

سُورَةُ الرَّحْمٰنِ

Surah Ar-Rūm

(THE BYZANTIANS)

This Sūrah was also revealed in Makkah.

Section 1

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

1. Alif. Lām. Mīm.
2. The Byzantians have been defeated.
3. In a nearer land, and they, after being defeated, shall soon overcome.
4. In a few years. Allah's is the Command, before and after, and on that day the believers shall rejoice.
5. In Allah's succour, He succours whom He will. And He is the Mighty, the Merciful.
6. This is Allah's Promise and Allah does not fail His Promise. Yet most men know not.
7. They only know the outside appearance of the life of the world, and they! Of the Hereafter they are neglectful.
8. Do they not ponder in their minds? Allah has not created the heavens and the earth and what is in-between except with a purpose and for an appointed term? And verily many men are

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

اَلَمْ

غَلِبَتِ الرَّوْمُ

فِيْ اَدْنٰی الْاَرْضِ وَهُمْ مِنْۢ بَعْدِ

غَلِبِهِمْ سَيَغْلِبُوْنَ

فِيْ يَضَعُ يَدِيْهِ لِلّٰهِ الْاَمْرُ مِنْ قَبْلُ

وَمِنْۢ بَعْدُ وَيَوْمَئِذٍ يَفْرَحُ الْمُؤْمِنُوْنَ

يَنْصُرِ اللّٰهُ مَنۢ يَّشَآءُ

وَهُوَ الْعَزِیْزُ الرَّحِیْمُ

وَعَدَ اللّٰهُ لَا يَخْلِفُ اللّٰهُ وَعْدَهُۥٓ وَلٰكِنۡ اَكْثَرُ النَّاسِ

لَا يَعْلَمُوْنَ

يَعْلَمُوْنَ ظَهْرًا مِّنَ الْحَيٰوةِ الدُّنْيَا وَهُمْ عَنِ الْاٰخِرَةِ

هُمْ غٰفِلُوْنَ

اَوَلَمْ يَتَفَكَّرُوْا فِیْ اَنْفُسِهِمْۙ مَا خَلَقَ اللّٰهُ السَّمٰوٰتِ

وَالْاَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَاۙ اِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ وَاَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّىۙ

وَإِنَّ كَثِیْرًا مِّنَ النَّاسِ بِلِقَآئِ رَبِّهِمْ

disbelievers in the meeting of their Rabb.

9. Have they not journeyed in the land and observed how has been the end of those before them? Those were stronger than these in power and they broke up the earth and they inhabited it with greater affluence than these have inhabited it, and their Messengers came to them with evidences. And Allah was not one to wrong them, but they were used to wrong themselves.
10. Then the end of those who committed evil was evil, for they belied the Signs of Allah, and they were used to mock at them.

أَوَلَمْ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَيَنْظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ
الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ كَانُوا أَشَدَّ مِنْهُمْ قُوَّةً وَأَنَارُوا
الْأَرْضَ وَعَمَرُوهَا أَكْثَرَ مِمَّا عَمَرُوهَا وَجَاءَتْهُمْ
رُسُلُهُمْ بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ فَمَا كَانُوا لِيُظْلَمَهُمْ
وَلَكِن كَانُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ ﴿٩﴾

ثُمَّ كَانَ عَاقِبَةَ الَّذِينَ أَسْتَوُوا السُّوْءَىٰ أَن كَذَّبُوا
بَيِّنَاتِ اللَّهِ وَكَانُوا بِهَا يَسْتَهْزِئُونَ ﴿١٠﴾

Secrets of Revelation

A battle was fought between the Romans and the Persians. The former were People of the Book while the latter were Zoroastrians. Though they were both infidels, yet the Muslims had a soft corner for People of the Book, but they lost this battle. The Persians captured some of the cities along the border including Constantinople where Chosroes made a fire temple and the polytheists rejoiced. This Sūrah was revealed to announce that though the Romans had capitulated now yet they would prevail again in the coming years. So the polytheists' rejoicing was short-lived. This indeed was a great prophecy as outwardly there were no signs of their victory and the polytheists were satisfied that a reversal was no longer possible. Allah reiterated that it would certainly happen and that would be a day of great celebration for the Muslims. And it did happen. The Muslims were greatly overjoyed because firstly, the prophecy of the Qurān had come true thus manifesting a miracle of the Holy Prophet ^{SAW}, and secondly, at the very same time the Muslims had emerged victorious in a grand way in the Battle of Badr. Both the belligerents were infidel powers who were to fight Islam sooner or later, so the mutual fighting would have weakened them.

The assumption of the infidels that the Romans cannot win again is similar to their opinion about the believers that they will not be able to fight them. But their assessments are based on the strength of outward means while the victory comes by **Allah's** succour at **His** Pleasure. He blessed the Muslims with a victory over the Makkans, which was apparently impossible. In the same way He made the Romans prevail over the Persians, for He indeed is all Prevailing and Merciful.

Allah's Word is ever inevitable, as He Himself enforces it. He never violates His Promise, but majority of people fail to appreciate this fact. They are engrossed in the worldly means, affluence and merry making, totally oblivious of **Akhirah**, whereas Allah's Promise will surely prevail.

Did they ever contemplate over the immaculate proportion of whatever Allah has created in the heavens and the earth? A continuous evolution of things having specific properties made by a specific combination of constituents, in a universal system smoothly functioning without there ever being an error, is indeed remarkable. The sun, the moon, the rainfall, the winds, the plantation - everything is functioning as programmed. And when the same Magnificent Creator determines the time to resurrect everything, why do they think it would not happen? A majority of the people deny the Day of Judgment and the fact that they will have to stand in Allah's Court. If they are blinded by their wealth and power, don't they travel on the land and witness the fate met by the infidels gone by? They were wealthier and more influential, enjoying much more power. Allah had sent His Messengers^{AS} unto them with clear evidences, but they had refused to believe and were thus destroyed. Allah never wronged them rather they wronged themselves by opting for infidelity. So their fate turned out to be as evil as their conduct, for they not only resorted to denial but also derided Divine Revelations.

Section 2

11. Allah originates the creation, then He shall restore it, then to Him you shall be returned.

اللَّهُ يَبْدَأُ الْخَلْقَ ثُمَّ يُعِيدُهُ
ثُمَّ إِلَيْهِ تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿١١﴾

12. And on the Day whereon the Hour arrives the culprits will be dumb-struck.

وَيَوْمَ يَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ يُبْلِسُ الْمُجْرِمُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

13. And not from their associate-gods there will be intercessors

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُمْ مِنْ شُرَكَائِهِمْ سُفْعَةٌ

for them, and they will deny their associate-gods.

14. On the Day whereon the Hour arrives, that Day they will be separated.
15. Then as for those who believed and worked righteous deeds, they shall be in a meadow made happy.
16. And as for those who disbelieved and belied Our Signs and the meeting of the Hereafter – these shall be brought to the torment.
17. So hallow Allah when you enter the night and when you enter the morning.
18. And His is all Praise in the heavens and the earth, and at sun's setting and decline and when you enter the noon.
19. He brings forth the living from the lifeless, and He brings forth the lifeless from the living, and He revives the earth after its death, and thus you too will be brought forth.

وَكَا نُؤَايُشْرَكَائِهِمْ كُفْرِينَ ﴿١٣﴾

وَيَوْمَ نَقُومُ السَّاعَةَ يُؤْمِدُ بِنَفَرٍ قَوْتٍ ﴿١٤﴾

فَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ
فَهُمْ فِي رَوْضَةٍ يُحْبَرُونَ ﴿١٥﴾

وَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَكَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا وَلِقَاءِ الْآخِرَةِ
فَأُولَٰئِكَ فِي الْعَذَابِ مُخَضَّرُونَ ﴿١٦﴾

فَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ حِينَ تُمْسُونَ وَحِينَ تُصْبِحُونَ ﴿١٧﴾

وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ
وَعِشْيَا وَحِينَ تُظْهِرُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

يُخْرِجُ الْحَيَّ مِنَ الْمَيِّتِ وَيُخْرِجُ الْمَيِّتَ مِنَ الْحَيِّ
وَيُحْيِي الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا وَكَذَٰلِكَ تُخْرَجُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

Secrets of Revelation

It is as evident as broad daylight that Allah creates everything, giving it an existence from a state of nonentity. He will certainly quicken and everyone shall return to Him. It does not matter if people deny it now. Soon, on the Day of Judgment, their hopes will fizzle out. Even those whom they ascribe as partners with Allah will not be able to intercede for them. Losing all hopes with their deities, they would refute that they had ever considered them as partners with Allah.

On that Day, people will be divided into different slots; the nobles and the evils, the believers and the non believers. Those who had embraced faith and acted piously will be received in beautiful gardens for entertainment, while those who had opted for infidelity and had denied the Revelations of Allah and the Day shall be gathered for punishment.

Perpetual Zikr

To achieve eternal success one must perpetually remember and glorify Allah - sleep in His remembrance, and rise in it. This is because He Alone in the entire universe is Worthy of all the Praise. So remember Him not only in the mornings and evenings but also at midday and midnight. His Praise includes Şalât, repeating His Name on a rosary, recitation of the Qurân and all other noble practices. The real inference here is Zikr-e-Qalbi, so that no moment of neglect is ever passed. The evidences to His Omnipotence are so glaring. He brings forth the living from the dead, that is, creates the living from the matter. Similarly He imposes death upon bodies full of life, just as the entire face of earth becomes arid and dead only to be revived by Him. So will mankind be quickened one Day.

Section 3

20. And of His Signs is that He created you of dust, and then lo! You are human beings spreading yourselves.
21. And of His Signs is, that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find repose in them, and He set between you affection and mercy, verily in this are Signs for a people who ponder.
22. And of His Signs are creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variation of your languages and complexions? Verily in this are Signs for men of knowledge.
23. And of His Signs are your sleeping by night and day, and your seeking of His Grace.

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ تُرَابٍ
ثُمَّ إِذَا أَنْتُمْ بَشَرٌ تَنْتَشِرُونَ ﴿٢٠﴾

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا
لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً وَرَحْمَةً
إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يُفَكِّرُونَ ﴿٢١﴾

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَخْتِلَافُ
اللِّسَانِ وَالْوَسْطُ الْبَيْنِيكُمْ وَالْوَسْطُ الْبَيْنِيكُمْ
لَآيَاتٍ لِلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ مَنَامُكُمْ بِاللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ وَابْتِغَاؤُكُمْ
مِنْ فَضْلِهِ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ

Verily in this are Signs for a people who listen.

24. And of His Signs is that He shows you lightning for a fear and for a hope, and sends down from the sky water. And therewith revives the earth after its death; verily in this are Signs for a people who reflect.

25. And of His Signs is that the heavens and the earth stand fast by His Command, and thereafter when He calls you, a call from the earth, lo! You shall come forth.

26. His is whosoever is in the heavens and the earth; all are obedient to Him.

27. And He it is Who originates the creation, then shall restore it, and this is for Him very easy. His is the Most Exalted similitude in the heavens and the earth, and He is the Mighty.

لِقَوْمٍ يَسْمَعُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ يُرِيكُمُ الْبَرْقَ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا
وَيُنزِلُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَيُخْرِجُ بِهِ الْأَرْضَ
بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ
يَعْقِلُونَ ﴿١٣﴾

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ تَقُومَ السَّمَاءُ وَالْأَرْضُ بِأَمْرِهِ
ثُمَّ إِذَا دَعَاكُمْ دَعْوَةً مِنَ الْأَرْضِ إِذَا أَنْتُمْ تَخْرُجُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

وَلَهُ مَنْ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ
كُلُّ لَهُ قَانُونٌ ﴿١٥﴾

وَهُوَ الَّذِي يَبْدَأُ الْخَلْقَ ثُمَّ يُعِيدُهُ وَهُوَ أَهْوَنُ
عَلَيْهِ وَلَهُ الْمَثَلُ الْأَعْلَىٰ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ
وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿١٦﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Human Creation

And of His Signs, a very significant one is the creation of human beings. He shapes the clay into different forms; varieties of food and grains, fruits, fodder for the animals to serve as sources of milk and meat. These components are then given the form of sperm and planted into the female's womb, wherein a human being is created. And once delivered, he dreams of conquering the entire world.

And then He does not create only men, but also creates the women from the same womb who are altogether different in terms of physical features, temperaments and capabilities. He then makes them a match for men that

together they may serve to preserve the human race. And **He** did not confine their task to a mere obligation of Shari'ah but instilled feelings of mutual love in the hearts of the spouses, not only to rear a family but also prove as a Divine Mercy for everyone. If the entire system is pondered over, there are ample Signs of His Magnificence.

His Absolute Omnipotence is manifested in the creation of the heavens and the unlimited wonders they hold, and the earth with its innumerable qualities. And **He** has blessed the dwellers of the earth with different complexions and dialects. The residents of various countries, despite sharing similar needs, are different from one another in terms of complexion, facial features and language. If only this aspect is taken into consideration, it presents unlimited evidence for the entire world. When one sleeps at night, as if in a state of coma severing all worldly ties and distinctions, it is indeed an evidence of His Magnificence. Similarly, waking up in the morning to engage once again in the temporal affairs is a sign for those who pay heed and ponder.

Thunderbolts and thundering clouds bear witness to His Absolute Omnipotence. Although they terrify the hearts, yet the showers of His Mercy also expected to pour down from these clouds in order to enliven the lifeless soil. For a person with a sound mind, these phenomena are replete with evidence. 'Science' is nothing but a careful deliberation over these realities. It is truly wise to understand this science and recognise Allah's Magnificence through it. It must be seen how the Supreme Being keeps the earth and the heavens in position, without apparent supports. The earth spins around and is suspended in space by a Divine Plan. And how much life is there on earth which is constantly reverting to dust! When the Absolutely Powerful Being running such a meticulous System will summon the dead, they will promptly rise from the depths of the earth to stand before Him. The entire universal system has not come about accidentally but has been created by Him. He owns everything, be it entities, means or methods; all are subservient to Him. It is He Alone Who creates from non-existence and shall ultimately bring everyone back to life, which is indeed a very simple thing for Him to do. There is no one like Him, the Most Exalted in the heavens and the earth, Who Prevails over everything and is indeed the Wisest.

Section 4

28 He propounds to you a similitude taken from yourselves. Have you, from among those whom your right

ضَرَبَ لَكُمْ مَثَلًا مِّنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ هَلْ لَكُمْ
مِّنْ مَّا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ مِّنْ شُرَكَاءَ

hand possess, partners in that which We have provided, so that you are equal in respect thereof and you fear them as you fear each other? Thus do We detail the Signs for a people who reflect.

29. Aye! Those who do wrong follow their own lusts without knowledge Who, then, will guide them whom Allah has sent astray? And for them there will be no helpers.

30. So set you your face towards the true faith uprightly. And follow you the constitution of Allah according to which He has constituted mankind and let there be no alteration in Allah's creation. That is the right religion, but most men know not.

31. And remain turning penitently to Him, and fear Him, and establish Ṣalāt, and be not of the associaters.

32. Of those who split their religion and become sects, each band is exulting what is with it.

33. And when any hurt visits mankind, they cry to their Rabb turning penitently to Him; then when He causes them to taste of His Mercy, lo! A part of them joins others with their Rabb.

34. So that they may be ungrateful for that which We have vouchsafed to them. So enjoy awhile; presently you shall come to know.

فِي مَا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ فَأَنْتُمْ فِيهِ سَوَاءٌ تَخَافُونَهُمْ
كَخِيفَتِكُمْ أَنْفُسَكُمْ كَذَلِكَ نُفَصِّلُ
الْآيَاتِ لِقَوْمٍ يَعْقِلُونَ ﴿٤٨﴾

بَلِ اتَّبَعَ الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ
فَمَنْ يَهْدِي مَنْ أَضَلَّ اللَّهُ وَمَا لَهُمْ
مِنْ نَصِيرِينَ ﴿٤٩﴾

فَأَقِمْ وَجْهَكَ لِلدِّينِ حَنِيفًا فِطْرَتَ اللَّهِ
الَّتِي فَطَرَ النَّاسَ عَلَيْهَا لَا يَبْدِيلُ لِخَلْقِ اللَّهِ
ذَلِكَ الدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ
النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾

مُنِيبِينَ إِلَيْهِ وَاتَّقُوهُ وَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ
وَلَا تَكُونُوا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ ﴿٥١﴾

مِنَ الَّذِينَ فَرَّقُوا دِينَهُمْ وَكَانُوا شِبَعًا
كُلُّ حِزْبٍ بِمَا لَدَيْهِمْ فَرِحُونَ ﴿٥٢﴾

وَإِذَا مَسَّ النَّاسَ ضُرٌّ دَعَوْا رَبَّهُمْ مُنِيبِينَ إِلَيْهِ
ثُمَّ إِذَا أَذَقَهُمْ مِنْهُ رَحْمَةً إِذَا فَرِيقٌ مِّنْهُمْ
بِرَبِّهِمْ يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٥٣﴾

لِيَكْفُرُوا بِمَا آتَيْنَاهُمْ فَتَمَتَّعُوا فَسَوْفَ
تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٥٤﴾

35. Or, have We sent to them any authority, so that it speaks of what they have been associating with Him?

أَمْ أَنْزَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ سُلْطٰنًا فَهِيَ تَكْتُمُ
بِمَا كَانُوا بِهِ يَشْرِكُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾

36. And when We cause mankind to taste of Mercy, they exult at it; then if an evil befalls them because of what their hands have sent forth; lo! They despair.

وَإِذَا أَذَقْنَا النَّاسَ رَحْمَةً فَرِحُوا بِهَا وَإِن تُصِيبَهُمْ
سَيِّئَةٌ يُمَاقِدَتَّ أَبْدِيهِمْ وَإِذَا هُمْ يَقْنَطُونَ ﴿٣٦﴾

37. Do they not see that Allah expands the provision for whomever He will, and stints? Verily in that is a Sign for a people who believe.

أَوَلَمْ يَرَوْا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَن يَشَاءُ
وَيَقْدِرُ إِن فِي ذٰلِكَ لَآيٰتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٣٧﴾

38. So give you to the kinsman his due and to the needy and to the wayfarer. That is the best for those who seek Allah's Pleasure, and those are the blissful ones.

فَاتِ ذَا الْقُرْبٰنِي حَقَّهُ وَالْيَتٰمٰنِ وَالسَّابِغِ
ذٰلِكَ خَيْرٌ لِّلَّذِيكَ يُرِيدُونَ وَجْهَ اللَّهِ وَأَوْلٰئِكَ
هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٣٨﴾

39. And whatever you give in gift in order that it may increase among the substance of men does not increase with Allah, and what you pay in poor-rate seeking the favour of Allah, then these! They shall have manifold increase.

وَمَا أَتَيْتُم مِّن رِّبَا لِّيَرْبُوَ فِي أَمْوَالِ النَّاسِ فَلَا يَرْبُوا
عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَمَا أَتَيْتُم مِّن زَكٰوٰتٍ تُرِيدُونَ وَجْهَ اللَّهِ
فَأَوْلٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُضْعِفُونَ ﴿٣٩﴾

40. Allah is He Who created you and provided food for you, then He causes you to die, and then He shall quicken you. Is there any of your associate-gods that does anything of that? Hallowed and exalted be He above what they associate!

اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ تُعَذِّبُكُمْ ثُمَّ يُرِيكُمْ
ثُمَّ يُحْيِيكُمْ هَلْ مِن شُرَكَآئِكُمْ مَّن يَفْعَلُ
مِن ذٰلِكُمْ مِّن شَيْءٍ سُبْحٰنَهُ وَتَعَالٰى
عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٤٠﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Allah draws a parable for people to understand. They should reflect over the fact that human beings like their own selves, who are also Allah's creation and share the same traits as them, are their slaves and servants. Because of this single reason they cannot dispense the wealth or any possessions of their owners without permission. Similarly, in situations where people have partnerships or joint ventures, they are afraid of annoying their partners, and do not take any decisions without their consent. Now coming to the partners people ascribe to Allah, they are His creation and do not share any attribute with Him. Had there been any partners to Allah, the entire system would not have been functioning by His Will, and would have collapsed.

Allah expounds evidences clearly but only those can understand who have sense, while the perception of the transgressors has been depraved because of their indulgence in vain desires. They simply act to satiate their lust without any logical reason. And when the wickedness of a person touches a certain level, Allah gets annoyed and facilitates digression. Then, none can guide or help such a person. So O' Reader! Face in the right direction, turn away from all other sides, and adhere to Islam with full dedication.

Religion of Nature

Islam is the true way of life. It is fully compatible to human nature in its undistorted form. For instance, man by nature dislikes subservience to others, and Islam upholds his dignity. It declares that each individual is only Allah's slave and none other's. Everyone seeks protection of life, wealth, and honour, which is guaranteed in the most appropriate and perfect way by Islam. In short, in every aspect of life - precepts, practices and morals - Islam indeed is the closest to human nature. He does not alter anyone's nature, unless a person himself distorts it by evil conduct and environment. This is why the righteous scholars vehemently assert that it is obligatory to abstain from evil company in order to safeguard one's natural capacity. Islam is the straight path, but most of the people who have destroyed themselves inwardly fail to discern this reality. So pin all hopes on Allah and show no neglect in His obedience and worship. And never indulge in polytheism, as the people practising it have created schism in Dīn and have become divided into many factions.

Shi'a

Here the word *Shi'a* has been used to denote an erring faction. Each faction was content with its waywardness conjuring to be on the right path while the truth lay in the obedience and worship of Allah. They had abandoned the truth

and accepted the opinions of fellow beings, thereby creating dissension in Dīn and becoming schismatic.

This highlights the reality of human nature. When a person is faced with turmoil whereby he becomes hopeless of getting any help from any quarter, he calls out to Allah, with utmost devotion. That is, he reverts to his nature. Allah being Merciful alleviates his suffering. Despite this some people again turn to polytheism, failing to appreciate His favours and His bounties. They will soon face the consequences as Allah has not revealed any Sign or Book enjoining polytheism on them.

It has been highlighted earlier that the polytheists do not have any logical evidence to support polytheism, for in moments of distress they abandon all deities and call out only to Allah. Now it is added that they do not possess any recorded evidence on polytheism either. They are overwhelmed with joy when blessed by Allah, but when they, because of their own misdeeds, face any trouble they simply lose all hope. In other words, they do not enjoy a relationship with Him, neither in weal nor in woe. Don't they observe that Allah blesses whoever He may please with unlimited bounties and straitens for whoever He likes? This is by His Wisdom, and all those blessed with faith see very clear Signs in this distribution. Anyone blessed with affluence does not become its sole owner as Allah has apportioned the share of many others, such as the relatives, the needy and the wayfarer. This share is dispensed in the form of Zakāt, alms or other voluntary donations. For those who seek His Pleasure, the best course of action indeed is to sacrifice mundane wealth over His Pleasure, and these are the ones destined to succeed.

And if a relative or a friend is extended help with the intention of receiving more in return, as is generally practised on occasions like weddings or deaths, the reward with Allah does not increase. It is only the wealth given purely to attain Allah's Pleasure that becomes manifold and its rewards constantly increase.

Allah is the One Who has created you and provides you without fail as long as He keeps you in this world. He then lets death to prevail over you, and He will quicken you. Can your self proclaimed deities whom you ascribe as partners to Him do any of these? Surely not; so be very clear that He is far too exalted and pure of your polytheistic rubbish.

Section 5

41. Corruption has prevailed on land
and sea because of what men's

ظَهَرَ الْفَسَادُ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ

hands have earned, so that He may make them taste a part of what they have worked, in order that perhaps they may turn.

42. Say you: Go forth in the land and see what has been the end of those who were before you. And most of them were associators.
43. So set your face towards the right religion before the Day arrives from which there is no averting from Allah. On that Day they shall be sundered.
44. Whoever disbelieves, on him is his infidelity, and those who work righteously are preparing themselves.
45. So that He shall recompense out of His Grace those who believe and work righteous deeds; verily He does not approve the infidels.
46. And of His Signs is that He sends winds heralding rain and that He may make you taste of His Mercy, and that the ships may sail at His Command, and that you seek His Grace, and that perhaps you may return thanks.
47. And assuredly We sent Messengers before you to their people. They brought them manifest Signs. Then We requited them who transgressed. And incumbent upon Us was to avenge the believers.
48. Allah is He Who sends the winds so that they raise a cloud and then spreads it along the sky

أَيْدِي النَّاسِ لِيُذِيقَهُمْ بَعْضَ الَّذِي عَمِلُوا
لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ ﴿١١﴾

قُلْ سِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَانظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ
الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلُ كَانَ أَكْثَرُهُمْ مُشْرِكِينَ ﴿١٢﴾

فَأَقِمْ وَجْهَكَ لِلدِّينِ الْقَدِيمِ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ
يَوْمٌ لَا مَرَدَّ لَهُ مِنْ اللَّهِ يَوْمَئِذٍ يُصَدِّعُونَ ﴿١٣﴾

مَنْ كَفَرَ فَعَلَيْهِ كُفْرُهُ، وَمَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا
فَلَا نَفْسِهِمْ يَمْهَدُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

لِيَجْزِيَ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ
مِنْ فَضْلِهِ ؕ إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿١٥﴾

وَمِنْ ءَايَاتِهِ أَنْ يُرْسِلَ الرِّيحَ مُبَشِّرَاتٍ وَلِيُذِيقَكُمْ
مِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ، وَلِتَجْرِيَ الْفُلُكُ بِأَمْرِهِ
وَلِتَبْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِهِ، وَلَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿١٦﴾

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ رُسُلًا إِلَىٰ قَوْمِهِمْ فَجَاءَهُمْ
بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ فَأَنْفَعْتُمَا مِنَ الَّذِينَ أَجْرَمُوا وَكَانَ حَقًّا
عَلَيْنَا نَصْرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿١٧﴾

اللَّهُ الَّذِي يُرْسِلُ الرِّيحَ فَتُثِيرُ سَحَابًا فَيَبْسُطُهُ
فِي السَّمَاءِ كَيْفَ يَشَاءُ وَيَجْعَلُهُ كِسْفًا فَنَرَىٰ

as He will, and then breaks it into fragments, and you see the rain come forth from its midst. Then when He makes it fall upon such of His bondmen as He will. Lo! They rejoice.

49. Even though before it was sent down upon them, they were surely despairing before that.

50. Look then at the effects of Allah's Mercy: how He revives the earth after its death, verily He is the Quickener of the dead, He is Potent over everything.

51. And if We send a wind and they should see their tilth yellow, then they would thereafter remain disbelieving.

52. Surely you cannot make the dead hear, nor can you make the deaf hear the call when they turn away in flight.

53. Nor can you be a guide to the blind out of their error; you can make none to hear save those who believe in Our Signs, and who have surrendered.

الْوَدْقَ يُخْرِجُ مِنْ خِلَالِهِ فَإِذَا أَصَابَ بِهِ مِنْ يَسَاءٍ
مِنْ عِبَادِهِ إِذَا هُمْ يَسْتَبِشِرُونَ ﴿٤٨﴾

وَإِنْ كَانُوا مِنْ قَبْلُ أَنْ يُنزَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ
لَمُبِيلِينَ ﴿٤٩﴾

فَانظُرْ إِلَى مَا نَزَرْنَا مِنْ رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ كَيْفَ يُحْيِي الْأَرْضَ
بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا إِنَّ ذَلِكَ لَمُحْيِي الْمَوْتَى
وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٥٠﴾

وَلَئِنْ أَرْسَلْنَا رِيحًا فَرَأَوْهُ مُصْفَرًّا لَظَلُّوا مِنْ بَعْدِهِ
يَكْفُرُونَ ﴿٥١﴾

فَإِنَّكَ لَا تَسْمِعُ الْمَوْتَى وَلَا تَسْمِعُ الصُّمَّ الدُّعَاءَ
إِذَا وَلَوْ أَمْذَبِينَ ﴿٥٢﴾

وَمَا أَنْتَ بِهَادٍ الْعُمَى عَنْ ضَلَالَتِهِمْ إِنْ تُسْمِعُ
إِلَّا مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا فَهُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿٥٣﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Besides annoying Allah, infidelity and polytheism also disrupt the universal system, causing mischief on land and sea. Although Allah, out of His Mercy, does not punish people for all their sins instantly and grants them respite, yet the evil effects of sins are manifested every now and then. For instance, the infidel world promoted immorality under the cover of women liberation, but it has proved to be a punishment for them. Today, peace and harmony of every household is in shambles, so much so that the lineage of children cannot be

traced. Fatal diseases like Aids are the by-products of debauchery. Similar are the evil consequences of interest based economy. Allah wants people to observe these consequences and repent and revert to Him.

The Holy Prophet^{SAW} may ask the infidels to ponder over the ruins of the nations destroyed across the globe. They were the people who indulged in polytheism, which led to their misfortune. 'O Reader! Stand fast on Islam with utmost sincerity, else Allah's punishments are inevitable. The time of respite is only until death or the establishment of the Day of Judgment. On that Day people will be gathered in separate groups. Those who had indulged in infidelity would be punished for it while those who had acted piously for themselves, will be rewarded graciously. Indeed the rewards of Allah shall far out class their deeds. He will bless the righteous believers with His Forgiveness and He does not like the non believers.

Another proof of His Omnipotence is that He fills the wind with life and wherever it blows, carries the glad tidings of rain with it. He has created such a beautiful System that His Mercy reaches mankind in the form of rain and cloud. He made rivers and oceans and taught man how to sail ships. All this takes place by His Absolute Omnipotence, so that man may find means of livelihood and be thankful to Him.

O' Prophet^{SAW}! We did send Our Messengers unto nations before you, with clear evidence. The infidels and polytheists of those nations rebelled and stood against the believers. They were ultimately destroyed to avenge their crime. And the believers were helped to prevail upon them as Allah had promised His help, and He was to do it.

Allah, the Almighty ladens the multi layered clouds with tons of water which are carried by the winds to places where Allah wants them to pour down to satiate His servants. They rejoice as without rainfall, they had been in great distress. And what indeed is the downpour? It is a distribution of His Mercy, as life begins to spread from each and every particle of the soil that had become dead prior to rainfall. The same Omnipotent will quicken the dead as He wields control over everything.

Science

What is science except the knowledge of things; how these come into existence and the effects thereof? Knowing the properties of various gases, light waves and atoms etc. by itself serves as evidence to His Greatness. As for the meanness of the infidels, they are such ingrates that if the wind blows fast or their harvest begins to turn pallid they simply forget all His favours and take to denial and ingratitude afresh. So people whose denial and sin incapacitate their

powers of seeing and hearing to perceive the truth, can be compared to the dead in this context; who cannot act even if they listen. Or they can be compared to the blind who is without sight and cannot see the path. Or they are like the deaf who is incapable of hearing and also does not wish to hear and walks away. So, O' Prophet ^{SAW}, you cannot make such people listen to you or pay heed to your words. The prerequisite for that is faith or at least the desire to seek. So it is only the believers who can listen to your words and absorb them in their hearts. It has already been explained in Sūrah Shu'arā' that these Āyāt do not pertain to the issue of Hearing by the Dead.

Section 6

54. Allah is He Who created you in weakness, then He assigned strength after weakness, then after strength weakness and grey hair. He creates what He will, and He is the Knower, the Potent.
55. And on the Day when the Hour arrives the culprits will swear that they stayed not but an hour, thus were they ever deluded.
56. And those who have been vouchsafed knowledge and faith will say: Assuredly you have stayed according to the decree of Allah until the Day of Upraising; so this is the Day of Upraising, but you were used not to know.
57. On that Day the excusing of themselves will not profit them who did wrong, nor shall they be allowed to please Allah.
58. And assuredly We have in this Qurān propounded all means of similitude for mankind, and if you bring them a Sign, those

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

وَيَوْمَ تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ يُقْسِرُ الْمُجْرِمُونَ مَا لَبِثُوا
غَيْرَ سَاعَةٍ كَذَلِكَ كَانُوا يُؤْفَكُونَ ﴿٥٥﴾

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ وَالْإِيمَانَ لَقَدْ لَبِثْنَا فِي كِتَابِ
اللَّهِ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْبَعْثِ فَهَذَا يَوْمُ الْبَعْثِ
وَلَنْ نَكُنَّكُمْ كُنْتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٥٦﴾

فِيَوْمِذٍ لَا يَنْفَعُ الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا مَعذِرَتُهُمْ
وَلَا هُمْ يُسْتَعْتَبُونَ ﴿٥٧﴾

وَلَقَدْ ضَرَبْنَا لِلنَّاسِ فِي هَذَا الْقُرْآنِ مِنْ كُلِّ مَثَلٍ
وَلَيْسَ جَنَّتُهُمْ بِشَايِعٍ لَيَقُولُنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا

who disbelieve are sure to say:
You are but deluded.

إِن أَنْتُمْ إِلَّا مُبْطِلُونَ ﴿٥٩﴾

59. Thus does Allah seal the hearts
of those who do not believe.

كَذَلِكَ يَطْبَعُ اللَّهُ عَلَى قُلُوبِ الَّذِينَ

60. Have you patience; verily
Allah's Promise is true. And let
not those who have no
conviction make you unsteady.

لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٦٠﴾

فَأَصْبِرْ إِنَّ وَعْدَ اللَّهِ حَقٌّ وَلَا يَسْتَخِفُّكَ

الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٦١﴾

Secrets of Revelation

It is Allah, the Most Magnificent, Who sends man into this world as a very weak and feeble being. Just ponder over your creation; how He develops you from a tiny cell and blesses you with human form. This entire process of His Creativity is a witness to His Magnificence. He then gradually transforms a little baby into a robust youth; who may become an intellectual, a ruler or a scholar. And finally, one by one his faculties begin to wane and he is transformed into a weak, grey-haired old man. No one can interfere in this process, for Allah does what He wants and His predestined System must run. He knows the System very well and is Potent over every thing.

Their understanding is so distorted that they will fail to discern anything even in the Ākhirah. When the Day of Judgment is established and they are quickened, they will assert that it had been only a moment ago that they died and have been resurrected almost instantly. They will swear that they stayed in Barzakh only for a while, and will utter absurdities just as they used to do in the world. However, those who had been blessed with knowledge in this world based on faith will tell them that they indeed stayed in Barzakh for the term that Allah had determined in the Guarded Tablet, as an interlude before the establishment of the Day of Judgment. The Day had been established on its right time; but their ignorance had deprived them of comprehending the whole issue.

On the Day of Reckoning no excuse will be accepted from the infidels, nor will they be given the opportunity to present one. Rather, the opportunity to repent and embrace Islam is in this world only. It is here that the Qurān offers similitudes of all sorts for people to understand. Yet they demand different miracles from the Holy Prophet ^{SAW}. Even if they were demonstrated, they would say that he was not telling the truth and they were being beguiled. This is

because **Allah** has sealed their hearts in punishment for their ignorance and denial. So O' Prophet^{-SAW}! Be patient over this distress and persevere on **Allah's** obedience, as **Allah's** Promise will certainly come true. O' Reader! Let no torture by the infidels or no mundane greed stumble you while treading the right path.