

Familiarization with Quranic Sūras

Month of Ramadan 1440 – Day 29

Sūrat al-Mā'ida, No. 5, Part 2



Sūra Information

Sūra al-Mā'ida, No.5, Revealed in Madinah, 120 verses.

According to some narrations the entire sūra was revealed at one time, after the farewell pilgrimage of the Prophet ﷺ. 'Allāmah Tabātabā'ī in *Al-Mīzān*, v.9, p. 215, "All reports agree that it was the last detailed chapter which was revealed to the Messenger of Allah ﷺ nearing the end of his life."

The sūra take its name from the miraculous table spread with food mentioned in verses 112-115.

Sūra Significance

Whoever recites Sūra al-Mā'ida every Thursday his faith will not be covered by injustice and he will never associate anything with Allah. Imam Muhammad al-Bāqir (عليه السلام) (*Tafsīr Majma'ul-Bayān*)

Synopsis of contents

- 1) Laws regarding pilgrimage, food, hunting, ritual purity, etc.
- 2) Leadership after the Prophet ﷺ
- 3) Day of Judgement
- 4) Justice and fulfilling of pledges.
- 5) Relations between the Muslims and the people of the Book.

Some Lessons from the Sūra

- 1) The true guardian after Allah ﷻ and the Prophet ﷺ is the one who has faith and gives charity while in rukū' – a reference to Imam Ali (عليه السلام). (verse 55)
- 2) Believers cannot take those who mock their religion as friends (verse 57)
- 3) The Prophet (s) was told to deliver a message that was so important that had he not done so it would be like he had not communicated God's message – a reference to the event of Ghadir (verse 67)
- 4) Prophet 'Īsā (عليه السلام) had told his people not take any partners for God (verse 72)

Important Messages

- 1) The ultimate victory is for those who accept the guardianship of Allah ﷻ, the Prophet ﷺ and the Ahlul Bayt (عليهم السلام).
- 2) The actions of human beings influence nature and the system in existence.

- 3) Every sin is the starting point of another sin unless it is followed by repentance.
- 4) Humble and receptive hearts become transformed when they listen to the truth.
- 5) The laws of Islam for the individual are linked to the benefit and progress of society.

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

- 1) 5:55 - *Your guardian is only Allah, His Apostle, and the faithful who maintain the prayer and give the zakat while bowing down*
- 2) 5:74 - *Will they not repent to Allah and plead to Him for forgiveness? Yet Allah is all-forgiving, all-merciful.*

Activities for self-study

- 1) What are the qualities of the believers mentioned in verse 54?

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

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