

Some rules of distribution of spoils of war. They belong to Allah and His Messenger, here it is stated how Allah and His Messenger decided to dispose of the spoils.

Etiquettes of fighting for the cause of Allah (and His Deen). This fighting (jihad) is not like just another war. Believers have to observe some essential etiquettes; among these are, 1- remember Allah while fighting, 2- obey Him and His messenger, 3- stand firm (in battlefield), 4- do not quarrel with one another (be united) 5- be patient in adverse circumstances. Moreover, the war aim of the Muslims should be to eliminate all unfavourable conditions for the establishment of Islam and not to gain spoils.

Acquiring latest technology- "Make ready for an encounter against them all the forces and well-readied horses you can muster that you may overawe the enemies of Allah and your own enemies". It is an obligation that Muslims should be equipped with best military resources and should have a standing army in a state of preparedness.

Detail account of battle of Badr - Treatment of the prisoners of war, Allah's help to believers through angels and rain, believers expressed their trust in Allah while unbelievers trusted their superior armory, manpower and resources. Make peace if the enemy is inclined towards peace. In order to keep the Muslims joined together against their enemies, they have been taught to have cordial relations with one another.

Surah At-Tauba (Repentance) – Revealed in Madinah in the 9th year of Hijrah after the Battle of Tabuk.

It is the only surah that does not begin with Bismillah (In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, The Merciful). Ali bin Abi Talib r.a said, this surah has a wrathful tone for the idolaters of Arabia and since the holy phrase Bismillah is an indication of mercy and security, and that is why Bismillah is not recited or written for this surah.

Among other names of the surah are, - بَرَاءة (Release), مُخْزِيَّة (Humiliation), الْقَاصِحَة (Exposer), الْمُشْتَرِدَة (Displaced) الْعَذَاب (punishment). All these names refer to dealing with hypocrites and Arab unbelievers (مشركين)

Objections by non-Muslims and orientalists particularly in this Surah (and Quran in general)- that Quran teaches violence and endorses the killing of non-Muslims. But these objections are due to the lack of essential understanding of: **1-** history and circumstances of the time this Surah was revealed, **2-** Three different discourses and periods of revelation of this surah and their order in which they were placed in Surah **3-** The application of word 'pagans' (مشركين) to all non-believers (while this term in this surah refers only to combatant pagans of Arabian peninsula, staunch opponent of Prophet Muhammad (saw) and his message (Islam), carried out numerous pre-emptive attacks on Madinah in the past and killed many Muslims. Most importantly, **4-** Quran has to be interpreted according to the ideology and values of the Noble Quran, not by picking up verses randomly out of context and interpreting to the concoctions of the people.

Sanctity of treaties - The non-believers who broke their treaties, Muslims have no obligation to honor treaties with them. Honor the treaties with those who honor them. Fight with those who have broken the treaty.

Muslims have been urged to fight in the Way of Allah with the hostile Arabs, and opponent of Deen, who were duly warned of the consequences of their mischief. A clear message that their hostilities as well as their conspiracies against Islamic state will not be tolerated anymore and there will be no peaceful co-existence between these hostile forces and Muslim.

Utmost striving in the way of Allah, no other virtue matches this action. Providing water to the pilgrims and taking care of the sacred Mosque does not equal in worth believing in Allah and the last Day and striving in the cause of Allah.

Setting preferences in life – "Say: If it be that your fathers, your sons, your brothers, your mates, or your kindred; the wealth that you have gained; the commerce in which you fear a decline: and the dwellings that you love, if they are dearer to you than **Allah and His Messenger and striving in His cause**, - then wait until Allah brings about His decree: and Allah guides not the rebellious"

The Beneficiaries of Zakat - 1- The poor (al-fuqar'a), meaning low-income or indigent, 2 - The needy (al-masâkîn), meaning someone who is in difficulty, 3 - Zakat administrators, 4 -Those whose hearts are to be reconciled, meaning new Muslims and friends of the Muslim community, 5 -Those in bondage (slaves and captives), 6 -The debt-ridden, 7 - In the cause of Allah (Deen), 8 -The wayfarer.

A case of three companion - who remained behind and did not accompany the Holy Prophet to Tabuk. When there is a call for Deen of Allah, then whatever circumstances you are in, you have to come out. This is a litmus test for Iman. These companion were penalised and at one point their families were ordered to leave them and they did it as ordered. This is an incomparable example of discipline and obedience. Finally they were forgiven and their repentance accepted.