

## SURAH AL-TAKATHUR

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ  
اَلَيْسَ كَلِمَاتُ الشُّكْرِ حَتّٰی زُرْتُمُ الْمَقَابِرَ ۗ كَلَّا سَوْفَ  
تَعْلَمُوْنَ ۗ ثُمَّ كَلَّا سَوْفَ تَعْلَمُوْنَ ۗ كَلَّا لَوْ تَعْلَمُوْنَ  
عِلْمَ الْیَقِیْنِ ۗ لَتَرَوُنَّ الْجَحِیْمَ ۗ ثُمَّ لَتَرَوُنَّهَا عَیْنِ  
الْیَقِیْنِ ۗ ثُمَّ لَتَسْأَلُنَّ یَوْمَئِذٍ عَنِ النَّعِیْمِ ۗ

### Translation:

1. The mutual rivalry (for piling up of worldly things) has kept you heedless. 2. Until you visit the graves (i.e. till you die). 3. No, soon you will come to know. 4. Again no, soon you will come to know. 5. No, if you knew with a sure knowledge (the end result of piling up, you would not have been occupied yourselves in worldly things). 6. You will surely see the Hellfire. 7. Then you will surely see it with the eye of certainty. 8. Then you will surely be asked that Day about the favours.

### Main Teachings:

This Surah warns the people of the evil consequences of world worship because of which they spend their lives in acquiring more and more of worldly wealth, material benefits and pleasures, and position and power, till death, and in competition with one another and bragging and boasting about their acquisitions. This one pursuit has so occupied them that they are left with no time or opportunity for pursuing the higher things in life. This Surah teaches that these blessings which people are amassing and enjoying thoughtlessly are not mere blessings but are also a means of their trial. For each one of these blessings and comforts they will surely be called to account in the Hereafter.

Man by nature is covetous to acquire and accumulate worldly wealth. Allah says: *"Beautified for people is the love of that which they desire - - - - -. That is the enjoyment of worldly life, but Allah has with Him the best return."* (3:14)

Although a person requires some wealth to meet his basic necessities, he does not benefit from much of his surplus wealth. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) said: *"The Son of Adam (i.e. man) says, "My wealth, my wealth." But do you get anything (of benefit) from your wealth except for that which you ate and you finished it, or that which you clothed yourself with and you wore it out, or that which you gave as charity and you have spent it?"* (Muslim, Tirmidhi)

When a person dies, he leaves behind all his wealth for his heirs, which do not benefit him in the life after death. Therefore, priorities should be given to performing more righteous deeds over accumulating worldly wealth. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) said: *"Three things follow the deceased person and two of them return while one remains behind with him. The things which follow him are his family, his wealth and his deeds. His family and his wealth return while his deeds remain."* (Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidhi)

## SURAH AL-ALAQ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ① خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ②  
أَقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ③ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ④ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ⑤

### Translation:

Read! In the name of your Lord who created. 2. Created man out of a clot of congealed blood. Read! And your Lord is the most Generous. 4. Who taught by the pen. 5. Taught man what he did not know.

### Main Teachings:

Surah Al-Alaq was revealed in Makkah. Revelation of the Quran began with the first five verses of this surah. Allah begins the Qur'anic revelation with a reminder to mankind that for their own existence and sustenance they are completely dependent upon Allah. This reality demands that they should worship Him alone except Allah.

This passage mentions Allah's power to create and ensure the survival and growth of mankind. He created man from a low origin and then matured him physically, intellectually and spiritually by enabling him to read and write. Muslims are required to acknowledge Allah's kindness.

Human ability to learn has made him superior to all other creatures and the Quran endorses this fact: **"We have indeed created man in the best of moulds" (95:4)**. The thing that distinguishes a man from every other creation is his knowledge. Allah ordered the angels to prostrate before Adam (A.S) because of his superiority over them in knowledge. Allah says: **"And He taught Adam all the names (of everything), then He showed them to the angels and said, "Tell Me the names of these if you are truthful." They said, "Glory to You; we have no knowledge except what You have taught us." (2:31-32)**

Adam has made seeking knowledge incumbent upon all Muslims. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) said: **"Seeking knowledge is an obligation upon every Muslim." (Al-Tirmidhi)** Allah has raised the ranks and status of those who have knowledge, and has praised them in many places in the Quran. He says: **"Allah will raise those who believed among you and those who have been given knowledge many levels." (Quran 58:11)**

There is a great difference between a Muslim who has knowledge and one who does not. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) said: **"The excellence of a scholar over another (ordinary) worshipper is like the excellence of me over the least of you." (Tirmidhi)**