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# Journey Through The Last Ten Surahs

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# Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- ▶ Understand the meaning of the last ten Surahs of the Qur'an
- ▶ Understand the context & background in which the verses were revealed
- ▶ Nurture devotion within Salah through recitation of these verses
- ▶ Spark the curiosity in understanding the entire Qur'an and studying its meaning

# Surah al-Fil

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ ﴿١﴾ أَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ كَيْدَهُمْ فِي تَضْلِيلٍ ﴿٢﴾ وَأَرْسَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ طَيْرًا أَبَابِيلَ ﴿٣﴾ تَرْمِيهِمْ بِحِجَارَةٍ مِنْ سِجِّيلٍ ﴿٤﴾ فَجَعَلَهُمْ كَعَصْفٍ مَأْكُولٍ ﴿٥﴾

# The Elephant

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

Do you [Oh Prophet] not see how your Lord dealt with the army of the elephant? [1]

Has He not turned their plan into nullity? [2]

He sent flocks of birds against them, [3]

Pelting them with stones of hard-baked clay: [4]

And thus He turned them into an eaten-up chaff. [5]

# Commentary

- ❖ This Surah is in reference to events said to have happened in 570 CE, the year of the Prophet (peace be upon him)'s birth. Using war elephants, the army of Abraha, the Christian governor of Yemen, marched to attack Makkah, destroy the Ka'ba, and divert pilgrims to the new cathedral in San'a. The destruction of this army is cited here to encourage the believers and warn the disbelievers.

# Surah Quraysh

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

لِإِيلَافِ قُرَيْشٍ ۝١ إِيْلَافِهِمْ رِحْلَةَ الشِّتَاءِ وَالصَّيْفِ ۝٢ فَلْيَعْبُدُوا رَبَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ ۝٣

الَّذِي أَطْعَمَهُمْ مِنْ جُوعٍ وَآمَنَهُمْ مِنْ خَوْفٍ ۝٤

# The Quraysh

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

Due to the familiarity of the Quraish [1]

That is, their familiarity with the trips of winter summer, [2]

they must worship the Lord of this House, [3]

Who gave them food against hunger, and gave them security against fear. [4]

# Commentary

- ❖ This Makkan Surah connects grammatically with the previous one's account of how Allah defeated the threat to Makkah posed by Abraha, thus making it safe for the tribe of Quraysh to continue their trading journeys.
- ❖ The travel caravans of the tribe of Quraysh used to have a safe passage to Yemen in winter and to Syria in summer. This was because the people of the entire Arabia respected them as caretakers of the Sacred House in Makkah, and never touched them with any evil during their commercial trips. As such, the Ka'bah was the basic cause of their security and economic prosperity. This Surah reminds them that Allah has blessed them with this special favour only because they are caretakers of His Sacred house.



# Surah al-Ma'un

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي يُكَذِّبُ بِالْإِيمَانِ ﴿١﴾ فَذَلِكَ الَّذِي يَدْعُ الْيَتِيمَ ﴿٢﴾ وَلَا يَحِضُّ عَلَى طَعَامِ

الْمِسْكِينِ ﴿٣﴾ فَوَيْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ ﴿٤﴾ الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُونَ ﴿٥﴾ الَّذِينَ هُمْ يُرَاءُونَ ﴿٦﴾

وَيَمْنَعُونَ الْمَاعُونَ ﴿٧﴾

# The Small Gifts

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

Have you seen him who denies the Requital? [1]

So, he is the one who pushes away the orphan, [2]

And does not persuade (others) to feed the need. [3]

So, Woe to those performers of Salah, [4]

Who are neglectful of their Salah [5]

Who (do good only to) show off, [6]

And refuse (to give even) small gifts. [7]

# Commentary

- ❖ A Makkan Surah describing some characteristics of a person who denies the Judgement.
- ❖ According to some reports, this verse was revealed about 'As Ibn Wa'il, a staunch unbeliever who was known for his miserliness. The words, however, are general which indicate that acts like pushing away an orphan or refraining from feeding the needy are not conceivable from a Muslim who believes in Requitat.
- ❖ The original word used is Ma'un, which literally means petty things, like pottery, salt, sugar etc. If a person is in extreme need for such a thing, it is obligatory on the owner to lend it to him.

# Surah al-Kawthar

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّا أَنْعَمْنَا عَلَىكَ الْكَوْثَرَ ﴿١﴾ فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَانْحَرْ ﴿٢﴾ إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ ﴿٣﴾

# The Kawthar

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

[Oh Prophet,] surely We have given you al-Kawthar. [1]

So, offer Salah (prayer) to your Lord, and sacrifice. [2]

Surely it is your enemy whose traces are cut off. [3]

# Commentary

- ❖ ‘*Kawthar*’ literally means abundance of good things. It is also the name of a river in Paradise that, according to authentic *ahadith*, will be given under the control of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him), and its drink distributed among the believers of his 'Ummah. Both meanings are possible here, as the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) was given all good qualities, and was also promised to have the river of Kawthar in his charge.
- ❖ It is reported that, when the Prophet lost his last son, an opponent who hated him taunted him with being ‘cut off’ without posterity. This Makkan Surah comes to reassure the Prophet and as a retort to his enemy.

# Surah al-Kafirun

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ ﴿١﴾ لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ ﴿٢﴾ وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ ﴿٣﴾ وَلَا أَنَا

عَابِدُ مَا عَبَدْتُمْ ﴿٤﴾ وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ ﴿٥﴾ لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ ﴿٦﴾

# The Disbelievers

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

Say, “O disbelievers, [1]

I do not worship that which you worship, [2]

Nor do you worship the One whom I worship. [3]

And neither I am going to worship that which you have worshipped, [4]

Nor will you worship the One whom I worship. [5]

For you is your faith, and for me, my faith. [6]



# Commentary

- ❖ Some of the Makkan idolaters suggested to the Prophet (peace be upon him) that as a compromise he should worship their gods for a year and they should worship his for a year. This Surah was the reply.
- ❖ Ibn Abbas, a companion of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), said that the following verses were also revealed in addition to this chapter in response to the Quraysh's request: "Say, [O Muhammad], "Is it other than Allah that you order me to worship, O ignorant ones?" And it was already revealed to you and to those before you that if you should associate [anything] with Allah, your work would surely become worthless, and you would surely be among the losers." Rather, worship [only] Allah and be among the grateful." [Qur'an 39:64-66]

# Surah an-Nasr

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ ﴿١﴾ وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا ﴿٢﴾ فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ

رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا ﴿٣﴾

# The Help

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

[O Prophet,] When there comes Allah's help and the Victory, [1]

And you see people entering Allah's (approved) religion in multitudes, [2]  
then pronounce the purity and praise of your Lord, and seek forgiveness from  
Him. He is always ready to accept repentance. [3]

# Commentary

- ❖ According to most exegetes, this Surah was revealed shortly before the Victory of Makkah. It bears the happy news that Makkah is going to be conquered, and then the tribes of Arabia would embrace Islam in multitudes. Since the mission of the Prophet (peace be upon him) was to complete on these events, he was directed to make *tasbih* (pronouncement of Allah's purity), *hamd* (pronouncing Allah's praise and offering gratitude to Him) and *istighfar* (seeking forgiveness from Allah). This Surah had an indication that the time of demise of the Prophet (peace be upon him) had was near.
- ❖ This Surah educates every Muslim that on every accomplishment, he should turn to Allah by pronouncing *tasbih*, *hamd* and *istighfar*.

# Surah al-Lahb

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

تَبَّتْ يَدَا أَبِي لَهَبٍ وَتَبَّ ۝١ مَا أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ ۝٢ سَيَصْلَىٰ نَارًا ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ ۝٣

وَأَمْرَأَتُهُ حَمَّالَةَ الْحَطَبِ ۝٤ فِي جِيدِهَا حَبْلٌ مِّنْ مَّسَدٍ ۝٥

# The Flame

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

May the two hands of Abu Lahab be ruined, and he be ruined too! [1]

Neither his wealth benefited him, nor what he has gained. [2]

He will soon enter a Fire, full of flames, [3]

And so will his wife, the wicked carrier of firewood. [4]

With a palm-fibre rope around her neck. [5]

# Commentary

- ❖ This Surah refers to an uncle of the Prophet (peace be upon him), Abu Lahab, who opposed him fiercely, as did his wife. He insulted the Prophet (peace be upon him) with ‘Tabbat yadak’ (may your hands be ruined). This Makkan Surah is the retort.
- ❖ According to some reports, Abu Lahab bragged that if the torment of the Hereafter was true, he had enough wealth and children to save himself from it.
- ❖ She was Umm Jamil. Like her husband, she was a staunch enemy of the Prophet (peace be upon him).

# Surah al-Ikhlās

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ۝ (١) اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ۝ (٢) لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ۝ (٣) وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ۝ (٤)



# The Sincerity

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

Say, “He is God the One. [1]

Allah the self-sufficient. [2]

He begot no one nor was He begotten. [3]

No one is comparable to Him.” [4]

# Commentary

- ❖ Imam Ahmad recorded from Ubayy bin Ka`b that the idolators said to the Prophet , "O Muhammad! Tell us the lineage of your Lord." So Allah revealed this Surah.
- ❖ Imam Tirmidhi has recorded on the authority of Abu Hurairah (Allah be pleased with him) that once the Prophet (peace be upon him) asked the people to gather and said: "I shall recite to you a third of the Qur'an." When the people had congregated, he recited Surah al-Ikhlās and said: "This is equal to a third of the Qur'an."

# Surah al-Falaq

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ ﴿١﴾ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ ﴿٢﴾ وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ إِذَا وَقَبَ ﴿٣﴾ وَمِنْ شَرِّ

النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ ﴿٤﴾ وَمِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ ﴿٥﴾

# The Break of Dawn

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

Say, “I seek refuge with the Lord of the daybreak [1]

from the evil of everything He has created, [2]

And from the evil of the night when darkness gathers, [3]

And from the evil of the women who blow on knots, [4]

And from the evil of an envier when he envies. [5]

# Commentary

- ❖ These two Surahs, placed at the end of the Qur'an in the present arrangement, were revealed to teach the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his 'Ummah how to seek Allah's refuge from the unseen actions of sorcerers, devils and hostile human beings.
- ❖ According to authentic reports, some Jews cast a spell on the Prophet (peace be upon him). By virtue of the divine protection given to him, no magic could refrain or divert him from discharging his duties as a Prophet (peace be upon him). However, the spell cast by the Jew made him to suffer from some disease. On that occasion, these two Surahs were revealed, and the Prophet (peace be upon him) was directed to recite them, after which he was freed from the influence of the witchcraft.

# Surah an-Nas

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ ﴿١﴾ مَلِكِ النَّاسِ ﴿٢﴾ إِلَهِ النَّاسِ ﴿٣﴾ مِنْ شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ ﴿٤﴾

الَّذِي يُوسْوِسُ فِي صُدُورِ النَّاسِ ﴿٥﴾ مِنَ الْجِنَّةِ وَالنَّاسِ ﴿٦﴾

# The Mankind

*With the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.*

Say, “I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind, [1]

The King of mankind, [2]

The God of mankind, [3]

From the evil of the whisperer who withdraws

(when Allah’s name is pronounced), [4]

The one who whispers in the hearts of people, [5]

Whether from among the Jinn or Mankind. [5]

# Commentary

- ❖ ‘Whispering’ here means evil thoughts and scruples created in one’s heart. Normally this is done by Satan, but when Allah’s name is pronounced and His refuge is sought, he withdraws from his evil act.
- ❖ This is an indication that even human beings can cast evil thoughts in an indirect manner. One should beware of such people and seek Allah’s refuge.



# Conclusion

- ❖ The Qur'an is a letter from Allah to us – his servants, therefore understanding it is extremely important.
- ❖ Understanding these Surahs is the foundational step to understanding the Qur'an.
- ❖ How to move forward and progress?
- ❖ What are the prerequisites of studying 'Ilm (knowledge)?
- ❖ SiblingsOfilm & our future plans.

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