

# ALI 354: Sura Shu'ara, verses 30- 51

## Session One

Please have a copy of the Quran with English translation

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Read and reflect on verses 30 – 37

The verses continues the conversation between Nabi Musa and Firaun in the court of Firaun.

Compare Firaun's reaction to Nabi Musa when he reasons with him (verses 24-29) and when he shows him the miracles (30-37).

# Agenda

- The conversation continues . . .
- Significance of the two miracles
- The different colors of falsehood
- Related Passages
- Words to ponder over

# The Conversation continues . . .

**Nabi Musa** – Will you imprison me even if I have brought proof ?

**Firaun** – Show me your proof if you are truthful.  
(After seeing the proofs he turns to the people)

-This is a skilled magician.

-He wants to remove you from your land.

- What should I do to him?

**People** – Leave him for now. Let our magicians prove him wrong.

# The Two Miracles

The miracles of Nabi Musa are symbols of his mission.

■ The python. Symbolizes **إِنذَار** warning, fear.

Other verses of the Quran describe it as **جَانٌّ** - small snakes that move fast- (27:10, 28:31), and **حَيَّةٌ** - a snake that is alive (20:20). These terms are used when Nabi Musa first gets the miracles. In the court of Firaun it is referred to as a python - (26:32, 7:107)

■ The hand. Symbolizes **بَشَارَةٌ** good news, hope. According to hadith the light from the hand was brighter than that of the sun.

# The different colors of Falsehood

- Firaun accuses Nabi Musa of being a skilled magician when he had previously accused of being insane. Falsehood changes colors and sides according to its interests. Truth is firm and unchanging.
- Firaun asks the people around him for their opinion. He who had claimed that the kingdom was his alone and that he was their god now inclines towards them for support. Either because of his own fears, or because he wants their support.

# Differences between Truth and Falsehood

The following points help to distinguish between truth and falsehood:

- 1) Truth is strong and does not waver
- 2) Truth depends on itself, falsehood depends on others
- 3) Truth is quiet while falsehood makes a lot of noise
- 4) Truth can remain in the background, falsehood is always upfront.
- 5) Truth is beneficial and helpful, falsehood is superfluous.

(From Tafsir of verse 13:17)

# Related verses

- Sura Taha, (#20), verses 57-60
- Sura A'raf, (#7) verses 104-112

## Words to ponder over

جِئْتُكَ - I have come to you. Nabi Musa was prepared. He had come equipped with what he needed although he didn't show it first.

مُبِينٌ - Clear, apparent. The snake was not an imaginary one. It was real, unlike the magic of the magicians which is an illusion. The miracle was also a clear answer to Firaun.