ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنِ اللَّغْوِ مُعْرِضُونَ ﴿٣﴾ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِلزَّكَاةِ فَاعِلُونَ ﴿٤﴾ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِفُرُوجِهِمْ حَافِظُونَ ﴿٥﴾ إِلَّا عَلَىٰ أَزْوَاجِهِمْ أَوْ مَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُهُمْ فَإِنَّهُمْ غَيْرُ مَلُومِينَ ﴿٦﴾ فَمَنْ أَبْتَغَىٰ وَرَاءَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْعَادُونَ ﴿٧﴾ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِأَمْتِنَتِهِمْ وَعَهْدِهِمْ رَاعُونَ ﴿٨﴾ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَىٰ صَلَوَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ ﴿٩﴾﴾

- Devout in their prayers
- Turn away from vain talk
- Give zakah
- Guard their chastity
- Keep to their trusts and covenants
- Guard their prayers

**23:21** The cattle as a lesson

﴿وَإِنَّ لَكُمْ فِي الْأَنْعَامِ لَعِبْرَةً ۚ نُسْقِيكُمْ مِمَّا فِي بُطُونِهَا وَلَكُمْ فِيهَا مَنَافِعُ كَثِيرَةٌ وَمِنْهَا تَأْكُلُونَ ﴿١١﴾﴾

"And indeed, for you in livestock is a lesson. We give you drink from that which is in their bellies, and for you in them are numerous benefits, and from them you eat."

**23:29** Du'a of Noah

﴿وَقُلْ رَبِّ أَنْزِلْنِي مُنْزَلًا مُّبَارَكًا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْمُنْزِلِينَ ﴿٢٦﴾﴾

"And say, 'My Lord, let me land at a blessed landing place, and You are the best to accommodate [us].'"

**23:61** Race for good deeds

﴿أُولَٰئِكَ يُسْرِعُونَ فِي الْحَيَاتِ وَهُمْ هَا سَابِقُونَ ﴿٦١﴾﴾

"It is those who hasten to good deeds, and they outstrip [others] therein."

**23:96** How to respond to evil

﴿ادْفَعْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ السَّيِّئَةِ ۗ نَحْنُ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا يَصِفُونَ ﴿٩٦﴾﴾

"Repel, by [means of] what is best, [their] evil. We are most knowing of what they describe."

**23:118** A short but comprehensive dua

﴿وَقُلْ رَبِّ اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّحِيمِينَ ﴿١١٨﴾﴾

"And, [O Muhammad], say, "My Lord, forgive and have mercy, and You are the best of the merciful."

## SUPPLICATIONS

﴿رَبِّ أَنْزِلْنِي مُنْزَلًا مُّبَارَكًا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْمُنْزِلِينَ ﴿٢٦﴾﴾

**23:29** "My Lord, let me land at a blessed landing place, and You are the best to accommodate [us].'"

﴿رَبِّ أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ هَمَزَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ﴾ ﴿٧٧﴾ وَأَعُوذُ بِكَ رَبِّ أَنْ تَحْضُرُونِ ﴿٧٨﴾

**23:97-98** "My Lord, I seek refuge in You from the incitements of the devils, And I seek refuge in You, my Lord, lest they be present with me."

﴿رَبَّنَا ءَامَنَّا فَآغْفِرْ لَنَا وَأَرْحَمْنَا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّاحِمِينَ﴾ ﴿١٠٩﴾

**23:109** "Our Lord, we have believed, so forgive us and have mercy upon us, and You are the best of the merciful."

﴿وَقُلْ رَبِّ آغْفِرْ وَأَرْحَمْ وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّاحِمِينَ﴾ ﴿١١٨﴾

**23:118** "And, [O Muhammad], say, "My Lord, forgive and have mercy, and You are the best of the merciful."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

He was successful [v.1] أَفْلَحَ	Lives in awe [v.57] مُشْفِقُونَ	The whisperings هَمَزَاتِ [v.97]
The inheritors [v.10] الْوَارِثُونَ	Hearing [v.78] السَّمْعَ	Forgive [v.118] آغْفِرْ
Benefits [v.21] مَنَفَعُ	Sight [v.78] الْأَبْصَرَ	Have mercy [v.118] أَرْحَمْ
Bones [v.23] عِظْمًا	Hearts [v.78] الْأَفْئِدَةَ	



# النور

## 24. An-Nur: The Light

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was sent down after the campaign against Bani al-Mustaliq which took place after the Battle of the Trench in 6 AH at the occasion of slander against the wife of the Prophet Muhammad (saw), Aishah (ra), who accompanied him in this campaign. It consists of 64 verses.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ حَارِثَةَ بْنِ مُضَرَّبٍ قَالَ: كَتَبَ إِلَيْنَا عُمَرُ بْنُ الْخَطَّابِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ: "أَنْ تَعْلَمُوا سُورَةَ النَّسَاءِ وَالْأَحْزَابِ وَالنُّورِ".  
(فضائل القرآن للقاسم بن سلام 367)

Harithah Ibn Mudarrab is reported to have said: Umar al-Khattab (ra) wrote to us, "Learn surah Al-Nisa', surah Al-Ahzab, and surah Al-Nur." [Fada'il al-Quran of Al-Qasim Ibn Salam, 367]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Laws relating to:
  - a) The punishment for rape, fornication and adultery.
  - b) The punishment for bearing false witness relating to any of these crimes.
  - c) Layan (bearing witness against one's own wife when there is no other witness in a case of adultery).
- Slander against the wife of the Prophet Muhammad, Allah's declaration of her innocence, and admonition to those who were involved in that scandal.
- Regulations relating to entering houses other than your own.
- Allah's commandment to singles about getting married.
- Allah's commandment to help slaves in getting their freedom.
- Observance of modesty by males and females; hijab for women.
- Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth.
- Allah has created every living creature from water.
- Allah's commandment for attending meetings which are called for discussions and decisions about taking collective actions.

### SELECTED VERSES

**24:1-10** Punishment for fornication

**24:11-26** Incident of the slander (ifk) against Aisha (ra)

**24:26** Good and evil

﴿الْحَيِّثُ لِلْحَيِّثِينَ وَالْحَيِّثُونَ لِلْحَيِّثَاتِ وَالطَّيِّبَاتُ لِلطَّيِّبِينَ وَالطَّيِّبُونَ لِلطَّيِّبَاتِ أُولَئِكَ مُبَرَّءُونَ مِمَّا يَقُولُونَ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَرِزْقٌ كَرِيمٌ ﴿٢٦﴾﴾



"Evil words are for evil men, and evil men are [subjected] to evil words. And good words are for good men, and good men are [an object] of good words. Those [good people] are declared innocent of what the slanderers say. For them is forgiveness and noble provision."

**24:27** Seeking permission before entering someone's house

﴿يَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تَدْخُلُوا بُيُوتًا غَيْرَ بُيُوتِكُمْ حَتَّىٰ تَسْتَأْذِنُوا وَتُسَلِّمُوا عَلَىٰ أَهْلِهَا ذَٰلِكُمْ خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾﴾

"O you who have believed, do not enter houses other than your own houses until you ascertain welcome and greet their inhabitants. That is best for you; perhaps you will be reminded."

**24:31** Verse of khimar/hijab

﴿وَقُلْ لِّلْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَغْضُضْنَ مِنْ أَبْصَرِهِنَّ وَيَحْفَظْنَ فُرُوجَهُنَّ وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَلْيَضْرِبْنَ بِخُمُرِهِنَّ عَلَىٰ جُيُوبِهِنَّ وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا لِبُعُولَتِهِنَّ أَوْ آبَائِهِنَّ أَوْ آبَاءِ بُعُولَتِهِنَّ أَوْ أَبْنَاءِهِنَّ أَوْ أَبْنَاءِ بُعُولَتِهِنَّ أَوْ إِخْوَانِهِنَّ أَوْ بَنِي إِخْوَانِهِنَّ أَوْ مَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُهُنَّ أَوِ التَّابِعِينَ غَيْرِ أُولَىٰ الْإِرْبَةِ مِنَ الرِّجَالِ أَوِ الطِّفْلِ الَّذِينَ لَمْ يَظْهَرُوا عَلَىٰ عَوْرَاتِ النِّسَاءِ وَلَا يَضْرِبْنَ بِأَرْجُلِهِنَّ لِيُعْلَمَ مَا يُخْفِينَ مِنْ زِينَتِهِنَّ وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا أَيُّهَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٣١﴾﴾

"And tell the believing women to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts and not expose their adornment except that which [necessarily] appears thereof and to wrap [a portion of] their headcovers over their chests and not expose their adornment except to their husbands, their fathers, their husbands' fathers, their sons, their husbands' sons, their brothers, their brothers' sons, their sisters' sons, their women, that which their right hands possess, or those male attendants having no physical desire, or children who are not yet aware of the private aspects of women. And let them not stamp their feet to make known what they conceal of their adornment. And turn to Allah in repentance, all of you, O believers, that you might succeed."

**24:35** Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth

﴿اللَّهُ نُورُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ مِثْلُ نُورِهِ كَمِشْكَاةٍ فِيهَا مِصْبَاحٌ الْمِصْبَاحُ فِي زُجَاجَةٍ الزُّجَاجَةُ كَأَنَّهَا كَوْكَبٌ دُرِّيٌّ يُوقَدُ مِنْ شَجَرَةٍ مُّبْرَكَةٍ زَيْتُونَةٍ لَّا شَرْقِيَّةٍ وَلَا غَرْبِيَّةٍ يَكَادُ زَيْتُهَا يُضِيءُ وَلَوْ لَمْ تَمْسَسْهُ نَارٌ نُورٌ عَلَىٰ نُورٍ يَهْدِي اللَّهُ لِنُورِهِ مَن يَشَاءُ وَبَضْرِبُ اللَّهُ الْأَمْثَلَ لِلنَّاسِ وَاللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٣٥﴾﴾

"Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth. The example of His light is like a niche within which is a lamp, the lamp is within glass, the glass as if it were a pearly [white] star lit from [the oil of] a blessed olive tree, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil would almost glow even if untouched by fire. Light upon light. Allah guides to His light whom He wills. And Allah presents examples for the people, and Allah is Knowing of all things."

**24:36** Remembrance of Allah in mosques

﴿فِي بُيُوتٍ أُذِنَ لِلَّهِ أَنْ تَرْفَعَ وَيُذَكَّرَ فِيهَا أَسْمُهُ يُسَبَّحُ لَهُ فِيهَا بِالْغُدُوِّ وَالْآصَالِ ﴿٣٦﴾﴾

"[Such niches are] in mosques which Allah has ordered to be raised and that His name be mentioned therein; exalting Him within them in the morning and the evenings."

**24:37** Objects of distraction

﴿رَجَالٌ لَا تُلْهِهِمْ تِجَارَةٌ وَلَا بَيْعٌ عَن ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَإِقَامِ الصَّلَاةِ وَإِيتَاءِ الزَّكَاةِ يَخَافُونَ يَوْمًا تَتَقَلَّبُ فِيهِ الْقُلُوبُ  
وَالْأَبْصَارُ﴾

"[Are] men whom neither commerce nor sale distracts from the remembrance of Allah and performance of prayer and giving of zakah. They fear a Day in which the hearts and eyes will [fearfully] turn about."

**24:39** Parable of the deeds of unbelievers

﴿وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَعْمَلُهُمْ كَسَرَابٍ بِقِيَعَةٍ تَحْسَبُهُ الظَّمْثَانُ مَاءً حَتَّى إِذَا جَاءَهُ لَمْ يَجِدْهُ شَيْئًا وَوَجَدَ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ فَوَفَّيْتَهُ حِسَابَهُ وَاللَّهُ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ﴾

"But those who disbelieved - their deeds are like a mirage in a lowland which a thirsty one thinks is water until, when he comes to it, he finds it is nothing but finds Allah before Him, and He will pay him in full his due; and Allah is swift in account."

**24:41** Even birds spreading their wings extol Allah's glory

﴿أَلَمْ تَرَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ مَن فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَالطَّيْرِ صَفَّتْ كُلُّ قَدِّ عِلْمِ صَلَاتِهِ وَتَسْبِيحِهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلِيمٌ  
بِمَا يَفْعَلُونَ﴾

"Do you not see that Allah is exalted by whomever is within the heavens and the earth and [by] the birds with wings spread [in flight]? Each [of them] has known his [means of] prayer and exalting [Him], and Allah is Knowing of what they do."

**24:45** Allah has created every living thing from water

﴿وَاللَّهُ خَلَقَ كُلَّ دَابَّةٍ مِّن مَّاءٍ فَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَمْشِي عَلَى بَطْنِهِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَمْشِي عَلَى رِجْلَيْنِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَمْشِي عَلَى  
أَرْبَعٍ خَلَقَ اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ﴾

"Allah has created every [living] creature from water. And of them are those that move on their bellies, and of them are those that walk on two legs, and of them are those that walk on four. Allah creates what He wills. Indeed, Allah is over all things competent."

**SELECTED VOCABULARY**

Had it been [v.10] لَوْ

A lie [v.16] كَذِبٌ

Footsteps [v.21] خُطُوبٌ

Sin [v.29] جُنَاحٌ

To lower [v.30] يَغْضُوا

A lamp [v.35] مِصْبَاحٌ

A glass [v.35] زُجَاجَةٌ

In the mornings [v.36] بِالْغَدُوِّ

In the evenings [v.36] الْآصَالِ

Knows well [v.53] خَبِيرٌ

Conveying [v.54] الْبَلِّغُ

A greeting [v.61] تَحِيَّةٌ



# الفرقان

## 25. Al-Furqan: The Criterion

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

It appears from its style and subject matter that, like Surah al-Muminun, this surah was revealed during the third stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. It consists of 77 verses and the title is also one of the names of the Quran.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ الْمُسَوَّرِ بْنِ مَخْرَمَةَ وَعَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ بْنِ عَبْدِ الْقَارِيِّ أَنَّهُمَا سَمِعَا عَمْرَ بْنَ الْخَطَّابِ يَقُولُ: سَمِعْتُ هِشَامَ بْنَ حَكِيمِ بْنِ حِرَامٍ، يَقْرَأُ سُورَةَ الْفُرْقَانِ فِي حَيَاةِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَاسْتَمَعْتُ لِقِرَائَتِهِ، فَإِذَا هُوَ يَقْرَأُ عَلَى حُرُوفٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، لَمْ يُقْرَأْ بِهَا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَكَيْدْتُ أَسَاوِرُهُ فِي الصَّلَاةِ، فَتَصَبَّرْتُ حَتَّى سَلَّمَ، فَلَبَّيْتُهُ بِرِدَائِهِ، فَقُلْتُ: مَنْ أَقْرَأَكَ هَذِهِ السُّورَةَ الَّتِي سَمِعْتُكَ تَقْرَأُ؟ قَالَ: أَقْرَأَنِهَا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَقُلْتُ: كَذَّبْتَ، فَإِنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَدْ أَقْرَأَنِهَا عَلَى غَيْرِ مَا قَرَأْتُ، فَاثَلَقْتُ بِهِ أَقْوَدَهُ إِلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَقُلْتُ: إِنِّي سَمِعْتُ هَذَا يَقْرَأُ بِسُورَةِ الْفُرْقَانِ عَلَى حُرُوفٍ لَمْ تُقْرَأْ بِهَا، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: «أَرْسِلْهُ، أقرأ يا هِشَامُ» فَقَرَأَ عَلَيْهِ الْقِرَاءَةَ الَّتِي سَمِعْتُهُ يَقْرَأُ، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: «كَذَلِكَ أَنْزَلْتُ»، ثُمَّ قَالَ: «أقرأ يا عُمَرُ» فَقَرَأْتُ الْقِرَاءَةَ الَّتِي أَقْرَأَنِي، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: «كَذَلِكَ أَنْزَلْتُ إِنَّ هَذَا الْقُرْآنُ أَنْزِلَ عَلَى سَبْعَةِ أَحْرَفٍ، فَأَقْرَأُوا مَا تيسَّرَ مِنْهُ» (البخاري 4992)

Both Al-Miswar Ibn Makhramah and Abd al-Rahman Ibn Abd al-Qary are reported to have heard Umar Ibn al-Khattab saying: "I heard Hisham bin Hakim reciting surah Al-Furqan during the lifetime of the Messenger of Allah and I listened to his recitation and noticed that he recited in several different ways which the Messenger of Allah had not taught me. I was about to jump over him during his prayer, but I controlled my temper. When he had completed his Prayer, I gathered his upper garment around his neck and seized him by it and said, "Who taught you this surah which I heard you reciting?" He replied, "The Messenger of Allah taught me it." I said, "You have told a lie, for the Messenger of Allah has taught me it in a different way." So I took him to the Messenger of Allah and said [to the Messenger of Allah], "I heard this person reciting surah al-Furqan in a way which you haven't taught me!" On that the Messenger of Allah said, "Release him, [O 'Umar!] Recite, O Hisham!" Then he recited in the same way as I heard him reciting. Then the Messenger of Allah said, "It was revealed in this way," and added, "Recite, O 'Umar!" I recited it as he had taught me. The Messenger of Allah then said, "It was revealed in this way. This Quran has been revealed to be recited in seven different ways, so recite of it whichever [way] is easier for you." [Bukhari 4992].

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The Quran is the criterion to distinguish right from wrong.
- Wrongdoers are those who reject the Truth, disbelieve in prophets and deny the Day of Judgement and life after death.
- On the Day of Judgement the disbelievers shall regret not adopting the Right Path.

- The wisdom behind sending the Quran through gradual revelation is explained.
- Allah's commandment is given to make Jihad against unbelief with the Quran.
- Characteristics of true believers are described.

## SELECTED VERSES

**25:1** Quran as a warning

﴿تَبَارَكَ الَّذِي نَزَّلَ الْفُرْقَانَ عَلَى عَبْدِهِ لِيَكُونَ لِلْعَالَمِينَ نَذِيرًا﴾

"Blessed is He who sent down the Criterion upon His Servant that he may be to the worlds a warner."

**25:27** Not following the messenger

﴿وَيَوْمَ يَعْصُ الظَّالِمُ عَلَى يَدَيْهِ يَقُولُ يَلَيِّنِي أَخَذْتُ مَعَ الرَّسُولِ سَبِيلًا﴾

"And the Day the wrongdoer will bite on his hands [in regret] he will say, "Oh, I wish I had taken with the Messenger a way."

**25:28** Choosing friends

﴿يَوَيْلَ لِي لَيْتَنِي لَمْ أَخَذْ فُلَانًا خَلِيلًا﴾

"Oh, woe to me! I wish I had not taken that one as a friend."

**25:30** Complaint of the Prophet on the Day of Judgement

﴿وَقَالَ الرَّسُولُ يَا رَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي اتَّخَذُوا هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ مَهْجُورًا﴾

"And the Messenger has said, 'O my Lord, indeed my people have taken this Quran as [a thing] abandoned.' "

**25:31** Enemies of the Prophet

﴿وَكَذَلِكَ جَعَلْنَا لِكُلِّ نَبِيٍّ عَدُوًّا مِّنَ الْمُجْرِمِينَ وَكَفَىٰ بِرَبِّكَ هَادِيًا وَنَصِيرًا﴾

"And thus have We made for every prophet an enemy from among the criminals. But sufficient is your Lord as a guide and a helper."

**25:58** Trust in Allah who is always there

﴿وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى الْحَيِّ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِهِ وَكَفَىٰ بِهِ بُدُوبَ عِبَادِهِ خَبِيرًا﴾

"And rely upon the Ever-Living who does not die, and exalt [Allah] with His praise. And sufficient is He to be, with the sins of His servants, Acquainted."

**25:52** Jihad with the Quran

﴿فَلَا تُطِعِ الْكَافِرِينَ وَجَاهِدْهُمْ بِهِ جِهَادًا كَبِيرًا﴾

"So do not obey the disbelievers, and strive against them with the Quran a great striving."

**25:63-74** Characteristics of the 'Servants of the All-Merciful'

﴿وَعِبَادُ الرَّحْمَنِ الَّذِينَ يَمْشُونَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ هَوْنًا وَإِذَا خَاطَبَهُمُ الْجَاهِلُونَ قَالُوا سَلَامًا﴾ (٢٥) وَالَّذِينَ يَبِيتُونَ لِرَبِّهِمْ سُجَّدًا وَقِيَامًا ﴿٢٦﴾ وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا اصْرِفْ عَنَّا عَذَابَ جَهَنَّمَ إِنَّ عَذَابَهَا كَانَ غَرَامًا ﴿٢٧﴾ إِنَّهَا سَاءَتْ مُسْتَقَرًّا وَمُقَامًا ﴿٢٨﴾ وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا أَنْفَقُوا لَمْ يُسْرِفُوا وَلَمْ يَقْتُرُوا وَكَانَ بَيْنَ ذَلِكَ قَوَامًا ﴿٢٩﴾ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَدْعُونَ مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ وَلَا يَقْتُلُونَ النَّفْسَ الَّتِي حَرَّمَ اللَّهُ إِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ وَلَا يَزْنُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾ وَمَنْ يَفْعَلْ ذَلِكَ يَلْقَ أَثَامًا ﴿٣١﴾ يُضْعَفُ لَهُ الْعَذَابُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَيَخَلَّدُ فِيهِ مُهَانًا ﴿٣٢﴾ إِلَّا مَنْ تَابَ وَآمَنَ وَعَمِلَ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا فَأُولَئِكَ يُبَدِّلُ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ حَسَنَاتٍ ﴿٣٣﴾ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا ﴿٣٤﴾ وَمَنْ تَابَ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا فَإِنَّهُ يَتُوبُ إِلَى اللَّهِ مَتَابًا ﴿٣٥﴾ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَشْهَدُونَ الزُّورَ وَإِذَا مَرُّوا بِاللَّغْوِ مَرُّوا كِرَامًا ﴿٣٦﴾ وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا ذُكِّرُوا بِآيَاتِ رَبِّهِمْ لَمْ يُخِرُّوا عَلَيْهَا صُمًّا وَعُمْيَانًا ﴿٣٧﴾ وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا ﴿٣٨﴾

1. Those who walk on earth with humility
2. Those who, when fools address them (with bad words), they say 'Salam' (i.e. they reply back with mild words of gentleness)
3. Spend the night before their Lord in prostration and standing
4. Those who say: "Our Lord! Prevent us from the punishment of Hell. Verily its torment is ever an inseparable permanent punishment"
5. Those who, when they spend, are neither extravagant nor niggardly, but take a middle course "
6. Those who do not call on other gods with Allah
7. Those who do not kill anyone, except for just cause
8. Those who do not commit adultery
9. Those who do not witness falsehood
10. Those who, if they pass by idle talk, pass by it with dignity
11. Those who, when they are reminded of the verses of their Lord, do not become deaf and blind (to these verses)
12. Those who say: "Our Lord! Bestow on us, from our wives and our offspring, who will be the comfort of our eyes, and make us leaders of the God-fearing"

## SUPPLICATIONS

﴿رَبَّنَا اصْرِفْ عَنَّا عَذَابَ جَهَنَّمَ إِنَّ عَذَابَهَا كَانَ غَرَامًا﴾ (٢٥)

**25:65** "Our Lord, avert from us the punishment of Hell. Indeed, its punishment is ever adhering."

﴿رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا﴾ (٣٨)

**25:74** "Our Lord, grant us from among our wives and offspring comfort to our eyes and make us an example for the righteous."

## SELECTED VOCABULARY

The criterion [v.1]	الْفُرْقَان	A guide [v.31]	هَادِيًا	Has put [v.62]	جَعَلَ
The markets [v.7]	الْأَسْوَاقِ	A helper [v.31]	نَصِيرًا	The torment [v.69]	الْعَذَابُ
	إن [v.10]	All [v.32]	جَمَلَةً	Comfort [v.74]	قُرَّةَ
People [v.18]	قَوْمًا	Minister/helper [v.35]	وَزِيرًا	Leader [v.74]	إِمَامًا
Doomed [v.18]	بُورًا	Salt [v.53]	مِلْحًا	Say [v.77]	قُلْ
Hard [v.26]	عَسِيرًا	Save that/except that [v.57]	إِلَّا		





# الشعراء

## 26. Ash-Shu'ara: The Poets

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed during the middle stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. It consists of 227 verses and its title is taken from verse 224 which disparages poets as not being sincere portrayers of reality.

### VIRTUE

هَذِهِ سُورَةٌ تُعْظِمُ الْقُرْآنَ وَتُكْشِفُ عَجْزَ الْبَشَرِ عَنِ مُعَارَضَتِهِ. (انظر التحرير والتنوير لابن عاشور 90/19)

This surah glorifies the Quran and reveals the human inability to imitate it. [At-Tahrir wa At-Tanwir of Ibn Ashur, 19/90]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah's address to the Prophet Muhammad (saw) that he should not fret himself to death with grief for the people's disbelief.
- Story of Musa, Pharaoh and deliverance of the children of Israel.
- Story of Ibrahim and his arguments against idol worshipping.
- The polytheists and their gods will both be toppled into Hell.
- Stories of Prophets Nuh, Hud, Saleh, Lut, Shu'aib and their people.
- The Quran is revealed in the Arabic language and is not brought by shaytans; as it is neither in their interest nor in their power to do so.
- Satans descend on those slandering sinners who listen to hearsay and are liars.

### SELECTED VERSES

**26:62** Faith and confidence in Allah

﴿قَالَ كَلَّا إِنَّ مَعِيَ رَبِّي سَيَهْدِينِ ﴿٦٢﴾﴾

"[Musa] said, 'No! Indeed, with me is my Lord; He will guide me.'"

**26:78-82** Divine attributes of the Lord of the universe

﴿الَّذِي خَلَقَنِي فَهُوَ يَهْدِينِ ﴿٧٨﴾ وَالَّذِي هُوَ يُطْعِمُنِي وَيَسْقِينِ ﴿٧٩﴾ وَإِذَا مَرِضْتُ فَهُوَ يَشْفِينِ ﴿٨٠﴾ وَالَّذِي يُمِيتُنِي ثُمَّ يُحْيِينِ ﴿٨١﴾ وَالَّذِي أَطْمَعُ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ لِي خَطِيئَتِي يَوْمَ الدِّينِ ﴿٨٢﴾﴾

"Who created me, and He [it is who] guides me. And it is He who feeds me and gives me drink. And when I am ill, it is He who cures me. And who will cause me to die and then bring me to life. And who I aspire that He will forgive me my sin on the Day of Recompense."

**26:89** A sound heart is what ultimately counts

﴿إِلَّا مَنْ أَتَى اللَّهَ بِقَلْبٍ سَلِيمٍ ﴿٨٩﴾﴾

"But only one who comes to Allah with a sound heart."

**26:197** Scholars of Bani Israel

﴿أَوَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُمْ آيَةٌ أَنْ يَعْلَمَهُرُ غُلَمَتُوا بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ﴾

"And has it not been a sign to them that it is recognized by the scholars of the Children of Israel?"

**26:214** Prioritisation in striving for reform

﴿وَأَنْذِرْ عَشِيرَتَكَ الْأَقْرَبِينَ﴾

"And warn, [O Muhammad], your closest kindred."

## SUPPLICATIONS

﴿رَبِّ هَبْ لِي حُكْمًا وَالْحَقْنَ بِالصَّلِحِينَ﴾ ﴿وَأَجْعَلْنِي مِنْ وَرَثَةِ جَنَّةِ النَّعِيمِ﴾

**26:83-85** "My Lord, grant me authority and join me with the righteous. And grant me a reputation of honor among later generations. And place me among the inheritors of the Garden of Pleasure."

﴿وَلَا تُخْزِنِي يَوْمَ يُبْعَثُونَ﴾

**26:87** "And do not disgrace me on the Day they are [all] resurrected."

﴿رَبِّ نَجِّنِي وَأَهْلِي مِمَّا يَعْمَلُونَ﴾

**26:169** "My Lord, save me and my family from [the consequence of] what they do."

## SELECTED VOCABULARY

They were [v.5] كَانُوا	Before [v.49] قَبْلَ	Known [v.155] مَعْلُومٍ
A charge of crime [v.14] ذَنْبٌ	Feeds me [v.79] يُطْعِمُنِي	The regretful [v.157] نَدِيمِينَ
Favour [v.22] نِعْمَةٌ	Gives me to drink [v.79] يَسْقِينِ	Trustworthy [v.178] أَمِينٌ
If you are [v.31] إِنْ كُنْتَ	I am ill [v.80] مَرِضْتُ	Thus [v.200] كَذَلِكَ
Yes [v.42] نَعَمْ	Cures me [v.80] يَشْفِينِ	Another [v.213] آخَرَ
The sorcerers [v.46] السَّحَرَةُ	Sound [v.89] سَلِيمٍ	
	Their brother [v.106] أَخُوهُمْ	



# النمل

## 27. An-Naml: The Ant

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

The surah takes its name from the phrase *wad-in-naml* which occurs in verse 18 and 19 implying that it is a surah in which the story of An-Naml (the Ant) has been related. It consists of 93 verses. The subject matter and the style bear full resemblance with the surahs of the middle Makki period and this is supported by traditions as well.

### VIRTUE

تَمَيَّزُ هَذِهِ السُّورَةُ بِدَعْوَتِهَا لِلِإِعْتِبَارِ بِمُلْكِ دَاوُدَ وَسُلَيْمَانَ عَلَيْهِمَا السَّلَامُ، وَبَيَانِ أَنَّ قُدْرَةَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى فَوْقَ كُلِّ قُدْرَةٍ. (ابن عاشور، التحرير والتنوير، ص 216، جزء 19)

This surah is distinguished by its call to receive admonition from the reign of Dawud (as) and Sulayman (as) and its demonstration of Allah's Omnipotence is above every omnipotence. [At-Tahrir wa At-Tanwir of Ibn Ashur, 19/216]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The Quran is a guide and good news to the believers.
- Prophet Musa's (as) nine miracles were shown to Pharaoh and his people.
- Story of Prophet Sulayman (as) and the Queen of Sheba.
- Stories of Prophets Saleh, and Lut (as) and their people.
- The disbelievers actually doubt Allah's power of creation.
- A sign from the signs, and a scene from the scenes of Doomsday.
- Those who accept guidance do so to their own good and those who reject and go astray, do so to their own peril.

Three character types have been presented in this surah:

- Pharaoh, his chiefs, the nation of Thamud and the people of Prophet Lut (as)
- Prophet Sulayman (as)
- Queen of Sheba

### SELECTED VERSES

**27:4** Importance of perception

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ زَيَّنَّا لَهُمْ أَعْمَلَهُمْ فَهُمْ يَعْمَهُونَ﴾

"Indeed, for those who do not believe in the Hereafter, We have made pleasing to them their deeds, so they wander blindly."

**27:30** Letter of Sulayman to the Queen of Sheba

﴿إِنَّهُ مِنْ سُلَيْمَانَ وَإِنَّهُ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ﴾

"Indeed, it is from Solomon, and indeed, it reads: 'In the name of Allah , the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful.'"

27:59 Initiating a discourse

﴿قُلِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَسَلَامٌ عَلَىٰ عِبَادِهِ الَّذِينَ اصْطَفَىٰ ؕ اللَّهُ خَيْرٌ مِمَّا يَشْرُكُونَ ﴿٥٩﴾﴾

"Say, [O Muhammad], "Praise be to Allah, and peace upon His servants whom He has chosen. Is Allah better or what they associate with Him?"

27:69 Importance of travel

﴿قُلْ سِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَانظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الْمُجْرِمِينَ ﴿٦٩﴾﴾

"Say, [O Muhammad], "Travel through the land and observe how was the end of the criminals."

27:73 Allah's grace

﴿وَأِنَّ رَبَّكَ لَذُو فَضْلٍ عَلَى النَّاسِ وَلَٰكِنَّ أَكْثَرَهُمْ لَا يَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٧٣﴾﴾

"And indeed, your Lord is full of bounty for the people, but most of them do not show gratitude."

27:80-81 Human limitations

﴿إِنَّكَ لَا تَسْمَعُ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَلَا تَسْمَعُ الصُّمَّ الدُّعَاءَ إِذَا وَلَّوْا مُدْبِرِينَ ﴿٨٠﴾ وَمَا أَنْتَ بِهَدَى الْعَمَىٰ عَن ضَلَالَتِهِمْ إِنْ تَسْمَعُ إِلَّا مَن يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا فَهُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿٨١﴾﴾

"Indeed, you will not make the dead hear, nor will you make the deaf hear the call when they have turned their backs retreating. And you cannot guide the blind away from their error. You will only make hear those who believe in Our verses so they are Muslims [submitting to Allah]."

27:89 Allah's generosity

﴿مَن جَاءَ بِالْحَسَنَةِ فَلَهُ خَيْرٌ مِّنْهَا وَهُمْ مِّنْ فَزَعِ يَوْمِذِءِ آمِنُونَ ﴿٨٩﴾﴾

"Whoever comes [at Judgment] with a good deed will have better than it, and they, from the terror of that Day, will be safe."

## SUPPLICATION

﴿رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَدْخِلْنِي بِرَحْمَتِكَ فِي عِبَادِكَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١٩﴾﴾

27:19 "My Lord, enable me to be grateful for Your favor which You have bestowed upon me and upon my parents and to do righteousness of which You approve. And admit me by Your mercy into [the ranks of] Your righteous servants."

## SELECTED VOCABULARY

He changed [v.11] بَدَّلَ	A woman [v.23] امْرَأَةً	Answer [v.56] جَوَابَ
Your bosom [v.12] جَيْبِكَ	The lowest [v.34] أدْلَىٰ	He has chosen [v.59] اصْطَفَىٰ
Ants [v.18] النَّمْلِ	With [v.47] عِنْدَ	The land [v.63] الْبَرِّ
So he smiled [v.19] فَتَبَسَّمَ	Nine [v.48] تِسْعَةَ	The sea [v.63] الْبَحْرِ



# الْقَصَصُ

## 28. Al-Qasas: The Story

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed during the middle stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. It consists of 88 verses. It is primarily devoted to the story of Prophet Musa from the time of his birth to his exile in Madyan, and from his subsequent receiving of the prophethood to the time when he led the Bani Israel out of Egypt.

### VIRTUE

تُعْطِي السُّورَةُ بَيَانًا شَافِيًّا فِي ذِكْرِ الْمَوَاعِظِ وَالْعِبَرِ فِي قِصَّةِ مُوسَى عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ، فِي مَرْحَلَةِ الْوِلَادَةِ، وَالنَّشْأَةِ، وَالزَّوْاجِ، وَالْخُرُوجِ مِنْ بَلَدِهِ وَالْعُودَةَ إِلَيْهَا، وَتَحَقُّقِ وَعْدِ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى. (انظر التحرير والتنوير، الجزء 20، ص. 63)

This surah expounds the exhortations and lessons taken from the story of Musa in his birth, early life, marriage, migration from his country and returning to it, and the fulfillment of Allah's Promise. [At-Tahrir wa At-Tanwir 20/63]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The story of Pharaoh who plotted to kill all the male children of the Israelites. How Allah saved Musa (as) and arranged for him to be brought up in Pharaoh's own household.
- Youth of Prophet Musa (as), his folly of killing a man, his escape to Madyan, his marriage, his seeing a fire at Mount Tur, and his assignment as a messenger.
- The stories of prior generations are related in the Quran as an eye opener for the disbelievers to learn a lesson.
- The Prophets cannot give guidance; it is Allah who gives guidance.
- On the Day of Judgement, disbelievers will wish that they had accepted guidance and become Muslims.
- Allah has not allowed the polytheists to assign His powers to whom they want.
- The story of Qarun, the legendary rich man.
- Allah's commandment that the revelation of the Quran is His mercy; a believer should let no one turn him away from it.

### SELECTED VERSES

**28:20** Importance of striving

﴿وَجَاءَ رَجُلٌ مِنْ أَقْصَا الْمَدِينَةِ يَسْعَى قَالَ يَا مُوسَى إِنَّ الْمَلَأَ يَأْتَمِرُونَ بِكَ لِيَقْتُلُوكَ فَاخْرُجْ إِنِّي لَكَ مِنَ النَّاصِحِينَ﴾

"A man came running from the far side of the city, and said, 'Moses, the authorities are conspiring to kill you, so leave the city. I am one of your well-wishers.'"

**28:34** Importance of eloquence in speech

﴿وَأَخِي هَارُونُ هُوَ أَفْصَحُ مِنِّي لِسَانًا فَأَرْسَلْهُ مَعِيَ رِدْءًا يُصَدِّقُنِي إِنِّي أَخَافُ أَنْ يُكَذِّبُونِ﴾

“My brother Aaron is more eloquent than I am. Send him with me to support me and back me up. For I fear that they will reject me.”

**28:41-42** Leaders of evil

﴿وَجَعَلْنَاهُمْ أَئِمَّةً يَدْعُونَ إِلَى النَّارِ وَيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ لَا يُنصَرُونَ ﴿٤١﴾ وَاتَّبَعْنَاهُمْ فِي هَذِهِ الدُّنْيَا لَعْنَةُ وَيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ هُمْ مِنَ الْمَقْبُوحِينَ ﴿٤٢﴾﴾

“We had made them leaders, but they called people to the Fire; and on the Day of Judgement they will not be helped. We have caused a curse to follow them in this world and, on the Day of Judgement, they will be among the wretched.”

**28:47** Example of a du'a that is not befitting for Muslims to use

﴿وَلَوْلَا أَنْ تُصِيبَهُمْ مُصِيبَةٌ بِمَا قَدَّمَتْ أَيْدِيهِمْ فَيَقُولُوا رَبَّنَا لَوْلَا أَرْسَلْتَ إِلَيْنَا رَسُولًا فَنَتَّبِعَ آيَاتِكَ وَنَكُونُ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿٤٧﴾﴾

“And may not say, if an affliction should befall them on account of their misdeeds: ‘Lord, if only You had sent us a messenger, we might have followed Your message and become believers.’”

**28:56** Guidance is in Allah’s hand

﴿إِنَّكَ لَا تَهْدِي مَنْ أَحْبَبْتَ وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ ﴿٥٦﴾﴾

“You cannot guide whoever you please: it is God who guides whom He will. He best knows those who would accept guidance.”

**28:59** Why towns are destroyed

﴿وَمَا كَانَ رَبُّكَ مُهْلِكَ الْقُرَىٰ حَتَّىٰ يَبْعَثَ فِي أُمِّهَا رَسُولًا يَتْلُوا عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِنَا وَمَا كُنَّا مُهْلِكِي الْقُرَىٰ إِلَّا وَأَهْلُهَا ظَالِمُونَ ﴿٥٩﴾﴾

“Your Lord would never destroy a people until He had sent messengers to their capital cities, reciting to them Our revelations. Nor did We destroy a town unless their people became wrongdoers.”

**28:68** The power of Allah

﴿وَرَبُّكَ يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيَخْتَارُ مَا كَانَ لَهُمُ الْخِيَرَةُ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَتَعَالَىٰ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٦٨﴾﴾

“Your Lord creates whatsoever He wills and chooses whomsoever He pleases. They have no choice. Praise be to God—exalted is He over anything they may associate with Him!”

**28:73** Night and Day

﴿وَمِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ جَعَلَ لَكُمُ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ لِتَسْكُنُوا فِيهِ وَلِتَبْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِهِ وَلِعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٧٣﴾﴾

“In His mercy He has made for you the night and the day, during which you may rest, and seek His bounty and be grateful.”

**28:77** Do not forget your share of this world



﴿... وَلَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَأَحْسِنَ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكَ...﴾

"...Do not forget to take your share in this world.' Be good to others as God has been good to you..."

**28:88** Real existence

﴿... كُلُّ شَيْءٍ هَالِكٌ إِلَّا وَجْهَهُ...﴾

"...Everything will be destroyed except His Face..."

## SUPPLICATIONS

Duas from the story of Musa (as):

**28:16** For forgiveness, after killing a man by mistake

﴿رَبِّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي فَاغْفِرْ لِي...﴾

"My Lord, indeed I have wronged myself, so forgive me..."

**28:17** For a resolve not to aid the criminals

﴿قَالَ رَبِّ بِمَا أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ فَلَنْ أَكُونَ ظَهيرًا لِّلْمُجْرِمِينَ﴾

"He said, 'My Lord, for the favor You bestowed upon me, I will never be an assistant to the criminals'."

**28:21** For safety after escaping from Egypt

﴿فَخَرَجَ مِنْهَا خَائِفًا يَتَرَقَّبُ قَالَ رَبِّ نَجِّنِي مِنَ الْقَوْمِ الظَّالِمِينَ﴾

"So he left it, fearful and anticipating [apprehension]. He said, 'My Lord, save me from the wrongdoing people'."

**28:24** For some special favour when he arrived destitute in Madyan

﴿فَسَقَى لَهُمَا ثُمَّ تَوَلَّى إِلَى الظِّلِّ فَقَالَ رَبِّ إِنِّي لِمَا أَنْزَلْتَ إِلَيَّ مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَقِيرٌ﴾

"So he watered [their flocks] for them; then he went back to the shade and said, 'My Lord, indeed I am, for whatever good You would send down to me, in need'."

## SELECTED VOCABULARY

A far place [v.11] جُنُبٌ	أَنَا [v.30]	Continuous [v.71] سَرَمَدًا
Look after in a good manner [v.12] نَصِيحُونَ	So behold [v.40] فَانظُرْ	Fortune [v.79] حَظٌّ
A tyrant [v.19] جَبَّارًا	Guided ones [v.56] بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ	For whoever [v.82] لِمَنْ
Old man [v.23] شَيْخٌ	Where [v.62] أَيْنَ	Pride [v.83] عُلُوًّا
Eight [v.27] ثَمَنِيَّ	Did righteous deeds [v.67] عَمِلَ صَالِحًا	Will perish [v.88] هَالِكٌ



# العنكبوت

## 29. Al-'Ankabut: The Spider

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed shortly before the migration to Abyssinia during the middle stage of the Prophet's residence at Makkah at a time when the Muslims had to endure extreme persecution. It contains 69 verses and its title is derived from verse 41 which likens the false gods from whom people seek help, to the spider's cobweb.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ صَلَّى فِي كُسُوفِ الشَّمْسِ أَرْبَعَ رَكَعَاتٍ وَأَرْبَعَ سَجَدَاتٍ، فَقَرَأَ فِي الرُّكْعَةِ الْأُولَى بِالْعَنْكَبُوتِ، وَفِي الثَّانِيَةِ بِلُقْمَانَ أَوْ الرُّومِ" (السنن الكبرى للبيهقي 6348)

Aisha (ra) is reported to have said, "The Messenger of Allah (saw) performed the sun eclipse prayer with four ruku (bowing down) and four sujud (prostration) and four times of sujud (bowing down to the ground). In the first rak'ah he read surah Al-Ankabut and in the second one he read Luqman or ar-Rum." [As-Sunan al-Kubra of Bayhaqi 6348]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- Allah tests the believers to see who is truthful and who is a liar.
- Be kind to parents but do not obey them in matters of shirk.
- Those who say: "Follow us, we will bear your burden on the Day of Judgement," are liars.
- The Prophet Nuh (as) admonished his people for 950 years not to commit shirk.
- The Prophet Ibrahim (as) admonished his people not to commit shirk, for which they tried to burn him alive, but Allah saved him.
- The nations of 'Ad, Thamud, Madyan and Pharaoh rejected the messengers of Allah, as a result Allah destroyed them all.
- Parable of those who take protectors other than Allah, is that of the dwelling of a spider and the fact that the weakest of all the dwellings is the dwelling of a spider.

### SELECTED VERSES

29:2 Life is a test

﴿أَحْسِبَ النَّاسُ أَنْ يُتْرَكُوا أَنْ يَقُولُوا ءَامَنَّا وَهُمْ لَا يُفْتَنُونَ﴾

"Do the people think that they will be left to say, "We believe" and they will not be tried?"

29:8 Absolute obedience to parents except...

﴿وَوَصَّيْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ بِوَالِدَيْهِ حُسْنًا وَإِنْ جَاهَدَاكَ لِتُشْرِكَ بِي مَا لَيْسَ لَكَ بِهِ عِلْمٌ فَلَا تُطِعْهُمَا إِلَىٰ مَرْجِعِكُمْ فَأُنْتَبِهُ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ﴾

"And We have enjoined upon man goodness to parents. But if they endeavor to make you associate with Me that of which you have no knowledge, do not obey them. To Me is your return, and I will inform you about what you used to do."

**29:41** Cobweb – the weakest of all dwellings

﴿مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ أَخَذُوا مِنَ دُونِ اللَّهِ أَوْلِيَاءَ كَمَثَلِ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ اتَّخَذَتْ بَيْتًا وَإِنَّ أَوْهَنَ الْبُيُوتِ لَبَيْتُ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٤١﴾﴾

"The example of those who take allies other than Allah is like that of the spider who takes a home. And indeed, the weakest of homes is the home of the spider, if they only knew."

**29:45** The purpose of prayer

﴿اتْلُ مَا أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ مِنَ الْكِتَابِ وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ ۖ إِنَّ الصَّلَاةَ تَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ ۗ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ ﴿٤٥﴾﴾

"Recite, [O Muhammad], what has been revealed to you of the Book and establish prayer. Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing, and the remembrance of Allah is greater. And Allah knows that which you do."

**29:48** Why the Prophet was unlettered

﴿وَمَا كُنْتَ تَتْلُو مِنْ قَبْلِهِ مِنْ كِتَابٍ وَلَا تَخُطُّهُ بِيَمِينِكَ إِذًا لَا رِتَابَ الْمُبْطِلُونَ ﴿٤٨﴾﴾

"And you did not recite before it any scripture, nor did you inscribe one with your right hand. Otherwise the falsifiers would have had [cause for] doubt."

**29:51** The Quran is enough for us

﴿أَوَلَمْ يَكْفِهِمْ أَنَّا أَنْزَلْنَا عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ يُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَرَحْمَةً وَذِكْرَىٰ لِقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٥١﴾﴾

"And is it not sufficient for them that We revealed to you the Book which is recited to them? Indeed in that is a mercy and reminder for a people who believe."

**29:56** Making hijrah to practise Islam

﴿بِعِبَادِي الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِنَّ أَرْضِي وَاسِعَةٌ فَإِنِّي فَاعْبُدُونِ ﴿٥٦﴾﴾

"O My servants who have believed, indeed My earth is spacious, so worship only Me."

**29:58-59** Patience and trust

﴿وَالَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَنُبَوِّئَنَّهُمْ مِنَ الْجَنَّةِ غُرَفًا تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا نِعَمَ أَعْزُ الْعَمَلِينَ ﴿٥٨﴾ الَّذِينَ صَبَرُوا وَعَلَىٰ رَبِّهِمْ يَتَوَكَّلُونَ ﴿٥٩﴾﴾

"And those who have believed and done righteous deeds - We will surely assign to them of Paradise [elevated] chambers beneath which rivers flow, wherein they abide eternally. Excellent is the reward of the [righteous] workers. [They are] those who endured patiently and upon their Lord relied."

29:60 Allah is the Sustainer

﴿وَكَايْنٍ مِّن دَايَةِ لَا تَحْمِلُ رِزْقَهَا اللَّهُ يَرْزُقُهَا وَإِيَّاكُمْ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ ﴿٦٠﴾﴾

"And how many a creature carries not its [own] provision. Allah provides for it and for you. And He is the Hearing, the Knowing."

29:62 Your rizq is in Allah's hands

﴿اللَّهُ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَن يَشَاءُ مِن عِبَادِهِ وَيَقْدِرُ لَهُ إِنَّا لِلَّهِ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٦٢﴾﴾

"Allah extends provision for whom He wills of His servants and restricts for him. Indeed Allah is, of all things, Knowing."

29:64 Reality of life in this world

﴿وَمَا هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا إِلَّا لَهُوٌّ وَلَعِبٌ وَإِنَّ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ لَهِيَ الْحَيَوَانُ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٦٤﴾﴾

"And this worldly life is not but diversion and amusement. And indeed, the home of the Hereafter - that is the [eternal] life, if only they knew."

29:69 The golden rule of striving

﴿وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِينَا لَنَهْدِيَنَّهُمْ سُبُلَنَا وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَمَعَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿٦٩﴾﴾

"And those who strive for Us - We will surely guide them to Our ways. And indeed, Allah is with the doers of good."

#### SUPPLICATION

﴿رَبِّ أَنْصُرْنِي عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْمُفْسِدِينَ ﴿٦٩﴾﴾

29:30 "My Lord, support me against the corrupting people."

#### SELECTED VOCABULARY

We believe [v.2] ءَامَنَّا	Awful [v.40] أَلْصِيْحَةُ	Spacious [v.56] وَاسِعَةٌ
Meeting [v.5] لِقَاءٌ	Spider [v.41] الْعَنْكَبُوتِ	Lofty dwelling [v.58] غُرْفًا
Knowledge [v.8] عِلْمٌ	The weakest/ frailest [v.41] أَوْهَرُ	Carry [v.60] تَحْمِلُ
A thousand [v.14] أَلْفٌ	Almighty [v.42] الْعَزِيزُ	Have sense [v.63] يَعْقِلُونَ
Love [v.25] مَوَدَّةٌ	You deny [v.45] أَكْبَرُ	Life [v.64] الْحَيَوَانُ
Shall emigrate [v.26] مُهَاجِرٌ	Greater [v.45] تَجَحَّدُ	Making pure [v.65] مُخْلِصِينَ
Punishment/torment [v.34] رِجْزًا	Sufficient [v.52] كَفَى	All around them [v.67] حَوْلَهُمْ
Evident [v.35] بَيِّنَةٌ	Taste [v.55] دُوقُوا	Dwelling [v.68] مَتَوًى



# الرُّومُ

## 30. Ar-Rum: The Byzantines

### PERIOD OF REVELATION

This surah was revealed in 615 CE, the year when the Romans were completely overpowered by the Persians, during the time of the Prophet's residence at Makkah. This was the same year in which the Prophet gave permission to the oppressed Muslims to migrate to Abyssinia. The surah consists of 60 verses and its title is taken from the prophecy to the Romans.

### VIRTUE

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا "أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ صَلَّى فِي كُسُوفِ الشَّمْسِ أَرْبَعَ رَكَعَاتٍ وَأَرْبَعَ سَجَدَاتٍ، فَقَرَأَ فِي الرُّكْعَةِ الْأُولَى بِالْعَنْكَبُوتِ، وَفِي الثَّانِيَةِ بَلْقَمَانَ أَوْ الرُّومَ" (السنن الكبرى للبيهقي 6348)

Aisha (ra) is reported to have said, "The Messenger of Allah (saw) performed the sun eclipse prayer with four ruku (bowing down) and four sujud (prostration) and four times of sujud (bowing down to the ground). In the first rak'ah he read surah Al-Ankabut and in the second one he read Luqman or ar-Rum." [As-Sunan al-Kubra of Bayhaqi 6348]

### KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

- The defeat of the Romans (Christians) at the hands of the Persians (pagans) was considered by Makkans a sign of the Muslims' defeat at the hands of Arab unbelievers.
- Prophecy of the Roman victory against the Persians and the Muslim victory against the disbelievers.
- Allah has originated the creation and He will resurrect the dead for Final Judgement.
- Creation of man, his consort, heaven, earth, language, colours, sleep, quest for work, lightning, rain and growth of vegetation – all are signs from Allah.
- Wrongdoers are those who are led by their own desires without real knowledge.
- True faith vs. sects and shirk.
- Commandment to give relatives their due and take care of the poor and travellers in need.
- Mischiefs in the land is due to man's own misdeeds.
- Allah tells the Prophet: "O Prophet! You cannot make the dead hear you."

### SELECTED VERSES

**30:2-6** Prophecy of the Persian defeat at the hands of the Romans

﴿غُلِبَتِ الرُّومُ ﴿١﴾ فِي أَدْنَى الْأَرْضِ وَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ غَلِبِهِمْ سَيَغْلِبُونَ ﴿٢﴾ فِي بَضْعِ سِنِينَ ﴿٣﴾ لِلَّهِ الْأَمْرُ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَمِنْ بَعْدُ وَيَوْمَئِذٍ يَفْرَحُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٤﴾ بِنَصْرِ اللَّهِ يَنْصُرُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٥﴾ وَعَدَّ اللَّهُ لَا تُخْلَفُ ۗ وَاللَّهُ وَعْدُهُ وَلِيَكُنَّ أَكْثَرِ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٦﴾﴾

"The Byzantines have been defeated. In the nearest land. But they, after their defeat, will overcome. Within three to nine years. To Allah belongs the command before and after. And that

day the believers will rejoice. In the victory of Allah. He gives victory to whom He wills, and He is the Exalted in Might, the Merciful. [It is] the promise of Allah. Allah does not fail in His promise, but most of the people do not know."

### 30:8 Self reflection

﴿أَوَلَمْ يَتَفَكَّرُوا فِي أَنفُسِهِمْ ۗ مَا خَلَقَ اللَّهُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا إِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ وَأَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى ۗ وَإِنَّ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ النَّاسِ بِلِقَائِ رَبِّهِمْ لَكٰفِرُونَ ﴿٨﴾﴾

"Do they not contemplate within themselves? Allah has not created the heavens and the earth and what is between them except in truth and for a specified term. And indeed, many of the people, in [the matter of] the meeting with their Lord, are disbelievers."

### 30:17-18 Glorifying Allah in the evening and morning

﴿فَسُبْحٰنَ اللَّهِ حِينَ تُمْسُونَ وَحِينَ تُصْبِحُونَ ﴿١٧﴾ ۖ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ فِي السَّمٰوٰتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَعَشِيًّا وَحِينَ تُظْهِرُونَ ﴿١٨﴾﴾

"So exalted is Allah when you reach the evening and when you reach the morning, And to Him is [due all] praise throughout the heavens and the earth. And [exalted is He] at night and when you are at noon."

### 30:23 Sleep as a sign

﴿وَمِنَ ءَايٰتِهِ مَنَامُكُمْ بِاللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ وَآتِبٰغُكُمْ مِّن فَضْلِهِ ۗ إِنَّ فِي ذٰلِكَ لَآيٰتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ يَسْمَعُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾﴾

"And of His signs is your sleep by night and day and your seeking of His bounty. Indeed in that are signs for a people who listen."

### 30:32 Warning against creation of sects

﴿مِنَ الَّذِينَ فَرَّقُوا دِيْنَهُمْ وَكَانُوْا شِيْعًا كُلُّ حِزْبٍ بِمَا لَدَيْهِمْ فَرِحُوْنَ ﴿٣٢﴾﴾

"[Or] of those who have divided their religion and become sects, every faction rejoicing in what it has."

### 30:39 Contrasting riba and sadaqah

﴿وَمَا ءَاتَيْتُم مِّن رِّبَا لِّيَرْبُوْا فِيْ اَمْوَالِ النَّاسِ فَلَا يَرْبُوْا عِنْدَ اللّٰهِ وَمَا ءَاتَيْتُم مِّن زَكٰوةٍ تُرِيدُوْنَ وَجْهَ اللّٰهِ فَاُولٰٓئِكَ هُمُ الْمُضْعِفُوْنَ ﴿٣٩﴾﴾

"And whatever you give for interest to increase within the wealth of people will not increase with Allah . But what you give in zakah, desiring the countenance of Allah - those are the multipliers."

### 30:41 Man made corruption

﴿ظَهَرَ الْفَسَادُ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ اَيْدِي النَّاسِ لِيُذِيقَهُمْ بَعْضَ الَّذِي عَمِلُوْا لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُوْنَ ﴿٤١﴾﴾

"Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea by [reason of] what the hands of people have earned so He may let them taste part of [the consequence of] what they have done that perhaps they will return [to righteousness]."



30:44 Personal responsibility

﴿مَنْ كَفَرَ فَعَلَيْهِ كُفْرُهُ وَمَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا فَلَا نَفْسِهِ يَمْهَدُونَ ﴿٤٤﴾﴾

"Whoever disbelieves - upon him is [the consequence of] his disbelief. And whoever does righteousness - they are for themselves preparing."

30:50 Traces of the mercy of Allah

﴿فَانظُرْ إِلَىٰ آثَرِ رَحْمَتِ اللَّهِ كَيْفَ يُحْيِي الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا إِنَّ ذَٰلِكَ لَمُحْيِ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٥٠﴾﴾



"So observe the effects of the mercy of Allah - how He gives life to the earth after its lifelessness. Indeed, that [same one] will give life to the dead, and He is over all things competent."

30:52-53 Belief as life

﴿فَإِنَّكَ لَا تَسْمَعُ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَلَا تَسْمَعُ الصُّمَّ الدُّعَاءَ إِذَا وَلَّوْا مُدْبِرِينَ ﴿٥٢﴾ وَمَا أَنْتَ بِهَادٍ الْعُمَىٰ عَنِ ضَلَالَتِهِمْ إِنْ تَسْمَعُ إِلَّا مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا فَهُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿٥٣﴾﴾

"So indeed, you will not make the dead hear, nor will you make the deaf hear the call when they turn their backs, retreating. And you cannot guide the blind away from their error. You will only make hear those who believe in Our verses so they are Muslims [in submission to Allah]"

30:54 Stages of life – youth described as phase of power and strength

﴿اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ ضَعْفٍ ثُمَّ جَعَلَ مِنْ بَعْدِ ضَعْفٍ قُوَّةً ثُمَّ جَعَلَ مِنْ بَعْدِ قُوَّةٍ ضَعْفًا وَشَيْبَةً يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ ﴿٥٤﴾﴾

﴿وَهُوَ الْعَلِيمُ الْقَدِيرُ ﴿٥٤﴾﴾

"Allah is the one who created you from weakness, then made after weakness strength, then made after strength weakness and white hair. He creates what He wills, and He is the Knowing, the Competent."

SELECTED VOCABULARY

The nearest [v.3] أَذْنَىٰ	Originates [v.11] يَبْدُوْا	Affection [v.21] مَوَدَّةٌ
A few (three to nine) بَضْعٌ [v.4]	He repeats it [v.11] يُعِيدُهُ	Your sleep [v.23] مَنَامُكُمْ
On that day [v.4] يَوْمَئِذٍ	The criminals [v.12] الْمَجْرِمُونَ	And your seeking [v.23] ابْتِغَاؤُكُمْ
(They will) rejoice [v.4] يَفْرَحُ	Come to evening [v.15] تُمْسُونَ	The lightning [v.24] الْبَرْقُ
With the help of Allah [v.5] بِنَصْرِ اللَّهِ	When [v.15] حِينَ	Hope [v.24] طَمَعًا
The outside appearance ظَهْرًا [v.7]	Enter the morning [v.15] تَصْبِحُونَ	The highest [v.27] الْأَعْلَىٰ
Populated it [v.9] عَمُرُوْهَا	The living [v.19] الْحَيِّ	Being upright [v.30] حَنِيفًا
	The dead [v.19] الْأَمَيَّتِ	No change [v.30] لَا تَبْدِيلَ

Straight [v.30]	الْقَيِّمِ	Those	أُولَئِكَ	The dead [v.50]	الْمَوْتَى
Sects [v.32]	شِيَعًا	Property (wealth)	أَمْوَالٍ	The deaf [v.52]	الْصُّمَّ
Party [v.32]	حِزْبٍ	[v.39]		The blind [v.53]	الْعَمَى
Rejoicing [v.32]	فَرِحُونَ	His signs [v.46]	ءَايَاتِهِ	Seals [v.59]	يَطْبَعُ
But will [v.34]	فَسَوْفَ	The winds [v.46]	الرِّيَّاحِ		
Enlarges [v.37]	يَبْسُطُ	We took vengeance	فَأَنْتَقَمْنَا		
		[v.47]			