

The Excellence of The Quran

In the Light of
Quran & Sunnah

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

The Quran is that book which the Owner and Creator of the Universe revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (SAW), the noblest and the most eminent of the prophets.

Come let us look at the importance of the Quran in the light of the Quran and the Ahadith.

The Excellent Qualities of the Quran

(In the Light of The Quran)

Allah tells us:-

☞ "O mankind! There has come to you a direction 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)

☞ "Whosoever follows My guidance will not lose his way nor fall into misery. (20:123)

☞ "O mankind! Verily there has come to you a convincing proof from your Lord: for We have sent unto you a light (that is) manifest. Then those who believe in Allah and hold fast to Him, soon will He admit them to Mercy and Grace from Him and guide them to Himself by a straight Way." (4:175-175)

☞ "Allah has revealed (from time to time) the most beautiful message in the form of a Book consistent with itself, (Yet) repeating (its teaching in various aspects): The skins of those who fear their Lord tremble thereat; then their skins and their hearts do soften to the celebration of Allah's praises". (39:23)

☞ "There has come to you from Allah a (new) Light and a perspicuous Book, wherewith Allah guides all who seek His good pleasure to ways of peace and safety and leads them out of darkness, by His Will, unto the light, -guides them to a Path that is Straight." (5:15-16)

The Excellent Qualities of The Quran

(In the Light of The Ahadith)

The Prophet (SAW) said:

☞ "Dissension will certainly come." He was asked what is the way out of it, to which he replied, "Allah's Book is the way (out), for it contains information of what has happened before you, news of what will happen after you, and a decision regarding matters which occur among you. It is the distinguisher and is not jesting. If any overweening person abandons it Allah will break him, and if anyone seeks guidance elsewhere Allah will lead him

astray. It is Allah's strong cord, it is the wise reminder, it is the straight path, it is that by which the desires do not swerve nor the tongues become confused, and the learned cannot grasp it completely. It does not become worn out by repetition and its wonders do not come to an end. He who utters it speaks the truth, he who acts according to it is rewarded, he who pronounces judgment according to it is just, and he who invites people to it guides to a straight path." (Tirmidhi)

☞ *"Whenever a person recites one letter from the Book of Allah, one good deed is recorded for him. One good deed is equal to ten good deeds the like of it. I do not say that Alif-Lam-Mim is a letter, but A is a letter, L is a letter and M is a letter."* (Tirmidhi)

☞ *"One who was devoted to the Quran will be told to recite, ascend and recite carefully as he recited carefully when he was in the world, for he will reach his abode when he comes to the last verse he recites."* (Abu Dawood)

☞ *"Do not make your house as graveyards. Satan runs away from the house in which Surah al-Baqarah is recited."* (Muslim)

☞ *"Allah, who is Blessed and Exalted says, 'To him who is so occupied with the Quran as to neglect mentioning me and making any request of me, I will give the most excellent things I give to those who ask.'" (Tirmidhi)*

☞ *"The example of a believer who recites the Quran is that of a citron (a citrus fruit) which is good in taste and good in smell. And the believer who does not recite the Quran is like a date which has a good taste but no smell. And the example of an impious person who recites the Quran is that of Ar-Rihana (an aromatic plant) which smells good but is bitter in taste. And the example of an impious person who does not recite the Quran is that of a colocynth which is bitter in taste and has no smell."* (Bukhari)

☞ *"These hearts become rusty just as iron does when water gets to it." On being asked what could clear them, he (SAW) replied. "A great amount of remembrance of death and recitation of the Quran."* (Baihaqi)

☞ *"Learn and recite the Quran, for to one who learns, recites and uses it in prayer at night, it is like a bag filled with musk whose fragrance is diffused everywhere; and he who learns it and goes to sleep having it within him, is like a bag with musk tied up in it."* (Tirmidhi)

☞ *"Recite the Quran, for on the Day of Resurrection it will*

come as an intercessor for those who recite it." (Muslim)

☞ *"If anyone recites the Quran and acts according to its contents, on the Day of Judgment his parents will be given to wear a crown whose light is better than the light of the sun in the dwellings of this world if it were among you. So what do you think of him who acts according to this."* (Abu Dawood)

☞ *"Such a person as recites the Quran and masters it by heart, will be with the noble righteous scribes (in Heaven). And such a person exerts himself to learn the Quran by heart, and recites it with great difficulty, will have a double reward."* (Bukhari)

☞ *"Those persons who assemble in one of the houses of Allah (mosques), recite the Book of Allah and learn and teach the Quran (among themselves), there will descend upon them tranquillity, mercy will cover them, the angels will surround them and Allah will mention them in the presence of those near Him."* (Muslim)

☞ *"Reciting the Quran during prayer is more excellent than reciting it at other times, and reciting the Quran at a time other than during prayer is more excellent than extolling Allah and declaring His greatness. Extolling Allah is more excellent than sadaqah, sadaqah is more excellent than fasting, and fasting is a protection from Hell."* (Tirmidhi)

☞ A companion (RAA) narrates that when we were in Suffah, the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) came out and said: *"Which of you would like to go out every morning to Buthan or al-Aqiq (name of places) and bring two large she-camels without being guilty of sin or without serving the ties of kinship?"* We said: *"Messenger of Allah, we would like to do it."* Upon this he said: *"Does not one of you go out in the morning to the mosque and teach or recite two verses from the Book of Allah, the Majestic and Glorious? That is better for him than two she-camels, and three verses are better (than three she-camels) and four verses are better for him than four (she-camels), and so on their number in camels."* (Muslim)

The Required Attitude Towards The Quran

The Quran has been revealed so that we recite it, understand it and act upon it. It is so sad that we read it, but donot understand it! Allah has reproached us for this attitude and said:

"And there are among them illiterates who know not the Book but (see therein their own) desires and they do nothing but conjecture." (Quran 2:78)

The Prophet (SAW) said:

"Anyone who has nothing of the Quran within him is like a ruined house." (Tirmidhi)

"He who treats what the Quran prohibits as permissible does not believe in it." (Tirmidhi)

"Do not make the Quran a pillow, but recite it as it deserves to be recited during the night and the day. Recite it aloud, chant it and consider its contents, perhaps you may prosper; but do not seek to obtain reward for it in this world, for it provides rewards(in Hereafter)." (Tirmidhi)

"If anyone recites the Quran, seeking thereby to receive a living from people, he will come on the Day of Resurrection with his face as a fleshless bone." (Tirmidhi)

"The Quran is a proof on your behalf or against you." (Muslim)

"There is no envy except in two: a person whom Allah has given wealth and he spends it in the right way, and a person whom Allah has given wisdom (i.e. religious knowledge) and he gives his decisions accordingly and teaches it to the others." (Bukhari)

"The best among you (Muslims) are those who learn the Quran and teach it." (Bukhari)

"The superiority of Allah's words over all other words is like Allah's superiority over His creatures." (Tirmidhi)

So it must be the Quran on which we base our advice to others i.e. it is the Quran itself that should be used as our Book of Invitation. Every Muslim should therefore be able to understand the Arabic language of the Quran directly i.e. without the help of a translation. Reading the tafasirs (exegesis) of different scholars without any sectarian bias in order to benefit from them should also become common practice.

THE IMPRESSIONS OF BECKY HOPKINS, A NEW MUSLIM AFTER ATTAINING THE QURAN

"How can I put into words the overwhelming relief that I feel upon having discovered the answers to the questions I've been searching for all my life? It's like being blind and then suddenly given sight to a truth and a brightness never seen before. How can I tell of the joys that only finding the truth can bring? I want to sing it to the world. I want everyone I have ever known to share this with me and celebrate the door that has been opened to me."

"And the most wonderful and awesome thing shown to me was the glorious Quran. How I love and cherish my Quran! How

I read it every chance I get! I cannot put it down! Even in English the words can bring joy to my heart and tears to my eyes! There've been many times when I held Allah's words in my hands and wept at the revelations. How could I have been such a fool all my life? I shudder to think of my life without Islam."

"If I could climb to the highest mountain and be heard by everyone who is blind to Islam, I would shout all that has been shown to me. My questions have been answered. I now know the truth. If every person in the world thanked Allah for bringing me the truth, one hundred times a day for one hundred years, that still would not express my gratitude."

(Islamic Horizons- Dec 1987)

The Outcome of Turning Away from The Quran

When a Muslim is negligent in reciting the Holy Quran, understanding it or acting upon it, it is as if he has abandoned the Quran.

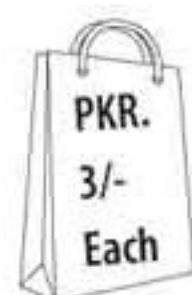
Allah tells us in Quran:

"But whosoever turns away from My Message, verily for him is a life narrowed down and We shall raise him up blind on the Day of Judgment." He will say: "O my Lord! Why have you raised me up blind while I had sight (before)?" (Allah) will say: "Thus did you when Our Signs came to you disregard them: so will you this day be disregarded." (20:124 -126)

And the Prophet (SAW) will file a case against him in Allah's court. *"O my Lord, indeed my people have taken this Quran as (a thing) abandoned."* (Quran 25:30)

LASTLY

We pray to Allah that He make the Quran the spring of our hearts, the light of our breasts, the dispeller of our sorrows, the eraser of our anxieties and worries and may this very Quran be our guide to His pleasure-filled Paradise. May He bestow upon us the ability to read it day and night in such a manner that He may be pleased with us and make it a proof on our behalf and not against us. Additionally, may He grant us the guidance to consider whatever he has made permissible as permissible and consider what he has prohibited as prohibited and Allah is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy. Ameen



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