

Familiarization with Quranic Sūras

Month of Ramadan 1440 – Day 3

Sura al-Fussilat, No. 41



Sūra Information

Sūra al-Fussilat. Also known as Sura HāMīm Sajdah. No. 41. Revealed in Makkah, 54 verses. It is second of the four sūras which contain wājib sajdah. Other are sūra nos. 32, 53 and 96.

The sūra takes its name from the description of the Quran in verse 3 as *a Book whose signs have been elaborated*.

The Sūra is the second of the Hawāmīm suras (those that begin with HāMīm, sūra nos. 40-46). According to the Holy Prophet ﷺ, the Hawāmīm are the crown of the Quran.

The main theme of this sūra is the truth of the Quran and the ineffectiveness of those who oppose it.

Sūra Significance

There are reports that the Holy Prophet *sallālahu ‘alayhi wa-ālihi wasallam* would not sleep at night till he recited Sūra al-Mulk and Sūra HāMīm Sajdah

Whoever recites Sūra HāMīm Sajdah will have a light on the Day of Judgment that will bring brightness and happiness to his eyes, and he will live in the world in a way which will be praised and envied by others. Holy Prophet ﷺ. (From *Tafsīr Majma‘ul Bayān*).

Note: *Tafsīr Namūne* says that the advice and awareness that the sūra gives creates an enlightenment that stays with the reciter both in this world and the hereafter.

Synopsis of contents

- Discussion on the nature of the Quran
- Stages of the creation of the heavens and the earth
- An account of some of the past people
- Stern warnings to those who reject faith through a discussion of their state on the Day of Judgment
- Wisdom to guide towards attainment of certain virtues

Some Lessons from the Sūra

- 1) Various parts of the human body will bear witness on the Day of Judgment (verse 20)
- 2) Wrong assumptions and misplaced thoughts about Allah ﷻ lead to ruin and loss in the hereafter (verse 23)
- 3) The angels are the companions of those who believe and are steadfast (verses 30-31)
- 4) Repelling evil with good turns an enemy into a warm friend (verse 34)

Important Messages

- 1) The organs of the body have an awareness of our actions and hence will be able to bear witness on the Day of Judgement.
- 2) To invite others towards Allah ﷻ is the best of speech.
- 3) Tolerance and a big heart are necessary for good and effective relationships with others.
- 4) Nature is the best classroom for learning about God.
- 5) The Quran is a manifestation of God's wisdom and praiseworthiness.

Select verses from the Surah to know (learn, reflect, memorize)

- 1) 41:33 - *Who has a better call than him who summons to Allah and acts righteously and says, 'Indeed I am one of the Muslims'?*
- 2) 41:36 - *Should an incitement from Satan prompt you to ill feeling, seek the protection of Allah. Indeed, He is the All-hearing, the All-knowing.*
- 3) 41:49 - *Man is never tired of supplicating for good, and should any ill befall him, he becomes hopeless and despondent.*

Activities for self-study

- 1) How is the Quran described in this sūra? List all the qualities mentioned about it and connect each quality to the role it plays in a believer's life. How do the disbelievers react to the Quran?

Sources: Āyatullāh Nāsir Makārim Shirazi (Ed.), *Tafsir Namūne*; Organization of Quran and Itrah Nūr al-Thaqalayn, *Zikre Mubarak*; S.H. Nasr (Ed.), *The Study Quran*

Sūra Familiarization for Ramadan 1439 available at:

www.academyofislam.com/resources/quran/sura-familiarization/.

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