

Word of God

Abu Tariq Hijazi

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

By the time,
Lo, Man is in a state of loss, save those
Who believe and do righteous deeds
And exhort one another to Truth
And exhort one another to (patience and) endurance.
Al Quran 103:1-3

But as for those who believe and do righteous deeds
We shall soon admit them to Gardens
With rivers flowing beneath,
To dwell therein for ever
It is a Promise from Allah (the Word of God) in Truth
And whose word can be more truthful than Allah's.
Al Quran 4: 122

For those who believe and work righteousness,
is (every) blessedness,
And a beautiful place of (final) return.
Al Quran 13: 29

The Author's Prayer

And when I have crossed the age of seventy
And my strength is decreasing sharply
And my teeth are giving away
And my eyes are growing dim
And my hairs are turned white
And my memory is getting blank
And my back is tending to bow
And I got heavy load of sins
And I have no power to pull.

I revert to Thee humbly
And I call **Thee alone**, in distress
Relieve me of my burden of sins
And taste me the sweetness of Thy Forgiveness
I have, though no claim for it, but
I have hope, an ardent hope, in Thy Mercy
O, My Lord! **Thy forgiveness is larger than my sins**
And Thy Mercy is more dependable
For me than my deeds, if any

This little work of mine
Is the sum of my life
I place it humbly
At the Thresh-hold of Thy Sacred House
If there is any good in it
That is all from Thee alone
So accept it from me
And if there is no-good any
That is all from me alone
So forgive me

I dared to write about Thy Beloved
Prophet Mohammed, the Mercy of mankind
So be merciful to me and upon his Ummah
In the east of Thy House and in the west
In the north of this Abode and in the south
O the Lord of the Heavens and the earth.

Abu Tariq Hijazi
Makkah al Mukarramah

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AN INVITATION TO YOU

The life of man on this planet is like a tip of an ice berg. The vast universe was created about twelve billion years ago and our planet is like a tiny island in a large ocean. Man descended on earth about a million years ago. So we are like an ant in a giant ocean where we arrived just yesterday. Where we were before and where we shall be after this life, is a great question to be explored.

God created universe and God created man. We come from Him and we shall go back to Him. Our life on this planet is a fraction of our never ending life. We are given a little respite to prove our worth. We pass through a lobby of vices and virtues. It is upon us, with our free will, to select the right path and follow it.

Almighty God sent prophets and scriptures for the guidance of man. But many people rejected the prophets and corrupted the scriptures. Finally God sent His Last Word with the Last Prophet and ensured its preservation against any perversion. Holy Quran is the Word of God and His last Prophet is Mohammad (s.a.w.). God's religion is Islam and none else, but there is no compulsion for it. The man is free to study it and embrace it with free will.

The new generation of the western world today owns everything except happiness. Their society is devoid of real satisfaction. Discontented with this suffocating, and suicidal atmosphere they are turning towards nude clubs, wild sanctuaries, drugs and crime. In search of peace of mind they are wandering into various primitive cults of Asia and Africa but real satisfaction is still a mirage to them.

These people are educated, qualified and many are sincere seekers of truth. They are not satisfied with the interpretations and manipulations of other religions. They demand the original text of Holy Scriptures unadulterated and unchanged, so that they can explore the Truth themselves.

Islam is proud of preserving the only authentic text of Divine Scripture of the world. The Holy Quran emerges as the sole, unaltered divine revelation to the mankind in existence today. To arouse interest in the systematic study of the Holy Quran, we submit a schematic reading program based upon the ORIGINAL text* of the Holy Quran which is the last testament for humanity.

It runs as follows: "There exists, logically, a Creator of this universe called Allah (or God), One without associates, very merciful and kind to mankind. He created food and water to feed man and sent prophets with scriptures to educate him. After primary and secondary instructions, He revealed a full and final code of life through Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), who practiced and preached it for twenty three years, leaving it in original form for the guidance of all generations to come.

Almighty Allah revealed that all people will be resurrected after death and will be accounted for their deeds on the Day of Judgment. The good will have the reward of eternal bliss. The evil will have punishment of eternal Hell fire. Nobody can atone for the sins of others.

Any person (man or woman) at any time can eliminate his or her past sins by sincere repentance and prayer thereby entering the folds of Allah's mercy and benevolence. This life is the only chance and death is staring us in the eye, waiting to overcome us any moment."

We are like wayfarers in this world. This is simply a place to earn tomorrow's reward and not a permanent dwelling. We bury our fathers with our own hands. Our children shall bury us shortly. Our abode lies in the domain beyond death. That world would be alien for those who ignore it but a paradise for those who adore it. Without divine guidance there is no light in this world or the Hereafter.

We expect obedience from our children and sub-ordinates. Why should the Supreme Lord not expect the same of us? Submission to Allah is the only accepted code of life for mankind on earth. It is by submission to Him that the planet and stars move in perfect harmony and peace otherwise there would be great disorder

and disaster within the universe. It is this submission which is called "Islam" in Arabic, the religion of peace in this world and peace in the Hereafter. Today more than 1600 million persons profess Islam around the globe. It is the fastest growing and largest practiced religion of the world.

Faith, in the language of religion means belief in the Unseen. It is not mere credulity. Faith built on argument is always enduring and stable. It is reason alone that takes the initiative and lays the foundations of the edifice of faith. Faith is a divine agent, which expands the intellect and purifies the heart. Just as the human body grows stronger by constant exercise, so does faith become firmer and finally un-shake-able through regular practice and prayer.

This book is designed for the western & eastern youth, who are searching the truth but is equally suitable for those born Muslims who feel that forgiveness is their right by birth. They should not forget that Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) ** advised his own kith and kin to be faithful to the religion for their forgiveness. For a person whose deeds pulled him back, his noble birth will not push him forward.

To Almighty Allah all of His created men and women, black, brown or white, whether American, African, Asian, European or Russian are all equal in status. It is their faith, piety and good deeds which make them favorites of Allah. We know that students of various faces and colors in a class are equal before the teacher, but those who are more obedient and studious are always his favorites. Almighty Allah revealed:

O, Mankind! We created you
From a single (pair) of a male and a female,
And made you into nations and tribes,
That ye may know each other
(not that ye may despise each other).
Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah
Is he who is the most righteous of you.
And Allah has full Knowledge
And is Well Acquainted (with all things).
Al Quran 49:13

Do not read this book superficially. It contains an invitation from your Lord for your peace and prosperity in this world and in the Hereafter. May our Lord Allah open your heart to the Truth and shower His blessings upon us all. Ameen.

9th Dhul Hijja 1424 AH

Abu Tariq Hijazi
Arafat, Makkah al Mukarramah

* The verses have been produced from the English Translation of Holy Quran by Abdullah Yusuf Ali, may Allah reward him.

** s.a.w. is the short form of Arabic 'sallallahu alaihey wasallam' meaning 'peace be upon him'.

1: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

The beautiful panorama of vast universe, the sun, the moon and the planets floating in the endless space, the existence of an order and perfect harmony in their motion, testify the existence of the supreme power who, not only created but also commands and sustains the entire creation.

Man is unique creation of God. He is not only gifted with the faculty of reasoning but also of the free will. Almighty God revealed plenty logical evidence to satisfy man's nature. The arguments quoted from the common incidents of day to day life of man like the sun, the moon, the night, rain-fall, the botanical life, the creation of man from the point of his conception to the end, all are so convincing to man's intellect that he admits, accept and confirms the sovereignty of the Lord.

Almighty God invites man to see, study and concentrate on various aspects of the atmosphere around him. Let him think, Who created mankind? Who regulates the affairs of the universe? What if the earth is deprived of its atmosphere of oxygen, carbon and ozone? Or if the soil is stopped growing seeds? Or if the clouds with-held rain? Or if eyes became blind? Or if planets were freed from their orbits? Who is it that regulates these affairs? Who is He ? who governs the universe? Is it man or the Creator of man?

It is God who created the heavens; it is He who subjected the sun and the moon to their courses for an appointed time. He spread the earth and set on it firm mountains and flowing rivers. He decorated the earth with fruits and flowers of different shapes, sizes, tastes and fragrance, all watered with one water and all from one ground.

He sends down the rain and produces grains, olives, date palms, grapes, pomegranates and every kind of fruit for us. He subjected the day and the night so that we may work and rest alternately. He produced many things in a panorama of attractive colors. He subjected the vast seas to man and filled them with fresh food, pearls and coral beds. He enables the great trading ships to sail over the high seas and the submarines to plough through the depths of the sea. God could have made the seas an uncross-able barrier, or filled with poisonous liquids or too turbulent for crossing or barren of any food or off shore wealth.

In such observations, there are abundant signs for those who are wise and thoughtful. The rotating seasons contains numerous signs. Look how the earth dies in the winter. The gardens and fields are barren. The summer brings a new life, the blossoming of flowers and fruits, reviving the fields again. Who reverses this phenomenon? Who brings the summer and send away the winter and causes the blossoming of fruits and flowers? Is it man? No, it is the Creator of man, Lord of the Universe.

Almighty God created animals and subdued some of them for man. Behold the animals; they differ in shape, sizes, habits and the purpose. Some of them creep others walk on two, four or more legs. Man obtains milk, meat, wool and leather in addition to various services from these animals. If cows were wild like bears and sheep vicious like wolves and horses bulky like rhinos, it would be difficult to avail any service from them. Almighty Allah says in Holy Quran:

Say: "Who is it that sustains you (in life) from the sky and from the earth? Or who is it that has power over hearing and sight? And who is it that brings out the living from the dead and the dead from the living? And who is it that rules and regulates all affairs? They will soon say Allah " Say. " will ye not then show piety (to Him)? "[10: 31]

Allah is He who raised the heavens without any pillars that ye can see. Then He firmly established Himself on the Throne (of the authority); He has subjected the sun and the moon (to His law)! Each one runs (its course) for a term appointed. He doth regulate all affairs, explaining the Signs in details that ye may believe with certainty in the meeting with your Lord.

And it is He who spread out the earth, and set thereon mountains standing firm, and (flowing) rivers; and fruit of every kind He made in pairs, two and two. He draweth the Night as a veil over the Day. Behold, verily in these things there are Signs for those who consider! [13: 2-3]

It is He who sends down rain from the sky: from it ye drink, and out of it (grows) the vegetation on which ye feed your cattle. With it He produces for you corn, olives, date-palms, grapes, and every kind of fruit. Verily in this is a Sign for those who give thought. He has made subject to you the night and the day; the sun and the moon; And the stars are in subjection by His command: verily in this are Signs for men who are wise. [16: 10-12]

And the things on this earth which He has multiplied in varying colours (and qualities); verily in this is a Sign for man who celebrate the praises of Allah (in gratitude). It is He who has made the sea subject, that ye may eat thereof flesh that is fresh and tender, and that ye may extract there from ornaments to wear, And thou sees the ships there in that plough the waves, that ye may seek (thus) of the bounty of Allah and that ye may be grateful. [16: 13-14]

And among His signs are the ships smooth running through the ocean (tall) as mountains. If it be His will He can still the wind. Then would they become motionless on the back of the (ocean). Verily in this are Signs for everyone who patiently perseveres and is grateful. [42: 32-33]

It is He who sendeth down rain from the skies: with it We produce vegetation of all kinds. From some We produce green (crops), out of which We produce grain, heaped up (at harvest), out of the date-palm and its sheaths (or spathes) (come) clusters of dates hanging low and near. And (then there are) gardens of grapes and olives, and pomegranates, each similar (in kind) yet different (in variety): when they begin to bear fruit, feast your eyes with the fruit and the ripeness thereof. Behold! In these things there are Signs for people who believe. [6: 99]

A Sign for them is the earth that is dead: We do give it life, and produce grain there from, of which ye do eat. And We produce therein orchards with date-palms and vines, and We cause springs to gush forth therein: that they may enjoy the fruits of this (artistry): It was not their hands that made this: will they not then give thanks? [36: 33-35]

Seest thou not that Allah sends down rain from the sky, and leads it through springs in the earth? Then He causes to grow, therewith, produce of various colours, then it withers: thou wilt see it grow yellow; then He makes it dry up and crumble away. Truly, in this, is a message of remembrance to men of understanding. [39:21]

It is He Who sendeth the winds like heralds of glad tidings, going before His mercy: when they have carried the heavy-laden clouds, We drive them to a land that is dead, make rain to descend thereon, and produce every kind of harvest therewith: thus shall We raise up the dead. Perchance ye may remember. [7: 57]

It is Allah Who sends the winds, and they raise the clouds: then does He spread them in the sky as He wills, and break them into fragments, until thou seest rain-drops issue from the midst thereof then when He has made them reach such of His servants as He wills, beholds, they do rejoice! [30: 48]

See ye the seed that ye sow in the ground? Is it ye that cause it to grow, or are We the cause? Were it Our will We could crumble it to dry powder, and ye would be left in wonderment, (saying), "We are indeed left with debts. (For nothing): "Indeed are we shut out (of the fruits of our labour) "see ye the water which ye drink? Do ye bring it down (in rain) from the cloud or do We? Were it Our will, We could make it salt (and unpalatable): then why do ye not give thanks? See ye the fire, which ye kindle? Is it ye who grow the tree which feeds the fire or do We grow it? We have made it a memorial (of Our handiwork), and an article of comfort and convenience for the denizens of deserts.[56: 63-73]

Seest thou not that Allah makes the clouds move gently, then joins them together, then makes them into a heap? Then wilt thou see rain issue forth from their midst. And He sends down from the sky mountain masses (of clouds) wherein is hail; He strikes therewith whom He pleases and He turns it away from whom He pleases. The vivid flash of His lightning well nigh blinds the sight.

It is Allah who alternates the night and the day. Verily in these things is an instructive example for those who have vision! And Allah has created every animal from water: of them there are some that creep on

their bellies; some that walk on two legs; and some that walk on four. Allah creates what He wills; for verily Allah has Power over all things. [24: 43-45]

And Allah sends down rain from the skies, and gives therewith life to the earth after its death. Verily in this is a Sign for those who listen. And verily in cattle (too) will ye find an instructive Sign, from what is within their bodies, between excretions and blood; we produce, for your drink, milk, pure and agreeable to those who drink it. And from the fruit of the date-palm and the vine, ye get out wholesome drink and food. Behold, in this also is a Sign for those who are wise. [16: 65-67]

The creation of man in itself is a great sign of Almighty Allah. In the Holy Quran He invites man to think about his own creation: a six foot tall human-being is condensed into a pin point ova and millions of sperms attack to fertilize it. Who selects one combination out of those millions and who decides the shape, the color and even the destiny of a man in the womb of his mother?

Later this insignificant zygote develops into a clot then into a lump of flesh, then this lump is knitted with bones and the bones are clothes with flesh and skin forming the fetus. It is He who creates sight in the eyes, hearing in the ears, and memory in the brain and pulsation in the heart. He causes the birth of a child from the airless dark world of the mother's womb into a bright colorful world. He gives strength and develops the child into a full grown youth. He creates feeling and affection in the hearts of parents and sentiments and love in the hearts of spouses which produces a peaceful and pleasant family life. It is He who increases the strength of a person then decreases it towards the old age. He commands life and death by merely ordering it to "Be" and it is done.

On the earth are Signs for those of assured faith, as also in your own selves: will ye not then see? And in heaven is your sustenance, as (also) that which ye are promised. Then, by the Lord of heaven and earth, this is the very truth, as much as the fact that ye can speak intelligently to each other. [51:20-23]

Man, We did create from a quintessence (of clay); then We placed him as (a drop of) sperm in a place of rest, firmly fixed. Then We made the sperm into a clot of congealed blood; then of that clot We made a (fetus) lump; then We made out of that lump bones and clothed the bones with flesh; then We developed out of it another creature. So blessed be Allah, the Best to create! [23:12-14]

He created the heavens without any pillars that ye can see; He set on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with you; and He scattered through it beasts of all kinds. We send down rain from the sky, and produce on the earth every kind of noble creature, in pairs. Such is the creation of Allah; now show Me what is there that others besides Him have created: nay, but the transgressors are in manifest error. [31:10-11]

Among His Signs is this, that He created you from dust; and then, behold, ye are men scattered (far and wide). And among His Signs is this that He created for you mates from among yourselves, that ye may dwell in tranquility with them, and He has put love and mercy between your (hearts): verily in that are Signs for those who reflect. And among His Signs is the creation of the heaven and the earth, and the variations in your languages and your colours: verily in that are Signs for those who know.

And among His Signs is the sleep that ye take by night and by day, and the quest that ye (make for livelihood) out of His bounty: verily in that are Signs for those who hearken. And among His Signs, He shows you the lightning, by way both of fear and of hope, and He sends down rain from the sky and with it gives life to the earth after it is dead. Verily in that are Signs for those who are wise. [30: 20-24]

It is He Who has created you from dust, then from a sperm drop, then from a leech like clot, then does He get you out (unto the light) as a child, then lets you (grow and) reach your age of full strength, then let you become old. Though of you there are some who die before. And let you reach a term appointed in order that ye may learn wisdom. It is He who gives life and death and when He decides upon an affair He says to it "Be", and it is". [40: 67-68]

The entire planetarium of the universe and its precise calibration is a testimony on the existence of Almighty Allah. The atheists who attribute the creation of the universe to an accident are as ignorant and arrogant, as a simpleton, who might declare at the first sight of an electronic device that it came into existence accidentally rather than being the master-piece of an engineer.

Almighty Allah has drawn our attention to the first creation of the Universe, which is an important subject today. He revealed in the Holy Quran 1400 years ago that the entire universe in the beginning was one unit of creation, and then He clove it asunder. He created water which is the source of all zoological and botanical life on the earth. He deposited sustenance in it for living-beings. The universe was once in gaseous form then He designed it into seven firmaments and assigned duty to each of them. And He adorned the lower sky with twinkling stars.

According to the latest research, the sun with its family of nine planets, (Pluto being the farthest at a distance of 3664 million miles) moves around the center of our galaxy the "Milky Way" at a speed of 4330 million miles per year and completes its orbit once every 225 million years. There may be millions of such solar systems in our Milky Way alone and untold numbers in the myriad galaxies beyond it.

The sun is the nearest star to us. The next nearest is Alpha century at a distance of 4.3 light years (one LY= approximately 6000 billion miles). Some other stars have been observed at a distance of 17 L.Y. Beyond these nearby stars there are some 100 billion other stars in our Milky Way, which is a great thin disc 100,000 LY in diameter. The other nearest galaxies to the earth are the Magelanic clouds at a distance of about 170,000 LY. And there are evidences that stars exists at a distance of 8,000,000,000. LY away from us. Recently astronomers received the signals of an explosion somewhere in space which occurred when our earth was born. The radiation, traveling at a speed of 186,000 miles per minute and took a few million years to reach our earth.

This represents the knowledge of man about the span of the sky which is called by the Holy Quran, as the lowest sky adorned with stars. And there are six additional skies beyond the reach or perception of our scientists.

The entire structure of space is standing firm by the order of Allah. It is He who holds the heavens from falling on the earth for an appointed time. He has made the sun a shining glory and the moon a reflected light. He calibrated their movement so accurately that all our time calculations and calendars may be based up on them. The sun runs its course for a determined period while the moon passes through phases. It is not permitted for the sun to catch up with the moon, nor can the night outstrip the day. The sun and moon both swim along in their orbits for an appointed time. It is He who began creation, it is He who will end it and it is He who will revive it again. For Him this is not a difficult task.

Do not the un-believers see that the heavens and the earth were joined together (as one unit of creation), before We clove them asunder? We made from water every living thing. Will they not then believe? And We have set on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with them, and We have made therein broad highways (between mountains) for them to pass through: that they may receive guidance. And We have made the heavens as a canopy well guarded: yet do they turn away from the Signs which these things (point to)! [21: 30-32]

Say: is it that ye deny Him who created the earth in two days? And do ye join equals with Him? He is the Lord of (all) the worlds. He set on the (earth), mountains standing firm, high above it, and bestowed blessings on the earth, and measured therein all things to give them nourishment in due proportion, in four days, in accordance with (the needs of those who seek (sustenance)).

Moreover He comprehended in His design the sky, and it had been (as) smoke: He said to it and to the earth: "come ye together, willingly or unwillingly:" they said: "we do come (together), willing obedience. "So He completed them as seven firmaments in two days, and He assigned to each heaven its duty and command. And We adorned the lower heaven with lights, and (provided it) with guard. Such is the decree of (Him) the Exalted in Might, full of Knowledge. [41: 9-12]

Seest thou not that Allah sends down rain from the sky, and forthwith the earth become clothed with green? For Allah is He who understands the finest mysteries, and is well acquainted (with them). To Him belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: for verily Allah, He is free of all wants, worthy of all praise.

Seest thou not that Allah has made subject to you (men) all that is on the earth, and the ships that sail through the sea by His command? He withholds the sky (rain) from falling on the earth except by His leave: for Allah is most kind and most Merciful to man. It is He who gave you life, will cause you to die, and will again give you life: truly man is a most ungrateful creature! [22: 63-66]

It is He who made the sun to be a shining glory and the moon to be a light (of beauty), and measured out stages for her; that ye might know the number of years and the count (of time) Nowise did Allah create this but in truth and righteousness, (thus) doth He explain His Signs in details, for those who understand. Verily, in the alternation of the night and the day, and in all that Allah hath created, in the heavens and earth, are Signs for those who fear Him. [10: 5-6]

And a Sign for them is the night: We withdraw there from the day, and behold they are plunged in darkness; and the sun runs his course for a period determined for him: that is the decree of (Him) the exalted in Might, the All-knowing. And the moon, We have measured for her mansions (to traverse) till she returns like the old (and withered) lower part of a date-stalk. It is not permitted to the sun to catch up the moon, nor can the night outstrip the day: Each (just) swims along in (its own) orbit (According to Law). [36: 37-40]

Allah is He Who raised the heavens without any pillars that ye can see; is firmly established on the throne (of authority); He has subjected the sun and the moon (to His law)! Each one runs (its course) for a term appointed. He doth regulate all affairs, explaining the Signs in details that ye may believe with certainty in the meeting with your Lord. [13: 2]

Have We not made the earth as a wide expanse, and the mountains as pegs? And (have We not) created you in pairs, and made your sleep for rest, and made the night as a covering and made the day as a means of subsistence? And (have We not) built over you the seven firmaments, and placed (therein) a light of splendor? And do We not send down from the clouds water in abundance, that We may produce therewith corn and vegetables, and garden of luxurious growth? [78: 6-16]

Do they not look at the camels, how they are made? And at the sky, how it is raised high? And at the mountains, how they are fixed firm? And at the earth, how it is spread out? [88: 17-20]

It is He who begins (to process of) creation, then repeats it; and for Him it is most easy. To Him belongs the loftiest similitude (we can think of) in the heavens and the earth: for He is Exalted in Might, full of Wisdom. [30:27]

Even the common things in human life contain signs of His creation. Behold how the shadow moves from left to right spreading over the earth as if prostrating to the Almighty Lord. He created opaque objects with dark shadows and transparent objects with light shadows. He created rays unknown and unseen, which can pass through a vacuum as well as through thick walls of solid steel.

To observe His Signs, man can even look at his food and the cycle behind it. First Allah poured down water, then split the earth, sprouted seed, produced grain and thick gardens of grapes, dates, olives and fruits of different tastes and nutritious values.

It is He who subdued the entire Universe to the service of man. Behold how boldly man sails great ships over the high seas. If He willed He could have hardened them like the Antarctic or made them motionless by a reverse force. He created springs of sweet water in the heart of bitter brackish seas. Who besides Allah can save man from the darkness of the day and the night when he calls upon Him amidst the lurking dangers of vast deserts, thick forests, high mountains and deep seas? Who other than Almighty Allah, in the

entire Universe can save, if He willed to destroy them by an earth-quake or by sending a violent cyclone upon their towns or a heavy gale when they are at sea?

With these evident Signs how can a man dare to reject faith in Almighty Allah? Behold, you were without life, an insignificant drop of congealed blood before your birth. He brought you into existence from non-existence. He will cause you to die and will again bring you to life to appear in His court. It is He Who created the entire Universe and subjected it to you. If you should attempt to count the favors of your Lord upon you, never would you be able to do it.

Do they not look at Allah's creation, (even) among (inanimate) things, how their (very) shadows turn round, from the right and the left, prostrating themselves to Allah, and that in the humblest manner? [16: 48]

Hast thou turned thy vision to thy Lord. How He doth prolong the shadow. If He willed He could make it stationary. Then do We make the sun its guide. Then We draw it in towards Ourselves, a contraction by easy stages. [25: 45-46]

Then let man look at his food, (and how We provide it): for that We pour forth water in abundance, and We split the earth in fragments, and produce therein, corn, and grapes and nutritious plants, and olives and dates, and enclosed garden, dense with lofty trees, and fruits and fodder, for use and convenience to you and your cattle. [80: 24-32]

It is He who has let free the two bodies of flowing water; one palatable and sweet, and the other salt and bitter, yet has He made a barrier between them, a partition that is forbidden to be passed. [25 53]

It is Allah who has subjected the sea to you, that ships may sail through it by His command, that ye may seek of His bounty, and that ye may be grateful, and He has subjected to you, as from Him all that is in the heavens and on earth: Behold, in that are Signs indeed for those who reflect. [45: 12-13]

Say: "who is it that delivereth you from the dark recesses of land and sea, when ye call upon Him in meekness and silent terror. If He only delivers us from these (dangers) (we vow) we shall show our gratitude [6: 63]

Do ye then feel secure that He will not cause you to be swallowed up beneath the earth when ye are on land, or that He will not send against you a violent tornado (with showers of stones) so that ye shall find no one to carry out your affairs for you? Or do ye feel secure that He will not send you back a second time to sea and send against you a heavy gale to drown you because of your ingratitude, so that ye find no helper therein against Us? [17: 68-69]

Do they feel secure that He who is in heaven will not cause you to be swallowed up by the earth when it shakes (as in an earthquake) or do ye feel secure that He Who is in Heaven will not send against you a violent tornado (with shower of stones) so that ye shall know how (terrible) was My warning. [67: 16-17]

It is He Who hath created for you all things that are on earth; Moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order and perfection to the seven firmaments; and of all things He hath perfect knowledge. [2:29]

It is Allah Who hath created the heavens and the earth and sendeth down rain from the skies, and with it bringeth out fruits wherewith to feed you; it is He who hath made the ships subject to you, that they may sail through the sea by His command; and the rivers (also) hath He made subject to you.

And He hath made subject to you the sun and the moon, both diligently pursuing their courses; and the night and the day hath He (also) made subject to you. And He giveth you of all that ye ask for. But if ye count the favours of Allah, never will ye be able to number them. Verily, man is given up to injustice and ingratitude. [14: 32-34]

To summarize, "The revolution of the earth and other planets, the rising and setting of the sun and moon with unfailing punctuality, the regular revolving seasons, the rainfall in due time, the availability in abundance of air, water, fire and all the necessities of life without which no living creature can exist on earth, the countless animate and inanimate creatures whose creation and existence are a challenge to human understanding, the oceans, rivers, mountains, the myriad of stars in the firmament which do not swerve from the paths assigned to them nor collide with one another, the human intelligence, consciousness, aesthetic faculty and the beauty in nature, are cogent proofs of the existence, wisdom and power of the Almighty Creator.

The construction and energy of the atom and the amazing velocity and revolution of the electron round its nucleus, speak volumes of the might, majesty and magnificence of our Omnipotent Maker. Praise be to Allah, Lord of the worlds! Only the spiritually blind is unable to perceive the Creator's hand in this harmonious cosmos.

Every scientist of today firmly believes in the existence of the electron, though he can neither conceive nor visualize it. The scientist who is unable to see Allah recognizes the electron through its effects. The same scientist presents an anomaly when he says that he is unable to recognize the Creator of the electron.

It is one of the nature's ironies that things that are obvious to some intellectuals are obscure to others who are by no means intellectually inferior to them.

It is fortunate, however, that among scientists and philosophers there are a number of intellectual giants who affirm with all the emphasis at their command that they perceive the divine presence in every particle of the Universe. This diversity of views among those who ought to comprehend realities is as amusing as it is amazing. The truth is that the religious urge and spiritual insight are divine gifts, and faith is their product...

First believe in Almighty Allah, and lead a virtuous life; only then can you be initiated into the mysteries of the unseen. You will never comprehend the working of the spiritual world unless you build up an unshakable faith in the existence and love of the Benign Ruler and lead a righteous life...

Those who have firm faith in the existence, love, grace, providence, and omnipotence of the supreme Lord, who pray, fast, repent, practice piety and do righteous deeds, have mystic experiences, from which their faith derives additional strength. Faith in Allah endows the believer with an optimistic outlook. The firmer the faith is in the Divine Ruler the stronger will be the hope, the speedier will be the spiritual progress, the sublimer will be the character, the greater will be the courage and the more peaceful will be the enjoyment of life. Faith is the key which unlocks Heaven's Treasury." (A.H.Farid in "Prayers of Muhammad:" p 272-275)

2: THE ONENESS OF ALLAH

Almighty God (called Allah in Islam) is the one and Sole Sovereign of the entire universe. To deny His existence or to reject His oneness is to defy His sovereignty. Ascribing partners to Allah is the fatal sin which demolishes the very foundation of every creed worthy of the name. Anyone denying the sovereignty of the state is a rebel destined for execution. Similarly, a person denying the authority of Allah or ascribing partners to Him has no place other than the eternal Fire in the Hereafter.

Almighty Allah defines His Oneness in a nutshell *“Say He is Allah the One, Allah the Eternal, Absolute. He begetteth not, nor is He begotten. And there is none like unto Him”*(112:1-4). Verily there is no version truer than that of God. Is there any Creator other than Allah who provides sustenance from the heaven and the earth? Verily anyone who invokes a God besides Allah has no logic or reason nor does he have authority for it. If there were other gods beside Allah, the heavens and earth would have been disordered. And each god would have assuredly championed his own creation while the other gods challenged him in competition. Truly there can be no true God except Almighty Allah who alone, is the creator and sustainer of the entire universe. There is no logic in supplication to any object other than Allah. Everything shall perish save Him. His is the command and towards Him, we are to return.

Say: He is Allah the One and Only. Allah, the Eternal, Absolute; He begetteth not, Nor is He begotten; and there is none like unto Him [112: 1-4].

Allah, There is no god but He of a surety He will gather you together against the Day of Judgment, about which there is no doubt. And whose word can be Truer than Allah's? [4: 87]

There is no god but He: That is the witness of Allah, His Angels, and those endued with knowledge, standing firm on justice. There is no god but He, The Exalted in Power, The Wise. [3: 18]

O men! Remember the grace of Allah unto you. Is there a Creator, other than Allah, to give you sustenance from heaven or earth? There is no god but He. How then are ye deluded away from the Truth. [35: 3]

Did ye then think that We had created you in jest, and that ye would not be brought back to Us (for account)? Therefore Exalted be Allah, the King, the Reality: There is no god but He the Lord of the Throne of Honour! If anyone, invokes, besides Allah, any other god, he has no authority thereof; And his reckoning will be only with his Lord and verily the unbelievers will fail to win through! [23: 115-117]

If there were, in the heavens and the earth, other gods besides Allah, there would have been confusion in both! But glory to Allah, the Lord of the Throne: (high is He) above what they attribute to Him! [21:22]

No son did Allah beget, nor is there any god along with Him: (if there were many gods), behold, each god would have taken away what he had created. And some would have lorded it over others! Glory to Allah! (He is free) from the (sort of) things they attribute to Him! [23:91]

Say: Praise be to Allah, and peace on His servants whom He has chosen (for His Message). (Who) is better? - Allah or the false gods they associate (with Him)? Or, who has created the heavens and the earth, and who sends you down rain from the sky? Yea, with it We cause to grow well-planted orchards full of beauty and delight: It is not in your power to cause the growth of the trees in them (can there be another) god besides Allah? Nay, they are a people who swerve from justice.

Or, who has made the earth firm to live in; made rivers in its midst; set thereon mountain immovable; and made a separating bar between the two bodies of flowing water? (Can there be another) god besides Allah? Nay, most of them know not. Or, who listens to the (soul) distressed when it calls on Him, and who relieves its suffering, and makes you (mankind) inheritors of the earth? (Can there be another) god besides Allah? Little it is that ye heed!

Or, who guides you through the depths of darkness on land and sea, and who sends the winds as heralds of glad tidings, going before His Mercy? (Can there be Another) god besides Allah? High is Allah above what they associate with Him! Or, who originates Creation then repeats it, and who gives you sustenance from heaven and earth? (Can there be another) god besides Allah? Say bring forth your arguments if ye are telling the truth" [27: 59-64]

And call not, besides Allah, on another god. There is no god but He. Everything (that exists) will perish except His own Face. To Him belongs the Command, and to Him will ye (all) be brought back. [28: 88]

Almighty Allah is the Creator and sustainer of all mankind. Besides granting material provisions He also guided man in his spiritual needs. He sent prophets from the very beginning of human society on the earth. Divine guidance was basically the same and was advocated by all the prophets from Adam and Noah to Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Mohammed (peace be upon all of them). Theirs were not separate religion invented by the prophets although the people have erroneously named religions after them like Judaism and Christianity. Rather it was one divine message revealed by one Lord, but with necessary addition and amendments as demanded by the development of human society. Generally every succeeding message abrogated and superseded, the earlier scripture which was outdated and had been corrupted by its followers.

Almighty Allah repudiates the blasphemy of Christian trinity which was an innovation in the religion. He instructs us not to exaggerate the status of Prophet Jesus. The son of Mary was no more than a prophet like others and could not have been a son of God. For those who blaspheme saying that Allah is one of three in a trinity, awaits a grievous penalty. The real status of Jesus (peace be upon him) is well defined in the following verses:

They say: "(Allah) Most Gracious has begotten a son!" Indeed ye have put forth a thing most monstrous! At it the skies are ready to burst, the earth to split asunder, and the mountains to fall down in utter ruin. That they should invoke a son for (Allah) Most Gracious. For it is not consonant with the majesty of (Allah) most Gracious that He should beget a son. Not one of the being in the heavens and the earth but must come to (Allah) Most Gracious as a servant. [19: 88-93]

They say, "Allah hath begotten a son!" - Glory be to Him! He is self sufficient! His are all things in the heavens and on earth! No warrant have ye for this! Say ye about Allah what ye know not? [10:68]

It is not befitting to (the majesty of) Allah that He should beget a son. Glory be to Him! When He determines a matter, He only says to it, "Be" and it is. Verily Allah is my Lord and your Lord. Him therefore serve ye, this is a way that is straight. [19: 35-36]

Say: "Praise be to Allah, Who begets no son, and has no partner in (His) dominion: nor (need) He any to protect Him from humiliation: yea, magnify Him for His Greatness and Glory! [17: 111]

O People of the Book! Commit no excesses in your religion: nor say of Allah aught but the truth. Christ Jesus the son of Mary was (no more than) as apostle of Allah, and His Word, which He bestowed on Mary and a spirit proceeding from Him: so believe in Allah and His apostles. Say not: Trinity desists it will be better for you. For Allah is one Allah Glory be to Him (far exalted is He) above having a son. To Him belong all things in the heavens and on earth. And enough is Allah as a disposer of affairs. [4: 171]

They do blaspheme who say: Allah is one of three in a trinity: for there is no god except one Allah. If they desist not from their word (of blasphemy), verily a grievous penalty will befall the blasphemers among them. [5: 73]

They do blaspheme who say: "Allah is Christ the son of Mary" But said Christ: "O Children of Israel! Worship Allah my Lord and your Lord" whoever joins other gods with Allah, Allah will forbid him the Garden, and the Fire will be his abode. There will for the wrong-doers be no one to help. (5:72)

They take their priests and their anchorites to be their Lord in derogation of Allah, and (they take as their Lord) Christ the son of Mary; yet they were command to worship but one Allah: There is no god but He. Praise and glory to Him (far is He) from having the partners they associate (with Him) [9:31]

Christ the son of Mary was no more than a Messenger; many were the messengers that passed away before him. His mother was a woman of truth. They had both to eat their (daily) food. See how Allah doth make His Signs clear to them yet see in what ways they are deluded away from the truth! [5:75]

That they rejected faith that they uttered against Mary a grave false charge. That they said (in boast): we killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah. But they killed him not, nor crucified him but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not. Nay, Allah raised him up unto Himself, and Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise. [4: 156-158]

In blasphemy indeed are those that say that Allah is Christ the son of Mary. Say: "who then hath the least power against Allah, if His will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother, and all every one that is on the earth? For to Allah belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between. He createth what He pleaseth. For Allah hath power over all things: [5: 17]

Christ disdaineth not to serve and worship Allah, nor do the angels, those nearest (to Allah). Those who disdain His worship and are arrogant, He will gather them all together unto Himself to (answer) [4: 172]

And behold, Allah will say "O Jesus the son of Mary, didst thou say unto men worship me and my mother as gods in derogation of Allah? He will say, Glory to Thee never could I say what I had no right (to say) had I said such a thing Thou wouldst indeed have known it. Thou knowest what is in my heart, though I know not what is in Thine. For Thou knowest in full all that is hidden.

Never said I to them ought except what Thou didst command me to say to wit, worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord and I was a witness over them whilst I dwelt amongst them, when Thou didst take me up, Thou wast the Watcher over them and Thou art a Witness to all things. [5: 116-117].

The Jews also committed the same error as the Christians. They called Azra, a son of God and claimed that they are His chosen people. Even if they should commit a grave sin, they assert that the fire will not touch them except for a few days. This is quite untrue as the Lord states:..."*Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah is (he who is) the most righteous of you"* (49:13) This declaration refutes their claim to being a chosen race. Almighty Allah challenges them to produce a proof of such claim. The fact is that anyone who submits his whole self to Allah and does good deeds will get reward from his Lord.

The Jews call "Uzair a son of Allah, and the Christian call Christ the son of Allah that is a saying from their mouth; (In this) they but imitate what the unbelievers of old used to say. Allah's curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth! [9: 30]

And they say: "None shall enter paradise unless he be a Jew or a Christian" Those are their (vain) desires. Say: "Produce your proof if ye are truthful. Nay, -whoever submits his whole self to Allah and is a doer of good he will get his reward with his Lord: On such shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve. [2: 111-112]

Polytheism in any form, whether by ascribing partners, sons, daughters, or associates to Allah, is the biggest crime on the face of earth. Idolatry in any form and with whatever explanation, defies the Lordship of Allah. How mindless are those who ignore the Supreme Creator and worship His created objects. Almighty Allah forbids the worship of any created object, whether the sun, the moon, the cow, the serpent, the bull, the monkey, the tree, the river or idols of male or female, carved out of stone, wood or metal.

Among His Signs are the Night and the Day, and the Sun and the Moon. Prostrate not to the sun and the moon, but prostrate to Allah, Who created them, if it is Him ye wish to serve. [41: 37]

Have ye seen Lat, and Uzza, and another, the third (goddess), Manat? What! For you the male sex, and for Him the female? Behold, such would be indeed a division most unfair!

These are nothing but names which ye have devised, ye and your fathers, for which Allah has sent down no authority (whatever). They follow nothing but conjecture and what their own souls desire! Even though there has already come to them guidance from their Lord! [53: 19-23]

Service, and sympathy for the parents, especially in their old age, is one of the most neglected aspects of human society. Almighty Allah insists upon good behavior and respect to parents. But obedience to parents is subjected to the obedience of Allah. If parents order disobedience to Allah or insist on worshipping any object other than Allah, they are not to be obeyed in that respect.

Thy Lord hath decreed that ye worship none but Him, and that ye be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in thy life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them, but address them in terms of honour. And, out of kindness, lower to them the wing of humility, and say: "My Lord! bestow on them Thy Mercy even as they cherished me in childhood." [17: 23-24]

Say: "come, I will rehearse what Allah hath (really) prohibited you from"; Join not anything as equal with Him; Be good to your parents; kill not your children on a plea of want; We provide sustenance for you and for them. Come not nigh to shameful deeds, whether open or secret. Take not life, which Allah hath made sacred, except by way of justice and law. Thus doth He command you, that ye learn wisdom.

And come not nigh to the orphan's property, except to improve it, until he attain the age of full strength.; give measure and weight with (full) justice. No burden do We place on any soul, but that which it can bear. Whenever ye speak, speak justly, even if a near relative is concerned;

And fulfill the covenant of Allah; thus doth He command you. That ye may remember. Verily, this is My Way, leading straight; follow it: follow not (other) paths they will scatter you about from His (great) path: thus doth He command you, that ye may be righteous. [6:151-153]

We have enjoined on man kindness to parents; but if they (either of them) strive (to force) thee to join with Me (in worship) anything of which thou hast no knowledge, obey them not. Ye have (all) to return to Me, and I will tell you (the truth) of all that ye did. [29: 8]

And We have enjoined on man (to be good) to his parents: in travail upon travail did his mother bear him. And in years twain was his weaning: (hear the command), "Show gratitude to Me and to thy parents: To Me is (thy final) goal.

But if they strive to make thee join in worship with Me things of which thou hast no knowledge, obey them not; yet bear them company In this life with justice (and consideration), and following the way of those who turn to Me (in love) In the end return of you all is to Me, and I will tell you the truth (and meaning) of all that ye did. 31: 14-15]

The people who have adopted idolatry or polytheism as their creed are certainly in a state of loss. They invoke such menial objects as wood or stone which cannot create anything but are themselves created. They can neither benefit nor harm anyone even themselves. They have no control over the life or death of any single person on earth. The idolaters should think seriously: Who is more justified to be worshipped, the one who leads to the light of Truth or those who lead to the darkness and Hell?

Almighty Allah created the heaven without visible pillars. He is the One who fixed the mountains on the earth to balance it. He sends down the rain and causes seeds to grow for our subsistence. This is His creation; Then show us what are the creation of those the idolaters worship. Who is more astray than those who worship that which never hears or replies their prayers? On the Day of Resurrection these gods and goddesses will turn enemies to their worshippers and will leave them in the lurch when they will find no place of refuge.

Yet have they taken, besides Him, gods that can create nothing but are themselves created; that have no control of hurt or good to themselves; nor can they control Death nor Life nor Resurrection. [25:3]

Say: "Who is the Lord and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth?" say: "(It is) Allah." Say: "Do ye then take (for worship) protectors other than Him, such as have no power either for good or for harm to themselves?" Say: "Are the blind equal with those who see? Or the depth of the darkness equal with Light or do they assign to Allah partners who have created (anything) as He has created, so that the creation seemed to them similar? Say: "Allah is the Creator of all things: He is the One, the Supreme and Irresistible". [13:16]

They serve, besides Allah, things that hurt them not nor profit them and they say: "These are our intercessors with Allah." Say: Do ye indeed inform Allah of something He knows not, in the heavens or on earth? Glory to Him! And far is He above the partners they ascribe (to Him)!" [10:18]

Say: "of your partners, can any originate creation and repeat it?" Say: it is Allah Who originates creation and repeats it: Then how are ye deluded away (from the truth)? Say: "of your partners is there any that can give any guidance towards truth?" Say:" it is Allah who gives guidance towards Truth. Is then He who gives guidance to truth more worthy to be followed or he who finds no guidance (himself) unless he is guided? What then is the matter with you? How judge ye?" [10: 34-35]

Such is the creation of Allah: Now show me what is there that others besides Him have created: nay, but the transgressors are in manifest error [31: 11]

Say: "Have ye seen (these) partners of yours whom ye call upon beside Allah? Show me what it is they have created in the (wide) earth. Or have they a share in the heavens? Or have We given them a book from which they (can derive) clear (evidence)? Nay, the wrong-doers promise each other nothing but delusions. [35: 40]

Say: "Do ye see what it is ye invoke besides Allah? Show me what it is they have created on earth, or have they a share in the heavens? Bring me a book (revealed) before this or any remnant of knowledge (ye may have), if ye are telling the truth!

And who is more astray than one who invokes, besides Allah, such as will not answer him to the Day of Judgment, and who (in fact) are unconscious of their call (to them)? And when mankind are gathered together (at the Resurrection), they will be hostile to them and reject their worship (altogether)! [46: 4-6]

Say: "Call upon other (gods) whom ye fancy, besides Allah: they have no power, not the weight of an atom, in the heavens or on earth: no (sort of) share have they therein nor is any of them a helper to Allah. [34: 22]

He merges night into day and He merges day into night, and He has subjected the sun and the moon (to His law): each one runs its course for a term appointed. Such is Allah your Lord: To Him belongs all dominion. And those whom ye invoke besides Him have not the least power. If ye invoke them they will not listen to your call, and if they were to listen, they cannot answer your (prayer). On the Day of Judgment they will reject your partnership". And none (O man) can tell thee (the truth) like the One Who is acquainted with all things. [35: 13-14]

And they have taken (for worship) gods other than Allah, to give them power and glory! Instead, they shall reject their worship and become adversaries against them. [19: 81-81]

To Him is referred the knowledge of the Hour (of Judgment: He knows all) no date-fruit comes out of its sheath, nor does a female conceive (within her womb) nor bring forth (young), but by His knowledge. The Day that (Allah) will propound to them the (question), where are the partners (ye attributed) to Me? They will say, we do assure Thee not one of us can bear witness! [41:47]

No sensible person can deny the Oneness of Almighty Allah. Even those who ascribe partners when asked, who is the creator of heaven and earth? Will reply "Allah". The polytheists are free to worship any object they like but on the Day of Resurrection they will be losers of themselves and of their families. That will be a manifest loss. They and their gods will be the fuel of Fire and surely they will be deposited in Hell. Nothing but sighs and sobbing would be their lot.

The essence of wisdom lies in denying the worship of any object other than Allah. If Allah willed to hurt you there is none to save and if, He willed to honor you there is none to deprive. To Him alone is the supplication. Prayer without faith in Oneness of Allah is nothing but a fruitless exercise. To ascribe partner to Allah and undermine His Absolute Sovereignty is the most heinous crime. Almighty Allah will forgive anything else but not this.

If indeed thou ask them who it is that created the heavens and the earth, they would be sure to say, "Allah". Say: "See ye then? the things that ye invoke besides Allah, can they, if Allah wills some penalty for me, remove His penalty? Or if He wills some grace for me, can they keep back. [39: 38]

If indeed thou ask them who has created the heavens and the earth and subjected the sun and the moon (to His law) they will certainly reply "Allah", how are they then deluded away (from the truth)? [29: 61]

Nay who is there that can help you, (even as) an army, besides (Allah) Most merciful? In nothing but delusion are the unbelievers. Or who is there that can provide you with sustenance if He were to withhold His provision? Nay, they obstinately persist in insolent impiety and flight (from the Truth).[67: 20-21]

Say see ye? If Allah were to make the night perpetual over you to the Day of Judgment, what god is there other than Allah, who can give you enlightenment? Will ye not then hearken? Say: see ye? If Allah were to make the day perpetual over you to the Day of Judgment, what god is there other than Allah, who can give you a night in which ye can rest? Will ye not then see? It is out of His Mercy that He has made for you night and day, that ye may rest therein, and that ye may seek of His Grace and in order that ye may be grateful. [28: 71-73]

Nor call on any other than Allah, such will neither profit thee nor hurt thee: if thou dost, behold! thou shalt certainly be of those who do wrong. If Allah do touch thee with hurt, there is none can remove it but He. If He do design some benefit for thee, there is none can keep back His favour: He causeth it to reach whom so ever of His servants He pleaseth. And He is the oft Forgiving, Most Merciful. [10: 106-107]

Is it not to Allah that sincere devotion is due? But those who take for protectors other than Allah (say) we only serve them in order that they may bring us nearer to Allah, truly Allah will judge between them in that wherein they differ. But Allah guides not such as are false and ungrateful. [39: 3]

For him (alone) is prayer in truth: any others that they call upon besides Him hear them no more than if they were to stretch forth their hands for water to reach their mouths but it reaches them not. For the prayer of those without faith is nothing but (futile) wandering in the mind. [13: 14]

Being true in faith to Allah and never assigning partners to Him. If anyone assigns partners to Allah he is as if he had fallen from heaven and been snatched up by birds, or the wind had swooped (like a bird on its prey) and thrown him into a far distant place. [22: 31]

Allah forgiveth not that partners should be set up with Him but He forgiveth anything else, to whom He pleaseth. To set up partners with Allah is to devise a sin most heinous indeed. [4:48]

Allah forgiveth not (the sin of) joining other gods with Him but He forgiveth whom he pleaseth other sins than this. One who joins other gods with Allah hath strayed far, far away (from the right). [39-116]

Serve ye what ye will besides Him. Say, truly, those in loss, are those who lose their own souls and their people on the Day of Judgment. Ah that is indeed the (real and) evident Loss! [39: 15]

Verily ye, (unbelievers) and the (false) gods that ye worship beside Allah are (but) fuel for Hell. To it will ye surely come! If these had been gods they would not have got there! But each one will abide therein. There, sobbing will be their lot, nor will they there hear (aught else). [21: 98-100]

3: ATTRIBUTES OF ALLAH

Almighty Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth. For human understanding He presents an example; A brilliant star like light from a lamp in a niche, one not kindled by heat or fire. He is the Eternal, Living and Self Subsisting. To Him belong all things in the heavens and the earth. He knows all things and occurrences. He feels no fatigue in administering the entire Universe. He is the Sovereign, the Guardian, the Preserver, the Prevailing and Exalted in Power. He is the Creator, the Evolver and the Bestower of all forms and colours.

It is He who causes the seeds and nuts to split and sprout. He brings forth the living from the dead and the dead from the living. It is He who cleaves daybreak from the darkness of the night. His are the most beautiful names. He knows what every female bears. Every object, seen and unseen, is before His Sight. There exists not a single grain in the dark depths of the sea nor a thing fresh or dry on the face of earth but in His knowledge and record. To Him alone belongs the knowledge of the final Hour.

The decree of Resurrection Day is as easy to Him as the winking of an eye and even swifter because He is Most powerful over all thing. He is the Creator of all living beings and thus can restore them to life again. He does what He wills without the consultation, approval or assistance of others. When He wills a thing He only says to it "Be" and it is.

Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth, the parable of His light is as if there were a Niche and within it a Lamp: The Lamp enclosed in Glass. The glass as it were, a brilliant star. Lit from a blessed Tree, an Olive, neither of the East nor of the West, whose oil is well nigh luminous though fire scarce touched it. Light upon Light. Allah doth guide Whom He will to His light. Allah doth set forth Parables for men, and Allah doth Know all things. [24: 35]

Allah! There is no god but He - the Living, the Self-subsisting, Eternal. No slumber can seize Him nor sleep. His are all things in the havens and on earth, Who is there, can intercede in His Presence except as He permitteth? He knoweth what (appeareth to His creatures as) before or after or behind them. Nor shall they compass aught of His knowledge, except as He willeth. His Throne doth extend over the heavens and the earth and He feeleth no fatigue in guarding and preserving them for He is the Most High, the Supreme (in glory) [2: 255]

Allah is He, then Whom there is no other god; the Sovereign, the Holy One, the Source of Peace (and Perfection), the Guardian of Faith, the Preserver of Safety, the Exalted in Might, the Irresistible, the Supreme: Glory to Allah! (High is He) above the partners they attribute to Him.

He is Allah, the Creator, the Evolver, the Bestower of forms (or Colours) to Him belong the most Beautiful Names: Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare His Praise and Glory: and He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise. [59: 23-24]

He is the Irresistible (watching) from above over His worshippers. And He sets guardians over you. At length, when death approaches one of you, Our angels take his soul, and they never fail in their duty. Then are men returned unto Allah, their Protector, the (only) Reality: Is not His the Command? And He is the Swiftest in taking account [6: 61-62]

It is Allah Who causeth the seed grain and the date-stone to split and sprout. He causeth the living to issue from the dead, and He is the One to cause the dead to issue from the living. That is Allah: Then how are ye deluded away from the Truth? [6: 95]

He it is that cleaveth the daybreak (from the dark) He makes the night for rest and tranquility and the sun and the moon for the reckoning (of time) such is the judgment and ordering of (Him). The Exalted in Power the Omniscient [6: 96]

The Most beautiful names belong to Allah: so call on Him by them: But shun such men as use profanity in His names: for what they do, they will soon be requited. [7: 180]

(Allah) Gracious is firmly established on the Throne (of authority). To Him belongs what is in the heavens and on earth, and all between them, and all beneath the soil [20:5-6].

If thou pronounce the word aloud, (it is no matter) for verily He knoweth what is secret and what is yet more hidden [20:7]

Allah doth know what every female (womb) doth bear, by how much the wombs fall short (of their time or number) or do exceed. Every single thing is before His Sight, in (due) proportion. [13: 8]

Verily the knowledge of the Hour is with Allah (alone). It is He Who sends down rain and He Who knows what is in the wombs. Nor does any one know what it is that he will earn on the morrow: Nor does any one know in what land he is to die. Verily with Allah is full knowledge and He is acquainted (with all things) [31:34]

With Him are the keys of the Unseen, the treasures that none knoweth but He. He knoweth whatever there is on the earth and in the sea. Not leaf doth fall but with His knowledge. There is not a grain in the darkness (or depths) of the earth, nor anything fresh or dry (green or withered) but is (inscribed) in a Record clear (to those who can read).

It is He Who doth take your souls by night, and hath knowledge of all that ye have done by day. By day doth He raise you up again; that a term appointed be fulfilled; in the end up to Him will be your return; then will He show you the truth of all that ye did. [6:59-60]

To Allah belongeth the Mystery of the heavens and the earth, and the decision of the Hour (of Judgment) is, as the twinkling of an eye, or even quicker, for Allah hath Power over all things [16: 77].

Truly strong is the Grip (and Power) of Thy Lord. It is He Who creates from the very beginning and He can restore (life). And He is the Oft-Forgiving, Full of Loving-kindness. Lord of the Throne of Glory, Doer (without let) of all that He intends. [85:12-16].

Almighty Allah created the heavens and the earth and that which is between them. He rules all affairs and finally all the deeds of His creatures will be presented to Him for judgment. He is with you in knowledge where ever you may be. He knows all your acts and deeds. The sun, the moon, the constellations and the stars are governed by laws under His command.

It is He who holds and sustains the heavens and the earth lest they deviate or cease to function. No wise man could think that He created the beautiful panorama of the Universe in vain. Art is manifest in His creation. Observe His creation again and again but you will find no flaw at all. It is He Who created life and death to test which of you is best in action and deeds.

Almighty Allah is the Bestower of children, both male and female and He leaves to whom He Wills barren. He knew you well when you were hidden in the womb of your mother. It is He who brought you forth as a child when you knew nothing and gave you hearing, sight, intelligence and sentiment of love and affection. He created you in a state of weakness then He gave you the strength of youth and again reversed you to feeble old age dependant on others. He gives your life its joy and sorrows. To Him is the final goal.

Almighty Allah created the earth for you as a resting place and the sky as a canopy. He gave you attractive forms and provided you with sustenance from good and pure things. Truly Allah is full of mercy, bounty and

grace. It is He who created you and knows even the feeling in your hearts. He is nearer to you in His knowledge than your jugular vein.

It is Allah Who has created the heavens and the earth, and all between them, in six days and is firmly established on the Throne (of authority): ye have none, besides Him, to protect or intercede (for you): will ye not then receive admonition? He rules all affairs from the heavens to the earth: in the end will (all affairs) go up to Him, on a Day, the space whereof will be (as) a thousand years of your reckoning. [32:4-5].

He it is Who created the heavens and the earth in six days, and is moreover firmly established on the Throne (of authority). He knows what enters within the earth and what comes forth out of it, what comes down from heaven and what mounts up to it. And He is with you where ever ye may be. And Allah Sees well all that ye do.

To Him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: And all affairs are referred back to Allah. He merges Night into Day, and He merges Day into Night; and He has full knowledge of the secrets of (all) hearts. [57:4-6].

Your Guardian-Lord is Allah. Who created the heavens and the earth in six Days, and is firmly established on the Throne (of authority): He draweth the night as a veil over the day, each seeking, the other in rapid succession: He created the sun, the moon, and the stars, (all) governed by laws under His command. Is it His to create and to govern? Blessed be Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the Worlds! [7: 54].

He merges night into day, and He merges day into night, and He has subjected the sun and the moon (to His Law): Each one runs its course for a term appointed. Such is Allah your Lord: to Him belongs all dominion. And those whom ye invoke besides Him have not the least power [35: 13]

When it is said to them, "Adore ye (Allah) Most Gracious!" They say, "And what is (Allah) Most Gracious? Shall we adore that which thou commandest us? And it increases their flight (from the truth). [25:60].

It is Allah who sustains the heavens and the earth, lest they cease (to function): And if they should fail, there is none-not one- can sustain them thereafter: Verily He is most Forbearing, Oft Forgiving. [35: 41].

Not without purpose did We create heaven and earth and all between! That were the thought of Unbelievers! But woe to the Unbelievers because of Fire (of Hell)! [38:27].

He Who created death and life, that He may try which of you is best in deed: And He is the Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving: He Who created the seven heavens one above another no want of proportion wilt thou see in the Creation of (Allah) Most Gracious, so turn thy vision again: seest thou any flaw? Again turn thy vision a second time: (thy) vision will come back to thee dull and discomfited, in a state worn out. [67:2-4]

To Allah belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth, He creates what He will (and plans). He bestows (children) male or female according to His will (and plan). Or He bestows both males and females, and He leaves barren whom He will: for He is full of Knowledge and Power. [42:50].

Yea, to Allah belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: so that He rewards those who do evil, according to their deeds. And He rewards those who do good, with what is best. Those who avoid great sins and shameful deeds, only (falling into) small faults, - Verily thy Lord is ample in Forgiveness. He knows you well when He brings you out of the earth and when ye are hidden in your mother wombs. Therefore justify, not yourselves. He Knows best who it is that guards against evil. [53: 31-32].

It is He who brought you forth from the wombs of your mothers when ye knew nothing; and He gave you hearing and sight and intelligence and affections: that ye may give thanks (to Allah). Do they not look at the bird, held poised in the midst of (the air and) the sky. Nothing holds them up but (the Power of) Allah. Verily in this are Signs for those who believe. (16: 78-79)

And Allah did create you from the dust; then from a sperm-drop; then He made you in pairs. And no female conceive, or lays down (her load), but with His Knowledge. Nor is a man long-lived granted length of days, nor is a part cut off from his life, but is in a decree (ordained). All this is easy to Allah. [35:11].

That to thy Lord is the final goal. That it is He Who granteth laughter and tear: That it is He Who granteth death and life ;[53: 42-44]

It is Allah Who created you in a state of (helpless) weakness, then gave (you) strength after weakness. Then after strength, gave (you) weakness and a hoary head: He creates as He wills. And it is He who has all Knowledge and Power. [30: 54].

It is Allah Who has made for you the earth as a resting place, and the sky as a canopy, and has given you shape and made your shapes beautiful-and has provided for you, sustenance, of things pure and good such is Allah your Lord. So Glory to Allah. The Lord of the Worlds! [40:64].

It was We who created man, and We know what dark suggestions his soul makes to him: for We are nearer to him than (his) jugular vein. [50:16]

Almighty Allah is never, unjust, cruel or oppressive. On the contrary He is very kind, affectionate and merciful. He has prescribed a straight path for mankind. He sent messengers to guide the people inviting them to goodness and warning against the evil. If they rejected the divine guidance they only wronged their own souls. When a people strive to improve their lot Almighty Allah helps them to change their destiny.

Verily Allah will not deal unjustly with man in aught: It is man that wrongs his own soul. [10: 44].

Nor was thy Lord the one to destroy a population until He had sent to its center a messenger, rehearsing to them Our Signs nor are We going to destroy a population except when its members practice iniquity. [28:59].

And how many populations We destroyed, which exulted in their life (of ease and plenty)! Now those habitations of theirs, after them are deserted, - all but a (miserable) few! And We are their heirs! [28: 58].

For when their messengers came to them with clear Signs, they exulted in such knowledge (and skill) as they had; but that very (wrath) at which they were wont to scoff hemmed them in. But when they saw Our punishment, they said: "We believe in Allah, - The One Allah - and we reject the partners we used to join with Him."

But their professing the faith when they (actually) saw Our punishment was not going to profit them (such has been) Allah's way of dealing with His servants (from the most ancient times). And even thus did the rejecters of Allah perish (utterly)! [40: 83-85]

When We decide to destroy a population, We (first) send a definite order to those among them who are given the good things of this life and yet transgress; so that the word is proved true against them: then (it is) We destroy them utterly. [17:16]

For each (such person) there are (angels) in succession, before and behind him: they guard him by command of Allah. Verily never will Allah change the condition of a people until they change it themselves (with their own souls) but when (once) Allah willeth a people's punishment, there can be no turning it back, nor will they find, besides Him, any to protect. [13:11]

Almighty Allah alone is the Sustainer of the entire Universe. There is no moving creature on the face of earth but that its sustenance is provided by Him. Countless creatures seek food daily without hoarding for tomorrow. He provides fresh meat for the loin, green vegetables for the elephant and condensed nectar for the bees. He knows the need of every creature and every creature knows its way of prayer to Him.

It is not man who provides for him self, but his Lord who provides sustenance whether meager or ample as, He wills. He knows that if He were to increase the provision of His servants excessively they would surely transgress upon the earth. He examines you through His blessings, whether you will spend them in achieving His pleasure or earning His wrath. He changes the condition of each person according to his effort. He declared His command "If you are grateful I will surely increase my favours upon you, but if you show ingratitude indeed my punishment is severe. (14:7) Almighty Allah is free from all need but all of mankind depends on Him and is in need of His favours.

There is no moving creature on earth but its sustenance dependeth on Allah: He knoweth the time and place of its definite abode and its temporary deposit: All is in a clear record. [11: 6].

How many are the creature that carry not their own sustenance? It is Allah Who feeds (both) them and you: for He Hears and Knows (All things). [29: 60]

Seest thou not that it is Allah whose praises all being in the heavens and on earth do celebrate, and the birds (of the air) with wings outspread? Each one knows its own (mode of) prayer and praise. And Allah Knows well all that they do. [24: 41]

Verily thy Lord doth provide sustenance in abundance for whom He pleaseth, and He provideth in a just measure for He doth know and regard all His servants. [17:30]

If Allah were to enlarge the provision for His servants, they would indeed transgress beyond all bounds through the earth; But He sends (it) down in due measure as He pleases. For He is with His servants well Acquainted, Watchful. [42: 27]

It is He Who hath made you (His) agents, inheritors of the earth: He hath raised you in ranks, some above others: that He may try you in the gifts He hath given you, for thy Lord is quick in punishment: yet He is indeed Oft-Forgiving, most Merciful. [6:38]

Behold, ye are those invited to spend (of your substance) in the Way of Allah: But among you are some that are niggardly. But any who are niggardly are so at the expense of their own souls. But Allah is free of all want, and it is ye that are needy. If ye turn back (from the path), He will substitute in your stead another people; then they would not be like you! [47: 38]

Ye men! It is ye that have need of Allah, but Allah is the One free of all wants, worthy of all praise. If He so pleased, He could blot you out and bring in a new creation. Nor is that (at all) difficult for Allah. [35: 15-17]

To Him belongs the East and the West, where ever you turn you will find His Presence. He is All Pervading, All Knowing. He is who sends the wind, thick clouds, the rain and the hail. He alternates the day and the night. He knows secrets of the heavens and the earth. He is witness to every whisper and the unspoken words and unexpressed sentiments in the heart.

The entire Universe is subject to His Command. The creation and resurrection of all mankind is as easy to Him as the creation of a single soul. He creates by a single command: "BE," and it is done.

To Allah belong the East and the West, whither so ever ye turn there is the Presence of Allah for Allah is All Pervading All Knowing. [2:115]

It is Allah Who sends the winds, and they raise the clouds: then does He spread them in the sky as He wills, and break them into fragments, until thou seest rain-drops issues from the midst thereof: then when He has made them reach such of His servants as He wills, behold, they do rejoice! Even though, before they received (the rain) - just before this-they were dumb with despair! [30: 48-49]

Seest thou not that Allah makes the clouds move gently, then joins them together, then makes them into a heap? Then wilt thou see rain issue forth from their midst. And He sends down from the sky mountain

masses (of clouds) wherein is hail: He strikes therewith whom He pleases and He turns it away from whom He pleases. The vivid flash of His lighting-well-nigh blinds the sight.

It is Allah Who alternates the Night and the Day: Verily in these things is an instructive example for those who have vision! And Allah has created every animal from water: of them there are some that creep on their bellies; some that walk on two legs; and some that walk on four. Allah creates what He wills for verily Allah has Power over all things. [24:43-45]

He is the One that sends down rain (even) after (men) have given up all hope, and scatters His Mercy (far and wide), and He is the Protector, worthy of all Praise. [42:28]

He knows all that goes into the earth and all that comes out thereof: all that comes down from the sky and all that ascends thereto. And He is the Most Merciful, the Oft-Forgiving. [34:2]

And whether ye hide your word or publish it, He certainly has (full) knowledge, of the secrets of (all) hearts. Should He not know, - He that created? And He is the One that understands the finest mysteries (and) is well-acquainted (with them). [67:13-14]

Seest thou not that Allah doth know (all) that is in the heavens and on earth? There is not a secret consultation between three, but He makes the fourth among them- Nor between five but He makes the sixth, - Nor between fewer nor more, but He is in their midst, where so ever they be: In the end will He tell them the truth of their conduct, on the Day of Judgment. For Allah has full Knowledge of All things. [58:7]

(Allah) knows of (the tricks) that deceive with the eyes, and all that the hearts (of men) conceal. [40:19]

It is Allah Who has made the night for you that ye may rest therein, and the day, as that which helps (you) to see. Verily Allah is full of Grace and Bounty to men: yet most men give no thanks. Such is Allah, your Lord, the Creator of all things. There is no Allah but He: then how ye are deluded away from the truth! [40: 61-62]

What Allah out of His Mercy doth bestow on mankind there is none can withhold: what He doth withhold there is none can grant, apart from Him. And He is the Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom. [35:2]

And your creation or your resurrection is in no wise but as an individual soul: For Allah is He who Hears and Sees (all things). Seest thou not that Allah merges night into day and He merges day into night; that He has subjected the sun and the moon (to His Law), each running its course for a term appointed; and that Allah is well acquainted with all that ye do? [31:28-29]

Doth not man see that it is We Who created him from sperm? Yet behold! He (stands forth) as an open adversary! And he makes comparisons for Us, and forgets his own (origin and) creation: he says, "who can give life to (dry) bones and decomposed ones (at that)?". Say, "He will give them life Who created them for the first time! For He is Well-Versed in every kind of Creation!

The same Who produces for you fire out of the green tree, when behold! Ye kindle therewith (your own fires)! "Is not He who created the heavens and the earth able to create the like thereof?" Yea, indeed! For He is the Creator Supreme, of Skill and Knowledge (infinite)! Verily, when He intends a thing, His command is, "Be", and it is! So Glory to His in whose hands is the dominion of all things: and to Him will ye be all brought back. [36: 77-83]

Almighty Allah is very kind, benevolent and just. He likes goodness, multiplies it and bestows a great reward for it. His knowledge is all encompassing. He is eternally Alive. All that is on the earth shall perish but He will abide forever. He is the Bestower of all your want and needs. Truly if you try to count His favours upon you never you will be able to do it.

Allah is never unjust in the least degree: If there is any good (done), He doubleth it, and giveth from His own presence a great reward. [4:40]

"O my son!" (said Luqman), "If there be (but) the weight of a mustard-seed and it were (hidden) in a rock, or (anywhere) in the heavens or on earth, Allah will bring it forth: for Allah understands the finest mysteries, (and) is well-acquainted (with them). [31:16]

All that is on earth will perish: but will abide (forever) the face of thy Lord, - full of Majesty, Bounty and Honour, then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? Of Him seeks (its need) every creature in the heavens and on earth: Every day in (new) splendor doth He (shine)! [35: 26-29]

It is Allah Who hath created the heavens and the earth and sendeth down rain from the skies, and with it bringeth out fruits wherewith to feed you; it He who hath made the ships subject to you that they may sail through the sea by His command. And the rivers (also) hath He made subject to you.

And He hath made subject to you the sun and the moon, both diligently pursuing their courses; and the night and the day hath He (also) made subject to you. And He giveth you of all that ye ask for, but if ye count the favours of Allah, never will ye be able to number them, verily, man is given up to injustice and ingratitude. [14:32-34]

Say: "If the ocean were ink (wherewith to write out) the Words of my Lord, sooner would the ocean be exhausted than would the Words of my Lord, even if we added another ocean like it, for its aid". [18: 109]

To Allah belong all things in heaven and earth, Verily Allah is He (that is) free of all wants, worthy of all praise. And if all the trees on earth were pens and the oceans (were ink), with seven oceans behind it to add to its (supply), yet would not the Words of Allah be exhausted (in the writing): for Allah is Exalted in Power, full of Wisdom. [31: 26-27]

But your Lord is Most Forgiving, full of Mercy. If He were to call them (at once) to account for what they have earned, then surely He would have hastened their punishment. But they have their appointed time, beyond which they will find no refuge. [18:58]

Say: "To whom belongeth all that is in the heavens and on earth?" Say: "To Allah. He hath inscribed for Himself (the rule of) Mercy, that He will gather you together for the Day of Judgment, there is no doubt whatever. It is they who have lost their own souls that will not believe. [6:12].

4: THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

No sensible person can believe that Almighty Allah- who created love and affection in the hearts of parents before the birth of their child, who created sweet milk in breast of a mother before her infant suckles, who created this comfortable atmosphere millions of years before the birth of the first man on earth, would leave us without care, protection and guidance in the world. No, He has never left us astray and unguided.

There is a basic question which occurs to every man: Why did He create us and why He did create the Universe? Are we created for the world or the world is created for us? In Islam we find a clear conception. Almighty Allah created entire Universe, which is His kingdom and He created man to administer it. He decreed for man that he should follow the path of truth and His ordained way of life. This is called worship. In Islam the word "worship" does not stand for merely few rites of prayer and fasting but includes living one's life as a responsible being, in a way which pleases his Lord.

It is He Who hath created for you all things that are on earth; moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order and perfection to the seven firmaments; and of all things He hath perfect Knowledge. Behold, the Lord, said to the angels: "I will create a vicegerent on earth. They said: "wilt Thou place therein one who will make mischief therein and shed blood. - Whilst we do celebrate Thy Praises and Glorify Thy Holy (name)? "He said:" I know what ye know not". [2: 29-30]

We said: "Get ye down all from here; and if, as is sure, there comes to you Guidance from Me, whosoever follows My guidance, on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve. "But those who reject faith and belie Our Signs, they shall be companion of the Fire; they shall abide therein." [2: 38-39]

Man descended to earth with a divine promise of guidance. And Almighty Allah fulfilled it in such a comprehensive way that He left no race, tribe or nation without a messenger from Him. Some of them, particularly sent to the holy land of the Middle East, have been referred to in the Holy Quran.

For We assuredly sent amongst every people a Messenger apostle (with the command) "Serve Allah and eschew Evil". Of the people were some whom Allah guided and some on whom error became inevitably (established). So travel through the earth and see what was the end of those who denied (the Truth). [16:36].

Of some apostles We have already told thee the story; of others We have not, and to Moses Allah spoke direct:- Apostles who gave good news as well as warning, that mankind, after (the coming) of the apostles, should have no plea against Allah: for Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise. (4:164-165)

Allah sent down His message in the form of Scriptures to Prophets Abraham, David, Moses, Jesus and Mohammad. (Peace be upon them all). All these scriptures confirmed the worship of Allah alone. The people who claim to possess the Torah and the Gospel know full well about the divine authority of the Holy Quran. Almighty Allah invites them to be the champion of Islam.

We have sent thee inspiration, as We sent it to Noah and the messenger after him: We sent inspiration to Abraham, Ismail Isaac, Jacob and the tribes, to Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron and Solomon. And to David We gave the Psalms. [4:163]

Apostles who gave good news as well as warning, that mankind, after (the coming) of the apostle, should have no plea against Allah: For Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise. But Allah beareth witness that what He hath sent unto thee He hath sent with His (own) Knowledge, and the angels bear witness: but enough is Allah for a witness. [4: 165-166]

We ordained therein for them: (the Jews) "Life for life, eye for eye, nose for nose, ear for ear, tooth for tooth, and wounds equal for equal. But if any one remits the retaliation by way of charity, it is an act of atonement for himself. And if any fail to judge by (the light of) what Allah hath revealed, they are (no better than) wrong-doers.(5:45)

Then, in their wake, We followed them up with (other of) Our messengers; We sent after them Jesus the son of Mary, And bestowed on him the Gospel; And We ordained in the hearts of those who followed him compassion and mercy. But the Monasticism which they invented for themselves, We did not prescribe for them: (We commanded) only the seeking for the good pleasure of Allah; but that they did not foster as they should have done. Yet We bestowed, on those among them who believed, their (due) reward, but many of them are rebellious transgressors. [57: 27]

Many of them dost thou see, racing each other in sin and rancour, and their eating of things forbidden. Evil indeed are the things that they do. [5:62]

If only the People of the Book had believed and their righteous, We should indeed have blotted out their iniquities and admitted them to gardens of bliss. [5:65]

Allah hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods; for theirs (in return) is the Garden (of paradise) they fight in His cause, and slay and are slain; A promise binding on Him in Truth, through the Law, the Gospel, and the Quran. And who is more faithful to his covenant than Allah? Then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded: that is the achievement Supreme. [9:111]

It is He Who sent down to thee (step by step), in Truth the Book, confirming what went before it and He sent down the Law (of Moses) and the Gospel (of Jesus) before this, as a guide to mankind. And He sent down the Criterion (of judgment between right and wrong). Then; those who reject faith in the Signs of Allah will suffer the severest penalty, and Allah is Exalted in Might, Lord of Retribution. [3: 3-4]

Those who follow the Apostle, the Unlettered Prophet, whom they find mentioned in their own (Scriptures)- In the Taurat and the Gospel;- for he commands them what is just and forbids them what is evil; he allows them as lawful what is good (and pure) and prohibits them from what is bad (and impure); He releases them from their heavy burden and from the yokes that are upon them. So it is those who believe in him, honour him, help him, and follow the light which is sent down with him, it is they who will prosper. [7: 157]

And when there comes to them a Book from Allah confirming what is with them, - although from of old they had prayed for victory against those without faith, - when there comes to them that which they (should) have recognized, they refuse to believe in it. But the curse of Allah is on those without faith. [2:89]

Those to whom We have given the Book know this (Holy Quran) as they know their own sons. Those who have lost their own souls refuse therefore to believe. [6: 20]

Holy Quran is the Last Testament revealed to mankind. No Prophet will be sent after Mohammad (s.a.w.) and no scripture will be revealed after the Holy Quran. Holy Quran is an admonition and exhortation from your Lord, an ailment and prescription for all your pains in this life and the Hereafter. It is a boon for those who believe in it but a disaster to those who belie it or seek misinterpretation in it. Behold the consequences for those who denied the guidance of your Lord. The Holy Quran is not a scripture for one particular tribe, race or country. It is an INTERNATIONAL DECLARATION for all people on the face of earth today, tomorrow and until the last day of this world.

This is the Book; in it is guidance, sure, without doubt, to those who fear Allah; who believe in the Unseen, are steadfast in prayer, and spend out of what We have provided for them and who believe in the Revelation sent to thee, and sent before thy time, and (in their hearts) have the assurance of the Hereafter. They are on (true) guidance, from their Lord, and it is these who will prosper [2: 2-5]

These are verses of the Wise Book, a Guide and a Mercy to the doers of Good, those who establish regular prayer, and give regular charity and have (in their hearts) the assurance of the Hereafter. These are on (true) guidance from their Lord; and these are the ones who will prosper. (31:2-5)

O mankind! There hath come to you an admonition from your Lord and a healing for the (diseases) in your hearts,- and for those who believe, a Guidance and a Mercy. Say: "In the Bounty of Allah. And in His Mercy,- in that let them rejoice", that is better than the (wealth) they hoard. [10: 57-58]

A.L.R. A Book which We have revealed unto thee, in order that thou mightest lead mankind out of the depth of darkness into light - by the leave of their Lord - to the Way of (Him) the Exalted in Power, Worthy of all Praise! - Of Allah, to Whom do belong all things in the heavens and on earth! But alas for the unbelievers for a terrible penalty (their unfaith will bring them)! [14:1-2]

We send down (stage by stage) in the Quran that which is a healing and a mercy to those who believe: To the unjust it causes nothing but loss after loss. [17:82]

Blessed is He who sent down the Criterion to His servant, that it may be an admonition to all creatures: - [25:1]

Verily this Quran doth guide to that which is most right (or stable), and giveth the glad tidings to the believers who work deeds of righteousness, that they shall have a magnificent reward. [17: 9]

We sent down, the (Qur-an) In Truth and in Truth has it descended: and We sent thee but to give glad tidings and to warn (sinners). (it is) a Quran which We have divided (Into parts from time to time), in order that thou mightiest recite it to men at intervals; We have revealed it by stages. Say: "whether ye believe in it or not, it is true. That those who were given knowledge before hand, when it is recited to them fall down on their faces in humble prostration. And they say: "Glory to our Lord! Truly has the promise of our Lord been fulfilled!." [17: 105-108]

Here is a plain statement to men, a guidance and instruction to those who fear Allah! [3:138]

Holy Quran is a challenging book in unsurpassable Arabic. It was revealed in Arabic so that the first recipients, the Arabs could not make the excuse that they did not understand or believe it, because it was not in their language. It is free from any discrepancy. No one can produce even few lines similar to that. It warns the unbelievers to fear the eternal Fire whose fuel is men and the stones. The challenge of Holy Quran has stood firm for the last 1400 years and remains open until the end of the world.

And before this, was the Book of Moses as a guide and a mercy: And this Book confirms (it) in the Arabic tongue; to admonish the unjust, and as glad tidings to those who do right [46:12]

Had We sent this as a Quran (in a language) other than Arabic, they would have said, "Why are not its verses explained in detail? What (a Book) not in Arabic and (a Messenger) an Arab? Say, It is a guide and a healing to those who believe. And for those who believe not, there is a deafness in their ears. And it is blindness in their (eyes). They are (as it were) being called from a place far distant. [41:44]

We have put forth for men, in this Quran every kind of parable, in order that they may receive admonition. [39: 27]

Do they not consider the Quran (with care)? Had it been from other than Allah, they would surely have found therein much discrepancy.[4:82]

This Quran is not such as can be produced by other than Allah; on the contrary it is a confirmation of (revelations) that went before it, and a fuller explanation of the Book-wherein there is no doubt- from the Lord of the world. Or do they say, "He forged it"? Say: "Bring then a Sura like unto it, be ye speak the truth!"[10:37-38]

And if ye are in doubt as to what We have revealed from time to time to Our servant, then produce a Sura like there unto; and call your witnesses or helpers (if there are any) besides Allah, if your (doubts) are true. But if ye cannot- and of a surety ye cannot- then fear the Fire whose fuel is men and stones which is prepared for those who reject Faith. [2:23-24]

The Quran is a holy book containing a code of ethics. It should not be touched by the impure. Its recitation should be attended calmly and mindfully. The believers are advised to study it seriously and take guidance from it, otherwise the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) will stand as a witness against them on the Day of Judgment:

And we have indeed made the Quran easy to understand and remember: then is there any that will receive admonition? (54:17)

When the Quran is read, listen to it with attention, and hold your peace: that ye may receive mercy. (7: 204)

Already has He sent you Word in the Book, that when ye hear the Signs of Allah held in defiance and ridicule, Ye are not to sit with them unless they turn to a different theme: if ye did ye would be like them, for Allah will collect the hypocrites and those who defy faith all in Hell. (4:140)

Then the Apostle will say: "O my Lord truly my people treated this Quran with neglect." [25: 30]

The Holy Quran contains serious warning to those who reject it. It advises them to review the painful consequences of their stubbornness. The earlier scriptures with the passing of time were altered by their followers. However they were all abrogated by the Holy Quran. As it was the last revelation, Almighty Allah declared His Own guarantee to safeguard it up to the end of the world. It is a unique feature of the Holy Quran that every single word and even letters have been perfectly preserved in original form over the last 1400 years, while though the original Bible disappeared and passed into many translated versions within only 600 years before Islam.

A Revelation from the Lord of the Worlds. Is it such a message that ye would hold in light esteem? And have ye made it your livelihood that ye should declare it false? Then why do ye not (intervene) when (the soul! of the dying man) reaches the throat, - And ye the while (sit) looking on, -But We are nearer to him than ye, And yet see not, - then why do ye not, - if you are exempt from (future) account. Call back the soul, if ye are true (in your claim of Independence)? [56: 80-87]

Then leave Me along with such as reject this Message: by degrees shall We punish them. A (long) respite will I grant them: truly Powerful is My plan. Or is it that thou dost ask them for a reward, so that they are burdened with a load of debt?-[68:44-46]

(This is) a Message sent down from the Lord of the Worlds. And if the apostle were to invent any sayings in Our name, We should certainly seize him by his right hand, and We should certainly then cut off the artery of his heart" Nor could any of you with hold him (from Our wrath). [69: 43-47]

Had We sent down this Quran on a mountain, verily, thou wouldst have seen it humble itself and cleave asunder for fear of Allah. Such are the similitudes which We propound to men, that they may reflect. [59: 21]

We have, without doubt, sent down the Message: And We will assuredly guard it (from corruption). [15:9].

5: THE LAST MESSENGER AND HIS MISSION

Prophet Mohammad (s.a.w.) was the last in the series of prophets which had begun with Adam, the first man, vicegerent and prophet on the earth. The Torah and Gospel indicated clearly the appearance of Prophet Mohammad (s.a.w.) Jesus Christ even mentioned the name of the last Prophet which was later deleted from the Gospel.

The divine revelation to Mohammad (s.a.w.) was in the same line as that to the earlier Prophets, including Noah, Abraham and David, (peace be upon them all). The stories of earlier Prophets were revealed to Prophet Mohammad (s.a.w.) in Holy Quran. In fact he was not himself a witness to those incidents hundreds of years before. He was an un-lettered man from unlettered people. It would have been impossible for him to produce a passage similar to the one revealed to him. So obviously the Holy Quran was a revelation to him from his Lord Allah.

The character and qualities of Prophet Mohammed (s.a.w.) are best described in the Holy Quran. He was not a Prophet to Arabs, Asians or Europeans but he was the last messenger of God to the entire human race from his time to end of the world. This is a fact which is yet unknown to the other nations of the world. The Holy Quran has recorded this Universal declaration repeatedly.

Prophet Mohammed (s.a.w.) was of a great moral character and was designated as a mercy to mankind. But with all his greatness, he was a humble man, an obedient follower of his Lord. He was not an angel, an incarnation, a super-being or a man possessing extra ordinary powers. The pagans of his time demanded ridiculous miracles from him which were not a part of his mission. The Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) was instructed to convey the message boldly with wisdom, arguments and attractive preaching, and not to deviate from Allah's path under any pressure. Almighty Allah assured him of His protection and of success.

Those who follow the Messenger, the Unlettered Prophet, whom they find mentioned in their own (scriptures), - In the Taurat Law and the Gospel;- for he commands them what is just and forbids them what is evil, he allows them as lawful what is good (and pure) and prohibits them from what is bad (and impure); he releases them from their heavy burdens and from the yokes that are upon them. So it is those who believe in him, honour him, help him, and follow the Light, which is sent down with him,- It is they who will prosper." [7:157]

And remember, Jesus, the son of Mary, said: "O Children of Israel! I am the messenger of Allah (sent) to you, confirming the Taurat (which came) before me, and giving glad tidings of a messenger to come after me whose name shall be Ahmad," But when he came to them with clear Signs, they said, "This is evident sorcery! [61:6]

In blasphemy indeed are those that say that Allah is Christ the son of Mary. Say: "who then hath the least power against Allah, if His will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother, and all -every one that is on the earth? For to Allah belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, Allah hath Power over all things. [5:19]

We have sent thee inspiration, as We sent it to Noah and the Messengers after him: We sent inspiration to Abraham, Isma'il, Jacob and the tribes, to Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron, and Solomon, and to David We gave the Psalms. [4:163]

Thou wast not on the Western side when We decreed the Commission to Moses, Nor wast thou a witness (of those events), But We raised up (new) generations, and long were the ages that passed over them: But thou wast not a dweller among the people of Madyan, rehearsing Our Signs to them. But it is We who send Apostle (with Inspiration). Nor wast thou at the side of (the mountain of) Tur when We called (to Moses). Yet (art thou sent) as a Mercy from thy Lord, to give warning to a people to whom no Warner had come before thee: in order that they may receive admonition. [28:44-46]

It is He who has sent amongst the unlettered an apostle from among themselves to rehearse to them His Signs, to sanctify them, and to instruct them in Scripture and Wisdom, - although they had been before in manifest error:- as well as (to confer all these benefits upon) others of them who have not already joined them. And He is Exalted in Might, Wise. Such is the Bounty of Allah, which He bestows on whom He will: and Allah is the Lord of the highest bounty. [62:2-4]

Allah did confer a great favour on the believers when He sent among them an Apostle from among themselves, rehearsing unto them the Signs of Allah, sanctifying them, and instructing them in Scripture and Wisdom, while before that, they had been in manifest error. [3:164]

Now hath come unto you an Apostle from amongst yourselves: it grieves him that ye should perish: Ardently anxious is he over you: to the Believers is he most Kind and Merciful. [9: 128]

We have indeed in the Apostle of Allah a beautiful pattern of (conduct) for any whose hope is in Allah and the Final Day and who engages much in the Praise of Allah [33:21.

O Prophet! Truly We have sent thee as a witness a Bearer of Glad tidings and a Warner. And as one who invites to Allah's (grace) by His leave [33:45-46]

We have truly sent thee as a witness, as a Bringer of Glad Tidings, and as a Warner: In order that ye (O men) may believe in Allah and His Apostle, that ye may assist and honour him, and celebrate His Praises morning and evening. [48:8-9]

We have not sent thee but as a Universal (Messenger) to men, giving them Glad Tidings, and Warning them (against sin) but most men understand not. [34: 38]

Say: "O men! I am sent unto you all, as the Messenger of Allah, to Whom belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth: there is no god but He. It is He that giveth both life and death, so believe in Allah and His Messenger the unlettered Prophet, who believeth in Allah and His words: follow him that (so) ye may be guided". [7: 158]

Knowest thou not that to Allah belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth? And besides Him ye have neither patron nor helper. [2: 107]

Say: "I am but a man like yourselves, (but) the inspiration has come to me, that your Allah is one Allah; whoever expects to meet his Lord let him work righteousness, and, in the worship of his Lord admit no one as partner. [18:110]

Muhammad is no more than a Messenger: many were the Messengers that passed away before him. If he died or were slain, will ye then turn back on your heels? If any did turn back on his heels, not the least harm will he do to Allah; But Allah (on the other hand) will swiftly reward those who (serve Him) with gratitude. [3:144]

We did send apostle before thee, and appointed for them wives and children: and it was never the part of an apostle to bringing a Sign except as Allah permitted (or commanded). For each period is an appointment. [13:38]

They say: "We shall not believe in thee, until thou cause a spring to gush forth us from the earth, "Or (until) thou have a garden of date trees and vines, and cause rivers to gush forth in their midst, carrying abundant water, "Or thou cause the sky to fall in pieces, as thou sayest (will happen), against us or thou bring Allah and the angels before (us) face to face; "Or thou have a house adorned with gold, or thou mount a ladder right into the skies. No, we shall not even believe in thy mounting until thou send down to us a book that we could read." Say: "Glory to my Lord! Am I aught but a man, - An apostle"? What kept men back from belief when Guidance came to them, was nothing but this: they said, "Has Allah sent a man (like us) to be (His) Apostle?" [17:90-94]

Invite (all) to the Way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious: for thy Lord Knoweth best, who have strayed from His path and who receive guidance. [16:125]

Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) was not a self-appointed leader. He was chosen by the Lord of the Universe to convey His commandments. He lived as a perfect example of an obedient servant to his Master. Whoever hopes to win the pleasure of Almighty Allah should follow in his footsteps. This fact has been repeatedly stated in the Holy Quran. Whoever obeys him obeys Allah. The real success of the man lies in holding fast what the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) taught and to reject what he prohibited.

The People of the Book (Jews and Christians) claimed that they loved Allah. They were advised that if they truly loved Allah they should obey His commands and should follow His messenger. If they did so, Almighty Allah would surely forgive their sins and shower His mercy upon them. This is a continuing offer to the Jews and Christians and millions of them have availed themselves of it.

Say: "Enough is Allah for a witness between me and you: He knows what is in the heavens and on earth. And it is those who believe in vanities and reject Allah, that will perish (in the end). [24:52]

All who obey Allah and the apostle are in the company of those on whom is the Grace of Allah-of the Prophets (who teach), the sincere (lovers of Truth), the witnesses (who testify), and the Righteous (who do good): Ah! What a beautiful fellowship! [4:69]

The vanguard (of Islam) - the first of those who forsook (their homes) and of those who gave them aid, and (also) those who follow them in (all) good deeds. Well-pleased is Allah with them, as are they with Him; for them hath He prepared Gardens under which rivers flow, to dwell therein for ever: that is the Supreme Felicity. [9:100]

He who obeys the Messenger, obeys Allah: But if any turn away, We have not sent thee to watch over their (evil deeds).[4:80]

No blame is there on the blind, nor is there blame on the lame, nor on one ill (if he joins not the war): But he that obeys Allah and His Messenger, - (Allah) will admit him to Gardens beneath which rivers flow; and he who turns back, (Allah) will punish him with a grievous penalty. [48: 17]

O mankind! The Messenger hath come to you in truth from Allah: believe in him: It is best for you, but if ye reject Faith, to Allah belong all things in the heavens and on earth: and Allah is All Knowing, All Wise. [4: 170]

O ye who believe! Obey Allah, and obey the Messenger, and those charged with authority among you. If ye differ in anything among yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger, if ye do believe in Allah and the Last Day: that is best, and most suitable for final determination. [4:59]

What Allah has bestowed on His Messenger (and taken away) from the people of the townships, - belongs to Allah, -to His Messenger and to kindred and orphan, the needy and the wayfarer; in order that it may not (merely) make a circuit between the wealthy among you. So take what the Messenger assigns to you, and deny yourselves that which he withholds from you and fear Allah: for Allah is strict in punishment. [59:7]

Obey Allah, and obey the Apostle, and beware (of evil): if ye do turn back, know ye that it is our Apostle's duty to proclaim (the Message) in the clearest manner. [5:92]

And if any believe not in Allah and His Messenger, We have prepared, for those who reject Allah, a Blazing Fire! [48:13]

Say no one can deliver me from Allah (If I were to disobey Him), nor should I find refuge except in Him. "Unless I proclaim what I receive from Allah and His Messages. For any that disobey Allah and His Apostle, - for them is Hell: they shall dwell therein for ever. " [72: 22-23]

Never will the Jews or the Christians be satisfied with thee unless thou follow their form of religion. Say "the Guidance of Allah,- that is the (only) Guidance," wert thou to follow their desires after the knowledge which hath reached thee, then wouldst thou find neither Protector nor Helper against Allah [2:120]

Say: "If ye do love Allah, follow me: Allah will love you and forgive your sins: for Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful [3:31]

Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) was appointed to a very exalted rank of Prophet-hood. -Almighty Allah revealed a code of etiquette about His Prophet. To the believers he should be more beloved than their own selves. His wives are in the status of mothers to the believers. Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) was awarded the highest order of intercession (shafa'ah) securing Allah's forgiveness for those who committed wrong to themselves. He was declared by Allah as the Last Prophet and savior of mankind.

To show him the sovereignty of his Lord Allah, one night he was, honoured with Me'raj (the Night Journey) from Makkah to Jerusalem and then into the seven Heavens. He was also raised to the status of Witness over all messengers and their nations in the world. He was further honoured with the highest degree of Praise, where-upon Almighty Allah and His angels continually shower blessings upon him, something which is un-paralleled in prophetic history.

Deem not the summons of the Apostle among yourselves like the summons of one of you to another: Allah doth know those of you who slip away under shelter of some excuse: then let those beware who withstand the apostle's order. Lest some trial befall them or a grievous penalty be inflicted on them. [24:63]

The prophet is closer to the believers than their own selves. And his wives are their mothers. Blood-relations among each other have closer personal ties, In the decree of Allah, then (the brotherhood of) believers and Muhajirs nevertheless do ye what is just to your closest friends: such is the writing in the decree (of Allah). [33:6]

Ye who believe! Raise not your voice above the voice of the prophet, nor speak aloud to him in talk, as ye may speak aloud to one another. Lest your deeds become vain and ye perceive not. Those that lower their voice in the presence of Allah's apostle, - their hearts has Allah tested for piety: For them is Forgiveness and a great Reward [49:2-3]

We sent not an Messenger, but to be obeyed, in accordance with the Will of Allah. If they had only when they were unjust to themselves, come unto thee, and asked Allah's forgiveness and the Messenger had asked forgiveness for them, they would have found Allah indeed Oft-Returning, Most Merciful. [4:64]

Mohammad is not the father of any of your men, but (he is) the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the Prophets: And Allah has full Knowledge of all things. [33:40]

Glory to (Allah) Who did take His Servant for a Journey by Night from the Sacred Mosque to the Farthest Mosque, whose precincts We did bless- in order that We might show him some of Our Signs: for He is the One Who Heareth and Seeth (all things)[17:1]

One day We shall raise from all peoples a witness against them, from amongst themselves. And We shall bring thee as a witness against these (thy people): and We have sent down to thee the Book explaining all things, a Guide, a Mercy, and Glad Tidings to Muslims. [16:89]

How then if We brought from each people a witness and We brought thee as a witness against these people! [4: 41]

Allah and His Angels send blessings on the Prophet, ye that believe! Send ye blessing on him, and salute him with all respect.[33:56]

The religion Holy Prophet preached was not originated or invented by him. It was one designed by the Lord of the Universe for the welfare of mankind in this world and the Hereafter. It was the religion of the first prophet Adam and his successors. (Like Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus, peace be upon them all). Followers of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) are directed to declare the sovereignty and lordship of Allah alone and to declare their firm faith in all prophets, to offer daily prayer, to fast the month of Ramadan, to spend annually a small portion of their savings on the needy and (if physically and financially afford-able) to perform Haj (pilgrimage) once in a lifetime. These are the five fundamentals of Islam.

The divine message was revealed to the mankind 1400 years ago. In the last year of his life while performing Hajj, the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) was given the good news to the mankind, *"This day have I perfected your religion for you and completed my favor unto you and have chosen for you Al-Islam as the religion". (5:3)*. Never before in the history of mankind was this message revealed to the world. The favor which began with Prophet Adam and continued through Prophets Abraham, Moses, and Jesus was finally perfected through Mohammad (s.a.w.) the last of the prophets. And Almighty Allah declared His approval of this religion.

The name of the religion of Allah is Islam. The Arabic word, Islam, means submission to the Will of Allah. Whoever follows a path other than this-it will not be accepted of him. It is Allah who blessed His nation with this religion and named them "Muslim".

The religion of Allah is not a dogma, establishing a parasitic priesthood or dividing the mankind into various classes of race, colour or culture. It is not a myth encouraging one to renounce worldly life or create human cattle farms. Rather it is a fair way of life, a code of conduct best suited to the nature of man.

The same religion has He established for you as that which He enjoined on Noah- the which We have sent by inspiration to thee- and that which We enjoined on Abraham, Moses, and Jesus: namely, that ye should remain steadfast in religion and make no division therein. To those who worship other things than Allah, hard is the (way) to which thou callest them. Allah chooses to Himself those whom He pleases, and guides to Himself those who turn (to Him). [42:13]

Say: "We believe in Allah. And in what has been revealed to us and what was revealed to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, And in (the Books) given to Moses, Jesus, and the Prophets, from their Lord. We make no distinction between one and another among them, and to Allah do we bow our will (in Islam)". [3:84]

For such the reward is forgiveness from their Lord. And Gardens with rivers flowing underneath - An eternal dwelling: How excellent a recompense for those who work (and strive)! [3:136]

The Religion before Allah is Islam (submission to His will): nor did the people of the book dissent therefrom except through envy of each other, after Knowledge had come to them. But if any deny the Signs of Allah, Allah is Swift in Calling to account. [3:19]

If anyone desires a religion other than Islam (submission to Allah), never will it be accepted of him; and in the hereafter he will be in the ranks of those who have lost (all spiritual good) [3:85]

And strive in His cause as ye ought to strive, (with sincerity and under discipline), He has chosen you, and has imposed no difficulties on you in religion, it is the religion of your father Abraham. It is He Who has named you Muslims, both before and in this (revelation); that the Apostle may be a witness for you, and ye be witnesses for mankind! So establish regular prayer, give regular charity, and hold fast to Allah! He is your Protector- the Best to protect and the Best to help! [22:78]

And they have been commanded no more than this to worship Allah, offering Him sincere devotion, being true (in faith); And establish regular prayer; and to practice regular charity: And that is the Religion, Right and Straight. [98:5]

And be steadfast in prayer and regular in charity and whatever ye send forth for your souls before you, ye shall find it with Allah: for Allah Sees well all that ye do. (2:110)

Ye who believe! Spend out of (the bounties) We have provided for you, before the Day comes when no bargaining (will avail), nor friendship nor intercession, those who reject faith they are the wrong-doers. [2:254]

O, ye who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that may (learn) self-restraint, - [2:183]

In it (Holy House) are Signs Manifest; (for example), the Station of Abraham; Whoever enters it attains security; Pilgrimage thereto is a Duty men owe to Allah,- those who can afford the journey; but if any deny faith, Allah stands not in need of any of His creatures [3: 97]

This day I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you. And chosen for you Islam as your religion. [5:4].

Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah and those who are with him are strong against unbelievers (but) compassionate among each other. Thou wilt see them bow and prostrate themselves (in prayer) seeking Grace from Allah and His good Pleasure. On their faces are their marks (being) the traces of their prostration.

This is their similitude in the Taurat and their similitude in the Gospel is, like a seed which sends forth its blade, then makes it strong, it then becomes thick and it stands on its own stem (filling) the sowers with wonder and delight. As a result it fills the unbelievers with rage at him. Allah has promised those among them who believe and do righteous deeds Forgiveness and a Great Reward. [48:29].

Holy Quran defines the qualities of the true follower of Prophet Mohammad (s.a.w.): kind to the believers and harsh with those who reject the divine guidance, humble and punctual in prayer, avoiding vain talk, active in charity and observing their obligations faithfully. They walk on earth modestly; They avoid quarrels, even if foolish ones address them. They repel evil with goodness and they pass nights in worship of their Lord. They are balanced when spending. They never attribute divinity to any object other than Allah. They never kill unjustly, or commit adultery and spend in the cause of their Lord out of what He provided them.

The believers must (eventually) win through. Those who humble themselves in their prayers; who avoid vain talk; who are active in deeds of charity; who abstain from sex, except with those joined to them in the marriage bond, or (the captives) whom their right hands possess,- for (in their case) they are free from blame. But those whose desires exceed those limits are transgressors, - those who faithfully observe their trusts and their covenants; and who (strictly) guard their prayers; - [23:1-9]

And the servants of (Allah) Most Gracious are those who walk on the earth in humility, and when the ignorant address them, they say, "Peace!" Those who spend the night in adoration of their Lord prostrate and standing. Those who say, "Our Lord! Avert from us the wrath of Hell, for its wrath is indeed an affliction grievous, evil indeed is it as an abode, and as a place to rest in".

Those who, when they spend, are not extravagant and not niggardly, but hold a just (balance) between those (extremes) Those who invoke not, with Allah, any other god, nor slay such life as Allah has made sacred, except for just cause, nor commit fornication.- And any that does this meets punishment [25:63-68]

Twice will they be given their reward, for that they have persevered, that they avert Evil with Good, and that they spend (in charity) out of what We have given them. And when they hear vain talk, they turn away there from and say: "To us our deeds, and to you yours; Peace be to you: we seek not the ignorant." [28: 54-55]

The believers are instructed to practice justice as a duty to Allah and to declare the truth even if it should be against their own kith and kin. They are instructed to guard themselves as well. When they are strong in faith, no unbeliever can divert them from the right path. The true believers follow strictly all instructions laid down by Almighty Allah and His Prophet. They may not insert their personal opinions in matters, which are clearly defined by Allah and His Prophet (s.a.w.).

O ye who believe fear Allah and (always) say a word directed to the right. That He may make your conduct whole and sound and forgive you your sins: he that obeys Allah and His Apostle has already attained the highest achievement. The Apostle's duty is but to proclaim (the message). But Allah Knoweth all that ye reveal and ye conceal. [5: 102]

It is not fitting for a believer, man or woman, when a matter has been decided by Allah and His Apostle, to have any option about their decision: If any one disobeys Allah and His Apostle, he is indeed on a clearly wrong path. [33:36]

The People of the Book and idolaters dislike if any good comes to believers. Allah chooses for His Mercy whom He likes and He is the Lord of infinite bounty. The believers are advised not to take friends from among the envious Jews and Christians. They are friends and supporters of each other against Islam.

It is never the wish of those without faith among the People of the Book, nor of the Pagans that anything good should come down to you from your Lord. But Allah will choose for His special Mercy whom He will, for Allah is Lord of Grace Abounding. [2:105]

O ye who believe. Take not the Jews and the Christians for your friends and protectors. They are but friends and protectors to each other. And he amongst you that turns to them (for friendship) is of them. Verily Allah guideth not a people unjust. [5: 54]

Let not the believers take for friends or helpers unbelievers rather than believers. If any do that, in nothing will there be help from Allah: except by way of precautions that ye may guard yourselves from them but Allah cautions you (to remember) Himself; for the final goal is to Allah. [3:28]

6: LIFE AFTER DEATH

Man lives in this world for a limited and appointed term. His knowledge about the life after death is deficient as is his knowledge of his life before birth. Almighty Allah is All Knowing and Ever Existent. He knew us when we were unborn and He knows the generations which will be born from our children yet unborn. According to His message, the life in this world is a transitory stage leading to a higher, fuller and permanent existence. From the port of death we embark on a higher form of life just as a tourist leaves a cab behind at the airport to fly high in a supersonic jet. The life of this world and the life hereafter are closely integrated. This earth is a testing ground upon which it is determined, whether one will enjoy eternal bliss in Paradise or terrible agony and anguish in Hell.

It is senseless to say that we are born by accident and there will be no life after death "With all the planning circumspection and mellifluous care that have gone into making of the universe, with its innumerable objects and forces for the use and service of man and with all the faculties and potentialities that man has been gifted as the most exalted of all creatures, he has not been created just to live for a few moments and then get completely annihilated".

As a matter of fact the worldly life has a definite purpose and a goal towards which it is moving. Subsequently life in this world is "neither to be despised nor to be given exaggerated value nor is to be frittered away in idle pursuits and gay abandoned. It is to be led in an orderly manner in conformity with the Divine laws, for the universe has not been created for pastime nor is the life of this world a mere accident".

Life after death is one of the most important fundamentals of Islam. The Holy Quran deals with this subject in a forceful and logical way. The unbelievers of the past and present still doubt that once we are dead and disintegrated; we could be recreated and resurrected. Almighty Allah exhorts them to consider the first creation as evidence.

Man says: "What! When I am dead, shall I then be raised up alive?" But does not man call to mind that We created him before out of nothing? [19: 66-67]

And they (sometimes) say: "There is nothing except our life on this earth, and never shall we be raised up again," [6:29]

And they say: "What is there but our life in this world? We shall die and we live, and nothing but time can destroy us," But of that they have no knowledge: They merely conjecture: and when Our clear Signs are rehearsed to them, their argument is nothing but this: they say, "Bring (back) our forefathers, if what ye say is true!" say: "It is Allah Who gives you life, then gives you death; then He will gather you together for the Day of Judgment about which there is no doubt", but most men do not understand. [45:24-51]

Did ye then think that We had created you in jest, and that ye would not be brought back to Us (for account)? [23:115]

Neither man had been sent to earth in vain, nor the entire universe created to serve him without a purpose. Almighty Allah decorated it with full wisdom and sent down man to spend little time mindfully and return to his Lord. To revive man after death is not a difficult task for the Creator of the Universe.

Does man think that he will be left uncontrolled, (without purpose)? Was he not a drop of sperm emitted (in lowly form)? Then did he become a leech-like clot; then did (Allah) make and fashion (him) in due proportion. And of him He made two sexes, male and female has not He, (the same), the Power to give life to the dead? [75:36-40]

O mankind! If ye have a doubt about the Resurrection, (consider) that We created you out of dust, then out of sperm, then out of a leech-like clot, then out of a morsel of flesh, partly formed and partly

unformed, in order that We may manifest (Our Power) to you; and We cause whom We will to rest in the wombs for an appointed term then do We bring you out as babes, then (foster you) that ye may reach your age of full strength; and some of you are called to die, and some are sent back to the feeblest old age, so that they know nothing after having known (much). And (further), thou seest the earth barren and lifeless, but when We pour down rain on it, it is stirred (to life), it swells, and it puts forth every kind of beautiful growth (in pairs) [22:5]

See they not that Allah, Who created the heavens and the earth, and never, wearied with their creation, is able to give life to the dead? Yea, verily He has Power over all things. And on the Day that the unbelievers will be placed before the Fire, (they will be asked), "Is this not the truth?" They will say, "Yea, by our lord!" (He will say:) "Then taste ye the penalty, for that ye were wont to deny (Truth) [46:33-34]

I do call to witness the Resurrection Day; and I do call to witness the self-reproaching spirit (eschew Evil). Does man think that We cannot assemble his bones? Nay We are able to put together in perfect order the very tips of his fingers. [75:1-4]

Now let man but think from what he is created! He is created from a drop emitted-proceeding from between the backbone and the ribs: surely (Allah) is able to bring him back (to life)! [86:5-8]

Man We did created from a quintessence (of clay) then We placed him as (a drop of) sperm in a place of rest firmly fixed. Then We made the sperm into a clot of congealed blood; then of that clot We made a (fetus) lump; then We made out of that lump bones and clothed the bones with flesh; then We developed out of it another creature, so blessed be Allah, the Best to create! [23:12-14]

What! Are ye the more difficult to create or the heaven (above)? (Allah) hath constructed it; on high hath He raised its canopy, and He hath given it order and perfection. Its night doth He endow with darkness, and its splendor doth He bring out (with light). And the earth, moreover, hath He extended (to a wide expanse) He draweth out there from its moisture and its pasture; And the mountains hath He firmly fixed; for use and convenience to you and your cattle. [79: 27-33]

Has there not been over man a long period of time, when he was nothing- (not even) mentioned? Verily We created man from a drop of mingled sperm, in order to try him: so We gave him (the gifts) of hearing and sight. [76:1-2]

The unbelievers think that they will not be raised up (for judgment) say yea by my Lord, ye shall surely be raised up, then shall ye be told (the Truth) of all that ye did and that is easy for Allah. [64:7]

Ah woe, that Day, to the rejecters of Truth! (O ye unjust!) Eat ye and enjoy yourselves (but) a little while, for that ye are sinners. Ah woe, that Day to the rejecter of Truth! [77:45-47]

The fact of life is that today you are alive, as per eternal phenomena; then every soul shall have a taste of death, which means a transfer from one phase to another. The person who is saved from the fire and admitted to the paradise is a triumphant indeed. The life of this world is full of charms and attraction to drift one from the track of piety. Wise are those who can track their way to the right path of bliss and eternal success.

Those who are pleased and satisfied with the worldly life and have forgotten the message of their Lord and denied life after death, their abode is the eternal fire, very awful and disgracing. Even their sons and wealth will not be able to save them from Fire. Such persons will harm to none but only to themselves. Their worldly comfort is a respite and a painful punishment awaits them at the end.

Almighty Allah have bought the life and property of the believers for eternal peace and comfort in Paradise. Beware! The great losers are those, whose life is lost in hoarding the comforts of this world but they think that they are doing the best deeds.

Every soul shall have a taste of death: And only on the Day of Judgment shall you be paid your full recompense. Only he who is saved far from the Fire and admitted to the Garden will have attained the object (of life): for the life of this world is but goods and chattels of deception. [3:185]

Fair in the eyes of men is the love of things they covet, women and sons; heaped-up hoards of gold and silver; horses branded (for blood and excellence); and (wealth of) cattle and well-tilled land. Such are the possessions of this world's life; but in nearness to Allah is the Best of the goals (to return to). [3:14]

Say: shall I give you glad tidings of things far better than those? For the righteous are Gardens in nearness to their Lord, with rivers flowing beneath; therein is their eternal home; with companions pure (and holy); and the good pleasure of Allah. For in Allah's Sight are (all) His servants, - [3: 15]

One day shall We gather them all together: We shall say to those who ascribed partners (to us): "Where are the partners whom ye (invented and) talked about?" [6:22]

Wealth and sons are the allurements of the life of this world. But the things that endure good deeds are best in the Sight of thy Lord, as Rewards and Best as (the foundation for) hopes [18:46]

Know ye (all) that the life of this world is but play and amusement, pomp and mutual boasting and multiplying, (in rivalry) among yourselves, riches and children. Here is a similitude: how rain and the growth which it bring forth, delight (the hearts of) the tillers; soon it withers; thou wilt see it grow yellow; then it becomes dry and crumbles away. But in the Hereafter is a penalty severe (for the devotees of wrong). And forgiveness from Allah and (His) Good Pleasure (for the devotees of Allah). And what is the life of this world, but goods and chattels of deception?" [57: 20]

The life of this world is alluring to those who reject faith, and they scoff at those who believe. But the righteous will be above them on the Day of Resurrection; for Allah bestows His Abundance without measure on whom He will. [2:212]

The mutual rivalry for piling up (the good things of this world) diverts you (from the more serious things). Until ye visit the graves. But nay, ye soon shall know (the reality). Again, ye soon shall know! Nay, were ye to know with certainty of mind, (ye would beware!) ye shall certainly see Hell-Fire! Again, ye shall see it with certainty of sight! Then shall ye be questioned that Day about the joy (ye indulged in! [102: 1-8]

Those who rest not their hope on their meeting with Us, but are pleased and satisfied with the life of the present, and those who heed not Our Signs, - their abode is the Fire, because of the (evil) they earned. [10: 7-8]

Let not their wealth nor their (following in) sons dazzle thee. In reality Allah's plan is to punish them with these things in this life, and that their souls may perish in their (very) denial of Allah. [9: 55]

Those who purchase unbelief at the price of Faith, - Not the least harm will they do to Allah, but they will have a grievous punishment. Let not the unbelievers think that Our respite to them is good for themselves: We grant them respite that they may grow in their iniquity: But they will have a shameful punishment. [3: 177-178]

Allah hath purchased of the Believers their persons and their goods; for theirs (in return) is the Garden (of Paradise): They fight in His Cause, and slay and are slain: A Promise binding on Him in Truth, through the Law, the Gospel, and the Quran; And who is more faithful to His Covenant than Allah? Then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded: that is the achievement supreme. [9:111]

Whatever ye are given (here) is (but) a convenience of this life: but that which is with Allah is better and more lasting: (It is) for those who believe and put their trust in their Lord; Those who avoid the greater crimes and shameful deeds, and, when they are angry even then forgive; Those who hearken to their Lord, and establish regular prayer; who (conduct) their affairs by mutual consultation; who spend out of what We bestow on them for sustenance. [42: 36-38]

Say: "Shall we tell you of those who lose most in respect of their deeds"? Those whose efforts have been wasted in this life, while they thought that they were acquiring good by their works? They are those who deny the Signs of their Lord and the fact of their having to meet Him (in the Hereafter). Vain will be their works, nor shall We, on the Day of Judgment, give them any weight. That is their reward, Hell; because they rejected Faith, and took My Signs and My Messengers by way of jest. [18:103-106]

No man has any distinction in the Sight of Almighty Allah except through his piety. All human being are born from one parent. He made them nation and tribes that they may know one another. No white is superior to the black, no European to the Asian and no Arab to non Arab except by his piety and good deeds.

There is no compulsion in the religion. Man has been gifted with the faculty of reasoning to select right from the wrong. Declare the truth from your Lord. Whoever accepts it let him do so and whoever denies he is free to do so but a great Fire has been prepared for him.

O Lord we have, not the least doubt, that you will revive and gather the mankind on the Day of Judgment and account them for their good and bad deeds. Who ever strives on His path He surely guides him to win His pleasure.

O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other not that ye may despise. The most honoured of you in the Sight of Allah is (he who is) the most righteous of you and Allah has full Knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things) [49:134]

Therefore shun those who turn away from Our Message and desire nothing but the life of this world. That is as far as knowledge will reach them verily thy Lord knoweth best those who stray from His path, and He knoweth best those who receive guidance. [53: 29-30]

O ye that believe! Betray not the Trust of Allah and the Messenger, nor misappropriate knowingly thing entrusted to you. And know ye that your possession and your progeny are but a trial; and that it is Allah with whom lies your highest reward. [8:27-28]

O ye who believe! Let not your riches or your children divert you from the remembrance of Allah. If any act thus, the loss is their own. [63: 9]

Let there be no compulsion in religion: Truth stand out clear from error. Whoever rejects evil and believes in Allah hath grasped the most trustworthy hand-hold, that never breaks, and Allah Heareth and Knoweth all things. Allah is the Protector of those who have faith: From the depths of darkness He will lead them forth into Light. Of those who reject faith the patrons are the Evil ones: from Light they will lead them forth into the depths of darkness. They will be companions of the Fire, to dwell therein (forever). [2:256-257]

Say, "The Truth is from your Lord": let him who will, believe, and let him who will, reject (it). For the wrong-doers We have prepared a Fire whose (smoke and flames), like the walls and roof of a tent, will hem them in: if they implore relief they will be granted water like melted brass, that will scald their faces. How dreadful the drink! How uncomfortable a couch to recline on!. [18:29]

"Our Lord! Thou art He that will gather mankind together against a Day about which there is no doubt; for Allah never fails on His promise." Those who reject faith, - neither their possessions nor their (numerous) progeny will avail them aught against Allah: they are themselves but fuel for the Fire. [3:9-10]

And those who strive in Our (Cause),- We will certainly guide them to Our path: for verily Allah is with those who do right. [29:69]

7: THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

The end of this world, the resurrection of man and the terror of the Day of Judgment are among the main subjects of the Holy Quran. The destruction of this world, helplessness of man and his accountability to his Lord are described in a superb style which is unparalleled in the religious literature of the world.

The horror of the Day is such that the guilty one will long to ransom and redeem himself by sacrificing his children, his wife, his brother, his friends and all that is on the earth. But alas it will never happen.

They will not (have to) wait for aught but a single blast. It will seize them while they are yet disputing among themselves. No (chance) will they then have, by will to dispose (of their affairs) nor to return to their own people. The Trumpet shall be sounded when, behold, from the sepulchers (men) will rush forth to their Lord [36: 49-51].

The Trumpet will (just) be sounded, when all that are in the heavens and on the earth will swoon, except such as it will please Allah (to exempt). Then will a second one be sounded, when behold, they will be standing and looking on! And the earth will shine with the Glory of its Lord: the Record (of deeds) will be placed (open); the Prophets and the witnesses will be brought forward; and a just decision pronounced between them; and they will not be wronged (in the least). And to every soul will be paid in full (the fruit) of its deeds; and (Allah) Knoweth best all that they do. [39:68-70]

And the earth is moved, and its mountains and they are crushed to powder at one stroke. On that Day shall the (great) event come to pass, and the sky will be rent asunder, for it will that day be flimsy. [69: 14-16]

When the earth is shaken to her (utmost) convulsion, and the earth throws up her burdens (from within), and man cries (distressed): "what is the matter with her?" On that Day will she declare her tidings; for that thy Lord will have given her inspiration. On that Day will men proceed in companies sorted out, to be shown the deeds that, they (had done). Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good, see it! And any one who has done an atom's weight of evil, shall see it. [99:1-8]

When the sky is rent asunder, and hearkens to (the command of) its Lord, and it must needs (do so): and when the earth is flattened out, and casts forth what is within it and becomes (clean) empty, and hearkens to (the command of) its Lord, and it must needs (do so); (then will come home the full reality).

O thou man! Verily thou art ever toiling on towards thy Lord - painfully toiling, but thou shalt meet Him. Then he who is given his record in his right hand, soon will his account be taken by an easy reckoning, and he will turn to his people, rejoicing! But he who is given his record behind his back, soon will he cry for perdition, and he will enter a blazing fire, Truly, did he go about among his people, rejoicing! Truly, did he think that he would not have to return (to Us)! Nay, nay! For his Lord was (ever) Watchful of him! [84:1-15]

When the sun (with its spacious light) is folded up; when the stars fall, losing their luster; when the mountains vanish (like a mirage); when the she-camels, ten months with young are left untended when the wild beasts are herded together (in human habitations); when the oceans boil over with a swell; when the souls are sorted out, (being joined, like with like); when the female (infant) buried alive, is questioned - for what crime she was killed; when the scrolls are laid open; when the World on high is unveiled; when the blazing Fire is kindled to fierce heat; and when the Garden is brought near; (then) shall each soul know what it has put forward. [81:1-14]

The Day that the sky will be like molten brass, and the mountains will be like wool, and no friend will ask after a friend, though they will be put in sight of each other, the sinner's desire will be, would that he could redeem himself from the penalty of that Day by (sacrificing) his children, his wife and his brother, his kindred who sheltered him, and all, that is on earth, so it could deliver him: By no means! for it would

be the Fire of Hell! plucking out (his being) right to the skull! Inviting, (all) such as turn their backs and turn away their faces (from the Right). [70: 8-17]

When the sky is cleft asunder; when the stars are scattered, when the oceans are suffered to burst forth; and when the graves are turned upside down; (then) shall each soul know what it hath sent forward and (what it hath) kept back. [82: 1-5]

Assuredly, what ye are promised must come to pass. Then when the stars become dim; when the heaven is cleft asunder; when the mountains are scattered (to the winds) as dust; and when the apostles are (all) appointed a time (to collect); for what Day are these (portents) deferred? For the Day of Sorting out. And what will explain to thee what is the Day of sorting out? Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth! [77:7-15]

When the Event Inevitable cometh to pass, then will no (soul) entertain falsehood concerning its coming. (many) will it bring low; (many) will it exalt; When the earth shall be shaken to its depths, and the mountains shall be crumbled to atoms, becoming dust scattered abroad. [56:1-6]

At length, when the Sight is dazed, and the moon is buried in darkness, and the sun and moon are joined together, that Day will man say: where is the refuge? "By no means! No place of safety! Before thy Lord (alone), that Day will; be the place of rest. That Day will man be told (all) that he put forward, and all that he put back? [75:7-13]

When the sky is rent asunder, and it becomes red like ointment: Then which of the favors of your Lord will ye deny? On that Day no question will be asked of man or Jinn as to his sin, then which of the favors of your Lord will ye deny? (For) the sinners will be known by their marks: and they will be seized by their forelocks and their feet. [55:37-41].

The (Day) of Noise and Clamor? And what is the Day of Noise and Clamor and what will explain to thee what the (Day) of Noise and Clamor is. (It is) the Day whereon men will be like moths scattered about, and the mountains will be like carded wool. Then, he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) heavy, will be in a life of good pleasure and satisfaction. But he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) light), - will have his home in a (bottomless) pit, and what will explain to thee what this is? (It is) a Fire blazing fiercely! [101:1-11]

Has the story reached thee, of the Overwhelming (Event)? Some faces, that Day, will be humiliated, laboring (hard), weary, the while they enter the blazing fire, the while they are given, to drink, of a boiling hot spring, no food will there be for them but a bitter 'Dhar' which will neither nourish nor satisfy hunger. [88:1-7].

In front of such a one is Hell, and he is given, for drinks, boiling fetid water. In gulps will he sip it, but never well he be near swallowing it down his throat. Death will come to him from every quarter, yet will he not die and in front of him will be a chastisement unrelenting. [14:16-17]

On the day when some faces will be (lit up with) white, and some faces will be (in the gloom of) black: to those whose faces will be black, (will be said)"did ye reject Faith after accepting it? Taste then the penalty for rejecting Faith." [3:106-107].

Such will be the horror of that Day that even the mother will forget her nursing infant. And every pregnant will drop her burden. Men will look like drunken yet they will not be drunken but Allah's wrath will be dreadful on that day.

On the Day of Resurrection the whole earth will be His handful and the heavens rolled in His right hand. He shall repeat the creation as He began it the first time.

The Book recorded with all acts of mankind will be brought. The unbelievers will be at great loss and shall say what kind of a Book is this which left nothing without recording. They will find all their crimes displayed in front and will not be able to deny them.

O Mankind! Fear your Lord! For the convulsion of the Hour (of Judgment) will be a thing terrible! The Day ye shall see it, every mother giving suck shall forget her sucking-babe, and every pregnant female shall drop her load (unformed): thou shalt see mankind as in a drunken riot, yet not drunk: but dreadful will be wrath of Allah. [22: 1-2]

One day the earth will be changed to a different earth, and so will be the heavens, and (men) will be marshalled forth, before Allah, the One, the Irresistible; And thou wilt see the sinners that Day bound together in fetters; their garments of liquid pitch, and their faces covered with fire. That Allah may requite each soul according to its deserts. And verily Allah is Swift in calling to account. [14:48-51]

No just estimate have they made of Allah, such as is due to Him: On the Day of Judgment the whole of the earth will be but His Handful, and the heavens will be rolled up in His Right Hand: Glory to Him! High is He above the partners they attribute to Him! [39:67]

The Day that We roll up the heavens like a scroll rolled up for books (completed). Even as We produced the first Creation, so shall We produce a new one: a Promise We have undertaken; truly shall We fulfill it. [21:104].

That Day will be the sure reality therefore, who so will let him take a (straight) return to his Lord! Verily, We have warned you of a penalty near, the Day when man will see (the deeds) which his hands have sent forth, and the unbeliever will say, Woe unto me! Would that I were (mere) dust! [78: 39-40].

That Day, the dominion as of Right and Truth, shall be (wholly) for (Allah) Most Merciful: it will be a Day of dire difficulty for the Misbelievers. The Day that the wrong doer will bite at his hands, he will say, "Oh! Would that I had taken a (straight) path with the Apostle! "Ah! woe is me! Would that I had never taken such a one for a friend "he did lead me astray from the Message (of Allah) after it had come to me! Ah! The Evil one is but a traitor to man! [25: 26-29]

One the day We shall remove the mountains, and thou wilt see the earth as level stretch, and We shall gather them, all together, nor shall We leave out any one of them. And they will be marshaled before thy Lord in ranks, (with the announcement), "Now have ye come to Us (bare) as We created you first: aye, ye thought We shall not fulfill the appointment made to you to meet (us)!"

And the Book (of deeds) will be placed (before you); and thou wilt see the sinful in great terror because of what is (recorded) therein. They will say, "Ah! woe to us! What a book is this! It leaves out nothing small or great, but takes account thereof! They will find all that they did, placed before them: and not one will thy Lord treat with injustice. [18:47-49].

Even with all these clear statements, the unbelievers doubt the occurrence of the Day of Judgment and ask when and where it will happen. By God it is the plain truth and no one can postpone it. And don't assume it is a million years away perhaps it is only millionth of a year away. Almighty Allah alone knows its time. But for a man his own death is a Dooms Day and the beginning of the Hereafter. It may be sixty years away or sixty seconds from now. And this full-scale catastrophe will take place at a short signal of Almighty Allah like the winking of an eye.

They seek to be informed by thee: "Is that true?" Say: "Aye! By my Lord! It is the very Truth! And ye cannot frustrate it!" Every soul that hath sinned, if it possessed all that is on earth would fain give it in ransom: they would declare (their) repentance when they see the penalty: but the judgment between them will be with justice, and no wrong will be done unto them. [10:53-54].

And when it was said that the Promise of Allah was True, and that the Hour-there was no doubt about its (coming), ye used to say, "We know not what is the Hour: we only think it is an idea, and we have no firm

assurance." Then will appear to them the evil (fruits) of what they did, and they will be completely encircled by that which they used to mock at!

It will also be said: " This Day We will forget you as ye forgot the meeting of this Day of yours! and your abode is the Fire, and no helpers have ye! "This because ye used to take the Signs of Allah in jest, and the life of the world deceived you: " (from) that Day, therefore, they shall not be taken out thence, nor shall they be received into grace. [45:32-35]

Those who reject faith will not cease to be in doubt concerning (revelation) until the Hour of (Judgment) comes suddenly upon them, or there comes to them the penalty of a Day of Disaster. On that Day the dominion will be that of Allah: He will judge between them: so those who believe and work righteous deeds will be in Gardens of delight. And for those who reject faith and deny Our Signs, there will be a humiliating punishment. [22:55-57]

Men ask thee concerning the Hour: say, "The knowledge thereof is with Allah (Alone) and what will make thee understand? -Perchance the Hour is nigh! [33:63]

They see the (Day indeed as a far-off event): But We see it (quite) near. The Day that the sky will be like molten brass, and the mountains will be like wool, and no friend will ask after a friend. [70:6-10]

To Allah belongeth the Mystery of the heavens and the earth. And the Decision of the Hour (of Judgment) is as the twinkling of an eye or even quicker: for Allah hath Power over all things. [16:77]

The unbelievers might have a confidence that their false gods such as the sun, the moon, fire, or idols of wood and stone would save them from the torment of Allah. No, by God, no! They shall come to the Lord, alone, without a priest or lawyer and without their false deities. Almighty Allah will also call those whom they had worshipped, and ask them if it was they who misled His servants. But they will exculpate themselves saying Glory be to Thee, it was not for us to take other protectors besides Thee and they will defy their worshippers.

O! Mankind guard your 'self' against the Day when no soul in aught avail another and no intercession or compensation will be accepted against the evil deeds. All the rejecters of the faith will surely be in the Hell. They will not be able to run away or escape. The Absolute Command of Almighty Allah shall prevail. All voices shall faint in Presence of Allah and nothing will be heard except a murmuring sound and the tramp of the feet.

And Behold! Ye come to Us bare and alone as We created you for the first time: ye have left behind you all (the favours) which We bestowed on you: We see not with you, your intercessors whom ye thought to be partner in your affairs: so now all relations between you have been cut off, and your (pet) fancies have left you in the lurch!" [6:94]

The Day He will gather them together as well as those whom they worship besides Allah, He will ask: "Was it ye who led these My servants astray, or did they stray from the path themselves?" They will say: "Glory to Thee! Not meet was it for us that we should take for protectors others besides Thee: but Thou didst bestow, on them and their fathers, good things (in life), until they forgot the Message: for they were a people (worthless and) lost."

(Allah will say): "Now have they proved you liars in what ye say: so ye cannot avert (your penalty) nor (get) help. "And whoever among you does wrong, him shall We cause to taste of a grievous penalty. [25:17-19].

Lost indeed are they, who treat it as a falsehood that they must meet Allah, until on a sudden the Hour is on them, and they say: "Ah! Woe unto us that we took no thought of it"; for they bear their burdens on their backs, and evil indeed are the burdens that they bear? [6:31].

And they would say: "Our Lord! We obeyed our chiefs and our great ones, and they misled us as to the (right) path. "Our Lord! Give them double penalty and curse them with a very great curse". [33: 67-68]

Then guard yourselves against a Day when one soul shall not avail another nor shall intercession be accepted for her, nor shall compensation be taken from her, nor shall anyone be helped (from outside). [2:48].

As for the righteous, they will be in bliss; and the wicked-they will be in the Fire, which they will enter on the Day of Judgment, and they will not be able to keep away there from and what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is? Again, what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is. (It will be) the Day when no soul shall have power (to do) aught for another. For the Command, that Day, will be (wholly) with Allah. [82: 13-19]

The Day when the Trumpet will be sounded: that Day, We shall gather the sinful, blear-eyed (with terror). In whispers will they consult each other: "ye tarried not longer than ten (days); We Know best what they will say, when their leader most eminent in conduct will say: "ye tarried not longer than a day!" [20: 102-104]

They ask thee concerning the mountains: say, "My Lord will uproot them and scatter them as dust; "He will leave them as plains smooth and level: "Nothing crooked or curved wilt thou see in their place. "On that Day will they follow the caller (straight); no crookedness (can they show) him. All sound shall humble themselves in the Presence of (Allah) Most Gracious: nothing shalt thou hear but the tramp of their feet (as they march). [20:105-108]

8: THE RECKONING OF DEEDS

Almighty Allah is the absolute Lord of the universe. He is the Sovereign and Master of His will. If He willed to destroy all mankind none could stop Him but the rule of justice is His habit and kindness His attribute. He created the human race to follow His ordinances but the majority of them, out of ignorance, denies His sole Sovereignty and ascribe partners to Him. This is the greatest SIN.

On the Day of Resurrection, Almighty Allah decides the fate of every individual. Every word and action of a person will be presented to him in a way that no one can deny. Absolute justice shall prevail, no soul will be deprived of the reward of his good deeds and none shall bear the burden of another. No saint or priest can avail for his tribe or community. No son can support his father and no father can save his son. Each person will stand alone in the presence of his Lord, Allah. After judging with perfect justice, He can pardon any soul by His mercy, save him from the Fire and let him enter His Paradise.

If Allah were to punish men for their wrong doing, He would not leave, on the (earth), a single living creature: but He gives them respite for a stated term: when their term expires, they would not be able to delay (the punishment) for a single hour, just as they would not be able to anticipate it (for a single hour). [16:61].

If Allah were to punish men according to what they deserve, He would not leave on the back of the (earth) a single living creature: but He gives them respite for a stated term: when their term expires, verily Allah has in His Sight all His servants. [35:45]

Every man's fate We have fastened on his own neck: on the Day of Judgment We shall bring out for him a scroll which he will see spread open. (It will be said to him): "Read thine (own) record: sufficient is thy soul this day to make out an account against thee," [17: 13-14]

That Day shall We set a seal on their mouths? But their hands will speak to Us, and their feet bear witness, to all that they did. If it had been Our Will, We could surely have blotted out their eyes; then should they have run about groping for the path, but how could they have seen: And if it had been Our Will, We could have transformed them (to remain) in their places: then should they have been unable to move about, nor could they have returned (after error). [36: 65-67]

On the Day that the enemies of Allah will be gathered together to the Fire, they will be marched in ranks, At length, when they reach the (Fire), their hearing, their sight, and their skins will bear witness against them as to (all) their deeds. They will say to their skins: "why bear ye witness against us? " they will say "Allah hath given us speech, -(He) who giveth speech to everything: He created you for the first time, and unto Him were ye to return. [41:19-21]

On the Day when every soul will be confronted with all the good it has done, and all the evil it has done, it will wish there were a great distance between it and its evil. But Allah cautions you (to remember) Himself. And Allah is full of Kindness to those that serve Him." [3: 30].

Nor can a bearer of burdens bear another's burden. If one heavily laden should call another to (bear) his load, not the least portion of it can be carried (by the other) even though he may be nearly related. Thou canst but admonish such as fear their Lord unseen and establish regular prayer and who ever purifies himself does so for the benefit of his own soul and the destination (of all) is to Allah. [35:18]

Almighty Allah has declared that no soul shall bear the burden of another. Each individual stands responsible for himself. It is he who through his own deeds enters Paradise or throws himself into the fire of Hell. Almighty Allah is never cruel or unjust to His creatures.

Nay, is he not acquainted with what is in the Books of Moses-and of Abraham who fulfilled his engagements? Namely, that no bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another; that man can have nothing but what he strives for; that (the fruit of) his striving will soon come in sight. [53: 36-40].

Whoever works righteousness benefits his own soul; whoever works evil, it is against his own soul: not is thy Lord ever unjust (in the least) to His servants. [41:46]

Who receiveth guidance, receiveth it for his own benefit, who goeth astray doth so to his own soul: No bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another, nor would We, visit with our Wrath until We had sent an apostle (to give warning) [17: 15]

Then he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) heavy, will be in a life of good pleasure and satisfaction. But he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) light, - will have his home in a (bottomless) pit. And what will explain to thee what this is? (it is) a Fire blazing fiercely!. [101: 6-11]

The balance that Day will be true (to a nicety): those whose scale (of good) will be heavy, will prosper: those whose scale will be light, will find their souls in perdition, for that they wrongfully treated Our Signs. [7:8-9].

The unbelievers will be led to Hell in crowd: until, when they arrive there, its gates will be opened. And its Keepers will say, "did not Apostles come to you from among yourselves, rehearsing to you the Signs of your Lord, and warning you of the meeting of this Day of yours? "The answer will be: "True: but the decree of punishment has been proved true against the unbelievers!" (To them) will be said: "Enter ye the gates of Hell, to dwell. And evil is (this) abode of the arrogant.

And those who feared their Lord will be led to the Garden in groups. Until behold they arrive there. Its gates will be opened: And its Keepers will say: "Peace be upon you! Well have ye done! Enter ye here, to dwell therein," [39: 71-73]

Thus, then, if he be of those nearest to Allah, (there is for him) rest and satisfaction, and a Garden of delights. And if he be of the companions of the right hand, (for him is the salutation), "Peace be unto thee" from the companions of the right hand. And if he be of those who treat (truth) as falsehood, who go wrong for him is entertainment with boiling water, and burning in Hell-fire. Verily, this is the very Truth and Certainty. [56: 88-95]

09. THE WINNERS AND THEIR REWARD

The best of the mankind are those who invite people to their Lord, do righteous deeds and declare that they are the Muslims (the obedient ones). Those are the followers of Prophets Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Mohammad (peace be upon them all).

Those are the favored followers. They declare that our Lord is Allah and stand fast in hours of trial, the angels are sent down consoling them. Whoever does righteous deeds as a Muslim, his sins will be remitted and he will enter Paradise to abide there in for ever. This is the supreme triumph.

These people called Ibadur Rahman (followers of the Benevolent) are humble in their prayers, avoid useless conversation, pay Zakat and guard their modesty. Nation of these who believe in Him alone and do virtuous deeds have the Promise of Allah that He will surely give them authority upon the earth as He did for others in the past and He will establish His chosen religion in the world.

Who can be better in religion than one who submits his whole self to Allah, does good, and follows the way of Abraham the true in faith? For Allah did take Abraham for a friend. [4: 125]

Whoever submits his whole self to Allah, and is a doer of good, has grasped indeed the most trustworthy hand-hold: and with Allah rests the end and decision of (all) affairs. [31: 22]

In the case of those who say, "Our Lord is Allah", and further, stand straight and steadfast, the angels descend on them (from time to time): Fear ye not!" they suggest "Nor grieve! But receive the glad tidings of the garden (of bliss), the which ye were promised!

We are your protectors in this life and in the Hereafter; therein shall ye have all that your souls shall desire; therein shall ye have all that ye ask for! A hospitable gift from One Oft forgiving, Most Merciful! Who is better in speech than one who calls (men) to Allah, works righteousness, and says, "I am of those who bow in Islam"? [41: 30-33]

The Day that He assembles you (all) for a Day of Assembly, that will be a day of mutual loss and gain (among you). And those who believe in Allah and work righteousness, He will remove from them their ills, and He will admit them to Gardens beneath which rivers flow, to dwell therein for ever : that will be the Supreme Achievement. [64:9]

And the servants of (Allah) Most Gracious are those who walk on the earth in humility, and when the ignorant address them, they say, "Peace!" those who spend the night in adoration of their Lord prostrate and standing; those who say, "Our Lord! Avert from us the wrath of Hell, for its wrath is indeed an affliction grievous, "Evil indeed is it as an abode and as a place to rest in".

Those who, when they spend, are not extravagant and not niggardly, but hold a just (balance) between those (extremes); those who invoke not, with Allah, any other god nor slay such life as Allah has made sacred, except for just cause, nor commit fornication; - and any that does this (not only) meets punishment but the penalty on the Day of Judgment will be doubled to him, and he will dwell therein in ignominy.

Unless he repents, believes, and works righteous deeds, for Allah will change the evil of such persons into good, and Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. And whoever repents and does good has truly turned to Allah with an (acceptance) conversation; those who witness no falsehood, and if they pass by futility, they pass by it with honorable (avoidance).

Those who, when they are admonished with the Signs of their Lord, drop not down at them as if they were deaf or blind; and those who pray, "our Lord! Grant unto us wives and offspring who will be the comfort of our eyes, and give us the grace to lead the righteous. [25: 63-74]

Those who spend (freely), whether in prosperity, or in adversity; who restrain anger, and pardon (all) men; for Allah loves those who do good. And those, who having done something to be ashamed of, or

wronged their own souls, earnestly bring Allah to mind, and ask for forgiveness for their sins, and who can forgive sins except Allah? And are never obstinate in persisting knowingly (in the wrong) they have done. For such the reward is forgiveness from their Lord, and Gardens with rivers flowing underneath, and eternal dwelling: How excellent a recompense for those who work (and strive)! [3: 134-136]

Only those believe in Our Signs, who when they are recited to them, fall down in adoration, and celebrate the praises of their Lord, nor are they ever puffed up with pride. Their limbs do forsake their beds of sleep the while they call on their Lord, in fear and hope: and they spend (in charity) out of the sustenance which We have bestowed on them. [32: 15-16]

Those who avoid the greater crimes and shameful deeds, and, when they are angry even then forgive. Those who hearken to their Lord, and establish regular prayer; who (conduct) their affair by mutual consultation; who spend out what We bestow on them for sustenance and those who, when an oppressive wrong is inflicted on them, (are not cowed but) help and defend themselves. [42: 37-39]

Those who (in charity) spend of their goods by night and by day, in secret and in public have their reward with their Lord: on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve. [2: 274].

For those, men and women, who give in charity and loan to Allah a beautiful loan, it shall be increased manifold (to their credit) and they shall have besides a liberal reward. [57:18]

They are those who, if We establish them in the land, establish regular prayer and give regular charity, enjoin the right and forbid wrong: with Allah rests the end (and decision) of (all) affairs. [22: 41].

Behold! Verily on the friends of Allah there is no fear, nor shall they grieve; those who believe and constantly guard against evil; for them are glad tidings, in the life of the present and in the Hereafter: no change can there be in the Words of Allah. This is indeed the Supreme Felicity. [10: 62-64]

Allah has promised, to those among you who believe and work righteous deeds, that He will, of a surety, grant them in the land, inheritance of power, as He granted it to those before them; that He will establish in authority their religion the one which He has chosen for them and that He will change their state, after the fear in which they lived, to one of security and peace; they will worship Me (alone) and not associate aught with Me. If any do reject Faith after this, they are rebellious and wicked. [24:55]

And We shall remove from their hearts any lurking sense of injury; beneath them will be rivers flowing; and they shall say: Praise be to Allah, Who hath guided us to this felicity: never could we have found guidance had it not been for the Guidance of Allah: indeed it was the Truth that the apostles of our Lord brought unto us. And they shall hear the cry: Behold! the Garden before you! Ye have been made its inheritors, for your deeds of righteousness. [7:43]

Those who believe, and work righteousness, their Lord will guide them because of their faith: Beneath them will flow rivers in Gardens of Bliss. (This will be) their prayer therein: Glory to Thee O, Allah! And Peace will be their greeting therein! And the end of their prayer will be, Praise be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds! (10:9-10)

To embrace the true religion of Almighty Allah is very easy. It requires no special function, ceremony or religious baptism. You simply declare anywhere and at any time and age that "There is no god except Allah and Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah." Then you pronounce with conviction its Arabic version:

LA ILAHA ILLALLAH, MOHAMMADUR RASOOLULLAH

And you are a Muslim. All your past sins, however enormous that may be, are remitted and you start new life with a clean slate.

Islam is a great challenge to satanic forces gripping the world. When someone has been guided from darkness into the light he feels pain for others, he invites them to Islam. But instead of welcoming his call they often turn against him and oppose him harshly. Sometime his friends and even family members become enemies. At such occasions one should seek guidance from the life of Holy Prophet Mohammad

(s.a.w.) who, when he first proclaimed his call to Islam, all of the Makkans turned against him and harassed him. Even many of his family members became his adversaries.

This is the regular divine practice. When Almighty Allah wills to raise the status of a man, He opens his heart to Islam and some times, puts him to a few trials to examine the firmness of his Iman (faith). Even the prophet faced severe hardships. The people, who have full trust in their Lord, are not afraid of such trials and bear them with full assurance of their ultimate success in this world and the Hereafter.

Do men think that they will be left alone on saying, "We believe", and that they will not be tested? We did test those before them, and Allah will certainly know those who are true from those who are false. [29:2-3]

Ye shall certainly be tried and tested in your possessions and in your personal selves, and ye shall certainly hear much that will grieve you, from those who received the Book before you and from those who worship many gods but if ye persevere patiently, and guard against evil, then that will be a determining factor in all affairs. [3: 186]

Or do ye think that ye shall enter the Garden (of bliss) without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before you? They encountered suffering and adversity, and were so shaken in spirit that even the Messenger and those of faith who were with him cried: "When (will come) the help of Allah?" Ah! Verily, the help of Allah is (always) near! [2: 214]

Be sure We shall test you with something of fear and hunger, some loss in goods or lives or the fruits (of your toil) but give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere, who say, when afflicted with calamity: "To Allah we belong, and to Him is our return": They are those on whom descend Blessings from Allah, and Mercy, and they are the ones that receive Guidance. [2: 155-157]

The shortest definition of Paradise is "What no eye has ever seen, no ear ever heard and no human mind ever conceived." This is the place of extreme bliss, peace, pleasure and enjoyment. It is a Divine AWARD to obedient men and women. They will be allowed to enter Paradise and there they shall have all that they desire, plus even more beyond their expectation and imagination.

And the Garden will be brought nigh to the righteous, no more a thing distant. (A voice will say) "This is what was promised for you, for every one who turned (to Allah) in sincere repentance, who kept (His law). " Who feared (Allah) Most Gracious unseen, and brought a heart turned in devotion (to Him): " Enter ye therein in peace and security; this is a Day of Eternal life!" There will be for them therein all that they wish, and more besides in Our Presence. [50:31-35]

As to the righteous, they will be in the midst of Gardens and springs, taking joy in the things which their Lord gives them because, before then, they lived a good life. They were in the habit of sleeping but little by night, and in the hours of early dawn, they (were found) praying for forgiveness. [51:15-18]

Gardens of Eternity will they enter; therein will they be adorned with bracelets of gold and pearls; and their garments there will be of silk. And they will say; " Praise be to Allah, Who has removed from us (all) sorrow: for Our Lord is indeed Oft-forgiving ready to appreciate (service) "Who has; out of His Bounty, settled us in a Home that will last: no toil nor sense of weariness shall touch us therein." [35:33-35]

Being those who have believed in Our Signs and bowed there wills to Ours in Islam. Enter ye the Garden, ye and your wives, in (beauty and) rejoicing. To them will be passed round dishes and goblets of gold; there will be there all that the souls could desire, all that the eyes could delight in: and ye shall abide therein (for aye). Such will be the Garden of which ye are made heirs for your good deeds in life. Ye shall have therein abundance of fruit from which ye shall have satisfaction. [43:69-73]

And those foremost in Faith will be foremost in the Hereafter. These will be those nearest to Allah: In Gardens of Bliss: A number of people from those of old, and a few from those of later times. (They will be) on thrones encrusted (with gold and precious stones) reclining on them facing each other, round about them will (serve) youths of perpetual (freshness) with goblets, shining (beakers), and cups (filled) out of clear flowing fountains: no after-ache will they receive there from nor will they suffer intoxication.

And with fruits, any that they may select; and the flesh of fowls, and that they may desire. And there will be companions with beautiful, big and lustrous eyes, like unto pearls well guarded. A reward for the deeds of their past life. No frivolity will they hear therein nor any faint of ill, only the saying, Peace! Peace ”.

The companions of the right hand, what will be the companions of the right hand? They will be among Lote trees without thorns. Among Talh trees with flowers (or fruits) piled one above another, in shade long extended, by water flowing constantly, and fruit in abundance whose season is not limited nor (supply) forbidden. And on thrones of dignity raised high.

We have created (their companions) of special creation. And made them virgin-pure (and undefiled), beloved (by nature), equal in age, for the companions of the right hand. [56:10-38]

As the righteous, they will be in Gardens, and in happiness, enjoying the bliss which their Lord hath bestowed on them, And their Lord shall deliver them from the penalty of the Fire. (To them will be said) eat and drink ye, with profit and health, because of your good deeds, they will recline with ease on thrones of dignity arranged in ranks; and We shall join them to companions, with beautiful big and lustrous eyes.

And those who believe and whose families follow them in Faith, to them shall We join their families nor shall We deprive them of the fruit of aught of their works. (Yet) is each individual in pledge for his deeds. And We shall bestow on them, of fruit and meat, anything they shall desire. [52: 17-22]

Verily for the righteous there will be a fulfillment of (heart's) desires; gardens enclosed, and grape vines, companions of equal age; and a cup (to the brim). No vanity shall they hear therein, nor untruth. Recompense from the Lord, a Gift, (amply) sufficient. [78: 31-36]

As to those who believe and work righteousness verily We shall not suffer to perish the reward of any who do a (single) righteous deed. For them will be Gardens of Eternity; beneath them rivers will flow; they will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold, and they will wear green garments of fine silk and heavy brocade; they will recline therein on raised thrones. How good the Recompense! How beautiful! A couch to recline on! [18: 30-31]

But the sincere (and devoted) servants of Allah - for them is a sustenance determined, fruits (delights); and they (shall enjoy) honour and dignity, in Gardens of Felicity. Facing each other on thrones (of dignity): round will be passed to them a cup from a clear-flowing fountain, crystal-white of a taste delicious to those who drink (thereof), free from headiness; nor will they suffer intoxication there from and beside them will be chaste women, restraining their glances, with big eyes (of wonder and beauty). As if they were (delicate) eggs closely guarded. [37: 40-49]

Other faces that Day will be joyful, pleased with their striving, in a Garden on high, where they shall hear no (word) of vanity: therein will be a bubbling spring: therein will thrones (of dignity), raised on high, goblets placed (ready), and cushions set in rows, and rich carpets (all) spread out. [88: 8-16]

But for such as fear the time when they will stand before (the judgment seat of) their Lord, there will be two Gardens - then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? Containing all kinds of trees and delights- then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? In them each will be two springs flowing (free) then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? In them will be fruits of every kind, two and two, then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

They will recline on carpets, whose inner linings will be of rich brocade: the fruit of the gardens will be near (and easy of reach), then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? In them will be (maidens) chaste, restraining their glances, whom no man or Jinn before them has touched; then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? Like unto rubies and coral, then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny [55: 46-59]

And besides these two, there are two other Gardens, then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? Dark green in colour from (plentiful watering) then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? In them (each) will be two springs pouring forth water in continuous abundance: then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? In them will be fruits and dates and pomegranates; then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? In them will be fair (companions) good beautiful; then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? Companions restrained (as to their glances), in (goodly) pavilions; then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? Whom no man or jinn before them has touched; then which of the favours of

your Lord will ye deny? Reclining on green cushions and rich carpets of beauty? Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? [55: 62-77]

As to the righteous, they shall drink of a cup (of wine) mixed with Kafur, a fountain where the devotees of Allah do drink, making it flow in unstinted abundance. They perform (their) vows, and they fear a day whose evil flies far and wide. And they feed, for the love of Allah, the indigent, the orphan, and the captive saying, "we feed you for the sake of Allah alone: no reward do we desire from you, nor thanks, "we only fear a day of distressful wrath from the side of our Lord:

But Allah will deliver them from the evil of that Day, and will shed over them a light of beauty and a blissful joy. And because they were patient and constant, He will reward them with a garden and (garments of silk).

Reclining in the (garden) on raised thrones, they will see there neither the sun's (excessive heat) nor (the moon's) excessive cold. And the shades of the garden will come low over them, and the bunches (of fruits), there, will hang low in humility.

And amongst them will be passed round vessels of silver and goblets of crystal, crystal-clear, made of silver they will determine the measure thereof (according to their wishes). And they will be given to drink there of a cup mixed with Zanjabil,

A fountain there called Salsabil. And round about them will serve youths of perpetual (freshness): if thou seest them, thou wouldst think them scattered pearls. And when thou lookest, it is there thou wilt see a bliss and a Realm Magnificent. Upon them will be green garments of fine silk and heavy brocade. And they will be adorned with bracelets of silver and their Lord will give to them to drink of a pure drink. "Verily this is a Reward for you, and your endeavour is accepted and recognised". [76: 5-22]

To the righteous (when) it is said, what is it that your Lord has revealed?" they say, "All that is good, "To those who do good, there is good in this world, and the home of the hereafter is even better. And excellent indeed is the home of the righteous, Gardens of Eternity, which they will enter: beneath them flow pleasant rivers, they will have therein all that they wish. Thus doth Allah reward the righteous. (Namely) those whose lives the angels take in a state of purity, saying (to them), "Peace be on you; enter ye the Garden, because of the good which ye did (in the world); [16:30-32]

The righteous (will be) amid gardens and fountains (of clear flowing water). (Their greeting will be) "Enter ye here in Peace and security. "And We shall remove from their hearts any lurking sense of injury (they will be) brothers (joyfully) facing each other on thrones (of dignity). There no sense of fatigue shall touch them nor shall they (ever) be asked to leave. [15:45-48]

As to the Righteous (they will be) in a position of security, among gardens and springs; dressed in fine silk and in rich brocade, they will face each other, so; and We shall join them to companions with beautiful big, and lustrous eyes. There can they call for every kind of fruit in peace and security; Nor will they there taste death except the first death and He will preserve them from the penalty of the blazing Fire, as a bounty from the Lord! That will be thy Supreme achievement! [44: 51-57]

After the Day of Judgment the obedient ones will enter Paradise forever. For further happiness they will be joined with their spouses of this world. By nature, man wants to share his happiness with his faithful family member thus Almighty Allah will grant them the additional enjoyment. However those persons who stood against the call of Truth and went astray will not enjoy this privilege. Even the father of Prophet Ibrahim, the son of Prophet Noah, the wife of Prophet Lot and the uncle of Prophet Mohammad (s.a.w.) will be deprived.

My devotees! No fear shall be on you that Day, nor shall ye grieve, (being) those who have believed in Our Signs and bowed (their wills to Ours) in Islam. Enter ye the Garden, ye and your wives, in (beauty and) rejoicing. To them will be passed round dishes and goblets of gold; there will be there all that the souls could desire, all the eyes could delight in; and ye shall abide therein for aye. Such will be the Garden of which ye are made heirs of your good deeds (in life). Ye shall have therein abundance of fruit, from which ye shall have satisfaction. [43: 68-73]

Verily the companions of the Garden shall that Day have joy in all that they do; they and their associates will be in groves of (cool) shade, on thrones (of dignity); (every) fruit (enjoyment) will be there for them;

they shall have whatever they call for; "Peace!" a word (of salutation) from a Lord Most Merciful! [36: 55-58]

As to the righteous, they will be in Garden, and in happiness, enjoying the (bliss) which their Lord hath bestowed on them, and their Lord shall deliver them from the penalty of the Fire.

To them will be said; "Eat and drink ye, with profit and health, because of your (good) deeds". They will recline (with ease) on thrones (of dignity) arranged in ranks; and We shall join them to companions, with beautiful big and lustrous eyes.

And those who believe and whose families follow them in faith, to them shall We join their families: nor shall We deprive them (of the fruit) of aught of their, works: (Yet) is each individual in pledge for his deeds. And We shall bestow on them, of fruit and meat, anything they shall desire. They shall there exchange, one with another, a (loving) cup free of frivolity, free of all taint of ill. Round about them will serve, (devoted) to them, youths (handsome) as pearls well guarded.

They will advance to each other, engaging in mutual enquiry. They will say: "Aforetime, we were not without fear for the sake of our people. "But Allah has been good to us, and has delivered us from the penalty of the Scorching Wind. "Truly, we did call unto Him from of old: Truly it is He, the Beneficent, the Merciful." [52: 17-28]

Gardens of perpetual Bliss: they shall enter there, as well as the righteous among their fathers, their spouses, and their offspring: and angels shall enter unto them from every gate (with the salutation): "Peace unto you for that ye persevered in patience! Now how Excellent is the final Home!" [13: 23-24]

10. THE LOSERS AND THEIR PUNISHMENT

The great tragedy of man on the earth is that he is NOT serious about his faith. He forgets the basic conception, who created him and why? What will he reply when questioned about his stay upon the earth? Such persons are like students who are sent to school to learn but instead they loaf throughout the year forgetting their final exams and then come out with tears in their eyes on the day of graduation, while others, the conscientious ones come out smiling with bright faces and gifts in their hands. Then what can be said about those who have wasted the full span of their lives, even though they were constantly reminded?

The people who deny Sole Sovereignty of Allah, His Commandments and the Day of Judgment, their good deeds will be of no avail to them. No matter how rich and powerful, they will be thrown to the Fire forever.

Such as took their religion to be mere amusement and play, and were deceived by the life of the world", that day shall We forget them as they forgot the meeting of this Day of theirs, and as they were wont to reject Our Signs. [7:51]

Then woe that Day to those that treat (truth) as falsehood; that play (and paddle) in shallow trifles. That Day shall they be thrust down to the Fire of Hell, irresistibly. "This", it will be said, "is the Fire, - which ye were wont to deny! "is this then a fake, or is it ye that do not see? "Burn ye therein; the same is it to you whether ye bear it with patience, or not ye but receive the recompense of your (own) deeds." [52: 11-16]

Those who are wretched shall be in the Fire: there will be for them therein (nothing but) the heaving of sighs and sobs: They will dwell therein for all the time that the heavens and the earth endure, except as thy Lord willeth: for thy Lord is the (sure) Accomplisher of what He planneth. [11:106-107]

Those who reject Our Signs and the meeting in the Hereafter, vain are their deeds. Can they expect to be rewarded except as they have wrought? [7: 147]

Those who reject faith, and die rejecting, on them is Allah's curse, and the curse of angels, and of all mankind; they will abide therein: their penalty will not be lightened, nor will respite be their (lot). [2:161-162]

Seest thou not those that dispute concerning the Signs of Allah? How are they turned away from reality? Those who reject the Book and the Revelations with which We sent Our Messenger; but soon shall they know, when the yokes (shall be) along their necks, and the chains; they shall be dragged along in the boiling fetid fluid. Then in the Fire shall they be burned [40: 69-72]

Seest thou not now how thy Lord dealt with the Aad (people), of the (city of) Iram, with lofty pillars, the like of which were not produced in (all) the land? And with the Thamud (people), who cut out (huge) rocks in the valley? And with Pharaoh, lord of stakes? (all) these transgressed beyond in the lands. And heaped therein mischief (on mischief). Therefore did thy Lord pour on them a scourge of diverse chastisements: for thy Lord is (as a Guardian) Watchful. [89:6-14]

The companions of the left hand, what will be the companions of the left hand? (They will be) in the midst of a fierce blast of Fire and in boiling water. And in the shades of black smoke. Nothing (will there be) to refresh, nor to please: for that they were wont to be indulged, before that, in wealth (and luxury) and persisted obstinately in wickedness supreme! And they used to say, "What! When we die and become dust and bones, shall we then indeed be raised up again? "(we) and our fathers of old?" Say: "yea, those of old and those of later times, All will certainly be gathered together for the meeting appointed for a Day well known. [56:41-50]

Then will ye truly, O ye that go wrong and treat (truth) as falsehood! "ye will surely taste of the tree of Zaqqum. "Then will ye fill your insides therewith, and drink boiling water on top of it; Indeed ye shall drink like diseased camels raging with thirst! Such will be their entertainment on the Day of Requital! [56: 51-56]

Woe to every (kind of) scandal-monger and backbiter, who pileth up wealth and layeth it by, thinking that his wealth would make him last for ever! By no means! He will be sure to be thrown into that which breaks to pieces. And what will explain to thee that which breaks to pieces? (It is) the Fire of the Wrath of) Allah kindled (to a blaze) the which doth mount (right) to the hearts: it shall be made into a vault over them, in columns outstretched. [104:1-9]

And if he be of those who treat (truth) as falsehood, who go wrong, for him is entertainment with boiling water, and burning in Hell-fire. Verily, this is the very Truth! And Certainty.[56: 92-95]

At length will be said to the wrongdoers: Taste ye the enduring punishment. Ye get but the recompense of what ye earned! They seek to be informed by thee: "Is that true?" Say: aye! "By my Lord! It is the Very Truth! And ye cannot frustrate it!"[10: 52-53]

The end of any torture on earth comes with death, which gives great comfort to any soul, but how horrible it will be when there is no death and torment is repeated again and again. The skin of wrong doers will be charred by Fire and replaced with new one again and again forever. They will be dragged to the pit of permanent agony because they denied reckoning of deeds and the Day of Judgment. Death will appear to them from every side but they will not die.

Those who reject Our Signs, We shall soon cast into the Fire: as often as their skins are roasted through, We shall change them for fresh skins, that they may taste the penalty: for Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise [4:56]

And he that will be given his record in his left hand will say: "Ah! Would that my record had not been given to me! And that I had never realized how my account (stood)! Ah! Would that (death) had made an end of me! Of no profit to me has been my wealth! My power has perished from me!" (The stern command will say)" Seize ye him and bind ye him, and burn ye him in the blazing Fire.

Further make him march in a chain whereof the length is seventy cubits! This was he that would not believe in Allah Most High, " And would not encourage the feeding of the indigent! So no friend hath he here this Day. Nor hath he any food except the foul pus from the washing of wounds, which none do eat but those in sin". [69:25-37]

On the Day that the enemies of Allah will be gathered together to the Fire, they will be marched in ranks. At length, when they reach the Fire, their hearing, their sight, and their skins will bear witness against them, as to (all) their deeds. They will say to their skins: "Why bear ye witness against us?" They will say: "Allah hath given us speech, (He) Who giveth speech to everything: He created you for the first time, and unto Him were ye to return. Ye did not seek to hide yourself, lest your hearing, your sight and your skins should bear witness against you! But ye did think that Allah Knew not many of the things that ye used to do! But this thought of yours which ye did entertain concerning your Lord hath brought you to destruction, and (now) have ye become of those utterly lost!"[41:19-23]

These two antagonists dispute with each other about their Lord. But those who deny (their Lord) for them will be cut out a garment of Fire: over their heads will be poured out boiling water. With it will be scalded what is within their bodies, as well as (their) skins. In addition there will be maces of iron (to punish) them. Every time they wish to get away therefrom, from anguish, they will be forced back therein, and (it will be said), "Taste ye the chastisement of Burning! [22:19-22]

Verily the tree of Zaqqum will be the food of the sinful, like molten brass: it will boil in their insides like the boiling of scalding water, (a voice will cry) "seize ye him and drag him into the midst of the blazing Fire! Then pour over his head the penalty of boiling water "taste thou (this) truly wast thou mighty, full of honour! Truly this is what ye used to doubt!"[44:43-50]

On you will be sent (o ye evil ones twain!) a flame of Fire (to burn) and a smoke (to choke): no defence will ye have: then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? When the sky is rent asunder, and it becomes red like ointment: then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

On that day no question will be asked of man or Jinn as to his sin, then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? (for) the sinners will be known by their marks: and they will be seized by their forelocks and their feet. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny? This is the Hell which the sinners deny. In its midst of boiling hot water will they wander round. [55:35-44]

Then will ye truly, o ye that go wrong, and treat (truth) as falsehood! "ye will surely taste of the tree of Zaqqum. "Then will ye fill your insides therewith and drink boiling water on top of it: "Indeed ye shall drink like diseased camels ranging with thirst! "Such will be their entertainment on the Day of Requital! [56: 51-56]

Truly Hell is as a place of ambush, for the transgressors a place of destination: they will dwell therein for ages. Nothing cool shall they taste therein nor any drink, save a boiling fluid and a fluid, dark, murky, intensely cold, a fitting recompense (for them). For that they used not to fear any account for their deeds, but they (impudently) treated Our Signs as false. And all things have We preserved on record. So taste ye the fruits of your deeds: for no increase shall We grant you, except in punishment. [78: 21-30]

When it (the blazing Fire) sees them from a place far off, they will hear its fury and its raging sigh. And when they are cast, bound together, into a constricted place therein, they will plead for destruction: This Day plead not for a single destruction, plead for destruction oft-repeated!: Say: "Is that best, or the eternal Garden, promised to the righteous? For them, that is a reward as well as a goal (of attainment) "for them there will be therein all that they wish for: they will dwell (there) for aye: a promise binding upon thy Lord." [25: 12-16]

The sinners will be in the punishment of Hell. To dwell therein (for aye): Nowise will the (punishment) be lightened for them, and in despair will they be there overwhelmed. Nowise shall We be unjust to them: But it is they who have been unjust themselves. They will cry: "O Malik! Would that thy Lord put an end to us!" He will say, "Nay, but ye shall abide"! Verily We have brought the Truth to you: But most of you have a hatred for Truth. [43:74-78]

In front of such a one is Hell, and he is given, for drink, boiling fetid water. In gulps will he sip it, but never will he be near swallowing it down his throat: death will come to him from every quarter, yet will he not die: and in front of him will be a chastisement unrelenting. [14:16-17]

One day We will ask Hell, "Art thou filled to the full?" It will say, "Are there any more (to come)? [50:30]

When the people who disbelieve! are driven towards Hell in herds, the warden will ask them, "Did no Warner come to you?" They will say: "Yes, indeed a Warner came to us but we rejected him and said that Allah revealed no message. Had we listened to them and used our mind". Also those who say that if Allah had guided us we should have been among the righteous-ones, will be deposited to the hell.

Further, when the people of Paradise ask them, "What led you into hell?" they will confess, "We were not of those who prayed nor did we feed the poor. We used to talk vanities with vain talkers and we used to deny the Day of Judgment until the end of our lives.

Once convinced of their eternal stay in the fire, they will start disputing among themselves about who is responsible for their humiliating fate. Satan, who is the avowed enemy of mankind but is befriended by many people, will exculpate himself and declare that the promise of Almighty Allah was true and that his promise was merely deception. You had mind to decide, do not blame me today, but blame yourself.

Almost bursting with fury: every time a group is cast therein, its Keepers will ask, "Did no Warner come to you?" they will say: "Yes indeed; a Warner did come to us, but we rejected him and said, "Allah never sent down any (message): ye are in nothing but an egregious delusion!" They will further say: "had we but listened or used our intelligence, we should not (now) be among the companions of the blazing Fire!" They will then confess their sins: but far will be (forgiveness) from the companions of the blazing Fire!" [67:8-11]

Every soul will be (held) in pledge for its deeds. Except the companions of the Right hand, they will be in Gardens of delight: they will question each other, and ask of the sinners: "what led you into Hell-fire"? They will say: "We were not of those who prayed: Nor were we of those who fed the indigent; But we used to talk vanities with vain talkers; And we used to deny the Day of Judgment, until there came to us (the Hour) that is Certain". [74: 38-47]

The unbelievers will be led to Hell in crowds until, when they arrive there, its gates will be opened, and its Keepers will say did not Messenger come to you from among yourselves, rehearsing to you the Signs of your Lord, and warning you of the meeting of this Day of yours? "True but the decree of punishment has

been proved true against the unbelievers!" (To them) will be said" "Enter ye the gates of Hell, to dwell therein: and evil is (this) abode of the arrogant!" [39:71-72]

Or (lest) it should say: If only Allah had guided me, I should certainly have been among the righteous! Or (lest) it should say when it (actually) sees the penalty: If only I had another chance, I should certainly be among those who do good! [39: 57-58]

O men! Certainly the promise of Allah is true. Let not then this present life deceive you, nor let the chief deceiver deceive you about Allah. Verily Satan is an enemy to you: so treat him as an enemy. He only invites his adherents, that they may become companions of the blazing Fire. [35: 5-6]

And Satan will say when the matter is decided. It was Allah Who gave you a promise of Truth: I too promised, but I failed in my promise to you. I had no authority over you except to call you, but ye listened to me: then reproach not me, but reproach your own souls. I cannot listen to your cries, nor can ye listen to mine. I reject your former act in associating me with Allah. For wrong doers there must be a grievous Penalty." [14:22]

Behold, they will dispute with each other in the Fire! The weak ones (who followed) will say to those who had been arrogant, we but followed you: can ye then take (on yourselves) from us some share of the Fire?" Those who had been arrogant will say: we are all in this (Fire)! Truly, Allah has judged between (His) servants. Those in the Fire will say to the Keepers of Hell: Pray to your Lord to lighten us the penalty for a day (at least)! They will say: Did there not come to you your messengers with clear Signs they will say "Yes" they will reply then pray (as ye like)! But the prayer of those without faith is nothing but (futile wandering) in (mazes of) error! [40: 47-50]

The punishment of the fire is so terrible that no person can bear it even for a moment. When the unbelievers are deposited in Hell for eternity, they will wish they had every thing on the earth and even double that, so they could offer it as ransom to save themselves from the Fire, but never will they come out of it.

For those who respond to their Lord, are (all) good things. But those who respond not to Him even if they had all that is in the heavens and on earth, and as much more, in vain would they offer it for ransom. For them will the reckoning be terrible: Their abode will be Hell, what a bed of misery! [13: 18]

As to those who reject Faith, if they had everything on earth and twice repeated to give as ransom for the penalty of the Day of Judgment, it would never be accepted of them. Theirs would be a grievous penalty. Their wish will be to get out of the Fire. But never will they get out therefrom. Their penalty will be one that endures. [5: 39-40]

Even if the wrong-doers had all that there is on earth, and as much more, (in vain) would they offer it for ransom from the pain of the penalty on the Day Judgment: but something will confront them from Allah, which they could never have counted upon! For the evils of their deeds will confront them, and they will be (completely) encircled by that which they used to mock at! [39: 47-48]

As to those who reject Faith, and die rejecting, never would be accepted from any such as much gold as the earth contain, though they should offer it for ransom. For such is (in store) a penalty grievous and they will find no helpers. [3: 91]

The evildoers, their families and those they worshipped besides Allah, will be led together to Hell. They will be all helpless, disputing together and throwing their blame on each other. All relation between worshippers and the one worshipped will sever. The followers will pray, "O Lord give them the double torment who misguided us and led us to this disgrace".

Bring ye up, it shall be said, the wrong-doers and their wives, and the things they worshipped besides Allah, and lead them to the way to the (fierce) Fire! But stop them, for they must be asked: what is the matter with you that ye help not each other! Nay, but that Day they shall submit to judgment, and they will turn to one another, and question one another.

They will say: it was ye who used to come to us from the right hand (of power and authority) they will reply: Nay, ye yourselves had no Faith! Nor had we any authority over you. Nay, it was ye who were a people in obstinate rebellion! So now has been proved true, against us, the Word of our Lord that we shall indeed have to taste the punishment of our sins. We led you astray: for truly we were ourselves astray. Truly, that Day, they will all share in the penalty. Verily that is how We shall deal with sinners. [37:22-34]

Yea, such! But for the wrong doers will be an evil place of final return! Hell! They will burn therein. An evil bed (indeed, to lie on) yea, such! Then shall they taste it, a boiling fluid. And a fluid dark, murky, intensely cold. And other penalties of a similar kind, to match them! Here is a troop rushing headlong with you! No welcome for them! Truly, they shall burn in the Fire!

(The followers shall cry to the misleaders) Nay, ye (too) no welcome for you! It is ye who have brought this upon us! Now evil is (this) place to stay in! they will say: our Lord! Whoever brought this upon us, add to him a double penalty in the Fire! [38:55-61]

Then would those who are followed clear themselves of those who follow (them) they would see the penalty and all relations between them would be cut off. And those who followed would say: If only we had one more chance we would clear ourselves of them as they have cleared themselves of us. Thus will Allah show them (the fruits of) their deeds as (nothing but) regrets. Nor will there be a way for them out of the Fire. [2:166-167]

And thou wilt see them brought forward to the penalty in a humble frame of mind because of their disgrace, and looking with a stealthy glance. And the believers will say those are indeed in loss who have given to perdition their own-selves and those belonging to them on the Day of Judgment. Behold! Truly the wrong doers are in a lasting Penalty![42: 45]

Disappointed from their supporters the evildoers will beg Almighty Allah to give them a chance to return them to the world again to lead a pious life but all their crying would be of no avail. They will be told, "Did We not grant you enough time and gave clear warning. Now taste the flavor of your misdeeds. Almighty Allah will forget them as they forget His Message in the world.

If only thou couldst see when the guilty ones will bend low their heads before their Lord, (saying) our Lord! we have seen and we have heard now, then send us back (to the world) we will work righteousness for we do indeed (now) believe. [32:12]

So warn mankind of the Day when the wrath will reach them: then will the wrong-doers say: our Lord! Respite us (if only) for a short term we will answer Thy Call and follow the messengers! What! Were ye not wont to swear aforetime that ye should suffer no decline? And ye dwelt in the dwellings of men who wronged their own souls ye were clearly shown how We dealt with them: And We put forth many parables in your behoof! [14:44-45]

The Fire will burn their faces, and they will therein grin, with their lips displaced, "Were not My Signs rehearsed to you, and ye did but treat them as falsehoods! They will say, our Lord! Our misfortune overwhelmed us" and we became a people astray! Our Lord! Bring us out of this if ever we return (to evil) then shall we be wrong doers indeed! He will say, Be ye driven into it (with ignominy) and speak ye not to Me! [23: 104-108]

But those who reject (Allah) for them will be the Fire of Hell: no term shall be determined for them, so they should die, nor shall its penalty be lightened for them. Thus do We reward every ungrateful one! Therein will they cry aloud (for assistance) our Lord! Bring us out we shall work righteousness, Not the (deeds) we used to do! Did We not give you long enough life so that he that would should receive admonition? And moreover the Warner came to you. So taste ye (the fruits of your deeds) for the wrong-doers there is no helper. [35:36-37]

If thou couldst but see when they are confronted with the Fire! they will say, would that we were but sent back! Then would we not reject the Signs of our Lord, but would be amongst those who believe! Yea, in their own (eyes) will became manifest what before they concealed. But if they were returned. They would certainly relapse to the things they were forbidden.[6: 27-28]

It will also be said: This Day We will forget you as ye forgot the meeting of this Day of yours! And your abode is the Fire, and no helpers have ye! This because ye used to take the Signs of Allah in jest and this life of the world deceived you: from the Day therefore, they shall not be taken out thence nor shall they be received into grace. [45:34-35]

Almighty Allah invites the entire human race to piety and truthfulness. They can not escape the Day of Judgment, the Day when no soul will have power to do aught for another. The absolute command on that Day will be that of Almighty Allah.

When the sky is cleft asunder; when the stars are scattered: when the oceans are suffered to burst-forth, and when the graves are turned upside down, (then) shall each soul know what it hath sent forward and (what it hath) kept back.

“O man! What has seduced thee from thy Lord Most Beneficent? Him who created thee, fashioned thee in due proportion, and gave thee a just bias; in whatever form He wills, does He put thee together. (82:1-8)

As for the righteous, they will be in Bliss, and the wicked they will be in the Fire, which they will enter on the Day of Judgment, and they will not be able to keep away therefrom. And what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is? Again what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is? (it will be) the Day when no soul shall have power (to do) aught for another, for the Command, that Day will be (wholly) with Allah [82:13-19]

11. REPENTANCE: THE LAST CHANCE

To err is human but to be obstinate in error is to oppress oneself. If one commits a sin but instantly turns to his Lord in repentance, He will find Him most forgiving. But if a person commits a sin and then persists in it or defends it, he repels the mercy of the Lord from himself. Holy Quran repeatedly invites men and women to sincere repentance. There is no disappointment for a truthful person. He may call his Lord Allah anytime, anywhere and every time, everywhere.

The gates of His mercy are wide open day and night for those who wish to repent. But one should not delay his repentance to the end of his life. When he lies flat on the death bed and sees the horrors of the other world and cries out repentance, there will be no forgiveness for him then, and he will not be availed by any ransom.

As to those who reject faith, if they had everything on earth, and twice repeated, to give as ransom for the penalty of the Day of Judgment, it would never be accepted of them. This would be a grievous penalty. [5: 39]

Unless he repents, believes, and works righteous deeds, for Allah will change the evil of such persons into good, and Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. And whoever repents and does good has truly turned to Allah in repentance. [25: 70-71]

Allah accepts the repentance of those who do evil in ignorance and repent soon afterwards; to them will Allah turn in mercy: for Allah is full of Knowledge and Wisdom. Of no effect is the repentance of those who continue to do evil, until death faces one of them, and he says, "now have I repented indeed", nor of those who die rejecting faith: for them have We prepared a punishment most grievous. [4:17-18]

Do they just wait for the final fulfillment of the event? On the Day the event is finally fulfilled, those who disregarded it before will say: "The messengers of our Lord did indeed bring true (tidings). Have we no intercessors now to intercede on our behalf? Or could we be sent back? Then should we behave differently from our behavior in the past." In fact they will have lost their souls, and the thing they invented will leave them in the lurch. [7:53]

If any one does evil or wrong his own soul but afterwards seeks Allah's forgiveness, he will find Allah Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. [4:110]

And those who, having done something to be ashamed of, or wrong their own souls, earnestly bring Allah to mind, and ask for forgiveness for their sins, and who can forgive sins except Allah? And are never obstinate in persisting knowingly in the wrong they have done, for such the reward is Forgiveness from their Lord, and Garden with rivers flowing underneath, and eternal dwelling: How excellent a recompense for those who work (and strive)! [3:135-136]

True repentance is the secret of sure success in this world and the hereafter. Almighty Allah invites the sinners of the morning to repent in the evening and sinners of the evening to repent in the morning. Sincerity is a condition.

O ye who believe turn to Allah with sincere repentance in the hope that your Lord will remove from you your ills and admit you to Gardens beneath which rivers flow. The Day Allah will not permit to be humiliated the Prophet and those who believe with him. Their Light will run forward before them and by their right hands while they say, "Our Lord, perfect our Light for us and grant us Forgiveness for Thou hast Power over all things. [66:8]

(And to preach thus), 'Seek ye the forgiveness of your Lord and turn to Him in repentance; that He may grant you enjoyment, good (and true) for a term appointed, and bestow His Abounding Grace on all who abound in merit! But if ye turn away, then I fear for you the penalty of a Great Day: [11:3]

Turn ye to your Lord (in repentance) and bow to His (Will) before the penalty comes on you: after that ye shall not be helped." And follow the Best of the courses revealed to you from your Lord, before the penalty comes on you of a sudden, while ye perceive not! "Lest the soul should (then) say: Ah! Woe is me! in that I neglected (my duty) towards Allah, and was but among those who mocked! [39: 54-56]

The entire world is full of misery. Death, disaster, disease, pain, agony, ignorance, poverty pollution and war, all are around us. It is really surprising that still we get plenty time to smile and various occasions to enjoy. Great is His Bounty and Grace. Truly if you count His favors, you will not succeed. He is the One who forgives the sins and accepts the repentance out of His extreme love of mankind. He declares a GRAND AMNESTY to all those who approach Him.

If ye would count up the favours of Allah never would ye be able to number them: for Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. [16:18]

(Allah)Who forgiveth sin, accepteth repentance, is severe in punishment, and is All Bountiful. There is no god but He: Him is the Final Goal. [40:3]

Say: "O my servants who have transgressed against their souls! Despair not of the Mercy of Allah: for Allah forgives all sins: for He is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. "Turn ye to your Lord in repentance and bow to His Will, before the penalty comes on you; after that ye shall not be helped. [39:53-54]

When those come to thee who believe in Our Signs say: Peace be on you. Your Lord hath inscribed for Himself (the rule of) Mercy. Verily if any of you did evil in ignorance and thereafter repented and amended (his conduct), lo He is Oft forgiving Most Merciful [6: 54]

It is up to us to run for this Grand Global Amnesty. No one is aware of how close is his death. Let us not think to repent tomorrow, for tomorrow we may be dead. Be quick in the race to repentance lest doom should fall tomorrow and the gates of repentance will then be closed.

Be quick in the race for forgiveness from your Lord, and for a Garden whose width is that of the whole of the heavens and of the earth, prepared for the righteous. [3:133]

The people who believe in one God and prophet-hood of Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Mohammad (may Allah's peace be upon on them all) and divine revelation of Torah, Bible and Quran, called Muslims, are the Best Nation of the mankind. They are not from one race, color or continent but embrace all colors races and continents. This brother-hood is based on one religion, Islam, the perfect way of life.

The people of the Book (Jews and Christians) are given glad tidings that if they accept Islam, the religion of God, they will be double rewarded. It is best for them. The door of Islam is open wide for all, black or white, rich or poor, male or female, young or old from every part of the world. By birth every child is a Muslim. It is his parent and society that corrupt him, but he may RETURN to his original faith whenever he or she wishes. A warm welcome in this world and forgiveness in the Hereafter awaits them all.

O, ye that believe fear Allah and believe in His Messenger, and He will bestow on you a double portion of His Mercy. He will provide for you a Light by which ye shall walk (straight in your path) and He will forgive you (your past). For Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. (57:28)

Ye are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in Allah. If only the People of the Book had faith, it were best for them: among them are some who have faith, but most of them are perverted transgressors. [3: 110]

12. MO'MENAAT: THE NOBLE LADIES

Islam is the religion of humanity for men and woman alike. It is the first religion to assign woman an exalted place in society. In the pre-Islamic era, woman in the world was regarded as a chattel, a marketable commodity or log of lust. Quranic ordinances bestowed upon her many privileges, such as the right of ownership and of inheritance as the wife, daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, or even a distant relative of a deceased person. The Holy Quran addresses women as well as men.

Muslim men and women are equally responsible for faith, worship and following the Islamic code. If a woman believes in Almighty Allah and does righteous deeds, she will enter Paradise and enjoy the eternal peaceful life, in the Hereafter. Muslim women are adorned with many noble qualities and are promised great reward. Muslim men and women are supporters of one another in all virtuous acts. Almighty Allah directed His Prophet (s.a.w.) to ask forgiveness for believing women in the same way as for believing men.

If any do deeds of righteousness, be they male or female and have faith, they will enter heaven, and not the least injustice will be done to them. [4: 124]

For Muslim men and women, for believing men and women, for devout men and women, for true men and women, for men and women who are patient and constant, for men and women who humble themselves, for men and women who give in charity, for men and women who fast (and deny themselves) for men and women who guard their chastity, and for men and women who engage much in Allah's praise for them has Allah prepared Forgiveness and Great Reward. [33:35]

The Believers, men and women, are protectors, one of another: they enjoin what is just and forbid what is evil. They observe regular prayers, practice regular charity and obey Allah and His messenger. On them will Allah pour His Mercy: for Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise.

Allah hath promised to Believers, men and women, Gardens under which rivers flow, to dwell therein, and beautiful mansions in Gardens of Everlasting Bliss. But the greatest Bliss is the Good Pleasure of Allah: that is the Supreme Felicity. [9:71-72]

Know, therefore, that there is no god but Allah, and ask forgiveness for the fault, and for the men and women who believe: for Allah Knows how ye move about and how ye dwell in your homes. [47:19]

Islam brings Muslim men and women together as a family and enjoins upon them to save themselves and their children from the fire of Hell, which melts bones and stones alike. It also prescribes special ordinances for women according to their natural requirements. Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) was commanded by Allah to take oath of allegiance from them and to pray for their forgiveness. Muslim women are instructed to cover their entire body when they go out of their houses and in front of men who are not close relatives (Mahram) to them. They are further enjoined not to backbite or laugh at other women or defame or insult each other. Those who falsely accuse faithful men or women bear the guilt of slander, which is a major sin. Islam also safeguards women's health instructing their husbands not to approach them during their course period.

O ye who believe! Save yourselves and your families from a fire whose fuel is men and stones, over which are appointed angels stern (and) severe who flinch not (from executing) the commands they receive from Allah, but do (precisely) what they are commanded. [66:6]

O Prophet! When believing women come to thee to take the oath of fealty to thee, that they will not associate in worship any other thing whatever with Allah, that they will not steal, that they will not commit adultery (or fornication), that they will not kill their children, that they will not utter slander, intentionally forging falsehood, and that they will not disobey thee in any just matter, then do thou receive their fealty, and pray to Allah for the Forgiveness (of their sins) for Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. [60:12]

And those who annoy believing men and women undeservedly, bear (on themselves) a calumny and a glaring sin. [33:58]

O ye who believe! Let not some men among you laugh at other: it may be that the (latter) are better than former nor let some women laugh at other: nor defame nor be sarcastic to each other, nor call

each other by (offensive) nicknames. III- seeming is a name connoting wickedness, (to be used of one) after he has believed: and those who do not desist are (indeed) doing wrong. [49:11]

O Prophet! Tell the wives and daughters and the believing women, that they should cast their outer garments over their person (when abroad) that is most convenient, that they should be known as such and not molested and Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. [33: 59]

They ask thee concerning women's courses. Say they are a hurt and a pollution so keep away from women in their courses, and do not approach them until they are clean. But when they have purified themselves, ye may approach them in any manner, time or place ordained for you by Allah. For Allah loves those who turn to Him constantly and He loves those who keep themselves pure and clean. [2:222]

Good wives are the best support for a virtuous life. There is glad tidings for them that they shall enter Paradise with their husbands. But those wives who defy their husbands and adopt an arrogant and extravagant attitude, refusing an Islamic way of life for the family, subject themselves to punishment in the Hereafter. Beware of them. A woman in Islam is a perfect entity, she is not a better-half. She is responsible for her good acts and bad.

Almighty Allah cites an example of two unbelieving women who, though married to Prophets, were deposited in the Hell. No relationship could save them from Fire. On the contrary, a believing woman who was married to Pharaoh, the most arrogant unbeliever, was admitted to Paradise because of her piety and true faith.

One Day shalt thou see the believing men and the believing women how their Light runs forward before them and by their right hands: (their greeting will be) good news for you this Day, Gardens beneath which flow rivers! to dwell therein for aye! This is indeed the Highest Achievement! [57:12]

(The Angels pray for the believing men and women) And grant, our Lord! that they enter the Gardens of Eternity, which Thou hast promised to them, and to the righteous among their fathers, their wives, and their posterity! For Thou art (He) the Exalted in Might, Full of Wisdom. [40:8]

O ye who believe! Truly, among your wives and your children are (some that are) enemies to yourselves so beware of them! But if ye forgive an overlook, and cover up (their faults), verily Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful [64: 14]

And that He may punish the hypocrites, men and women, and the polytheists, men and women, who imagine an evil opinion of Allah, on them is a round of evil: the Wrath of Allah is on them: He has cursed them and got Hell ready for them: and evil is it for a destination. [48:6]

Allah sets forth, for an example to the unbelievers, the wife of Noah and the wife of Lot: they were (respectively) under two of our righteous servants but they were false to their husbands and they profited nothing before Allah on their account, but were told: enter ye the Fire along with others that enter!

And Allah sets forth, as an example to those who believe, the wife of Pharaoh: Behold she said: O my Lord! Build for me, in nearness to Thee, a mansion in the Garden, and save me from Pharaoh and his doings, and save me from those that do wrong.

And Mary the daughter of Imran, who guarded her chastity, and We breathed into her (body) of Our spirit, and she testified to the truth of the words of her Lord and of His Revelations, and was one of the Devout (servants). [66:10-12]

13. PRAYERS & SUPPLICATIONS

The supreme privilege of man on earth is to knock at the door of Almighty Allah. However heinous may have been the sins of a suppliant, it is his birth right to approach Allah to seek His forgiveness and implore Him to fulfill his wishes. The All Knowing, All Hearing Creator and Ruler of the universe is ever ready to give him a patient hearing. The harder he knocks the more is he admired and loved by the Beneficent Lord. On the contrary, one who does not implore Him earns His wrath.

There are millions of souls on the earth who are living only in the PRESENT, heedless of the future, absorbed in their earthly duties or enjoyments, but in utter indifference to the purpose of their life on this earth. The vast majority of mankind in this age of gross materialism is not even conscious of the value and potency of supplication. Prayer is a mysterious spiritual agency. It has direct access to God's Throne. It brings us His Mercy and Grace. It is instrumental in helping us to attain our temporal and spiritual ends, satisfying our needs and desires, and in relieving us from sorrows and pains, difficulties and dangers. Prayer always operates as a shield against unforeseen calamities, though it is unperceived and unfelt.

Prayer indeed is the voice of faith. Faith in Allah makes the believer optimistic so that, he can fight the battle of life with hope and courage. The productive result of prayer depends upon the strength and activity of the human soul. What has the spirit to lean on except faith in which the human mind finds support and solace? "Call upon Me I shall answer you" says Almighty Allah in the Holy Quran.

It is not essential that our petitions, one and all are granted exactly as we wish. Allah Knows what best for us. We cannot claim that our actions are always in conformity with the commandments of Allah. We, sometime go astray, commit sins, Almighty Allah sends trials and tribulations, sorrows and pains, as warnings to bring us back to our senses, and remind us of the right path. Sorrows and pains are excellent, efficient tutors for those souls who recognize God. They often help the speedy evolution of the man spiritually.

Apart from these considerations, if we continue praying persistently and with faith, vigor and patience, the Beneficent, Merciful Lord is pleased to relieve us of the un-happy situation in which we had been placed.

It is unfortunate that the atheist, the skeptic and the agnostic, who even in investigating spiritual truths, rely wholly upon their limited intellects and so cannot bring themselves to believe in the existence of God. Their PUNISHMENT on earth is that they are denied and deprived of the consolation, solace and tranquility which the believing suppliant forthwith derives from his prayer, these spiritual supports which are indispensable in this life of worries and woes. The strength of their intellect or logic cannot relieve them of mental agony and torture when they are face to face with difficulties, dangers, accidents and calamities. *"Indeed in remembrance of Allah do hearts find satisfaction." (13:28)*

Prayers relating to our needs and desires and the relief that we seek, may not be immediately granted, we pray today for fulfillment of a wish, but it is not certain when our prayer will be granted. Our wish may be fulfilled immediately, after six weeks or perhaps after six years. We are sure to receive some kind of response from Almighty Allah far better than what we desired, if not in this life, in the Hereafter.

Prayer in Islam is the cream of worship; it is a hotline between the Supreme Sustainer and His humble servant. The call bell is working seven days a week 86,400 seconds a day. The addressed one is as close as your pulse beat. He hears not only the words in any language you might utter, but even what lies beyond words in sighs, cries and tears.

Almighty Allah has made three covenants: one for Himself, another for man and the third between man and his Lord. Incumbent on man is that he should not associate any partner with Him and worship Him alone with full sincerity. It is for Lord to reward man for his obedience and allow him to enter His Paradise. The third is the bond between the Supreme Ruler and the servant that when he beseeches Him, He awards him that which is most suitable for him. The ingredients of prayer are the nothingness and humbleness of the suppliant, and the Supreme Lordship and Almighty-ness of Allah.

Almighty Allah has declared to His Prophet (s.a.w.) that He is with His servant according to his thought about Him. "Whenever he thinks about Me, I am with him. If he remembers Me within himself I remember him within Myself. If he remembers Me in a group I remember him in a group better than his. If he

approaches Me by a palm's length, I approach him by a forearm's length. If he draws near to Me by a forearm's length I draw near to him by an arm's length and if he comes towards Me walking I come towards him hurriedly."

What else do we await? The Most Merciful is awaiting our sincere supplications. Let your hands be raised, lips murmur and eyes flow. Whatever the burden of your sins, it is not heavier than the earth, the sun and the moon. Whatever crimes you might have committed are not beyond the loftiness of His mercy. Your entire entity is not even a drop in the great ocean of the universe and your entire life is not more than a second in the endless space. Almighty Allah is Ever Living, Well Aware and Merciful. He is unwilling to turn back the hand of a suppliant empty and disappointed.

All prophets, including Adam, Noah, Saleh Abraham, Lot, Job, Joseph, Shu'aib, Moses, Solomon, Jonah, Zakaria, Jesus, and Mohammad supplicated to their Lord.. These prayers are best for us and should be read in Arabic wording from the Holy Quran.

Prayer of Adam and Eve: (Peace be upon him or pbuh)

They said: "Our Lord! We have wronged our own souls: If Thou forgive us not and bestow not upon us Thy Mercy, we shall certainly be lost." [7: 23]

Prayer of Prophet Abraham (pbuh)

And remember Abraham and Ismail raised the foundations of the House (with this prayer): "Our Lord! Accept (this service) from us: for Thou art the All Hearing, the All Knowing. "Our Lord! Make of us Muslim, bowing to Thy (Will), and of our progeny a people Muslims bowing to Thy (Will) and show us our places for the celebration of (due) rites; and turn unto us (in Mercy); for Thou art the Oft-Relenting, Most Merciful. [2: 127-128]

Prayer of Prophet Moses (pbuh):

(Moses) said: O my Lord! Expand me my breast; Ease my task for me; and remove the impediment from my speech, so they may understand what I say. [20:25-28]

Prayer of Aasia, wife of Pharaoh:

And Allah sets forth an example to those who believe the wife of Pharaoh. Behold she said: "O my Lord build for me in nearness to Thee, a mansion in the Garden , and save me from Pharaoh and his doing and save me from those that do wrong. (66:11)

Prayer of Prophet Solomon (pbuh)

So he smiled, amused at her speech; and he said: O my Lord! So order me that I may be grateful for Thy favours, which Thou hast bestowed on me and on my parents, and that I may work the righteousness that will please, Thee and admit me, by Thy Grace, to the ranks of Thy righteous Servants." (27:19)

Prayer of Prophet Jonah (pbuh)

And remember Zun-nun, when he departed in wrath: he imagined that We had no power over him! But he cried through the depths of darkness,

"There is no god but Thou: Glory to Thee: I was indeed wrong!" [21:87]

Prayer of Prophet Job (pbuh)

And (remember) Job when He cried to his Lord "Truly distress has seized me, but Thou art the Most Merciful of those that are merciful." (21:83)

Prayer of Prophet Jesus (pbuh) and his followers

And behold! I inspired the disciples to have faith in Me and Mine Messenger: They said, we have faith, and do thou bear witness that we bow to Allah as Muslims." [5:111]

When Jesus found unbelief on their part he said: Who will be my helper to (the work of) Allah? Said the Disciples: "We are Allah's helpers. We believe in Allah and do thou bear witness that we are Muslims. Our Lord! we believe in what Thou hast revealed, and we follow the Messenger ; then write us down among those who bear witness." [3:52-53]

Prayers of Believers in Holy Quran

In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful. Praise be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds; Most Gracious, Most Merciful; Master of the Day of Judgment. Thee do we worship, and Thine aid we seek show us the straight way. The way of those on whom Thou hast bestowed Thy Grace, those whose (portion) is not wrath, and who go not astray. [1:1-7]

And there are men who say: "Our Lord! Give us good in this world and good in the Hereafter, and save us from the torment of the Fire!" [2:201]

"Our Lord! (they say), let not our hearts deviate now after Thou hast guided us, but grant us mercy from Thee; for Thou art the Grantor of bounties without measure. "Our Lord! Thou art He, that will gather mankind together against a Day about which there is no doubt; for Allah never fails in His promise." [3: 8-9]

"Our Lord! We have heard the call of one calling (us) to Faith, Believe ye in the Lord, and we have believed. Our Lord! Forgive us our sins, Blot out from us our iniquities, and take to Thyself our souls in the company of the righteous. "Our Lord ! Grant us what Thou didst promise unto us through Thy Messengers, and save us from shame on the Day of Judgment: for Thou never breakest Thy promise" [3:193-194]

Say: Verily my Lord hath guided me to a Way that is straight a religion of right, the Path (trod) by Abraham the true in faith and he (certainly) joined not gods with Allah. Say: "Truly, my prayer and my service of sacrifice, my life and my death, are (all) for Allah, the Cherisher of the worlds: No partner hath He: This am I commanded, and I am the first of those who submit to His Will. [6: 161-163]

Say" O my Lord let my entry be by the Gate of Truth and Honour and likewise my exit by the Gate of Truth and Honour. And grant me from Thee an authority to aid me. (17:80)

And those who pray, "Our Lord! Grant unto us wives and offspring who will be the comfort of our eyes, and give us (the grace) to lead the righteous [25:74]

And those who came after them say: "Our Lord! Forgive us, and our brethren who came before us into the Faith, and leave not, in our hearts, rancour (or sense of injury) against those who have believed. Our Lord! Thou art indeed Full of Kindness, Most Merciful. [59:10]

On no soul doth Allah place a burden greater than it can bear. It gets every good that it earns, and it suffers every ill that it earns. (Pray): "Our Lord! Condemn us not if we forget or fall into error; Our Lord! Lay not on us a burden like that, which Thou didst lay on those before us, Our Lord: lay not on us a burden greater than we have strength to bear. Blot out our sins, and grant us forgiveness. Have mercy on us Thou art our Protector, grant us victory over the unbelievers." [2: 286] Ameen

THE CONCLUSION:

Holy Quran is the most authentic and Last Scripture on the face of earth. It is addressed to the entire humanity, transcending all barriers of race, region and time. It contains Divine Guidance for mankind for all times and in all phases of life materials as well as spiritual. It promises reward for good and punishment for evil actions, giving some glimpses of the life beyond. It is a comprehensive code of conduct to bring mankind from darkness to into light."

A.L.R. (This is) A Book which We have revealed unto thee in order that thou mightest lead mankind out of the depths of darkness into light by the leave of their Lord to the Way of (Him) the Exalted in Power Worthy of all Praise. (14:1)

The Quran urges mankind to attain purity of mind, purity of action and purity of speech, to love good and detest evil. It lays stress on faith hope and charity (known as the theological virtues) and on wisdom, fortitude, justice, and temperance (called Platonic virtues).

The Quran contains emphatic precepts on placing complete reliance of Allah in religious and temporal affairs. It inculcates on mankind the virtues of righteousness, beneficence, benevolence, philanthropy, self-sacrifice, generosity, service to humanity, piety, chastity, truthfulness, restraining anger, forgiveness, forbearance, patience, courage, prudence etc. It commends the establishment of universal fraternity, enjoins the propagation of Islamic faith and emphasizes a number of other virtues.

The Quran forbids all sins relating to property, such as cheating, fraud, swindling, theft, robbery, bribery, accumulation of wealth by unfair means, usurping movable and immovable properties of others and their rights over them, hoarding, under weighing, usury, gambling, prodigality, squandering wealth, even indiscriminate charity.

The Quran forbids all sins of thought and feeling, skepticism, agnosticism, malevolence, malice, jealousy, suspiciousness, self conceit, haughtiness, unjustifiable hatred, vindictiveness, spite, niggardliness, lethargy, despair, duplicity, craft and cunning etc.

The Quran forbids all sins of tongue (speech) such as perjury, falsehood, misrepresentation, slandering, backbiting, tale bearing, boasting, foul speech, gossip, idle and ill natured talk, even sneakish whispering in a meeting, impertinence, insulting and hurting the feeling of others, inquisitiveness about other peoples private affairs and spying except on enemies in war, hypocrisy and dissimulation.

The Quran forbids all sins relating to the palate or taste, such as eating pork, the flesh of certain animals and birds which is hurtful to the health, drinking blood, taking strong drinks and intoxicants. The Quran disapproves self indulgence and gluttony and enjoins eating and drinking in moderation.

The Quran strictly forbids sexual immorality and strongly condemns all sins of the flesh such as adultery, fornication, sodomy, homosexuality, debauchery, and libertinism, obscenity and lewdness in every form as heinous crimes. The Quran has prescribed exemplary punishments for such sins; flirtation and immodest conduct are forbidden.

The Quran forbids all sins affecting the human body such as homicide, causing physical hurt of any kind to any one by any means except the hurt that is caused in self defense or is required by justice. Suicide is condemned as a moral sin.

The Quran enjoins good manners, rules of etiquettes, decency and decorum, shows the right way to behave in public and private life and teaches how to walk humbly and talk politely. It emphasizes perfect physical cleanliness without which ritual worship is forbidden. No religion of the world insists on physical cleanliness so persistently as Islam does.

The Quran has laid down laws relating to inheritance, gifts and testaments, marriage, dower and divorce and civil laws to be administered by judiciary. It has laid down penal laws prescribing punishments for a number of sins.

The Quran requires every Muslim to be a social worker. His most important social duties are to propagate the teachings of Islam, to preach righteousness and prevent wickedness, to make mankind God-fearing, to fight cruelty and aggression to help the oppressed, the needy and the destitute and to be generous, kind and courteous to relatives, friends neighbors, orphans, widows and slaves and feed the starving, to treat Muslim slaves as brothers and to look to the comforts of prisoners.

The Quran enjoins Muslims to honour the treaties, pacts, and alliances which they may have entered into with foreign nations and to fulfill their individual promises, obligations and commitments." (POM 288-291) We know the Ten Commandments of Moses (PBUH) relating to moral behavior. Let us compare them with the following concise and condensed passage of the Quran which allows no virtue or vice to escape it:

Behold Allah enjoins justice, benevolence, and the giving to near ones (whatever should be necessary for them) and He forbideth lewdness, wickedness, and oppression. He warneth you that haply ye may be mindful. (16:90)

In the above verse justice, beneficence and charity are commended and lewdness, wickedness and oppression are condemned. What else does moral philosophy teach? This passage is recited in every Friday sermon since it embodies all the moral teachings in a nutshell. (POM p298)

This is all what we wanted to tell. It is the WORD OF GOD AND PROMISE OF GOD, which we presented to you. For further guidance you are invited to study Holy Quran direct. Now it is up to you to stay in the dark or come into the Light. May Allah bless you with the right decision. Amen.

Remember:

When the Sky is cleft asunder, when the Stars are scattered, when the Oceans are suffered to burst forth, and when the Graves are turned upside down (then) shall each soul know what it hath sent forward and (what it hath) kept back?

O man! What hath seduced thee from thy Lord, Most Beneficent? Him Who created thee in due proportion and gave thee a just bias, in whatever form He wills does He put thee together.

Nay but ye do reject The Judgment but verily over you (are appointed angels) to protect you, kind and honourable, writing (your deeds) they know all that ye do.

As for the Righteous, they will be in Bliss. And the Wicked, they will be in the Fire, which they will enter on the Day of Judgment. And they will not be able to keep away there from.

And what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is? Again what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is? It will be the Day when no soul shall have power (to do) aught for another for the Command that Day will be (wholly) with Allah (82: 1-19)

...Praise be to Allah, Who hath guided us to this (felicity):

Never could we have found Guidance, had it not been for the Guidance of Allah...(7:43)

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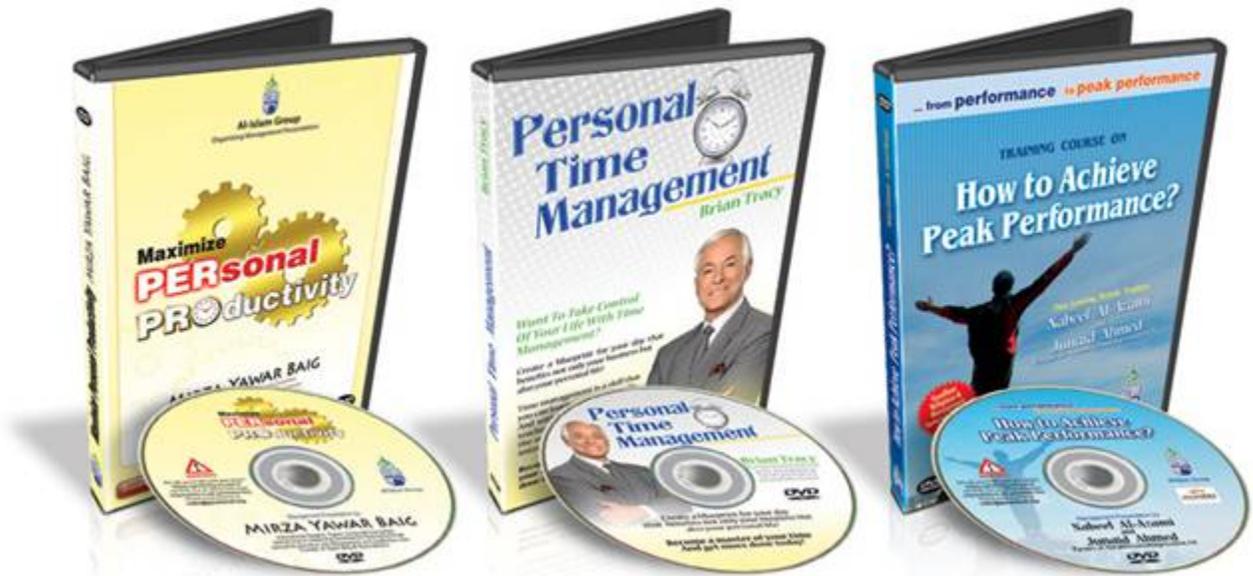
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