

سُورَةُ الْجَاثِيَةِ

Sūrah al Jāthia

(THE KNEELING)

This is a Makkan Sūrah having thirty seven Āyāt grouped into four Sections.

Section 1

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

1. Hā. Mīm
2. The revelation of the Book is from Allah, the Mighty, the Wise.
3. Verily in the heavens and the earth are Signs for the faithful.
4. And in the creation of yourselves and the beasts that He has scattered over the earth are Signs for a people who are convinced.
5. And in the alternation of night and day and what Allah sends down of provision from the heaven and thereby quickens the earth after its death and in the turning about of the winds, are Signs for a people who reflect.
6. These are the revelations of Allah which We rehearse to you with truth. In what discourse, then, after Allah and His revelations, will they believe?
7. Woe unto every liar, sinner!

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

حَمِّ ①

تَنْزِيلُ الْكِتَابِ مِنَ اللَّهِ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَكِيمِ ②

إِنَّ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ ③

وَفِي خَلْقِكُمْ وَمَا يَبُثُّ مِن دَابَّةٍ آيَاتٌ لِّقَوْمٍ يُوقِنُونَ ④

وَآخِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ وَمَا أَنزَلَ اللَّهُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ
مِن رِّزْقٍ فَأَحْيَا بِهِ الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا وَتَصْرِيفِ
الرِّيحِ آيَاتٌ لِّقَوْمٍ يَعْقِلُونَ ⑤

تِلْكَ آيَاتُ اللَّهِ نَتْلُوهَا عَلَيْكَ بِالْحَقِّ فَيَأْتِي حَدِيثًا بَعْدَ
أَلْفِهِمْ وَيَأْتِيهِمْ يُؤْمِنُونَ ⑥

وَيَذَلُّ كُلُّ مُفْسِدٍ ⑦

8. Who hears the revelations of Allah rehearsed to him, and yet persisted with stiff-neckedness as though he heard them not. Announce you to him, then, an afflictive torment.
9. And when he comes to know anything of Our revelations, he takes it scoffingly. These! Theirs shall be an ignominious torment.
10. Before them is Hell. Nothing will avail them of what they have earned nor those whom they took for patrons besides Allah and theirs shall be a mighty torment.
11. This Book is a guidance; and those who disbelieve in the revelations of their Rabb, theirs shall be a torment of afflictive calamity.

يَسْمَعُ آيَاتِ اللَّهِ تُنزَّلُ عَلَيْهِ ثُمَّ يَصِرُ مُسْتَكْبِرًا كَأَن
لَمْ يَسْمَعْهَا فَبَشِيرَةً يَعْذَابُ آلِيمٌ ﴿٨﴾

وَإِذَا عَلِمَ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا شَيْئًا اتَّخَذَهَا هُزُوًا
أُولَئِكَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ مُهِينٌ ﴿٩﴾

مِن وَرَائِهِمْ جَهَنَّمُ وَلَا يُغْنِي عَنْهُمْ مَا كَسَبُوا شَيْئًا
وَلَا مَا اتَّخَذُوا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ أَوْلِيَاءَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ
عَظِيمٌ ﴿١٠﴾

هَذَا هُدًى وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَإِتَابَتْ رَبَّهُمْ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ
مِّن رَّحْمَةِ رَبِّهِمْ ﴿١١﴾

Secrets of Revelation

This is the Book revealed by Allah, the Sovereign, the Wise and speaks volumes on His Greatness. The people should have accepted and believed in it to attain salvation. One of the distinctive features of its greatness is that it does not merely order acceptance but proves the Truth with evidence. There are hosts of proof in the heaven and the earth for those who believe. Allah's Magnificence becomes more and more evident with every new discovery made by the human intellect and knowledges. For the believers, there are also ample proofs in human creation as well as in the creation of animal life. The natural methods of creation, the secrets of health and sickness, the nexus between food and living, the building and breaking down of a single cell are processes loaded with evidences.

Given the knowledge and sense, the alternation in the days and nights from the point of view of timings and effects, the rain and its effects on barren land leading

to its exuberance, different kinds of winds with varying effects and every cause generating specific effects at the right place, bear testimony to His Greatness. The Prophethood of the Holy Prophet^{SAW} itself is a great blessing and a concrete proof of His Magnificence, as revelation unto him is guiding the entire mankind. If they do not embrace Islam despite these fact, what can then be the greater evidence than the Divine verses. Woe unto the liar and the malefactor who turns around in arrogance and leaves as if he has heard nothing recited to him. Such wrongdoers may be given the tidings of a doom in the humiliating Hell where nothing will avail them, neither deeds nor wealth. And all those assumed to be their helpers, save Allah, will be totally helpless.

This Book is guidance personified which has indicated the straight path. Those who refute it and resort to denial will be awarded a terribly painful punishment.

Section 2

12. Allah it is Who has subjected the sea to you that ships may run on it by His Command, and that you may seek of His Grace and that you may return thanks.

اللَّهُ الَّذِي سَخَّرَ لَكُمُ الْبَحْرَ لِتَجْرِيَ الْفُلُكُ فِيهِ بِأَمْرِ رَبِّهِ
وَلِتَبْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِهِ ۗ وَلَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

13. And He has subjected to you whatsoever is in the heavens and whatsoever is on the earth, the whole from Himself. Verily herein are Signs for a people who ponder.

وَسَخَّرَ لَكُم مَّا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا مِمَّا
إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يُفَكِّرُونَ ﴿١٣﴾

14. Say you to the faithful, let them forgive those who hope not for the days of Allah, that He may recompense a community for what they have been working.

قُلْ لِلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا يَغْفِرُوا لِلَّذِينَ لَا يَرْجُونَ
أَيَّامَ اللَّهِ لِيَجْزِيَ قَوْمًا بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

15. Whosoever works righteously, works for himself, and whosoever does evil, does against himself, then to your Rabb you will be made to return.

مَنْ عَمِلْ صَالِحًا فَلِنَفْسِهِ ۗ وَمَنْ أَسَاءَ فَعَلَيْهَا
ثُمَّ إِلَىٰ رَبِّكُمْ تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿١٥﴾

16. And assuredly We vouchsafed to the Children of Isra'il the Book and the wisdom and the Prophethood, and We provided them with good things, and preferred them above the worlds.

وَلَقَدْ آتَيْنَا بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَ وَالنَّبُوءَ
وَرَزَقْنَاهُمْ مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَفَضَّلْنَاهُمْ عَلَى الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٦﴾

17. And We vouched to them the evidences of the affairs. And they differed not except through spite among themselves after the knowledge had come to them. Verily the Rabb will decide between them on the Day of Judgment concerning what they have been differing in.

وَمَا آتَيْنَاهُمْ بِبَيِّنَاتٍ مِنَ الْأَمْرِ فَمَا اخْتَلَفُوا
إِلَّا مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْعِلْمُ بَغْيًا بَيْنَهُمْ
إِنَّ رَبَّكَ يَقْضِي بَيْنَهُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ
فِيمَا كَانُوا فِيهِ يَخْتَلِفُونَ ﴿١٧﴾

18. And thereafter We have placed you upon the law of the religion; so follow it you, and follow not the vain desires of those who do not know.

ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاكَ عَلَىٰ شَرِيعَةٍ مِنَ الْأَمْرِ فَاتَّبِعْهَا
وَلَا تَتَّبِعْ أَهْوَاءَ الَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

19. Verily they cannot avail you at all against Allah. And the wicked! Friends are they one to another, and Allah is the friend of those who keep their duty to Him.

إِنَّهُمْ لَنْ يُغْنُوا عَنْكَ مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا وَإِنَّ الظَّالِمِينَ
بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ وَاللَّهُ وَلِيُّ الْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿١٩﴾

20. This Book is an enlightenment and a guidance to mankind, and a mercy to people who are convinced.

هَذَا بَصِيرَةٌ لِلنَّاسِ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةٌ
لِقَوْمٍ يُوقِنُونَ ﴿٢٠﴾

21. Do those who commit ill-deeds imagine that We shall place them as those who believed and worked righteous works? Equal is their life and death! How ill they judge!

أَمْ حَسِبَ الَّذِينَ اجْتَرَحُوا السَّيِّئَاتِ أَنْ نَجْعَلَهُمْ
كَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَوَاءً
نَحْيًا لِمَنْ وَمِمَّا تُهُمْ سَاءَ مَا يَحْكُمُونَ ﴿٢١﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Allah is so Kind that He has subdued the seas for mankind, so that they may sail through and explore the vast treasures lying underneath, in the form of minerals, food and other natural resources. At the same time, these are also the trade routes. Allah has put oceans and other water sources at the service of mankind so that they may offer gratitude to Him. In short, everything existing in the heavens and the earth has been placed at the disposal of mankind; be it the sun, moon, stars, clouds, winds or the planets; all focused on earth. Their movements and effects cause different changes which ultimately benefit mankind. If pondered over, all these facts endorse His Magnificence and favours.

Ignore Trivial Affairs

The Holy Prophet^{SAW} may inform the believers to overlook trivial matters of everyday life in dealing with these infidels. These miserable souls do not even believe in Allah's rewards and retribution, and cannot be expected to display good manners. Soon they will be requited. And as a rule whoever acts in piety will benefit from it while anyone who does wrong will bear the consequences himself, for everyone has to return to Him.

We also gave Banī Isrāīl the Book, the State power and the Prophethood. They were indeed showered with the best of the bounties, both tangible and intangible, including superiority and leadership over the contemporary world. Divine Injunctions and correct beliefs were expounded with evidences. Nevertheless, steered by their vain desires, they rebelled and took to lust and jealousy. Allah shall arbitrate on their conflicts on the Day of Judgment. The truthful will be honoured while the slaves of fancies will be punished. The Holy Prophet^{SAW} has been endowed with a specific code of conduct and the Divine Injunctions.

Only Islamic Injunctions are to be Followed

The scholars assert that all Divine religions agree on the fundamentals such as Unity of Allah, the Prophethood, the Ākhirah etc. But all have their own sets of Divine Injunctions commensurate to the needs and temperaments of that particular era, as determined by the Wisest. So only what is laid down by Islam is applicable now. The Holy Prophet^{SAW} should act according to the code handed down to him and pay no heed to the whims of the unwise deniers. The oppressors are always friends to one another and so an infidel is friend only to an infidel. But a believer's friend is Allah, Whose directions ought to be followed. These are the words of wisdom and insight, a source of mercy and guidance for them. The foolish souls

assume that they will be at par with those who believe and act piously, but it can never be so. Logically also, it is very fair that vice and virtue must meet their own respective ends.

Retribution is Logically Essential

The life of this world is indeed a respite for action. Many a pious and honest persons face hardships here while so many plunderers and evil doers live in luxury. Though their life style is different in everyway, the pious are blessed with contentment and peace, while the hearts of the evil doers and the infidels are restless and anguished. They will certainly experience different feelings on death, and a requital for their lifelong conduct is also imperative, otherwise the very concept of virtue is lost and the evil wins. This does not appeal to a sane mind. The stance that there is no life beyond life or requital, is extremely foolish, being against the norms of justice.

Section 3

22. **Allah** has created the heavens and the earth with purpose, and that every soul may be recompensed for what it has earned. And they will not be wronged.

وَخَلَقَ اللَّهُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِالْحَقِّ وَلِتُجْزَىٰ
كُلُّ نَفْسٍ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٢﴾

23. Have you seen him who takes for his god his own vain desire, and **Allah** has sent him astray despite his knowledge, and has sealed up his hearing and his heart and has set up a covering on his sight? Who will guide him after **Allah**? Will you not then be admonished?

أَفَرَأَيْتَ مَنِ اتَّخَذَ إِلَهَهُ هَوَاهُ وَأَضَلَّهُ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ عِلْمِهِ وَخَتَمَ
عَلَىٰ سَمْعِهِ وَقَلْبِهِ وَجَعَلَ عَلَىٰ بَصَرِهِ غِشَاوَةً
فَمَنْ يَهْدِيهِ مِنْ بَعْدِ اللَّهِ أَفَلَا تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾

24. And they say: Nothing is there but the life of this world, we die and we live; and none kills us save time. And they have no

وَقَالُوا مَا هِيَ إِلَّا حَيَاتُنَا الدُّنْيَا نَمُوتُ وَنَحْيَا وَمَا يُهْلِكُنَا
إِلَّا الدَّهْرُ وَمَا لَهُم بِذَلِكَ مِنْ عِلْمٍ إِنْ هُمْ إِلَّا يَظُنُّونَ ﴿٢٤﴾

true knowledge of it, they only conjecture.

25. And when **Our** manifest revelations are rehearsed to them, their argument is no other than that they say: Bring back our fathers if you are truthful.

وَإِذَا نُنزِلُ عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِنَا بَيِّنَاتٍ مَا كَانَ حُجَّتَهُمْ
إِلَّا أَنْ قَالُوا أَأَنْتُمْ أَبْنَاؤُنَا بِإِنشَاءِ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿١٥﴾

26. Say you: **Allah** keeps you alive, then **He** will cause you to die; then **He** will assemble you on the Day of Resurrection, of which there is no doubt; but most of mankind do not know.

قُلِ اللَّهُ يُحْيِيكُمْ ثُمَّ يُمِيتُكُمْ ثُمَّ يُجْمَعُكُمْ لِيَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ
لَا رَبَّ فِيهِ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٥﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Allah has based this entire Universal System on justice and equity like its creation and build-up. Everything is assigned a status and a right. Similarly, the requital will also be there beyond doubt. For instance, the outcome of eating is satiation and if the food is nourishing, it will improve health; otherwise cause illness. Whether that food was earned lawfully or not will be determined on the Day of Judgment where none will be wronged.

Taking Vain Desires as Deities

The problem with these infidels is that they have taken their vain desires as deities, though no one confesses it. The essence of worship is indeed obedience. If anyone is obeyed except **Allah**, it will amount to his worship. According to the Holy Prophet ^{SAW}, the most damned and accursed deity, in **Allah's** view, is the vain desire. The outcome of worshipping these desires is that **Allah** withdraws the capacity to do good and a person wittingly gets on to the wrong path. The hearts are sealed and the urge to seek **Allah's** nearness or **His** obedience snuffs out. The ears are deafened and the eyes are draped to observe the truth. This is the sequel in

this temporal life, a horrifying punishment indeed, for when Allah has divested the capacity to see and follow the path of guidance, nobody else can show the way.

Waywardness or Reward

Certain deeds lead to the sealing of the hearts and the ears while the eyes fail to see the truth, especially when a person follows his fancies and considers his actions right and the Divine Commands inappropriate or wrong. The punishment thereof is waywardness in this world and eternal Hell in the *Ākhirah*. Sadly enough, this disease is rapidly growing amongst the so-called progressive Muslim elite today. Likewise the reward for every noble act is the generation of an urge in the heart to obey Allah with devotion. Pleasure is derived from piety and hatred for sin increases, leading to eternal bliss. So every individual ought to evaluate his own reward in a way. The concept that rewards are credits payable in the *Ākhirah* is erroneous and ought to be corrected.

However, despite all reasoning the infidels insist that there will be no *Ākhirah*. They reiterate that worldly life is everything and it is only the time that degenerates human faculties to extinction. But do these effects occur in time independently. Normally the infidels seek logical cause of everything, but strangely enough, here they suggest time or era as the cause of life and death! Even if so, who created the time or era and gave it the qualities? And if time exists by itself having independent qualities, indeed it is Allah! These fools have named Him as time or era in order to evade obedience and acknowledgement of His Magnificence. That is why the Holy Prophet^{SAW} forbids calling time or era as bad, as they have associated the Divine Attributes with this name, *Dahr* or Time. However, *Dahr* is not one of His *Attributive Names*.

The infidels never had any logical evidence to support this belief, nor have they any proof backed by knowledge. They only conjecture and when clear revelations, based on knowledge and logic, are presented as evidence they are dumbfounded. They resort to foolish demand that the Holy Prophet^{SAW} may quicken their forefathers and bring them back if there was life after death. How stupid is this demand when he has never suggested a return to this worldly life. They better ponder over their own creation. The Omnipotent Who creates a human being from a mean droplet and puts a great many stalwarts to death will indeed quicken them and gather them for reckoning. There is no room for any doubt yet most people do not understand.

27. Allah's is the dominion of the heavens and the earth; and on the Day when the Hour arrives, the followers of falsehood shall lose.
28. And you shall behold every community kneeling, every community summoned to its record. This Day you shall be recompensed for what you had been working.
29. This Book of Ours speaks against you with truth; verily We have been setting down whatsoever you had been working.
30. Then, as for those who believed and worked righteous deeds, their Rabb will cause them to enter into His Mercy; that is a manifest achievement.
31. And as for those who disbelieved: Were not My revelations rehearsed to you? But you were stiff-necked and you were a people guilty.
32. And when it was said: Verily Allah's Promise is true, and no doubt is there about the Hour, you said: We do not know what the Hour is; we do not imagine it but as a conjecture, and we have no faith therein.
33. And the evils of what they had worked shall become apparent to them, and there will surround

وَلِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَيَوْمَ تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ
يَوْمَ يَدْعُ خَسِرَ الْمُظِلُّونَ ﴿١٧﴾

وَنَرَى كُلَّ أُمَّةٍ جَائِيَةٌ كُلُّ أُمَّةٍ تُدْعَى إِلَى كِتَابِهَا الْيَوْمَ تُحْجَرُونَ
مَا كُنتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

هَذَا كِتَابُنَا يَنْطِقُ عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْحَقِّ إِنَّا كُنَّا نَسْتَنسِخُ
مَا كُنتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

فَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ فَيُدْخِلُهُمْ
رَبُّهُمْ فِي رَحْمَتِهِ ذَلِكَ هُوَ الْفَوْزُ الْمُبِينُ ﴿٢٠﴾

وَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَفَلَمْ تَكُنْ ءَايَتِي تُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْكُمْ
فَأَسْتَكْبِرْتُمْ وَكُنتُمْ قَوْمًا مُّجْرِمِينَ ﴿٢١﴾

وَإِذَا قِيلَ إِنَّ وَعْدَ اللَّهِ حَقٌّ وَالسَّاعَةُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهَا قُلْتُمْ
مَا نَدْرِي مَا السَّاعَةُ إِنْ نَظُنُّ إِلَّا ظَنًّا
وَمَا نَحْنُ بِمُتَّبِعِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

وَيَدَّاهِمُ سَيِّئَاتُ مَا عَمِلُوا وَخَافِيَ بِهِمْ
مَا كَانُوا يَدَّيْسُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾

them that at which they had been mocking.

34. And it will be said: This Day We shall ignore you as you ignored the meeting of this day; your abode will be the Fire, and none you will have as helpers.

35. That is because you took the revelations of Allah in mockery, and there deluded you the life of this world. To-day, therefore they will not be taken forth therefrom, nor will they be allowed to please Allah.

36. All Praise, then, to Allah, the Rabb of the heavens, and the Rabb of the earth, the Rabb of the worlds.

37. And His Alone is the Majesty in the heavens and the earth, and He is the Mighty, the Wise.

وَقِيلَ الْيَوْمَ نَنْسِكُمَا فَيَسْتَرْفِقَانِ يَوْمَ مَكْرَهُنَا
وَمَا أَوْلَاكُمْ النَّارُ وَمَا لَكُمْ مِنْ نَصِيرِينَ ﴿٣٤﴾

ذَلِكُمْ بِأَنَّكُمْ اتَّخَذْتُمْ آيَاتِ اللَّهِ هُزُوًا وَعَرَضْتُمْ
الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا فَالْيَوْمَ لَا يُخْرَجُونَ مِنْهَا
وَلَا هُمْ يُسْتَعْتَبُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾

فَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ رَبِّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَرَبِّ الْأَرْضِ
رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٣٦﴾

وَلَهُ الْكِبْرِيَاءُ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ
وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿٣٧﴾

Secrets of Revelation

It is not difficult for Allah to quicken, as nothing is concealed from the Sovereign of the entire universe Who prevails over every atom. It is on the Day of Judgement that the deniers will realize the gravity of their loss. On that Day no one shall dare rebel; rather every faction will be on its knees awaiting the final verdict. Everyone will be handed over the Register of Conduct and summoned for requital. These records are compiled on His behest and comprise factual details of whatever they did in their worldly lives.

Those who embraced Islam and took to Allah's obedience will be honoured with His Mercy, indeed a tremendous achievement. Those who denied will be asked whether they had not been conveyed the Divine Commands whence they had displayed arrogance instead of obedience. These grave sinners when warned that

Allah's Promise was true and the Day of Judgement was sure to be established, they had displayed total ignorance. They used to say that it was an hear-say belief which influenced them momentarily, but it was not really true. On that Day their evil deeds will be brought forth and a disdainful doom shall enshroud them. They will be told that Allah has forgotten them in return just as they had done it during their lifetime.

To be Forgotten by Allah

A human being can be heedless of Akhirah and the ultimate presence in His Court and even become forgetful of Him, but Allah's Knowledge is Absolute. So whenever any such aspect as forgetfulness is ascribed to Him it will be interpreted in its remote sense, pertaining to the outcome. In this case being forgotten by Allah suggests His indifference towards the fate of these infidels as to how or where they are destroyed. Like as when something is forgotten, nobody cares about it. The infidels will be told that their eternal abode is Hell, where nobody will be able to help them, indeed an outcome of their mocking at Allah's revelations and commands. They had been beguiled by the worldly pleasures and comforts, presuming these to be everlasting. So they will neither be taken out of Hell, nor asked to repent, as the time for repenting will have already gone past. All Praises only befit Allah, the Sustainer of the Universe. Every atom is placed in its appropriate place and He provides everything with its needs as well as the end results of its actions. Greatness belongs to Him. He prevails over everything unflinchingly. He is the Mighty and the Wisest. People enjoying respite by His Wisdom become neglectful of Him, yet the outcome of this neglect will certainly manifest itself one Day.