

سُورَةُ الْقَمَرِ

Sūrah al Qamar

(THE MOON)

It's a Makkan Sūrah having fifty five Āyāt and three Sections.

Section 1

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

1. The Hour has drawn near, and the moon has been rent asunder.
2. And if they behold a Sign, they turn away, and say: Magic continuous.
3. And they belied, and they followed their lusts, and every affair comes to a final goal.
4. And assuredly there has come to them tidings wherein is a deterrent.
5. Wisdom consummate. But warnings avail not.
6. So withdraw you from them. The day when the summoner will summon mankind to a thing unpleasant.
7. They will come forth with the downcast looks from the tomb as if they were locusts scattered.
8. Hastening towards the summoner. The infidels will say: This is a hard Day.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَقْرَبَتِ السَّاعَةُ وَأَنشَقَّ الْقَمَرُ ﴿١﴾

وَإِن يَرَوْا آيَةً يُعْرِضُوا وَيَقُولُوا سِحْرٌ مُّسْتَمِرٌّ ﴿٢﴾

وَكَذَّبُوا وَأَتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ

وَكَُلُّ أَمْرٍ مُّسْتَقَرٌّ ﴿٣﴾

وَلَقَدْ جَاءَهُمْ مِنَ الْأَنْبَاءِ

مَا فِيهِ مُرْدَجَرٌ ﴿٤﴾

حِكْمَةٌ بَالِغَةٌ فَمَا تُغْنِ النُّذُرُ ﴿٥﴾

فَقَوْلٌ عَنْهُمْ يَوْمَ يَدْعُ الدَّاعِ إِلَىٰ شَيْءٍ

نُكْرٍ ﴿٦﴾

خَشَعًا أَبْصَرُهُمْ يَخْرُجُونَ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ كَأَنَّهُمْ

جَرَادٌ مُّنتَشِرٌ ﴿٧﴾

مُهَيَّطِينَ إِلَى الدَّاعِ يَقُولُ الْكٰفِرُونَ هَذَا يَوْمٌ عَسِرٌ ﴿٨﴾

9. There belied before them the People of Nūḥ. So they belied Our bondman Nūḥ, and said: A madman; and he was reproved.
10. Thereupon he prayed to his Rabb: Verily I am overcome, so vindicate me.
11. Then We opened the portals of heaven with water poured out.
12. And We made the earth break forth with springs, that the water met after an affair already decreed.
13. And We borne him on a thing of planks and nails.
14. Moving forward under Our eyes: A vindication of him who had been rejected.
15. And assuredly We left it for a Sign. Is there, then, any one who would be admonished?
16. So how dreadful have been My chastisement and My warnings.
17. And assuredly We have made the Qurān easy for admonition; is there, then, any one who would be admonished?
18. And there belied the 'Ād; so how dreadful have been My chastisement and My warnings!
19. Verily We! We sent against them a raging wind on a day of continuous calamity.

كَذَّبَتْ قَبْلَهُمْ قَوْمُ نُوحٍ فَكَذَّبُوا عَبْدَنَا
وَقَالُوا بِجُنُونٍ وَّازْدُجِرَ ﴿٩﴾

فَدَعَا رَبَّهُ أَنِّي مَغْلُوبٌ فَانصُرْ ﴿١٠﴾

فَفَتَحْنَا أَبْوَابَ السَّمَاءِ بِمَاءٍ مُنْهَرٍ ﴿١١﴾

وَفَجَّرْنَا الْأَرْضَ عُيُونًا فَالْتَقَى الْمَاءُ عَلَى أَمْرٍ
قَدْدِيرٍ ﴿١٢﴾

وَحَمَلْنَاهُ عَلَى ذَاتِ الْوَجِّ وُدُورٍ ﴿١٣﴾

تَجْرِي بِأَعْيُنِنَا جَزَاءَ لِمَنْ كَانَ كُفِرَ ﴿١٤﴾

وَلَقَدْ تَرَكْنَاهَا آيَةً فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ ﴿١٥﴾

فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذُرٍ ﴿١٦﴾

وَلَقَدْ بَشَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ ﴿١٧﴾

كَذَّبَتْ عَادٌ فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذُرٍ ﴿١٨﴾

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ رِيحًا صَرْصَرًا فِي يَوْمٍ نَحْسٍ مُسْتَمِرٍّ ﴿١٩﴾

20. Carrying men away, as if they were trunks of uprooted palm trees.
21. So how dreadful has been My chastisement and My warnings.
22. And assuredly We have made the Qurān easy for admonition; is there, then, any one who would be admonished?

تَنْزِعُ النَّاسَ كَأَنَّهُمْ أُعْجَازُ نَخْلٍ مُنْقَعِرٍ ﴿٢٠﴾

فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذُرِي ﴿٢١﴾

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ ﴿٢٢﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Qayamah is around the corner. The very raising of the Holy Prophet^{SAW} is its greatest Sign. Another great Sign he foretold was the splitting of the moon which has also taken place.

Splitting of the Moon

According to reports, the Makkans, on instigation of the Jews of Madinah, demanded from him a miracle in the sky. The Jewish scholars believed that magic was ineffective there. One day the Holy Prophet^{SAW} was at Mina and the moon glowed brightly over Mount Hira, whence the pagans demanded its splitting. He pointed his finger at it and the moon split into two halves, each portion appearing on either side of the Mount. He told everyone to take a good look and once the spectators were satisfied, it reverted to its original shape. The pagans, however, argued that it could be a magical spell over their eyes so its corroboration by the travellers into Makkah from far-off lands was imperative. Every visitor verified the event, which is also recorded in the Chronicles of India. The split moon was seen by the Raja of Malabar who got it recorded. Later he embraced Islam. All the objections raised are logical, while miracle is a supernatural phenomenon, beyond logics.

And the photographs of moon now taken by the scientist clearly show a line in its centre, testifying to its cleaving and reunion. Praise be to Allah! Those who still refuse to believe and call it magic behave like the infidels of the past, out of fancies of their baser souls. Events unfold at their appointed time and eventually one day truth and falsehood shall stand demarcated. The Holy Prophet^{SAW} need not,

therefore, bother about their negative response to his call. One day, a Caller will call them to a difficult place, the Field of Gathering. They will rise from their graves terrified, with their gazes lowered, rushing towards the Caller like locusts. No one will deny and the infidels will acknowledge that the dreadful moment had indeed arrived.

Earlier, the People of Prophet Nūḥ^{AS} not only refuted him but also threatened of stoning him to death. They tortured him, called him insane and termed his teachings as insanity. Losing all hope, the Prophet^{AS} at last beseeched Allah to take them to task. And the portals of heaven and the earth were opened for water to form the mighty Deluge. The death sentence already in His Knowledge was executed while the Prophetic Barakah and the light of faith protected the Prophet and the believers who voyaged safely in a boat made by nailing together a few planks. Indeed a great admonition, on the leaflets of history, for those who care to ponder how severe is Allah's chastisement and how He fulfils His Promises.

Allah revealed the Qurān in the mother-tongue of its teacher and made it so easy that a scholar or an illiterate, an elder or a child, in their own capacity, can avail guidance from it. And it is the only Book in the world easiest to memorise even for young children.

The 'Ād were another extremely powerful nation. Their denial heralded a violent wind storm to do them to death. In case of Prophet Nūḥ's^{AS} nation, the water, otherwise a source of life became the agent of death, while here another vital source of life, the air, became the cause. For them that day became inauspicious for ever that the wind tore them apart to face chastisement in Barzakh, on the Day of Reckoning and finally in Hell. The battered dead bodies of robust youth presented a gruesome scene, speaking volumes on the intensity of the Divine chastisement and the veracity of His warnings. It is indeed a great favour that He made the Qurān easy for the contemplators and the seekers of guidance.

Section 2

23. And the Thamūd belied the warnings.

كَذَّبَتْ ثَمُودُ بِالنُّذُرِ ﴿٢٣﴾

24. And they said: A mere human being from amongst us, and alone – shall we follow him? Then

فَقَالُوا أَبَشَرًا مِثْلَنَا وَجِدًا تَتَّبِعُهُ إِنَّا إِذَا لَبِئْنَا
صَلَّيْنَا وَسُعُرِي ﴿٢٤﴾

indeed we should be in error and madness.

25. Has the Admonition been laid upon him from amongst us? Aye: He is an insolent liar!

26. They shall learn tomorrow which is an insolent liar!

27. Verily We are sending a she-camel as a test for them, so watch them you and have patience.

28. And declare you to them that water has been divided between them, every drinking shall be by turns.

29. Then they called their comrade, and took the sword, and hamstrung her.

30. So how dreadful have been My chastisement and My warnings!

31. Verily We! We sent upon them one shout, and they became as the stubble of a fold-builder.

32. And assuredly We have made the Qurān easy for admonition; is there, then, any one who would be admonished.

33. Then belied the warnings the People of Lūt.

34. Verily We! We sent upon them a gravel storm save the family of Lūt. We delivered them at early dawn.

أَلَيْسَ الذِّكْرُ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ بَيْنِنَا بَلْ هُوَ كَذَابٌ أَشِرٌّ ﴿٢٥﴾

سَيَعْلَمُونَ غَدًا مَنْ الْكَذَّابُ الْآشِرُّ ﴿٢٦﴾

إِنَّا مُرْسِلُوا النَّاقَةَ فِتْنَةً لَهُمْ فَارْتَقِبْهُمْ وَاصْطَبِرْ ﴿٢٧﴾

وَنَبِّئْهُمْ أَنَّ الْمَاءَ قِسْمَةٌ بَيْنَهُمْ كُلُّ شَرْبٍ مُخَضَّرٌ ﴿٢٨﴾

فَادُوا صَاحِبَهُمْ فَتَعَاطَى فَعَقَرَ ﴿٢٩﴾

فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذُرِي ﴿٣٠﴾

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ صَيْحَةً وَجِدَةً فَكَانُوا

كَهَيْبِ الْمَخْطَرِ ﴿٣١﴾

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ ﴿٣٢﴾

كَذَّبَتْ قَوْمُ لُوطٍ بِالنُّذُرِ ﴿٣٣﴾

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ حَاصِبًا إِلَّا مَالَ لُوطٍ

بِمَجْنَنِهِمْ يَسْحَرُ ﴿٣٤﴾

35. As a favour from Us. Thus do we recompense him who gives thanks.
36. And assuredly he had warned them of Our grasp, but they doubted the warnings.
37. And they solicited him for his guests; then We deprived them of their sight, taste then My chastisement and My warnings.
38. And thus met them early in the morning a settled chastisement.
39. Taste then My chastisement and My warnings.
40. And assuredly We have made the Qurān easy for admonition; is there, then, anyone who would be admonished?

نِعْمَةٌ مِّنْ عِنْدِنَا كَذَلِكَ يَجْزَىٰ مَنْ شَكَرَ ﴿٢٥﴾

وَلَقَدْ أَنْذَرَهُمْ بَطْشَتَنَا فَتَمَارَوْا بِالنُّذُرِ ﴿٢٦﴾

وَلَقَدْ رَوَدُوهُ عَن صَيْقِلِهِ فَطَمَسْنَا أَعْيُنَهُمْ فَذُوقُوا
عَذَابِي وَنُذُرِي ﴿٢٧﴾

وَلَقَدْ صَبَحَهُمْ بُكْرَةً عَذَابٌ مُّسْتَقِرٌّ ﴿٢٨﴾

فَذُوقُوا عَذَابِي وَنُذُرِي ﴿٢٩﴾

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِن مُّذَكِّرٍ ﴿٣٠﴾

Secrets of Revelation

The Thamūd behaved similarly and belied the Prophet^{AS} raised to forewarn them on the dire consequences of evil deeds. They refused to follow on the grounds that he was a human being having no one to support and rejected his teachings as insanity lest they are misguided.

Majority is no Yardstick of Truthfulness

In other words, the acceptance by a majority of people is not the yardstick of truthfulness. Rather the desired goal is the truth even if accepted by a small group of people. This concept is totally foreign to democracy in which any scoundrel can gather a crowd and declare that whatever he says is right and democratic. On the other hand, only the consensus of experts of the relevant field is Islamic democracy.

The Thamūd, had wondered how was the Prophet^{AS} better than them to have been entitled to a Divine Book. Therefore, they accused him of fabricating a lie to win their leadership, or was simply being boastful. Allah declares that they shall know tomorrow who indeed was boastful or vainglorious. He informed the Prophet^{AS} to wait patiently for a she-camel as their trial, of which a detailed account has already been given. He may tell his people to take turn with her for water on the alternate days, on the only well or spring available. But the Thamūd could not bear with it and appointed a man who hamstrung and killed the she-camel. So Allah imposed upon them a shout, that tore apart their hearts and they sprawled like dry twigs of a broken cattle fold, completely ravaged. So the people must take admonition from the Qurān, made easy for this purpose by Him.

The People of Lūṭ^{AS} also did not heed the warning of their Prophet. So a stone laden wind struck, sparing no one save Prophet Lūṭ's^{AS} followers. They were separated from the rest at dawn as a Divine favour to His grateful bondmen. Although Prophet Lūṭ^{AS} had forewarned everyone of Divine punishment, yet when the angels guised as boys called on the Prophet^{AS}, the wicked stormed his house to get hold of the guests. They were all blinded and the doom visited them at dawn in the form of downpour of stones, and finally their settlements were turned upside down. Allah has made this Qurān easy for all those who seek admonition.

Section 3

41. And assuredly there came the warning unto the household of the Pharaoh.

وَلَقَدْ جَاءَ آلَ فِرْعَوْنَ النَّذِيرُ ﴿١١﴾

42. They belied Our Signs, every one thereof. Then We seized them with the grip of the Mighty, the Powerful.

كَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا كُلِّهَا فَأَخَذْتَهُمْ أَخْذَ عَزِيزٍ مُّقْتَدِرٍ ﴿١٢﴾

43. Are you infidels better than those? Or, is there an immunity for you in the Writs?

أَكْفَارُكُمْ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَوْلِيَّتِكُمْ أَمْ لَكُمْ بَرَاءَةٌ فِي الزُّبُرِ ﴿١٣﴾

44. Or is it that they say: We are a people prevailing?

أَمْ يَقُولُونَ نَحْنُ جَمِيعٌ مُنْتَصِرُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

45. Soon will this multitude be vanquished, and they will turn their backs.

سَيَهْرَمُ الْجَمْعُ وَيُولُونَ الدُّبُرَ ﴿١٥﴾

46. Aye: The Hour is their appointed term and the Hour will be far more grievous and far more bitter.

بَلِ السَّاعَةُ مَوْعِدُهُمْ وَالسَّاعَةُ أَذَىٰ وَآمُرُ ﴿١٦﴾

47. Verily the culprits are in great error and madness.

إِنَّ الْمُجْرِمِينَ فِي ضَلَالٍ وَسُعُرٍ ﴿١٧﴾

48. On the Day when they shall be dragged on their faces into the Fire, it will be said to them: Taste the touch of the Scorching.

يَوْمَ يُسْحَبُونَ فِي النَّارِ عَلَىٰ وُجُوهِهِمْ ذُوقُوا مَسَّ سَقَرَ ﴿١٨﴾

49. Verily We have created everything by a measure.

إِنَّا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلَقْنَاهُ بِقَدَرٍ ﴿١٩﴾

50. And Our Commandment is but one as the twinkling of an eye.

وَمَا أَمْرُنَا إِلَّا وَجِدَةٌ كَلَمْحٍ بِالْبَصَرِ ﴿٢٠﴾

51. And assuredly We have destroyed your likes; is there, then, any one who would be admonished?

وَلَقَدْ أَهْلَكْنَا أَشْيَاءَكُمْ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ ﴿٢١﴾

52. And everything they have done is in the Writs.

وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ فَعَلُوهُ فِي الزُّبُرِ ﴿٢٢﴾

53. And everything, small or big, has been written down.

وَكُلُّ صَغِيرٍ وَكَبِيرٍ مُسْتَنْظَرٌ ﴿٢٣﴾

54. Verily the pious will be amid Gardens and rivers.

إِنَّ الْمُتَّقِينَ فِي جَنَّاتٍ وَنَهَرٍ ﴿٢٤﴾

55. In a good seat, near a Sovereign Omnipotent.

فِي مَقْعَدٍ صِدْقٍ عِنْدَ مَلِكٍ مُّقْتَدِرٍ ﴿٢٥﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Now take a look at the Pharaoh's folk. They were a very powerful and affluent nation. When Allah's Prophet^{AS} came to forewarn them of the sequel of evil they

rejected all his evidences and miracles and were seized by His punishment and annihilated. Are the contemporary infidels better than them or is it that their salvation is ordained in any Divine Book? Or do they think that they are powerful enough to encounter Allah.

Prediction of Infidels' Defeat

Let alone encountering Allah's punishment, they will soon be defeated and forced to retreat in humiliation. This Quranic prophesy came true at Badr, Uḥad and the Battle of Aḥzāb. Every time it were the Makkans who fled the battlefield while the eternal doom awaits them in the Ākhirah. The promised Day of Qayamah is a moment of great turmoil, anguish and bitterness. Those who disobey the Holy Prophet^{SAW} and are on the path of sin appear to be bargaining an impending doom against momentary pleasures. They will be dragged into the Fire flat on their faces and told to taste the flames of Hell.

Remember that Allah has created everything in precision and the consequences already ordained will certainly come about, as is observed in every mundane affair. So their denial and sinfulness shall certainly produce results. And Allah's decision is enforced in the blinking of an eye, as may be seen from the fate of misguided factions destroyed before.

Shi'a

Again the word *Shi'a* is used here for a misguided group, who despite being neck deep in falsehood claims to be on the right path. Such factions were destroyed before in sequel to their wickedness. All human actions, no matter how insignificant, are being recorded in the Registers of Conduct, besides being in Allah's personal Knowledge. So every action and every word will have to be justified. The evil and infidelity will surely entail punishment. And those who fear Allah and sincerely obey Him will dwell in Jannah, bedecked with ever green gardens and rivers. They will be with Allah, the real Sovereign in Whose Power lies everything.