

## سُورَةُ الْبُرُوجِ

### Sūrah al Burūj

#### (THE BIG STARS)

Revealed at Makkah, it has only one Section and twenty two Āyāt.

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

1. By the sky adorned with big stars.
2. And by the promised Day.
3. And by the witnessing day and the witnessed day.
4. Perish the fellows of the ditch.
5. Of the fuel-fed fire.
6. When they sat by it.
7. And were witnesses to what they did with the faithful.
8. And they persecuted them for nothing save that they believed in Allah, the Mighty, the Laudable.
9. Him, Whose domain is the heavens and the earth. And Allah is Witness over everything.
10. Verily those who persecuted the believing men and women, and then repented not, for them shall be the torment of Hell, and for them shall be the torment of burning.
11. Those who believed and worked righteous works for them shall be the Gardens whereunder rivers

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالسَّمَاءِ ذَاتِ الْبُرُوجِ ﴿١﴾

وَالْيَوْمِ الْمَوْعُودِ ﴿٢﴾

وَشَاهِدٍ وَمَشْهُودٍ ﴿٣﴾

قِيلَ اصْحَبِ الْأَحْدُودِ ﴿٤﴾

النَّارِ ذَاتِ الْوُقُودِ ﴿٥﴾

إِذْ هُمْ عَلَيْهَا قُعُودٌ ﴿٦﴾

وَهُمْ عَلَى مَا يَفْعَلُونَ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ شُهُودٌ ﴿٧﴾

وَمَا نَقَمُوا مِنْهُمْ إِلَّا أَنْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ

الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ ﴿٨﴾

الَّذِي لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ

وَاللَّهُ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ ﴿٩﴾

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ فَتَنُوا الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ ثُمَّ لَوَبَتُوا

فَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ جَهَنَّمَ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابُ الْحَرِيقِ ﴿١٠﴾

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٌ

تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْكَبِيرُ ﴿١١﴾

flow; that is the supreme achievement.

12. Verily the grip of your **Rabb** is terrible.
13. Verily He! It is He Who begins and repeats.
14. And He is the Forgiving, the Loving.
15. **Rabb** of the Throne, the Glorious.
16. Doer of whatsoever He intends.
17. Has there come unto you the story of the hosts.
18. Of the Pharaoh and the Thamūd?
19. Aye! Those who disbelieve are engaged in denial.
20. While Allah is encompassing from behind them.
21. Aye! It is a glorious Recitation.
22. Inscribed in a Preserved Tablet.

إِنَّ بَطْشَ رَبِّكَ لَشَدِيدٌ ﴿١٢﴾

إِنَّهُ هُوَ الَّذِي يُبْدِئُ وَيُعِيدُ ﴿١٣﴾

وَهُوَ الْغَفُورُ الْودُودُ ﴿١٤﴾

ذُو الْعَرْشِ الْمَجِيدُ ﴿١٥﴾

فَعَالٌ لِّمَا يُرِيدُ ﴿١٦﴾

هَلْ أَنْتَ حَدِيثُ الْجُنُودِ ﴿١٧﴾

فِرْعَوْنَ وَثَمُودَ ﴿١٨﴾

بَلِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فِي تَكْذِيبٍ ﴿١٩﴾

وَاللَّهُ مِنْ وَرَائِهِمْ مُحِيطٌ ﴿٢٠﴾

بَلْ هُوَ قُرْءَانٌ مَجِيدٌ ﴿٢١﴾

فِي لَوْحٍ مَّحْفُوظٍ ﴿٢٢﴾

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## Secrets of Revelation

By the heaven which has citadels for the guards! According to many reports *Burūj* (singular *Burj*) alludes to the citadels or fortresses of the angels that guard the heaven. Astronomers have hypothetically divided the heaven into twelve parts, naming each as *Burj*. They assert that stars exist within the *Burj* and the planets also travel through them. They have named these constellations after the shape they take, for instance, Aries, Taurus, Gemini etc. However, all this is utterly absurd in the light of Islam.

By the promised Day of Judgement and by every individual who testifies to the Truth, and by each Truth which is testified, all these affairs, that is, the heaven, the Day of Judgement, every truthful witness and every Truth bears witness to the

destruction of those who had burnt the believers alive in trenches. They had remorselessly ignited the fuel stacked therein and had pushed the believers in it, group after group, watching them as they burnt.

### Episode of People of the Trench

Reports reveal many incidents of the persecution of Muslims. But this particular incident refers to the one suffered by the believers at the hands of the King of Yemen, Yūsuf Zūnwas bin Sharjeel. When his official sooth-sayer grew old, he was provided a young intelligent lad as student to transfer his skills to him. This boy, however, met a Wali, became a Muslim and learnt Allah's Zikr from him. He would go to the old sooth-sayer but stealthily take some time out to visit the Wali. Allah blessed him with Karamah to heal the ailing. Eventually the news reached the King, and he ordered the execution of the Wali. However, all his plans to kill the boy failed. One day the boy himself told the King how to kill him. He counselled the King to assemble all his subjects, tie him down and take an arrow from the boy's personal quiver and shoot at his temple, after reciting *Bismillah* (in the Name of Allah) on it.

### Propagation

The King did as told and the boy fell martyr. But the masses witnessing the whole episode accepted the true faith and declared: "We believe in the Rabb of this boy", who succeeded in propagating the true faith publicly. The King was infuriated and ordered that a trench be dug at the mouth of every alley, filled up with fuel and ignited. And that only those who renounce Islam be spared, and the rest be pushed into the flames. But nobody chose apostasy over martyrdom. It is reported that before they fell into the inferno, their Arwāḥ were taken away by Allah to spare them the consequent pain. But the inferno got out of control and reduced everyone to ashes. The King fled to take refuge in the river, but perished and was ushered into the Hell.

### The State of a Martyr in the Grave

The boy mentioned in this incident was Abdullah bin Tāmir. It is reported by Mohammad bin Abdullah bin Abu Bakr Ṣiddīq<sup>RAU</sup> that during Ḥadhrat 'Umar's<sup>RAU</sup> caliphate, in an excavation, the body of the said boy was discovered sitting up with his hand on his temple. When his hand was pulled away, blood oozed out of the wound. <sup>ALAU</sup> when it was released, it went back on his temple. He was also wearing a ring whereon was inscribed **Rabbi Allah** (Allah is my Rabb). The

Governor of Yemen wrote to Ḥadhrat Umar<sup>RAU</sup> about the whole affair, who advised him to re-bury the boy as he was.

The Muslims burnt alive had committed no crime. They had only believed in the **Rabb**, the Absolute and Worthy of all Praise, **Who** enjoys Sovereignty over the universe and is thoroughly Aware of everything. All those who perpetrate violence against the believing men and women will be condemned to Hell to suffer a doom of burning, unless they repent.

### The Divine Mercy

Ḥadhrat Ḥassan Baṣri<sup>RAA</sup> asserts that **Allah's** Mercy is unlimited, for **He** does not close down the door of repentance even unto the persecutors of **His** Aulia' and the evil doers. Instead **He** invites them to repentance.

### Sure Win

Certainly, the Jannah wherein rivers flow awaits the believers. To win it is indeed a grand achievement. In other words, a believer is successful both as a victor as well as a martyr, as the latter ushers him to his final destination. Surely **Allah's** Grip is very firm. **He** gives existence and enforces extinction. It is **He Who** created for the very first time and will do it once again. **He** is extremely Forgiving and Loving, is the Monarch of the magnificent 'Arsh and does whatever pleases **Him**.

O' reader! Have you not heard of the legions of the Pharaoh and the Thamūd, how they were seized by **Allah's** Grip on denial? Similarly all those who deny are not at all beyond **His** Grip. And the Qurān they deny is indeed Glorious. It is also inscribed on the Guarded Tablet, precluding the possibility of any alteration whatsoever.