

Welcome to

ALI 154: Tafseer of Sura al-Hjir, Session One

Please have a copy of the Holy Quran with translation with you

Questions for Tadabbur, verses 1 – 15

- 1) What is the difference between the three things that keep the disbelievers occupied? Is having hope wrong? What type of hope is harmful to a believer? (verse 3)
- 2) Why did people always mock the Prophets ?
- 3) What attitude do verses 14 and 15 convey?
- 4) What is the difference between determination and stubbornness?

Disbelievers wish they had been Muslims

On three occasions according to Hadith

- In this world, when disbelievers will understand the truth of Islam but let their circumstances prevent them from accepting.
- On the Day of Judgment when the caller will announce that no-one will enter Paradise except the Muslims.
- When the people in Hell will ask the Muslims in Hell why their religion did not help them. The Muslims will acknowledge their sins. Because of the acknowledgment and the mocking of the disbelievers, Allah will send the Muslims to Paradise.

Long hopes – Cause of *Ghaflat*

Types of Hope

Hope is a mercy for my Ummah. Was it not for hope no mother would breastfeed her child, and no farmer would plant a tree.

Holy Prophet (s)

O people, I fear most for you two things; following of desires and long hopes, for following of desires will obstruct you from the Truth, and long hopes will make you forget the hereafter.

Imam Ali (a)

Long Hopes – Negative Perspective

Be wary of the betrayal of hopes, for often one who hopes for a day does not get to reach it, and one who builds a building does not get to live in it, and one who gathers wealth does not get to use it.

Imam Ali (a)

Effects of long hopes

- hard heartedness
- forgetting death, the Hereafter
- less actions

Disrespecting the Holy Prophet (s)

Verse 6

- not taking his name
- mocking the Quran
- calling him insane – why?

Did it effect the Prophet (s)?

see verses 95 - 99

Preservation of the Quran

verse 9

Discussion on Tahreef

Meaning: Alteration, omission, addition, or tampering of the Quran

Brought about due to:

- accusations against the Shiah
- false hadith on Tahreef
- misinformed Shiahs

Process of Compilation

- 1) Memorization – hundreds of Muslims committed it to memory
- 2) Writing of the verses – the Prophet (s) had scribes who wrote on leaves, rocks, stones . . . etc.
- 3) Compilation – done during the time of the Prophet (s)
Proofs: ■ Hadith in which Quran is referred to as a Book
■ mention of particular surahs

Answering Tahreef

From the Holy Qur'an

and most surely, it is a mighty book. Falsehood shall not come to it from before it nor from behind it, a revelation from the Wise, the Praised One (41; 41-42)

From Hadith

No-one sits with the Quran except that he gets up with an increase and a decrease; an increase in guidance and a decrease in blindness.

Imam Ali (a)

Many other hadith including Hadith of 'Thaqalayn also prove the existence of a complete book of guidance

From the Aql

The Quran has to be guarded so it can be a guidance for the people. Ayatullah Khui says in his book *The Collection and Preservation of Quran*, it is like saying: *I am sending you a gift and I shall keep it in safe custody, or in the custody of my chosen one*

From Ijma'

Many great scholars, both from the Ahle Sunnah and the Shiah, have proven the authenticity of the Qur'an in their books

Why did people mock the Prophets?

- to lower them; in the eyes of others as well as hurt their own self-confidence
- inadequacy in answering the truth that the Prophets brought
- unwillingness to accept change
- avoiding responsibility
- not being able to understand the greatness of someone who had no worldly wealth and glamour

Stubbornness

- stems from the ego and self-centeredness
- is anti-intelligence
- shows rigidity and unwillingness to change
- differs from determination

Be wary of stubbornness, for its beginning is ignorance and its end is regret. **Holy Prophet (s)**

Excessive scolding ignites the fires of stubbornness. **Imam Ali (a)**