

# سُورَةُ الْعَلَقِ

## Al 'Alaq

### *The Clinging Makkan Period*

96

The opening five ayaat of this surat were the first verses ever revealed to the Blessed Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. He was forty years old, sitting in a mountain cave outside of the city of Makkah when the Angel of Revelation, Jibril ﷺ, came to him and revealed the famous words: 'Read in the Name of Your Lord...'

This introduction to Allah's ﷻ revelation and to prophethood was going to change the course of human history forever. With these words, Islam was born. Muhammad ﷺ, a man afflicted with the materialism around him, was chosen by Allah ﷻ to be His last messenger to the earth. Muhammad ﷺ was commissioned by Allah ﷻ in the year 610 CE to be His Messenger to all of humanity.

# سُورَةُ الْعَلَقِ

## The Clinging



Surat Al 'Alaq

Repetition Track No.

19

Memorization Track No.

56

**In the Name of Allah,  
the Compassionate Source of  
All Mercy.**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Read, in the Name of your Lord  
Who created

أَقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ١

Humans from a clinging (embryo).

خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ٢

Read, for your Lord is most  
generous.

أَقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ٣

(He) is the One Who taught with  
the pen

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ٤

He taught people things that they  
didn't know.

عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ٥

No! Verily, man does transgress all  
bounds.

كَلَّا إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لِيَطْغَىٰ ٦

He even considers himself  
independent!

أَن رَّاهُ اسْتَغْنَىٰ ٧

But certainly (everyone) will  
return to their Lord.

إِنَّا إِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ الرَّجُعَىٰ ٨

Have you ever seen someone who  
tries to discourage

أَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي يَنْهَىٰ ٩

A servant (of Allah) from praying?

عَبْدًا إِذَا صَلَّى ﴿١٠﴾

Do you think he is rightly guided

أَرَأَيْتَ إِنْ كَانَ عَلَى الْهُدَى ﴿١١﴾

Or aware (of Allah)?

أَوْ أَمَرَ بِالتَّقْوَى ﴿١٢﴾

Or does he reject (the truth) and  
turn aside?

أَرَأَيْتَ إِنْ كَذَّبَ وَتَوَلَّى ﴿١٣﴾

Doesn't he know that Allah is  
watching him?

أَلَمْ يَعْلَمْ بِأَنَّ اللَّهَ يَرَى ﴿١٤﴾

Let him be warned: unless he  
changes his ways, We will drag him  
down by his forelock,

كَلَّا لَئِنْ لَمْ يَنْتَهِ لَنَسْفَعًا بِالنَّاصِيَةِ ﴿١٥﴾

His lying, rebellious forelock!

نَاصِيَةٍ كَذِبَةٍ خَاطِئَةٍ ﴿١٦﴾

And though he may try to call  
upon his friends for help,

فَلْيَدْعُ نَادِيَهُ ﴿١٧﴾

We, too, shall call upon the forces  
of torment!

سَنَدْعُ الزَّبَانِيَةَ ﴿١٨﴾

So, don't be diverted by a person  
like that. Rather, bow yourself  
(in adoration) and draw closer  
(towards Me).

كَلَّا لَا تُطَعُّهُ وَاسْجُدْ وَاقْتَرِبْ ﴿١٩﴾



## Words to Know

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Qur'anic Word	Meaning
الْأَكْرَمُ	the Most Generous	الْهُدَى	guidance
الْقَلَمُ	the pen	النُّفُوسُ	righteousness
عَبْدًا	servant	كَائِبَةً	lying

## Qur'anic Word: Root and Meaning

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Root	Example
أَقْرَبُ	lead	قَرَأَ	قَرَأَتْ بِآيَةِ سُورَةِ الْغَاثِ
عَلَّمَ	taught	عَلَّمَ	عَلَّمَ بِأَنَّ النَّجَّاحَ جَيِّدٌ
رَأَى	he sees	رَأَى	رَأَيْتُ الطَّائِرَةَ فِي السَّمَاءِ
الرُّجْعَى	the return	رَجَعَ	رَجَعَ عَلَيَّ مِنَ الْمَدْرَسَةِ مَمْرُورًا
يَنْهَى	forbids	نَهَى	نَهَانَا الْمُعَلِّمُ عَنْ قَوْلِ الْكَذِبِ
صَلَّى	pray	صَلَّى	صَلَّيْنَا الْجُمُعَةَ فِي الْمَدِينَةِ الْمُنَوَّرَةِ
يَنْتَهُ	ceases	نَهَى	أَنْتَهَتْ سَعَادٌ وَاجِبَاتُهَا
خَاطِبَةً	sinning	خَطَأَ	لَا تُخْطِئِي فِي حَقِّ الْآخَرِينَ
فَلْيَدْعُ	then, let him call	دَعَا	دَعَوْتُ أَصْحَابِي إِلَى الْحَقِّ
نُطْعَةً	obey Him	طَوَعَ	أَطَاعَ الطَّالِبُ مُعَلِّمَهُ
أَقْرَبُ	come closer to	قَرَّبَ	أَقْرَبْتُ مِنْ تَحْقِيقِ هَدَفِي



## Surat 96 Review Exercises

### Think and Write

1. Describe the circumstances that led to the revelation of this first surat of the Qur'an.
2. Why do you think this surat begins with the word 'Read' and not 'Listen' or 'Tell'?
3. What is one sign of a misguided person?
4. If a misguided person doesn't change his ways and opposes doing good, what will happen to him?
5. If the bad person calls out for help against Allah ﷻ, do you think anyone will be able to come to his aid? Why or why not?
6. What does Allah ﷻ tell us to do in the last ayah?
7. After reading the last ayah of the Arabic text, another *Sajda Tilawah* is required. Make sure to do it facing the Qiblah, or Ka'bah in Makkah.
8. The Blessed Prophet ﷺ was once asked by a man, "Messenger of Allah, will Allah bring a *kafir* (unbeliever) on his face on the Day of Resurrection?" The Prophet ﷺ replied, "Won't the One Who made him walk on his feet in this world be able to make him walk on his face on the Day of Resurrection?" (Bukhari) What does that answer tell us about Allah's ﷻ power over humans, no matter how great they are in this world?

# Qur'anic Story

## Surat Al 'Alaq

*(Scene: Mother and daughter are sitting at a table that is piled high with books.)*

**Mother:** "Jamilah, have you finished your homework yet?"

**Jamilah:** "Oh, Mom." They give us so much reading to do in all my classes. Why do we have to read so much?"

**Mother:** "Reading is very important, especially to us as Muslims," explained her mother. Come sit with me, and I'll tell you a story. That will give you a little break."

**Jamilah:** "Oooh okay! Thank, mom!" *(Gratefully)*

**Mother:** "Do you know what is the very first thing that Allahﷻ asked Muslims to do?"

**Jamilah:** "Say 'la ilaha ilallah?' "There is no god but Allahﷻ?" *(Guessing)*

**Mother:** "Good answer, but try again." *(Encouraging)*

**Jamilah:** "Hmmm...pray!" *(Confidently)*

**Mother:** "Another excellent answer but still not correct. Let me explain with a story."

"One dark night, many, many years ago, a man sat in a lonely cave, high atop Mount Hira' in a land called Arabia. He was a good and kind man, well-liked and respected by his friends, family and everyone who knew him. He loved his family and his people very much. But he was sad. His

people had all forgotten about the one true God, Allahﷻ. They had instead taken to worshipping idols as their gods—silly figures made of wood and stone—which could neither hear the people nor help them. He often came to this cave to sit quietly, think and pray.

On this particular night, he sat, as usual, alone in his cave when suddenly he felt the presence of some *thing*, *some one* else. Out of the darkness a commanding voice said, “IQRA! Read!”

The startled man gasped, “I am not a reader,” and the feeling went away.

The man looked all about him in the cave. No one was there. Had he fallen asleep? Surely he must have been dreaming! Shaking his head as if to clear it, the man returned to his quiet thoughts and prayers. Suddenly, he felt as if two huge arms were wrapped around him, squeezing him ever so tightly.

Again the mysterious voice came out of the darkness, “IQRA! Read!”

“I am not a reader,” whispered the man.

And as suddenly as it had appeared, the feeling went away. Trembling, the man searched the lonely cave for signs of any other presence. But all was dark and silent.

Yet again came the feeling, holding him so tightly the man feared his very bones would break.

“IQRA! Read!” commanded the voice a third time.



"What shall I read?" cried the man.

And the voice said, "READ IN THE NAME OF ALLAHﷻ WHO CREATED MAN—CREATED HIM FROM A SMALL CLINGING THING. READ; AND YOUR LORD IS THE MOST GENEROUS—WHO TAUGHT MAN TO USE THE PEN AND TAUGHT MAN EVERYTHING HE KNOWS".

**Mother:** (*Speaking to Jamilah*) "Do you know who the man was and who was squeezing him and asking him to read?"

**Jamilah:** "Of course, mom. That was the angel Jibrilﷺ. Allahﷻ sent him to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ with the Holy Qur'an."

**Mother:** "So why do you think Allahﷻ told us to read before he even mentioned saying the *shahadah* or praying or anything else that's important in Islam?"

**Jamilah:** "Well... (*thoughtfully*), reading is how we learn things. Even without a teacher we can still learn if we just open up a book and read by ourselves."

**Mother:** "That's good thinking, Jamilah. Allahﷻ wants us to know just how important it is to read and learn."

**Jamilah:** "Is reading another way to worship Allahﷻ, mom?"

**Mother:** "Absolutely, my dear daughter! Let's look at your homework together and see what we can find out."

**Jamilah:** "You know what, mom? That actually sounds like fun!"

**Surat Recitation in Arabic (first five verses only)**

# سُورَةُ الْقَدْرِ

## Al Qadr

**Measurement  
Makkan Period**

97

This surat describes the first night when the revelation of the Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ began. It is fitting that it follows the previous surat, which contains the first five verses of revelation. The Night of Qadr (literally: Measurement) signifies Allah's ﷻ will coming into force to measure or alter the course of human history. This night, which falls somewhere within the last ten days of the month of Ramadan, is a night of such importance that Muslims everywhere stay up all night, or most of it, praying and hoping for Allah's ﷻ mercy and favor. It is truly a night of power and significance.

## سُورَةُ الْقَدْرِ

### Measurement



Surat Al Qadr

Repetition Track No.

20

Memorization Track No.

57

***In the Name of Allah,  
the Compassionate Source of  
All Mercy.***

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Behold, We (began) this revelation  
on the Night of Measurement!

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ ﴿١﴾

And how can you understand what  
the Night of Measurement is?

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ ﴿٢﴾

The Night of Measurement is  
greater than a thousand months,

لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ﴿٣﴾

For in it, crowds of angels descend  
and the Spirit (Jibril), all by their  
Lord's permission, to finish every  
task.

نَزَّلُ الْمَلَائِكَةَ وَالرُّوحَ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ  
رَبِّهِمْ مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرِ ﴿٤﴾

Peace prevails 'til the break of  
dawn!

سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ ﴿٥﴾



## Words to Know

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Qur'anic Word	Meaning
لَيْلَةٌ	night	شَهْرٌ	month
خَيْرٌ	better	الْمَلَائِكَةُ	angels
أَلْفٌ	thousand	الْفَجْرُ	the dawn

## Qur'anic Word: Root and Meaning

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Root	Example
نَزَّلَ	sent it (the Qur'an)	نَزَلَ	أَنْزَلْنَا أَمْثِلَ الْحَقِيقَةِ مِنَ الْوَحْيِ
نَزَلَ	descend	نَزَلَ	نَزَلَ الْمَطَرُ بِغَزَاةٍ
سَلَامٌ	peace	سَلِمَ	سَلِّمْتُ عَلَى الْحُضُورِ جَمِيعِهِمْ
مَطْلَعٌ	appearance	طَلَعَ	طَلَعَ الْقَمَرُ بَدْرًا

المُعْجَم

## Surat 97 Review Exercises

### Think and Write

1. What is the significance of the Night of Measurement?
2. In which month does this night fall? (The Prophet ﷺ advised us to look for it in the last ten days of this month on odd-numbered nights.)
3. What three things happen on this night every year?
4. Describe how you or someone you know celebrates this special night.

### Activity

How does the following poem by the Muslim author Jalaluddin Rumi describe what happened to the Blessed Prophet Muhammad ﷺ on the first night of revelation? (Remember that surat 96 was the first revelation.) Write an essay that includes a description of how you think he felt after receiving the first revelation in his heart and mind.

#### Allah's Call

Listen, O drop, give yourself up without regret,  
And in exchange gain the Ocean.  
Listen, O drop, bring this honor on yourself,  
And in the arms of the Sea be safe.  
Who else is so lucky?  
An Ocean calling to a drop.  
In Allah' Name, in Allah's name, sell and buy at once!  
Give a drop and take this Sea full of pearls.



# Qur'anic Story

## Surat Al Qadr

*(Children at home jumping up and bed)*

**Children:** *(Chanting)*, "We're gonna stay uh-up. We're gonna stay uh-up."

**Narrator:** Sarah and Sami were eight-year-old twin brother and sister. They were both bouncing happily on the bed and repeating their chant. This Ramadan was the first year that their parents were allowing them to stay up for Laylatul Qadr, the Night of Power.

They were excited and no wonder! After many days of fasting, of iftars with family and friends and of special evening prayers at the masjid, the last ten days of Ramadan promised even more excitement. For at least one of the last ten days of Ramadan, if you were grown up enough you got to stay up ALL NIGHT.

Sarah and Sami had been begging their parents since they were small to be allowed this special treat.

**Mother:** "When you are old enough to fast all day and you are able to come with us and pray Tarawih and not just run around all night playing with your friends at the masjid, then, and only then, can you stay up for Laylatul Qadr."

**Narrator:** And this year they had done well—very well. Sarah had risen early with her mother to help prepare suhur, the pre-dawn meal. They had both fasted nearly a part of every day and sometimes the whole day. Sami had gone several times with his father to the masjid and prayed eight raka'at of *Tarawih*.

**Father:** "I think this year's the year."

*(The bouncing and chanting continue.)*



**Children:** "We're gonna stay uh-up. We're gonna stay uh-up."

**Narrator:** They planned that Sami would go with his father to the masjid, and Sarah would go to an all-night, women-only gathering at the house of a friend of their mother's. Mom explained that all the ladies, and the men, too, would be more comfortable with that arrangement since many times, people would fall asleep for short periods between the prayers. The women could take off their covering garments and scarves and feel more relaxed.

Since any of the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadan could be the Night of Power, their parents had chosen a Friday night for Sami and Sarah. With no school the next day, the children could sleep in late, or they could nap and wake up just before it was time to break their fast!

When the big day came, Mom suggested just that: an afternoon nap. But both children were far too excited to shut their eyes for even a minute.

Fasting was easy today with so much to look forward to. Mom made a simple meal for the iftar, explaining that there would be lots of food to sample during the long night.

Tonight Sami and his father would finish the Tarawih prayers early and go home to rest. They would return to the masjid around 10 pm.

**Mother:** "Are you sure you don't want to take a short nap?"

**Sarah**

**& Sami:** "No, no we're fine." (*Yawning*).

**Narrator:** After all, it was the end of the school week and they were used to going to bed extra early during Ramadan.

Finally, Sami and his dad left for the masjid.

*(Change of scene going into Rani's house.*

*There a number of women there of different ethnicities)*

**Narrator:** Sarah and her mother walked the short distance to their neighbor's house where the women were gathering. Their hostess was sister Rani, a woman originally from India.

The door opened and the pungent aroma of curry and other spices filled the night air.

**Sarah:** "Mmm, yum!"

**Narrator:** Auntie Rani was the hands-down, all-time best samosa-maker in their community.

**Rani:** "As-salaamu alaykum. You're just in time. The samosas are coming out of the frying pan." (Rani invited them in warmly).

**Narrator:** She filled a plate with two large, spicy samosas, and Sarah washed them down with a large glass of sweetened yogurt drink.

The women, stomachs pleasantly full, all grabbed cups of strong tea and settled down to reading Qur'an.

A sleepy Sarah put her head down in her mother's lap, and lulled by the soothing sounds of the sister's voice reading Qur'an, was soon fast asleep.

*(Change of scene to Sami and his father at the masjid.*

*There are a number of men of different ethnicities and the imam.)*

Sami was doing better with his dad. When they reached the masjid, the brothers were already into their prayers, and Sami and his father joined the rows of men and boys lined up neatly shoulder-to-shoulder.

After four raka'at of prayer, Sami was yawning.

**Father:** "Anytime you feel sleepy Sami, go ahead and grab a prayer rug. Roll it up and you can use it just like a pillow. Find a comfy



corner and go lie down. Don't worry; it's a long night, and I'll wake you up later for more *salah* and Qur'an reading. There will be some goodies to snack on later, too."

**Narrator:** Sami smiled but said he was okay. After another four raka'at, with droopy eyes, he gratefully did as his father suggested.

**Sami:** "I'll just close my eyes for a minute." (*Yawning*)

**Narrator:** Then Sami, too, was off to dreamland.

*(Change of scene back to house with Sarah and her mother and friends.)*

**Mother:** "Sarah, wake up honey." (Sarah's mom gently nudged Sarah awake. Sarah was worried about what she had missed.) "We've been praying together and reading Qur'an. But now it's time for more food. Try and eat a little something. I will help you stay awake."

**Narrator:** This next round of goodies was a delicious assortment of meat, cheese and spinach pies supplied by a sister whose family came from Palestine.

**Palestinian:** "Zis drink is called *qamaradine*." (She tells everyone.)

**Narrator:** This was Sarah's first time tasting the thick mixture of apricot nectar. It was the best thing she could imagine to wash down all those pies. Maybe her mom could get the recipe.

Energized by a second glass of *qamaradine*, Sarah was able to sit up and read along with the Arabic in the Qur'an. This time, all the women took turns reading a section.

Not all the sisters read Arabic that well, but each one eagerly took her turn. They were reading a surat Sarah had studied in school. When it came to her turn she felt really proud to be able to read a section by herself.



**Sarah:** *(Reads Surat Al Qadr)*

All the mothers congratulated her afterwards with a loud chorus of ...

**All:** *"Masha'Allah," (etc)*

**Narrator:** Sarah's mother smiled proudly and pulled her daughter close for a big hug.

Snuggled up against her mother, she was again lulled to sleep by the sweet strains of the Qur'an.

*(One woman is reading the Qur'an)*

*(Change of scene to masi'id with Sami and his father)*

**Father:** "Sami, Sami!" *(calls his father's voice from a fading dream.)*  
"Come on Sami. Are you going to sleep through this special night?"

**Narrator:** Then suddenly Sami was awake. It was Laylatul Qadr. He didn't want to miss it!

The smell of food made Sami's stomach gurgle, and he happily helped himself to the hot bread that was passed around.

**Father:** "We eat often on this Night of Power. Eating gives us energy to stay awake. Have a cup of sweet tea, and there are sandwiches, too."

**Narrator:** The men ate and drank, then sat in a circle to read Qur'an. An American brother was giving the *tafsir*, or explanation, in English.

*(One brother is reading to the group)*

It made Sami remember his special, one-on-one time listening to his dad's lively versions of the stories from the Qur'an told just right for Sami's understanding. He hoped the brothers would give his father a chance to talk tonight.

The American brother finished and then looked right at them.

**American:** "We have a special guest tonight. Sami and Abu Sami. This is Sami's first Laylatul Qadr, and his father asked if he could share with us the meaning of this special night."

*(All the men smile at Sami and nod in agreement.  
Sami's father begins to speak.)*

**Father:** "Allahﷻ tells us in the Qur'an that this is the night of Power. One of these last ten nights of Ramadan was the night in which the Angel Jibrilﷺ descended to the earth by Allah'sﷻ command, and revealed the beginning of the Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. This night changed the course of the history of the world. Forever now we would hold the unchangeable last words of Allahﷻ in our hands and recite it with our tongues. Something so powerful came down to the earth that night. And Allahﷻ promises us that this power descends to the earth every Ramadan. This night is better than a thousand months—there is so much blessing in it. And that is why, Sami, we try our best to stay awake one of the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadan, to catch all the blessings from Allahﷻ that we can. Allahﷻ covers the whole world with peace this night."

**Narrator:** A stillness fell over the group inside the masjid, as each one thought about what Sami's father said. Every man made a silent promise to continue his prayers and Qur'an reading with renewed energy. Even Sami vowed to stay awake for the rest of the night until the Fajr prayer.

*(Scene change back to Sarah and her mother)*

**Narrator:** The sound of clinking plates and glasses pulled Sarah out of her sleep.

**Sarah:** "What? More food? Is Laylatul Qadr just about eating the night away?"

**Narrator:** The mothers were up and preparing suhur, the pre-dawn meal.

**Mother:** "Oh Sarah, you're awake. Good girl. We'll eat our last time before the Fajr prayer. After we pray, we'll all settle down and get some good, uninterrupted sleep."

**Narrator:** Sarah was a little confused and disappointed. What was so special about this night? They read some Qur'an together, but it seemed the whole night was about non-stop eating. She hadn't even awakened when the sweets and fruits were passed around. What was she thinking that everyone was so excited to stay up for? Scrambled eggs and pancakes were on the menu for suhur. Most of the women exclaimed that they couldn't eat another bite, but still the heaping platters came back empty.

**Mother:** "Sarah, if you've finished eating, go upstairs and make wudu' before the prayer."

*(Sarah rises and goes to make wudu')*

In the bathroom, was a large window overlooking the yard. Although Sarah was often up early to pray the Fajr prayer, she never really took the time to see what the world looked like at this early hour. She opened the window and looked out.

*(Sarah opens window)*

This year, Ramadan had arrived in the middle of winter. A blanket of snow covered the yard. Sarah could see her breath as she blew into the cold air. She expected it to be very cold and prepared to shut the window quickly against any wind. But



strangely enough, although there was snow on the ground, there was warmth in the air. A kind of cozy feeling, as if she was still wrapped in her mother's arms. And quiet! So quiet. Not a creature stirred, nor was there any slight breeze to move the few leaves left on the trees.

**Sarah:** "I feel like the whole earth is wrapped in a big hug. Maybe that's what everybody stays up for. Did anyone else see what I saw or feel what I felt?"

**Narrator:** Smiling, and feeling very peaceful, she closed the window and opened up the warm water faucet to start her wudu'.

**Sarah:** (starts her wudu') "*Bismillah...*"

(Change of scene to Sami and his father)

**Narrator:** Sami and his father finished their Fajr salah. They said salam to all the brothers as they made their way to the parking lot.

**Sami:** "It's really still."

**Narrator:** No breeze, not even any birds singing. Sami's father had taken him once or twice to the Fajr prayer during the summer when there was no school, and Sami could sleep in. In the summer, the chorus of birds usually was going strong by the time they left the masjid.

**Sami:** "Maybe because it's winter the birds are still sleeping." (*reasoned Sami.*)

**Narrator:** He could not remember a time when the whole world seemed so still. What was the last line of the surat? "The Night of Power is peace until the break of day." This must be the magic of this night, he thought. Everyone who was awake was just praying and reading Qur'an. No wonder everything seemed so peaceful.

**Narrator:** Sami smiled. He knew that his sister Sarah would be sleeping over at Auntie Rani's house. He would go home and sleep soundly with his father during the day. But when Sarah returned, he couldn't wait to tell her all about his night.

**Sami:** "I wonder if her night was like mine?"

**(Recitation of Surat in Arabic)**

[www.Noorart.com](http://www.Noorart.com)





# سُورَةُ الْبَيِّنَاتِ

## Al Bayyinah

### Clear Evidence Madinan Period

98

This surat gives us a clear statement of the Islamic position regarding Jews and Christians, the followers of earlier revelation, called Ahl Al Kitab, literally: 'People of the Book.' Allah ﷻ sent true prophets to the Jews, as He did to other nations. The Jews received many prophets one after another. But many Jews rebelled against their prophets and preferred the life of this world and its riches. They abandoned the true way of life even though they knew it. The last prophet to the Jews, 'Isa ﷺ (Jesus) tried to call his people back to the truth of Allah ﷻ but most of them rejected him. The few who did accept his message tried to teach others the truth, but the rest of the Jewish community became hostile. They fought against Prophet 'Isa ﷺ and plotted to have him executed by their Roman masters. But Allah ﷻ saved His Prophet ﷺ from being killed, though the Jews still believed he was put to death by the Romans.

With their leader gone, hidden away in another dimension by Allah's ﷻ command, the followers of 'Isa ﷺ traveled throughout the region, trying to keep his message alive. In time, few of those people, now calling themselves 'Christians,' perverted 'Isa's ﷺ teachings and made up their own, thinking that it would make it easier for the non-Jews (the Greeks and Romans,) to accept. They had little success with the Jews.

The new teachings, especially those of a man named Paul, were made easy for non-Jews to accept as there were no laws to follow. Even wine and pork was made permissible for them. The idea of a man-god, (that we know of today in Christianity) was easy for the idol-worshippers to accept. But these were not the original teachings of 'Isa ﷺ; therefore, we can say that the 'Christians' also once knew the truth, but abandoned it as well.

Allah's ﷻ final Messenger to the world, the Blessed Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, brought a message that could never be lost or changed. It's now up to the Jews, Christians, atheists and modern day idol-worshippers (such as the Hindu and Buddhist) to accept or reject the message.

Islam teaches the straight and moral way without going to extremes, and Allah ﷻ has promised to protect His last Book, the Holy Qur'an, from any harm or change done by evil intent.



# سُورَةُ الْبَيِّنَاتِ

## Clear Evidence



Surat Al Bayyinah

Repetition Track No.

21

Memorization Track No.

58

**In the Name of Allah,  
the Compassionate Source of  
All Mercy.**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Those who reject (the truth),  
whether they're followers of earlier  
revelation (Jews and Christians,) or idol-worshippers, claim that they won't abandon (their religion and convert to Islam) unless clear proof comes to them:

لَمْ يَكُنِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ  
وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ مُنْفِكِينَ حَتَّى تَأْتِيَهُمُ الْبَيِّنَةُ ﴿١﴾

A messenger from Allah who will  
edit pure revelation to them

رَسُولٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ يَتْلُو صُحُفًا مُتُونَةً ﴿٢﴾

That contain sound and straight  
teachings.

فِيهَا كُنُوزٌ قَيِّمَةٌ ﴿٣﴾

But the followers of earlier  
revelation differed among  
themselves after this kind of  
guidance came to them before.

وَمَا تَفَرَّقَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ إِلَّا مِنْ  
بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْبَيِّنَةُ ﴿٤﴾

Even though they were taught  
nothing more than to serve Allah  
and be sincere, to be faithful to  
the truth, and to establish regular  
prayer and to give in charity. That  
is the straight way of life.

وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ  
لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ وَيُقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ  
وَيُؤْتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَذَلِكَ دِينُ الْقَيِّمَةِ ﴿٥﴾

Indeed, those who reject (Islam) whether they're followers of earlier revelation or idol-worshippers, have earned for themselves the fire of Hell, and they will stay in there. They are the worst of creatures.

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ أَهْلِ  
الْكِتَابِ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدِينَ  
فِيهَا أُولَئِكَ هُمْ شَرُّ الْبَرِيَّةِ ﴿٦﴾

But certainly, those who have faith and do what is right, they are the best of creatures.

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا  
الصَّالِحَاتِ أُولَئِكَ هُمْ خَيْرُ الْبَرِيَّةِ ﴿٧﴾

Their reward is with their Lord: everlasting Gardens beneath which rivers flow. They will live in there forever. Allah, well-pleased with them and they with Him. This is the reward of those who fear their Lord will get.

جَزَاءُهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ جَنَّاتُ عَدْنٍ  
تَجْرَى مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا  
رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا لَهُ إِنَّ ذَلِكَ  
لِأَنَّ نَفْسَ رَبِّهِمْ ﴿٨﴾

الْجِبَارِ



## Words to Know

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Qur'anic Word	Meaning
أَهْلُ الْكِتَابِ	the People of the Scripture	شَرُّ	the worst of
الْبَيِّنَةُ	the clear evidence	خَيْرُ	the best of
بَعْدَ	after	الْأَنْهَارُ	rivers
		أَبَدًا	forever

## Qur'anic Word: Root and Meaning

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Root	Example
نُتِلُوا	they came to them	أَتَى	يَأْتِي الْحَبْرُ سَرِيعًا
الْبَيِّنَةُ	clear evidence	بَيَّنَ	بَيَّنَ الْمُعَلِّمُ حَلَّ الْمَسْأَلَةِ
يَتْلُو	reciting	تَلَوَ	أَتْلُو الْقُرْآنَ الْكَرِيمَ بَعْدَ الصَّلَاةِ
مُطَهَّرَةٌ	purified	طَهَرَ	قُلُوبُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ طَاهِرَةٌ
تَفَرَّقَ	became divided	فَرَّقَ	تَفَرَّقَ النَّاسُ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ
أَمَرُوا	commanded	أَمَرَ	أَمَرَ الْقَائِدُ جُنُودَهُ بِالنَّبَاتِ
مُخْلِصِينَ	sincere	خَلَصَ	يُخْلِصُ الْمُوظَّفُ فِي عَمَلِهِ
الْمُشْرِكِينَ	those who associate others with Allah	شَرَكَ	أَشْرَكَ وَالِدِي صَدِيقَهُ فِي تِجَارَتِهِ
خَالِدِينَ	abiding eternally	خَلَدَ	لَا يَخْلُدُ فِي الدُّنْيَا أَحَدٌ



## Surat 98 Review Exercises

### Think and Write

1. What was needed for the Jews, Christians and idol-worshippers to have a chance to abandon their false ways?
2. How did their forefathers go astray?
3. The Blessed Prophet ﷺ once mentioned that any Jew or Christian who learns about Islam, and who doesn't accept it, will go to Hell. What does Islam ask Jews and Christians to accept according to ayaat 4-5? Do you think Allah's ﷻ request is unreasonable? Explain.

### Activity

After he migrated to Al Madinah, the Blessed Prophet ﷺ was confirmed as the leader of the city by all the different groups that lived there. The first thing the Prophet ﷺ did to unify the city was to organize the world's first constitution. In this very lengthy document, the Prophet ﷺ spelled out the rights and obligations of Muslims, Jews and others. Everyone agreed it was fair.

To promote harmony among people and to give everyone the chance to understand what this new message of Islam was all about, the Prophet ﷺ was always eager to engage people in dialogues and discussions. After initially welcoming the Prophet ﷺ into Al Madinah, the Jews began to show hostility towards him and the new Muslims. They thought that he was going to teach that Judaism was a true religion from Allah ﷻ and that 'Isa ﷺ was a liar; but instead, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ taught that Allah ﷻ sent him with a new revelation to replace everything that came before it and that 'Isa ﷺ was a true Prophet of Allah ﷻ.

At every opportunity, the Jews began to argue with Muslims and criticize Islam. But because of the justice and fairness of the Islamic constitution governing the city, no Jews were hurt or bothered. The Muslims simply kept answering their claims and presenting the message of Allah ﷻ. This is called da'wah.

A few months later, a large group of some sixty Christians from the northern land of Najran came to Al Madinah for a visit. They had heard of all the controversy between the Jews and the followers of the new faith, Islam, and they and they wanted to see what was going on for themselves. Soon everyone was gathered in the city center for the great debate of the three religions.

The Jews began the debate by calling the prophethood of both 'Isa (Jesus) and Muhammad false. They called Prophet 'Isa a false teacher and a liar. Then they said that Muhammad couldn't be a prophet because Allah only made an agreement with the Jews and would never raise up a non-Jewish prophet. Of course the Christians weren't happy about what the Jews said about 'Isa. They believed, after all, that 'Isa was God on earth and that Allah was now with them!

The Christians began defending and explaining their belief that God was in the person of Jesus, a man-god who had been sent to people so that their sins could be forgiven. They believed that Jesus as god, had to die in order for the sins of mankind to be forgiven. Christians believed (and still believe) that when Adam sinned by eating from the tree that Allah had forbidden him, all people who came after him 'inherited' this sin. It could only be forgiven by one so pure as Jesus by his dying for the salvation of all. They also believed that god had three persons. One is Allah, One is Jesus, and one is called the Holy Spirit.

The Jews response to this was saying that 'Isa was not the son of Allah. They believed the son of Allah was their great leader in ancient days, Ezra. After arguing among themselves the Jews and Christians asked Prophet Muhammad who and what he believed in.

The Prophet then recited the following ayah from the Qur'an:

"We believe in Allah and in what He has revealed to us as well as in what He revealed to Ibrahim, Ishaq, Ya'qub and his children. We believe in what has been revealed to Musa and 'Isa as well as in all the revelations that received from their Lord. We make no differences among them and we are surrendered to Allah." (2:136)

As the stunned Jews and Christians listened, the Blessed Prophet Muhammad proceeded to explain that Islam teaches that Allah is only one, with no partners or sons, and that the Jews and the Christians had lost their original revelations from Allah long ago and were now just arguing based on faulty ideas, corrupted books and opinions.

He explained that the message of Islam is the same basic message that was given to all the prophets and that the Qur'an is the final revelation from Allah to



the world. Then he recited another ayah:

“People of the Book, come to a common understanding between us and you, that we don’t serve anything besides Allah, that we don’t make partners with Him and that we don’t make anyone as equals besides Allah.” (3:64)

The Christians were so impressed by the logic and sincerity of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ that they decided not to oppose Islam or prevent it from being taught in their lands. Some of the Christians even wanted to convert, but they hesitated because they were afraid of losing their wealth and honor back home. The Christians and Jews left the scene, and the position of Islam was well established in the hearts of those who witnessed this great event. In addition, Islamic teachings were proven to be superior to both Judaism and Christianity.

Pretend you were a reporter covering the event for a local journal. Write a report about what you saw and how things turned out. Don’t forget to have an eye-catching head line!

www.Noorart.com

الشَّكْبَرُ



# سُورَةُ الزَّلْزَلَةِ

## Az-Zalzalah

### *The Earthquake Madinan Period*

99

The main message of this surat is one of accountability. It is so important that it is often the first principle for daily living that people overlook. We are not meant to be out of control. We shouldn't harm anyone or cause trouble as we wish. If we did that, then we would be no better than criminals. But what many people fail to realize is that even the little things matter. Breaking a branch from a tree for no reason is causing harm. Even killing an insect for no reason at all is a kind of murder.

In the same way, smiling to someone who could use the sight of a friendly face is considered charity, and doing something nice, even though no one sees you, is like doing a wonderful service for the whole world. The Islamic message is that everything matters, and the person who has a conscience is the person who is working towards Allah's ﷻ cause.

# سُورَةُ الزَّلْزَلَةِ

## The Earthquake



Surat Az-Zalzalah

Repetition Track No.

22

Memorization Track No.

59

**In the Name of Allah,  
the Compassionate Source of  
All Mercy.**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

When the earth is shaken to her  
very foundations

إِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ زِلْزَالَهَا ١

And casts forth all she contains,

وَأَخْرَجَتِ الْأَرْضُ أَثْقَالَهَا ٢

Humanity will cry in bewilderment,  
“What is happening with her!”

وَقَالَ الْإِنْسَانُ مَا هَٰذَا ٣

Indeed, on that Day, the earth will  
reveal much

بِمَدِّدٍ مُّدَّتْ خَبَارَهَا ٤

By the inspiration of her Lord.

بِأَنَّ رَبَّكَ أَوْحَىٰ لَهَا ٥

On that day, people will proceed in  
sorted groups to be shown the full  
account of their actions.

يَوْمَئِذٍ يَصْدُرُ النَّاسُ أَشْنَاًا  
لِّيُرَوْا أَعْمَالَهُمْ ٦

Anyone who has ever done an  
atom's weight of good will see it,

فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا  
يَرَهُ ٧

And anyone who has ever done an  
atom's weight of bad will see it.

وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ  
شَرًّا يَرَهُ ٨

## Words to Know

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Qur'anic Word	Meaning
النَّاسُ	the people	خَيْرًا	good
أَشْتَاتًا	separated	شَرًّا	evil
ذَرَّةً	an atom	مِثْقَالَ	the weight

## Qur'anic Word: Root and Meaning

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Root	Example
زَلَزَلَهُ	earthquake	زَلَزَلَ	لَمَّا زَلَزَلْنَا آلَ بَنِي إِسْرَءِيلَ
أَخْرَجَتْ	throws out	خَرَجَ	خَرَجَ الْمَزَارِعُ إِلَى عَمَلِهِ مُبْكَّرًا.
أَخْبَارَهَا	its news	خَبَرَ	لَا تُخْبِرُ أَحَدًا أَسْرَارَكَ.
أَوْحَى	inspired	وَحَى	أَوْحَى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى إِلَى نَبِيِّهِ الْفُرَّانِ الْكَرِيمِ.
لَيُرَوَّ	to be shown	رَعَى	رَأَيْتُ مَسْرَحِيَّةً جَمِيلَةً.
أَعْمَالَهُمْ	their deeds	عَمِلَ	يَعْمَلُ أَخِي فِي مَصْنَعِ الْأَلْبَانِ.



## Surat 99 Review Exercises

### Think and Write

1. What will make people panic in the future?
2. What will Allah ﷻ cause to happen to the earth one day?
3. When the Last Day has come and everyone in the Universe is raised up for Judgment, how will people be brought forward?
4. What is the ending message of this surat about?

### Activity

Read the following Hadith and write an explanation of how this can be related to the message of this surat.

A man named Mu'adh b. Jabal went to the Prophet ﷺ and asked, "Messenger of Allah, tell me what I can do to get into Paradise and keep me out of the Fire." The Prophet ﷺ replied, "You've asked me an important question, but it's easy for whoever Almighty Allah wills. You should serve Allah and not make any partners with him. Establish regular Salah (prayer), pay the Zakah (required charity), fast in Ramadan and then make Hajj (pilgrimage) to the House (the Ka'bah). Shouldn't I show you the gates of goodness? Fasting is a shield, charity blots out sins like water kills a fire, even as a person praying in the late night does also."

Then the Prophet ﷺ recited the following ayah from the Qur'an: "Those who leave their beds to call on their Lord in fear and hope, and give out of what We have given them. No soul knows what joys are kept hidden from them, as a reward for what they did." (16:32)

The Prophet ﷺ then said, "Shouldn't I tell you about the peak (of this way of life), its pillar and its highest part?"

Mu'adh answered, "Yes! Messenger of Allah."

So the Prophet ﷺ replied, "The peak is Islam. The pillar is prayer and the highest part is Jihad. Shouldn't I tell you what controls all those things?"

Mu'adh answered, "Yes! Messenger of Allah."

The Prophet ﷺ touched his tongue and said, "Control this."

Mu'adh asked, "Messenger of Allah, will what we say be held against us?"

The Prophet ﷺ replied, "May your mother be sad for you! Is there anything that will throw people on their faces into Hellfire more than the harvest of their tongues?" (Tirmidhi)

# Qur'anic Story

## Surat Az-Zalzalah

*(Scene: In a restaurant a man and his waiter are talking)*

**The Man:** "Ah..."

**Waiter:** "Will there be anything else, sir?"

**Man:** "Thank you, no. Very delicious meal."

**Waiter:** "Would you like a takeout bag sir?"

**Man:** "No thanks. I'll take the bill though."

**Waiter:** "Are you sure, sir? There's plenty left for another meal."

**Man:** "No need."

**Waiter:** "Sir, excuse me, sir. No need to waste good food and..."

**Man:** (laughing) "You sound just like my father, starving children in Africa. Take it away."

*(Scene: On the street, the man and a woman wait for a taxi)*

**Man/ Woman:** "Taxi!"

**Woman:** "Would you mind sharing this cab? I'd like to get my kids out of the rain."

**Man:** (Laughing) "First come, first served, lady."

*(Man gets into taxi.)*

**Child:** "Mommy, I'm getting soaked."

**Woman:** "That's okay "We'll get another cab, honey—soon I hope."



*(Scene: In front of an apartment building,  
a doorman and the man are talking)*

**Doorman:** "Good evening Mr. Rashid."

**Man:** "Evening, Thomas"

**Doorman:** "Mr. Rashid?"

**Man:** "Yes?"

**Doorman:** "Sir, it's the 15th of the month."

**Man:** "Ah, right, right. So it is. Well, look here, Thomas. Must have spent everything on that dinner out. Tomorrow, ok?"

**Doorman:** "Certainly, sir." *(under his breath)* "If tomorrow ever comes."

**Man:** "What... what?"

**Doorman:** "Good night, sir. Pleasant dreams."

*(Scene: At the apartment, the man arrives home)*

**Man:** *(Entering door)* "Ah... what a day. Think I ate too much. Well, a good snooze will take care of that."

*(The man begins to sleep, snoring and then dreaming.  
He is obviously having a bad dream.)*

**Man:** *(Waking)* "Huh, uh, what's that? Oh no, an earthquake!"

**Earth:** "Yes, an earthquake."

**Man:** "Help! Who are you?"

**Earth:** "I am Mother Earth."



**Man:** "What are you doing here?"

**Earth:** "It is the Day of Judgment, and I have come here to remind you about all the things you did."

**Man:** "What things?"

**Earth:** "Ah! You need to be reminded!  
In the Name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful.  
When Earth is shaken with a last terrible quake,  
And everything that has ever been buried beneath the surface  
will come out,  
Man will ask, "What is wrong with you?"  
That Day Allah will give me permission to tell all of my stories.  
Man will be divided into groups.  
And those who did the slightest bit of good will see it.  
And those who did the slightest bit of wrong will see it.

**Man:** "I did nothing wrong!"

**Earth:** "You fired your bully while others were hungry!"

**Man:** "..."

**Earth:** "Starving children in Africa. You failed to help the needy."

**Man:** "Me—I? Never! When?"

**Earth:** "She only wanted to protect her children from the rain."

**Man:** "Oh, that..."

**Earth:** "You didn't keep your trust."

**Man:** "Please, please..."

**Earth:** "Thomas, your doorman, was only asking for what was rightfully his."

www.Noorart.com

**Man:** "Please, stop this awful shaking I beg you!"

**Earth:** "Remember Allah, Allah, Allahﷻ," (Mother Earth urges, echoing as she fades away.)

**Man:** "Please help me, ya Allahﷻ, I'll be better. Please Allahﷻ, give me another chance!"

*(The man's alarm clock rings.)*

**Man:** *(He knocks it over. "Darn alarm clock.")*

**Earth:** (From far away) "Remember Allahﷻ!"

**Man:** "Ah! Oh, no, al hamudlillah, I'm okay. I'm still alive. I'm going to be better. Ya Allahﷻ, help me to be better. Ya Allahﷻ please help me to be better."

*(Scene: In front of the apartment building)  
The doorman and the man are talking.*

**Doorman:** "Good Morning, sir."

**Man:** As-salaamu alaykum! Isn't it a great morning Thomas? Here you are. (The man hands him money.) I'm sorry I was late."

**Doorman:** "Why, thank you, sir."

**Man:** "And here's a little extra. Sorry for the delay."

**Doorman:** "Thank YOU, sir!"

**Man:** "You take care now. Oh, by the way—how's the wife and the family?"

**Doorman:** "Well, they're just fine sir. You should see the children; they're growing up so tall..."

### Recitation of Surat in Arabic

# سُورَةُ الْعَادِيَّاتِ

## Al 'Adiyat

**Running Stallions  
Makkan Period**

100

As in many places throughout the Qur'an, this surat opens with a vivid scene. The rushing of war horses into battle—surely something to get the adrenaline flowing!—is followed by the plain statement that people don't really show their gratitude to Allah ﷻ for all He gives them. For that short-coming we should be so worried that our hearts are racing! Our Judgment is rushing towards us like a war horse plunging into a fierce battle and we sit around and count our money as if there were no tomorrow!

الْعَادِيَّاتِ



# سُورَةُ الْعَادِيَاتِ

## Running Stallions



Surat Al 'Adiyat

Repetition Track No.

23

Memorization Track No.

60

**In the Name of Allah,  
the Compassionate Source of  
All Mercy.**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

By the running stallions that  
charge breathlessly!

وَالْعَدِيدَاتِ ضَبْحًا ١

Striking sparks on the rocks,

فَالْمُورِبَاتِ قَدْحًا ٢

Rushing to assault by dawn,

فَالْمُغِيرَاتِ صُبْحًا ٣

Raising the dust (in their fury),

فَأَثَرُنَّ بِهِ نَقْعًا ٤

Plunging into the lines of the  
enemy:

فَرَسَاتٍ يَهَيِّئُهُ ٥

Indeed, people are unthankful  
towards their Lord,

إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لِرَبِّهِ لَكَنُودٌ ٦

And, indeed, they show it!

وَإِنَّهُ عَلَىٰ ذَٰلِكَ لَشَهِيدٌ ٧

For certainly, their lust for worldly  
wealth is very strong!

وَإِنَّهُ لِحُبِّ الْخَيْرِ لَشَدِيدٌ ٨

Don't they know that when the  
graves are emptied

أَفَلَا يَعْلَمُ إِذَا بُعْثِرَ مَا فِي الْقُبُورِ ٩

and when all the secrets of the  
heart are revealed,

وَحُصِّلَ مَا فِي الصُّدُورِ ١٠

That on that Day their Lord will  
have been well informed about  
everything?

إِنَّ رَبَّهُم بِهِمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ لَّخَبِيرٌ ١١

## Words to Know

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Qur'anic Word	Meaning
كَنُودٌ	ungrateful	شَدِيدٌ	intense
شَهِيدٌ	witness	الْقُبُورِ	the graves

## Qur'anic Word: Root and Meaning

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Root	Example
صُبْحًا	at dawn	صَبَحَ	أَصْبَحَ الْمَرِيضُ مُعَافًا.
فَأَثَرُنْ	stirring up	ثَوَّرَ	ثَارَ الْغُبَارُ.
وَسَطِ	in the center	وَسَطَ	تَوَسَّطَ الْإِمَامُ الْأَصْلَحُ.
لِبِّ	in love of wealth	لَبَّ	أَلْبَسَ حَصَنُ الْعُلُومِ.
بُعْثَرِ	are scattered	بَعَثَرَ	تَبَعَثَرَتِ الْأوراقُ عَلَى الْمَكْتَبِ.
حُصِّلَ	is obtained	حَصَلَ	حَصَلَتْ عَلَى وَظِيفَةٍ مُنَاسِبَةٍ.
لَّخَبِيرٌ	will be well-acquainted	خَبَرَ	لَا تُخْبِرُ أَحَدًا أَسْرَارَكَ.

## Surat 100 Review Exercises

### Think and Write

1. Explain the power of the imagery used in the opening verses of this surat!
2. How are the horses related to people living a life of greed?
3. How does this surat end? What important point is given to remember?
4. How do people show that they are unthankful?



# Qur'anic Story

## Sura Al 'Aadiyat

**Narrator:** Rami loved playing make-believe with his toys. This morning he is acting out a great battle with his toy soldiers and horses.

*(Rami makes noises of horses snorting and neighing.)*

**Narrator:** He imitated the sound of their thundering hooves.

*(Rami drums on floor.)*

**Narrator:** He could almost see the sparks of fire that their hooves made as they struck the ground.

**Narrator:** He had arranged a camp with all his plastic army tents and soldiers and now he plunged his horses into the camp, knocking everything down around them.

**Rami:** *(Calls out) "Allahu akbar!"*

**Narrator:** Rami liked to get up early in the morning with his dad. His father always rose early for the Fajr prayer. Rami loved the peacefulness of the house while everything was still a little dark and so quiet.

*(More of Rami's noise, then the sound of Fajr Athan in background.)*

**Narrator:** Rami's older sister Haleemah called out from her room.

(Offstage.)

**Haleemah:** “Hey, Junior! What’s with all the noise? I’m trying to sleep!”

**Narrator:** Rami tiptoed into her room and reminded her that it was time for the prayer.

*(Rami whispering loudly toward direction of sister’s voice.)*

**Haleemah:** “I’m so tired. I stayed up late studying,” (yawned his sister.) “I’ll pray later on.”

**Narrator:** Rami quietly left Haleemah’s room and went back to his horses and the battle.

*(Change of scene. Rami bouncing a basketball.)*

**Narrator:** Just before lunch, Rami is bouncing a ball in his playroom when he stops suddenly and listens. Was that the call to prayer again?

*(He runs to stage right.)*

*(Sound of athan.)*

**Narrator:** The noise of the traffic below carried up to their apartment window. Taxi’s honking, trucks changing gears and a lot of *whoosh, whoosh* as the cars sped by. Rami could barely hear the call to prayer over all the noise.

**Rami:** “Where is everyone going in such a hurry?”

**Narrator:** He hoped they were all rushing to pray, but he wasn’t sure.

*(Change of scene.)*

(Sounds of electronic game or computer or tv.  
Khalid is in front of computer screen.)

**Narrator:** In the late afternoon, Rami looked forward to his older brother Khalid coming home from school. Khalid always took a short break before he started his homework. Now he was planted in front of the computer trying out his new software. Khalid was working very hard to get a higher score than his last game.

(Sound of game, then sound of athan.)

**Narrator:** The time for prayer came. Rami ran into the room, calling...

**Rami:** Khalid, Khalid, the prayer! I heard the call for prayer.

**Khalid:** "Uh-huh."

**Narrator:** He was too busy concentrating on his game to pay attention to Rami.

**Rami:** "Khalid, it's time to pray. Come on."

**Khalid:** "Yeah, right, thanks—just as soon as I finish this game." (Khalid says very distractedly.)

**Narrator:** Rami sighed and left the room. Rami was only four years old, but he thought he was ready to pray. His mom had told him it was too early for him to start praying. When he got older she promised they would teach him how and would all pray together. Rami couldn't wait.

(Change of scene: Sounds of playground)



**Narrator:**

After supper, Rami ran outside to the playground to join his friends. His favorite was the slide. He climbed up the ladder quickly and sat down ready to zoom. At the top of the slide he paused for a second, listening. All the children were having fun, shouting and laughing – he wasn't quite sure he heard it...yes, it was the call for Maghrib prayer.

**Friend:**

"Come on, Rami. Go!" (*friend pushes him*)

**Narrator:**

Rami slid down the slide and ran off to one side. He waited to see if any of the other kids had heard the call to prayer, too.

(*Sound of Soccer game - older kids playing*)

**Narrator:**

Next to the playground, the older neighborhood boys were playing an exciting soccer match. The score was tied 2–2. No one looked interested in leaving the game to go and pray.

**Narrator:**

Disappointed, Rami left the playground and slowly climbed the stairs up to his family's apartment. He entered and plopped down on the sofa.

**Narrator:**

His father had just finished his prayer and was picking up his glasses to read the evening paper.

**Father:**

"There you are, Rami. Why so quiet?"

(*Father rustling the newspaper*)

**Narrator:**

"No one is listening to Allah, Dad," (said Rami sadly.)

**Father:**

"Oh?" his father said surprised. "Why do you say that?"

- Rami:** "Every day I hear Allah call people to pray but I don't see them going to the masjid, and I don't even see them going to pray in their houses," explained Rami.
- Father:** "You hear the call to prayer, Rami?" asked his father gently. "That's not really Allah calling—it's a man whose job it is to remind the people to come and pray," his father explained.
- Rami:** "This morning Haleemah was too tired to pray, then at lunch all the cars were going too fast. The trucks made too much noise—I don't think they could even hear the call to prayer. Khalid didn't want to leave his game, and the big boys are busy playing soccer," Rami said all in a rush.
- Father:** "Because no one is hurrying to the prayer you think no one is listening to Allah. Is that right?" his father asked, wanting to be sure he understood.
- Rami:** *(Rami nods his head.)*
- Father:** "It's funny, Rami," his father said thoughtfully. "This morning when I saw you playing with your horses I remembered a surat in the Qur'an. I think now is a good time to read it to you. But let's call the whole family in, and we'll read it together.
- Rami:** *(Rami runs off excitedly to tell everyone.) (Voices, footsteps)*
- Khalid:** "What's up, Dad?" Khalid asked as the family gathered. "Why the family meeting? Is there anything wrong?"

**Father:**

"Rami noticed something interesting today and it reminded me of a surat from the Qur'an," related their father. "It's been way too long since we all sat together and read from the Qur'an. Let me read Surat Al 'Adiyat to you."

**Father:**

*(He reads from the Qur'an in English)*

*"The charging horses, snorting, neighing,  
Striking sparks of fire with their hooves,  
Rushing in to attack at dawn,  
Raising clouds of dust all around...  
Plunging into the middle of the enemy...  
People are forgetful of Allah,  
And they know it.*

*And people love this life and all its attractions.*

*Don't you know that when everything that has been  
buried beneath the earth will be brought out, there will be  
no secret and nothing will have been hidden from Allah?  
On that day Allah will be able to tell you about the least  
little thing you did."*

*(Their father finishes and looks at the family.)*

**Father:**

"Rami is very unhappy that no one seems to be listening to Allah when He calls them," Father tells them.

*(Everyone looks puzzled.)*

**Father:**

"We just heard what Allah says—that people forget about Him—because they are so busy with all of life's distractions. Rami told me quite a story today about sleepy girls, busy traffic, computers and soccer games."

**Haleemah:**

"Oh, Rami's right!" exclaimed Haleemah embarrassed. "I told him I was too tired to get up and pray."



**Khalid:** "Good for you, buddy. You came and tried to tell me to go and pray. I'd say someone in this house is listening to Allah!" (*Khalid pats Rami on the back.*)

**Haleemah:** "Masha'Allah! "Looks like Rami is the only one who is going to save us this family from the Hellfire!"

*(Everyone laughs loud and long. Suddenly, Rami stops laughing and sits listening... The family pauses; then everyone smiles.)*

*(The sweet sound of the athan for the 'Isha' prayer sounds strongly in the living room.)*

**Father:** "Looks like Allah is calling."

**Haleemah:** "And now we're ALL listening" laughs Haleemah.

**Father:** "Rami, I don't think you're too little to pray. Go and grab a prayer rug, and we'll all pray together—I think it's about time we did."

*(Father makes 'iqamah.)*

**Narrator:** Rami ran off happily. He felt so good inside.

**Rami:** "I did a good thing. I didn't let life make us forget Allah. And, now I get to pray."

**Narrator:** He made a solemn promise to Allah to always help his family remember, just like the man who called them to prayer.

### **Surat Recitation in Arabic**

# سُورَةُ الْقَارِعَةِ

## Al Qari'ah

### *The Sudden Disaster* *Makkan Period*

101

The name of this surat strikes with a hard banging song, drawing our attention to the disaster that awaits us on the Day of Judgement. Allah ﷻ paints a picture of that day of moths compelled to fly to the light and of mountains scattering like piles of cloth. The scales of balance are weighed and those whose scale is heavy with good deeds will prosper and have no fear. Those whose scales are light and their good deeds wanting will be thrown into a deep cavern. This cavern is depicted in fearful detail. The power of the surat is derived not only from its poetic rhyme but also from the chilling impact of its basic message: do what is right because the consequences are severe.

الْقَارِعَةِ

# سُورَةُ الْقَارِعَةِ

## The Sudden Disaster



Surat Al Qari'ah

Repetition Track No.

24

Memorization Track No.

61

**In the Name of Allah,  
the Compassionate Source of  
All Mercy.**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Sudden Disaster!

الْقَارِعَةُ ١

What is the Sudden Disaster,

مَا الْقَارِعَةُ ٢

And how can you appreciate its  
magnitude?

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْقَارِعَةُ ٣

It's the day when people will be  
like scattered moths (fluttering in  
confusion)

يَوْمَ يَكُونُ النَّاسُ  
كَالْفَرَاشِ الْمَبْثُورِ ٤

And when the mountains will look  
like tufts of wool.

وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ  
كَالْعِهْنِ الْمَنْفُوشِ ٥

Then, whoever's scales are heavy  
(with good)

فَأَمَّا مَنْ ثَقُلَتْ مَوَازِينُهُ ٦

Will receive contentment.

فَهُوَ فِي عِيشَةٍ رَاضِيَةٍ ٧

But whoever's scales are scarce (of  
good)

وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَفَّتْ مَوَازِينُهُ ٨

Will be thrown into the Abyss.

فَأُمُّهُ هَاوِيَةٌ ٩

And what is the Abyss?

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا هِيَ ١٠

It's a fierce, Raging Blaze.

نَارُ حَامِيَةٍ ١١



## Words to Know

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Qur'anic Word	Meaning
الْقَارِعَةُ	one of the names of the Day of Judgement	الْفَرَاشِ	moths
يَوْمَ	day	مَوَازِينُ	balances
الْجِبَالِ	the mountains	حَامِيَةً	intensely hot

## Qur'anic Word: Root and Meaning

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Root	Example
أَدْرَاكَ	make you know	أَدْرَكَ	لَا تَدْرِي إِلَى أَيِّ أَهْلٍ أَذْهَبُ.
ثَقُلْتُ	weigh heavy	ثَقُلَ	أَثْقَلْتُ الْكُتُبَ الْحَقِيقَةَ.
عِيشَةٍ	life	عَاشَ	تَعِيشُ النَّسْرُ عَلَى قِمَمِ الْجِبَالِ.
رَاضِيَةً	pleasant	رَضِيَ	رَضِيتُ نَفْسَنَا بِحُكْمِ اللَّهِ.
خَفَّتْ	weigh light	خَفَّ	الطَّائِرَةُ الْوَرَقِيَّةُ خَفِيفَةٌ جِدًّا.
هَٰوِيَةً	the bottom of Hell	هَوِيَ	هَوَتْ الصَّخْرَةُ فِي قَاعِ الْوَادِي.

## Surat 101 Review Exercises

### Think and Write

1. What is the Sudden Disaster?
2. Describe two visual images that are mentioned to reinforce our understanding of the commotion that will happen on that Day.
3. Describe the significance of the scales.
4. How does Allahﷻ describe the fire?

### Activity

Read the following hadith and write a paragraph explaining how it relates to the mercy of Allahﷻ and His fairness.

“Allahﷻ ordered that the good and bad deeds be written, and he showed (the angels) how to do it. If someone intends to do a good deed, but he doesn't do it, then Allahﷻ will have recorded for him a full good deed. If someone intends to do a good deed and actually does it, then Allahﷻ will have recorded for him the value of 10 to 700 (good deeds) or even more.

“If someone intended to do a bad deed, but he didn't do it, then Allahﷻ will have recorded a full good deed, and if he intended to do (the bad deed) and actually did it, then Allahﷻ will have recorded one bad deed.” (Bukhari)

# Qur'anic Story

## Surat Al Qari'ah

*(Scene: Classroom. Teacher is reciting to the class.)*

**Teacher:**

"The Day of the Blast.  
What is the Day of the Blast?  
How can you ever understand what is the Day of the Blast?"

"Let's see if Allahﷻ helps us understand about this Day as we read on. Class, have you ever stopped and looked at a street lamp at night? Did you notice how the moths fly in circles around it?"

**Class:**

*(Class replies in various ways "uh-huh" and "yes.")*

**Teacher:**

"Allahﷻ says that on the Day of Judgment people will be so confused and scared that they will run about just like the moths around that light. Then Allahﷻ says that on the Day of Judgment the mountains will be broken into pieces that will fly through the air, as soft as wool. Have any of you ever blown on the white fluff of a dandelion and watched it float away?"

**Class:**

*(The class choruses murmurs of assent)*

**Teacher:**

"Think about the mountains, how solid and unmovable they are. Can you imagine they will just float away like the fluff of a dandelion?"

**Class:**

*("oohs" and "ahs")*

**Teacher:**

"After all those unimaginable scenes, Allahﷻ says that for the person whose scale is heavy, he will have a lovely and pleasant home in Jannah. But for the one whose scale is light, another home is



waiting. Do you know what home is waiting for this person, class?"

**Class:** "The Hellfire."

*(The ring of the school bell interrupts the teacher's lesson.)*

**Teacher:** "What kind of scale is Allahﷻ talking about in this surat class? Think about it, and we'll discuss the next time we meet."

*(Class files and Aminah is left on stage)*

**Narrator:** Aminah thought this was a pretty cool surat: all that stuff about moths and mountains turning into soft wool. The suwar they had been studying lately were about the Day of Judgment. But sister Leila said these suwar weren't just about earthquakes, blasts, and noisy and scary stories. Her teacher said there was always a lesson to be learned too. So okay, what about scales?

As Aminah walked home from school, her friend Tracey came running up. She was carrying a plastic bag full of water with a small goldfish inside.

**Aminah:** "Cool! Where'd you get the fish?"

**Tracy:** "We had a carnival at my school today. They had a game that, if you could toss a ping-pong ball into a glass of water with a fish inside, you got to keep the fish. I did it!"

**Aminah:** "Fish have scales." *(thinking out loud)*

**Tracy:** "Don't remind me of fish scales! We were up at my uncle's cabin this weekend. We caught a ton of fish—that was fun—but then we had to clean

them all, disgusting! (*wrinkling her nose*) I had fish scales all over me. And the smell—whew!" (*dramatically, holding her nose*) "Well, gotta go. I need to make a better home for Fishie. See ya."

**Aminah:**

"Bye. Fish are covered with scales—but how do fish scales fit in with the surat? I don't think that's the answer Sister Leila wants. Moths, maybe; fish, no way."

**Narrator:**

As she passed by Ann's house, Aminah heard her practicing the piano. Ann started the same way every time she played—it was what she called her warm up.

**Aminah:**

"When do you get to the good part?"

**Ann:**

"What do you mean the good part?"

**Aminah:**

"You know the part where the song starts."

**Ann:**

"You have to do your scales first. Scales make playing the song easier—at least that's what my teacher says."

**Narrator:**

Aminah thought about this now. Maybe the lesson is that you have to work on your scales before you get to the good part. Boring stuff - before fun stuff. That sounded pretty good. Maybe Allah ﷻ didn't exactly mean 'musical scales' though. But at least it was a better idea than the fish.

When Aminah reached home, her mom and baby brother were waiting for her.

**Mother:** "Hurry up Aminah. We need to take Hamoodi to the doctor for his check-up."

**Aminah:** "Hey, Hamoodi-cutie, wanna go bye-bye?"  
(Aminah tickling her little brother)

*In the doctors office.*

**Narrator:** They only had to wait a few minutes in the doctor's office before it was Hamoodi's turn.

**Nurse:** "Hello, Mrs. Hassan. My how you've grown, Aminah. Let's get this big boy up on the scale first and weigh him."

**Aminah:** "This is just my lucky day. Thank you, Allahﷻ. You gave me a lot of scales to choose from!"

**Nurse:** "He's doing just fine, Mrs. Hassan—exactly right for his age. The doctor can see him now."

**Narrator:** Aminah went out to sit in the waiting room while the doctor examined her brother.

**Aminah:** "Hmm..."

**Narrator:** She sat and thought about all the different kinds of scales she'd seen today. She cancelled out the fish scales—too light (and too smelly!). Sister Leila said the good scales were the heavy ones. Musical scales? Music could sound as light and airy as a cloud but could also sound heavy, thundering and stormy.

**Aminah:** "Yup. I think the kind of scale Allahﷻ means is the weighing kind that they had used to measure Hamoodi."



**Narrator:** But heavy scales were good—did that mean if you were fat you would go to Heaven?! Aminah looked down at her skinny little legs. If that was the case, she was in trouble.

**Narrator:** No! Allahﷻ wasn't like that. It didn't matter to Allahﷻ if you were skinny or fat. It mattered if you were good or bad. But how could you weigh being good or bad on a scale?

**Hamoodi:** “Mi-mi?”

**Narrator:** It was Hamoodi crawling into Aminah's lap. Aminah had been lost in thought all day thinking about the different kinds of scales and what it all meant. Now her little brother was trying to get her attention. He grabbed her face in his chubby hands and gave her a big baby kiss—mouth open twice.

**Aminah:** “Ack! Hamoodi! You silly-willy. I know you love me. *(Wiping his wet kiss off her face)* I love you, too. Just learn how to kiss without soaking everybody.”

*(Hamoodi runs off happily.)*

**Narrator:** Aminah thought about how much she loved her little brother. Sometimes when he got into her things, she yelled at him. He would look hurt or cry, but within minutes, the smile was back on his face, and he would be covering her with his soggy kisses. He remembered her love for him much more than the occasional yelling she did. Hmm... thought Aminah. I think we're getting closer to this scale thing.

**Aminah:** “So for Hamoodi, hugs and kisses are stronger

or maybe weigh more than yelling and mad faces. He remembers the good for a long time but forgets the bad quickly. One is heavy; the other is light. Just like mom, she gets mad at me sometimes, but I know she never stops loving me. The good Aminah weighs more on Mom's scale than the naughty Aminah."

**Narrator:**

Aminah was very satisfied with this idea. Mom and Dad, Sister Leila and just about everyone she knew always reminded her that Allah ﷻ was *Ar-Rahman*, the merciful. So if behaving in a nice way was more important to a little baby or her parents than behaving in a bad way, how about to Allah ﷻ? "Allah ﷻ says that for the person whose scale is heavy, he will have a lovely and pleasant home in Jannah." Aminah remembered her teacher's words.

**Aminah:**

"I think that will do very nicely. I can still have a heavy scale, skinny legs and all!" *(smiling to herself)*

"Hey Mamoodi-cude! I need another one of those kisses of yours!"

*(She runs off in search for her little brother.)*

*Baby Laughter*

**Recitation of Surat in Arabic**

# سُورَةُ التَّكْوِيْنِ

## At-Takathur

*Hoarding Wealth  
Makkan Period*

102

The message in this surat is about the saga of human greed and how it is ultimately futile and useless. Can you imagine a creature gathering as much as it can, even many times more than it needs, only to die in a short while and lose everything it gathered? Such a lifestyle would not only be a waste but also an injustice! If we could only see what was to come, we would prepare for it in this life now.

www.Noorart.com

التَّكْوِيْنِ



## سُورَةُ التَّكْوِيْنِ

### Hoarding Wealth



Surat At-Takathur

Repetition Track No.

25

Memorization Track No.

62

**In the Name of Allah,  
the Compassionate Source of  
All Mercy.**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The competition for accumulating  
wealth enchants you,

أَلْهَنَكُمُ التَّكَاثُرُ ۝١

All the way until you enter the  
grave.

حَتَّى زُرْتُمُ الْمَقَابِرَ ۝٢

But you will soon know (the vanity  
of your pursuits)!

كَلَّا سَوْفَ تَعْلَمُونَ ۝٣

You will certainly come to know.

نَمَّ لَا تُؤْمِنُ تَلْمِزْنَ ۝٤

If you knew for sure (what lay in  
store)

كَلَّا لَوْ تَعْلَمُونَ عِلْمَ الْيَقِينِ ۝٥

You would envision Hellfire all  
around you,

لَتَرَوُنَّ الْجَحِيمَ ۝٦

As you will no doubt see it clearly

ثُمَّ لَتَرَوُنَّهَا عَيْنَ الْيَقِينِ ۝٧

Then you will be asked about all  
the pleasures (you enjoyed in the  
world).

ثُمَّ لَتُسْأَلُنَّ يَوْمَئِذٍ عَنِ النَّعِيمِ ۝٨

## Words to Know

Qur'anic Word	Meaning
الْمَقَابِرِ	the graveyards
الْجَحِيمِ	the Hellfire

## Qur'anic Word: Root and Meaning

Qur'anic Word	Meaning	Root	Example
التَّكَاثُرُ	competition in [worldly] increase	كُثُرَ	تَتَكَاثَرُ النَّبَاتَاتُ، أَفْسَانُ.
أَلْهَكُمْ	diverts you	هَرَا	مَنْ يُلْهِمُ الْعِبَادَ عَنِ الصَّلَاةِ.
زُرْتُمْ	you visit	زَوَرَ	سَتَزُورُ جَدِّي الْأُسْبُوعَ الْقَادِمَ.
تَعْلَمُونَ	to know	عَلِمَ	أَعْلَمَ الْكَثِيرَ عَنْ رِيَاضَةِ التَّرَلُّجِ.
عِلْمٌ	knowledge	عِلْمٌ	الْعِلْمُ نُورٌ.
الْيَقِينِ	certainty	يَقَنَ	تَيَقَّنْتُ مِنَ النَّجَاحِ.
لَتَرَوْنَ	you will surely see	رَأَى	رَأَيْتُ الطَّائِرَةَ فِي السَّمَاءِ.

## Surat 102 Review Exercises

### Think and Write

1. Describe how the love of money can become the only thing a person seeks in life.
2. What is the reality Allahﷻ calls us back to?
3. What will people have to answer for on the Day of Judgment?
4. If you had to summarize the message of this surat in one sentence, what would you write?

### Activity

Make banners with the following Ahadith (jura' or Hadeeth) and display them around your classroom.

“By Allah, this world compared to the next is like dipping your fingertips into the sea. Consider what you bring out.” (Muslim)

“This world is the believer’s prison and the unbeliever’s paradise.” (Muslim)

“Wealth doesn’t come from an abundance of things. True wealth comes from a contented mind.” (Bukhari and Muslim)



# Qur'anic Story

## Surat At-Takathur

*(Students are finishing their salah with the Imam.)*

**Imam:** *As-salaamu alaykum wa rahmatullah. As-salaamu alaykum wa rahmatullah."*

**Ra'id:** *"Taqabala'Allah." (Shaking Hani's hand.)*

**Hani:** *"Mina wa minak. Let's go. We don't want be late for Qur'an class."*

**Narrator:** Hani and Ra'id grew up right across the street from each other. All through the elementary grades they had been in the same school and the same class. They were the best of friends even before they could walk or talk. The two of them did everything together. Now the boys were starting high school.

Last year the city decided to build another high school due to the growing number of students. To their disappointment, the dividing line was right down the middle of their street. So Hani attended Richmond East and Ra'id Richmond West. Though they missed each other during the day, they still spent their evenings studying together, and they regularly prayed the Maghrib and 'Isha' prayers at the mosque.

It was Tuesday night, and Qur'an class was scheduled to start immediately after Maghrib.

*(Boys leave the group and hurry off to their class.)*

In their hurry to get to class, they nearly ran into Sister 'A'ishah.

**'A'ishah:** "As-salaamu alaykum boys. What's the hurry?"  
(Laughing.)

**Ra'id:** "Wa alaykum as-salaam. Sorry, sister 'A'ishah."

**'A'ishah:** "Masha'Allah, I never see one of you without the other."

**Hani:** "That's 'cause we're brothers."

**'A'ishah:** "Really! I didn't know that."

**Ra'id:** "Well, not the regular kind!"

**Hani:** "We're brothers in Islam." (Proudly.)

**'A'ishah:** (Beaming at them.) "That's the best kind of friendship, isn't it?"

**Hani:** (Playfully slapping Ra'id on the back.) "Absolutely!"

**Ra'id:** (Glancing at his watch.) "Excuse us Sister 'A'ishah. Our Qur'an class is starting."

**'A'ishah:** "Uh-oh. I'll get you in trouble with the Imam. You'd better run along. *Baraka Allahu fikum.*"

(Boys walk to class.)

**Narrator:** As they continued on their way to class, the boys discussed the upcoming basketball game that had the whole town, not to mention the high school students, buzzing.

**Ra'id:** "Subhanallah, can you believe both our schools wound up in the regional playoffs?"

**Narrator:** The boys talked about the tournament every chance they had.

**Hani:** "Unbelievable! And did you see that trophy?"

**Ra'id:** "Yeah! It's even bigger than my little brother."

*(The two boys laugh.)*

**Hani:** *(Whispering.)* "Al hamdulillah, we made it. They've just started."

*(A group of students with the imam.  
They are all reading the Arabic of Surah At Takwim.  
Ra'id and Hani join in. They finish the Surah.)*

*(Change of scene.)*

**Narrator:** With the playoffs just a week away the entire town talked of nothing else. Everywhere in Richmond City, the conversation centered on the playoffs. Everyone was taking sides and rooting for their favorite school. Whose team was going to win, and which school would take home that beautiful, golden trophy?

*(The boys are arguing as they walk.)*

**Hani:** "Yeah, well, your team is really weak on defense."

**Ra'id:** "Defense doesn't count as much as offense. And our offensive team is the best."

**Hani:** "Who says it's the best? Just you wait. After a week that trophy is gonna be on display at



Richmond East."

**Ra'id:** "I'll believe it when I see it."

*(Boys go offstage. Then re-enter, still arguing.)*

**Narrator:** A few days had passed, and the boys were making a routine visit to the neighborhood Stop 'N' Shop. They were shopping all right, but their arguing hadn't stopped for days.

*(The boys enter a "store.")*

**Mr. Munir:** "As-salaamu alaykum, boys."

*(They stop arguing to answer him.)*

**Ra'id Hani:** "Wa alaykum as-salam, Mr. Munir!"

**Mr. Munir:** *(Surprised.)* "You boys have been coming in here together for years. I've never seen you argue like this. What's the problem?"

**Hani:** "You know the big basketball tournament everyone's talking about. Regional playoffs are a week from Saturday, and Richmond East is gonna win."

**Ra'id:** "It's not over 'til it's over, and we'll see who brings home that trophy."

**Mr. Munir:** "All this arguing is over a trophy?"

**Hani:** "The trophy, the title, everything. Since Richmond East and West high schools both wound up in the playoffs, nobody talks about anything else."

**Ra'id:** *(Interrupting.)* "Okay, Mr. Munir;" "Let's settle this thing once and for all. Who are YOU rooting for?"

**Mr. Munir:** "As I always say, may the best team win."

**Hani:** *(Bragging.)* "I'll bring you the trophy for Richmond East."

**Ra'id:** *(Angrily.)* "You are never gonna get that trophy. I'm sick and tired of hearing about it,"

**Hani:** "Yeah, well if you're so TIRED, I'll see you after the game."

**Ra'id:** "That's fine with me."

**Hani:** "Ala la la!"

**Ra'id:** "Yeah, whatever."

**Mr. Munir:** *(Sad and shaking his head.) (To himself.)* "Al hakumu takathur."

**Ra'id:** *(Pausing before going out of the door.)* "What'd he say?"

**Hani:** "I dunno..." *(Replies as if he couldn't care less.)*

**Narrator:** The boys parted company and for the first time went separate ways.

*(Large pause.  
Then back at the store.  
Boys are talking excitedly and happy.)*

- Narrator:** A few days later Ra'id and Hani were together once again outside Mr. Munir's store.
- Hani:** "Can you believe it?!"
- Ra'id:** "I still don't know what happened."
- Mr. Munir:** *(Excitedly.)* "As-salaamu alaykum, boys. There you are! I've been waiting to hear about the playoffs. Where's that trophy?"

*(The boys are silent for a moment.)*

- Hani:** *(Sheepishly.)* "There IS no trophy."

- Mr. Munir:** "NO! What happened?"

- Ra'id:** "Richmond East AND West over both defeated in the 1st round by other schools."

- Mr. Munir:** "What a shame!" *(Sympathizes.)*

*(The boys were quiet for a while.  
Both look as if they feel pretty foolish about their outburst  
in front of Mr. Munir the other day.)*

- Hani:** "Mr. Munir, you said something as we were leaving the other day..."

- Ra'id:** *(Jumping in.)* "Yeah, what was it?"

- Mr. Munir:** *(Remembering.)* "Ah...Al hakumu takathur."

- Hani:** *(Hani is a little embarrassed to ask.)* "I think that was it. That's a surat from the Qur'an, right?"



**Mr. Munir:** “Do you either of you boys know anything about this surat?”

**Hani:** “I do. Uh...something about piling up your riches and forgetting about Allahﷻ?” (*Hani guesses.*)

**Mr. Munir:** (*Nodding.*) “In short that’s about it. Seems to me you boys were piling up all your dreams in that basketball trophy and forgetting that the real riches are with Allahﷻ.”

**Hani:** “What do you mean? What real riches?”

**Mr. Munir:** “I was thinking about your friendship. You two have been so close all your lives—real Muslim brothers. Didn’t that trophy make you forget that?”

*(The boys were quiet as they thought about what the shopkeeper said.)*

**Ra’id:** “We were so steamed at each other. I don’t ever remember us being so mad.”

**Hani:** (*Laughing.*) “We didn’t talk for a whole week.”

**Mr. Munir:** “Rasulullah ﷺ said that Allahﷻ will ask us how we spent our money, our time, our energy—even our friendship. Did we spend these things for Allahﷻ or for something else?”

**Ra’id:** “So maybe what you mean is Allahﷻ will ask us about us making that trophy more important than our friendship.”

**Mr. Munir:** “What do you think boys?”

**Hani:** “Hey! I’m sorry.”

**Ra'id:** *(Immediately.)* "Yeah, me too. We got greedy and almost traded something pretty special just for a lousy hunk of metal."

**Ra'id:** "Whew! That was a close one." *(Ra'id extends his hand to Hani.)* "Friends again?"

**Hani:** "Better than that... *(Hani shaking Ra'id's hand then slapping him affectionately on the back.)* Brothers in Islam."

**Hani:** "But just one thing..."

**Ra'id:** "What?"

**Hani:** "Richmond West still has a lousy defense."

**Ra'id:** "Let's do it again!"

**Hani:** "Seriously did you see that tall center on the Cougar's team? He couldn't hit the rim if he tried."

*(Boys go offstage joking with arms around each other's shoulders.)*

**Narrator:** *Competing with each other for material things keeps  
you busy your whole life.  
But when you know, it will be too late.  
You will surely know it too late.  
If you only realized it now, you would be more careful.  
You will see the fires of Hell.  
You will see it with your very own eyes.  
Then on the Day of Judgment, you will be asked  
about every —thing — you—did.*

**Surat Recitation in Arabic**