

## سُورَةُ الزُّكْرِفِ

## Sūrah az Zukhruf

## (THE GOLD ADORNMENTS)

This is a Makkan Sūrah comprising eighty nine Āyāt and seven Sections.

## Section 1

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

1. Hā. Mīm.
2. By this luminous Book.
3. Verily We! We have made it an Arabic Qurān that haply you may reflect.
4. And verily it is in the Original Book before Us, indeed exalted, full of wisdom.
5. Shall We take away from you the Admonition because you are a people extravagant?
6. And how many a Prophet We have sent among the ancients.
7. And not a Prophet came to them but him they used to mock.
8. Therefore We destroyed peoples mightier than these in prowess; and there has gone forth the example of the ancients.
9. And if you question them: Who has created the heavens and the earth? They will surely say: The Mighty, the Knower created them.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

حَمْدٌ

وَالْكِتَابِ الْمُبِينِ

إِنَّا جَعَلْنَاهُ قُرْءَانًا عَرَبِيًّا

لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ

وَلَإِنَّهُ فِي أُمِّ الْكِتَابِ لَدَيْنَا عَلَى حَكِيمٍ

أَفَنَضْرِبُ عَنْكُمْ الذِّكْرَ صَفْحًا

أَن كُنْتُمْ قَوْمًا مُّسْرِفِينَ

وَكَمْ أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ نَبِيٍّ فِي الْأَوَّلِينَ

وَمَا يَأْتِيهِمْ مِنْ نَبِيٍّ إِلَّا كَانُوا بِهِ يَسْتَهْزِئُونَ

فَأَهْلَكْنَا أَشَدَّ مِنْهُمْ بَطْشًا وَمَضَىٰ

مَثَلُ الْأَوَّلِينَ

وَلَيْنَسْأَلُنَّهُمْ مَنْ خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ

لَيَقُولُنَّ خَلَقَهُنَّ الْعَزِيزُ الْعَلِيمُ

10. Who has made the earth a bed for you and has made therein paths for you so that you are directed.
11. And Who sends down water from the heaven in measure. Then We quicken a dead land therewith and even so you will be brought forth.
12. And Who has created the pairs, all of them, and appointed for you from ships and cattle on which you ride.
13. That you may mount firmly on their backs, and then may remember the favour of your Rabb when you mount thereon, and may say: Hallowed be He Who has subjected this to us, and we could have it not.
14. And verily to our Rabb we are to return.
15. And they assign out of His bondmen co-partners. Verily man is a manifest ingrate.

الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمُ الْأَرْضَ مَهْدًا وَجَعَلَ  
لَكُمْ فِيهَا سُبُلًا لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٠﴾  
وَالَّذِي نَزَّلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً يَقْدَرُ فَأَنْشَرْنَا  
بِهِ بَلَدَةً مَيِّتًا كَذَلِكَ تُخْرِجُونَهُ ﴿١١﴾

وَالَّذِي خَلَقَ الْأَزْوَاجَ كُلَّهَا وَجَعَلَ  
لَكُمْ مِنَ الْفُلْكِ وَالْأَنْعَامِ مَا تَرْكَبُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

لِتَسْتَوُوا عَلَى ظُهُورِهِ ثُمَّ تَذْكُرُوا نِعْمَةَ رَبِّكُمْ إِذَا  
أَسْتَوَيْتُمْ عَلَيْهِ وَتَقُولُوا سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي سَخَّرَ  
لَنَا هَذَا وَمَا كُنَّا لَهُ مُقْرِنِينَ ﴿١٣﴾

وَأَنَّا إِلَىٰ رَبِّنَا لَمُنْقَلِبُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

وَجَعَلُوا لَهُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ جُزْءًا إِنْ الْإِنْسَانُ  
لَكَفُورٌ مُّبِينٌ ﴿١٥﴾

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## Secrets of Revelation

By this luminous Book; which expounds every affair and by itself is a grand witness over its own authenticity and magnificence. And We revealed it in Arabic for easy understanding by its primary recipients, the Arabs, so that they may opt for the path of wisdom. It must also be noted that this Book enjoys special Divine Protection and is so exalted that it is inscribed in the Guarded Tablet in its pristine purity. Its magnificence demands that it is accepted in whole, word by word. However, if by sheer misfortune, someone does not accept it, We shall not discontinue to admonish you through this Book, nor will its revelation stop.



## A Propagator must Convey the Message; whether it is Accepted or Not

A propagator must continue to convey the Divine Message with wisdom and sagacity notwithstanding the response. These unfortunate infidels exhibit a behaviour similar to their predecessors. Whenever the Prophets<sup>AS</sup> were raised as a great Divine Favour, they ridiculed and slandered them. Allah destroyed the ingrates despite the might they were so boastful about. When questioned by the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> as to **Who** is the Owner of this spectacular universe, they instantly assert that it is **Allah**, the All-Knowing and Powerful. This confession is inevitable for they cannot name any other Creator of such perfection besides **Him**. Yet ironically they are not willing to obey.

It is by **His** Munificence that the earth, with all its qualities, acts as the bedspread for mankind and is vital for their existence. **He** has created pathways in it as means of communication to promote human life and to help build the human society. **He** sends down rain in measure and quickens the barren soil whereby a variety of herbage sprouts. Seeds mixed in the soil begin to split and every particle is rejuvenated as a proof that mankind will also be similarly quickened on the Day of Reckoning. **He** is so Omnipotent that **He** creates everything in pairs to facilitate procreation, which indeed is **His** dominion. **He** made ship building and other means of transportation easy for mankind and created raw material for the purpose, simultaneously blessing them with the know-how to exploit these resources.

**He** also created the animals for transportation. The least people should do is that whenever they mount or board any of these carriers they must recollect **His** favours for having subjected these to their control. Otherwise no one could at his own, manage a control over them. And it is to **His** Court that everyone has to return one Day. Hadhrat 'Ali<sup>RAU</sup> recommends reciting of this *Āyah* after *Bismillah* when stepping on the mount followed by *Alhamdulillah* once seated. This has also been recommended by the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup>, and is nowadays being practised in Saudi and PLA Airline flights regularly.

The infidels ironically ascribe partners for **Allah**; and believe that **He** has sons and daughters. Progeny is a component of the parents, and the whole always depends on its components, whereas **Allah** is far too Exalted for any such notions. Man indeed is an ingrate!



16. Has He taken, from His creatures, daughters for Himself, and has honoured you with sons?  
 بِالْبَيْنِ ۝
17. And when there is announced to any of them the birth of what he likens to the Compassionate, his countenance remains darkened the whole day, and he is indignant inwardly.  
 وَإِذَا بُشِّرَ أَحَدُهُمْ بِمَا ضَرَبَ لِلرَّحْمَنِ مَثَلًا ظَلَّ وَجْهُهُ مُسْوَدًّا وَهُوَ كَاطِمٌ ۝
18. Has He taken to Himself what is reared in ornaments, and is not clear in contention?  
 أَوْ مِنْ يُنشِئُ فِي الْحِلْيَةِ وَهُوَ فِي الْخِصَامِ غَيْرُ مُبِينٍ ۝
19. And they make the angels who are the bondmen of the Compassionate, females. Have they witnessed their creation? Their testimony will be written down and they will be questioned.  
 وَجَعَلُوا الْمَلَائِكَةَ الَّذِينَ هُمْ عِبْدُ الرَّحْمَنِ إِنثًا أَشْهَدُوا خَلَقَهُمْ سَتُكْتَبُ شَهَادَتُهُمْ وَيُسْأَلُونَ ۝
20. And they say: Had the Compassionate willed we should not have worshipped them. No knowledge they have of it, they are only guessing.  
 وَقَالُوا لَوْ شَاءَ الرَّحْمَنُ مَا عَبَدْنَاهُمْ مَا لَهُمْ بِذَلِكَ مِنْ عِلْمٍ إِنْ هُمْ إِلَّا يَخْرُصُونَ ۝
21. Have We vouchsafed them any Book before this, so that they are clinging to it?  
 أَمْ آتَيْنَاهُمْ كِتَابًا مِنْ قَبْلِهِ فَهُمْ بِهِ مُسْتَمْسِكُونَ ۝
22. Nay! They say: We have found our fathers on a certain way, and by their footsteps we are guided.  
 بَلْ قَالُوا إِنَّا وَجَدْنَا آبَاءَنَا عَلَىٰ أُمَّةٍ وَإِنَّا عَلَىٰ آثَرِهِمْ مُهْتَدُونَ ۝
23. And in this wise We sent not a warner before you in any city but the affluent thereof said: Verily we found our fathers on a certain way  
 وَكَذَلِكَ مَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ فِي قَرْيَةٍ مِنْ نَذِيرٍ إِلَّا قَالَ مُتْرَفُوهَا إِنَّا وَجَدْنَا آبَاءَنَا عَلَىٰ أُمَّةٍ

and verily their footsteps we are following.

24. The warner therefore said: What! Even if I bring you a better guidance than what you found your fathers upon. They said: We deny that wherewith you are sent.

25. Therefore We took revenge on them. Behold then how has been the end of the beliers!

وَإِنَّا عَلَىٰ مَا نُرِيهِمْ مُّقْتَدُونَ ﴿٢٢﴾

قُلْ أُولَٰئِكَ جِئْتُكُمْ بِأَهْدَىٰ مِمَّا وَجَدْتُمْ عَلَيْهِ  
ءَابَاءَكُمْ قَالُوا إِنَّا بِمَا أُرْسِلْتُمْ بِهِ كَافِرُونَ ﴿٢٤﴾

فَأَنقَمْنَا مِنْهُمْ فَأَنظُرْ كَيْفَ  
كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الْمُكَذِّبِينَ ﴿٢٥﴾

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### Secrets of Revelation

And they suggest for Allah progeny and that too daughters! In other words, He has taken daughters for Himself while blessing them with sons. The pagan Arabs used to term the angels as daughters of Allah. And when any of them is given the news of the birth of a daughter, he is struck by grief, is reflected on his face. And he feels sad down to the core of his heart, although daughters, by no means, are a cause of any humiliation. Yet it is true that they grow up in ornaments and are not at par with men in the power of dialogue.

#### Ornamentation is for Women

This suggests permissibility for women to wear ornaments for beautification without being over indulgent, whereby all their attention and time is dedicated to it. Their weakness in intellect and opinion is also inferred, as women by nature are weak in oration as compared to men. They often tend to digress from the real topic. This is a general rule, while exceptions are always there.

These pagans believe the angels, who are a creation and servants of Allah, to be females whereas they cannot even see them and their existence can be known only if Allah reveals it. Have they, by any chance, witnessed the birth or the process of creation of the angels?

Certainly not! So when they haven't seen it nor has any such thing been mentioned in the Divine Books how baseless is their claim! This fabrication has indeed been documented and they will have to reckon with it.



They also argue that had Allah not willed, they would have never worshipped the angels or others besides Him, and that their provisions, wealth, health and progeny are indicative of His Pleasure. Little do they appreciate that the right to choose the path of obedience or denial has been given to mankind and they have no control over any other aspect of life. These pagans have made their own decision by holding such an erroneous belief and suggesting the angels to be Allah's daughters. They will surely have to face the consequences. They speak out of conjecture without any knowledge acquired through a Divine revelation. Did Allah ever reveal any Book that authorises them to hold such precepts? Certainly not! However, they do confess that their forefathers held these precepts, to which they stick. This is a justification similar to the one presented by the elite to the Prophets<sup>AS</sup> raised before. It is a fact that leadership is always enjoyed by the elite class of a society while the masses generally trail behind.

The infidels support their repudiation by arguing that they are standing fast over the religion and beliefs of their forefathers. The Messengers of Allah asked them if they were to blindly conform to their forefathers or would try to distinguish the truth from falsehood, whereby they could find an appropriate and better way of life, a path to eternal success. The hallmark of Truth is that it leads to the destination but they refuse to accept it on purpose, and insist upon denial. When they exceeded all limits Allah avenged them. See how evil is the fate met by the refuters of Allah's Prophets<sup>AS</sup>!

### Section 3

26. And recall when Ibrāhīm said to his father and his people; verily I am quit of what you worship.

وَاِذْ قَالَ اِبْرٰهِيْمُ لِاٰبِيْهِ وَقَوْمِهٖ  
اِنِّىۤ اَبْرَءٌ مِّمَّا تَعْبُدُوْنَ ﴿٦﴾

27. Save Him, who has created me and then He would guide me.

اِلَّا الَّذِى فَطَرَنِىۤ اِنَّهٗ سَيَهْدِيْٓنِ ﴿٧﴾

28. And Ibrāhīm made it a word lasting among his posterity that perhaps they may return.

وَجَعَلَهَا كَلِمَةً بَاقِيَةً�ۢ فِى عَقِيْدِهِۦ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُوْنَ ﴿٨﴾

29. Aye! I let these and their fathers enjoy life, until there came unto them the truth, and a plain Messenger.

بَلْ مَتَّعْتُ هٰٓؤُلَآءِ وَاٰبَآءَهُمْ حَتّٰى جَآءَهُمُ  
الْحَقُّ وَرَسُوْلٌ مُّبِيْنٌ ﴿٩﴾



30. And when the truth came to them, they say this is magic, and verily we are therein disbelievers.
31. And they say, why has not this Qurān been revealed to a man of moment in the two cities?
32. Shall they apportion their Rabb's Mercy? It is We Who have apportioned among them their livelihood in the life of the world, and have raised some of them over others in degrees, so that one of them may take another as a serf, and the Mercy of your Rabb is better than what they amass.
33. And were it not that the mankind would have become one community, We should make for those who disbelieve in the Compassionate roofs of silver for their houses and silver stairways whereby they ascend.
34. And silver doors for their houses and silver couches whereon they recline.
35. And ornaments of gold. And yet all that would have been but a provision of the life of this world; and the Hereafter with your Rabb is for the God-fearing.

وَلَمَّا جَاءَهُمُ الْحَقُّ قَالُوا هَذَا سِحْرٌ وَإِنَّا بِهِ كَافِرُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾

وَقَالُوا لَوْلَا نُزِّلَ هَذَا الْقُرْآنُ عَلَى رَجُلٍ مِّنَ الْقَرْيَتَيْنِ عَظِيمٍ ﴿٣١﴾

أَمْ هُمْ يَقْسِمُونَ رَحْمَتَ رَبِّكَ نَحْنُ قَسَمْنَا بَيْنَهُمْ مَّعِيشَتَهُمْ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَرَفَعْنَا بَعْضَهُمْ فَوْقَ بَعْضٍ دَرَجَاتٍ لِّيَتَّخِذَ بَعْضُهُم بَعْضًا سُلَخِرِيًّا وَرَحْمَتُ رَبِّكَ خَيْرٌ مِّمَّا يَجْمَعُونَ ﴿٣٢﴾

وَلَوْلَا أَن يَكُونَ النَّاسُ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً لَّجَعَلْنَا لِمَن يَكْفُرُ بِالرَّحْمَنِ لِبُيُوتِهِمْ سُقْفًا مِّن فِضَّةٍ وَمَعَارِجَ عَلَيْهَا يَظْهَرُونَ ﴿٣٣﴾

وَلِبُيُوتِهِمْ أَبْوَابٌ وَسُرُرٌ عَلَيْهَا يَتَكَبَّرُونَ ﴿٣٤﴾

وَزُخْرُفًا وَإِن كُلُّ ذَلِكَ لَمَّا مَتَّعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةُ عِندَ رَبِّكَ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿٣٥﴾

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### Secrets of Revelation

If the word of their forefathers was dear to them, they should have better accepted the word of Prophet Ibrāhīm<sup>AS</sup>, who had opted for the revealed religion rather than



the rituals practised by his ancestors. He categorically told them that he had nothing to do with it. Rather, the Omnipotent Who had created shall guide him as well, and would not abandon him. Prophet Ibrāhīm<sup>AS</sup> not only refuted polytheism of his ancestors but also forcefully preached the Unity of **Allah** for the coming generation. His message was so effective that his successors stuck to it for centuries so much so that till the raising of the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup>, some Arabs still believed in monotheism and looked down upon idolatry. Obviously, reforming only the beliefs is not enough, but refutation and practical boycott of ungodly rituals is also imperative. And one must exert to the hilt to uphold the Truth and combat rituals to ensure that it is passed down to the posterity as a legacy.

### **Beliefs and Practice must be Handed down to Progeny**

Shaikh 'Abdul Wahāb Sh'orāni writes that a very effective way for the reformation of one's children is to pray for them. The ancestors of these Arabs, however, gave up the teachings of Prophet Ibrāhīm<sup>AS</sup> and reverted to rituals. Yet **Allah** gave them respite and blessed them with wealth and progeny, but far from being grateful they became engrossed in this world. Out of **His** Mercy and Benevolence, **He** sent unto them the Message of Truth in the form of Qurān through the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup>. This indeed was a great favour but they declared it a sorcery and refused to believe. They said that if **Allah** had really revealed this Quran, why not unto a man of moment in Makkah or Taif, whose word was generally accepted by the masses. The Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> was not rich enough. It is nothing but absolute ignorance to expect that the magnificent blessing of Prophethood will be bestowed in accordance with their whims. They aspire to distribute the special Divine Mercy at their discretion. But **Allah** dispenses even **His** general Mercy, far less in status than the Prophethood, unto the believers and the non believers alike in the form of the resources of life as **He** wants. People around the globe excel one another in different qualities, a system designed for mutual benefit to help evolve a human society. When man cannot disburse even the worldly affluence **His** special Mercy is far too precious to be endowed as per the wishes of the infidels.

### **Islam's Economic System**

Islam has not entrusted the economy to human agencies to determine peoples needs and how to fulfil them. Or the resources of life are given under the Government control for equitable distribution amongst all, for this is practically impossible. Islam has assigned the rights to each individual commensurate to his



ability and matched it by an equivalent burden of obligations. So human beings are inter-dependent; a skilled technocrat relies on a labourer and vice versa.

To illustrate the point, it is the architect who designs while the building is raised out of bricks and mortar by masons and labourers. All, in turn, depend on the owner of the building who finances it. The labourer toils the most, followed by the mason while the engineer simply draws a sketch. At the end of the day it is the engineer who is paid the highest followed by the mason and the labourer.

Socialism declared this system of distribution wrong but Islam gives an edge to the engineer in view of his life long toil in acquiring the knowledge, to a lesser degree to the mason who worked hard to attain his skill, and in contrast the labourer only puts in his physical strength for the day. So the right thing is that a person gets the return of his efforts commensurate to the burden of his responsibility. No matter how hard socialism tries, it cannot make an equitable distribution, because the individual capabilities, mental development and devotion to work cannot be measured. It is impossible to make people work against their natural inclinations and to give every individual a task commensurate to his aptitude. According to the law of nature, every individual chooses an occupation that suits his temperament and inborn capabilities. Thus a politician is happy in his own capacity, an office worker is glad in his lot and a farmer is proud of his labour.

Similarly, Islam rejects capitalism and prohibits collection of wealth through unfair means, like hoarding, gambling, speculative buying, interest etc. Instead it enjoins the payment of Zakāt, 'Usher and voluntary charity on lawful earnings to qualify for rewards in the Hereafter, thereby preventing the concentration of wealth into few hands. It gives a middle path, a happy balance between socialism and capitalism.

### Concept of Equality in Islam

Islamic equality certainly does not mean that every person gets an equal share in wealth, nor is it practically possible. On the other hand, it emphasizes that his rights must match his obligations and responsibilities. And once he fulfils these, he must not face any let or hindrance in getting his rights. This indeed is the essence of Islamic equality. Islam emphatically disapproves that an influential citizen gets his rights easily while the common man has to run from pillar to post for the purpose. Equality in rights and duties is neither possible nor natural. There are other creations besides mankind enjoined lesser duties, and proportionately lesser rights. The animals, for instance, are not at all obliged to observe the limits of the forbidden and the permissible. So mankind benefits from them by employing some



for transportation and slaughtering others for food. This does not mean that the animals have been wronged. However, anyone who takes service from them, is obliged to feed them or let them free on Allah's land Who, as the real Owner, shall feed them. Similarly given the capabilities Allah entrusted mankind with a load of obligations, failing an honest execution they will be held accountable in the Ākhirah. Likewise rights are assigned and as all are equal in the discharge of obligations so is everyone equally entitled to his rights. And to ensure that this equality is enforced in every walk of life is the responsibility of the Governments.

These foolish pagans gave so much importance to temporal wealth that they take it as a prerequisite to Prophethood, whereas it is of no significance to Allah. Had there been no risk of the masses going astray because of the inherent greed in human make up, Allah would have given so much to the infidels that they would have made their abodes in gold and silver to be ultimately left behind regretfully. Mark that the provisions of this temporal world are temporary as against the permanent blessings of Ākhirah to be availed by those who practise piety, obey Him and seek His nearness.

#### Section 4

36. And whoever blinds himself to the admonition of the Compassionate, We assign to him a devil, and he becomes his comrade.

وَمَنْ يَعْصُ عَنْ ذِكْرِ الرَّحْمَنِ نُقَيِّضْ لَهُ شَيْطَانًا  
فَهُوَ لَهُ قَرِينٌ ﴿٣٦﴾

37. And verily they hinder them from the way, while they imagine that they are rightly guided.

وَأَنَّهُمْ لَيَصُدُّونَهُمْ عَنِ السَّبِيلِ وَيَحْسَبُونَ  
أَنَّهُمْ مُّهْتَدُونَ ﴿٣٧﴾

38. Until when he comes to Us, he will say: Ah! Would that there had been between me and you the distance of the two orients – an evil comrade.

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءَنَا قَالَ يَلَيْتَ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكَ  
بُعْدَ الْمَشْرِقَيْنِ فَيَنْسُ الْقَرِينَ ﴿٣٨﴾

39. And because you have done wrong, today it will profit you not, that you are sharers in the torment.

وَلَنْ يَنْفَعَكُمْ الْيَوْمَ إِذْ ظَلَمْتُمْ  
أَنَّكُمْ فِي آعْدَابٍ مُّشْتَرِكُونَ ﴿٣٩﴾



40. So can you make the deaf hear or can you guide the blind, or him who is in manifest error?
41. And even though We take you away, We shall surely take vengeance on them.
42. Or if We show you that with which We threaten them; verily We are going to prevail over them.
43. Hold you fast to what We have revealed to you; verily you are on the straight path.
44. And verily it is an admonition to you and your people, and presently you will be questioned.
45. And ask you Our Messengers whom We sent before you: Did We appoint gods besides the Compassionate to be worshipped?

أَفَأَنْتَ تُسْمِعُ الصُّمَّ أَوْ تَهْدِي الْعُمْى  
وَمَنْ كَانَتْ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُبِينٍ ﴿١٠﴾

فَإِمَّا نَذْهَبَنَّ بِكَ فَإِنَّا مِنْهُمْ مُنْتَقِمُونَ ﴿١١﴾

أَوْ نُفَرِّغَنَّكَ الَّذِي وَعَدْنَاهُمْ فَإِنَّا عَلَيْهِمْ مُقْتَدِرُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

فَاسْتَمْسِكْ بِالَّذِي أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ إِنَّكَ عَلَى صِرَاطٍ  
مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿١٣﴾

وَإِنَّهُ لَذِكْرٌ لَّكَ وَلِقَوْمِكَ وَسَوْفَ تُسْأَلُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

وَسْأَلُ مَنْ أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ مِنْ رُسُلِنَا  
أَجَعَلْنَا مِنْ دُونِ الرَّحْمَنِ ءَالِهَةً يُعْبَدُونَ ﴿١٥﴾

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## Secrets of Revelation

And whoever turns away from remembrance of the Magnificent Being, just as a pagan does with regard to the Qurān, a devil is imposed upon him to stay by his side constantly. This devil prevents him from treading the path of piety until he begins to consider his waywardness as guidance and the evil as an excellence.

### Zikr and Satan

The basis and the first level of Allah's Zikr is faith. The second level is practice, while the third is a verbal expression, whereby the execution of obligations and the imperatives is accompanied by verbal praise and recitation of the Qurān. The consummation is attained through Zikr-e-Qalbi whereby not a single moment is passed without His remembrance. And the devil imposed as a punishment for abandoning Zikr is other than the one that already accompanies every human



being. Conversely, practising Zikr would bless a person with noble company, good friends and protection against Satan.

The evil doers will soon wake up from their slumber. When they rise from graves to stand for Reckoning, they will lament if only they had not met their evil comrade who proved to be an extremely damaging partner! This will now be futile as they had already committed sin and infidelity while following him. So both must suffer together in Hell. Those deafened by Satan cannot listen to the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> nor the blinded see the path of guidance. They had indulged in evil ways without any rhyme and reason, and shall undoubtedly endure the punishment here as well as in the Hereafter. Whether they are taken to task in the lifetime of the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> or after his passing away is immaterial but they will be punished is preordained as Allah is Potent over it. The Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> must, however, stand firm on the revealed religion and conform to it completely without giving any importance to these comrades of the devil.

### What is Islam

To accept Allah's Commands in letter and in spirit, to exert in His obedience with dedication and to take pride in it while totally ignoring the infidels bickerings is indeed Islam. The Qurān is a source of pride and honour for the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> and his Ummah. As for the Unity of Allah, which infuriates the infidels, it is a belief held jointly by all the Prophet's<sup>AS</sup> which may be verified by him through the teachings of Prophets<sup>AS</sup> before him or directly as on the Night of Ascension. None had ever suggested the worship of anyone save the Most Merciful Allah; all were unanimous in the concept of His Unity.

### Section 5

46. And assuredly We sent Mūsa with Our Signs to the Pharaoh and his chiefs, and he said: Verily I am a Messenger of the Rabb of the worlds.

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا مُوسَىٰ بِآيَاتِنَا إِلَىٰ فِرْعَوْنَ  
وَمَلَائِكِهِ فَقَالَ إِنِّي رَسُولُ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٦﴾

47. Then when he came to them with Our Signs, lo! They were laughing at those Signs.

فَلَمَّا جَاءَهُمْ بِآيَاتِنَا إِذَا هُمْ مِنْهَا يَضْحَكُونَ ﴿١٧﴾

48. And not a Sign We showed them but it was greater than its like, and

وَمَا نُرِيهِمْ مِنْ آيَةٍ إِلَّا هِيَ أَكْبَرُ مِنْ أُخْتِهَا



We seized them with chastisement that perchance they might turn.

49. And they said: Magician! Supplicate your Rabb for us for what He has covenanted with you; verily we shall let ourselves be directed.

50. Then when We had removed from them the chastisement, lo! They were breaking their promise.

51. And the Pharaoh proclaimed among his people saying: My people! Is not mine the kingdom of Egypt and these rivers flowing underneath me? Do you not see?

52. Aye! I am better than this one who is contemptible, and unable even to make his speech plain.

53. Why, then, have the bracelets of gold not been set upon him, and why have the angels not come with him accompanying?

54. Then he incited his people and they obeyed him: They were ever a transgressing people.

55. So when they angered Us, We took vengeance on them, and We drowned them all.

56. And We made them a precedent, and an example to those after.

وَآخَذْنَاهُمْ بِالْعَذَابِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ ﴿٤٨﴾

وَقَالُوا يَا أَيُّهَا السَّاحِرُ ادْعُ لَنَا رَبَّكَ بِمَا عَهِدَ عِنْدَكَ إِنَّنَا لَمُهْتَدُونَ ﴿٤٩﴾

فَلَمَّا كَشَفْنَا عَنْهُمْ الْعَذَابَ إِذَا هُمْ يَنْكُثُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾

وَنَادَى فِرْعَوْنُ فِي قَوْمِهِ، قَالَ يَبْقَوِي الرِّسَ إِلَى مُلْكِي مِصْرَ وَهَذِهِ الْأَنْهَارُ تَجْرِي مِن تَحْتِي أَفَلَا تُبْصِرُونَ ﴿٥١﴾

أَمْ أَنَا خَيْرٌ مِّنْ هَذَا الَّذِي هُوَ مَهِينٌ وَلَا يَكَادُ يُبِينُ ﴿٥٢﴾

فَلَوْلَا أَلْقَى عَلَيْهِ أَسْوَرةٌ مِّنْ ذَهَبٍ أَوْ جَاءَ مَعَهُ الْمَلَأِيكَةُ مُقْتَرِنِينَ ﴿٥٣﴾

فَأَسْتَحَفَّ قَوْمَهُ، فَأَطَاعُوهُ إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا قَوْمًا فَاسِقِينَ ﴿٥٤﴾

فَلَمَّا آسَفُونَا انْتَقَمْنَا مِنْهُمْ فَأَغْرَقْنَاهُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ ﴿٥٥﴾

فَجَعَلْنَاهُمْ سَلَفًا وَمَثَلًا لِّلْآخِرِينَ ﴿٥٦﴾



## Secrets of Revelation

These infidels who suggest affluence as the yardstick for Prophethood can be compared to those unto whom Prophet Mūsa<sup>AS</sup> was sent, with miracles and Signs, to the Pharaoh and his chieftains, who ruled and represented the nation for which he was raised. Prophet Mūsa<sup>AS</sup> announced his Messengership of the Rabb Who provides for all the worlds, and put forth miracles to substantiate his claim. They made fun of him and despite all evidences and the miracles did not submit. Allah afflicted them with diseases to pave the way to penitence through pain and misery.

Duly humbled, they would concede and request him to ask his Rabb to allay their sufferings so that they accept the Message and are guided. But when Allah removed the affliction because of His Prophet's prayer, they broke their promise and refused to budge. The Pharaoh befooled his people by absurd arguments like his rule over a magnificent kingdom with splendid palaces and gardens through which rivers ran. They must, therefore, take note of the superiority he enjoyed over Prophet Mūsa<sup>AS</sup>, who had no status nor could he speak eloquently. In other words, the Pharaoh claimed that the Prophet<sup>AS</sup> had no strong evidences nor was his speech clear because of stammering, though it had been cured and the proofs he had presented were as bright as the daylight.

It was only to refute the Prophet<sup>AS</sup> that the Pharaoh took to falsehood with his bogus arguments, like his not wearing the bracelets of gold if he was truly Allah's Messenger and was Allah without wealth? Or that legions of angels should have been sent along with His Messenger for ready testimony! The Pharaoh's nation fell for his arguments and agreed with him, being a nation immoral in the first place. The effects generated by immorality are that evil counsel is readily accepted. However, Allah avenged the wrongdoers and drowned them in the sea, leaving a tale bygone in history and an admonition for those to follow.

### Section 6

57. And when the son of Maryam is held up as an example, lo! Your people cry out at that.

وَلَمَّا ضَرِبَ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ مَثَلًا إِذَا قَوْمُكَ مِنْهُ يَصِدُّونَ ﴿٦٧﴾

58. And they say: Are not our gods better, or is he? They mention him not to you save for disputation.

وَقَالُوا هَؤُلَاءِ إِلَهُنَا خَيْرٌ أَمْ هُوَ مَا ضَرَبُوهُ لَكَ



Aye! They are a people contentious.

59. He is nothing but a bondman; him We favoured, and him We made an example to the Children of Isrā'īl.

60. And had We willed We would have appointed angles among you in the earth to succeed each other.

61. And verily he is a Sign of the Hour, so do not dubitate concerning it and follow Me; this is the straight path.

62. And let not Satan hinder you; verily he is to you a manifest enemy.

63. And when 'Isā came with evidences, he said: Surely I have come to you with wisdom, to expound to you some of that wherein you differ, so fear Allah and obey me.

64. And verily Allah! He is my Rabb and your Rabb; so worship Him; this is the straight path.

65. Then the sects differed among themselves. Woe to those who do wrong, because of the torment of the afflictive Day.

66. They wait but the Hour: That it should come upon them of a sudden, while they perceive not.

67. The intimate friends will be on that Day hostile one to another

إِلَّا جَدَلًا بَلْ هُمْ قَوْمٌ خَصِمُونَ ﴿٥٨﴾

إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا عَبْدٌ أَنْعَمْنَا عَلَيْهِ وَجَعَلْنَاهُ مَثَلًا  
لِّبَنِي إِسْرَءِيلَ ﴿٥٩﴾

وَلَوْ نَشَاءُ لَجَعَلْنَا مِنْكُمْ مَلَائِكَةً  
فِي الْأَرْضِ يَخْلُقُونَ ﴿٦٠﴾

وَلَإِنَّهُ لَعِلْمٌ لِلسَّاعَةِ فَلَا تَمْتَرُكُ بِهَا وَاتَّبِعُونِ  
هَذَا صِرَاطٌ مُسْتَقِيمٌ ﴿٦١﴾

وَلَا يَصُدُّكُمْ الشَّيْطَانُ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ ﴿٦٢﴾

وَلَمَّا جَاءَ عِيسَى بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ قَالَ قَدْ جِئْتُكُمْ  
بِالْحِكْمَةِ وَالْأُيُنَ لَكُمْ بَعْضُ الَّذِي  
تَخْتَلِفُونَ فِيهِ فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا ﴿٦٣﴾

إِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ رَبِّي وَرَبُّكُمْ فَاعْبُدُوهُ  
هَذَا صِرَاطٌ مُسْتَقِيمٌ ﴿٦٤﴾

فَاخْتَلَفَ الْأَحْزَابُ مِنْ بَيْنِهِمْ فَوَيْلٌ لِلَّذِينَ  
ظَلَمُوا مِنْ عَذَابٍ يَوْمَ الْيَوْمِ ﴿٦٥﴾

هَلْ يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَّا السَّاعَةَ أَنْ تَأْتِيَهُمْ بَغْتَةً  
وَهُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ ﴿٦٦﴾

الْأَخِلَاءُ يَوْمَئِذٍ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ



save those who keep their duty (to  
**Allah**).

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## Secrets of Revelation

Those contemporary to the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> are demonstrating similar ignorance. When the example of Prophet 'Isā<sup>AS</sup> was put forward, they raised a lot of hue and cry. They argued that according to the Holy Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> the worshipper of others than **Allah** has no goodness and will be condemned to Hell. What then would be the fate of Prophet 'Isā<sup>AS</sup> who is also worshipped? Would he also go to Hell, they asked. This is mere disputation and they do not seek guidance. It is obvious that Prophet 'Isā<sup>AS</sup> had not left any such instructions, nor do any of the preceding Divine Books endorse this claim, nor it is supported by the Qurān. In fact, only the self-proclaimed gods happy to be worshipped will go to Hell, like the Pharaoh, Nimrod, the Satan or the idols to serve as fuel for Hell in order to make the polytheists more rueful.

Prophet 'Isā<sup>AS</sup> was a chosen bondman of **Allah**, highly favoured. His very birth was a great proof of **Allah**'s Magnificence for the Banī Isrā'īl, for he was conceived miraculously without a father. He spoke to his nation as an infant, declaring his Prophethood and inviting them to **Allah**, Who is Potent over creating even greater Signs of His Magnificence. For instance, He may procreate angels from man and allow such a race to inhabit the earth in future. Prophet 'Isā<sup>AS</sup> is also one of the symbols about Qayamah, as his creation in an extraordinary manner alludes to the quickening of the dead. His return and his killing the Dajjāl (Anti Christ) will be symbolic to the proximity of Qayamah. So O people! Do not harbour any doubts over it and follow me on the straight path, lest Satan, your blatant enemy, impedes you therefrom.

When Prophet 'Isā<sup>AS</sup> was formally raised, he presented evidences and miracles telling his nation that he had brought a Message based on truth and wisdom to resolve all disputed matters and expound the truth. The Banī Isrā'īl had interpolated many a belief. He asked them to fear **Allah** and develop a link with Him by obedience. Undoubtedly, **Allah** was his as well as their Rabb and he was His servant. They must only worship Him as this is the truth and the only straight path. Yet they carried on with their disputations and conflicts, and got divided into many factions. Woe be unto such transgressors! A painful doom awaits them on the tormenting Day of Qayamah and they are waiting to see and believe. But its



onset will be so sudden that everyone will panic and those claiming friendship here will turn into foes, blaming one another, for their own follies save the pious who loved each other for Allah's sake.

## Section 7

68. O' My bondmen! There shall be no fear upon you this Day, nor shall you grieve.
69. You who believed in Our revelations and were Muslims.
70. Enter the Garden, you and your spouses, joyfully.
71. Passed around among them will be dishes of gold and goblets, and therein will be whatsoever souls desire and eyes delight in; and you will be therein abiders.
72. This is the Garden which you have been made to inherit for what you have been working.
73. For you there will be fruits in plenty which you will eat.
74. Verily the culprits will be abiders in Hell's torment.
75. It shall not be abated from them, and therein they will become despondent.
76. And We wronged them not, but they have been the wrong-doers themselves.
77. And they will cry: O keeper! Let your Rabb make an end of us. He will say: Verily you shall abide for ever.

يَنْعَبَادُ لَأَخَوْفُ عَلَيْكُمْ الْيَوْمَ وَلَا أَنتُمْ  
تَحْزَنُونَ ﴿٧٨﴾

الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِآيَاتِنَا وَكَانُوا مُسْلِمِينَ ﴿٧٩﴾

ادْخُلُوا الْجَنَّةَ أَنتُمْ وَأَزْوَاجُكُمْ تُحْبَرُونَ ﴿٨٠﴾

يُطَافُ عَلَيْهِمْ بِصِحَافٍ مِنْ ذَهَبٍ وَأَكْوَابٍ  
وَفِيهَا مَا نَشْتَهِيهِ الْأَنفُسُ وَتَلَذُّ الْأَعْيُنُ  
وَأَنْتُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴿٨١﴾

وَتِلْكَ الْجَنَّةُ الَّتِي أُورِثْتُمُوهَا بِمَا كُنْتُمْ  
تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٨٢﴾

لَكُمْ فِيهَا فَاكِهَةٌ كَثِيرَةٌ مِنْهَا تَأْكُلُونَ ﴿٨٣﴾

إِنَّ الْعَاجِزِينَ فِي عَذَابٍ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدُونَ ﴿٨٤﴾

لَا يُفْتَرُ عَنْهُمْ وَهُمْ فِيهِ مُبْلِسُونَ ﴿٨٥﴾

وَمَا ظَلَمْنَاهُمْ وَلَكِنْ كَانُوا هُمُ الظَّالِمِينَ ﴿٨٦﴾

وَنَادُوا بِمَعْلِكُ لِيَقْضِ عَلَيْنَا رَبُّكَ  
قَالَ إِنَّكُمْ مَكِينُونَ ﴿٨٧﴾



78. Assuredly We brought the truth to you, but most of you are averse to the truth.
79. Have they determined an affair, then We also are determining.
80. Do they think that We hear not their secrets and their whispers? Yea! We do, and Our envoys present with them write down.
81. Say you: Had the Compassionate a son, I shall be the first of his worshippers.
82. Hallowed be the Rabb of the heavens and the earth, the Rabb of the Throne from what they ascribe.
83. So leave them alone wading and sporting till they meet the Day which they are promised.
84. And He it is Who is Worthy of worship in the heaven and in the earth, and He is the Wise, the Knower.
85. And blessed be He Whose is the dominion of the heavens and the earth and what is in-between, and with Him is the knowledge of the Hour and to Him you will be made to return.
86. And whom they call upon besides Him, they do not own the power of intercession – save those who bear witness to the truth and who know.

لَقَدْ جِئْتَكُمْ بِالْحَقِّ وَلَٰكِنَّ أَكْثَرَكُمْ لِلْحَقِّ كَرِهُونَ ﴿٧٨﴾

أَمْ أُنَبِّئُكُمْ أَفْئَادًا مُّبْرَمُونَ ﴿٧٩﴾

أَمْ يَحْسِبُونَ أَنَّا لَا نَسْمَعُ سِرَّهُمْ وَنَجْوَاهُمْ بَلَىٰ  
رُسُلُنَا لَدَيْهِمْ يَكْتُبُونَ ﴿٨٠﴾

قُلْ إِنْ كَانَ لِلرَّحْمَنِ وَلَدٌ فَأَنَا أَوَّلُ الْعَابِدِينَ ﴿٨١﴾

سُبْحَنَ رَبِّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ  
عَمَّا يُصِفُونَ ﴿٨٢﴾

فَذَرَهُمْ يَخْضَوْنَ وَيَلْعَبُونَ حَتَّىٰ يَلْقَوا يَوْمَهُمُ  
الَّذِي يُوعَدُونَ ﴿٨٣﴾

وَهُوَ الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاءِ إِلَهٌُ وَفِي الْأَرْضِ  
إِلَهٌُ وَهُوَ الْحَكِيمُ الْعَلِيمُ ﴿٨٤﴾

وَبَارِكُ الَّذِي لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا  
وَعِنْدَهُ عِلْمُ السَّاعَةِ وَإِلَيْهِ تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿٨٥﴾

وَلَا يَمْلِكُ الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِهِ الشَّفَعَةَ  
إِلَّا مَنْ شَهِدَ بِالْحَقِّ وَهُمْ يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٨٦﴾



87. And were you to ask them who created them, they will surely say: Allah. Then where are they deviating?

وَلَيْن سَأَلْتَهُمْ مَنْ خَلَقَهُمْ  
لَيَقُولَنَّ اللَّهُ فَاَنَّى يُؤْفَكُونَ ﴿٨٧﴾

88. And We hear his saying: Rabb! Verily they are a people who do not believe.

وَقِيلَ لَهُ يَرْبِّ اِنَّ هَٰؤُلَاءِ قَوْمٌ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٨٨﴾

89. So turn you aside from them, and say: Peace. Presently they shall come to know.

فَاَصْفَحْ عَنْهُمْ وَقُلْ سَلَامٌ فَسَوْفَ يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٨٩﴾

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### Secrets of Revelation

And those who shall testify to the righteousness of one another and to their inviting others to piety will be informed by Allah to have no fears whatsoever on that Day; no oppression by the infidels, no worries of any punishment and no anxiety of losing anything. The infidels will grieve over losing whatever they had in the world, whereas the believers will get far more than what they had possessed, as they had embraced Islam and had wilfully submitted to His Commands. They will be asked to enter Jannah alongwith their families. In other words, it will be a Day extremely harsh for the infidels and highly soothing for the believers. They will be honoured, served food in utensils of gold and silver and provided anything they can think of to add to their joy and comforts. These rewards will not be temporary; rather, they will enjoy this Divine hospitality forever because they had obeyed Allah followed and helped His Prophets.

On the other end are the culprits who opposed the Prophets<sup>AS</sup>. They will be condemned to Hell to abide therein, never to find an exit. Its intensity will not be decreased in the least. The level of Hell to which admitted will become their abode. It is not Allah Who has by any means wronged them, but they had wronged themselves by opting for denial. They will plead to Angel Mālik, Keeper of the Hell to supplicate to his Rabb for their extinction to get rid of the torment as their prayer were not being answered. The Angel will dismiss it as an impossibility as their dwelling in it forever has been decided.

Allah had conveyed the true religion; His Unity, the knowledge of His Being and His Attributes and the most appropriate methods to obey Him. His true



Messenger<sup>-SAW</sup> had expounded the Book both verbally as well as by practical demonstration. Yet the infidels never acknowledged the revealed facts. They resorted to conspire in order to harm him. Allah, in turn, plotted against them and they were slaughtered at Badr while he enjoyed His Protection. Eventually polytheism was eradicated for good from the Arab land, and the magnificent city of Makkah became the cradle of true religion. Did they assume that Allah was not listening to their whispering campaign against the Holy Prophet<sup>-SAW</sup>? Nothing can possibly be concealed from Him, as their secret plans and whispers are recorded by the angels assigned this task. The Holy Prophet<sup>-SAW</sup> may tell them that if Allah had a son, he would have been the first to worship him. It is not for the sake of their opposition that he rejects any progeny for Allah; rather, it is the Truth. If the infidels still insist on their stance, he may leave them alone to wander in their waywardness, rituals and merry making until the promised Hour, firstly in the form of death, followed by Qayamah. They will then know the reality themselves.

The entire worship in the heavens and on the earth is for the Magnificent and the Wise, Who is constantly Aware of everything. Indeed the Sovereignty over the whole universe belongs to Him. He Knows when will He establish Qayamah. Everyone has to return to His Court one day when the deities of the infidels will not be able to intercede on their behalf. Only those who had invited people to the Truth, and had believed in the establishment of this Day may be permitted by Him to intercede and that too only for the believers.

When asked as to who created them, the infidels instantly name Allah. Why then are they turning away from His obedience? The Holy Prophet's<sup>-SAW</sup> word that they did not embrace Islam when invited by him will be enough evidence for their conviction. So he must turn away from them and let them at their own. Soon they will find out things for themselves. Here, invoking peace, does not refer to the formal greetings (Assalām 'Alaikum) exchanged amongst the Muslims, which is forbidden in case of a non-believer, but to a decent way of parting company.