

July 17

Surah Al Anbiyaa (The Prophets)- Revealed at Makkah about 5-6 years before the Hijrah.

The basic theme of the Surah is Prophets and Prophethood, and the Doctrines of the Hereafter. This Surah discusses the conflict between the Holy Prophet and the chiefs of Makkah, with warning and admonition.

Powerful beginning (of Surah)- The time of people's reckoning is reaching and yet they turn away in heedlessness.

The objection refuted -that a human being could not be a Messenger and therefore they could not accept Muhammad (peace be upon him) as a Prophet. All previous messengers were human being and none of them another species.

Quran- has news of people before and after. The characters mentioned in Quran are there today and will remain. Need to identify who is playing who. *كَتَابَ اللَّهِ فِيهِ نَبَأٌ مَّا قَبْلَكُمْ وَخَيْرٌ مَّا بَعْدَكُمْ (حديث) لَقَدْ أَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكُمْ كِتَابًا فِيهِ ذِكْرُكُمْ 21/9*

Objectivity in creation-Heaven and earth (whole universe) created for a purpose, not just as amusement. How the man could be without a purpose while he has been given intellect and senses. Do you think he will not be accounted for?

Four scientific facts, 1-"Heavens and the earth were one solid mass, then We tore them apart". The whole universe was a single mass of matter; then it was split into different parts and the earth and the other heavenly bodies were formed, **2-** Every living being is created from water. It refers to the fact that Allah made water the cause and origin of life. *وَجَعَلْنَا مِنَ الْمَاءِ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ حَيٍّ*
3-"And We made the sky a secure canopy". The atmosphere surrounding the earth (visible as canopy), prevents meteors from falling to earth and harming living things. It filters the light rays coming from space that are harmful to living things. The atmosphere also protects the earth from the freezing cold of the space. *وَجَعَلْنَا السَّمَاءَ سَقْفًا مَحْفُوظًا*
4-"And We placed firm mountains on earth lest it should sway with them", A real function of mountains is told to regulate the earth's motion)

Stories of the Prophets are told to show that all the Prophets, who were sent by God, were human beings, had no share in Godhead and they had to implore Allah to fulfill each and every necessity of theirs.

All the Prophets had to pass through distress and affliction; their opponents did their worst to thwart their mission, but in spite of it they came out successful by the extraordinary help from Allah.

This Prophet (Muhammad s.a.w) presenting the same "way of life" as presented and propagated by all previous messengers.

it is a great favour of Allah that He has sent His Messenger to inform them beforehand of this Reality and that those, who consider his coming to be an affliction instead of a blessing, are foolish people

Prophet (peace be upon him) is indeed a blessing and mercy of Allah to the whole world.

Surah Al-Hajj (The Pilgrimage)- Revealed during migration, having characteristics of both the Makki and the Madani Surahs.

This Surah is addressed to: (1) People of Makkah, (2) the wavering Muslims, and (3) the True Believers. This surah discuss issues of Tawhid, Resurrection, repudiating pagan beliefs, the Signs of Allah in creation, and the order to fight in the Way of Allah in defence of the truth. It also talks about prayers, humbleness and sacrifice, respect of the Ka'bah, the House of Allah, and striving to defend the truth.

Surah starts with a scene from the Hour of Doom when a very powerful earthquake, as a prelude to Resurrection, will violently jolt everything on earth. Intensity and horror of the earthquake will be at an extent where people appear as drunk, very pregnant woman shall cast her burden and mothers will forsake their dear children.

People who worship Allah on the borderline are time server. They stand on the boundary line between Islam and kufr so that he may join the winning side whether it be Islam or kufr. They are condemned for not standing with truth.

Hajj Rituals have been mentioned with emphasis on spirit and outcome of the Hajj; being away from associating partner with Allah, avoiding falsehood in every aspect of life and disobedience of Allah.

Sacrifice is part of the Hajj ritual but it is not blood or flesh of animals that reach Allah; in fact it is piety that reaches Him

Permission (to fight) has been granted to those who have been oppressed. Up until this point fighting was not allowed.

Characteristic of people of authority- When Allah bestow authority on them in the land, they establish Prayers, render Zakah, enjoin good, and forbid evil.

Naming believers and assigning them task- Believers have been officially given the name of "Muslims", saying, "You are the real heirs to Ibrahim and you have been chosen to become witnesses of the Truth before mankind. Therefore you should establish salat (prayer) and pay the zakat dues in order to become the best models of righteous life and strive in the way of Allah with your utmost efforts to establish the Word of Allah. Surah ends with this powerful discourse addressing believers. *مَلَّةَ أَبِيكُمْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ هُوَ سَمَّاكُمُ الْمُسْلِمِينَ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَفِي هَذَا لِيَكُونَ الرَّسُولُ شَهِيدًا عَلَيْكُمْ وَتَكُونُوا شُهَدَاءَ عَلَى النَّاسِ.....*