

(THE BEE)

This Sūrah, also revealed in Makkah, carries on the discussion initiated in the preceding Sūrah, extending it to the evidence or the inevitability of the Day of Judgment. It also presents the various creations of **Allah** as testimony to **His** Unity; amongst them the honeybee has been especially-mentioned. This is why the Sūrah is named An-Naḥl.

Section 1

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

- The affair of Allah comes; so do not seek to hasten it. Hallowed be He and Exalted above what they associate.
- He sends down the angels with the Spirit by His Command upon whosoever of His bondsmen He wills: warn that there is no god but I, so fear Me.
- He has created the heavens and the earth with a purpose. Exalted is He above what they associate.
- He has created man from a drop, and lo! He is a disputant open.
- And the cattle! He has created them. For you in them there is warmth and other profits and of them you eat.
- 6. And for you there is a beauty in them as you drive them at the eventide and as you drive them out to pasture.

بِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْزِ الرَّحِيِّهِ

أَنَىٰ أَمْرُ اللَّهِ فَلاَ نَسْنَعْجِلُوهُ شُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَىٰ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿ إِنَّا

مُنَزِلُ ٱلْمَلَتِ كَفَةَ بِٱلرُّوجِ مِنْ آمْرِهِ. عَلَى مَن يَشَآءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ: أَنْ أَنذِرُوۤ أَأَتَ مُلاۤ إِلَنَهُ إِلاَّ أَنَاْ فَأَتَّقُونِ ﴿ كَا عَالَا أَنَاْ فَأَتَّقُونِ ﴿ كَ

خَلْقَ ٱلسَّمَوَنِ وَٱلأَرْضَ بِٱلْحَقِ تَعَلَىٰ الْعَمَالُ الْسَعَوْنِ وَٱلأَرْضَ بِٱلْحَقِ تَعَلَىٰ الله عَمَّا يُسْرَكُون (أَنَّ عَمَّا يُسْرَكُون (أَنَّ عَمَّا يُسْرَكُون (أَنَّ عَمَّا يَسْرَكُون (أَنَّ عَلَىٰ الله عَمَّا يَسْرَقُ الله عَمَّا يَسْرَقُ الله عَمَّا عَلَيْهُ الله عَمَّا فِيهَا وَفَيْ وَمَنْفِعُ وَمَنْفِعُ وَمَنْفَا تَأْتُكُونَ (أَنَّ عَمَا عَلَىٰ الله الله عَلَىٰ الله عَلَى الله عَلَى الله عَ

وَلَكُمْ فِيهَاجَمَالُ حِينَ تُرِيحُونَ وَحِينَ تَنْرَخُونَ ﴿

- And they bear your loads to a city which you could not reach except with great trouble to yourselves; verily your Rabb is Kind, Merciful.
- And He has created horses and mules and asses that you may ride them, and as an adornment; and he creates what you do not know.
- And upon Allah is the direction of the way, and of that is some crooked, and had He willed, He would have guided you all.

وَتَغْمِلُ أَنْفَ الْكَثُمْ إِلَى بَلَدِ لَرْ تَكُونُو أَبَلِنِهِ إِلَّا بِشِقِ ٱلْأَنْفُسِ إِنَ رَبِّكُمْ لَرَ أُوثُ رَبِيمُ لَرَ أُوثُ رَجِيمٌ (*)

وَٱلْخَيْلَوَٱلْبِعَالَ وَٱلْحَمِيرَلِثَرَّكَبُوهَا وَزِينَةً وَيَعْلُقُ مَا لَانَعْلَمُونَ ﴿ ﴾

وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَصْدُ السَّكِيلِ وَمِنْهَا جَمَا إِزُّولُوسَا اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهِ اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّالِمُلَّا اللَّا اللَّهُ اللَّلَّا اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ ا

Secrets of Revelation

The Makkans, in an attempt to refute the possibility of the Doom, would often comment mockingly: 'Where is the Doom against which we are cautioned everyday?' Allah declares that they need not be anxious, for His Decree has come to pass. Indeed, within a short span of time the Makkans were repeatedly defeated and humiliated at the hands of the believers. Many of them were killed while many taken captives. And when Makkah fell to the believers, all of the Makkans became slaves but were freed due to the clemency of the Holy Prophet SAW. Keeping in view the material resources, this could never have been thought of. Similarly, if viewed with reference to the life span of earth, the Final Day is not far away, as Allah's last Prophet'SAW and the last Book have already arrived. Now the land is inhabited by the last Ummah which will not be followed by any new community. So now is the turn of the Judgement Day. Therefore, it is announced that while Allah's Grasp hovers over their heads, these infidels must not make haste for it. They should rather avail the given respite. When Allah, Who is Exalted and above any shortcomings has pronounced the advent of the Day, it is bound to come. The Words of Allah are true. No one can claim any partnership in His Powers, nor can anyone claim to be equal whereby he can influence His Decisions. They used to object that they were people of dignity, honour and experience and could not possibly accept a youth born and raised before their very eyes as their leader,

while people had always followed the elderly. Let them know that Allah may confer leadership upon whoever He may please.

Age and Leadership.

The ability to lead is not determined by age but by the knowledge blessed by Allah. And it is by His Choice as to whom He selects for Prophethood and Messengership. In the same way Wilayah is not determined by age and it is not essential that only an elderly person can be an accomplished Wali. Rather it is Allah's Light which He may instil in any bosom He may please. Whenever Allah blessed a Prophet-AS with His Revelation, the first Message conveyed by him to the people was the Unity of Allah. The Prophets and Messengers AS, approximately 124000 in number, were all men of exemplary characters and wisdom raised at different places in various times. Is it not amazing that inspite of the difference in their social and geographical conditions they all emphasised upon and invited towards two concepts. Firstly, the Unity of Allah; that He Alone is worthy of worship. Secondly, abstinence from His disobedience, fearing His Reckoning. Is it not logically impossible for so many people to agree on a lie? This consensus itself is a very great evidence on His Unity. The partners ascribed to Allah by these infidels are a creation themselves, whereas He is the Creator of the universe and everything therein and has imbedded this system with abundant wisdom. How can a creation be partners with the Creator? So Allah is pure of all that these infidels fabricate. His Omnipotence is such that He has made a drop of foul fluid the seed of mankind. And it is this seed which He fashions and develops into a masterpiece, that is, a human being. Is it then not strange that this creation dares to argue in His Being and in His Attributes? In no way does it befit a human being!

It is **He Who** has created the cattle to serve mankind and they benefit from the furs, hides and even the bones of these animals. Some of these animals are the stock-in-trade for people while others are a source of food. Besides, they are also a source of pride and satisfaction for the owner, when taken out for grazing in the morning and returning home thereafter. Even in the contemporary modern world man is as much dependant on cattle and other natural creations as the Arabs were in those days. Today, farming is as lucrative and honourable a business as it was in primitive times.

Man uses some of these animals to carry his loads from one place to another, particularly in difficult terrain. Indeed your **Rabb** is extremely Kind and has created horses, mules and asses for you to ride on and traverse all types of

He has planned to create for you in the future. This prophecy of the Quran includes all the inventions made in this field todate and all those yet to come. An invention is nothing but various substances combined through various processes, the knowledge of which is given by the Most Merciful Himself. And all the reasoning so far given highlights the one and only straight path of Allah's obedience. Yet people opt for crooked ways rather than His Path. Had He willed He could have forced everyone to follow the right track, but this was against His Wisdom. After showing the straight path, he left it to the individual to follow or reject it.

Section 2

- 10. He it is Who sends down from the heaven water for you, from which is drinking and from which are trees from which you pasture your herds.
- 11. He grows thereby the corn and olive and date palms and grapes and all manner of fruit. Verily in that is a Sign for a people who ponder.
- 12. And He has subjected to you the night and the day and the sun and the moon, and the stars are subjected by His Command. Verily in that are Signs for a people who understand.
- 13. And He has subjected to you what He has multiplied for you on the earth of various kinds. Verily in that is a Sign for a people who receive admonition.
- 14. And He it is Who has subjected to you the sea that you may eat of it fresh flesh, and bring forth out of it ornaments you wear.

هُوَالَّذِى أَنزَلَ مِنَ ٱلسَّمَآءِ مَآءً لَكُوْمِنْهُ شَرَابٌ وَمِنْهُ شَجَرُّ فِيهِ ثَيبِمُونَ ﴾

يُنْبِتُ لَكُمْ بِهِ الزَّرْعَ وَالزَّيْنُونَ وَالنَّحِبلَ وَالْأَغْنَبُ وَمِن كُلِ الثَّمَرَ بَانِي فَالنَّ لَابَ لَقَوْمِ بِنَعَكَ مُرُونَ لَا اللَّهِ

وَسَخَرَلَكُمُ الْبَلُ وَالنَّهَارَ وَالنَّصَوَ الْفَعَرُ وَالنُّجُومُ مُسَخَّرَتُ بِأَمْرِوْ إِلَى فِي ذَلِكَ لَابَنْ إِلْفَوْمِ بَعْفِلُونَ (إِلَّا) لَابَنْ إِلْفَوْمِ بَعْفِلُونَ (إِلَّا)

وَمَاذَرَأَلَكُمْ فِ ٱلأَرْضِ مُغَنَّلِفًا ٱلْوَنَهُ إِنَّ فِ ذَلِكَ لَآبَةً لِقَوْمِ بَذَكَ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآبَةً لِقَوْمِ بَذَكَ رُونَ ﴿

وَهُوَالَّذِى سَخَّرَالِبَحْرَ لِنَا حَكُلُوا مِنْهُ لَحْمُاطَرِيَّا وَتَسْتَخْرِجُوا مِنْهُ حِلْبَةً تَلْبَسُونَهَا * And you see ship ploughing therein, and it is in order that you may seek of **His** Grace and that perhaps you may be grateful.

- 15. And He has cast firm mountains on the earth lest it moves away with you, and rivers and paths that perhaps you may be directed.
- And also landmarks; and by stars they are guided.
- 17. Is One Who creates as one who cannot create? Will you not be admonished?
- 18. And if you would count the favours of Allah you could not compute them; verily Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.
- And Allah Knows what you keep secret and what you want to make known.
- Those upon whom they call besides Allah have not created anything and are themselves created.
- Lifeless are they, not alive; they know not when they will be raised up.

وَتَرَى ٱلْفُلُكَ مَوَاخِرَ فِيهِ وَإِنْ بُتَغُواْ مِن فَضَلِهِ وَلِنَبْتَغُواْ مِن فَضَلِهِ وَلِعَلَّاكُمُ مِنَا مُرُونَ اللهِ

وَأَلْفَىٰ فِي ٱلْأَرْضِ رَٰوَسِي أَن نَمِيدَ بِكُمْ وَأَنْهَٰذَا وَسُمُلَالَعَلَكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ ﴿ إِنَّا

وَعَلَىٰمَنَتُ وَبِالنَّجِيمِ هُمْ يَهْمَدُونَ ١

أَفَمَن يَغَلُقُ كُمَن لَّا يَغَلُقُ أَفَلَا تَذَكَّرُونَ (١٠)

وَإِن نَعُكُدُوا نِعْمَةَ اَللَّهِ لَا تَحْصُوهَا ۗ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ لَغَفُورٌ رَّحِيهٌ ﴿

وَاللَّهُ يُعَلَّمُ مَا تُسِرُّونَ وَمَاتُعَلِنُونَ اللَّهِ

وَٱلَّذِينَ يَدَّعُونَ مِن دُونِٱللَّهِ لَا يَخَلُقُونَ عَنَا وَهُمْ يُخْلَقُونَ ﴿ إِنَّى الْمَالِيَ

أَمُواَتُ عَيْرُ أَخِياً أَوْ وَمَا يَشَعُرُونَ أَيَّانَ يُبْعَثُونَ ﴿ أَيَّانَ يُبْعَثُونَ ﴿

Secrets of Revelation

He is so Powerful and Merciful that He purified the water through evaporation into its best form and let it pour down as rain. You use it for drinking as well as to grow green pastures for cattle grazing. He causes the crops and all type of greenery including fruit-laden trees to grow, such as olives, dates and grapes, and a variety of other fruits. It is an evidence of His Omnipotence for those who contemplate over how He pours the same water on initially the same type of soil to yield a wide variety of harvests, fruits and flowers. It is He Who has, for your comfort and facilitation, placed the days and the nights at your service. The sun, the moon and the stars have been appointed to serve you by His Command. And these are carrying out the assigned tasks diligently. Not only do they cause the alternation of days and nights but also the changes in seasons to facilitate growth as well as the ripening of fruits and crops. Given a sound mind these observations constitute ample evidence.

A little reflection upon how the earth alone produces such an extensive variety of things unfolds the Magnificence of the Creator. He has even deputed the seas to serve you. Not only do they cause rainfall but also provide fresh white meat in the form of fish. The seabeds are laden with treasures of precious pearls and stones, used in jewellery and other ornaments. And see how ships and boats split the seas and rivers to swiftly carry you to far-off places in search of better opportunities for livelihood and trade. All these rewards demand gratitude from you. Also observe the construction of the earth; He has installed heavy mountains on it lest it should begin to wobble and make life miserable for you. He has stored snow on the mountain peaks for you, making them a source of cascades and riverlets which join to form rivers. He has fashioned the mountain passes for you, and has made the landmarks for identification of the routes. He has also created the stars for you to find the direction.

Now think, can anyone being itself a creation, having made no contribution to the creation of anything, claim to be an equal, in any sense of the word, to the One Who has created everything?

Even if you employ all the knowledge you possess, you cannot count the favours **He** has bestowed upon you. And **He** is indeed Forgiving and Merciful, so seek **His** Forgiveness and Mercy through repentance over your past errors, so that you may be reformed for the future. Also be mindful of the fact that nothing is concealed from **Him**, neither your overt, nor the covert self. The partners you ascribe to **Him**, whom you call out in the hope of some benefits or whom you fear as you should have feared **Him**, let it be clear that they themselves are **His** creation. They have not created even a speck and are helpless before **Him**, not even knowing the time of reckoning when they will have to face **Him** directly.

Section 3

- 22. Allah of you all is One Allah; so those who do not believe in Ākhirah – their hearts are perverse and they are stiffnecked.
- 23. Allah undoubtedly Knows what they keep secret and what they want to make known; verily he loves not the stiff-necked.
- 24. And when it is said to them: what is it that your Rabb has sent down? They say: fables of the ancient.
- 25. As a result they will bear their loads in full on the Day of Judgment and some of the loads of those whom they have led astray without any knowledge. Lo! Vile is the load they shall bear!

إِلَنْهُكُمْ إِلَنَهُ وَخِدُّ فَٱلَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِٱلْآخِرَةِ قُلُومُهُم مُّنْكِرَةً وَهُمَ مُّسْتَكَبِرُونَ ﴿

لَاجَرَمَ أَنَ ٱللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ مَا يُسِرُّونَ وَمَا يُعْلِنُونَ إِنَّهُ. لَا يُحِبُ ٱلْمُسْتَكَبِرِينَ (اللَّهُ)

> وَإِذَافِيلَ لَهُمُ مَّاذَآ أَنْزَلَ رَبُّكُوْ قَالُوٓ الْسَنطِيرُ ٱلأَوَّلِينَ ۞

لِيَحْمِلُوٓا أَوْزَارَهُمْ كَامِلَةً يَوْمَ ٱلْفِينَعَةِ وَمِنْ أَوْزَارِ ٱلَّذِينَ يُضِلُّونَهُ مَ بِغَيْرِعِلْهِ اَلاسَنَاءَ مَا بَرِرُونَ لَيْ

Secrets of Revelation

When the Creator and the Sustainer of such a vast universe is One, certainly He Alone is worthy of worship. And all those who do not believe in His Unity have depraved Qulūb, drenched in disbelief.

The Health and Illness of Qalb

Becoming heedless of Allah's Magnificence and associating hopes with others that is polytheism – is indeed the most fatal disease from which a human Qalb can suffer. On the contrary its health is indicated by love for Allah. So when the Qalb is afflicted, the person becomes arrogant, as shown by the conduct of the disbelievers. And undoubtedly Allah Knows each and every thing about them, all that they do overtly or covertly. Let it be known that Allah never approves of the arrogant. They not only have gone astray themselves but when

someone asks them what has been revealed, they simply dismiss it calling it a collection of fables repeated through times by different people claiming Prophethood. In this way they misguide people and add the burden of their misguidance to that of their own sins. This load, which they are accumulating so ignorantly, is indeed loathsome.

Section 4

- 26. Surely there plotted those before them, but Allah came upon their structures from their foundations, so the roof fell upon them from above them, and the torment came to them whence they perceived not.
- Then on the Day of Judgment

 He will disgrace them and say:
 where are My associates
 regarding whom you used to
 cause cleavage? Those who are
 given knowledge will say: verily
 the disgrace and ill-hap to-day
 are upon the infidels.
- 28. Those whom the angels cause to die while they are wronging themselves, and only then they proffer submission: we have not been working any evil. Yea! Allah is the Knower of what they have been doing.
- So enter the portals of Hell as abiders therein. Vile is the abode of the arrogant.
- 30. And when it is said to those who observe Taqwa what is it that your Rabb has sent down? They say: that which is good. For those who do good is good in

قَدْمُ كَرَالَذِينَ مِن فَيْلِهِ وَفَأَفَ اللهُ مُنْكَنَّهُ مِنَ الْفَوَاعِدِ فَخَرَّ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّفَّفُ مِن فَوْفِهِ فَرُوانَكُهُ مُ الْعَدَابُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ لَانِيَا

ثُمَّرُ بَوْمَ ٱلْفِيَّمَةِ ثُمَّرِيهِ وَيَقُولُ أَيْنَ شُرَكَآءِ تَكَالَّذِينَ كُنْتُمْ تُثَنَّقُونَ فِيمِمَ قَالَ ٱلَّذِينَ أُونُوا ٱلْمِالْمَ إِنَّ ٱلْخِرِيَ آلِيوَمَ وَٱلشَّوَءَ عَلَى ٱلْكَنْفِرِينَ ﴿ إِنَّ الْحِرْقَ الْشَوَءَ عَلَى ٱلْكَنْفِرِينَ ﴿ إِنَّ الْمَعْرِينَ الْيُومَ وَٱلشَّوَءَ عَلَى ٱلْكَنْفِرِينَ ﴿ إِنَّ

ٱلَّذِينَ نَنُوَفَنْهُمُ ٱلْمَلَيِّكَةُ طَالِعِىۤ أَنفُسِهِمٌ فَأَلْفَوُا السَّلَةِ مَاكُنَّانَعَمَلُ مِن سُوَءً بَكَنَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمُ إِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ (﴿) إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمُ إِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ (﴿)

فَاذْ خُلُوا أَبُوْبَ جَهَمَّ خَلِيدِ فَيَّا فَلَيِفُسَ مَنْوَى الْمُتَكَبِّرِينَ ﴿ اللَّهِ مَنْوَى الْمُتَكَبِّرِينَ فَيَا الْمُتَكَبِّرِينَ ﴿ اللَّهِ مَنْوَى الْمُتَكَبِّرِينَ اللَّهِ الْمُتَكِبِينَ اللَّهِ مَنْ اللَّهِ مَنْ اللَّهِ مَنْ اللَّهِ مَنْ اللَّهِ مِنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللّلِيفِ مَنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللّلِيلُولُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنَا اللَّهُ مُنْ اللّمُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللْمُعُمُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللّ

ٱلْأَخِرَةِ خَيْرٌ وَلَنعُمَ دَارُ ٱلْمُتَقِينَ ٢

the world, and better still is the dwelling in the Akhirah. Excellent is the dwelling of those who fear **Him**.

- 31. Gardens everlasting which they shall enter, streams running beneath, theirs then shall be whatsoever they will. Thus does Allah recompense those who fear Him.
- 32. Those whom the angels take away while they are goodly, saying: peace be upon you, enter the Garden for what you have been working.
- 33. Do they await that the angels should come to them or the Command of your Rabb should come? Thus did those before them. Allah wronged them not, but they were used to wrong themselves.
- 34. Then there befell them the vices of what they had worked, and then surrounded them that at which they had been mocking.

جَنَّتُ عَدْنِ بَدْ خُلُونَهَا تَجْرِى مِن تَحْيِمَا ٱلْأَنْهَا لَهُمُّ لَكُمْمُ فِيهَا مَا يَشَاءُ وَنَ كَذَ اللَّهِ يَجْزِى ٱللَّهُ ٱلْمُنْقِينَ لَيْهَا

ٱلَّذِينَ لَنُوَفِّنَهُمُ ٱلْمَلَتَ كَفَهُ طَيِّبِينٌ يَقُولُونَ سَلَامُّ عَلَيْكُمُ ادْخُلُوا الْجَنَّةَ بِمَاكُنتُ مِنْعَلْمَلُونَ (اللَّهِ)

هَلْ يَنظُرُونَ إِلَّا أَن تَأْنِيهُمُ ٱلْمَكَيِّكَةُ أَوْيَأْقِيَ أَمْرُرَيِكَ كَذَلِكَ فَعَلَ ٱلَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِ عَ وَمَاظَلَمَهُمُ ٱللَّهُ وَلَكِن كَانُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ لَيْنًا

فَأَصَابَهُ مُ سَيِّنَاتُ مَاعَمِلُواْ وَحَاقَ بِهِم اللهُ فَأَصَابَهُ مِهِم اللهُ مَاكَانُواْ بِهِ مِسْتَهْزِءُ وَتَ اللهُ ا

Secrets of Revelation

For the protection of their own vested interests and authority, these infidels do not miss a chance to mislead others. History bears witness that the preceding infidel nations too had left no stone unturned in opposing the truth. They went to great lengths in planning and amassing all possible material resources against it but could not fight their predestined fate. Allah devastated them and uprooted them completely. The roofs of their dwellings collapsed on them and the very structure made for protection proved to be the cause of their

destruction. The doom seized them in such a way that they stood aghast at what was going on. This was what they faced in this world while the real torment awaits them in the Akhirah. On the Day of Resurrection, they will be disgraced and humiliated before the entire creation. They will be asked where their deities are and what about their status and affluence, by dint of which they had opted to disobey and deny Allah adamantly?

Seeing this state, the righteous will comment that it is the limit of disgrace and torment to which the disbelievers have been subjected to, as their real sequel. Those who died on disbelief will resort to submission on that occasion, asserting that they had only done what seemed right to them and are even now ready to comply with any instructions. They will be reminded that none of their actions ever escaped Allah's Notice, so deceiving Him was impossible. Therefore, they must enter the portals of Hell corresponding to their punishments and abide therein for ever. It is indeed a morbid place to which their arrogance has led them.

Rewards Promised for Propagation of Islam

When the same question, that is, 'what is revealed by their Rabb?' is put to the righteous, they say that their Rabb's Message is indeed perfect and guarantees the temporal as well as the eternal success. For such people and for those who convey Allah's Word to His creation is promised bliss in this world in the form of Divine Pleasure and a tranquil Qalb while their Akhirah is undoubtedly the best, a beautiful abode. Here propagation of Islam means to convey His Message to His creation, complemented with personal adherence. Otherwise, promoting rituals in the name of propagation of Islam is neither correct nor will it bring the promised rewards.

Jannah is that beautiful and everlasting place which has luxuriant gardens with rivers flowing beneath. The dwellers of Jannah will find everything therein that they may desire. This is how **Allah** rewards the righteous.

Admission to Januah upon Death refers to that State whereby a Grave is said to be a Garden of Januah

Those who die as believers pass over their Arwah to the angels in a state of purity peculiar to Islam. The angels greet them and tell them that they are only doing their duty by terminating their vital connection with this world while Jannah awaits them. So they must enter it in straight-away as a reward of their obedience to Allah.

Do the infidels await the angels of death or a Divine Decree that they do not pay attention to and embrace Islam? This was the state the preceding infidels had been in, whereby they died as disbelievers and failed to repent. They wronged their own selves, for **Allah** had never been unkind to them. **He** blessed them with intellect and understanding and sent **His** Prophet^{AS} and the Book inviting them to the truth. Unfortunately it were their own wrongdoings, which stood in their way. At last the darkness of their sinful conduct prevailed and they were seized by the Doom they used to mock at.

Section 5

- 35. And those who associate say: had Allah willed we would not have worshipped anything besides Him, neither our fathers; nor would we have forbidden anything apart from Him. This did those before them. Nothing is then on the Messengers excepting a plain preaching.
- 36. And assuredly We have raised in every community a Messenger saying; worship Allah and avoid the devil. Then of them were some whom Allah guided, and of them were some upon whom the straying was justified. So travel about the land and behold how has been the end of the beliers.
- 37. If you are solicitous for their guidance, then verily Allah does not guide whom He sends astray and for them there are no helpers.
- 38. They swear by Allah the most solemn of oaths that Allah would

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ أَشْرَكُوا لَوْشَاءَ اللَّهُ مَاعَبُدُنَا مِن دُونِهِ عِن شَيْ وِخَتَنُ وَلَاّءَابَ آؤُنَا وَلَاحَرَ مَنَا مِن دُونِهِ مِن شَيْ وَكَذَالِكَ فَعَلَ الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِ خُ فَهَلْ عَلَى الرُّسُلِ إِلَّا الْبَلَغُ الْمُثِينُ فَيَكَ الرَّسُلِ إِلَّا الْبَلَغُ الْمُثِينُ فَيْ

وَلَقَدَ بَعَثْنَافِ كُلِ أُمَّةٍ رَّسُولًا أَنِ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهُ وَاجْتَنِبُوا الطَّنْفُوتَ فَمِنْهُم مِّنْ هَدَى اللَّهُ وَمِنْهُم مِّنْ حَقَّتْ عَلَيْهِ الضَّلَالَةُ فَسِيرُوا فِ الْأَرْضِ فَانْظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَاتَ عَنِيبَهُ الْمُكَذِيِنَ ﴾ الْمُكَذِينَ ﴾

إِن تَعْرِضَ عَلَىٰ هُدَدِيهُمْ فَإِنَّ ٱللَّهَ لَا يَهْدِى مَن يُضِلُّ وَمَا لَهُ مِن نَّصِرِينَ ﴾

وَأَقْسَمُوا بِاللَّهِ جَهْدَ أَيْمَنِهِمْ لَا يَبْعَثُ اللَّهُ

not raise him who dies. Yea! It is a promise on **Him** incumbent, but most men know not.

- 39. This will be in order that He may manifest to them that wherein they differ, and that those who disbelieved should come to know that they had been liars.
- 40. Our only saying unto a thing, when We intend it, is that We say to it: Be; and it becomes.

مَن يَمُوتُ بَلَىٰ وَعَدًا عَلَيْهِ حَقًا وَلَنكِنَ أَحُثُرُ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ ال

لِيُبَيِّنَ لِّهُمُ ٱلَّذِى يَخْتَلِفُونَ فِيهِ وَلِيَعْلَمَ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوۤ الْنَهُمُ كَانُوا كَنذِبِينَ (أَنَّ)

> إِنَّمَاقَوْلُنَا لِثَى ءِ إِذَّا أَرَدْنَهُ أَن نَّقُولَ لَهُ كُنُ فَيَكُونُ ﴿ ﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Just look at the reasoning of the polytheists. They argue that if Allah does not approve of their conduct and does not wish that others be worshipped besides Him, why does He not stop them? For if He did, they certainly would never be able to worship anyone else. Neither they nor their ancestors could have ever innovated any ritual against His Wish, by declaring things as forbidden or permissible. This means that their deeds enjoy His Approval, they claim. Allah says that there is nothing new about what they babble. The infidels of the past argued in the same manner and were destroyed. It is such a foolish argument that it is not worthy of an answer. All the Prophets-AS are assigned the mission to convey His Message with clarity, leaving no ambiguity whatsoever just as the Holy Prophet saw is doing. Here the argument raised by the polytheists has been ignored because the very philosophy of man's creation is to inform him on the likes and dislikes of Allah and then give him respite to act. Now whatever path he chooses, he shall face its consequences. Had this information been withheld from him, it would have been improper. Therefore, this aspect of Divine Guidance was never ignored.

Every Nation was Blessed with Prophets'AS or their Representatives

Allah appointed His Messengers and Prophets' for every nation and region, be it in Asia or Europe, in the Western or the Eastern countries. Every nation received Divine Guidance through Allah's Messengers or their emissaries. They taught people that only Allah has the right to be worshipped. Any

worship besides **Him** is Satanic and must be avoided under all circumstances. So some fortunate people were blessed with guidance who still had in them some capacity to accept the truth. And those with diseased Qulūb who had sunk deep into sin, remained deprived. This vast earth testifies to the ill fate suffered by such disbelievers and a journey through it provides the living evidence.

Prophet's AS Efforts too Fail where Sick Qalb Loses the Capacity for Guidance

Now even if the Holy Prophet Now, driven by his profound desire to reform, exerts all his efforts, the infidels shall not find guidance. This is because by indulging in sin they have severed their ties with Allah. Now He will never bless them with guidance, nor can anyone help them. These unfortunate people swear upon Allah to mislead others that He would never raise the dead. He will certainly do it as He has promised, for He always honours His Word. But this reality is not conceived by the majority of people. The dead will surely be raised, and these dissident will know the real worth of their arguments and what the truth really was. Moreover, it will also prove the mendacity of non believers and the authenticity of Allah's Word. Certainly all this will not at all be difficult for Allah for He need not employ any workers for a task. It is only His Command that prevails. Whenever He plans to do something, He Commands it to Be, and it is there at once.

Section 6

- 41. And those who have emigrated for the sake of Allah after they had been wronged, We will surely settle them well in the world, and the wage of the Akhirah is greater, if they but knew.
- They are those who bear in patience, and in their Rabb they trust.
- And We sent not before you any but men to whom We Revealed;

وَالَّذِينَ هَاجَكُرُوا فِي اللَّهِ مِنْ بَعَدِ مَاظُلِمُوا لَنُبُوِنَنَهُمْ فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةٌ وَلاَّجْرُ الْاَحِرَةِ أَكْبُرُ لُوَ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿

ٱلَّذِينَ صَبَرُوا وَعَلَىٰ رَبِهِ مْ يَتُوكَ لُونَ اللَّهُ

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَامِنَ قَبْلِكَ إِلَّارِجَا لَانُوجِي إِلَيْهِمْ

so ask you the people of the Admonition if you know not.

44. We sent them with evidences and Scriptures. And We have sent down unto you the Admonition that you may expound unto mankind what has been revealed towards them and that haply they may reflect.

45. Do then those who have plotted vices feel secure that Allah will not sink them into the earth or that the torment may come from whence they know not?

46. Or, that He will not seize them in their going to and fro? So that they cannot escape.

47. Or, that He will not seize them by giving them a fright? Verily your Rabb is Kind, Merciful.

48. Have they not observed the things Allah has created? Shadows thereof turn themselves on the right and the left bowing themselves before Allah, and they are lowly.

49. And before Allah bows itself whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth of the living creatures and also the angels; and they are not stiffnecked.

50. They fear their Rabb above them and do what they are Commanded. مَنْ عَلَوْا أَهْ لَ الذِكْرِ إِن كُنْتُ مُلَا تَعَامُونَ ﴿ اللَّهِ مَنْ اللَّهِ مَنْ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ مَا اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّهُ اللّلْمُلَّا اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ ا

لِلنَّاسِ مَانُرِّلَ إِلَيْهِمْ وَلَعَلَّهُمْ يَنْفَكَّرُونَ ٢

أَفَا مِنَ ٱلَّذِينَ مَكُرُوا ٱلسَّيِّعَاتِ أَن يَغْسِفَ اللَّهُ بِهِمُ ٱلأَرْضَ أَوْ يَأْلِينَهُ مُ ٱلْعَدَابُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ الْإِنَّى لَا يَشْعُرُونَ الْإِنَّى

أَوْيَأَخُذَهُمْ فِي تَقَلُّبِهِمْ فَمَاهُم بِمُعْجِزِينَ ١

أَوْ يَأْخُذُهُمْ عَلَىٰ تَغَوُّفُ فَإِنَّ رَبَّكُمْ لَرَهُ وَكُ زَجِهُ لَكُ

أَوْلَعْ بِرَوَا إِلَىٰ مَاخَلَقَ اللهُ مِن ثَنَى وِ يَنْفَيَّوُّا ظِلَالُهُۥ عَنِ الْيَعِينِ وَالشَّمَآبِلِ سُجَّدُ اللّهِ وَهُمُودَ خِرُونَ ﴿ إِنَّ

وَيِلَهِ يَسْجُدُ مَافِي السَّمَوَتِ وَمَافِ الْأَرْضِ مِن دُابَةِ وَالْمَلَتِ كَةُ وَهُمْ لَا يَسْتَكْبِرُونَ لَإِنَّا

يَخَافُونَ رَبُّهُم مِن فَوقِهِ م وَيَفْعَلُونَ مَا يُؤْمَرُونَ ١٩٤٠

Secrets of Revelation

Those who migrated from their native land, only for Allah's sake, driven by oppression, will be rewarded with an excellent dwelling in this world, while their eternal rewards are far too great. They remained steadfast and having employed all possible means, relied completely on Allah. In other words, they did not adopt any such measures that might have involved Allah's disobedience. This Ayah highlights the merits of Hijrah (Migration) and the rewards promised to the emigrants.

Migration and the Promised Rewards

Migration means to leave ones native land. Migration "in the Cause of Allah" here means migrating for His Pleasure and for safeguarding one's faith. This Ayah recounts the emigration by the Companions RAU, whereby they had to leave for Abyssinia and later Madinah to escape oppression of the Makkans. Laying down sincerity as a prerequisite, Allah has promised dual rewards, a peaceful abode in this world and a fabulous requital in the Akhirah. So they were blessed with a safe haven in Madinah where they established an Islamic State. The Companions-RAU were not only defended against the aggression of the non believers, but were also blessed with victory over them. The Conquest of Makkah was followed by the conquest of the entire Arab world. Later, in the Companions'-RAU era emerged the greatest empire in the history of mankind, extending from China to Spain and from Siberia to Africa. Allah blessed the poor and destitute Companions-RAU with affluence. All these historical events endorse their sincerity and deep devotion and are open to everyone. And as for the eternal rewards, Allah has clearly declared His Approval of the Companions and in these words: "Radhi Allah 'Unhum" (Allah is Pleased with them). So they were blessed with peace, safety, honour, power, rule, dignity, affluence and such glory that as long as the world lasts people will speak of their greatness. Perservence and reliance on Allah, as mentioned here indicates that inspite of the imminent perils of migration and the hardships in its trail, the righteous stoodfast on their cause, relying entirely on Allah's Support. Had there been no risks involved, there would not have been any occasion to display patience or trust in Allah and everyone would have emigrated. The initial hardships were indeed the trial and criteria for sincerity.

Migration and its Categories

Imām Qartabi has listed the following categories together with their specific Commandments: (1) Migrating from Dar-al-Kufr to Dar-al-Islam. When the former is strife torn or one's honour is at stake or when it is difficult to discharge religious obligations, it becomes obligatory to migrate. Such a migration became mandatory during the Prophetic era and will continue to remain so until the end of time, subject to one's capacity. In this context, migration by the Muslims from Pakistan to settle in America, Britian or Europe cannot be justified. They can neither fulfil their religious obligations easily, nor find Haläl food nor peace in those faithless societies having no sense of honour and totally devoid of moral values. (2) It is mandatory to migrate from a place where practice of innovations is widespread, and especially where our pious precursors are insulted, unless a person is capable of curbing such evils. (3) It is also imperative to shift from a place where the unlawful is predominant, for the pursuit of lawful is obligatory for every Muslim. (4) Migration is permissible from a place where one is threatened of physical torture by the enemy. (5) It is also permissible when the climate and environments of a place threaten health and (6) A place constantly threatened by robbers and dacoits is allowed to be migrated from.

All the above fall under Hijrah. Then there are different categories of travelling listed as meritorious, for example, travelling to sites of admonition, for performing Hajj, for trading and for Jihād etc. Even visits to relatives fall under this category. The merit is, of course, subject to the condition that all such journeys are undertaken within the limits laid down by Shari'ah.

The infidels object how a human being, who eats, drinks and sleeps, can be appointed as a Prophet-AS? And that this honour should have been conferred upon a creation more exalted than a human, such as an angel.

The Human Aspect of Prophets^{-AS}

The argument presented by the infidels has been reversed in sequence by the ignorants. The infidels acknowledged the human aspect but refuted Prophethood while the ignorant today believe in the opposite. (May Allah protect us!) Allah reassures the Holy Prophet hat the arguments of the infidels are totally weightless. He may ask any savant having the knowledge of the preceding Divine Religions, to know that through time it was always a human being who was deputed as Prophet has a nation. It were the Prophets

who were honoured with Divine Scriptures and clear miracles. The Holy Prophet saw may inquire from the scholars of the preceding Divine Religions if

he is unaware. This suggestion to the Holy Prophet-SAW endorses conformance. Those who do not have the knowledge must learn it from the knowledgeable. Today those who deny conformance, in fact practise it unknowingly.

Conformance

Conformance merely means that non scholars must seek expert opinion from the scholars and act accordingly. Obviously they will have to trust a scholar, as even if the underlying reasoning is explained to them, they may not understand it. However, those who have the capability to derive reasonings given in Qurān and the Sunnah over different issues, and who are also aware of the opinions of the learned harbingers of Islam can follow their won deductions. But for matters which call for Ijtehād, they too will have to refer to a Mujtahid.

Conformance to One Person

The question may be asked why should only one scholar be followed in Shari'ah. The answer is that if every person is allowed to follow every other scholar, he will tend to look for such verdicts from everyone which suit him. To fulfil one's desires in the name of Shari'ah is itself forbidden. That is why it is recommended to follow only one Mujtahid. Beyond that, conformance is neither mandatory nor is it of any consequence. It is totally uncalled for to split into groups on the basis of conformance.

To Understand the Quran, Ḥadīth is a Pre-requisite

Allah says "O Prophet SAW! We have also revealed Our Book to you, that you may explain it to people." In other words, just as the text of the Book has been conveyed through the Holy Prophet SAW, the task of explaining it is also assigned to him. Only he is authorized to interpret and explain the Quran. Even the experts of Arabic language cannot determine the meanings of the Quran by relying on grammatical manipulations. If only the rival factions today could gather on those meanings which have been given by him, the evil of sectarianism will disappear. Every word and action of the Holy Prophet SAW is indeed the interpretation of the Quran, as endorsed by 'Allamah Shatbi RUA in his Muwāfiqāt. The Qurān asserts "And verily you are of a high and noble disposition.68.4". Hadhrat 'Ayeshah Şiddiqah-RAU asserts that all his actions were the illustration and explanation of the Quran. Certain injunctions are not even mentioned in the Quran, but were revealed unto his sacred heart and he conveyed them to the people. Or sometimes his Ijtehād was corrected or changed through Revelation, which alludes to the fact that the sayings of the Holy Prophet SAW bear a similar honour and exaltation as the Quran, and

their denial amounts to denying the Qurān itself. Allah asserts that people must ponder carefully and acknowledge his status for their own benefit. No one should be oblivious to the dire consequences of the misconduct. Are they not afraid that Allah might cause them to sink into the earth, or inflict them with an epidemic they have never dreamed of? For instance, a number of towns in the United States of America sank or more recently the outbreak of Aids, which has killed millions of people and is yet incurable.

Or that Allah may seize them suddenly during their daily activities, in punishment beyond their control. Or they are terrified in different ways so that they may repent out of fear, for Allah is indeed Relenting and Merciful. In other words, even if they repent out of fear they will qualify for His Mercy, which is indeed a great favour.

It is common observation how the shades of **His** creations, the mountains and the trees, incline from right to left in obedience and submission to **Allah**'s designs, as if prostrating before **Him**. And all the living beings of the earth and the heavens, be it an animal or an angel, prostrate before **Him**. The angels inspite of their grand status remain in a state of awe in **His** Mighty Court and obey **Him** every moment in every detail.

Section 7

- Allah has said: take not you to two gods; He is only one God. So dread Me, Me Alone.
- 52. His is whatsoever is in the heavens and the earth, and unto Him obedience is due perpetually; will you then fear any other than Allah?
- 53. And whatsoever of favours is with you is from Allah; then when distress afflicts you, to Him you cry out.
- 54. Then when He removes the distress from you, forthwith a party of you associates others with their Rabb.

وَمَايِكُم مِن نِعْمَةٍ فَعِنَ ٱللَّهِ ثُعَرَ إِذَا مَسَّكُمُ ٱلضَّرُّ فَإِلَيْهِ تَجْنَرُونَ ۞

ثُمَّرَ إِذَا كَشَفَ الطُّرَّ عَنكُمْ إِذَا فَرِيقٌ مِنكُمْ بِرَبِيمٍ يُشْرِكُونَ ۞

- 55. That they may show ingratitude for what We have bestowed upon them. Enjoy then, presently you shall know.
- 56. And they appoint for what they know not a portion of what We have provided them. By Allah! You shall surely be questioned regarding what you have been fabricating.
- And they appoint for Allah daughters Hallowed be He!
 And for themselves what they desire.
- 58. And when there is announced unto any of them a female, his face remains darkened the whole day and is wroth inwardly.
- 59. Sulking from the people because of the evil of what has been announced unto him: shall he keep it with ignominy or bury it in the dust? Lo! Vile is what they judge!
- 60. For those who are disbelievers in the Akhirah is an evil similitude. And for Allah is the sublime similitude, and He is the Mighty, the Wise.

لِيَكُفُرُوا بِمَا ءَالَيْنَهُمُ فَنَمَتَعُوا فَسَوْفَ مَعْلَمُونَ ١

وَيَجْعَلُونَ لِمَا لَايَعْلَمُونَ نَصِيبُا مِّمَّا رُزَفْنَهُمُّ تَأْلَلَهِ لَتُسْتَلُنَّ عَمَّا كُنْتُ مِّ تَفْتَرُونَ ۞

> وَيَجْعَلُونَ لِلَّهِ ٱلْبَنَاتِ شُبْحَنَنَهُ وَلَهُم مَّايَشْنَهُونَ (*) مَّايَشْنَهُونَ (*)

وَإِذَا بُشِرَاً مَدُهُم بِالْأُنثَىٰ ظَلَ وَجُهُهُ مُسْوَدًا وَهُوَكَظِيمٌ ﴿ ﴿ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ ال

يَنَوَرَىٰ مِنَ ٱلْفَوْدِ مِن سُوَّهِ مَا بُشِرَيِدٍ: أَيْسُ كُهُ، عَلَىٰ هُونٍ أَمْ يَدُسُهُ فِي ٱلنُّراَبُ ٱلْاسَاءَ مَا يَعْكُمُونَ (إِنَّ)

لِلَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِٱلْآخِرَةِ مَثَلُ ٱلسَّوْةِ وَيَنْهِ ٱلْمَثَلُ اللَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِٱلْآخِرَةِ مَثَلُ السَّوْةِ وَيَنْهِ ٱلْمَثَلُ اللَّاعَلَى وَهُوَ ٱلْمَذِيرُ ٱلْمَكِيمُ اللَّ

Secrets of Revelation

Allah warns not to take other gods besides Him as He Alone deserves to be worshipped and feared. The obedience pledged to anyone in defiance of His Commands in the hope of gaining something or out of fear tantamounts to worship; even if such focus of hopes is not called god. To Him belongs all that lies within the heavens and the earth, He creates all the causes, some of which are attributed to others than Him. At times people entirely rely upon causes.

Both these attitudes are incorrect. Rather, a constant and devoted worship and an unconditional obedience of Allah is the right course of action. It is certainly not correct to believe in Allah and at the same time obey others out of fear. What is there to be afraid of when He is the Bestower of all blessings. It is human nature that whenever distress grips man it is before Allah Alone that he wails and cries; but when Allah alleviates the hardship he attributes his relief and shows his gratitude to others than Allah, considering them as partners with Him. Such attitude blatantly denies Allah's Generosity and Munificence. However, let such ingrates enjoy this temporal life for a few days. They will soon find out the extent of their transgression.

Allah vows by His Magnificence to reprise all those who assign portions from the wealth given by Allah to deities, which are no more than myths and suppositions. These people senselessly say that the angels are Allah's daughters, whereas He is far too exalted and free of such needs. Ironically they do not prefer daughters for themselves and wish to have only sons. Whenever a polytheist finds out that a daughter is born to his wife, his face becomes grim with sorrow, so much so that he avoids confronting people considering it a matter of disgrace. He weighs the options whether to let her live, or to bury her alive to avoid the slur of being father of a daughter. This indeed is an evil decision as it challenges His Creativity. Even todate people who are issueless are desperate and those with daughters consider themselves to be in great turmoil. They forget that they too were given birth by a woman who was also someone's daughter. It is Allah's Decree and Will to create however it pleases Him. Certainly there is no harm in wishing for a son, but to consider a daughter as inferior or a burden is indeed a grave sin. Rather Allah promises Jannah for the upbringing of daughters. This negative attitude towards daughters is only displayed by those who do not believe in the Akhirah, and they are indeed in an extremely sorry state. And all Glory and Magnificence belongs to Allah, Who is Mighty and Prevailing, as well as the Wisest. He may give daughters, sons or both to whoever He Pleases. He may also keep some issueless, for none of His actions are without wisdom. Whatever He creates and wherever He places it is always in keeping with His Prudence.

Section 8

61. And if Allah were to seize mankind for their wrongdoing, not a living creature He would

وَلَوْيُوَابِخِذُ اللَّهُ ٱلنَّاسَ بِظُلْمِهِمِ مَا مَرَكَ عَلَيْهَا مِن دَآيَةِ وَلَكِن يُوَخِرُهُمْ إِلَىٰ أَجَلِ مُسَمِّى فَإِذَا جَآءَ أَجَلُهُمْ leave on it, but He defers them to an hour and when their hour comes they cannot delay it a moment nor anticipate it.

- detest, and their tongues utter the falsehood that unto them shall be good; undoubtedly unto them shall be the Fire, and they shall be hastened thereto.
- 63. By Allah! We have sent Messengers to communities before you, then Satan made their own works fairseeming to them, so he is their patron today and to them shall be a torment afflictive.
- 64. And We have not sent down the Book to you save in order that you may expound to them that whereon they differ; and as a guidance and Mercy to a people who believe.
- 65. Allah has sent down from the heaven water, then He revives the earth by it after its death; verily in that is a Sign for a people who listen.

لَا يَسْتَغْخِرُونَ سَاعَةً وَلَا يَسْنَفْدِمُونَ ١

وَجَعَلُونَ لِلَهِ مَا يَكُرُهُونَ وَتَصِفُ أَلْسِنَتُهُ وُ ٱلْكَذِبَ أَنَ لَهُ وُ ٱلْمُسَنَّى لَاجَرَمَ أَنَّ لَمَتُمُ ٱلنَّارَوَأَنَّهُمْ مُّفَرُهُونَ اللَّهِ أَنَّ لَمَتُمُ ٱلنَّارَوَأَنِّهُمْ مُّفَرُهُونَ اللَّ

تَاللَّهِ لَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَ آلِكَ أُمْسِمِينَ فَبَلِكَ فَزَيْنَ خَمُ ٱلشَّيْطَنُ أُعْمَلَهُ مُ فَهُوَ وَلِيَّهُمُ ٱلْيَوْمَ وَ لَحُمُدُ عَذَابُ آلِيدٌ ﴿ إِنَّيْ ﴾

وَمَآ أَنْزَلْنَاعَلَيْكَ ٱلْكِتَنَبَ إِلَّا لِتُسَيِّنَ لَمْتُهُ ٱلَّذِى ٱخْنَلَفُواْفِيةٌ وَهُدَى وَرَحْمَةً لِقَوْدٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ

وَاللَّهُ أَنْزُلَ مِنَ ٱلسَّمَاءِ مَاءَ فَأَخْيَا بِهِ ٱلْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا أَوَاللَّهُ أَنْزُلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَخْيَا بِهِ ٱلْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا أَ

DESTURES

Secrets of Revelation

These polytheists are so wicked that if Allah decides to seize them instantly for their beliefs and actions there would remain not one of them alive on the face of this earth. They will surely be seized once the respite is over. And when the appointed Hour arrives nobody will be able to hasten or delay it. They are so impudent as to suggest for Allah something which they

Undoubtedly, for such people awaits the Fire, to the intensity of which they are constantly contributing, for every polytheistic action and belief adds more fuel to this inferno. Allah, the Magnificent, is a witness to the fact that even before the Holy Prophet New Whenever Messengers New were sent unto nations, Satan made the act of opposing them look very commendable and attractive. He convinced his followers that it was an act of great chivalry and indeed they were doing a great job. Consequently they qualified to share the fate of their mentor, and will ultimately be subjected to a painful doom together.

The Status of Hadith

O' Beloved Prophet' The Book has been revealed to you so that you may convey the truth explicitly and guide those who have strayed from the right beliefs and practices, towards the right path. And those who have accepted Islam may attain Divine Mercy. In other words, it is being reiterated that the explanation of the Divine Book and the determination of its meanings is a Prophetic function. This explanation and interpretation by the Holy Prophet' is termed as Hadīth. Its denial is synonymous to the denial of guidance and deprives one of His Mercy.

Allah's Omnipotence is like an open book. It is He Who sends down the rain and enlivens the soil. This downpour turns the barren soil into a meadow. The coming of spring alone provides ample evidence of His Omnipotence for those who listen and ponder carefully.

Section 9

- 66. Verily there is a lesson for you in the cattle; We give you to drink of what is in their bellies, between the dung and blood: milk, pure and pleasant to swallow for the drinkers.
- 67. And also a lesson is for you in the fruits of date palms and the grapes of which you take a liquor and a goodly provision, verily in that is a Sign for a people who understand.

وَإِنَّ لَكُرُ فِي ٱلْأَنْعَنَدِ لَعِبْرَةً نَّشُفِيكُمْ مِثَا فِي بُطُونِهِ ، وَإِنَّ لَكُرُ فِي الْآلِكُ وَالْمَا مَا يَغَا لِلنَّسْرِبِينَ اللَّا مِنْ بَيْنِ اللَّهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ اللَّهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ اللَّهُ مِنْ بَيْنَ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللْمِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللْمُعُلِمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ الللْمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعُلِمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُعُمِنِ مُنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمِنْ اللِمُعِلَمُ اللِمُعُلِمُ اللْمُعِلَمُ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمِ مُنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعْمِي مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ الللْمُعُمِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعُلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعُلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعُلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعْلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعْلِمُ اللْمُعُمُ مِنْ اللْمُعُلِمُ مِنَا مِنْ اللْمُعُلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعُلِمُ مِنْ اللْمُعُلِمُ مُعِم

وَمِن ثَمَرَنِ ٱلنَّخِيلِ وَٱلأَغْنَبِ لَنَّخِدُونَ مِنْهُ سَكَرًا وَرِزْقًا حَسَنًا إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَا يَهَ لِفَوْمِ يَعْقِلُونَ لَا إِنَّى لِفَوْمِ يَعْقِلُونَ لَا إِنَّا

- 68. And your Rabb inspired the bee saying: take you for yourself houses of hills, of trees, and of what they erect.
- 69. Then eat you of all manner of fruits and tread the ways of your Rabb made easy. There springs forth from their bellies a drink varied in colours; in it is a healing for mankind; verily in that is a Sign for a people who reflect.
- 70. Allah has created you; then He takes your souls. Of you are some who are brought back to the meanest of age, so that they know not anything after having knowledge; verily Allah is Knowing, Wise.

وَأَوْحَىٰ رَبُّكَ إِلَى ٱلغَّلِ آنِ ٱغَيْدِى مِنَ ٱلِجَبَالِ بُيُوتًا وَمِنَ ٱلشَّجَرِوَمِمَّا يَعْرِشُونَ ﴿ ﴿ ﴾

ثُمُّ كُلِي مِن كُلِ ٱلشَّعَرَاتِ فَآسُلُكِي سُبُلَ رَبِّكِ ذُلُلاً يَخْرُجُ مِنْ بُطُودِنهَ اشْرَابُ تُحْفَلِفُ ٱلْوَنُهُ . فِيهِ شِفَآةٌ لِلنَّاسِ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَا يَدُ لِفَوْدٍ بِنَفَكَرُونَ (إِنَّهُ) شِفَآةٌ لِلنَّاسِ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَا يَدُ لِفَوْدٍ بِنَفَكَرُونَ (إِنَّهُ)

وَاللّهُ حَلَفَكُوْ ثُوْرَبُنُوفَ لَكُمْ وَمِنكُو مَن بُرَدُ إِلَّا أَوْدَلِ ٱلْعُمُرِ لِكَنْ لَا يَعْلَمَ بَعْدَ عِلْمِ شَيْنًا إِنَّ اللّهَ عَلِيدٌ فَيَدِيرٌ لَيْ

Secrets of Revelation

Allah draws man's attention towards the anatomy of cattle. Their bellies contain dung and blood. But a part of these materials is turned unto milk. There exists such a mechanism in their bodies, which separates clean and delicious liquid from blood and dung secreted as a blessing for the consumer. This unique fluid is both a perfect diet and a medicine. Nature has prescribed it as the very first diet of every new born. The Holy Prophet slave also recommended its intake, followed by the prayer "O Allah! Place Barakah in it for us and increase it further".

Delicious and Good Food

This Ayah also indicates that good and delicious food is not contrary to piety provided it is earned lawfully and is free of extravgance. Think about the wide range of fruits, for instance. From dates and grapes alone you make a variety of intoxicating drinks and delicious eatables. In other words, man has not only been blessed with good things to eat but has also been given the sense to blend

the natural ingredients into a variety of dainty recipies, nourishing foods and healing medicines. This sense of improvising has not been given to any other creation, and all of them consume food in its raw form. These Ayat were revealed in Makkah prior to the prohibition of alcohol. They do not, however, permit alcohol. Rather, the point here is that man at times misuses Allah's provisions for the sake of pleasure, but such misuse does not negate His Favours. Besides, even though alcohol had not been prohibited so far, this Ayah does distinguish good provisions from it by mentioning that the best of foods are not intoxicating.

Take a look at the honeybee, for instance; how Allah has inspired it to construct its hive on lofty treetops, or on mountains high above the polluted environment. This is to ensure that the honey is prepared in the most hygienic and perfect manner. The expression "inspired her" indicates that a honeybee excels all other insects in comprehension and understanding. And a study of its lifestyle does disclose a superb system. All matters rest in the hands of the queen bee who has authority over all matters. It is a bee relatively much bigger in size and lays thousands of eggs within a short span of time. She then assigns tasks to the hatching bees. Some of them are appointed as guards and the rest as workers. Some male bees are also there but only as if to adorn the population. Amongst the workers some collect different materials from plants and produce wax, while others make beautiful hexagonal cells. Generally each honeycomb comprises twenty to thirty thousand wax-cells, identical in measurement and structure. Some of the bees guard the eggs and nurture the little ones that hatch out of them. While others gather the nectar from flowers and fruit, which after going through their digestive system transforms into honey. This itself is the nourishment for the bees and their young ones, and in it Allah has also kept taste as well as cure for mankind. Honey is a very nourishing and delicious food and at the same time a high quality medicine. The bees on guard not only protect their hive from intruders but also make sure that if a bee from their hive sits on filth, it is arrested and presented before the Queen, who commands its immediate execution. This is a general overview, and what the research reveals boggles the human mind. How Allah has inspired into this tiny creature the sense to collect nectar from colourful flowers and a variety of fruits and then to follow complicated paths made easier for it by Allah! It is very difficult for others to follow its course. It makes approximately eighty thousand trips between a flower and its hive. And it is amazing that it does not go to any other hive, and even if it does the guardian bees of that swarm do not allow it in. Besides, nature does not allow

the nectar to be totally consumed by the bee. It is excreted as honey, in a wide range of colours and flavours wherein is cure for mankind.

What is meant by Different Colours?

A mention of 'a drink varied in colours, in it is a healing for mankind' the different colours of honey probably means that honey prepared from the extracts of a particular flower becomes the perfect cure for the ailment in which that flower is beneficial. In medical biographies we come across an account of a learned physician who had classified human ailments into eight categories and suggested cure by eight different kinds of herbs. He then planted each type of herb in a separate garden such as *Banafshah* (the violet) for treating ailments involving congestion, planted *Malathi* (liquorice) for cough etc, and reared honeybees separately in these gardens. When the flowers blossomed on these plants the bees prepared honey from those in their own area. The honey so prepared proved to be the best medicine for that particular ailment.

An Excellent Method of Treatment

According to the latest medical research, the Russian experts issued a Medical Journal which recommended that a glass full of lukewarm milk with honey must be taken before going to bed. Even if it is taken during the day, one must rest for a while in the bed. This, they claim, is a sure cure for cardiac diseases in particular and many other ailments in general.

Honey is also a cure for optical diseases. The acnes and boils when coated with it are cured. If a cotton swab dipped in honey is applied to an aching tooth, the pain is relieved. In short, **Allah** has made honey a source of treatment and in this lies a lesson for all those who ponder, as well as a great evidence of **His** Magnanimity. The honeybee, according to Ḥadīth, enjoys a unique status. It is reported that all the flies will be sent to Hell to be a source of nuisance for its dwellers, except the honeybee.

Medicine and Treatment

It is also evident here that to seek cure for an ailment through medicine is prescribed by nature. The Companions are reported to have once asked the Holy Prophet whether the medicines or the Quranic cures they sought for ailments altered the fate, meaning that the ailment is cured. He told them that adopting these means is also predestined by Allah. The reports that some Sūfi saints did not like the medical treatment is related to a state of spiritual

ecstasy. According to Shari'ah, treating an ailment is not only permissible but also mandatory.

Wahi. Ilqā' and Kashf etc

It is established that when Allah plans to bestow something, He also grants the associated knowledge of natural processes. Here the word Wahi (Revelation) has been used in the meaning of Ilqa, which means to inspire a thought quietly into a heart. While in terminology Wahi means to reveal a Divine Word unto a Prophet AS. These forms of bestowing knowledge are also employed for animals. Man, the most superior of all creations in terms of awareness, is blessed with Prophethood and honoured with Divine Revelation, due to which he became a source of conveying His Commands to his fellow human beings. From amongst the devoted adherents of a Prophet-AS, He chooses some and grants the capacity to attain knowledge. Then He blesses them with 'Ilm Laduni (the inspired knowledge). The varying forms of this knowledge are Ilham, Ilqa'and Kashf. A Prophet AS never errs in understanding the Revelation. A Wali's Ilhām, Ilqā' or Kashf too is never wrong as it is from Allah. However, a Wali does not possess the same level of understanding as a Prophet^{-AS}, so the knowledge of a Wali depends upon the teachings of the Prophet AS. If it is contrary to these, it will be rejected; obviously being misunderstood.

It is Allah Who has created you, and it is He Who gives you health, youth, power, authority and ultimately death. Besides, some of you live to touch those limits of old age where life remains but all other faculties weaken away. So having once been knowledgeable, you reach a stage of ignorance. Know, therefore, that the Knowledge and the Power belong to Allah Alone.

Section 10

71. And Allah has preferred some of you over some others in provision; then those who are preferred are not going to hand over their provision to those whom their right hands possess, so as to be their equal in that respect. Do they then deny the Favour of Allah?

وَاللَّهُ فَضَّلَ بَعْضَكُوعَلَ بَعْضِ فِي الزِّرْفِ فَمَا الَّذِبَ فُضِّلُوا بِرَآدِى رِزْفِهِ مْ عَلَى مَا مَلَكَ تَ اَيْمَنَهُمْ فَهُمْ فِيهِ سَوَآهُ أَفَينِعْ مَهِ اللّهِ يَجْمَدُونَ (الله عَمَدُونَ (الله عَمَدُونَ (الله عَمَدُونَ (الله عَ

- 72. Allah has made for you of yourselves spouses, and from your spouses He has made for you sons and grandsons; and He has provided you with clean foods. Do they then believe in falsehood and disbelieve in Allah's Favour?
- 73. And they worship, besides Allah, what does not and cannot own for them any provision from the heavens and the earth.
- Do not propound then similitudes for Allah; verily
 Allah Knows and you do not.
- 75. Allah Propounds a similitude:
 there is a bondman enslaved
 who has not power over
 anything, and there is one whom
 We have provided from
 Ourselves with goodly
 provision and he spends out of it
 in private and public; can they
 be equal? Praise be to Allah.
 But most of them do not know.
- 76. And Allah propounds a similitude: there are two men, one of them dumb who has no power over anything, and is a burden to his master, wherever he despatches him he brings to him no good; is he equal to him who commands justice and is himself on the straight path?

وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَجُا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَزْوَجِكُم بِنِينَ وَحَفَدَهُ وَرَزَقَكُم مِنَ الطَّيِنَتِ أَفِيا لِنَطِلِ بُوْمِثُونَ وَسِعْمَتِ اللَّهِ هُمْ يَكُفُرُونَ لِآبِاً

وَيَعْبُدُونَ مِن دُونِ ٱللَّهِ مَا لَا يَعْلِكُ لَهُ مَ رِزُقًا مِنَ ٱلسَّعَنُواتِ وَٱلْأَرْضِ شَيْتًا وَلَا يَسَتَطِيعُونَ لَا يُرَكِيُ

فَلَاتَضْرِبُواٰلِلَهِ ٱلْأَمْثَالَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ وَأَنتُمْ لَانَعُلَمُونَ لِإِنَّا

﴿ صَرَبَ اللّهُ مَشَلًا عَبُدُا مَعَلُوكًا لَا يَفْدِرُ عَلَى شَيْءٍ وَمَن رَّزَفْنَهُ مِنَّارِزُفًا حَسَنَا فَهُوَيُمِهِ فُومِنَهُ مِنْ أُوجَهُمْ الْإِفَا مَلْ يَسْنَوُرُكَ لَهُ مَدُيلَةً بِثَلُ أَكْثَرُهُمْ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ الْ

وَضَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلًا زَجُلَيْنِ الْحَدُهُ مَا أَبْكُمُ لَا يَقْدِرُ عَلَىٰ شَت و وَهُوَكَ لَّى عَلَىٰ مَوْلَىٰهُ أَيْسَمَا بُوَجِهِهُ لَا يَأْتِ عِنْ يَرْهَلْ يَسْتَوِى هُوَوَمَن يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَهُوعَلَىٰ صِرَٰطٍ مُسْتَفِيعٍ (١٠) يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَهُوعَلَىٰ صِرَٰطٍ مُسْتَفِيعٍ (١٠)

Secrets of Revelation

Now ponder over your own creation, which carries extraordinary evidence of monotheism. Allah did not create people equal in terms of affluence. Just as they are different in physical and mental capacities, so are they in monetary status. Some can afford to hire servants, possess luxuries and are rich enough to spend as they wish. Rather they serve as a means of livelihood for many others.

Then there are others who are not so privileged and are employed as labourers, servants and slaves. Does any affluent master accept his slave as an equal, or can he make him equal? Even if he gives away many things to his slave, these will still belong to the master. And if the wealth is given after freeing the slave, he may become equally rich, but no longer remains a slave. So why these polytheists accept their idols and deities, when a creation can never be equal to its Creator? How preposterous is their claim and what a sheer dissidence it is over Allah's Grace, without any logic!

The Economic System of Islam

This Ayah indicates that being rich or poor is not accidental. Rather, the system of human life is based on this classification. For instance, people vary in intelligence and knowledge. A person knows how to build a wall but has no money. The other has the money but does not know how to build it. So both make a deal; the mason builds the wall, while the rich pays him the wages. Acting within this system they are also being tried for ability and virtue. But when the rules of this system were violated and the means of earning a livelihood were monopolised by a few persons or establishments, they invented oppressive ways of amassing wealth for themselves and making others dependant on them. This system is known as capitalism. Tired of this oppressive system, communism or socialism was launched to substitute it. The oppressed heard an appealing slogan that wealth would now be distributed equally amongst everyone. But once trapped by the system they discovered that it was even worse than capitalism. For despite of being poor in a capitalistic society a person managed to maintain his human dignity, which was snatched away by socialism, reducing man to a machine. All his belongings, his house, even his children were declared as the State property. He neither had any freedom of expression, nor the right to raise a voice against anything which bothered his conscience. The slightest expression of frustration by anyone would be taken as a rebellion and he will be put to death in the most brutal manner.

Islam has blessed mankind with an ideal economic system, perfectly balanced between the cruel and the foolish manipulations of capitalism and socialism. The Islamic System abolishes interest and gambling in order to uproot illegal investments. It prohibits hoardings, and all other practices which artificially create inflation and shortages. This ensures that no person or group usurps the wealth of the other. Above all, Islam enjoins charity on every affluent Muslim. It also distributes the inheritance of the deceased amongst his heirs. It declares natural springs of water, seas and oceans, natural forests growing on mountains, etc. a common property for all. All these measures are to ensure that wealth is not concentrated in a few hands. And as for the dissimilarity between people in terms of affluence, it is as natural a phenomenon as the variance of physical and mental faculties. The financial difference among people is a universal reality, and the slogan to obliterate this gradation can either be raised by fools, or by those who intend to befool others. Can you efface the differences by virtue of which Allah created wives for you from your own kind, and made this a source of preservation of your race. They bear children and then their children bear children.

The Status of a Woman

Speaking of the human race, a woman has been declared as a human being, of the same kind as a man. It means that she too has similar emotions and feelings, and as such deserves similar respect. Although the duties assigned to both are different, yet their mutual relationship has been made a source of procreation and continuance of human race. So can anyone expunge this system and make men and women equal, or declare men to be women and vice versa? If it is done can the systematic functioning of this world and the continuation of human race be possible? And for the sustenance of mankind, Allah provided for it the best of foods and diets, which again cannot be the same for everyone. A particular food maybe harmful to someone and beneficial to the other. So when in all these matters even no two people can be equal to another, how foolish it is to claim equality with the Creator and the Owner! Does it not amount to denial of His Blessings and Favours by believing in irrational and absurd concepts?

People also indulge in worshipping others besides Allah, who themselves are creations and dependant. They have no say in the matters of the heavens or the earth, nor any power to grant anything to their devouts. Therefore, do not try to compare Allah with the rulers of this world asserting that they need others to assist them, so does Allah! Do bear in mind that a king and his deputies are parts of creation, whereas Allah Alone is the Creator. So it is totally wrong to

Allah is all-Knowing while people are ignorant and dependant upon Him for knowledge. Allah has given two parables; firstly of a slave who himself is the property of someone and cannot disburse anything from his masters belongings at his own. Whereas his master not only owns everything but also the slave, and can do with his wealth as he pleases. He can also command the slave to do whatever he wants. The two of them, inspite of being human, can never be equal. How then, can a creation claim to be equal to the Creator? Whereas all excellence belongs to Allah Alone; yet most of the human beings do not acknowledge it.

The second parable is also of a slave who is useless as well as ignorant, having no knowledge or sense. And he is also physically weak to run any errands, and is rather a liability for the master, who has to look after him. And whatever task is assigned to him, he always spoils it and incurs loss. Now take another person possessing admirable knowledge and also the strength to execute; not only does he do the right things himself but is also capable of making others do well. In short, he possesses the perfect skills. Can the two be equal? Certainly not! Then how can anyone be equal to Allah?

Section 11

- 77. Allah's is the Unseen of the heavens and the earth, and the affair of the Hour will be not but as a flash of the eye. Or it is even nearer, verily Allah is over everything Potent.
- 78. And Allah has brought you forth from the bellies of your mothers while you know not anything, and He appointed for you hearing and sight and hearts that perchance you might give thanks.
- 79. Do they not see the birds subjected in the firmament of the heaven? None supports them save Allah; verily there are

وَّاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمِّهَ لَيْكُمْ لَانَعْلَمُونَ شَيْنَا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ ٱلشَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَنِ رَوَّالْأَفْنِدَةً لَعَلَكُمْ نَشْكُرُونَ ﴿

اَلَهُ بِرَوْا إِلَى الطَّنِهِ مُسَخَّرَتِ فِ جَوِ التَّسَمَاءِ مَا يُعْسِكُهُنَّ إِلَّا اللَّهُ إِنَّ فِي ذَالِكَ لَا بُنتِ لِفَوْمِ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿ لَا اللَّهُ إِنَّا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهِ اللهِ اللهُ اللهِ اللهُ اللهِ اللهُ اللهِ اللهُ الله Signs in that for a people who believe.

- 80. Allah has made for you from your houses a repose, and He has made for you from the skins of your cattle houses which you find light on the day of your flitting and on the day of your stopping, and from their wools and their furs and their hair a furnishing and an enjoyment for a season.
- 81. And Allah has made for you of what He has created shades; and He has made for you from the mountains places of retreat, and He has made for you coats protecting you from the heat and coats protecting from the violence. Thus He perfects His Favour on you that perhaps you may submit.
- 82. Then if they turn away from you, on you is only a plain preaching.
- 83. They recognize the Favour of Allah, yet they deny it, and most of them are infidels.

وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ بُنُونِكُمْ سَكَنَا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ بُنُونِكُمْ سَكَنَا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِن بُنُونَا تَسْتَخِفُونَهَا يَوْمَ لَكُمْ مِن جُلُودِ آلاَنْفَدِ بُنُونَا تَسْتَخِفُونَهَا يَوْمَ طَعَيْكُمْ وَيَوْمَ إِقَامَتِكُمْ وَمِنْ أَصَوَافِهَا طَعَيْكُمْ وَيَوْمَ إِقَامَتِكُمْ وَمِنْ أَصَوَافِهَا وَأَوْبَارِهَا وَأَشْعَارِهَا أَنْنَا وَمَتَعَا إِلَى حِينِ (١٠)

وَاللَّهُ جُعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنَا خَلَقَ ظِلَنَالَا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ لَكُمْ لِكُمْ الْمَالَا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ لَكُمْ مِنَ الْجِبَالِ أَكْنَنَا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ مَنَ إِلِي الْجِبَالِ أَكْنَا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ مَنَ إِلِيلَ نَقِيكُمُ الْحَرَّ وَسَرَبِيلَ نَقِيكُمُ مَنْ إِلَى اللَّهِ مَنْ الْجَعَلَ وَسَرَبِيلَ نَقِيكُمُ الْحَرَّ وَسَرَبِيلَ نَقِيكُمُ مَنْ اللَّهُ الْمُعْمِلُولَ اللَّهُ الللْمُوالِي الْمُنْ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ الللْمُولِي اللَّهُ اللَّهُ الْمُعْلِمُ اللَّهُ الْمُنْ الللَّهُ الْمُنْتَا اللَّهُ الْمُعْلِمُ اللَّهُ الْمُنْ اللَّهُ الْمُعْلِمُ اللَ

فَإِن نَوَلُوْا فَإِنَّمَا عَلَيْكَ ٱلْبَلَنغُ ٱلْمُبِينُ الْفَا يَعْرِفُونَ نِعْمَتَ ٱللَّهِ ثُمَّرَ مُنْكِرُونَهَا

يَعْرِفُونَ نِعْمَتَ ٱللَّهِ ثُـُعَّرِنُنڪِرُومَ وَأَكْثَرُهُمُ مُالْكَنِفِرُونَ ﴿ وَاللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ ا

Secrets of Revelation

Human estimation and planning, based on which people imagine Allah to be like them and argue about Him, carry no importance at all. The Knowledge of the Unseen is only with Allah and it is He Alone Who knows what is there in store for tomorrow. No human being can predict what can befall him the very next moment. So the only reasonable thing for a human being to do is

obedience because he does not know when the Hour may strike, when everything is shacked up and the Day of Judgment is established. Allah certainly Knows when it is going to be. Rather, it is He Who will cause it and He certainly is Omnipotent. Therefore, following His instructions and planning for the future within the framework of His obedience is the most appropriate thing to do.

The extent of human knowledge is so limited that when Allah brought him to this world from his mother's womb, he was completely ignorant of everything. He knew nothing about his food or clothing. He was completely incapable of discriminating between right and wrong; he had no knowledge whatsoever. Allah blessed him with senses which gradually turned more and more refined with the passage time, and man began to acquire knowledge. The primary source of this acquisition is the sense of hearing. Seeing is the second major source, as a person collects information primarily through hearing, while the opportunity to witness everything is comparatively less.

The Centre of Knowledge is Qalb

And Allah made Qalb the seat of knowledge so that people may be grateful to Him and remember His Blessings and Favours. The philosophers take brain as the centre of knowledge, which is not correct. The brain is only a datacollector and is thus the seat of information. And information can never become a person's state of being, rather, he sells it whenever it suits him. For instance, take a doctor, a lawyer or a judge. If it is only their mind that possess information about their respective fields, they will only apply this information to seek material gains by hook or by crook. They will fail to honour their duties, as the information they possess is only mental having no influence on their hearts. However, if their hearts are reformed and their professional knowledge becomes a state of their hearts, a doctor will be more concerned for his patient's well being, without caring much about his fee. A lawyer will work harder and a judge will try his best to provide justice, as this would give his heart a satisfaction. It must be remembered that the spiritual invigoration of the heart begins with Divine Revelation, which is dispensed only by a Prophet AS. So it is only a believer's heart which is enlightened to accept the knowledge. A non believer is deprived of this blessing altogether. That is the reason why the entire non believing society thrives on exploiting the helpless. Interest, gambling and hoarding are all ways of plundering the poor. Blinded by petty vested interests, they do not even hesitate to drive humanity into the flames of war. Rising above their propaganda if only one could take a closer look, it would reveal their true face. And as for the believers, when the light of

faith diminishes in them, their hearts no longer retain the ability to become the seat of knowledge. Rather, such depraved hearts manipulate the information that the brain possesses to take undue advantage and fulfil its desires.

Just look at the birds in flight as they cut through the bosom of winds. Their material and solid bodies float on air due to the Omnipotence of the Almighty. There is no one except **Him** to hold these birds. The proportionate making of their bodies and wings, instilling in them the sense to take off and land, making the atmosphere conducive for their flights, and many more evidences to **Allah**'s Omnipotence are present in these birds. However, to perceive it, one requires the light of faith.

Home can become a Source of Comfort only through Obedience

Allah, the Almighty made homes, a source of comfort for people, where they find peace against the troubles of the world. The family and the lawful earnings become a source of inner tranquillity. This Ayah indicates that for a non believer or a disobedient even palatial homes provide no comfort, rather add to the troubles. That is why the ratio of suicides is very high in the infidel society, despite their houses being equipped with every possible material comfort.

And Allah has made the hides, furs and wool of animal a source of comfort for mankind. From these they make many items of common use like costumes, tents, shoes and many more things to serve and benefit them in life.

Deduction

This Ayah proves that it is permitted to use animal hides, furs and hair etc, whether the animal is Ḥalāl or Ḥarām, slaughtered or a carrion, the fur and hair are in any case permissible, as well as the hide after tanning, save the hog.

Out of Mercy, Allah has given a shadow to everything, as a source of comfort for human beings. The hillsides of lofty mountains provide shelter while clothing protects them from the effects of weather. He taught man to make armours to protect his body in the battlefield. How far can one count His Blessings! Certainly such an endless list of favours calls for His obedience. Nevertheless, if people still choose to disobey Allah, it is upto them. The Holy Prophet sould be sonly tasked to convey the Divine Message clearly to them. They thoroughly recognise these favours as they utilize them round the clock but even then refuse to acknowledge His Grace. And the majority of them appear to be suffering from the curse of disbelief.

- 84. Beware a Day whereon We will raise up from each community a witness, then those who have disbelieved shall not be given leave, nor they shall be permitted to please Allah.
- 85. And when those who have done wrong will see the torment, it shall not be lightened unto them, nor shall they be respited.
- 86. And when those who have associated will see their associate-gods, they will say: O our Rabb! Yonder are our associate-gods upon whom we have been calling besides You; they will proffer them the saying: verily you are liars.
- 87. And they will proffer submission to Allah on that Day, and there will stray from them what they have been fabricating.
- 88. Those who disbelieved and hindered others from the way of Allah We will increase for them torment upon torment for they have been spreading corruption.
- 89. And beware a Day whereon We shall raise up in every community a witness from amongst themselves regarding them, and We shall bring you as a witness regarding these. And

وَيُوْمَ نَبْعَثُ مِنْ كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ شَهِيدًا ثُمَّ لَا يُؤْذََتُ لِلَّذِينَ كَ عَرُواْ وَلَاهُمْ يُسْتَعْنَبُوذَ ﴿

وَإِذَا رُءَا الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُواْ ٱلْعَذَابَ فَالَا يُخَفَّفُ عَنْهُمْ وَلَاهُمْ يُنْظَرُونَ ﴿ إِنَّ

وَإِذَارَ اللَّذِينَ أَشْرَكُوا شُرَكَا اللَّهِ عَامَةُ هُمْ قَالُوا رَبِّنَا هَنُولاً مِ شُرَكَا أَوْنَا اللَّذِينَ كُنَا مَدْعُوا مِن دُونِكَ فَالْفَوْا إِلَيْهِمُ الْفَوْلَ إِنَّكُمْ لَكَ يَذِيونَ لَا اللَّهِ مُلَاثِكُمُ لَا اللَّهِ مُلَاثِكُمُ الْفَوْلَ إِنَّكُمُ لَاثِينًا لَكَ يَذِيونَ لَاثِينًا

وَأَلْفَوْاْ إِلَى ٱللَّهِ بَوْمَهِ إِلَى ٱللَّهَ وَصَلَّعَنْهُم مَّاكَانُواْ بَفْنَرُونَ ﴿ اللَّهِ السَّلَا مَا كَانُواْ بَفْنَرُونَ ﴿ اللَّهِ السَّلَا عَنْهُم

ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُواْ وَصَكَدُّواْ عَنسَبِيلِٱللَّهِ ذِذْنَهُمْ عَذَابًا فَوْقَ ٱلْعَذَابِ بِمَا كَانُواْ يُفْسِدُونَ ﴿ اللَّهِ عَذَابًا فَوْقَ ٱلْعَذَابِ بِمَا كَانُواْ يُفْسِدُونَ ﴿ اللَّهِ

وَيَوْمَ نَعَتُ فِي كُلِ أُمَّةُ فَتَهِ مَنْ اعْلَيْهِم فِنْ أَنفُسِمِ مَّ وَجِنْنَا بِكَ شَهِبدًا عَلَى هَنَوُلاً وَ وَمَزَلْنَا عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَنَبَ بِنْيَنَنَا لِكُلِّ شَيْءُ وَهُدُى وَرَحْمَةُ وَيُشْرَىٰ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ (الله) We have Revealed unto you the Book as an exposition of everything, and as guidance and Mercy and glad tidings to the Muslims.

Secrets of Revelation

A Day is sure to come when Allah will ask a representative from each nation to testify in His Court. This representative will be the Prophet-AS deputed to that particular nation. He will be a witness over the attitude his people adopted towards the Divine Commandments. That will not be the Day of respite for reformation, nor will the non believers be allowed to act for His Pleasure, for that will be the Day of Requital. The reward for a good deed is more time and opportunity given to act righteously. Once the punishment is unleashed upon the non believers their torment will not be eased nor will they be respited. The whole affair will reverse that day. The infidels will identify those whom they had declared partners with Allah, and will confess that they had been worshipping them. Frightened, their deities will refute the claim of their worshippers, and assert that they are liars. It may also mean that the Prophets-AS and the angels whom people used to worship had never asked them to do such a thing. Or the stones and trees etc may also deny such claims as they had no knowledge of such affairs. Or the Satans may deny the charges, as they too are infidels and will be lying just like them. The infidels lied while living in this world and the Satans will be lying in the eternal world.

In any case, their excuses will be of no avail and the intensity of punishment will be increased manifolds for the non believers. In addition to the punishment for their own crimes, they will also share the torture of those they had misled into disbelief. On that Day every Prophet^{AS} will be summoned to testify for his nation. And when the people will try to contradict their Prophets^{AS}, the Holy Prophet^{SAW} will be called as a witness for the Prophets^{AS}. This is because he has been blessed with the Qurān which explains everything. It reveals the history of the preceding nations, the teachings of their Prophets^{AS} as well as the conduct of the non believers. And it is guidance from Allah for those who submit to Him as well as a source of Mercy. Besides, it gives glad tidings about the Ākhirah and it is the Book of Wisdom dealing with the fundamentals of all issues. The basic principles concerning the code of life

have all been laid down and explicitly explained by Ḥadīth. It also hints at all the impending inventions in the world and invites man to ponder over different things around him. It explains the basic rules along with the history of the preceding nations.

Section 13

- 90. Verily Allah Commands justice and well doing and giving to kindred; and He prohibits lewdness and wickedness and oppression. He exhorts you that per chance you may be admonished.
- 91. Fulfil the Covenant of Allah when you have covenanted, and do not break oaths after their confirmation and surely you have appointed Allah your surety. Surely Allah Knows whatever you do.
- 92. And do not be like her who unravels her yarn into strands after its strength, holding your oaths a means of discord amongst you that a community may be more numerous than another community. Allah only tests you thereby, and He will surely show to you on the Day of Judgment that wherein you have been differing.
- 93. Had Allah so willed, He would have made you all one community, but He sends astray whom He will and guides whom He will; and certainly you will

إِنَّالَقَهُ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَنِ وَإِينَآي ذِى الْفُرْفَ وَيَنْعَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَآءِ وَالْمُنَصَرِ وَالْبَغِيْ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ مَعَذَكُمْ مَذَكَرُونَ

وَأَوْفُواْ بِعَهْدِ اللَّهِ إِذَا عَنهَدَثُمْ وَلَائَنَفُضُوا الْأَيْمَانَ بَعْدَ تَوْكِيدِهَا وَقَدْ جَعَلْتُمُ اللَّهَ عَلَيْكُمْ مَعْدَ تَوْكِيدِهَا وَقَدْ جَعَلْتُمُ اللَّهَ عَلَيْكُمْ كَفِيلًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَقْعَلُونَ ﴾

وَلَا تَكُونُواْ كَالَتِي نَقَضَتْ غَزْلَهَا مِنْ بَعْدِ قُوَةً انڪَ اَنتَخُوتَ اَنتَ غِدُوتَ اَيْعَنَكُوْ دَخَلاً بَيْنَكُمْ اَن تَكُوتَ أُمَّةً هِيَ أَرْبَى مِنْ أُمَّةً إِنّهَ ابْدُوكُمُ اَن تَكُوتَ أُمَّةً هِي أَرْبَى مِنْ أُمَّةً إِنّهَ ابْدُوكُمُ اللّهُ بِدِمُ وَلِبُبِيَانَ لَكُونُومَ الْفِبَعَةِ مَا كُمُتُعْ فِيهِ غَنْلِقُونَ اللّهُ غَنْلِقُونَ اللّهُ

وَلَوْنَا أَاللَّهُ لَجَعَلَكُمْ أُمَّةُ وَحِدَةً وَلَكِنَ يُضِلُّ مَن يَشَاءُ وَيَهْدِى مَن يَشَاءُ وَلَتُسُكُنُ عُمَّا كُنُهُ مِعَمَلُونَ ﴿ عَمَا كُنُهُ مِعَمَلُونَ ﴿ عَمَا كُنُهُ مَعْمَلُونَ ﴿ عَمَا كُنُهُ مَعْمَلُونَ ﴿ عَمَا كُنُهُ مَعْمَلُونَ ﴿ عَمَا كُنُهُ مَعْمَلُونَ ﴿ عَلَيْهِ اللَّهِ عَمَا كُنُهُ مَعْمَلُونَ ﴿ عَلَيْهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهُ اللّ be questioned about what you have been working.

94. And do not make your oaths a means of discord against you lest a foot may slip after its fixture, and you may taste evil for having hindered others from the way of Allah, and for you there shall be a torment mighty.

95. And do not barter the covenant of Allah for a small price; verily what is with Allah – is better for you, if you only know.

96. Whatever is with you is exhaustible, and whatever is with Allah is lasting. And we will surely recompense those who have been patient, their wage for the best of what they have been working.

97. Whoever works righteously, male or female, and is a believer, We will surely quicken him to a clean life, and will surely recompense them their wage for the best of what they have been working.

98. And when you would read the Qurān, seek refuge with Allah from Satan, the damned.

 Verily he has no authority over those who believe and have trust in their Rabb.

100. His authority is only over those who befriend him and those who

وَلَانَنَخِذُ وَا أَيْمَنَنَكُمْ دَخَلًا بَيْنَكُمْ فَنَزِلَ فَدَمُ مُعْدَثُهُونِهَا وَتَذُوقُواْ الشُّوَّ بِمَاصَدَدَثُمْ عَن سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَكُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ (اللَّهُ عَن سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَكُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ (اللَّهُ

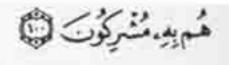
وَلَانَشْنَرُواْ بِعَهْدِ ٱللَّهِ ثَمَنًا قَلِيلًا إِنَّمَا عِندَاللَّهِ هُوَخَيَرُ لَكُوْ إِن كُنتُ مَنْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴾

مَاعِندُكُوْ يَنفَدُّ وَمَاعِندَ اللَّهِ بَافُ وَلَنَجْزِيَتَ الَّذِينَ صَبَرُوۤ الَجْرَهُرِ بِأَحْسَنِ مَاكَانُواْ يَعْمَلُوتَ اللَّ

مَنْ عَمِلُ صَلِيكَ مِن ذَكِرِ أَوْ أُنفَىٰ وَهُوَمُوْمِنُ مَنْ عَمِلُ صَلِيكَ مِنْ وَكُنْ مِنْ وَهُومُوْمِنُ فَلَنُحْمِينَكُهُ حَيَوْهُ طَيِّبَةٌ وَلَنَجْ رِيَنَهُمْ أَجْرَهُم بِأَحْسَنِ مَا كَانُواْ يَعْمَلُونَ ۞ *

> فَإِذَا فَرَأْتَ ٱلْفُرْدَانَ فَأَسْتَعِدُ بِأَلِلَهِ مِنَ ٱلشَّيْطَانِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ ﴿ ﴾

إِنَّهُ لَيْسَ لَهُ سُلُطَنَّ عَلَى ٱلدِّينَ اَسَنُوا وَعَلَىٰ رَبِهِ مُرِيَّةً وَحَكَّلُونَ الْأَنَّ إِنَّمَا سُلُطَكُنُهُ عَلَى ٱلَّذِينَ يَتَوَلَّوْنَهُ وَٱلَّذِينَ إِنَّمَا سُلُطَكُنُهُ عَلَى ٱلَّذِينَ يَتَوَلَّوْنَهُ وَٱلَّذِينَ are in respect of Him associators.



Secrets of Revelation

The superiority of Quranic teachings cannot be denied if one possesses the slightest level of sound thinking. A single Ayah here contains the quintessence of the entire Quran. Allah enjoins three aspects upon the believers, namely justice, Iḥsan and giving to kins folk.

Justice

Justice or 'Adl' literally means 'to equate'; this is why to resolve a dispute is called 'justice'. In a broader sense it refers to a middle course between extremes and demands, first of all, that a person must do justice between himself and his Creator. He should give priority to the Pleasure of Allah over his own desires and try his level best to obey His Commands. Secondly, he should do justice to his own soul by catering to its needs and by protecting it against those desires which can prove fatal for it. Thirdly, he should do justice between himself and the people by fulfilling their rights to the best of his ability and acquiring his own rights, without exceeding them. And when it comes to mutual dealings and resolving disputes, justice demands not to be partial or un-necessarily lenient towards any one side. In short, justice should be practised in beliefs, actions and morals.

Ihsan

The second aspect enjoined upon believers is Iḥsān, which indeed is the very spirit of every action. Iḥsān refers to a state whereby actions must be a mirror of the inner feelings of the heart and be taken with utmost sincerity; not in pretence or for fame. According to Ḥadīth-e-Iḥsān: "Worship Allah as if you are beholding Him. If not, be absolutely sure that He is beholding you". In other words, every action must be done, as if in the presence of Allah, and this is a state of the Qalb. One can strive hard to acquire this state, though it is always endowed as a favour from Allah. It falls in the category of rewards and the rewards are always an endowment from Allah. This blessing was dissipated in the company of the Holy Prophet Allah. His teachings were verbal but only those who received the Faidh of his company became the Companions RAU. It was this Companionship that elevated them to such a level where they felt themselves in the presence of Allah each moment of their

entire life. All their actions, even their death was characterised with this state. The same blessing is desired from the company of a Shaikh. As one progresses to a higher station, this state is intensified. Conversely speaking, a heightening of this state elevates the grades and stations of a person correspondily. Struggle is a personal matter whereby one exerts to cleanse his Qalb, whereas the company of a Shaikh generates spiritual states which are transferred only by Allah's Will.

Giving to Kinsfolk

Its gist is that the rights of relatives be fulfilled. It suggests that one should not only be kind to them because they respect him or are nice folk, but should also forbear any unpleasant treatment from them. One must, out of compassion, treat his relatives courteously. Allah has also Commanded abstinence from three things:

- (1) Lewdness. (Faḥsha') Any action generally perceived as vile, and can be termed as a universal evil, such as lying, stealing etc.
- (2) Wickedness. (Munkir) It refers to those actions, whether overt or covert, unanimously declared by the Muslim jurists to be sinful and forbidden, for example, one's beliefs. However, a difference of opinion in Ijtehad, by any side, cannot be termed as wickedness.
- (3) Oppressive. (Bughi) It includes actions having contagious and widespread effects. In other words, the rights of many people are affected and as a result the whole society is gripped by mischief. Such sins are considered oppressive.

In short, golden rules for a perfect human society have been laid down in this Ayah by enjoining three virtues and forbidding three evils. This is a lesson for people as in it lies the welfare of the entire humanity as well as of the individuals.

Allah has Commanded to honour must be honoured. In other words, those covenants or oaths which are made against Shari'ah are not to be honoured. Rather, expiating for those would be mandatory. The oaths must be upheld diligently, for once a person reinforces his word by swearing upon Allah, he makes Allah a witness over it. And Allah is also well Aware of his deeds. So oaths made in permissible matters must be honoured with complete commitment and effort. And He Commands not to behave like the woman who would unravel the yarn in the evening, having spun it after a daylong

labour, so that neither the fibre nor any filament remain intact. Above all, the day whole of effort and labour is wasted. This is the ultimate fate of one's deeds if an oath or a promise is breached. It is also forbidden to make oaths a pretext for breaching pacts with allies. If alliance has been made with a particular group and then a stronger one comes up, do not breach the pact with the former to join the latter. Such situations will be encountered by the believers as a trial to see whether they follow their fancies or obey Allah under all circumstances. Indeed the reality as well as the results of their deeds will be unfolded to them on the Day of Judgment.

Had Allah willed, 'He would have made the entire mankind a single community with a common ideology. But He put the onus on human conduct. Disobedience makes Him angry, and as a result He deprives the defiant of guidance and they go astray. Any person who wins His Pleasure is blessed with guidance. Human actions indeed yield the results, so man will be held accountable for all that he has done.

Breaching a Pact is not only Criminal but also Endangers Faith

And do not make your oaths a source of deception, that you breach your promise and deceive others after having taken an oath. Such a behavour will corrupt others as well, as they too might be encouraged to break their oaths and pledges. Hence this breach of trust may evolve into a great mischief, which may divert people away from the Path of Allah, invoking affliction. Those sins which corrupt others also invoke a mighty torment. A person, whose vile conduct leads people astray ultimately loses his own faith which is synonymous to horrible doom. In it lies a great warning for the ignorant and the imposter Şūfis. Whereas misconduct by the Muslims makes the non believers sceptical of Islam, the evil conduct of false Şūfis misleads the Muslims. This crime itself is a serious to the faith of such imposters. May Allah protect us!

Bribery is both Breach and a Bargain of Trust, invoking Similar Punishment

Do not trade in the Covenants of Allah, that is, the assigned duties, for a petty price. According to the Commentators a given responsibility is the Covenant of Allah. Now if an official exhorts any money above his salary for doing the job otherwise his responsibility, it amounts to a breach of trust and selling Allah's Covenant. The petty price refers to a mundane gain, which no matter how great is puny as compared to the sanctity of Allah's Covenant. Bribe is a curse which does not befit a believer, rather it endangers his faith. It must also

be remembered that giving bribe to acquire something to which one has no right is as worse a crime as accepting bribe. The Holy Prophet says that the one who accepts and the one who gives bribe are both dwellers of Hell. However, if someone rightfully deserves something, but the one who is in control of that thing refuses to give it without a bribe, it will not only be a bribe but a robbery. In this case the former is the oppressed while the latter who demands bribe is a dacoit. Take note that whatever possession man has is mortal. Wealth, friendship or hostility, power or grandeur, everything will perish one Day. However, the after-effects and results, that is, the eternal outcome of actions, is in the safe custody of Allah and will never be wasted. In view of this to dedicate one's life to temporal pursuits ignoring the eternal consequences will certainly not be wise.

Perseverance

All those who persevere on piety, and submit to **Allah**'s Will against their own desires will be rewarded fabulously. Perseverance is to restrain oneself from disobeying **Allah**.

Witness to this Ayah is the fact that a person blessed with faith and acting righteously is rewarded with a peaceful and chaste life. It, however, does not refer to a life free of worldly turmoils, such as sickness, poverty etc. In fact, health, wealth and leisure do not ensure inner peace, which is a state of the heart, and one has to struggle hard to achieve it. The pursuit of basic reason behind the status, power, affluence, property, and friendship is a desire for peace. But how many of the affluent, or powerful people actually experience it? Take a look at the prosperous Western non believing society, a typical case of superfluous material affluence. Inspite of the availability of comfortable homes, nourishing diets and the best of resources, peace and tranquillity is almost non existent. The rate of divorce, suicide and social indifference is constantly on the rise, and the hearts are deprived of peace. On the contrary, a person blessed with the light of faith and the capacity to practise Sunnah is tranquil even when starving. He is at peace in sickness, even in death, for he knows that it is from Allah. So, when the believers are so peaceful in this worldly life, their eternal rewards will certainly be multiplied manifold.

The greatest hindrance in practising obedience to Allah and virtue is caused by Satan, who creates doubts in the minds through his whispers. There are Satans among human beings also, who are influenced by Iblīs and become a barrier to piety. While it is commanded to eradicate them through Jihād, it is also imperative to seek Allah's Refuge against Iblīs and his progeny. Therefore, the Holy Prophet is being instructed to seek Allah's Refuge

against the Satan before undertaking any task, no matter how noble it maybe, such as reciting the Qurān. In other words, the entire mankind is being addressed through him.

Reciting Ta'uz is a Sunnah

To recite: "I seek refuge in Allah from Satan the outcast" before reciting the Qurān is a Sunnah. The scholars have not classified it as obligatory as there were occasions when it was not recited. A detailed analysis is available in Tafsīr ibn Kathīr. Ta'uz will also be recited before reciting the Qurān in Şalāt. However, the Hanafī Fiqh considers a single recital at the beginning of the first cycle of Şalāt as sufficient. Similarly the Holy Prophet has prescribed many invocations for different occasions in order to avail His Protection against the devil. Besides, the Satan is incapable of subjugating those who trust Allah and have a strong faith. He succeeds in influencing only those who display allegiance to him, and have been deprived of Allah's Protection due to disobedience He taints their beliefs with polytheism to make them lose Divine Support. Hence the greatest punishment for sin is that a person is condemned to waywardness in this life, steadily heading towards an eternal catastrophe.

Section 14

- 101. Whenever We change a verse in place of another verse and Allah is the Best Knower of what He sends down they say: you are but an impostor. Aye! Most of them know not.
- 102. Say you: the Holy Spirit has brought it down from your Rabb with truth, that it may establish those who believe, and as guidance and glad tidings to the Muslims.
- 103. And assuredly We Know that they say: it is only a human being who teaches him. The speech of him to whom they

رَإِذَا بَدُلْنَآ وَابَهُ مَنَكَاتَ وَابَنَهُ وَأَلَهُ وَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا يُنَزِلُ فَالْوَا إِنَّمَآ أَنتَ مُفْتَرٍ بَلَأَ كُفَرُهُ وَلَا بِمَا مُونَ اللَّا الْمَا كُنُو اللَّا اللَّا اللَّا اللَّا اللَّا اللَّا اللَّا اللَّا

قُلْ نَزَلَهُ رُوحُ ٱلْقُدُسِ مِن زَيِكَ بِالْحَقَ لِيُنَيِّتَ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَهُدُى وَبُشَرَّك لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ ﴿ ثَنَّ الْمَصْلِمِينَ الْنَالُا

وَلَقَدْ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّهُ مَ يَقُولُونَ إِنَّمَا يُعَلِمُهُ بِنَثَرُّ لِكَاثُ ٱلَّذِى يُلْحِدُونَ إِلَيْهِ أَعْجَمِينٌ وَهَنذَا لِسَانُ عَمَرَتِ ثَبِيثًا incline is foreign, while this is plain Arabic speech.

- 104. Verily those who do not believe in the Signs of Allah - Allah shall not guide them, and to them there shall be a torment afflictive.
- 105. It is only those who do not believe in the Signs of Allah who fabricate a lie, and those! They are the liars.
- 106. Whoever disbelieves in Allah after his belief save him who is constrained and his heart is at rest with the belief but whoever expands his breast to unbelief, upon them shall be wrath from Allah and to them shall be a torment mighty.
- 107. That is because they loved the life of the world above the Ākhirah, and because Allah does not guide an infidel people.
- 108. These are they upon whose hearts and hearing and sight Allah has set a seal; and these! They are the heedless!
- Undoubtedly in the Hereafter they shall be the very losers.
- 110. Then, verily, your **Rabb** unto those who emigrated after they had been persuaded, and have thereafter striven hard and endured your **Rabb** is thereafter. Forgiving, Merciful.

إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِنَايَتِ ٱللَّهِ لَا يَهْدِيمِهُ اللَّهُ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابُ أَلِيهُ لَنِي اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ

إِنَّمَا يَفْتَرِى ٱلْكَذِبَ ٱلَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِثَايَتِ ٱللَّهِ وَأُوْلَتَهِكَ هُمُ ٱلْكَذِبُ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿ إِنَّا اللَّهِ وَأُوْلَتَهِكَ هُمُ ٱلْكَذِبُونَ ﴾

مَن كَفَرَ بِأَللَّهِ مِنْ بَعَد إِيمَنِهِ إِلَّا مَنْ أَكْبِهِ وَقَلْبُهُ مُطْمَينٌ لِإَلْايِمَنِ وَلَنكِن مَن شَرَحَ بِأَلْكُفْرِ صَدْرًا فَعَلَنِهِ مُعْضَبُّ مِنَ اللّهِ وَلَهُمْ عَذَا بُعَظِيمٌ (إِنَّا) مِنَ اللّهِ وَلَهُمْ عَذَا بُ عَظِيمٌ (إِنَّا)

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمُ أَسْتَخَبُّوا الْحَيَوْةَ الدُّنْكَ عَلَى الْآخِرَةِ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَهْدِي الْفَوْمَ الْكَيْفِرِينَ (اللَّهِ) الْكَيْفِرِينَ (اللَّهُ)

أُوْلَتِهِكَ ٱلَّذِينَ طَبَعَ ٱللَّهُ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِ مَـ وَسَتَعِهِ مُ وَاَبْصَئرِهِمْ وَأُوْلَتِهَكَ هُمُ الْعَنْفِلُونَ ﴿ ثَنِيْهِ الْعَنْفِلُونَ الْمَثْنِيَا

لَا جَكَرَمَ أَنَّهُ مُوفِ ٱلْآخِرَةِ هُمُمُ الْخَنسِرُونَ اللَّا

ثُمَّةً إِنَّ رَبِّكَ لِلَّذِينَ هَاجَكُرُواْ مِنْ بَعَدِ مَا فُنِـنُوا ثُمَّةً جَمِهِكُدُواْ وَصَهَرُواْ إِنَّ رَبِّكَ مِنْ بَعَدِهَا لَغَنْفُورٌ رَّحِبَةٌ ﴿

Secrets of Revelation

Trapped in Satanic whispers, the infidels even object to the alteration or abrogation of some of the Quranic Ayat. They argue that had it been a Divine Scripture, wouldn't have Allah known and sent the correct Command in the first place rather than resorting to amendments? They conclude that it is the Holy Prophet SAW who is fabricating lies about Allah, writing the Scripture himself and attributing it to Him. This stance of the infidels is sheer ignorance, for Allah abrogates a Command only for the betterment and convenience of mankind. Till the time a particular injunction remained suitable for certain conditions it remained enforced, but once that condition changed the injunctions were also changed. The Holy Prophet-SAW must tell them that these injunctions are conveyed by Allah's emissary, the Archangel Jibrīl-AS. And His Providence calls for concessions to His bondsmen commensurate to their circumstances. A society that had been drenched in disbelief for centuries together was not compelled to change instantly, but it was His Providential Grace to have consummated His Injunctions gradually. And when the desired society was evolved, the abrogation also ended. So this Book is indeed the truth.

The Effect and Feelings Peculiar to Divine Scripture

Allah's Word carries a certain feeling which blesses greater steadfastness and guidance to the heart already illuminated with the light of faith. In other words, the believer is motivated to act virtuously and his heart is constantly engulfed by a priceless ecstasy.

How to Derive these Feelings

The aforesaid blessed state is achieved by only those who surrender to the Will and Purpose of Allah. To derive these feelings, unconditional obedience is a pre-requisite. However, obedience to the Shaikh will only be within the perimeters of Shari'ah, beyond which there is no obedience. Allah is well Aware that the polytheists accuse that the Holy Prophet's has received instructions from someone. According to the Commentators there lived in Makkah a blacksmith who was an emigrant. He often used to listen to the Holy Prophet's saw teachings. The blacksmith happened to have some knowledge of the preceding Divine Scriptures. The Holy Prophet's sitting with him stemmed these allegations. But the polytheists who so accuse the Holy Prophet's are foolish indeed. They do not even realize that the alleged instructor was a non-Arab while Allah's Book is a masterpiece in Arabic

language. Its eloquence posed a challenge to the entire Arab literary world. No one could, and shall never be able to respond to its challenge. Their hostile attitude towards the Qurān thrusts them deeper into disbelief. Allah's Guidance is withheld from them and a painful doom awaits them. Their allegations that the Qurān is fabricated boomerangs on them, as they are guilty of not believing the Revelations from Allah and lying blatantly. What they speak about the Holy Prophet is a great fabrication itself. However, if a believer firm at heart is forced to utter such nonsense or is forced to do any heretic act only to save his life, he will not be a sinner.

The Forcing

According to the jurists if a person is forced to speak or do something heretic to the extent that non compliance could cost him his life, there is no blame on him if he complies, especially if his heart is firm on faith. This situation was also faced by some poor Companions RAU. Of them most opted for martyrdom while some uttered heretic words to save their lives and migrated to Madinah to join the Holy Prophet SAW. But people whose hearts are saturated by disbelief will earn His Wrath. They will face agony in this world while havoc awaits them in the Akhirah. Turning back into disbelief after being a believer is an error manifest. In terms of Shari'ah, an apostate is liable to death sentence. This is because they have opted for apostasy out of sheer temporal greed in preference to the Akhirah. It is a crime after which the guilty never get the capacity to retrieve; rather Allah seals off their hearts. And their faculties of hearing and sight are also crippled, disabling them to discern the truth. As a result they fall prey to negligence forever. Such a state is a prelude of a great loss in the Akhirah. However, those who were forced into disbelief through oppression and who migrated to Madinah on first available opportunity; fought in the Cause of Allah, persevered all their lives on the right path and adhered to Allah's obedience surrendering their desires; for them awaits Allah's Forgiveness. He indeed is very Merciful.

Section 15

111. Beware of a Day whereon every soul will come pleading for itself, and every soul will be paid in full what it has wrought, and they shall not be wronged.

﴿ يَوْمَ تَأْتِي كُلُّ نَفْسِ مُّلَ نَفْسِ الْحَدُلُ عَن نَفْسِهَا

﴿ رَبُولَ فَى كُلُّ نَفْسِ مَّاعَ مِلَتْ وَهُمْ

﴿ لَا يُظْلُمُونَ ﴿ إِنْ اللَّهُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّلْمُ اللَّهُ اللللَّهُ اللَّا

- 112. Allah propounds a similitude: a town which was secure and at rest, to which came its provisions abundantly from every place; then it denied ungratefully the favours of Allah; therefore Allah made it taste the extreme of hunger and fear, because of what they were used to perform.
- 113. And assuredly there came to them a Messenger from amongst them, but they belied him, wherefore Our torment seized them, while yet they were wrongdoers.
- 114. So eat of what Allah has provided you of lawful and clean things, and give thanks for Allah's Favour, if it is He Whom you are used to worship.
- 115. He has disallowed to you only
 the dead-meat and blood and
 swine-flesh and that over which
 is invoked the name of other
 than Allah; then whosoever is
 driven by necessity, not lusting
 nor transgressing, verily Allah is
 Forgiving, Merciful.
- 116. And do not say concerning that wherein your tongues utter a lie: this is allowed and this is forbidden, that you may forge a lie against Allah; those who forge a lie against Allah shall not prosper.

وَضَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلُا فَرْبَةُ كَانَتْ ، امِنَةُ مُظْمَيِنَةُ يَأْنِبِهَا رِزْفُهَا رَغَدُ امِن كُلِ مَكَانِ فَكَ فَرَتْ بِأَنْعُمِ اللَّهِ فَأَذَ فَهَا اللَّهُ لِبَّاسَ الْجُوعِ وَالْخَوْفِ بِمَاكَانُوا بَصْنَعُونَ لَيْ

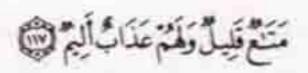
وَلَفَدْجَآءَ هُمْ رَسُولٌ مِنْهُمْ فَكَذَبُوهُ فَأَخَذَهُمُ الْعَذَابُ وَهُمْ طَلِيلُونَ ﷺ

فَكُلُواْمِمَّارُزَقَكُمُ اللَّهُ حَلَىٰلُاطَيِّبُا وَاشْكُرُواْ نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ إِن كُنتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ ﴿ الْنَا اللَّهِ إِن كُنتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ ﴿ الْنَا

إِنْمَاحَرَّمُ عَلَيْحَكُمُ ٱلْمَيْتَةَ وَٱلدَّمَ وَلَحْمَ الْخِنزِيرِ وَمَا أَهِلَ لِغَيْرِ ٱللَّهِ بِهِ " فَمَنِ اصْطُرَ عَيْرَبَاغِ وَلَاعَادِ فَإِنَ اللَّهَ عَفُورٌ رَّحِيدٌ ﴿

وَلَا نَقُولُوا لِمَا تَصِفُ أَلْسِنَنُكُمُ ٱلْكَذِبَ مَنْذَا حَلَنَالُ وَهَنْذَا حَرَامٌ لِنَفْتَرُوا عَلَى اللّهِ الْكَذِبُ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَفْتَرُونَ عَلَى اللّهِ الْكَذِبَ لَا يُقْلِحُونَ ﴿
إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَفْتَرُونَ عَلَى اللّهِ الْكَذِبَ لَا يُقْلِحُونَ ﴿

- A passing enjoyment; and then unto them shall be a torment afflictive.
- 118. To those who are Judaised We had forbidden what We have already recounted unto you; and We wronged them not, but themselves they were used to wrong.
- 119. Then, verily your Rabb unto those who work evil from ignorance and then repent and amend – your Rabb thereafter is to such Forgiving, Merciful.



وَعَلَ ٱلَّذِينَ هَادُواْ حَرَّمْنَا مَا فَصَصْنَا عَلَيْكَ مِن فَبْلُ وَمَاظَلَمْنَنَهُمْ وَلَنكِن كَانُواْ أَنْفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ ﴿

ثُمَّ إِنَّ رَبِّكَ لِلَّذِينَ عَيلُوا الشُّوَءَ بِحَهَ لَمَّ ثُمَّ تَابُوا مِنْ بَعْدِ ذَلِكَ وَأَصْلَحُوا إِنَّ رَبَّكَ مِنْ بَعْدِ هَا لَغَفُورٌ نَحِيمُ ۞

Secrets of Revelation

The Day of Judgment will be so traumatic that every one will be worried for his ownself, crying and yelling. The temporal relationships and ties will avail no body whatsoever. This hue and cry will be of no use either, as the requital will be thoroughly just and balanced without the slightest unfairness to anyone. His Mercy and Forgiveness will favour people whereby their insignificant virtuous deeds will be rewarded manifold, while the crimes and sinful acts will receive punishment only as much arthey deserve. And Allah's disobedience is a grave crime and the punishment it earns will not be light. History proves that there existed towns that offered an affluent and peaceful living. They were prosperous and rich in opportunity, but the dwellers failed to appreciate the Divine Favours. So Allah inflicted them with hunger and fear, as a consequence of their misconduct. The Makkans themselves were a living example, inflicted with famine after the Holy Prophet SAW had migrated to Madinah. They were forced to consume not only the cats and dogs but even the refuse. Then Abū Sufyān, who had not yet converted to Islam, requested him, invoking his benevolence and kindness, that afterall Makkans were his people and were on the verge of annihilation. The Holy Prophet SAW accepting his appeal sent food supplies from Madinah and also prayed for them. It was only then that the Makkans got a relief from famine.

Disbelief and Disobedience Cause Poverty

It is established that disbelief and disobedience invoke famine, poverty, and fear. The pro-Western class of our society often thinks aloud why these punishments are not seen in the non believing and immoral West. This is because they only see the outward glitter and are unaware of its inner state. In Europe and America, people cannot afford to host guests in their homes. They can neither feed their old parents, nor bring up their little kids without the Government support. This is despite the fact that a vast majority has to take up more than one job and struggle round the clock to make both ends meet. Such is their economic situation. Yet the most threatening and incurable ailment of that immoral society is fear. It is pitiful that they do not even know what they are afraid of, or what is the nature of this fear. That is why they call it 'Fear of the Unknown'. In fact, if we take a look at our own society, we will realize that an evildoer, despite being a millionaire, will also be a loan defaulter and will be haunted by fear. If only our countrymen could be forced out of Allah's disobedience by the authorities, all these problems would be automatically solved. Whenever any nation was similarly punished, the reason was always the same: they received Allah's Message but refuted His Messenger AS. And they were seized by His Punishment; no one wronged them but they wronged themselves.

Therefore, enjoy the provision of life created for you, but do earn lawfully, choosing the pure and the permissible. And be grateful to Him for His blessings, acknowledging His Greatness and proving as His humble worshipper.

Lawful Food

Food affects the conduct of its consumer. Permissible and pure food facilitate a capacity to be grateful to and worship Allah. According to a saying of the Holy Prophet unlawful food in the stomach makes prayers unacceptable and the flesh built by such food will not escape Fire.

There are foods which Allah has forbidden, for example, carrion in any form. Even if the animal was otherwise permissible, but died without formal slaughtering, it would be carrion. Blood and swine are also unlawful and those animals on which other than Allah's Name is invoked at the time of slaughtering. Of these, if someone on the verge of starvation consumes a little to save his life, and not to his fill or enjoyment there is no blame on him, for Allah is Forgiving and Merciful. The polythelists had on their own proclaimed many things as unlawful, of which only the above mentioned four had been

forbidden by Allah. The rest were their own fabrications. To declare something as forbidden or permissible at one's discretion amounts to fabricating lie on Allah. And this indeed is a crime grave enough for the guilty to be deprived of salvation forever. If they misconceive this temporary respite as success, it is of no avail. This life is extremely short while the punishment in store is very painful indeed. According to the Commentary by Maulana Ashraf 'Ali Thanvi'RUA, of the things declared forbidden by the polytheists only these four were in fact forbidden. However, there were other prohibitions for the Jews, which have been mentioned earlier. The Holy Prophet is informed that Allah had not wronged them, rather the prohibition was a result of their own misconduct. Allah is indeed Forgiving and Merciful. In the era of ignorance if any one indulged in any malpractice or was trapped in sin and disobedience, he may repent and will be forgiven. Besides, repentance refers to reformation of conduct and once that is achieved Allah's Forgiveness will closely follow.

Section 16

- 120. Verily Ibrahim was a pattern of piety, devout unto Allah, upright, and was not of the associators.
- Grateful for His Favours: He chose him and guided him to a straight path.
- 122. And We granted to him good in this world, and in the Hereafter he shall be of the righteous.
- 123. We Revealed afterwards unto you: follow you the faith of Ibrahīm the upright; and he was not of the associators.
- 124. The Sabbath was prescribed only for those who differed thereon, and your Rabb will decide between them on the Day

إِنَّ إِنْ إِنْ هِبِ مَا كَا أَمَّةُ فَايَتَا لِلَّهِ حَنِيفًا وَلَوْ يَكُ مِنَ ٱلْمُشْرِكِينَ ۞

شَاكِرُا لِأَنْفُولِهِ آجْتَبَنهُ وَهَدَنهُ إِلَى صِرَاطِ مُسْتَفِيمِ اللهِ ال

وَءَا نَيْنَهُ فِ ٱلدُّنْيَاحَسَنَةٌ وَإِنَّهُ فِ ٱلْآخِرَةِ لَمِنَ ٱلصَّنِلِحِينَ (إِنَّ)

ثُمَّ أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ أَنِ أَنِّعْ مِلَةَ إِنْ هِي مَخْيِفًا وَمَاكَانَ مِنَ ٱلْمُشْرِكِينَ ﴿

إِنْمَاجُعِلَ السَّبَتُ عَلَى الَّذِينَ اخْتَلَفُوا فِيهُ وَإِذَ رَبِّكَ لَيُحَكُّرُ بَيْنَهُمْ يَوْمَ ٱلْقِيكَ مَةِ فِيمَا of Judgment concerning that wherein they differed.

- Rabb with wisdom and goodly exhortation, and argue with them with what is best. Verily your Rabb! He is the best Knower of him who has strayed from His way, and He is the Best Knower of the guided ones.
- 126. And if you chastise, then chastise with the like of what you were chastised with, and if you endure patiently then surely it is better for the patient.
- 127. And endure them patiently, and your patience is not but from Allah; and do not grieve over them, and do not you be in straitness because of what they plot.
- 128. Allah is with those who are in awe of Him and those who are well doers.

كَانُواْفِيهِ يَغْنَلِفُونَ ١

أَدْعُ إِلَىٰ سَبِيلِ رَبِكَ بِالْحِكْمَةِ وَٱلْمَوْعِظَةِ
الْحُسَنَةِ وَحَدِلْهُ مِ بِالْتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ
الْحُسَنَةِ وَحَدِلْهُ مِ بِالْتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ
هُوَأَعْلَمُ مُواعَلَمُ مِنْ صَلَّى عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ . وَهُوَأَعْلَمُ
بِالْمُهُنَدِينَ اللهُ مُنْ اللهُ مَنْ اللهُ اللهُ عَنْ اللهُ مُنْ اللهُ اللهُ عَنْ اللهُ الله

وَإِنْ عَافَيْتُ مُ فَعَافِهُ أَبِعِثْلِ مَاعُوفِ مُنْتُربِهِ." وَلَهِن صَبَرْتُمْ لَهُوَ خَبْرٌ لِلصَّنَدِينَ ﴾

وَاصْدِرُ وَمَاصَدُرُكَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ وَلَا تَصْرُدُ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا تَكُ فِي ضَبْنِي مِعَايِمَ كُرُونَ ﴿

إِنَّ أُلِلَّهَ مَعَ ٱلَّذِينَ أَنَّ عَواْ وَٱلَّذِينَ هُم مُحْسِنُونَ ﴿

Secrets of Revelation

Whether it is the polytheists of Arabia or the Jews and Christians, their claim of conformance to Prophet Ibrahīm AS seems very absurd in the light of their beliefs and practices. Prophet Ibrahīm AS was a great leader and truly obedient servant of Allah. He never concocted his beliefs or practices, whereas the entire religion of these people is fabricated. He never indulged in polytheism, whereas it forms the very basis of their religion. Besides, he was a person grateful to Allah for His endowments, and was Allah's chosen one. He fought against the entire society, the rulers as well as every evil force without giving up Allah's obedience. The love for his family and home could not deter him

from migrating in Allah's Cause. He abandoned his wife and beloved son in the desert on His Command and was chosen as the leader, the guide and the precursor for generations to come. Allah honoured him with a very high status in this world and in the Akhirah he will be amongst His favourites. O' Prophet New! We enjoined upon you to follow the ways of Ibrahīm New, to obey Allah with the same dedication and in the same way. His obedience is exemplary as he was thoroughly upright and straight. He was never ever a polytheist like these people, nor did he adopt any rituals as are invented by them. And this classification of lawful and the forbidden and consecration of days was never enjoined on him, nor he ever practised it as these people do.

To Consecrate Days at will - as Serious a Crime as Concocting the Lawful and the Forbidden

For instance, take the special reverence attached to Sabbath (Saturday). Who Commanded the Jews contemporary to Holy Prophet to observe its sanctity, whereas it was only a specific order enjoined upon the people of a particular time. Of them some accepted it while those who disputed over and violated it were annihilated. The actual retribution for defying Allah's Command awaits them in the Akhirah, when all the disputes will be resolved by a Divine Judgement. It is, therefore, obvious that consecration of days is as big a crime as declaring something permissible and forbidden by own choice. The Holy Prophet sassigned to invite people to Allah, with wisdom and by way of counselling towards his Rabb.

The Method of Invitation

It is evident here that the real aim of Prophethood is to invite people to Allah. The establishment of an Islamic State, maintaining an Army for Jihād, the Legislature and the Administration, are all efforts towards the achievement of this basic objective. Therefore, a country where all these State functions exist yet the Divine Laws are not implemented, the State remains indifferent by declaring religion as a personal matter, and uses the State resources only to protect the interests of the ruling lot, can in no way be termed as Islamic. To turn it into an Islamic State is the first and the foremost duty of its every Muslim citizen, as implementation of Dīn is a prerequisite to bring people closer to Allah and make them submit only to Him. As for the mode that should be adopted for calling people to Allah, the invitation will be extended with great wisdom and sagacity, in the form of counselling, which should make it obvious that the counsellor has the addressee's welfare at heart. So, while inviting someone to Allah, one must talk in a way to let the listener

know that it is in his own interest to obey Allah and the speaker is not imposing himself on him in the name of religion. In nutshell, two factors are basic to this invitation, namely:

- (1) Wisdom. It means that one must analyze the situation and speak as it dictates. The time and the place should be right. This includes analysing the kind of disobedience people are indulged in, whether they practise polytheism or disbelief, or are involved in innovations. And what is their level of knowledge and understanding as well as their worldly status? Keeping all these factors in mind the most appropriate way to explain things must be chosen, and due regard will be given to the condition and needs of the addressee.
- (2) Fair Exhortation. The listener will be spoken to in the form of fair exhortation. 'Mo'izah' means to urge earnestly; to give advice with the foremost aim of betterment of the listener. The addition of the word 'Ḥasanah' refers to the fact that this entire exercise is to be carried out meticulously and sincerely.
- (3) Positive Discussion. If the situation arises whereby the addressee or any of his friends tries to prove their stance as correct and the point of view of the preacher as wrong through arguments or disputation, the preacher must not allow beauty and grace to slip out of his arguments. The beauty in a discussion or disputation lies in the fact that it is conducted only for establishing the truth and not for merely deriding the opponent or for establishing one's own supremacy in knowledge. Moreover, mutual respect must be maintained throughout the discussion without resorting to any sarcasm whatsoever. The Divine Book presents examples of this gracious mode of invitation; for instance, when Allah deputed Prophets Mūsa-AS and Harūn-AS to invite the arch infidel and tyrant Pharaoh who had claimed divinity for himself. Allah Commanded them to speak softly and in an appealing manner. And who would be more unfortunate than the one who instead of conveying Allah's Message and establishing His Greatness desires to establish his own superiority? This indeed is a point to ponder for the religious scholars and especially for the spiritual mentors.

The duty assigned to the Holy Prophet saw is merely to invite people to Allah; who would opt for disobedience or for guidance is in the Knowledge of the Munificent. Hardships on this path are inevitable. The non believers and the antagonists will not hesitate to physically harm the believers and even the

Holy Prophet SAW. If it comes to that point, he may also retaliate, but only to the extent that when he subdues them he may inflict an equal harm. However, if he observes patience even in this condition and overlooks their behaviour, it is certainly a very commendable act. And as for the exalted personality of the Holy Prophet SAW, tolerance and perseverance are more befitting to his grace, because his perseverance is by the capacity Allah has granted to him. So he should not grieve over the vexations of the non believers and the polytheists towards him and the believers, as their contrivance cannot harm him in any way.

Personal Company

O' Prophet SAW! You and those benefiting from your Barakah are blessed with linean. In terms of inner states of the heart, you are blessed with Divine Nearness and Taqwa, and a perfectly sincere relationship with Him. Surely such people enjoy His Personal Company, the outcome whereof is that the conspiracies of the wicked can cause them no harm.