## Juz 18

Surah (23) Al-Mu'minun (The Believers) – Revealed during the middle stage of Prophethood at Makkah.

**The central theme of the surah** is to invite the people to accept and follow the Message of the Holy Prophet. The Surah deals with the virtues which are the seed-bed of Faith, especially in an environment in which Truth is denied and its followers are persecuted. It also brings the message of hope and strength for persecuted Muslim community.

**7 Qualities of truly successful people**, covers various aspects of social and personal life. **1-** True faith (free from show off and bigotry), **2-** Khush'u (humility/ tranquility/ fear of Allah) in prayer, **3-** abstinence from vanity (b) in speech and action, **4-** Paying Zakat, **5-** Being modest and strictly guard their private parts, **6-** Faithful to the trusts and promises, **7-** safeguarding prayer. Keeper(s) of these qualities will enter paradise (Hadith).

**Creation of Man and universe** – Accurately describing Man's creation from its origin through subsequent stages of development to full human being as an evidence of power of Allah to admonish, He has all the powers to raise you up again (the Creator and owner of human life cycle). Complete phenomenon of **water cycle** on earth is mentioned to remind that it is He, who provides you the sustenance of this world.

**The stories** of the prophet Noah, Moses and Issa a.s. and their communities have been cited as historical evidences of the truth of the Message of Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w). It has been brought to focus that; 1- the objections and the doubts that the antagonists are raising against the Message of Muhammad (s.a.w) are not new. These were raised against the former Prophets also whom they themselves acknowledged as Messengers of Allah. 2- The Message of and the Hereafter that Muhammad (s.a.w) is conveying is the same as was brought by the former Prophets; therefore they must accept it.

**Success and prosperity** in the worldly life is not a criterion of success in the sight of Allah.

Our conduct-Evil must be repelled by goodness & faith in Allah; Let us eschew evil, but not pay back evil in its own coin.

**2 Groups of people on the Day of judgment**, 1- those whose good deeds will be heavy and will out-weigh their evil deed 2- those whose scales are light, those will be the ones who will be in absolute loss, will wish for another chance.

Life is not purposeless "Did you think that we created you without a purpose, and you will not be brought back to Us"

Surah (24) An-Nur (The Light) – Was revealed around the 6th year of Hijrah in Madinah after the Battle of Mustaliq.

Surah An-Nur contains many rules for the development of a society based on righteousness and morality. It outlines the criminal code for fornication, adultery, accusations of adultery without proof, and slander. There are also guidelines for both men and women regarding personal modesty. The norms of personal privacy were established, while encouraging good relationships among relatives, friends and neighbors. These divine injunctions helped to establish the community, based on Islamic social order with clear limits set, yet in a spirit of mutual affection and sincerity.

**The focus** of legislative instructions is on the family which is the basic unit of a social system. An effective and vibrant social order cannot be established without an intact, pure and prosperous family.

**Legislation** - Rape or fornication have been declared criminal offences. Rules of testimony in the case of adultery are set. Sex offenders should be severely punished, but strictest evidence should be required. False accusation has been dealt with severe penalty, as dignity, respect and honour of a person holds high place in Islam.

Boycott of adulterous men and women has been enjoined. Muslims were forbidden to have any marital relations with them.

Muslims were enjoined to learn a lesson from the incident of the "Slander" about Aishah r.a.

**Verify** the unconfirmed news before passing on to others. False news could be very detrimental for society. Those who spread false news, evil rumors and propagate wickedness in the Muslim Community must be punished.

**Domestic manners and manners in public and collective life** in all contribute to the highest virtues, and are part of our spiritual duties.

People were forbidden to enter the houses of others unceremoniously and were instructed to take permission first.

**Women were enjoined** to cover their heads and breasts even inside their houses.

**Sanctity of privacy** in home life was enjoined even for servants and under age children including one's own.

Marriage was encouraged and enjoined even for slaves and slave girls

**The institution of slavery** was discouraged and the owners and other people were enjoined to give financial help to the slaves to earn their freedom under the law of Mukatabat.

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