

سُورَةُ الْمَلِكِ

Sūrah al-Mulk

(THE SOVEREIGNTY)

Revealed at Makkah, it has two Sections and thirty Āyāt.

Section 1

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

1. Blessed be He, in Whose hand is the Sovereignty, and He is Potent over everything.
2. Who has created death and life, that He might test you as to which of you is excellent in work. And He is the Mighty, the Forgiver.
3. Who has created the seven heavens in storeys. You shall not find any oversight in the creation of the Compassionate. Then repeat your look, do you find any crack?
4. Then repeat your look twice over, and your look will return to you dim and drowsy.
5. And assuredly We have bedecked the nearest sky with lamps and We have made them missiles for pelting devils, and We have prepared for them the torment of the Blaze.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

بُذْرَكَ الَّذِي يَدِيَهِ الْمُلْكُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿١﴾

الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَيَاةَ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ أَيُّكُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا
وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْغَفُورُ ﴿٢﴾

الَّذِي خَلَقَ سَبْعَ سَمَاوَاتٍ طِبَاقًا مَا تَرَى فِي خَلْقِ
الرَّحْمَنِ مِنْ تَفْوُتٍ فَأَرْجِعِ الْبَصَرَ هَلْ تَرَى
مِنْ فُطُورٍ ﴿٣﴾

ثُمَّ ارْجِعِ الْبَصَرَ كَرَّتَيْنِ يَنْقَلِبْ إِلَيْكَ الْبَصَرُ خَائِسًا
وَهُوَ حَسِيرٌ ﴿٤﴾

وَلَقَدْ زَيَّنَّا السَّمَاءَ الدُّنْيَا بِمَصَابِيحَ وَجَعَلْنَاهَا رُجُومًا
لِلشَّيَاطِينِ وَأَعْتَدْنَا لَهُمْ عَذَابَ السَّعِيرِ ﴿٥﴾

6. And for those who disbelieve in their Rabb will be the torment of Hell – a hapless destination!
7. When they will be cast in it, they will hear a braying as it boils up.
8. It almost bursts up with rage. So often as a company is cast in it, its keepers will ask them: Did not a warner come to you?
9. They will say: Surely a warner did come to us but we refuted him and said: Allah has not sent down anything; you are nothing but in a great error.
10. And they will say: Had we listened or reflected, we would not have been among the fellows of the Blaze.
11. So they will confess their sin. Far away be they, the fellows of the Blaze!
12. Those Who are in awe of their Rabb unseen, theirs shall be forgiveness and a great wage.
13. And whether you keep your discourse secret or disclose it, verily He is the Knower of what is in the breasts.
14. Will not He Who has created know? He is the Subtile, the Aware.

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِرَبِّهِمْ عَذَابُ جَهَنَّمَ وَيَسَّرَ الْمَصِيرُ ﴿٦﴾

إِذَا الْفُجُورُ فِيهَا سَمِعُوا لَهَا شَهيقًا وَهِيَ تَفُورُ ﴿٧﴾

تَكَادُ تَمَيَّرُ مِنَ الْغَيْظِ كُلَّمَا أُلْقِيَ فِيهَا فَوْجٌ سَأَلْتَهُمْ خَزَنَتُهَا أَلَمْ يَأْتِكُمْ نَذِيرٌ ﴿٨﴾

قَالُوا بَلَىٰ قَدْ جَاءَنَا نَذِيرٌ فَكَذَّبْنَا وَقُلْنَا مَا نَزَّلَ اللَّهُ مِن شَيْءٍ إِنْ أَنْتُمْ إِلَّا فِي ضَلَالٍ كَبِيرٍ ﴿٩﴾

وَقَالُوا لَوْ كُنَّا نَسْمَعُ أَوْ نَعْقِلُ مَا كُنَّا فِي أَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ ﴿١٠﴾

فَاعْتَرَفُوا بِذُنُوبِهِمْ فَحَقًّا لِأَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ ﴿١١﴾

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَخْشَوْنَ رَبَّهُم بِالْغَيْبِ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَأَجْرٌ كَبِيرٌ ﴿١٢﴾

وَأَمِيرٌ وَأَقُولُكُمْ أَوْ أَجْهَرُوا بِهِ إِنَّهُ عَلِيمٌ بِذَاتِ الصُّدُورِ ﴿١٣﴾

أَلَا يَعْلَمُ مَنْ خَلَقَ وَهُوَ اللَّطِيفُ الْخَبِيرُ ﴿١٤﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Extremely blessed is the **Being** in **Whose** control is the **Sovereignty** and the **Rule**, for the real **Rule** can only be of the **All-Prevailing**.

Attributes that Prove His Rule

- (1) **His Presence** is eternal.
- (2) **He Owns** all merits in superlative degree.
- (3) **He is Predominant** over everything.
- (4) **He is the Creator** of all things, including life and death, created so that **He** may try as to who acts righteously. **He is Prevalent and Forgiving**.

Death and its Types

Life is a condition, and a creation. Similarly, to detach life from the body is also a condition called death. It is also a creation like life, and not mere extinction. Life again is of different types; like life in inert objects, animals and plants, each having its own type of life. And the most perfect form of life is in the human being who has the capability to perceive **Allah's** Cognition. This very capability is the basis of faith, actions and trial. The burden that daunted heavens, earth and the mountains was borne by him. Death also has different forms while the human death is of two kinds. Firstly if a person, because of lowly conduct, loses the capability to recognize **Allah**, he is deprived of his humanity in a way and would be termed dead, like the non believers are. The second kind is the termination of the connection between **Rūḥ** and the body to end the worldly life. And so his part ends in the place of action and he heads for the place of requital.

The Heavens

He it is **Who** created the seven heavens in layers in a way that no one can see the minutest flaw in **His** creation. Even if someone looks again and again or uses telescopes or other gadgets, he can never trace any imperfection. It is not sure that the visible bluish sky is the real heaven; may be the distance causes the atmosphere to appear so and the heaven is much farther away. On the other hand, it is also possible that the space in between is clear and the real heaven is actually visible. Nevertheless, whether it is visually observed or rationally probed, no omission can be detected. **Allah** declares that **He** illuminated the stars like lamps and embellished the sky therewith. The stars, may be lower than the heaven, appear studded in it when viewed from the earth. They are also used for driving

away the devils; which may mean the meteors or shooting stars, or may be the stars emit some kind of radiation or flame to scare them away. This phenomenon may not be visible to us but the fact is that the devils are not allowed to cross beyond the stars.

The punishment of a raging flame has also been arranged for them as well as for those who adopt their ways and defy Allah. They shall also be flung into Hell, a dreadfully torturous place. Once thrown into it, they shall be terrified to hear its raging roar; as if it is about to explode. The angel guarding it would address the non believers: "Did not any Prophet come to you to foretell you about this grievous end, so that you could take measures to avert it" They would answer: "Most certainly yes, such a soul did come but we refused to believe what he said. Rather, we had denied revelation and blamed him for fabricating false stories, and that he himself was at fault. Alas! If only we had contemplated on what he told us and acted wisely, we would not have been in Hell today." They confess their fault now, which is worthless.

Those having blind faith in their Rabb, and had felt His Grandeur would be blessed with Forgiveness, not withstanding their mistakes committed out of human weakness. He shall bestow upon them stupendous rewards. O People! Whatever you express openly or secretly, Allah is even informed of the secrets of your bosoms. He Himself created each one of you, blessed you with life and the ability to work and understand, why then would He not be Aware of your circumstances? Undoubtedly, He Knows everything.

Section 2

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| 15. | He it is Who has made the earth subservient to you; so go forth in the tracts thereof, and eat of His provision. And to Him is the Resurrection. | هُوَ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمْ الْأَرْضَ ذُلُولًا فَامْشُوا فِي مَنَاكِبِهَا وَكُلُوا مِن رِّزْقِهِ وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ ﴿١٥﴾ |
| 16. | Are you secure that He Who is in the heaven will not sink the earth with you, and then it should quake? | أَمْ أَمِنْتُمْ مَّن فِي السَّمَاءِ أَنْ يَخِفَّ بِكُمْ الْأَرْضُ فَإِذَا هِيَ تَمُورُ ﴿١٦﴾ |
| 17. | Or are you securing that He Who is in the heaven will not send against you a whirlwind? Soon | أَمْ أَمِنْتُمْ مَّن فِي السَّمَاءِ أَنْ يُرْسِلَ عَلَيْكُمْ حَاصِبًا فَسَتَعْلَمُونَ كَيْفَ نَذِيرِ ﴿١٧﴾ |

you shall know how has been My warning.

18. And assuredly those before them have belied, then how has been My Wrath?

19. Do they not see the birds above them outstretching their wings and also closing them? None sustains them except the Compassionate. Verily He is Beholder of everything.

20. Who is he, besides the Compassionate that can be an army unto you and succour you? The infidels are but in delusion.

21. Should He withhold His provision, who is he that can provide for you? Aye! They persist in perversity and aversion.

22. Is he, then, who goes about grovelling upon his face better directed or he who walks evenly on a straight path?

23. Say you: He it is Who has brought you forth and has endowed you with hearing and sights and hearts. Little thanks it is you give!

24. Say you: He it is Who has spread you over the earth, and to Him you shall be gathered.

25. And they say: When will this promise come to pass, if you are truthful.

وَلَقَدْ كَذَّبَ الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِمْ فَكَيْفَ كَانَ نَكِيرِ ﴿١٨﴾

أَوَلَمْ يَرَوْا إِلَى الطَّيْرِ فَوْقَهُمْ صَفَيْتَ وَيَقِضْنَ
مَا يَمْسِكُهُنَّ إِلَّا الرَّحْمَنُ إِنَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ بَصِيرٌ ﴿١٩﴾

أَمَّنْ هَذَا الَّذِي هُوَ جُنْدُكُمْ يَنْصُرُكُمْ مِّن دُونِ الرَّحْمَنِ
إِنَّ الْكَافِرُونَ إِلَّا فِي غُرُورٍ ﴿٢٠﴾

أَمَّنْ هَذَا الَّذِي يَرْزُقُكُمْ إِنْ أَمْسَكَ رِزْقَهُ بَل لَّجُوا
فِي غُرُورٍ وَنُفُورٍ ﴿٢١﴾

أَمَّنْ يَمْشِي مَكْبًا عَلَىٰ وَجْهِهِ يَأْهُدِي أَمَّنْ يَمْشِي سَوِيًّا
عَلَىٰ صِرَاطٍ مُّسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿٢٢﴾

قُلْ هُوَ الَّذِي أَنْشَأَكُمْ وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ
وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ قَلِيلًا مَّا تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾

قُلْ هُوَ الَّذِي ذَرَأَكُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَإِلَيْهِ تُحْشَرُونَ ﴿٢٤﴾

وَيَقُولُونَ مَتَىٰ هَذَا الْوَعْدُ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿٢٥﴾

26. Say you: The knowledge thereof is only with Allah, and I am but a manifest warner.

قُلْ إِنَّمَا الْعِلْمُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَإِنَّمَا أَنَا نَذِيرٌ مُّبِينٌ ﴿٢٦﴾

27. But when they will see it approximating, sad will be the countenances of those who disbelieve, and it will be said: This is what you have been calling for.

فَلَمَّا رَأَوْهُ زُلْفَةً سَيِّئَتْ وُجُوهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا

وَقِيلَ هَذَا الَّذِي كُنْتُمْ بِهِ تَدْعُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾

28. Say you: Think! If Allah destroys me and those with me, or have Mercy on us, who will protect the infidels from an afflictive torment?

قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ أَهْلَكَنِی اللَّهُ وَمَنْ مَعِيَ أَوْ رَحِمَنَا

فَمَنْ یُجِیْرُ الْکَافِرِیْنَ مِنْ عَذَابِ الْبَیْرِ ﴿٢٨﴾

29. Say you: He is the Compassionate; in Him we have believed, and in Him we have put our trust. And soon you will know who it is that is in manifest error.

قُلْ هُوَ الرَّحْمَنُءَامَنَّا بِهِ وَعَلَيْهِ تَوَكَّلْنَا فَسَتَعْلَمُونَ

مَنْ هُوَ فِی ضَلَالٍ مُّبِیْنٍ ﴿٢٩﴾

30. Say you: think! Were your water to be sunk away, who then could bring you water welling-up?

قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ أَصْبَحَ مَاؤُكُمْ غَوْرًا فَمَنْ یَأْتِیْكُمْ

بِمَاؤٍ مَّعِیْنٍ ﴿٣٠﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Allah the Beneficent has put the earth in service to mankind. They are now free to walk over its paths; which means that they can discover the methods to exploit its resources, to extract provisions of life from it. Finally they have to return to Him. Therefore, mankind must not lose itself in inventions and the mundane pleasures but must look at them as gifts from Allah and be grateful to Him. They must obey Allah so as not to be embarrassed when finally standing before Him.

O' people! If you take these gifts as your personal achievement, will you believe only when the Owner of the earth and the heavens, buries you into this very earth? All your wisdom and science will prove useless and the earth itself will start shuddering in His awe. Or will you believe once Allah's visitation pelts stones from the sky, and you begin to discern what Allah's Wrath would be like?

Although visitations involving mass destruction of defying nations happen no more, yet the earth erupts at certain places and earthquakes play havoc. Sometimes hail descends like stones, which human science is unable to stop. And then people should read the accounts of foregone nations, and see what devastations befell them when they chose the path of denial and disbelief.

People do not appreciate His perfect Omnipotence. They are rather proud of flying in space crafts invented using the very intellect blessed by Him. But it is He Who intrinsically creates this marvel in small birds, and so designs their bodies that they can float around in air by expanding or contracting their wings. The Most Gracious Who is informed of everything has, of course, taught them.

The infidels may be asked whether there was an army that would come to help if He abandons them? Is there someone who can give them life and all its blessings and make them sustain at their own? None whatsoever! They are gripped by illusions. They do not perceive that if He withholds provisions, stops the rains or strips the earth of its fertility there is none who can restore. They are merely adamant on wickedness. It is as if they are walking upside down; so are they right or the one who walks upright on the straight path? He is the Glorious Being Who created you and gifted you with ears, eyes and hearts, so that besides recognising Him you may also attain temporal success and excellence.

Heart is the Seat of Knowledge.

The experts of physical knowledge take the five senses, the hearing, vision, smell, taste and feeling as the means of acquiring knowledge, with brain as the centre. But the Qurān mentions only two sources. First is the hearing. Obviously, a human being gains most of the knowledge through auditory sense. The second is the visual observation. This process of gaining knowledge continues from cradle to the grave. The rest of the three senses are not as important for they mostly deal with one's personal life, and do not contribute in greater affairs of life.

Heart has been declared by the Qurān as the centre of all knowledge. If the heart does not acquire the right state, such learning is useless. Man ought to have offered gratitude after appreciating such great blessings, yet very few people do so. If he utilizes these sources of knowledge, he will realize that it is Allah Who created him and spread his kind on the earth. He depends upon His blessings to sustain himself. It is only natural that this workshop of life should have a sequel. So the whole mankind shall have to gather in His Court. The impudent ask when exactly that would be? Allah bids the Holy Prophet^{SAW} to tell them that they have no say in it, nor do they have to arrange it. It is Allah's domain and He knows

perfectly well. However, his assignment is only to supply comprehensive information so that people may prepare for that Day. When confronted with it, its terror will disfigure their faces. Then the infidels will be told that the Hour they had demanded, has arrived.

Disbelief is the Everlasting enemy of the Holy Prophet^{SAW} and Muslims.

The Holy Prophet^{SAW} may announce to the infidels that if they are bent upon causing death and destruction to the Muslims, they must know that **Allah** is on the side of the believers. It is entirely upto **Him** whether **He** gives death or keeps them unharmed. So who will they turn to for support against **Allah** and what are their plans for averting **His** torture? **Allah** is the Most Merciful and the Muslims have faith and complete trust in **Him**. **His** Mercy will save them from all punishments and destruction. Soon the non believers will find out who has digressed? And out of **His** countless gifts, if **He** only dries up the water, who is there to restore this vital source of life? How many oceans, clouds, rains, snow, springs, rivers, streams and underground channels **He** has spread making them a source of bringing countless other blessings of life! Is there anyone else save **Allah** who could do it for them?