

away, who then can supply you with flowing (spring) water?"

بِمَاؤَمِّينَ ﴿٥﴾

**Sûrat Al-Qalam or Nûn
(The Pen) LXVIII**



*In the Name of Allâh
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1. Nûn.

[These letters (Nûn, etc.) are one of the miracles of the Qur'ân, and none but Allâh (Alone) knows their meanings].

ن

وَالْقَلَمِ وَمَا يَسْطُرُونَ ﴿٦﴾

By the pen and by what they (the angels) write (in the Records of men).

2. You (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم), by the Grace of your Lord, are not mad.

مَا أَنْتَ بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ بِمَجْنُونٌ ﴿٧﴾

3. And Verily, for you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) will be an endless reward.

وَلِنَّكَ لَكَ لَأَجْرًا غَيْرَ مَمْنُونٍ ﴿٨﴾

4. And Verily, you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) are on an exalted (standard of) character.

وَأَنَّكَ لَ عَلَى خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ ﴿٩﴾

5. You will see, and they will see,

فَسَتُبْصِرُ وَيُبْصِرُونَ ﴿١٠﴾

6. Which of you is afflicted with madness.

بِأَيِّكُمْ الْمَقْتُولُ ﴿١١﴾

7. Verily, your Lord is the Best Knower of him who has gone astray from His Path, and He is the Best Knower of those who are guided.

إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنْ ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ

بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ ﴿١٢﴾

8. So (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) obey you not the deniers [(of Islâmic Monotheism — those who belie the Verses of Allâh), the Oneness of Allâh, and the Messengership of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم]^[1]

فَلَا تَطْعَمُ الْمَكْذِبِينَ ﴿١٣﴾

9. They wish that you should compromise (in religion out of courtesy) with them: so they (too) would compromise with you.

وَدُّوا لَوْ تُدْهِنُ فَيُدْهِنُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

^[1] (V.68:8) See the footnote of (V.3:85).

10. And (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) obey you not everyone *Hallaḥ Mahīn* (the one who swears much and is a liar or is worthless). [*Tafsir At-Tabari*]

11. A slanderer, going about with calumnies,

12. Hinderer of the good, transgressor, sinful,

13. Cruel, and moreover base-born (of illegitimate birth).

14. (He was so) because he had wealth and children.

15. When Our Verses (of the Qur'ân) are recited to him, he says: "Tales of the men of old!"

16. We shall brand him on the snout (nose)!

17. Verily, We have tried them as We tried the people of the garden, when they swore to pluck the fruits of the (garden) in the morning,

18. Without saying: *Inshâ' Allâh* (If Allâh wills).

19. Then there passed by on the (garden) a visitation (fire) from your Lord at night and burnt it while they were asleep.

20. So the (garden) became black by the morning, like a pitch dark night (in complete ruins).

21. Then they called out one to another as soon as the morning broke.

22. Saying: "Go to your tilth in the morning, if you would pluck the fruits."

23. So they departed, conversing in secret low tones (saying):

24. No *Miskīn* (poor man) shall enter upon you into it today.

وَلَا تُطِيعُ كُلَّ حَلَّافٍ مَّهِينٍ ﴿١٥﴾

هَمَّازٍ مَشَّاءٍ نَبِيمٍ ﴿١١﴾

مَنَّاعٍ لِلْخَيْرِ مُعْتَدٍ أَثِيمٍ ﴿١٢﴾

عُتْلٍ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ زَنِيمٍ ﴿١٣﴾

أَن كَانَ ذَا مَالٍ وَبَنِينَ ﴿١٤﴾

إِذَا تُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِ آيَاتُنَا قَالَ أَسَاطِيرُ

الْأَوَّلِينَ ﴿١٥﴾

سَنَسِفُهُ عَلَى الْحُطُورِ ﴿١٦﴾

إِنَّا بَلَوْنَاهُمْ كَمَا بَلَوْنَا أَصْحَابَ الْجَنَّةِ إِذْ أَقْسَمُوا

لَيَصْرِفُنَّهَا مُصْبِحِينَ ﴿١٧﴾

وَلَا يَسْتَنْوُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

فَطَافَ عَلَيْهِمُ طَائِفٌ مِّن رَّبِّكَ وَهُمْ نَائِمُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

فَأَصْبَحَتْ كَالصَّرِيمِ ﴿٢٠﴾

فَنَادَوْا مُصْبِحِينَ ﴿٢١﴾

أَنِ اغْدُوا عَلَيَّ حَرْبِكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

فَانْطَلَقُوا وَهُمْ يَخْفَوْنَ ﴿٢٣﴾

أَن لَّا يَدْخُلُهَا الْيَوْمَ عَلَيْكُم مَّرْصُكُمُ ﴿٢٤﴾

25. And they went in the morning with strong intention, thinking that they have power (to prevent the poor taking anything of the fruits therefrom).

وَعَدُوا عَلَىٰ حَرْدٍ قَدِيرِينَ ﴿٢٥﴾

26. But when they saw the (garden), they said: "Verily, we have gone astray."

فَلَمَّا رَأَوْهَا قَالُوا إِنَّا لَضَالُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

27. (Then they said): "Nay! Indeed we are deprived of (the fruits)!"

بَلْ نَحْنُ مَحْرُومُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾

28. The best among them said: "Did I not tell you: why say you not: *Inshâ' Allâh* (If Allâh wills)."

قَالَ أَوْسَطُهُمْ أَلَرَأَيْتُ لَكُمْ لَوْ لَا يُنْشِئُكَ ﴿٢٨﴾

29. They said: "Glory to Our Lord! Verily, we have been *Zâlimûn* (wrong-doers)."

قَالُوا سُبْحَانَ رَبِّنَا إِنَّا كُنَّا ظَالِمِينَ ﴿٢٩﴾

30. Then they turned one against another, blaming.

فَأَقْبَلَ بَعْضُهُمْ عَلَىٰ بَعْضٍ يَتَلَمَّزُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾

31. They said: "Woe to us! Verily, we were *Tâghûn* (transgressors and disobedient)

قَالُوا وَيَلْنَا إِنَّا كُنَّا طَالِعِينَ ﴿٣١﴾

32. We hope that our Lord will give us in exchange a better (garden) than this. Truly, we turn to our Lord (wishing for good that He may forgive our sins and reward us in the Hereafter).

عَسَىٰ رَبَّنَا أَن يُبَدِّلَنَا خَيْرًا مِنْهَا إِنَّا إِلَىٰ رَبِّنَا رَاغِبُونَ ﴿٣٢﴾

33. Such is the punishment (in this life), but truly the punishment of the Hereafter is greater if they but knew.

كَذَٰلِكَ الْعَذَابُ وَلَٰعَذَابُ الْآخِرَةِ أَكْبَرُ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٣٣﴾

34. Verily, for the *Muttaqûn* (the pious — See V.2:2) are Gardens of delight (Paradise) with their Lord.

إِنَّ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ عِندَ رَبِّهِمْ جَنَّاتٍ النَّعِيمِ ﴿٣٤﴾

35. Shall We then treat the Muslims (believers of Islamic Monotheism, doers of righteous deeds) like the *Mujrimûn* (criminals, polytheists and disbelievers, etc.)?

أَفَجَعَلْنَا الْمُسْلِمِينَ كَالْمُجْرِمِينَ ﴿٣٥﴾

36. What is the matter with you? How judge you?

مَا لَكُمْ كَيْفَ تَحْكُمُونَ ﴿٦٨﴾

37. Or have you a Book wherein you learn,

أَمْ لَكُمْ كِتَابٌ فِيهِ تَدْرُسُونَ ﴿٦٩﴾

38. That you shall therein have all that you choose?

إِنْ لَكُمْ فِيهِ لَمَّا تَخَرُّونَ ﴿٧٠﴾

39. Or have you oaths from Us, reaching to the Day of Resurrection, that yours will be what you judge?

أَمْ لَكُمْ أَيْمَانٌ عَلَيْنَا بَالِغَةٌ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَمَةِ
إِنْ لَكُمْ لِمَّا تَحْكُمُونَ ﴿٧١﴾

40. Ask them, which of them will stand surety for that!

سَلِّمْهُمْ أَیُّهُمْ بِذَلِكَ رَعِیمٌ ﴿٧٢﴾

41. Or have they "partners"? Then let them bring their "partners" if they are truthful!

أَمْ لَهُمْ شُرَكَاءُ فَلْيَأْتُوا بِشُرَكَائِهِمْ إِنْ كَانُوا صَادِقِينَ ﴿٧٣﴾

42. (Remember) the Day when the Shin^[1] shall be laid bare (i.e. the Day of Resurrection) and they shall be called to prostrate themselves (to Allâh), but they (hypocrites) shall not be able to do so.

يَوْمَ يُكْشَفُ عَنْ سَاقٍ وَيُدْعَوْنَ إِلَى السُّجُودِ
فَلَا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ ﴿٧٤﴾

[1] (V.68:42).

a) Narrated Abû-Sa'îd رضى الله عنه: I heard the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم saying, "Allâh will lay bare His Shin and then all the believers, men and women, will prostrate themselves before Him; but there will remain those who used to prostrate themselves in the world for showing off and for gaining good reputation. Such a one will try to prostrate himself (on the Day of Judgement) but his back (bones) will become a single (vertebra) bone (so he will not be able to prostrate). (Sahih Al-Bukhari, Vol.6, Hadîth No.441).

b) See the footnote of (V.3:73) صفات الله .

c) Narrated Abû Sa'îd Al-Khudrî رضى الله عنه: We said, "O Allâh's Messenger! Shall we see our Lord on the Day of Resurrection?" He said, "Do you have any difficulty in seeing the sun and the moon when the sky is clear?" We said, "No." He said, "So you will have no difficulty in seeing your Lord on that Day as you have no difficulty in seeing the sun and the moon (in a clear sky)." The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم then said, "Somebody will then announce, 'Let every nation follow what they used to worship.' So the people of the Cross will go with their Cross, and the idolaters (will go) with their idols, and the worshippers of every god (false deities) (will go) with their god: till there remain those who used to worship Allâh, from the righteous pious ones and the mischievous ones, and some of the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians). Then Hell will be presented to them as if it were a mirage. Then it will be said to the Jews, 'What did you use to worship?' They will reply, 'We used to worship 'Uzair (Ezra), the son of Allâh.' It will be said to them, 'You are liars, for Allâh has neither a

wife nor a son. What do you want (now)?' They will reply, 'We want You to provide us with water.' Then it will be said to them 'Drink', and they will fall down in Hell (instead). Then it will be said to the Christians, 'What did you use to worship?' They will reply, 'We used to worship Messiah, the son of Allâh.' It will be said, 'You are liars, for Allâh has neither a wife nor a son. What do you want (now)?' They will say, 'We want You to provide us with water.' It will be said to them, 'Drink,' and they will fall down in Hell (instead): till there remain only those who used to worship Allâh (Alone), from the righteous pious ones and the mischievous evil ones, it will be said to them, 'What keeps you here when all the people have gone?' They will say, 'We left them (in the world) when we were in greater need of them than we are today; we heard the call of one proclaiming — Let every nation follow what they used to worship, - and now we are waiting for our Lord.' Then the Almighty will come to them in a shape other than the one which they saw the first time, and He will say, 'I am your Lord,' and they will say, 'You are our Lord.' And none will speak to Him then but the Prophets. And then it will be said to them, 'Do you know any sign by which you can recognise Him?' They will say, 'The Shin,' and so Allâh will then uncover His Shin whereupon every believer will prostrate himself before Him and there will remain those who used to prostrate themselves before Him just for showing off and for gaining good reputation. Such a one will try to prostrate himself but his back (bones) will become a single (vertebra) bone [like one piece of a wood and he will not be able to prostrate]. Then the bridge will be brought and laid across Hell." We (the Companions of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "O Allâh's Messenger! What is the bridge?" He said, "It is a slippery (bridge) on which there are clamps and (hooks like) a thorny seed that is wide at one side and narrow at the other and has thorns with bent ends. Such a thorny seed is found in Najd and is called *As-Sa'dân*. Some of the believers will cross the bridge as quickly as the wink of an eye, some others as quick as lightning, or a strong wind, or fast horses or she-camels. So some will be safe without any harm; some will be safe after receiving some scratches and some will fall down into Hell (Fire). The last person will cross as if being dragged (over the bridge)." The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "You (Muslims) cannot be more pressing in claiming from me a right that has been clearly proved to be yours than the believers in interceding with Almighty for their (Muslim) brothers on that Day, when they see themselves safe. They will say, 'O Allâh! (Save) our brothers (for they) used to pray with us, fast with us and also do good deeds with us.' Allâh will say, 'Go and take out (of Hell) anyone in whose heart you find Faith equal to the weight of one (gold) Dinar.' Allâh will forbid the Fire to burn the faces of those sinners. They will go to them and find some of them in Hell (Fire) up to their feet, and some up to the middle of their legs. So, they will take out those whom they will recognise and then they will return. And Allâh will say (to them), 'Go and take out (of Hell) anyone in whose heart you find Faith equal to the weight of one-half Dinar.' They will take out whomever they will recognise and return. And then Allâh will say, 'Go and take out (of Hell) anyone in whose heart you find Faith equal to the weight of an atom (or a small ant), and so they will take out all those whom they will recognise." Abû Sa'îd said: "If you do not believe me then read the Holy Verse: 'Surely Allâh wrongs not even of the weight of an atom (or a small ant) but if there is any good (done), He doubles it.' (V.4:40)."

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم added: "Then the Prophets and angels and the believers will intercede, and (last of all) the Almighty (Allâh) will say, 'Now remains My Intercession. He will then hold a handful of the Fire from which He will take out some people whose bodies have been burnt, and they will be thrown into a river at the entrance of Paradise, called the Water of Life. They will grow on its banks, as a seed carried by the torrent grows. You have noticed how it grows beside a rock or beside a tree, and how the side facing the sun is usually green while the side facing the shade is white. Those people will come out (of the River of Life) like pearls, and they will have (golden) necklaces, and then they will enter Paradise whereupon the people of Paradise will say, 'These are the people emancipated by the Gracious. He has admitted them into Paradise without (them) having done any good deed and without sending forth any good (for themselves).' Then it will be said to them, 'For you is what you have seen and its equivalent as well.' " (*Sahih Al-Bukhari*, Vol. 9, *Hadith* No. 532B).

43. Their eyes will be cast down and ignominy will cover them; they used to be called to prostrate themselves (offer prayers), while they were healthy and good (in the life of the world, but they did not).

44. Then leave Me Alone with such as belie this Qur'ân. We shall punish them gradually from directions they perceive not.

45. And I will grant them a respite. Verily, My Plan is strong.

46. Or is it that you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) ask them a wage, so that they are heavily burdened with debt?

47. Or that the *Ghaib* (the Unseen — here in this Verse it means *Al-Lauh Al-Mahfûz*) is in their hands, so that they can write it down?

48. So wait with patience for the Decision of your Lord, and be not like the Companion of the Fish — when he cried out (to Us) while he was in deep sorrow. (See the Qur'ân, Verse 21:87).

49. Had not a Grace from his Lord reached him, he would indeed have been (left in the stomach of the fish, but We forgave him): so he was cast off on the naked shore, while he was to be blamed.

50. Then his Lord chose him and made him of the righteous.

51. And Verily, those who disbelieve would almost make you slip with their eyes (through hatred) when they hear the Reminder (the Qur'ân), and they say: "Verily, he (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) is a madman!"

52. But it is nothing else than a Reminder to all the *'Alamin* (mankind, and jinn).

خَشَعَةً أَبْصَرُهُمْ تَرْفَعُهُمْ ذُلًّا وَقَدْ كَانُوا يَدْعُونَ إِلَى السُّجُودِ
وَهُمْ سَلِيلُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

فَدَرَيْ وَمَنْ يَكْذِبْ بِهَذَا الْخَبَرِ سَسَدٌ نَسَدَتْ رُجُومُهُ
مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٣﴾

وَأَمْلَأْ لَهُمْ إِنْ كَادَى مَتْنٌ ﴿١٤﴾

أَمْ تَسْأَلُهُمْ أَجْرًا فَهُمْ مِنْ مَغْرُورٍ مُثْقَلُونَ ﴿١٥﴾

أَمْ عِنْدَهُمُ الْغَيْبُ فَهُمْ يَكْتُبُونَ ﴿١٦﴾

فَاصْبِرْ لِحُكْمِ رَبِّكَ وَلَا تَكُنْ كَصَاحِبِ الْحُوتِ إِذْ نَادَى
وَهُوَ كَاطُمٌ ﴿١٧﴾

لَوْلَا أَنْ نَدَارَكَهُ نِعْمَةٌ مِنْ رَبِّهِ لَنُبِذَ بِالْعَرَاءِ
وَهُوَ مَذْمُومٌ ﴿١٨﴾

فَاجْنِبْهُ رَبُّهُ فَجَعَلَهُ مِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١٩﴾

وَإِنْ كَادَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِالْآيَةِ لَيَقُولُنَّ يَا بَصِيرُ هَـ
لَسَّامِمْوْا الذِّكْرَ وَيَقُولُونَ إِنَّهُ لَمَجْنُونٌ ﴿٢٠﴾

وَمَا هُوَ إِلَّا ذِكْرٌ لِلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢١﴾