



## Introduction to Quran

And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember, then is there any that will remember (or receive admonition)? (Chapter No 54, Verse No 22 – Holy Quran)

THE QUR AN is the supreme authority in Islam. It is the fundamental and paramount source of the creed, rituals, ethics, and laws of the Islamic religion. It is the book that 'differentiates' between right and wrong, so that nowadays, when the Muslim world is dealing with such universal issues as globalization, the environment, combating terrorism and drugs, issues of medical ethics, and feminism, evidence to support the various arguments is sought in the Qur an. This supreme status stems from the belief that the Qur an is the word of God, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**) via the archangel Gabriel, and intended for all times and all places.

The Quran is the literal, spoken Word of Allah revealed to the last Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**), may the mercy and blessings of Allah be upon him, through Gabriel, the Angel of Revelation, transmitted to us by numerous channels, both verbally and in written form. Inimitable and unique, it is divinely protected from corruption. God says:

'Indeed, it is We who sent down the message [i.e., the Qur'an] and indeed, We will be its guardian.' (Quran 15:9)

Holy Quran is the most widely read book in the world. The Quran was repeatedly revealed to Prophet Muhammad (**PBUH**) through Angel Jibril(AS) who is the king of all Angels.

Holy Quran was revealed at once to Bait ul Aizzah in the month of Ramazan. After then it was revealed on earth towards Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**) in different time periods according to the situation and this revelation process lasted for approximately twenty-three years.

Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**) received his first revelation in the cave of Hira where he spent lot of time worshipping Allah. Holy Quran is the miracle of Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**).

The revelation of Quran started when Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**) was 40 years old and it ends when his age was approximately 63 years.

The Holy Quran was collected by Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**) companions and is written and memorized to pass it to the next generations. It was revealed part by part, ayet by ayet and occasionally as whole chapters. It is the most memorable book and is fully memorized by millions of people all over the world.

## **Compilation of Quran**

The companions of Prophet Muhammad(**PBUH**) served in transferring the Islamic holy book to future generations. The Quran was compiled into a book in the time of the first caliph, Abu Bakr(RA).

During the 23 years of Muhammad's(PBUH) time as a prophet, the verses of the Quran were memorized as they were revealed, and about 42 scribes wrote the verses on different materials such as paper, cloth, bone fragments and leather.

The delegation of 12 people, including famous figures such as Uthman ibn Affan(RA), Ali ibn Abi Talib(RA), Talha ibn Ubaydullah(RA), Abdullah ibn Masood(RA), Ubayy ibn Kab(RA), Khalid ibn al-Walid(RA), and Hudhaifah(RA) , came together in Umar's(RA) house and collected all the materials on which verses from the Quran were written.

The compilation of Quran was done under the rightly guided Caliphs Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA) and Hazrat Usman (RA).

### **During Life of Holy Prophet Mohammad (PUBH)**

As the Quran was being revealed, the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH) made special arrangements to ensure that it was written down. Although the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH) himself could neither read nor write, he dictated the verses orally and instructed scribes to mark down the revelation on whatever materials were available: tree branches, stones, leather, and bones. The scribes would then read their writing back to the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH), who would check it for mistakes. With each new verse that was revealed, the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH) also dictated its placement within the growing body of text.

When the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH) passed away, the Quran has been fully written down. It was not in book form, however. It was recorded on different parchments and materials, held in the possession of the Companions of the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH).

### **During Life of Caliph Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA)**

After the death of the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH), the entire Quran continued to be remembered in the hearts of the early Muslims.

Hundreds of the early Companions of the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH) had memorized the entire revelation, and Muslims daily recited large portions of the text from memory. Many of the early Muslims also had personal written copies of the Quran recorded on various materials.

Ten years after the Hijrah (632 C.E.), many of these scribes and early Muslim devotees were killed in the Battle of Yamama. While the community mourned the loss of their comrades, they also began to worry about the long-term preservation of the Holy Quran. Recognizing that the words of Allah (SWT) needed to be collected in one place and preserved, the Caliph Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA) ordered all people who had written pages of the Quran to compile them in one place. The project was organized and supervised by one of the Prophet Mohammad's (PUBH) key scribes, Hazrat Zayd bin Thabit (RA).

The process of compiling the Quran from these various written pages was done in four steps:

- Hazrat Zayd bin Thabit (RA) verified each verse with his own memory.
- Hazrat Umar ibn Al-Khattab (RA) verified each verse. Both men had memorized the entire Quran.
- Two reliable witnesses had to testify that the verses were written in the presence of the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH).
- The verified written verses were collated with those from the collections of other Companions.

This method of cross-checking and verifying from more than one source was undertaken with the utmost care. The purpose was to prepare an organized document which the entire community could verify, endorse, and use as a resource when needed.

This complete text of the Quran was kept in the possession of Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA), and then

passed on to the next Caliph, Hazrat Umar ibn Al-Khattab (RA). After his death, they were given to his daughter Hazrat Hafsa (RA) (who was also a widow of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)).

### **During Life of Caliph Hazrat Usman (RA)**

During the third caliphate of Hazrat Usman (RA). The Muslim empire expanded greatly. Hazrat Usman (RA) learnt that some people were reading the Quran in a different way. Hazrat Usman (RA) thought that the original meaning of the true Quran might change as it has happened to other books of Allah (SWT). He ordered Hazrat Zaid Bin Thabit (RA) to make a true collection. Hazrat Zaid Bin Thabit (RA) did this work with the help of other senior Muslims. They collected all the true copies of Quran and they ensured these contain only the words of the Prophet Mohammad (PUBH). They checked that they were written in the dialect of Quraish, because it was the Holy Prophets Mohammad (PUBH) speech. After much hard work, the collection was made.

Hazrat Usman (RA) ordered a number of copies of this authoritative collection to be made and had them sent to the major cities of the empire. He also ordered that all other versions of Quran should be destroyed to prevent this problem to arise again in the future.

All Qurans available in the world today are exactly identical to the Usmani version, which was completed less than twenty years after the death of Prophet Mohammad (PUBH). Later, some minor improvements were made in the Arabic script (adding dots and diacritical marks), to make it easier for non-Arabs to read. However, the text of the Quran has remained the same.

Holy Quran is the finest piece of literature available in the world in Arabic language. It is the only book in the world that is in its original form after its revelation 1400 years ago.

Holy Quran consists of 114 chapters. Out of 114 chapters, 86 chapters were revealed when Prophet(PBUH) was in Meecca and 28 chapters were revealed when Prophet(PBUH) was in Madina. Each Chapter covers various aspects like rules and restrictions, rewards and the punishment.

All the chapters except one begin with the sentence *Bismillahir rahmanir raheem*, 'In the name of Allah the most merciful and the most kind'. This is the thought with which Muslims should start every action.

The longest chapter of the Qur'an is Surah *Baqarah* (The Cow) with 286 verses and the shortest is Surah *Al-Kawther* (abundance) which has 3 verses.

The arrangement of surahs does not correspond to the chronological order in which they were revealed.

The Qur'an is sometimes divided into 30 roughly equal parts, known as juz'. These divisions make it easier for Muslims to read the Qur'an during the course of a month and many will read one juz' each day, particularly during the month of ramadan.

The first chapter of the Quran is repeated in daily prayers and in other occasions. This chapter, which consists of seven verses, is the most often recited chapter of the Holy Quran:

**The Quran** is not simply an inspired scripture. It is a divine book brought down from heaven by **the** angel Gabriel to **the** Prophet Muhammad(PBUH), and its message is **the** key to heaven. Join us for an exploration of **the** scripture that is **the** word of God to over a billion people.

## Holy Quran Names

Quran Majeed has lot of names , among all 6 are most popular.

1. Al-Kitab (Surah- AlBaqrah- 2)
2. Al-Quran (Surah- AlBaqrah- 185)
3. Al-Zikar (Surah- Alhijr- 9)
4. Al-Wahyi (Surah- AlAnbiya-45)
5. Al-Furqan (Surah- AlFurqan- 1)
6. Al-Rooh (Surah- AlShurah- 52)

## Holy Quran Features

Holy Quran attests all the Prophets as true Prophets because all of them were sent from Allah.

Quran Majeed contains the biographies of some past Prophets.

Not even a single word of Quran is changed or replaced since its revelation 1400 years ago.

Quran Majeed is a miracle, pure and true words from Allah.

Holy Quran is the most memorized book in the world.

Quran is the only book in the world that covers all the aspects of life for the guidance of human beings.

Quran Majeed offers lots of benefits and favors for the human beings that were not there in previous Holy books.

No other Holy book is in its original form but Quran is the only Holy Book.

Quran is the base of modern sciences and technologies.

Quran Majeed is a blessing and health source for human beings.

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## What are some major themes in the Quran?

There are many themes and ideas explored in the Quran, but the major ones include:

- The Oneness of God
- The importance of worship and obedience to God
- The existence of an Afterlife and the Day of Judgment
- Guidance and wisdom for leading a righteous and moral life
- The creation of the universe and all living things
- The role of prophets and revelation in guiding humanity
- The consequences of good and evil actions
- The significance of social justice and fairness

These themes are interwoven throughout the Quran and serve as a guide for believers on how to live their lives in accordance with the will of God.

### What is Wahi 'وَحْيٍ' (Divine revelation)

According to the dictionary, Wahi means to give news secretly, give a signal, convey a message, etc., whereas in Shar'i terminology Wahi is called the Kalam (the Divine Word) that was revealed to blessed Ambiya عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ from Allah Almighty.

#### Types of Wahi

There are three types of Wahi for blessed Ambiya عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ:

Listening to Kalam of Allah Almighty directly without any angel in between such as, when Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ did on Koh-e-Toor, whereas our Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ listened [to the Kalam of Allah Almighty] on the night of Mi'raaj.

Wahi through an angel.

Revealing something through Divinely-made inspiration in the heart of Ambiya عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ.

#### Forms of Wahi

These three types of Wahi are found in several forms:

1. In dream such as Hazrat Ibraheem عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ saw a dream in which he was commanded to sacrifice Hazrat Isma'eel عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ.

2. Revealing something through Divinely-made inspiration in the heart.

3. When Wahi descends in the form of a bell sound; this type of Wahi was the hardest one on the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ because in this type, Wahi used to be sent as it was being sent to angels.

4. When an angel presents the Kalam of Allah Almighty by taking the shape of any famous or unfamous man such as Sayyiduna Jibra'eel عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ came in the shape of an A'rabi (villager) and would also come in the shape of Sayyiduna Dihyah Kalbi رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ.

5. When Sayyiduna Jibra'eel Ameen عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ comes in his own shape; he has 600 arms from which rubies and pearls fall off.

6. When blessed Ambiya عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ would listen to the Kalam of Allah Almighty behind a purdah or without any purdah; this act of listening could be in wakefulness such as on the night of Mi'raaj the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ did and Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ did on Koh-e-Toor or in dream such as the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ listened. ('Umda-tul-Qaari, vol. 1, pp. 74; Nuzha-tul-Qaari, vol. 1, pp. 234)