Qur'an..txt

Exported from Holy-Writings.com on 2026-06-18 — 1 clipping

Archive Textbase á (Non-Bahá'í) á Qur'an..txt

THE MEANINGS OF THE HOLY QUR'AN
by Abdullah Yusuf Ali
Distributed by
THE ISLAMIC COMPUTING CENTRE,
73 St. Thomas's Road, London N4 2QJ U.K.
Tel:(071) 359 6233 Fax:(071) 226 2024
(Please acknowledge the source when quoting from this text)

THE OPENING,
CHAPTER NO. 001

001.001 In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

001.002 Praise be to God, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the world;

001.003 Most Gracious, Most Merciful;

001.004 Master of the Day of Judgment.

001.005 Thee do we worship, and Thine aid we seek.

001.006 Show us the straight way,

001.007 The way of those on whom Thou hast bestowed Thy Grace, those whose (portion) is not wrath, and who go not astray.

THE COW,
CHAPTER NO. 002

002.001 A.L.M.

002.002 This is the Book; in it is guidance sure, without doubt, to those who fear God;

002.003 Who believe in the Unseen, are steadfast in prayer, and spend out of what We have provided for them;

002.004 And who believe in the Revelation sent to thee, and sent before thy time, and (in their hearts) have the assurance of the Hereafter.

002.005 They are on (true) guidance, from their Lord, and it is these who will prosper.

002.006 As to those who reject Faith, it is the same to them whether thou warn them or do not warn them; they will not believe.

002.007 God hath set a seal on their hearts and on their hearing, and on their eyes is a veil; great is the penalty they (incur).

002.008 Of the people there are some who say: "We believe in God and the Last

Day;" but they do not (really) believe.

002.009 Fain would they deceive Allah and those who believe, but they only deceive themselves, and realise (it) not!

002.010 In their hearts is a disease; and Allah has increased their disease: And grievous is the penalty they (incur), because they are false (to themselves).

002.011 When it is said to them: "Make not mischief on the earth," they say: "Why, we only Want to make peace!"

002.012 Of a surety, they are the ones who make mischief, but they realise (it) not.

002.013 When it is said to them: "Believe as the others believe:" They say: "Shall we believe as the fools believe?" Nay, of a surety they are the fools, but they do not know.

002.014 When they meet those who believe, they say: "We believe;" but when they are alone with their evil ones, they say: "We are really with you: We (were) only jesting."

002.015 God will throw back their mockery on them, and give them rope in their trespasses; so they will wander like blind ones (To and fro).

002.016 These are they who have bartered Guidance for error: But their traffic is profitless, and they have lost true direction,

002.017 Their similitude is that of a man who kindled a fire; when it lighted all around him, God took away their light and left them in utter darkness. So they could not see.

002.018 Deaf, dumb, and blind, they will not return (to the path).

002.019 Or (another similitude) is that of a rain-laden cloud from the sky: In it are zones of darkness, and thunder and lightning: They press their fingers in their ears to keep out the stunning thunder-clap, the while they are in terror of death. But God is ever round the rejecters of Faith!

002.020 The lightning all but snatches away their sight; every time the light (Helps) them, they walk therein, and when the darkness grows on them, they stand still. And if God willed, He could take away their faculty of hearing and seeing; for God hath power over all things.

002.021 O ye people! Adore your Guardian-Lord, who created you and those who came before you, that ye may have the chance to learn righteousness;

002.022 Who has made the earth your couch, and the heavens your canopy; and sent down rain from the heavens; and brought forth therewith Fruits for your sustenance; then set not up rivals unto God when ye know (the truth).

002.023 And if ye are in doubt as to what We have revealed from time to time to Our servant, then produce a Sura like thereunto; and call your witnesses or

helpers (If there are any) besides God, if your (doubts) are true.

002.024 But if ye cannotÑand of a surety ye cannotÑthen fear the Fire whose fuel is men and stones,Ñwhich is prepared for those who reject Faith.

002.025 But give glad tidings to those who believe and work righteousness, that their portion is Gardens, beneath which rivers flow. Every time they are fed with fruits therefrom, they say: "Why, this is what we were fed with before," for they are given things in similitude; and they have therein companions pure (and holy); and they abide therein (for ever).

002.026 God disdains not to use the similitude of things, lowest as well as highest. Those who believe know that it is truth from their Lord; but those who reject Faith say: "What means God by this similitude?" By it He causes many to stray, and many He leads into the right path; but He causes not to stray, except those who forsake (the path),-

002.027 Those who break God's Covenant after it is ratified, and who sunder what God Has ordered to be joined, and do mischief on earth: These cause loss (only) to themselves.

002.028 How can ye reject the faith in God?Ñseeing that ye were without life, and He gave you life; then will He cause you to die, and will again bring you to life; and again to Him will ye return.

002.029 It is He Who hath created for you all things that are on earth; Moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order and perfection to the seven firmaments; and of all things He hath perfect knowledge.

002.030 Behold, thy Lord said to the angels: "I will create a vicegerent on earth." They said: "Wilt Thou place therein one who will make mischief therein and shed blood?Ñwhilst we do celebrate Thy praises and glorify Thy holy (name)?" He said: "I know what ye know not."

002.031 And He taught Adam the nature of all things; then He placed them before the angels, and said: "Tell me the nature of these if ye are right."

002.032 They said: "Glory to Thee, of knowledge We have none, save what Thou Hast taught us: In truth it is Thou Who art perfect in knowledge and wisdom."

002.033 He said: "O Adam! Tell them their natures." When he had told them, God said: "Did I not tell you that I know the secrets of heaven and earth, and I know what ye reveal and what ye conceal?"

002.034 And behold, We said to the angels: "Bow down to Adam" and they bowed down. Not so Iblis: he refused and was haughty: He was of those who reject Faith.

002.035 We said: "O Adam! dwell thou and thy wife in the Garden; and eat of the bountiful things therein as (where and when) ye will; but approach not this tree, or ye run into harm and transgression."

002.036 Then did Satan make them slip from the (garden), and get them out of

the state (of felicity) in which they had been. We said: "Get ye down, all (ye people), with enmity between yourselves. On earth will be your dwelling-place and your means of livelihoodÑfor a time."

002.037 Then learnt Adam from his Lord words of inspiration, and his Lord Turned towards him; for He is Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.

002.038 We said: "Get ye down all from here; and if, as is sure, there comes to you Guidance from me, whosoever follows My guidance, on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

002.039 "But those who reject Faith and belie Our Signs, they shall be companions of the Fire; they shall abide therein."

002.040 O Children of Israel! call to mind the (special) favour which I bestowed upon you, and fulfil your covenant with Me as I fulfil My Covenant with you, and fear none but Me.

002.041 And believe in what I reveal, confirming the revelation which is with you, and be not the first to reject Faith therein, nor sell My Signs for a small price; and fear Me, and Me alone.

002.042 And cover not Truth with falsehood, nor conceal the Truth when ye know (what it is).

002.043 And be steadfast in prayer; practise regular charity; and bow down your heads with those who bow down (in worship).

002.044 Do ye enjoin right conduct on the people, and forget (To practise it) yourselves, and yet ye study the Scripture? Will ye not understand?

002.045 Nay, seek (God's) help with patient perseverance and prayer: It is indeed hard, except to those who bring a lowly spirit,-

002.046 Who bear in mind the certainty that they are to meet their Lord, and that they are to return to Him.

002.047 Children of Israel! call to mind the (special) favour which I bestowed upon you, and that I preferred you to all other (for My Message).

002.048 Then guard yourselves against a day when one soul shall not avail another nor shall intercession be accepted for her, nor shall compensation be taken from her, nor shall anyone be helped (from outside).

002.049 And remember, We delivered you from the people of Pharaoh: They set you hard tasks and punishments, slaughtered your sons and let your women-folk live; therein was a tremendous trial from your Lord.

002.050 And remember We divided the sea for you and saved you and drowned Pharaoh's people within your very sight.

002.051 And remember We appointed forty nights for Moses, and in his absence ye took the calf (for worship), and ye did grievous wrong.

002.052 Even then We did forgive you; there was a chance for you to be

grateful.

002.053 And remember We gave Moses the Scripture and the Criterion (Between right and wrong): There was a chance for you to be guided aright.

002.054 And remember Moses said to his people: "O my people! Ye have indeed wronged yourselves by your worship of the calf: So turn (in repentance) to your Maker, and slay yourselves (the wrong-doers); that will be better for you in the sight of your Maker." Then He turned towards you (in forgiveness): For He is Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.

002.055 And remember ye said: "O Moses! We shall never believe in thee until we see God manifestly," but ye were dazed with thunder and lighting even as ye looked on.

002.056 Then We raised you up after your death: Ye had the chance to be grateful.

002.057 And We gave you the shade of clouds and sent down to you Manna and quails, saying: "Eat of the good things We have provided for you:" (But they rebelled); to us they did no harm, but they harmed their own souls.

002.058 And remember We said: "Enter this town, and eat of the plenty therein as ye wish; but enter the gate with humility, in posture and in words, and We shall forgive you your faults and increase (the portion of) those who do good."

002.059 But the transgressors changed the word from that which had been given them; so We sent on the transgressors a plague from heaven, for that they infringed (Our command) repeatedly.

002.060 And remember Moses prayed for water for his people; We said: "Strike the rock with thy staff." Then gushed forth therefrom twelve springs. Each group knew its own place for water. So eat and drink of the sustenance provided by God, and do no evil nor mischief on the (face of the) earth.

002.061 And remember ye said: "O Moses! we cannot endure one kind of food (always); so beseech thy Lord for us to produce for us of what the earth groweth, -its pot-herbs, and cucumbers, Its garlic, lentils, and onions." He said: "Will ye exchange the better for the worse? Go ye down to any town, and ye shall find what ye want!" They were covered with humiliation and misery; they drew on themselves the wrath of God. This because they went on rejecting the Signs of God and slaying His Messengers without just cause. This because they rebelled and went on transgressing.

002.062 Those who believe (in the Qur'an), and those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), and the Christians and the Sabians,Ñany who believe in God and the Last Day, and work righteousness, shall have their reward with their Lord; on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

002.063 And remember We took your covenant and We raised above you (The towering height) of Mount (Sinai) : (Saying): "Hold firmly to what We have given you and bring (ever) to remembrance what is therein: Perchance ye may

fear God."

002.064 But ye turned back thereafter: Had it not been for the Grace and Mercy of God to you, ye had surely been among the lost.

002.065 And well ye knew those amongst you who transgressed in the matter of the Sabbath: We said to them: "Be ye apes, despised and rejected."

002.066 So We made it an example to their own time and to their posterity, and a lesson to those who fear God.

002.067 And remember Moses said to his people: "God commands that ye sacrifice a heifer." They said: "Makest thou a laughing-stock of us?" He said: "God save me from being an ignorant (fool)!"

002.068 They said: "Beseech on our behalf Thy Lord to make plain to us what (heifer) it is!" He said; "He says: The heifer should be neither too old nor too young, but of middling age. Now do what ye are commanded!"

002.069 They said: "Beseech on our behalf Thy Lord to make plain to us Her colour." He said: "He says: A fawn-coloured heifer, pure and rich in tone, the admiration of beholders!"

002.070 They said: "Beseech on our behalf Thy Lord to make plain to us what she is: To us are all heifers alike: We wish indeed for guidance, if God wills."

002.071 He said: "He says: A heifer not trained to till the soil or water the fields; sound and without blemish." They said: "Now hast thou brought the truth." Then they offered her in sacrifice, but not with good-will.

002.072 Remember ye slew a man and fell into a dispute among yourselves as to the crime: But God was to bring forth what ye did hide.

002.073 So We said: "Strike the (body) with a piece of the (heifer)." Thus God bringeth the dead to life and showeth you His Signs: Perchance ye may understand.

002.074 Thenceforth were your hearts hardened: They became like a rock and even worse in hardness. For among rocks there are some from which rivers gush forth; others there are which when split asunder send forth water; and others which sink for fear of God. And God is not unmindful of what ye do.

002.075 Can ye (o ye men of Faith) entertain the hope that they will believe in you?ÑSeeing that a party of them heard the Word of God, and perverted it knowingly after they understood it.

002.076 Behold! when they meet the men of Faith, they say: "We believe": But when they meet each other in private, they say: "Shall you tell them what God hath revealed to you, that they may engage you in argument about it before your Lord?"ÑDo ye not understand (their aim)?

002.077 Know they not that God knoweth what they conceal and what they reveal?

002.078 And there are among them illiterates, who know not the Book, but (see

therein their own) desires, and they do nothing but conjecture.

002.079 Then woe to those who write the Book with their own hands, and then say:"This is from God," to traffic with it for miserable price!ÑWoe to them for what their hands do write, and for the gain they make thereby.

002.080 And they say: "The Fire shall not touch us but for a few numbered days:" Say: "Have ye taken a promise from God, for He never breaks His promise? or is it that ye say of God what ye do not know?"

002.081 Nay, those who seek gain in evil, and are girt round by their sins,Ñthey are companions of the Fire: Therein shall they abide (For ever).

002.082 But those who have faith and work righteousness, they are companions of the Garden: Therein shall they abide (For ever).

002.083 And remember We took a covenant from the Children of Israel (to this effect): Worship none but God; treat with kindness your parents and kindred, and orphans and those in need; speak fair to the people; be steadfast in prayer; and practise regular charity. Then did ye turn back, except a few among you, and ye backslide (even now).

002.084 And remember We took your covenant (to this effect): Shed no blood amongst you, nor turn out your own people from your homes: and this ye solemnly ratified, and to this ye can bear witness.

002.085 After this it is ye, the same people, who slay among yourselves, and banish a party of you from their homes; assist (Their enemies) against them, in guilt and rancour; and if they come to you as captives, ye ransom them, though it was not lawful for you to banish them. Then is it only a part of the Book that ye believe in, and do ye reject the rest? but what is the reward for those among you who behave like this but disgrace in this life?Ñand on the Day of Judgment they shall be consigned to the most grievous penalty. For God is not unmindful of what ye do.

002.086 These are the people who buy the life of this world at the price of the Hereafter: their penalty shall not be lightened nor shall they be helped.

002.087 We gave Moses the Book and followed him up with a succession of apostles; We gave Jesus the son of Mary Clear (Signs) and strengthened him with the holy spirit. Is it that whenever there comes to you an apostle with what ye yourselves desire not, ye are puffed up with pride?ÑSome ye called impostors, and others ye slay!

002.088 They say, "Our hearts are the wrappings (which preserve God's Word: we need no more)." Nay, God's curse is on them for their blasphemy: Little is it they believe.

002.089 And when there comes to them a Book from God, confirming what is with them,Ñalthough from of old they had prayed for victory against those without Faith,Ñwhen there comes to them that which they (should) have recognised, they refuse to believe in it but the curse of God is on those without Faith.

002.090 Miserable is the price for which they have sold their souls, in that they deny (the revelation) which God has sent down, in insolent envy that God of His Grace should send it to any of His servants He pleases: Thus have they drawn on themselves Wrath upon Wrath. And humiliating is the punishment of those who reject Faith.

002.091 When it is said to them, "Believe in what God Hath sent down, "they say, "We believe in what was sent down to us:" yet they reject all besides, even if it be Truth confirming what is with them. Say: "Why then have ye slain the prophets of God in times gone by, if ye did indeed believe?"

002.092 There came to you Moses with clear (Signs); yet ye worshipped the calf (Even) after that, and ye did behave wrongfully.

002.093 And remember We took your covenant and We raised above you (the towering height) of Mount (Sinai): (Saying): "Hold firmly to what We have given you, and hearken (to the Law)": They said:" We hear, and we disobey:" And they had to drink into their hearts (of the taint) of the calf because of their Faithlessness. Say: "Vile indeed are the behests of your Faith if ye have any faith!"

002.094 Say: "If the last Home, with God, be for you specially, and not for anyone else, then seek ye for death, if ye are sincere."

002.095 But they will never seek for death, on account of the (sins) which their hands have sent on before them. and God is well-acquainted with the wrong-doers.

002.096 Thou wilt indeed find them, of all people, most greedy of life,-even more than the idolaters: Each one of them wishes He could be given a life of a thousand years: But the grant of such life will not save him from (due) punishment. For God sees well all that they do.

002.097 Say: Whoever is an enemy to Gabriel-for he brings down the (revelation) to thy heart by God's will, a confirmation of what went before, and guidance and glad tidings for those who believe,-

002.098 Whoever is an enemy to God and His angels and apostles, to Gabriel and Michael,ÑLo! God is an enemy to those who reject Faith.

002.099 We have sent down to thee Manifest Signs (ayat); and none reject them but those who are perverse.

002.100 Is it not (the case) that every time they make a covenant, some party among them throw it aside?ÑNay, Most of them are faithless.

002.101 And when there came to them an apostle from God, confirming what was with them, a party of the people of the Book threw away the Book of God behind their backs, as if (it had been something) they did not know!

002.102 They followed what the evil ones gave out (falsely) against the power of Solomon: the blasphemers Were, not Solomon, but the evil ones, teaching men Magic, and such things as came down at babylon to the angels Harut and Marut.

But neither of these taught anyone (Such things) without saying: "We are only for trial; so do not blaspheme." They learned from them the means to sow discord between man and wife. But they could not thus harm anyone except by God's permission. And they learned what harmed them, not what profited them. And they knew that the buyers of (magic) would have no share in the happiness of the Hereafter. And vile was the price for which they did sell their souls, if they but knew!

002.103 If they had kept their Faith and guarded themselves from evil, far better had been the reward from their Lord, if they but knew!

002.104 O ye of Faith! Say not (to the Apostle) words of ambiguous import, but words of respect; and hearken (to him): To those without Faith is a grievous punishment.

002.105 It is never the wish of those without Faith among the People of the Book, nor of the Pagans, that anything good should come down to you from your Lord. But God will choose for His special Mercy whom He willÑfor God is Lord of grace abounding.

002.106 None of Our revelations do We abrogate or cause to be forgotten, but We substitute something better or similar: Knowest thou not that God Hath power over all things?

002.107 Knowest thou not that to God belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth? And besides Him ye have neither patron nor helper.

002.108 Would ye question your Apostle as Moses was questioned of old? but whoever changeth from Faith to Unbelief, Hath strayed without doubt from the even way.

002.109 Quite a number of the People of the Book wish they could Turn you (people) back to infidelity after ye have believed, from selfish envy, after the Truth hath become Manifest unto them: But forgive and overlook, Till God accomplish His purpose; for God Hath power over all things.

002.110 And be steadfast in prayer and regular in charity: And whatever good ye send forth for your souls before you, ye shall find it with God: for God sees Well all that ye do.

002.111 And they say: "None shall enter Paradise unless he be a Jew or a Christian." Those are their (vain) desires. Say: "Produce your proof if ye are truthful."

002.112 Nay,-whoever submits His whole self to God and is a doer of good,ÑHe will get his reward with his Lord; on such shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

002.113 The Jews say: "The Christians have naught (to stand) upon; and the Christians say: "The Jews have naught (To stand) upon." Yet they (Profess to) study the (same) Book. Like unto their word is what those say who know not; but God will judge between them in their quarrel on the Day of Judgment.

002.114 And who is more unjust than he who forbids that in places for the worship of God, God's name should be celebrated?-whose zeal is (in fact) to ruin them? It was not fitting that such should themselves enter them except in fear. For them there is nothing but disgrace in this world, and in the world to come, an exceeding torment.

002.115 To God belong the east and the West: Whithersoever ye turn, there is the presence of God. For God is all-Pervading, all-Knowing.

002.116 They say: "God hath begotten a son" :Glory be to Him.-Nay, to Him belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: everything renders worship to Him.

002.117 To Him is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth: When He decreeth a matter, He saith to it: "Be," and it is.

002.118 Say those without knowledge: "Why speaketh not God unto us? or why cometh not unto us a Sign?" So said the people before them words of similar import. Their hearts are alike. We have indeed made clear the Signs unto any people who hold firmly to Faith (in their hearts).

002.119 Verily We have sent thee in truth as a bearer of glad tidings and a warner: But of thee no question shall be asked of the Companions of the Blazing Fire.

002.120 Never will the Jews or the Christians be satisfied with thee unless thou follow their form of religion. Say: "The Guidance of God,-that is the (only) Guidance." Wert thou to follow their desires after the knowledge which hath reached thee, then wouldst thou find neither Protector nor helper against God.

002.121 Those to whom We have sent the Book study it as it should be studied: They are the ones that believe therein: Those who reject faith therein,Ñthe loss is their own.

002.122 O Children of Israel! call to mind the special favour which I bestowed upon you, and that I preferred you to all others (for My Message).

002.123 Then guard yourselves against a-Day when one soul shall not avail another, nor shall compensation be accepted from her nor shall intercession profit her nor shall anyone be helped (from outside).

002.124 And remember that Abraham was tried by his Lord with certain commands, which he fulfilled: He said: "I will make thee an Imam to the Nations." He pleaded: "And also (Imams) from my offspring!" He answered: "But My Promise is not within the reach of evil-doers."

002.125 Remember We made the House a place of assembly for men and a place of safety; and take ye the station of Abraham as a place of prayer; and We covenanted with Abraham and Isma'il, that they should sanctify My House for those who compass it round, or use it as a retreat, or bow, or prostrate themselves (therein in prayer).

002.126 And remember Abraham said: "My Lord, make this a City of Peace, and feed its people with fruits,-such of them as believe in God and the Last Day." He said: "(Yea), and such as reject Faith,-for a while will I grant them their pleasure, but will soon drive them to the torment of Fire,Ñan evil destination (indeed)!"

002.127 And remember Abraham and Isma'il raised the foundations of the House (With this prayer): "Our Lord! Accept (this service) from us: For Thou art the All-Hearing, the All-knowing.

002.128 "Our Lord! make of us Muslims, bowing to Thy (Will), and of our progeny a people Muslim, bowing to Thy (will); and show us our place for the celebration of (due) rites; and turn unto us (in Mercy); for Thou art the Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.

002.129 "Our Lord! send amongst them an Apostle of their own, who shall rehearse Thy Signs to them and instruct them in scripture and wisdom, and sanctify them: For Thou art the Exalted in Might, the Wise."

002.130 And who turns away from the religion of Abraham but such as debase their souls with folly? Him We chose and rendered pure in this world: And he will be in the Hereafter in the ranks of the Righteous.

002.131 Behold! his Lord said to him: "Bow (thy will to Me):" He said: "I bow (my will) to the Lord and Cherisher of the Universe."

002.132 And this was the legacy that Abraham left to his sons, and so did Jacob; "Oh my sons! God hath chosen the Faith for you; then die not except in the Faith of Islam."

002.133 Were ye witnesses when death appeared before Jacob? Behold, he said to his sons: "What will ye worship after me?" They said: "We shall worship Thy God and the God of thy fathers, of Abraham, Isma'il and Isaac,Ñthe one (True) God: To Him we bow (in Islam)."

002.134 That was a people that hath passed away. They shall reap the fruit of what they did, and ye of what ye do! Of their merits there is no question in your case!

002.135 They say: "Become Jews or Christians if ye would be guided (To salvation)." Say thou: "Nay! (I would rather) the Religion of Abraham the True, and he joined not gods with God."

002.136 Say ye: "We believe in God, and the revelation given to us, and to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, and that given to Moses and Jesus, and that given to (all) prophets from their Lord: We make no difference between one and another of them: And we bow to God (in Islam)."

002.137 So if they believe as ye believe, they are indeed on the right path; but if they turn back, it is they who are in schism; but God will suffice thee as against them, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.

002.138 (Our religion is) the Baptism of God: And who can baptize better than

God? And it is He Whom we worship.

002.139 Say: Will ye dispute with us about God, seeing that He is our Lord and your Lord; that we are responsible for our doings and ye for yours; and that We are sincere (in our faith) in Him?

002.140 Or do ye say that Abraham, Isma'il Isaac, Jacob and the Tribes were Jews or Christians? Say: Do ye know better than God? Ah! who is more unjust than those who conceal the testimony they have from God? but God is not unmindful of what ye do!

002.141 That was a people that hath passed away. They shall reap the fruit of what they did, and ye of what ye do! Of their merits there is no question in your case:

002.142 The fools among the people will say: "What hath turned them from the Qibla to which they were used?" Say: To God belong both east and West: He guideth whom He will to a Way that is straight.

002.143 Thus, have We made of you an Ummat justly balanced, that ye might be witnesses over the nations, and the Apostle a witness over yourselves; and We appointed the Qibla to which thou wast used, only to test those who followed the Apostle from those who would turn on their heels (From the Faith). Indeed it was (A change) momentous, except to those guided by God. And never would God Make your faith of no effect. For God is to all people Most surely full of kindness, Most Merciful.

002.144 We see the turning of thy face (for guidance to the heavens: now Shall We turn thee to a Qibla that shall please thee. Turn then Thy face in the direction of the sacred Mosque: Wherever ye are, turn your faces in that direction. The people of the Book know well that that is the truth from their Lord. Nor is God unmindful of what they do.

002.145 Even if thou wert to bring to the people of the Book all the Signs (together), they would not follow Thy Qibla; nor art thou going to follow their Qibla; nor indeed will they follow each other's Qibla. If thou after the knowledge hath reached thee, Wert to follow their (vain) desires,-then wert thou Indeed (clearly) in the wrong.

002.146 The people of the Book know this as they know their own sons; but some of them conceal the truth which they themselves know.

002.147 The Truth is from thy Lord; so be not at all in doubt.

002.148 To each is a goal to which God turns him; then strive together (as in a race) Towards all that is good. Wheresoever ye are, God will bring you Together. For God Hath power over all things.

002.149 From whencesoever Thou startest forth, turn Thy face in the direction of the sacred Mosque; that is indeed the truth from the Lord. And God is not unmindful of what ye do.

002.150 So from whencesoever Thou startest forth, turn Thy face in the

direction of the sacred Mosque; and wheresoever ye are, Turn your face thither: that there be no ground of dispute against you among the people, except those of them that are bent on wickedness; so fear them not, but fear Me; and that I may complete My favours on you, and ye May (consent to) be guided;

002.151 A similar (favour have ye already received) in that We have sent among you an Apostle of your own, rehearsing to you Our Signs, and sanctifying you, and instructing you in Scripture and Wisdom, and in new knowledge.

002.152 Then do ye remember Me; I will remember you. Be grateful to Me, and reject not Faith.

002.153 O ye who believe! seek help with patient perseverance and prayer; for God is with those who patiently persevere.

002.154 And say not of those who are slain in the way of God: "They are dead." Nay, they are living, though ye perceive (it) not.

002.155 Be sure we shall test you with something of fear and hunger, some loss in goods or lives or the fruits (of your toil), but give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere,

002.156 Who say, when afflicted with calamity: "To God We belong, and to Him is our return":-

002.157 They are those on whom (Descend) blessings from God, and Mercy, and they are the ones that receive guidance.

002.158 Behold! Safa and Marwa are among the Symbols of God. So if those who visit the House in the Season or at other times, should compass them round, it is no sin in them. And if any one obeyeth his own impulse to good,Ñbe sure that God is He Who recogniseth and knoweth.

002.159 Those who conceal the clear (Signs) We have sent down, and the Guidance, after We have made it clear for the people in the Book,-on them shall be God's curse, and the curse of those entitled to curse,-

002.160 Except those who repent and make amends and openly declare (the Truth): To them I turn; for I am Oft-returning, Most Merciful.

002.161 Those who reject Faith, and die rejecting,Ñon them is God's curse, and the curse of angels, and of all mankind;

002.162 They will abide therein: Their penalty will not be lightened, nor will respite be their (lot).

002.163 And your God is One God: There is no god but He, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

002.164 Behold! in the creation of the heavens and the earth; in the alternation of the night and the day; in the sailing of the ships through the ocean for the profit of mankind; in the rain which God Sends down from the skies, and the life which He gives therewith to an earth that is dead; in the beasts of all kinds that He scatters through the earth; in the change of the

winds, and the clouds which they Trail like their slaves between the sky and the earth;Ñ(Here) indeed are Signs for a people that are wise.

002.165 Yet there are men who take (for worship) others besides God, as equal (with God): They love them as they should love God. But those of Faith are overflowing in their love for God. If only the unrighteous could see, behold, they would see the penalty: that to God belongs all power, and God will strongly enforce the penalty.

002.166 Then would those who are followed clear themselves of those who follow (them) : They would see the penalty, and all relations between them would be cut off.

002.167 And those who followed would say: "If only We had one more chance, We would clear ourselves of them, as they have cleared themselves of us." Thus will God show them (The fruits of) their deeds as (nothing but) regrets. Nor will there be a way for them out of the Fire.

002.168 O ye people! Eat of what is on earth, Lawful and good; and do not follow the footsteps of the evil one, for he is to you an avowed enemy.

002.169 For he commands you what is evil and shameful, and that ye should say of God that of which ye have no knowledge.

002.170 When it is said to them: "Follow what God hath revealed:" They say: "Nay! we shall follow the ways of our fathers." What! even though their fathers Were void of wisdom and guidance?

002.171 The parable of those who reject Faith is as if one were to shout Like a goat-herd, to things that listen to nothing but calls and cries: Deaf, dumb, and blind, they are void of wisdom.

002.172 O ye who believe! Eat of the good things that We have provided for you, and be grateful to God, if it is Him ye worship.

002.173 He hath only forbidden you dead meat, and blood, and the flesh of swine, and that on which any other name hath been invoked besides that of God. But if one is forced by necessity, without wilful disobedience, nor transgressing due limits,Ñthen is he guiltless. For God is Oft-forgiving Most Merciful.

002.174 Those who conceal God's revelations in the Book, and purchase for them a miserable profit,Ñthey swallow into themselves naught but Fire; God will not address them on the Day of Resurrection. Nor purify them: Grievous will be their penalty.

002.175 They are the ones who buy Error in place of Guidance and Torment in place of Forgiveness. Ah! what boldness (They show) for the Fire!

002.176 (Their doom is) because God sent down the Book in truth but those who seek causes of dispute in the Book are in a schism Far (from the purpose).

002.177 It is not righteousness that ye turn your faces Towards east or West;

but it is righteousnessÑto believe in God and the Last Day, and the Angels, and the Book, and the Messengers; to spend of your substance, out of love for Him, for your kin, for orphans, for the needy, for the wayfarer, for those who ask, and for the ransom of slaves; to be steadfast in prayer, and practice regular charity; to fulfil the contracts which ye have made; and to be firm and patient, in pain (or suffering) and adversity, and throughout all periods of panic. Such are the people of truth, the God-fearing.

002.178 O ye who believe! the law of equality is prescribed to you in cases of murder: the free for the free, the slave for the slave, the woman for the woman. But if any remission is made by the brother of the slain, then grant any reasonable demand, and compensate him with handsome gratitude, this is a concession and a Mercy from your Lord. After this whoever exceeds the limits shall be in grave penalty.

002.179 In the Law of Equality there is (saving of) Life to you, o ye men of understanding; that ye may restrain yourselves.

002.180 It is prescribed, when death approaches any of you, if he leave any goods that he make a bequest to parents and next of kin, according to reasonable usage; this is due from the God-fearing.

002.181 If anyone changes the bequest after hearing it, the guilt shall be on those who make the change. For God hears and knows (All things).

002.182 But if anyone fears partiality or wrong-doing on the part of the testator, and makes peace between (The parties concerned), there is no wrong in him: For God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

002.183 O ye who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that ye may (learn) self-restraint,-

002.184 (Fasting) for a fixed number of days; but if any of you is ill, or on a journey, the prescribed number (Should be made up) from days later. For those who can do it (With hardship), is a ransom, the feeding of one that is indigent. But he that will give more, of his own free will,Ñit is better for him. And it is better for you that ye fast, if ye only knew.

002.185 Ramadhan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'an, as a guide to mankind, also clear (Signs) for guidance and judgment (Between right and wrong). So every one of you who is present (at his home) during that month should spend it in fasting, but if any one is ill, or on a journey, the prescribed period (Should be made up) by days later. God intends every facility for you; He does not want to put to difficulties. (He wants you) to complete the prescribed period, and to glorify Him in that He has guided you; and perchance ye shall be grateful.

002.186 When My servants ask thee concerning Me, I am indeed close (to them): I listen to the prayer of every suppliant when he calleth on Me: Let them also, with a will, Listen to My call, and believe in Me: That they may walk in the right way.

002.187 Permitted to you, on the night of the fasts, is the approach to your wives. They are your garments and ye are their garments. God knoweth what ye used to do secretly among yourselves; but He turned to you and forgave you; so now associate with them, and seek what God Hath ordained for you, and eat and drink, until the white thread of dawn appear to you distinct from its black thread; then complete your fast Till the night appears; but do not associate with your wives while ye are in retreat in the mosques. Those are Limits (set by) God: Approach not nigh thereto. Thus doth God make clear His Signs to men: that they may learn self-restraint.

002.188 And do not eat up your property among yourselves for vanities, nor use it as bait for the judges, with intent that ye may eat up wrongfully and knowingly a little of (other) people's property.

002.189 They ask thee concerning the New Moons. Say: They are but signs to mark fixed periods of time in (the affairs of) men, and for Pilgrimage. It is no virtue if ye enter your houses from the back: It is virtue if ye fear God. Enter houses through the proper doors: And fear God: That ye may prosper.

002.190 Fight in the cause of God those who fight you, but do not transgress limits; for God loveth not transgressors.

002.191 And slay them wherever ye catch them, and turn them out from where they have Turned you out; for tumult and oppression are worse than slaughter; but fight them not at the Sacred Mosque, unless they (first) fight you there; but if they fight you, slay them. Such is the reward of those who suppress faith.

002.192 But if they cease, God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

002.193 And fight them on until there is no more Tumult or oppression, and there prevail justice and faith in God; but if they cease, Let there be no hostility except to those who practise oppression.

002.194 The prohibited month for the prohibited month,Ñand so for all things prohibited,Ñthere is the law of equality. If then any one transgresses the prohibition against you, Transgress ye likewise against him. But fear God, and know that God is with those who restrain themselves.

002.195 And spend of your substance in the cause of God, and make not your own hands contribute to (your) destruction; but do good; for God loveth those who do good.

002.196 And complete the Hajj or 'umra in the service of God. But if ye are prevented (From completing it), send an offering for sacrifice, such as ye may find, and do not shave your heads until the offering reaches the place of sacrifice. And if any of you is ill, or has an ailment in his scalp, (Necessitating shaving), (He should) in compensation either fast, or feed the poor, or offer sacrifice; and when ye are in peaceful conditions (again), if any one wishes to continue the 'umra on to the hajj, He must make an offering, such as he can afford, but if he cannot afford it, He should fast three days during the hajj and seven days on his return, Making ten days in all. This is

for those whose household is not in (the precincts of) the Sacred Mosque. And fear God, and know that God Is strict in punishment.

002.197 For Hajj are the months well known. If any one undertakes that duty therein, Let there be no obscenity, nor wickedness, nor wrangling in the Hajj. And whatever good ye do, (be sure) God knoweth it. And take a provision (With you) for the journey, but the best of provisions is right conduct. So fear Me, o ye that are wise.

002.198 It is no crime in you if ye seek of the bounty of your Lord (during pilgrimage). Then when ye pour down from (Mount) Arafat, celebrate the praises of God at the Sacred Monument, and celebrate His praises as He has directed you, even though, before this, ye went astray.

002.199 Then pass on at a quick pace from the place whence it is usual for the multitude so to do, and ask for God's forgiveness. For God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

002.200 So when ye have accomplished your holy rites, celebrate the praises of God, as ye used to celebrate the praises of your fathers,Ñyea, with far more Heart and soul. There are men who say: "Our Lord! Give us (Thy bounties) in this world!" but they will have no portion in the Hereafter.

002.201 And there are men who say: "Our Lord! Give us good in this world and good in the Hereafter, and defend us from the torment of the Fire!"

002.202 To these will be allotted what they have earned; and God is quick in account.

002.203 Celebrate the praises of God during the Appointed Days. But if any one hastens to leave in two days, there is no blame on him, and if any one stays on, there is no blame on him, if his aim is to do right. Then fear God, and know that ye will surely be gathered unto Him.

002.204 There is the type of man whose speech about this world's life May dazzle thee, and he calls God to witness about what is in his heart; yet is he the most contentious of enemies.

002.205 When he turns his back, His aim everywhere is to spread mischief through the earth and destroy crops and cattle. But God loveth not mischief.

002.206 When it is said to him, "Fear God", He is led by arrogance to (more) crime. Enough for him is Hell;-An evil bed indeed (To lie on)!

002.207 And there is the type of man who gives his life to earn the pleasure of God: And God is full of kindness to (His) devotees.

002.208 O ye who believe! Enter into Islam whole-heartedly; and follow not the footsteps of the evil one; for he is to you an avowed enemy.

002.209 If ye backslide after the clear (Signs) have come to you, then know that God is Exalted in Power, Wise.

002.210 Will they wait until God comes to them in canopies of clouds, with

angels (in His train) and the question is (thus) settled? but to God do all questions go back (for decision).

002.211 Ask the Children of Israel how many clear (Signs) We have sent them. But if any one, after God's favour has come to him, substitutes (something else), God is strict in punishment.

002.212 The life of this world is alluring to those who reject faith, and they scoff at those who believe. But the righteous will be above them on the Day of Resurrection; for God bestows His abundance without measure on whom He will.

002.213 Mankind was one single nation, and God sent Messengers with glad tidings and warnings; and with them He sent the Book in truth, to judge between people in matters wherein they differed; but the People of the Book, after the clear Signs came to them, did not differ among themselves, except through selfish contumacy. God by His Grace Guided the believers to the Truth, concerning that wherein they differed. For God guided whom He will to a path that is straight.

002.214 Or do ye think that ye shall enter the Garden (of bliss) without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before you? they encountered suffering and adversity, and were so shaken in spirit that even the Apostle and those of faith who were with him cried: "When (will come) the help of God?" Ah! Verily, the help of God is (always) near!

002.215 They ask thee what they should spend (In charity). Say: Whatever ye spend that is good, is for parents and kindred and orphans and those in want and for wayfarers. And whatever ye do that is good, -God knoweth it well.

002.216 Fighting is prescribed for you, and ye dislike it. But it is possible that ye dislike a thing which is good for you, and that ye love a thing which is bad for you. But God knoweth, and ye know not.

002.217 They ask thee concerning fighting in the Prohibited Month. Say: "Fighting therein is a grave (offence); but graver is it in the sight of God to prevent access to the path of God, to deny Him, to prevent access to the Sacred Mosque, and drive out its members." Tumult and oppression are worse than slaughter. Nor will they cease fighting you until they turn you back from your faith if they can. And if any of you Turn back from their faith and die in unbelief, their works will bear no fruit in this life and in the Hereafter; they will be companions of the Fire and will abide therein.

002.218 Those who believed and those who suffered exile and fought (and strove and struggled) in the path of God,Ñthey have the hope of the Mercy of God: And God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

002.219 They ask thee concerning wine and gambling. Say: "In them is great sin, and some profit, for men; but the sin is greater than the profit." They ask thee how much they are to spend; Say: "What is beyond your needs." Thus doth God Make clear to you His Signs: In order that ye may consider-

002.220 (Their bearings) on this life and the Hereafter. They ask thee

concerning orphans. Say: "The best thing to do is what is for their good; if ye mix their affairs with yours, they are your brethren; but God knows the man who means mischief from the man who means good. And if God had wished, He could have put you into difficulties: He is indeed Exalted in Power, Wise."

002.221 Do not marry unbelieving women (idolaters), until they believe: A slave woman who believes is better than an unbelieving woman, even though she allures you. Nor marry (your girls) to unbelievers until they believe: A man slave who believes is better than an unbeliever, even though he allures you. Unbelievers do (but) beckon you to the Fire. But God beckons by His Grace to the Garden (of bliss) and forgiveness, and makes His Signs clear to mankind: That they may celebrate His praise.

002.222 They ask thee concerning women's courses. Say: They are a hurt and a pollution: So keep away from women in their courses, and do not approach them until they are clean. But when they have purified themselves, ye may approach them in any manner, time, or place ordained for you by God. For God loves those who turn to Him constantly and He loves those who keep themselves pure and clean.

002.223 Your wives are as a tilth unto you; so approach your tilth when or how ye will; but do some good act for your souls beforehand; and fear God. And know that ye are to meet Him (in the Hereafter), and give (these) good tidings to those who believe.

002.224 And make not God's (name) an excuse in your oaths against doing good, or acting rightly, or making peace between persons; for God is One Who heareth and knoweth all things.

002.225 God will not call you to account for thoughtlessness in your oaths, but for the intention in your hearts; and He is Oft-forgiving, Most Forbearing.

002.226 For those who take an oath for abstention from their wives, a waiting for four months is ordained; if then they return, God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

002.227 But if their intention is firm for divorce, God heareth and knoweth all things.

002.228 Divorced women shall wait concerning themselves for three monthly periods. Nor is it lawful for them to hide what God Hath created in their wombs, if they have faith in God and the Last Day. And their husbands have the better right to take them back in that period, if they wish for reconciliation. And women shall have rights similar to the rights against them, according to what is equitable; but men have a degree (of advantage) over them. And God is Exalted in Power, Wise.

002.229 A divorce is only permissible twice: after that, the parties should either hold Together on equitable terms, or separate with kindness. It is not lawful for you, (Men), to take back any of your gifts (from your wives), except when both parties fear that they would be unable to keep the limits ordained by

God. If ye (judges) do indeed fear that they would be unable to keep the limits ordained by God, there is no blame on either of them if she give something for her freedom. These are the limits ordained by God; so do not transgress them if any do transgress the limits ordained by God, such persons wrong (Themselves as well as others).

002.230 So if a husband divorces his wife (irrevocably), He cannot, after that, re-marry her until after she has married another husband and He has divorced her. In that case there is no blame on either of them if they re-unite, provided they feel that they can keep the limits ordained by God. Such are the limits ordained by God, which He makes plain to those who understand.

002.231 When ye divorce women, and they fulfil the term of their ('Iddat), either take them back on equitable terms or set them free on equitable terms; but do not take them back to injure them, (or) to take undue advantage; if any one does that; He wrongs his own soul. Do not treat God's Signs as a jest, but solemnly rehearse God's favours on you, and the fact that He sent down to you the Book and Wisdom, for your instruction. And fear God, and know that God is well acquainted with all things.

002.232 When ye divorce women, and they fulfil the term of their ('Iddat), do not prevent them from marrying their (former) husbands, if they mutually agree on equitable terms. This instruction is for all amongst you, who believe in God and the Last Day. That is (the course Making for) most virtue and purity amongst you and God knows, and ye know not.

002.233 The mothers shall give such to their offspring for two whole years, if the father desires to complete the term. But he shall bear the cost of their food and clothing on equitable terms. No soul shall have a burden laid on it greater than it can bear. No mother shall be Treated unfairly on account of her child. Nor father on account of his child, an heir shall be chargeable in the same way. If they both decide on weaning, by mutual consent, and after due consultation, there is no blame on them. If ye decide on a foster-mother for your offspring, there is no blame on you, provided ye pay (the mother) what ye offered, on equitable terms. But fear God and know that God sees well what ye do.

002.234 If any of you die and leave widows behind, they shall wait concerning themselves four months and ten days: When they have fulfilled their term, there is no blame on you if they dispose of themselves in a just and reasonable manner. And God is well acquainted with what ye do.

002.235 There is no blame on you if ye make an offer of betrothal or hold it in your hearts. God knows that ye cherish them in your hearts: But do not make a secret contract with them except in terms Honourable, nor resolve on the tie of marriage till the term prescribed is fulfilled. And know that God Knoweth what is in your hearts, and take heed of Him; and know that God is Oft-forgiving, Most Forbearing.

002.236 There is no blame on you if ye divorce women before consummation or the

fixation of their dower; but bestow on them (A suitable gift), the wealthy according to his means, and the poor according to his means;ÑA gift of a reasonable amount is due from those who wish to do the right thing.

002.237 And if ye divorce them before consummation, but after the fixation of a dower for them, then the half of the dower (Is due to them), unless they remit it or (the man's half) is remitted by him in whose hands is the marriage tie; and the remission (of the man's half) is the nearest to righteousness. And do not forget Liberality between yourselves. For God sees well all that ye do.

002.238 Guard strictly your (habit of) prayers, especially the Middle Prayer; and stand before God in a devout (frame of mind).

002.239 If ye fear (an enemy), pray on foot, or riding, (as may be most convenient), but when ye are in security, celebrate God's praises in the manner He has taught you, which ye knew not (before).

002.240 Those of you who die and leave widows should bequeath for their widows a year's maintenance and residence; but if they leave (The residence), there is no blame on you for what they do with themselves, provided it is reasonable. And God is Exalted in Power, Wise.

002.241 For divorced women Maintenance (should be provided) on a reasonable (scale). This is a duty on the righteous.

002.242 Thus doth God Make clear His Signs to you: In order that ye may understand.

002.243 Didst thou not Turn by vision to those who abandoned their homes, though they were thousands (In number), for fear of death? God said to them: "Die": Then He restored them to life. For God is full of bounty to mankind, but Most of them are ungrateful.

002.244 Then fight in the cause of God, and know that God Heareth and knoweth all things.

002.245 Who is he that will loan to God a beautiful loan, which God will double unto his credit and multiply many times? It is God that giveth (you) Want or plenty, and to Him shall be your return.

002.246 Hast thou not Turned thy vision to the Chiefs of the Children of Israel after (the time of) Moses? they said to a prophet (That was) among them: "Appoint for us a king, that we May fight in the cause of God." He said: "Is it not possible, if ye were commanded to fight, that that ye will not fight?" They said: "How could we refuse to fight in the cause of God, seeing that we were turned out of our homes and our families?" but when they were commanded to fight, they turned back, except a small band among them. But God Has full knowledge of those who do wrong.

002.247 Their Prophet said to them: "God hath appointed Talut as king over you." They said: "How can he exercise authority over us when we are better fitted than he to exercise authority, and he is not even gifted, with wealth in

abundance?" He said: "God hath Chosen him above you, and hath gifted him abundantly with knowledge and bodily prowess: God Granteth His authority to whom He pleaseth. God careth for all, and He knoweth all things."

002.248 And (further) their Prophet said to them: "A Sign of his authority is that there shall come to you the Ark of the covenant, with (an assurance) therein of security from your Lord, and the relics left by the family of Moses and the family of Aaron, carried by angels. In this is a symbol for you if ye indeed have faith."

002.249 When Talut set forth with the armies, he said: "God will test you at the stream: if any drinks of its water, He goes not with my army: Only those who taste not of it go with me: A mere sip out of the hand is excused." but they all drank of it, except a few. When they crossed the river,ÑHe and the faithful ones with him,Ñthey said: "This day We cannot cope with Goliath and his forces." but those who were convinced that they must meet God, said: "How oft, by God's will, Hath a small force vanquished a big one? God is with those who steadfastly persevere."

002.250 When they advanced to meet Goliath and his forces, they prayed: "Our Lord! Pour out constancy on us and make our steps firm: Help us against those that reject faith."

002.251 By God's will they routed them; and David slew Goliath; and God gave him power and wisdom and taught him whatever (else) He willed. And did not God Check one set of people by means of another, the earth would indeed be full of mischief: But God is full of bounty to all the worlds.

002.252 These are the Signs of God: we rehearse them to thee in truth: verily Thou art one of the apostles.

002.253 Those apostles We endowed with gifts, some above others: To one of them God spoke; others He raised to degrees (of honour); to Jesus the son of Mary We gave clear (Signs), and strengthened him with the holy spirit. If God had so willed, succeeding generations would not have fought among each other, after clear (Signs) had come to them, but they (chose) to wrangle, some believing and others rejecting. If God had so willed, they would not have fought each other; but God Fulfilleth His plan.

002.254 O ye who believe! Spend out of (the bounties) We have provided for you, before the Day comes when no bargaining (Will avail), nor friendship nor intercession. Those who reject Faith they are the wrong-doers.

002.255 God! There is no god but He,-the Living, the Self-subsisting, Eternal. No slumber can seize Him nor sleep. His are all things in the heavens and on earth. Who is there can intercede in His presence except as He permitteth? He knoweth what (appeareth to His creatures as) before or after or behind them. Nor shall they compass aught of His knowledge except as He willeth. His Throne doth extend over the heavens and the earth, and He feeleth no fatigue in guarding and preserving them for He is the Most High, the Supreme (in glory).

002.256 Let there be no compulsion in religion: Truth stands out clear from Error: whoever rejects evil and believes in God hath grasped the most trustworthy hand-hold, that never breaks. And God heareth and knoweth all things.

002.257 God is the Protector of those who have faith: from the depths of darkness He will lead them forth into light. Of those who reject faith the patrons are the evil ones: from light they will lead them forth into the depths of darkness. They will be companions of the fire, to dwell therein (For ever).

002.258 Hast thou not Turned thy vision to one who disputed with Abraham About his Lord, because God had granted him power? Abraham said: "My Lord is He Who Giveth life and death." He said: "I give life and death". Said Abraham: "But it is God that causeth the sun to rise from the east: Do thou then cause him to rise from the West." Thus was he confounded who (in arrogance) rejected faith. Nor doth God Give guidance to a people unjust.

002.259 Or (take) the similitude of one who passed by a hamlet, all in ruins to its roofs. He said: "Oh! how shall God bring it (ever) to life, after (this) its death?" but God caused him to die for a hundred years, then raised him up (again). He said: "How long didst thou tarry (thus)?" He said: (Perhaps) a day or part of a day." He said: "Nay, thou hast tarried thus a hundred years; but look at thy food and thy drink; they show no signs of age; and look at thy donkey: And that We may make of thee a sign unto the people, Look further at the bones, how We bring them together and clothe them with flesh." When this was shown clearly to him, he said: "I know that God hath power over all things."

002.260 Behold! Abraham said: "My Lord! Show me how Thou givest life to the dead." He said: "Dost thou not then believe?" He said: "Yea! but to satisfy My own undertaking." He said: "Take four birds; Tame them to turn to thee; put a portion of them on every hill and call to them: They will come to thee (Flying) with speed. Then know that God is Exalted in Power, Wise."

002.261 The parable of those who spend their substance in the way of God is that of a grain of corn: it groweth seven ears, and each ear Hath a hundred grains. God giveth manifold increase to whom He pleaseth: And God careth for all and He knoweth all things.

002.262 Those who spend their substance in the cause of God, and follow not up their gifts with reminders of their generosity or with injury,-for them their reward is with their Lord: on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

002.263 Kind words and the covering of faults are better than charity followed by injury. God is free of all wants, and He is Most-Forbearing.

002.264 O ye who believe! cancel not your charity by reminders of your generosity or by injury,Ñlike those who spend their substance to be seen of men, but believe neither in God nor in the Last Day. They are in parable like a hard, barren rock, on which is a little soil: on it falls heavy rain, which leaves it (Just) a bare stone. They will be able to do nothing with aught they

have earned. And God guideth not those who reject faith.

002.265 And the likeness of those who spend their substance, seeking to please God and to strengthen their souls, is as a garden, high and fertile: heavy rain falls on it but makes it yield a double increase of harvest, and if it receives not Heavy rain, light moisture sufficeth it. God seeth well whatever ye do.

002.266 Does any of you wish that he should have a garden with date-palms and vines and streams flowing underneath, and all kinds of fruit, while he is stricken with old age, and his children are not strong (enough to look after themselves)Ñthat it should be caught in a whirlwind, with fire therein, and be burnt up? Thus doth God make clear to you (His) Signs; that ye may consider.

002.267 O ye who believe! Give of the good things which ye have (honourably) earned, and of the fruits of the earth which We have produced for you, and do not even aim at getting anything which is bad, in order that out of it ye may give away something, when ye yourselves would not receive it except with closed eyes. And know that God is Free of all wants, and worthy of all praise.

002.268 The Evil one threatens you with poverty and bids you to conduct unseemly. God promiseth you His forgiveness and bounties. And God careth for all and He knoweth all things.

002.269 He granteth wisdom to whom He pleaseth; and he to whom wisdom is granted receiveth indeed a benefit overflowing; but none will grasp the Message but men of understanding.

002.270 And whatever ye spend in charity or devotion, be sure God knows it all. But the wrong-doers have no helpers.

002.271 If ye disclose (acts of) charity, even so it is well, but if ye conceal them, and make them reach those (really) in need, that is best for you: It will remove from you some of your (stains of) evil. And God is well acquainted with what ye do.

002.272 It is not required of thee (O Apostle), to set them on the right path, but God sets on the right path whom He pleaseth. Whatever of good ye give benefits your own souls, and ye shall only do so seeking the "Face" of God. Whatever good ye give, shall be rendered back to you, and ye shall not Be dealt with unjustly.

002.273 (Charity is) for those in need, who, in God's cause are restricted (from travel), and cannot move about in the land, seeking (For trade or work): the ignorant man thinks, because of their modesty, that they are free from want. Thou shalt know them by their (Unfailing) mark: They beg not importunately from all the sundry. And whatever of good ye give, be assured God knoweth it well.

002.274 Those who (in charity) spend of their goods by night and by day, in secret and in public, have their reward with their Lord: on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

002.275 Those who devour usury will not stand except as stand one whom the Evil one by his touch Hath driven to madness. That is because they say: "Trade is like usury," but God hath permitted trade and forbidden usury. Those who after receiving direction from their Lord, desist, shall be pardoned for the past; their case is for God (to judge); but those who repeat (The offence) are companions of the Fire: They will abide therein (for ever).

002.276 God will deprive usury of all blessing, but will give increase for deeds of charity: For He loveth not creatures ungrateful and wicked.

002.277 Those who believe, and do deeds of righteousness, and establish regular prayers and regular charity, will have their reward with their Lord: on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

002.278 O ye who believe! Fear God, and give up what remains of your demand for usury, if ye are indeed believers.

002.279 If ye do it not, Take notice of war from God and His Apostle: But if ye turn back, ye shall have your capital sums: Deal not unjustly, and ye shall not be dealt with unjustly.

002.280 If the debtor is in a difficulty, grant him time Till it is easy for him to repay. But if ye remit it by way of charity, that is best for you if ye only knew.

002.281 And fear the Day when ye shall be brought back to God. Then shall every soul be paid what it earned, and none shall be dealt with unjustly.

002.282 O ye who believe!

When ye deal with each other, in transactions involving future obligations in a fixed period of time, reduce them to writing Let a scribe write down faithfully as between the parties: let not the scribe refuse to write: as God Has taught him, so let him write.

Let him who incurs the liability dictate, but let him fear His Lord God, and not diminish aught of what he owes.

If they party liable is mentally deficient, or weak, or unable Himself to dictate, Let his guardian dictate faithfully, and get two witnesses, out of your own men, and if there are not two men, then a man and two women, such as ye choose, for witnesses, so that if one of them errs, the other can remind her.

The witnesses should not refuse when they are called on (For evidence).

Disdain not to reduce to writing (your contract) for a future period, whether it be small or big: it is juster in the sight of God, More suitable as evidence, and more convenient to prevent doubts among yourselves but if it be a transaction which ye carry out on the spot among yourselves, there is no blame on you if ye reduce it not to writing.

But take witness whenever ye make a commercial contract; and let neither scribe

nor witness suffer harm.

If ye do (such harm), it would be wickedness in you.

So fear God; For it is Good that teaches you.

And God is well acquainted with all things.

If ye are on a journey, and cannot find a scribe, a pledge with possession (may serve the purpose).

And if one of you deposits a thing on trust with another, let the trustee (faithfully) discharge his trust, and let him Fear his Lord conceal not evidence; for whoever conceals it,Ñhis heart is tainted with sin.

And God knoweth all that ye do.

002.283 If ye are on a journey, and cannot find a scribe, a pledge with possession (may serve the purpose). And if one of you deposits a thing on trust with another, Let the trustee (Faithfully) discharge His trust, and let him fear his Lord. Conceal not evidence; for whoever conceals it,ÑHis heart is tainted with sin. And God Knoweth all that ye do.

002.284 To God belongeth all that is in the heavens and on earth. Whether ye show what is in your minds or conceal it, God Calleth you to account for it. He forgiveth whom He pleaseth, and punisheth whom He pleaseth, for God hath power over all things.

002.285 The Apostle believeth in what hath been revealed to him from his Lord, as do the men of faith. Each one (of them) believeth in God, His angels, His books, and His apostles. "We make no distinction (they say) between one and another of His apostles." And they say: "We hear, and we obey: (We seek) Thy forgiveness, our Lord, and to Thee is the end of all journeys."

002.286 On no soul doth God Place a burden greater than it can bear. It gets every good that it earns, and it suffers every ill that it earns. (Pray:) "Our Lord! Condemn us not if we forget or fall into error; our Lord! Lay not on us a burden Like that which Thou didst lay on those before us; Our Lord! Lay not on us a burden greater than we have strength to bear. Blot out our sins, and grant us forgiveness. Have mercy on us. Thou art our Protector; Help us against those who stand against faith."

THE FAMILY OF 'IMRAN, THE HOUSE OF 'IMRAN,
CHAPTER NO. 003

003.001 A. L. M.

003.002 God! There is no god but He,-the Living, the Self-Subsisting, Eternal.

003.003 It is He Who sent down to thee (step by step), in truth, the Book, confirming what went before it; and He sent down the Law (of Moses) and the Gospel (of Jesus) before this, as a guide to mankind, and He sent down the criterion (of judgment between right and wrong).

003.004 Then those who reject Faith in the Signs of God will suffer the severest penalty, and God is Exalted in Might, Lord of Retribution.

003.005 From God, verily nothing is hidden on earth or in the heavens.

003.006 He it is Who shapes you in the wombs as He pleases. There is no god but He, the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

003.007 He it is Who has sent down to thee the Book: In it are verses basic or fundamental (of established meaning); they are the foundation of the Book: others are allegorical. But those in whose hearts is perversity follow the part thereof that is allegorical, seeking discord, and searching for its hidden meanings, but no one knows its hidden meanings except God. And those who are firmly grounded in knowledge say: "We believe in the Book; the whole of it is from our Lord:" and none will grasp the Message except men of understanding.

003.008 "Our Lord!" (they say), "Let not our hearts deviate now after Thou hast guided us, but grant us mercy from Thine own Presence; for Thou art the Grantor of bounties without measure.

003.009 "Our Lord! Thou art He that will gather mankind Together against a day about which there is no doubt; for God never fails in His promise."

003.010 Those who reject Faith,Ñneither their possessions nor their (numerous) progeny will avail them aught against God: They are themselves but fuel for the Fire.

003.011 (Their plight will be) no better than that of the people of Pharaoh, and their predecessors: They denied our Signs, and God called them to account for their sins. For God is strict in punishment.

003.012 Say to those who reject Faith: "Soon will ye be vanquished and gathered together to Hell,-an evil bed indeed (to lie on)!

003.013 "There has already been for you a Sign in the two armies that met (in combat): One was fighting in the cause of God, the other resisting God; these saw with their own eyes Twice their number. But God doth support with His aid whom He pleaseth. In this is a warning for such as have eyes to see."

003.014 Fair in the eyes of men is the love of things they covet: Women and sons; Heaped-up hoards of gold and silver; horses branded (for blood and excellence); and (wealth of) cattle and well-tilled land. Such are the possessions of this world's life; but in nearness to God is the best of the goals (To return to).

003.015 Say: Shall I give you glad tidings of things Far better than those? For the righteous are Gardens in nearness to their Lord, with rivers flowing beneath; therein is their eternal home; with companions pure (and holy); and the good pleasure of God. For in God's sight are (all) His servants,-

003.016 (Namely), those who say: "Our Lord! we have indeed believed: forgive us, then, our sins, and save us from the agony of the Fire;"-

003.017 Those who show patience, Firmness and self-control; who are true (in word and deed); who worship devoutly; who spend (in the way of God); and who pray for forgiveness in the early hours of the morning.

003.018 There is no god but He: That is the witness of God, His angels, and those endued with knowledge, standing firm on justice. There is no god but He, the Exalted in Power, the Wise.

003.019 The Religion before God is Islam (submission to His Will): Nor did the People of the Book dissent therefrom except through envy of each other, after knowledge had come to them. But if any deny the Signs of God, God is swift in calling to account.

003.020 So if they dispute with thee, say: "I have submitted My whole self to God and so have those who follow me." And say to the People of the Book and to those who are unlearned: "Do ye (also) submit yourselves?" If they do, they are in right guidance, but if they turn back, Thy duty is to convey the Message; and in God's sight are (all) His servants.

003.021 As to those who deny the Signs of God and in defiance of right, slay the prophets, and slay those who teach just dealing with mankind, announce to them a grievous penalty.

003.022 They are those whose works will bear no fruit in this world and in the Hereafter nor will they have anyone to help.

003.023 Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who have been given a portion of the Book? They are invited to the Book of God, to settle their dispute, but a party of them Turn back and decline (The arbitration).

003.024 This because they say: "The Fire shall not touch us but for a few numbered days": For their forgeries deceive them as to their own religion.

003.025 But how (will they fare) when we gather them together against a day about which there is no doubt, and each soul will be paid out just what it has earned, without (favour or) injustice?

003.026 Say: "O God! Lord of Power (And Rule), Thou givest power to whom Thou pleasest, and Thou strippest off power from whom Thou pleasest: Thou enduest with honour whom Thou pleasest, and Thou bringest low whom Thou pleasest: In Thy hand is all good. Verily, over all things Thou hast power.

003.027 "Thou causest the night to gain on the day, and thou causest the day to gain on the night; Thou bringest the Living out of the dead, and Thou bringest the dead out of the Living; and Thou givest sustenance to whom Thou pleasest, without measure."

003.028 Let not the believers Take for friends or helpers Unbelievers rather than believers: if any do that, in nothing will there be help from God: except by way of precaution, that ye may Guard yourselves from them. But God cautions you (To remember) Himself; for the final goal is to God.

003.029 Say: "Whether ye hide what is in your hearts or reveal it, God knows it

all: He knows what is in the heavens, and what is on earth. And God has power over all things.

003.030 "On the Day when every soul will be confronted with all the good it has done, and all the evil it has done, it will wish there were a great distance between it and its evil. But God cautions you (To remember) Himself. And God is full of kindness to those that serve Him."

003.031 Say: "If ye do love God, Follow me: God will love you and forgive you your sins: For God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

003.032 Say: "Obey God and His Apostle": But if they turn back, God loveth not those who reject Faith.

003.033 God did choose Adam and Noah, the family of Abraham, and the family of 'Imran above all people,-

003.034 Offspring, one of the other: And God heareth and knoweth all things.

003.035 Behold! a woman of 'Imran said: "O my Lord! I do dedicate unto Thee what is in my womb for Thy special service: So accept this of me: For Thou hearest and knowest all things."

003.036 When she was delivered, she said: "O my Lord! Behold! I am delivered of a female child!"Ñand God knew best what she brought forthÑ"And no wise is the male Like the female. I have named her Mary, and I commend her and her offspring to Thy protection from the Evil One, the Rejected."

003.037 Right graciously did her Lord accept her: He made her grow in purity and beauty: To the care of Zakariya was she assigned. Every time that he entered (Her) chamber to see her, He found her supplied with sustenance. He said: "O Mary! Whence (comes) this to you?" She said: "From God: for God Provides sustenance to whom He pleases without measure."

003.038 There did Zakariya pray to his Lord, saying: "O my Lord! Grant unto me from Thee a progeny that is pure: for Thou art He that heareth prayer!

003.039 While he was standing in prayer in the chamber, the angels called unto him: "God doth give thee glad tidings of Yahya, witnessing the truth of a Word from God, and (be besides) noble, chaste, and a prophet,Ñof the (goodly) company of the righteous."

003.040 He said: "O my Lord! How shall I have son, seeing I am very old, and my wife is barren?" "Thus," was the answer, "Doth God accomplish what He willeth."

003.041 He said: "O my Lord! Give me a Sign!" "Thy Sign," was the answer, "Shall be that thou shalt speak to no man for three days but with signals. Then celebrate the praises of thy Lord again and again, and glorify Him in the evening and in the morning."

003.042 Behold! the angels said: "O Mary! God hath chosen thee and purified theeÑchosen thee above the women of all nations.

003.043 "O Mary! worship Thy Lord devoutly: Prostrate thyself, and bow down (in

prayer) with those who bow down."

003.044 This is part of the tidings of the things unseen, which We reveal unto thee (O Apostle!) by inspiration: Thou wast not with them when they cast lots with arrows, as to which of them should be charged with the care of Mary: Nor wast thou with them when they disputed (the point).

003.045 Behold! the angels said: "O Mary! God giveth thee glad tidings of a Word from Him: his name will be Christ Jesus, the son of Mary, held in honour in this world and the Hereafter and of (the company of) those nearest to God;

003.046 "He shall speak to the people in childhood and in maturity. And he shall be (of the company) of the righteous."

003.047 She said: "O my Lord! How shall I have a son when no man hath touched me?" He said: "Even so: God createth what He willeth: When He hath decreed a plan, He but saith to it, 'Be,' and it is!

003.048 "And God will teach him the Book and Wisdom, the Law and the Gospel,

003.049 "And (appoint him) an apostle to the Children of Israel, (with this message): "'I have come to you, with a Sign from your Lord, in that I make for you out of clay, as it were, the figure of a bird, and breathe into it, and it becomes a bird by God's leave: And I heal those born blind, and the lepers, and I quicken the dead, by God's leave; and I declare to you what ye eat, and what ye store in your houses. Surely therein is a Sign for you if ye did believe;

003.050 "'(I have come to you), to attest the Law which was before me. And to make lawful to you part of what was (Before) forbidden to you; I have come to you with a Sign from your Lord. So fear God, and obey me.

003.051 "'It is God Who is my Lord and your Lord; then worship Him. This is a Way that is straight.'"

003.052 When Jesus found Unbelief on their part He said: "Who will be My helpers to (the work of) God?" Said the disciples: "We are God's helpers: We believe in God, and do thou bear witness that we are Muslims.

003.053 "Our Lord! we believe in what Thou hast revealed, and we follow the Apostle; then write us down among those who bear witness."

003.054 And (the unbelievers) plotted and planned, and God too planned, and the best of planners is God.

003.055 Behold! God said: "O Jesus! I will take thee and raise thee to Myself and clear thee (of the falsehoods) of those who blaspheme; I will make those who follow thee superior to those who reject faith, to the Day of Resurrection: Then shall ye all return unto me, and I will judge between you of the matters wherein ye dispute.

003.056 "As to those who reject faith, I will punish them with terrible agony in this world and in the Hereafter, nor will they have anyone to help."

003.057 "As to those who believe and work righteousness, God will pay them (in

full) their reward; but God loveth not those who do wrong."

003.058 "This is what we rehearse unto thee of the Signs and the Message of Wisdom."

003.059 The similitude of Jesus before God is as that of Adam; He created him from dust, then said to him: "Be". And he was.

003.060 The Truth (comes) from God alone; so be not of those who doubt.

003.061 If any one disputes in this matter with thee, now after (full) knowledge Hath come to thee, say: "Come! let us gather together,Ñour sons and your sons, our women and your women, ourselves and yourselves: Then let us earnestly pray, and invoke the curse of God on those who lie!"

003.062 This is the true account: There is no god except God; and God-He is indeed the Exalted in Power, the Wise.

003.063 But if they turn back, God hath full knowledge of those who do mischief.

003.064 Say: "O People of the Book! come to common terms as between us and you: That we worship none but God; that we associate no partners with him; that we erect not, from among ourselves, Lords and patrons other than God." If then they turn back, say ye: "Bear witness that we (at least) are Muslims (bowing to God's Will).

003.065 Ye People of the Book! Why dispute ye about Abraham, when the Law and the Gospel Were not revealed Till after him? Have ye no understanding?

003.066 Ah! Ye are those who fell to disputing (Even) in matters of which ye had some knowledge! but why dispute ye in matters of which ye have no knowledge? It is God Who knows, and ye who know not!

003.067 Abraham was not a Jew nor yet a Christian; but he was true in Faith, and bowed his will to God's (Which is Islam), and he joined not gods with God.

003.068 Without doubt, among men, the nearest of kin to Abraham, are those who follow him, as are also this Apostle and those who believe: And God is the Protector of those who have faith.

003.069 It is the wish of a section of the People of the Book to lead you astray. But they shall lead astray (Not you), but themselves, and they do not perceive!

003.070 Ye People of the Book! Why reject ye the Signs of God, of which ye are (Yourselves) witnesses?

003.071 Ye People of the Book! Why do ye clothe Truth with falsehood, and conceal the Truth, while ye have knowledge?

003.072 A section of the People of the Book say: "Believe in the morning what is revealed to the believers, but reject it at the end of the day; perchance they may (themselves) Turn back;

003.073 "And believe no one unless he follows your religion." Say: "True guidance is the Guidance of God: (Fear ye) Lest a revelation be sent to someone (else) Like unto that which was sent unto you? or that those (Receiving such revelation) should engage you in argument before your Lord?" Say: "All bounties are in the hand of God: He granteth them to whom He pleaseth: And God careth for all, and He knoweth all things."

003.074 For His Mercy He specially chooseth whom He pleaseth; for God is the Lord of bounties unbounded.

003.075 Among the People of the Book are some who, if entrusted with a hoard of gold, will (readily) pay it back; others, who, if entrusted with a single silver coin, will not repay it unless thou constantly stoodest demanding, because, they say, "there is no call on us (to keep faith) with these ignorant (Pagans)." but they tell a lie against God, and (well) they know it.

003.076 Nay.ÑThose that keep their plighted faith and act aright,-verily God loves those who act aright.

003.077 As for those who sell the faith they owe to God and their own plighted word for a small price, they shall have no portion in the Hereafter: Nor will God (Deign to) speak to them or look at them on the Day of Judgment, nor will He cleans them (of sin): They shall have a grievous penalty.

003.078 There is among them a section who distort the Book with their tongues: (As they read) you would think it is a part of the Book, but it is no part of the Book; and they say, "That is from God," but it is not from God: It is they who tell a lie against God, and (well) they know it!

003.079 It is not (possible) that a man, to whom is given the Book, and Wisdom, and the prophetic office, should say to people: "Be ye my worshippers rather than God's": on the contrary (He would say) "Be ye worshippers of Him Who is truly the Cherisher of all: For ye have taught the Book and ye have studied it earnestly."

003.080 Nor would he instruct you to take angels and prophets for Lords and patrons. What! would he bid you to unbelief after ye have bowed your will (To God in Islam)?

003.081 Behold! God took the covenant of the prophets, saying: "I give you a Book and Wisdom; then comes to you an apostle, confirming what is with you; do ye believe in him and render him help." God said: "Do ye agree, and take this my Covenant as binding on you?" They said: "We agree." He said: "Then bear witness, and I am with you among the witnesses."

003.082 If any turn back after this, they are perverted transgressors.

003.083 Do they seek for other than the Religion of God?-while all creatures in the heavens and on earth have, willing or unwilling, bowed to His Will (Accepted Islam), and to Him shall they all be brought back.

003.084 Say: "We believe in God, and in what has been revealed to us and what

was revealed to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, and in (the Books) given to Moses, Jesus, and the prophets, from their Lord: We make no distinction between one and another among them, and to God do we bow our will (in Islam)."

003.085 If anyone desires a religion other than Islam (submission to God), never will it be accepted of him; and in the Hereafter He will be in the ranks of those who have lost (All spiritual good).

003.086 How shall God Guide those who reject Faith after they accepted it and bore witness that the Apostle was true and that Clear Signs had come unto them? but God guides not a people unjust.

003.087 Of such the reward is that on them (rests) the curse of God, of His angels, and of all mankind;-

003.088 In that will they dwell; nor will their penalty be lightened, nor respite be (their lot);-

003.089 Except for those that repent (Even) after that, and make amends; for verily God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

003.090 But those who reject Faith after they accepted it, and then go on adding to their defiance of Faith,Ñnever will their repentance be accepted; for they are those who have (of set purpose) gone astray.

003.091 As to those who reject Faith, and die rejecting,Ñnever would be accepted from any such as much gold as the earth contains, though they should offer it for ransom. For such is (in store) a penalty grievous, and they will find no helpers.

003.092 By no means shall ye attain righteousness unless ye give (freely) of that which ye love; and whatever ye give, of a truth God knoweth it well.

003.093 All food was lawful to the Children of Israel, except what Israel Made unlawful for itself, before the Law (of Moses) was revealed. Say: "Bring ye the Law and study it, if ye be men of truth."

003.094 If any, after this, invent a lie and attribute it to God, they are indeed unjust wrong-doers.

003.095 Say: "God speaketh the Truth: follow the religion of Abraham, the sane in faith; he was not of the Pagans."

003.096 The first House (of worship) appointed for men was that at Bakka: Full of blessing and of guidance for all kinds of beings:

003.097 In it are Signs Manifest; (for example), the Station of Abraham; whoever enters it attains security; Pilgrimage thereto is a duty men owe to God,Ñthose who can afford the journey; but if any deny faith, God stands not in need of any of His creatures.

003.098 Say: "O People of the Book! Why reject ye the Signs of God, when God is Himself witness to all ye do?"

003.099 Say: "O ye People of the Book! Why obstruct ye those who believe, from the path of God, Seeking to make it crooked, while ye were yourselves witnesses (to God's Covenant)? but God is not unmindful of all that ye do."

003.100 O ye who believe! If ye listen to a faction among the People of the Book, they would (indeed) render you apostates after ye have believed!

003.101 And how would ye deny Faith while unto you are rehearsed the Signs of God, and among you Lives the Apostle? Whoever holds firmly to God will be shown a way that is straight.

003.102 O ye who believe! Fear God as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam.

003.103 And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude God's favour on you; for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus doth God make His Signs clear to you: That ye may be guided.

003.104 Let there arise out of you a band of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining what is right, and forbidding what is wrong: They are the ones to attain felicity.

003.105 Be not like those who are divided amongst themselves and fall into disputations after receiving Clear Signs: For them is a dreadful penalty,-

003.106 On the Day when some faces will be (lit up with) white, and some faces will be (in the gloom of) black: To those whose faces will be black, (will be said): "Did ye reject Faith after accepting it? Taste then the penalty for rejecting Faith."

003.107 But those whose faces will be (lit with) white,Ñthey will be in (the light of) God's mercy: therein to dwell (for ever).

003.108 These are the Signs of God: We rehearse them to thee in Truth: And God means no injustice to any of His creatures.

003.109 To God belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: To Him do all questions go back (for decision).

003.110 Ye are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in God. If only the People of the Book had faith, it were best for them: among them are some who have faith, but most of them are perverted transgressors.

003.111 They will do you no harm, barring a trifling annoyance; if they come out to fight you, they will show you their backs, and no help shall they get.

003.112 Shame is pitched over them (Like a tent) wherever they are found, except when under a covenant (of protection) from God and from men; they draw on themselves wrath from God, and pitched over them is (the tent of)

destitution. This because they rejected the Signs of God, and slew the prophets in defiance of right; this because they rebelled and transgressed beyond bounds.

003.113 Not all of them are alike: Of the People of the Book are a portion that stand (For the right): They rehearse the Signs of God all night long, and they prostrate themselves in adoration.

003.114 They believe in God and the Last Day; they enjoin what is right, and forbid what is wrong; and they hasten (in emulation) in (all) good works: They are in the ranks of the righteous.

003.115 Of the good that they do, nothing will be rejected of them; for God knoweth well those that do right.

003.116 Those who reject Faith,Ñneither their possessions nor their (numerous) progeny will avail them aught against God: They will be companions of the Fire,-dwelling therein (for ever).

003.117 What they spend in the life of this (material) world May be likened to a wind which brings a nipping frost: It strikes and destroys the harvest of men who have wronged their own souls: it is not God that hath wronged them, but they wrong themselves.

003.118 O ye who believe! Take not into your intimacy those outside your ranks: They will not fail to corrupt you. They only desire your ruin: Rank hatred has already appeared from their mouths: What their hearts conceal is far worse. We have made plain to you the Signs, if ye have wisdom.

003.119 Ah! ye are those who love them, but they love you not,Ñthough ye believe in the whole of the Book. When they meet you, they say, "We believe": But when they are alone, they bite off the very tips of their fingers at you in their rage. Say: "Perish in you rage; God knoweth well all the secrets of the heart."

003.120 If aught that is good befalls you, it grieves them; but if some misfortune overtakes you, they rejoice at it. But if ye are constant and do right, not the least harm will their cunning do to you; for God Compasseth round about all that they do.

003.121 Remember that morning Thou didst leave Thy household (early) to post the faithful at their stations for battle: And God heareth and knoweth all things:

003.122 Remember two of your parties Meditated cowardice; but God was their protector, and in God should the faithful (Ever) put their trust.

003.123 God had helped you at Badr, when ye were a contemptible little force; then fear God; thus May ye show your gratitude.

003.124 Remember thou saidst to the Faithful: "Is it not enough for you that God should help you with three thousand angels (Specially) sent down?

003.125 "Yea,Ñif ye remain firm, and act aright, even if the enemy should rush here on you in hot haste, your Lord would help you with five thousand angels Making a terrific onslaught.

003.126 God made it but a message of hope for you, and an assurance to your hearts: (in any case) there is no help except from God. The Exalted, the Wise:

003.127 That He might cut off a fringe of the Unbelievers or expose them to infamy, and they should then be turned back, frustrated of their purpose.

003.128 Not for thee, (but for God), is the decision: Whether He turn in mercy to them, or punish them; for they are indeed wrong-doers.

003.129 To God belongeth all that is in the heavens and on earth. He forgiveth whom He pleaseth and punisheth whom He pleaseth; but God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

003.130 O ye who believe! Devour not usury, doubled and multiplied; but fear God; that ye may (really) prosper.

003.131 Fear the Fire, which is repaired for those who reject Faith:

003.132 And obey God and the Apostle; that ye may obtain mercy.

003.133 Be quick in the race for forgiveness from your Lord, and for a Garden whose width is that (of the whole) of the heavens and of the earth, prepared for the righteous,-

003.134 Those who spend (freely), whether in prosperity, or in adversity; who restrain anger, and pardon (all) men;Ñfor God loves those who do good;-

003.135 And those who, having done something to be ashamed of, or wronged their own souls, earnestly bring God to mind, and ask for forgiveness for their sins,Ñand who can forgive sins except God?Ñand are never obstinate in persisting knowingly in (the wrong) they have done.

003.136 For such the reward is forgiveness from their Lord, and Gardens with rivers flowing underneath,Ñan eternal dwelling: How excellent a recompense for those who work (and strive)!

003.137 Many were the Ways of Life that have passed away before you: travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those who rejected Truth.

003.138 Here is a plain statement to men, a guidance and instruction to those who fear God!

003.139 So lose not heart, nor fall into despair: For ye must gain mastery if ye are true in Faith.

003.140 If a wound hath touched you, be sure a similar wound hath touched the others. Such days (of varying fortunes) We give to men and men by turns: that God may know those that believe, and that He may take to Himself from your ranks Martyr-witnesses (to Truth). And God loveth not those that do wrong.

003.141 God's object also is to purge those that are true in Faith and to

deprive of blessing Those that resist Faith.

003.142 Did ye think that ye would enter Heaven without God testing those of you who fought hard (In His Cause) and remained steadfast?

003.143 Ye did indeed wish for death before ye met him: Now ye have seen him with your own eyes, (And ye flinch!)

003.144 Muhammad is no more than an apostle: many Were the apostle that passed away before him. If he died or were slain, will ye then Turn back on your heels? If any did turn back on his heels, not the least harm will he do to God; but God (on the other hand) will swiftly reward those who (serve Him) with gratitude.

003.145 Nor can a soul die except by God's leave, the term being fixed as by writing. If any do desire a reward in this life, We shall give it to him; and if any do desire a reward in the Hereafter, We shall give it to him. And swiftly shall We reward those that (serve us with) gratitude.

003.146 How many of the prophets fought (in God's way), and with them (fought) Large bands of godly men? but they never lost heart if they met with disaster in God's way, nor did they weaken (in will) nor give in. And God Loves those who are firm and steadfast.

003.147 All that they said was: "Our Lord! Forgive us our sins and anything We may have done that transgressed our duty: Establish our feet firmly, and help us against those that resist Faith."

003.148 And God gave them a reward in this world, and the excellent reward of the Hereafter. For God Loveth those who do good.

003.149 O ye who believe! If ye obey the Unbelievers, they will drive you back on your heels, and ye will turn back (from Faith) to your own loss.

003.150 Nay, God is your protector, and He is the best of helpers.

003.151 Soon shall We cast terror into the hearts of the Unbelievers, for that they joined companions with God, for which He had sent no authority: their abode will be the Fire: And evil is the home of the wrong-doers!

003.152 God did indeed fulfil His promise to you when ye with His permission Were about to annihilate your enemy,-until ye flinched and fell to disputing about the order, and disobeyed it after He brought you in sight (of the booty) which ye covet. Among you are some that hanker after this world and some that desire the Hereafter. Then did He divert you from your foes in order to test you but He forgave you: For God is full of grace to those who believe.

003.153 Behold! ye were climbing up the high ground, without even casting a side glance at any one, and the Apostle in your rear was calling you back. There did God give you one distress after another by way of requital, to teach you not to grieve for (the booty) that had escaped you and for (the ill) that had befallen you. For God is well aware of all that ye do.

003.154 After (the excitement) of the distress, He sent down calm on a band of you overcome with slumber, while another band was stirred to anxiety by their own feelings, Moved by wrong suspicions of God-suspicions due to ignorance. They said: "What affair is this of ours?" Say thou: "Indeed, this affair is wholly God's." They hide in their minds what they dare not reveal to thee. They say (to themselves): "If we had had anything to do with this affair, We should not have been in the slaughter here." Say: "Even if you had remained in your homes, those for whom death was decreed would certainly have gone forth to the place of their death"; but (all this was) that God might test what is in your breasts and purge what is in your hearts. For God knoweth well the secrets of your hearts.

003.155 Those of you who turned back on the day the two hosts Met,-it was Satan who caused them to fail, because of some (evil) they had done. But God Has blotted out (their fault): For God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Forbearing.

003.156 O ye who believe! Be not like the Unbelievers, who say of their brethren, when they are travelling through the Earth or engaged in fighting: "If they had stayed with us, they would not have died, or been slain." This that God may make it a cause of sighs and regrets in their hearts. It is God that gives Life and Death, and God sees well all that ye do.

003.157 And if ye are slain, or die, in the way of God, forgiveness and mercy from God are far better than all they could amass.

003.158 And if ye die, or are slain, Lo! it is unto God that ye are brought together.

003.159 It is part of the Mercy of God that thou dost deal gently with them Wert thou severe or harsh-hearted, they would have broken away from about thee: so pass over (Their faults), and ask for (God's) forgiveness for them; and consult them in affairs (of moment). Then, when thou hast Taken a decision put thy trust in God. For God loves those who put their trust (in Him).

003.160 If God helps you, none can overcome you: If He forsakes you, who is there, after that, that can help you? in God, then, Let believers put their trust.

003.161 No prophet could (ever) be false to his trust. If any person is so false, He shall, on the Day of Judgment, restore what he misappropriated; then shall every soul receive its due,Ñwhatever it earned,Ñand none shall be dealt with unjustly.

003.162 Is the man who follows the good pleasure of God Like the man who draws on himself the wrath of God, and whose abode is in Hell?ÑA woeful refuge!

003.163 They are in varying gardens in the sight of God, and God sees well all that they do.

003.164 God did confer a great favour on the believers when He sent among them an apostle from among themselves, rehearsing unto them the Signs of God, sanctifying them, and instructing them in Scripture and Wisdom, while, before

that, they had been in manifest error.

003.165 What! When a single disaster smites you, although ye smote (your enemies) with one twice as great, do ye say?Ñ"Whence is this?" Say (to them): "It is from yourselves: For God hath power over all things."

003.166 What ye suffered on the day the two armies Met, was with the leave of God, in order that He might test the believers,-

003.167 And the Hypocrites also. These were told: "Come, fight in the way of God, or (at least) drive (The foe from your city)." They said: "Had we known how to fight, we should certainly have followed you." They were that day nearer to Unbelief than to Faith, saying with their lips what was not in their hearts but God hath full knowledge of all they conceal.

003.168 (They are) the ones that say, (of their brethren slain), while they themselves sit (at ease): "If only they had listened to us they would not have been slain." Say: "Avert death from your own selves, if ye speak the truth."

003.169 Think not of those who are slain in God's way as dead. Nay, they live, finding their sustenance in the presence of their Lord;

003.170 They rejoice in the bounty provided by God: And with regard to those left behind, who have not yet joined them (in their bliss), the (Martyrs) glory in the fact that on them is no fear, nor have they (cause to) grieve.

003.171 They glory in the Grace and the bounty from God, and in the fact that God suffereth not the reward of the Faithful to be lost (in the least).

003.172 Of those who answered the call of God and the Apostle, even after being wounded, those who do right and refrain from wrong have a great reward;-

003.173 Men said to them: "A great army is gathering against you": And frightened them: But it (only) increased their Faith: They said: "For us God sufficeth, and He is the best disposer of affairs."

003.174 And they returned with Grace and bounty from God: no harm ever touched them: For they followed the good pleasure of God: And God is the Lord of bounties unbounded.

003.175 It is only the Evil One that suggests to you the fear of his votaries: Be ye not afraid of them, but fear Me, if ye have Faith.

003.176 Let not those grieve thee who rush headlong into Unbelief: Not the least harm will they do to God: God's plan is that He will give them no portion in the Hereafter, but a severe punishment.

003.177 Those who purchase Unbelief at the price of faith,Ñnot the least harm will they do to God, but they will have a grievous punishment.

003.178 Let not the Unbelievers think that our respite to them is good for themselves: We grant them respite that they may grow in their iniquity: But they will have a shameful punishment.

003.179 God will not leave the believers in the state in which ye are now, until He separates what is evil from what is good nor will He disclose to you the secrets of the Unseen. But He chooses of His Apostles (For the purpose) whom He pleases. So believe in God. And His apostles: And if ye believe and do right, ye have a reward without measure.

003.180 And let not those who covetously withhold of the gifts which God Hath given them of His Grace, think that it is good for them: Nay, it will be the worse for them: soon shall the things which they covetously withheld be tied to their necks Like a twisted collar, on the Day of Judgment. To God belongs the heritage of the heavens and the earth; and God is well-acquainted with all that ye do.

003.181 God hath heard the taunt of those who say: "Truly, God is indigent and we are rich!"ÑWe shall certainly record their word and (their act) of slaying the prophets in defiance of right, and We shall say: "Taste ye the penalty of the Scorching Fire!

003.182 "This is because of the (unrighteous deeds) which your hands sent on before ye: For God never harms those who serve Him."

003.183 They (also) said: "God took our promise not to believe in an apostle unless He showed us a sacrifice consumed by Fire (From heaven)." Say: "There came to you apostles before me, with clear Signs and even with what ye ask for: why then did ye slay them, if ye speak the truth?"

003.184 Then if they reject thee, so were rejected apostles before thee, who came with Clear Signs, Books of dark prophecies, and the Book of Enlightenment.

003.185 Every soul shall have a taste of death: And only on the Day of Judgment shall you be paid your full recompense. Only he who is saved far from the Fire and admitted to the Garden will have attained the object (of Life): For the life of this world is but goods and chattels of deception.

003.186 Ye shall certainly be tried and tested in your possessions and in your personal selves; and ye shall certainly Hear much that will grieve you, from those who received the Book before you and from those who worship many gods. But if ye persevere patiently, and guard against evil,-then that will be a determining factor in all affairs.

003.187 And remember God took a covenant from the People of the Book, to make it known and clear to mankind, and not to hide it; but they threw it away behind their backs, and purchased with it some miserable gain! And vile was the bargain they made!

003.188 Think not that those who exult in what they have brought about, and love to be praised for what they have not done,Ñthink escape the penalty. For them is a penalty Grievous indeed.

003.189 To God belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth; and God hath power over all things.

003.190 Behold! in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the alternation of night and day,Ñthere are indeed Signs for men of understanding,-

003.191 Men who celebrate the praises of God, standing, sitting, and lying down on their sides, and contemplate the (wonders of) creation in the heavens and the earth, (With the thought): "Our Lord! not for naught Hast Thou created (all) this! Glory to Thee! Give us salvation from the penalty of the Fire.

003.192 "Our Lord! any whom Thou dost admit to the Fire, Truly Thou coverest with shame, and never will wrong-doers Find any helpers!

003.193 "Our Lord! we have heard the call of one calling (Us) to Faith, 'Believe ye in the Lord,' and we have believed. Our Lord! Forgive us our sins, blot out from us our iniquities, and take to Thyself our souls in the company of the righteous.

003.194 "Our Lord! Grant us what Thou didst promise unto us through Thine apostles, and save us from shame on the Day of Judgment: For Thou never breakest Thy promise."

003.195 And their Lord hath accepted of them, and answered them: "Never will I suffer to be lost the work of any of you, be he male or female: Ye are members, one of another: Those who have left their homes, or been driven out therefrom, or suffered harm in My Cause, or fought or been slain,Ñverily, I will blot out from them their iniquities, and admit them into Gardens with rivers flowing beneath;ÑA reward from the presence of God, and from His presence is the best of rewards."

003.196 Let not the strutting about of the Unbelievers through the land deceive thee:

003.197 Little is it for enjoyment: Their ultimate abode is Hell: what an evil bed (To lie on)!

003.198 On the other hand, for those who fear their Lord, are Gardens, with rivers flowing beneath; therein are they to dwell (for ever),Ña gift from the presence of God; and that which is in the presence of God is the best (bliss) for the righteous.

003.199 And there are, certainly, among the People of the Book, those who believe in God, in the revelation to you, and in the revelation to them, bowing in humility to God: They will not sell the Signs of God for a miserable gain! For them is a reward with their Lord, and God is swift in account.

003.200 O ye who believe! Persevere in patience and constancy; vie in such perseverance; strengthen each other; and fear God; that ye may prosper.

WOMEN,
CHAPTER NO. 004

004.001 O mankind! reverence your Guardian-Lord, who created you from a single person, created, of like nature, His mate, and from them twain scattered (like

seeds) countless men and women;Ñreverence God, through whom ye demand your mutual (rights), and (reverence) the wombs (That bore you): for God ever watches over you.

004.002 To orphans restore their property (When they reach their age), nor substitute (your) worthless things for (their) good ones; and devour not their substance (by mixing it up) with your won. For this is indeed a great sin.

004.003 If ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly with the orphans, Marry women of your choice, Two or three or four; but if ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly (with them), then only one, or (a captive) that your right hands possess, that will be more suitable, to prevent you from doing injustice.

004.004 And give the women (on marriage) their dower as a free gift; but if they, of their own good pleasure, remit any part of it to you, Take it and enjoy it with right good cheer.

004.005 To those weak of understanding Make not over your property, which God hath made a means of support for you, but feed and clothe them therewith, and speak to them words of kindness and justice.

004.006 Make trial of orphans until they reach the age of marriage; if then ye find sound judgment in them, release their property to them; but consume it not wastefully, nor in haste against their growing up. If the guardian is well-off, Let him claim no remuneration, but if he is poor, let him have for himself what is just and reasonable. When ye release their property to them, take witnesses in their presence: But all-sufficient is God in taking account.

004.007 From what is left by parents and those nearest related there is a share for men and a share for women, whether the property be small or large,-a determinate share.

004.008 But if at the time of division other relatives, or orphans or poor, are present, feed them out of the (property), and speak to them words of kindness and justice.

004.009 Let those (disposing of an estate) have the same fear in their minds as they would have for their own if they had left a helpless family behind: Let them fear God, and speak words of appropriate (comfort).

004.010 Those who unjustly eat up the property of orphans, eat up a Fire into their own bodies: They will soon be enduring a Blazing Fire!

004.011 God (thus) directs you as regards your Children's (Inheritance): to the male, a portion equal to that of two females: if only daughters, two or more, their share is two-thirds of the inheritance; if only one, her share is a half. For parents, a sixth share of the inheritance to each, if the deceased left children; if no children, and the parents are the (only) heirs, the mother has a third; if the deceased Left brothers (or sisters) the mother has a sixth. (The distribution in all cases ('s) after the payment of legacies and debts. Ye know not whether your parents or your children are nearest to you in benefit.

These are settled portions ordained by God; and God is All-knowing, Al-wise.

004.012 In what your wives leave, your share is a half, if they leave no child; but if they leave a child, ye get a fourth; after payment of legacies and debts. In what ye leave, their share is a fourth, if ye leave no child; but if ye leave a child, they get an eighth; after payment of legacies and debts. If the man or woman whose inheritance is in question, has left neither ascendants nor descendants, but has left a brother or a sister, each one of the two gets a sixth; but if more than two, they share in a third; after payment of legacies and debts; so that no loss is caused (to any one). Thus is it ordained by God; and God is All-knowing, Most Forbearing.

004.013 Those are limits set by God: those who obey God and His Apostle will be admitted to Gardens with rivers flowing beneath, to abide therein (for ever) and that will be the supreme achievement.

004.014 But those who disobey God and His Apostle and transgress His limits will be admitted to a Fire, to abide therein: And they shall have a humiliating punishment.

004.015 If any of your women are guilty of lewdness, Take the evidence of four (Reliable) witnesses from amongst you against them; and if they testify, confine them to houses until death do claim them, or God ordain for them some (other) way.

004.016 If two men among you are guilty of lewdness, punish them both. If they repent and amend, Leave them alone; for God is Oft-returning, Most Merciful.

004.017 God accept the repentance of those who do evil in ignorance and repent soon afterwards; to them will God turn in mercy: For God is full of knowledge and wisdom.

004.018 Of no effect is the repentance of those who continue to do evil, until death faces one of them, and he says, "Now have I repented indeed;" nor of those who die rejecting Faith: for them have We prepared a punishment most grievous.

004.019 O ye who believe! Ye are forbidden to inherit women against their will. Nor should ye treat them with harshness, that ye may Take away part of the dower ye have given them,-except where they have been guilty of open lewdness; on the contrary live with them on a footing of kindness and equity. If ye take a dislike to them it may be that ye dislike a thing, and God brings about through it a great deal of good.

004.020 But if ye decide to take one wife in place of another, even if ye had given the latter a whole treasure for dower, Take not the least bit of it back: Would ye take it by slander and manifest wrong?

004.021 And how could ye take it when ye have gone in unto each other, and they have Taken from you a solemn covenant?

004.022 And marry not women whom your fathers married,Ñexcept what is past: It

was shameful and odious,Ñan abominable custom indeed.

004.023 Prohibited to you (For marriage) are:ÑYour mothers, daughters, sisters; father's sisters, Mother's sisters; brother's daughters, sister's daughters; foster-mothers (Who gave you suck), foster-sisters; your wives' mothers; your step-daughters under your guardianship, born of your wives to whom ye have gone in,Ñno prohibition if ye have not gone in;Ñ(Those who have been) wives of your sons proceeding from your loins; and two sisters in wedlock at one and the same time, except for what is past; for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful;-

004.024 Also (prohibited are) women already married, except those whom your right hands possess: Thus hath God ordained (Prohibitions) against you: Except for these, all others are lawful, provided ye seek (them in marriage) with gifts from your property,Ñdesiring chastity, not lust, seeing that ye derive benefit from them, give them their dowers (at least) as prescribed; but if, after a dower is prescribed, agree Mutually (to vary it), there is no blame on you, and God is All-knowing, All-wise.

004.025 If any of you have not the means wherewith to wed free believing women, they may wed believing girls from among those whom your right hands possess: And God hath full knowledge about your faith. Ye are one from another: Wed them with the leave of their owners, and give them their dowers, according to what is reasonable: They should be chaste, not lustful, nor taking paramours: when they are taken in wedlock, if they fall into shame, their punishment is half that for free women. This (permission) is for those among you who fear sin; but it is better for you that ye practise self-restraint. And God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

004.026 God doth wish to make clear to you and to show you the ordinances of those before you; and (He doth wish to) turn to you (In Mercy): And God is All-knowing, All-wise.

004.027 God doth wish to Turn to you, but the wish of those who follow their lusts is that ye should turn away (from Him),Ñfar, far away.

004.028 God doth wish to lighten your (difficulties): For man was created Weak (in flesh).

004.029 O ye who believe! Eat not up your property among yourselves in vanities: But let there be amongst you Traffic and trade by mutual good-will: Nor kill (or destroy) yourselves: for verily God hath been to you Most Merciful!

004.030 If any do that in rancour and injustice,Ñsoon shall We cast them into the Fire: And easy it is for God.

004.031 If ye (but) eschew the most heinous of the things which ye are forbidden to do, We shall expel out of you all the evil in you, and admit you to a gate of great honour.

004.032 And in no wise covet those things in which God Hath bestowed His gifts

More freely on some of you than on others: To men is allotted what they earn, and to women what they earn: But ask God of His bounty. For God hath full knowledge of all things.

004.033 To (benefit) every one, We have appointed shares and heirs to property left by parents and relatives. To those, also, to whom your right hand was pledged, give their due portion. For truly God is witness to all things.

004.034 Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because God has given the one more (strength) than the other, and because they support them from their means. Therefore the righteous women are devoutly obedient, and guard in (the husband's) absence what God would have them guard. As to those women on whose part ye fear disloyalty and ill-conduct, admonish them (first), (Next), refuse to share their beds, (And last) beat them (lightly); but if they return to obedience, seek not against them Means (of annoyance): For God is Most High, great (above you all).

004.035 If ye fear a breach between them twain, appoint (two) arbiters, one from his family, and the other from hers; if they wish for peace, God will cause their reconciliation: For God hath full knowledge, and is acquainted with all things.

004.036 Serve God, and join not any partners with Him; and do goodÑto parents, kinsfolk, orphans, those in need, neighbours who are near, neighbours who are strangers, the companion by your side, the wayfarer (ye meet), and what your right hands possess: For God loveth not the arrogant, the vainglorious;-

004.037 (Nor) those who are niggardly or enjoin niggardliness on others, or hide the bounties which God hath bestowed on them; for We have prepared, for those who resist Faith, a punishment that steeps them in contempt;-

004.038 Not those who spend of their substance, to be seen of men, but have no faith in God and the Last Day: If any take the Evil One for their intimate, what a dreadful intimate he is!

004.039 And what burden Were it on them if they had faith in God and in the Last Day, and they spent out of what God hath given them for sustenance? For God hath full knowledge of them.

004.040 God is never unjust in the least degree: If there is any good (done), He doubleth it, and giveth from His own presence a great reward.

004.041 How then if We brought from each people a witness, and We brought thee as a witness against these people!

004.042 On that day those who reject Faith and disobey the apostle will wish that the earth Were made one with them: But never will they hide a single fact from God!

004.043 O ye who believe! Approach not prayers with a mind befogged, until ye can understand all that ye say,Ñnor in a state of ceremonial impurity (Except when travelling on the road), until after washing your whole body. If ye are

ill, or on a journey, or one of you cometh from offices of nature, or ye have been in contact with women, and ye find no water, then take for yourselves clean sand or earth, and rub therewith your faces and hands. For God doth blot out sins and forgive again and again.

004.044 Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who were given a portion of the Book? they traffic in error, and wish that ye should lose the right path.

004.045 But God hath full knowledge of your enemies: God is enough for a protector, and God is enough for a Helper.

004.046 Of the Jews there are those who displace words from their (right) places, and say: "We hear and we disobey"; and "Hear what is not Heard"; and "Ra'ina"; with a twist of their tongues and a slander to Faith. If only they had said: "What hear and we obey"; and "Do hear"; and "Do look at us"; it would have been better for them, and more proper; but God hath cursed them for their Unbelief; and but few of them will believe.

004.047 O ye People of the Book! believe in what We have (now) revealed, confirming what was (already) with you, before We change the face and fame of some (of you) beyond all recognition, and turn them hindwards, or curse them as We cursed the Sabbath-breakers, for the decision of God Must be carried out.

004.048 God forgiveth not that partners should be set up with Him; but He forgiveth anything else, to whom He pleaseth; to set up partners with God is to devise a sin Most heinous indeed.

004.049 Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who claim sanctity for themselves? Nay-but God Doth sanctify whom He pleaseth. But never will they fail to receive justice in the least little thing.

004.050 Behold! how they invent a lie against God! but that by itself is a manifest sin!

004.051 Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who were given a portion of the Book? they believe in sorcery and Evil, and say to the Unbelievers that they are better guided in the (right) way Than the believers!

004.052 They are (men) whom God hath cursed: And those whom God Hath cursed, thou wilt find, have no one to help.

004.053 Have they a share in dominion or power? Behold, they give not a farthing to their fellow-men?

004.054 Or do they envy mankind for what God hath given them of his bounty? but We had already given the people of Abraham the Book and Wisdom, and conferred upon them a great kingdom.

004.055 Some of them believed, and some of them averted their faces from him: And enough is Hell for a burning fire.

004.056 Those who reject our Signs, We shall soon cast into the Fire: as often as their skins are roasted through, We shall change them for fresh skins, that

they may taste the penalty: for God is Exalted in Power, Wise.

004.057 But those who believe and do deeds of righteousness, We shall soon admit to Gardens, with rivers flowing beneath,Ñtheir eternal home: Therein shall they have companions pure and holy: We shall admit them to shades, cool and ever deepening.

004.058 God doth command you to render back your Trusts to those to whom they are due; And when ye judge between man and man, that ye judge with justice: Verily how excellent is the teaching which He giveth you! For God is He Who heareth and seeth all things.

004.059 O ye who believe! Obey God, and obey the Apostle, and those charged with authority among you. If ye differ in anything among yourselves, refer it to God and His Apostle, if ye do believe in God and the Last Day: That is best, and most suitable for final determination.

004.060 Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who declare that they believe in the revelations that have come to thee and to those before thee? Their (real) wish is to resort together for judgment (in their disputes) to the Evil One, though they were ordered to reject him. But Satan's wish is to lead them astray far away (from the right).

004.061 When it is said to them: "Come to what God hath revealed, and to the Apostle": Thou seest the Hypocrites avert their faces from thee in disgust.

004.062 How then, when they are seized by misfortune, because of the deeds which they hands have sent forth? Then their come to thee, swearing by God: "We meant no more than good-will and conciliation!"

004.063 Those men,-God knows what is in their hearts; so keep clear of them, but admonish them, and speak to them a word to reach their very souls.

004.064 We sent not an apostle, but to be obeyed, in accordance with the will of God. If they had only, when they were unjust to themselves, come unto thee and asked God's forgiveness, and the Apostle had asked forgiveness for them, they would have found God indeed Oft-returning, Most Merciful.

004.065 But no, by the Lord, they can have no (real) Faith, until they make thee judge in all disputes between them, and find in their souls no resistance against Thy decisions, but accept them with the fullest conviction.

004.066 If We had ordered them to sacrifice their lives or to leave their homes, very few of them would have done it: But if they had done what they were (actually) told, it would have been best for them, and would have gone farthest to strengthen their (faith);

004.067 And We should then have given them from our presence a great reward;

004.068 And We should have shown them the Straight Way.

004.069 All who obey God and the apostle are in the company of those on whom is the Grace of God,Ñof the prophets (who teach), the sincere (lovers of Truth),

the witnesses (who testify), and the Righteous (who do good): Ah! what a beautiful fellowship!

004.070 Such is the bounty from God: And sufficient is it that God knoweth all.

004.071 O ye who believe! Take your precautions, and either go forth in parties or go forth all together.

004.072 There are certainly among you men who would tarry behind: If a misfortune befalls you, they say: "God did favour us in that we were not present among them."

004.073 But if good fortune comes to you from God, they would be sure to sayÑas if there had never been Ties of affection between you and themÑ"Oh! I wish I had been with them; a fine thing should I then have made of it!"

004.074 Let those fight in the cause of God Who sell the life of this world for the hereafter. To him who fighteth in the cause of God,Ñwhether he is slain or gets victoryÑSoon shall We give him a reward of great (value).

004.075 And why should ye not fight in the cause of God and of those who, being weak, are ill-treated (and oppressed)?ÑMen, women, and children, whose cry is: "Our Lord! Rescue us from this town, whose people are oppressors; and raise for us from thee one who will protect; and raise for us from thee one who will help!"

004.076 Those who believe fight in the cause of God, and those who reject Faith Fight in the cause of Evil: So fight ye against the friends of Satan: feeble indeed is the cunning of Satan.

004.077 Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who were told to hold back their hands (from fight) but establish regular prayers and spend in regular charity? When (at length) the order for fighting was issued to them, behold! a section of them feared men asÑor even more thanÑthey should have feared God: They said: "Our Lord! Why hast Thou ordered us to fight? Wouldst Thou not Grant us respite to our (natural) term, near (enough)?" Say: "Short is the enjoyment of this world: the Hereafter is the best for those who do right: Never will ye be dealt with unjustly in the very least!

004.078 "Wherever ye are, death will find you out, even if ye are in towers built up strong and high!" If some good befalls them, they say, "This is from God"; but if evil, they say, "This is from thee" (O Prophet). Say: "All things are from God." But what hath come to these people, that they fail to understand a single fact?

004.079 Whatever good, (O man!) happens to thee, is from God; but whatever evil happens to thee, is from thy (own) soul. and We have sent thee as an apostle to (instruct) mankind. And enough is God for a witness.

004.080 He who obeys the Apostle, obeys God: But if any turn away, We have not sent thee to watch over their (evil deeds).

004.081 They have "Obedience" on their lips; but when they leave thee, a

section of them Meditate all night on things very different from what thou tellest them. But God records their nightly (plots): So keep clear of them, and put thy trust in God, and enough is God as a disposer of affairs.

004.082 Do they not consider the Qur'an (with care)? Had it been from other Than God, they would surely have found therein Much discrepancy.

004.083 When there comes to them some matter touching (Public) safety or fear, they divulge it. If they had only referred it to the Apostle, or to those charged with authority among them, the proper investigators would have Tested it from them (direct). Were it not for the Grace and Mercy of God unto you, all but a few of you would have fallen into the clutches of Satan.

004.084 Then fight in God's causeÑThou art held responsible only for thyselfÑand rouse the believers. It may be that God will restrain the fury of the Unbelievers; for God is the strongest in might and in punishment.

004.085 Whoever recommends and helps a good cause becomes a partner therein: And whoever recommends and helps an evil cause, shares in its burden: And God hath power over all things.

004.086 When a (courteous) greeting is offered you, meet it with a greeting still more courteous, or (at least) of equal courtesy. God takes careful account of all things.

004.087 God! There is no god but He: of a surety He will gather you together against the Day of Judgment, about which there is no doubt. And whose word can be truer than God's?

004.088 Why should ye be divided into two parties about the Hypocrites? God hath upset them for their (evil) deeds. Would ye guide those whom God hath thrown out of the Way? For those whom God hath thrown out of the Way, never shalt thou find the Way.

004.089 They but wish that ye should reject Faith, as they do, and thus be on the same footing (as they): But take not friends from their ranks until they flee in the way of God (From what is forbidden). But if they turn renegades, seize them and slay them wherever ye find them; and (in any case) take no friends or helpers from their ranks;-

004.090 Except those who join a group between whom and you there is a treaty (of peace), or those who approach you with hearts restraining them from fighting you as well as fighting their own people. If God had pleased, He could have given them power over you, and they would have fought you: Therefore if they withdraw from you but fight you not, and (instead) send you (Guarantees of) peace, then God Hath opened no way for you (to war against them).

004.091 Others you will find that wish to gain your confidence as well as that of their people: Every time they are sent back to temptation, they succumb thereto: if they withdraw not from you nor give you (guarantees) of peace besides restraining their hands, seize them and slay them wherever ye get them: In their case We have provided you with a clear argument against them.

004.092 Never should a believer kill a believer; but (If it so happens) by mistake, (Compensation is due): If one (so) kills a believer, it is ordained that he should free a believing slave, and pay compensation to the deceased's family, unless they remit it freely. If the deceased belonged to a people at war with you, and he was a believer, the freeing of a believing slave (Is enough). If he belonged to a people with whom ye have treaty of Mutual alliance, compensation should be paid to his family, and a believing slave be freed. For those who find this beyond their means, (is prescribed) a fast for two months running: by way of repentance to God: for God hath all knowledge and all wisdom.

004.093 If a man kills a believer intentionally, his recompense is Hell, to abide therein (For ever): And the wrath and the curse of God are upon him, and a dreadful penalty is prepared for him.

004.094 O ye who believe! When ye go abroad in the cause of God, investigate carefully, and say not to any one who offers you a salutation: "Thou art none of a believer!" Coveting the perishable goods of this life: with God are profits and spoils abundant. Even thus were ye yourselves before, till God conferred on you His favours: Therefore carefully investigate. For God is well aware of all that ye do.

004.095 Not equal are those believers who sit (at home) and receive no hurt, and those who strive and fight in the cause of God with their goods and their persons. God hath granted a grade higher to those who strive and fight with their goods and persons than to those who sit (at home). Unto all (in Faith) Hath God promised good: But those who strive and fight Hath He distinguished above those who sit (at home) by a special reward,-

004.096 Ranks specially bestowed by Him, and Forgiveness and Mercy. For God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

004.097 When angels take the souls of those who die in sin against their souls, they say: "In what (plight) Were ye?" They reply: "Weak and oppressed Were we in the earth." They say: "Was not the earth of God spacious enough for you to move yourselves away (From evil)?" Such men will find their abode in Hell,ÑWhat an evil refuge! -

004.098 Except those who are (really) weak and oppressedÑmen, women, and childrenÑwho have no means in their power, nor (a guide-post) to their way.

004.099 For these, there is hope that God will forgive: For God doth blot out (sins) and forgive again and again.

004.100 He who forsakes his home in the cause of God, finds in the earth Many a refuge, wide and spacious: Should he die as a refugee from home for God and His Apostle, His reward becomes due and sure with God: And God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

004.101 When ye travel through the earth, there is no blame on you if ye shorten your prayers, for fear the Unbelievers May attack you: For the

Unbelievers are unto you open enemies.

004.102 When thou (O Apostle) art with them, and standest to lead them in prayer, Let one party of them stand up (in prayer) with thee, Taking their arms with them: When they finish their prostrations, let them Take their position in the rear. And let the other party come up which hath not yet prayedÑand let them pray with thee, Taking all precaution, and bearing arms: the Unbelievers wish, if ye were negligent of your arms and your baggage, to assault you in a single rush. But there is no blame on you if ye put away your arms because of the inconvenience of rain or because ye are ill; but take (every) precaution for yourselves. For the Unbelievers God hath prepared a humiliating punishment.

004.103 When ye pass (Congregational) prayers, celebrate God's praises, standing, sitting down, or lying down on your sides; but when ye are free from danger, set up Regular Prayers: For such prayers are enjoined on believers at stated times.

004.104 And slacken not in following up the enemy: If ye are suffering hardships, they are suffering similar hardships; but ye have Hope from God, while they have none. And God is full of knowledge and wisdom.

004.105 We have sent down to thee the Book in truth, that thou mightest judge between men, as guided by God: so be not (used) as an advocate by those who betray their trust;

004.106 But seek the forgiveness of God; for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

004.107 Contend not on behalf of such as betray their own souls; for God loveth not one given to perfidy and crime:

004.108 They may hide (Their crimes) from men, but they cannot hide (Them) from God, seeing that He is in their midst when they plot by night, in words that He cannot approve: And God Doth compass round all that they do.

004.109 Ah! These are the sort of men on whose behalf ye may contend in this world; but who will contend with God on their behalf on the Day of Judgment, or who will carry their affairs through?

004.110 If any one does evil or wrongs his own soul but afterwards seeks God's forgiveness, he will find God Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

004.111 And if any one earns sin. he earns it against His own soul: for God is full of knowledge and wisdom.

004.112 But if any one earns a fault or a sin and throws it on to one that is innocent, He carries (on himself) (Both) a falsehood and a flagrant sin.

004.113 But for the Grace of God to thee and his Mercy, a party of them would certainly have plotted to lead thee astray. But (in fact) they will only Lead their own souls astray, and to thee they can do no harm in the least. For God hath sent down to thee the Book and wisdom and taught thee what thou Knewest not (before): And great is the Grace of God unto thee.

004.114 In most of their secret talks there is no good: But if one exhorts to a deed of charity or justice or conciliation between men, (Secrecy is permissible): To him who does this, seeking the good pleasure of God, We shall soon give a reward of the highest (value).

004.115 If anyone contends with the Apostle even after guidance has been plainly conveyed to him, and follows a path other than that becoming to men of Faith, We shall leave him in the path he has chosen, and land him in Hell,Ñwhat an evil refuge!

004.116 God forgiveth not (The sin of) joining other gods with Him; but He forgiveth whom He pleaseth other sins than this: one who joins other gods with God, Hath strayed far, far away (from the right).

004.117 (The Pagans), leaving Him, call but upon female deities: They call but upon satan the persistent rebel!

004.118 God did curse him, but he said: "I will take of Thy servants a portion Marked off;

004.119 "I will mislead them, and I will create in them false desires; I will order them to slit the ears of cattle, and to deface the (fair) nature created by God." Whoever, forsaking God, takes satan for a friend, hath of a surety suffered a loss that is manifest.

004.120 Satan makes them promises, and creates in them false desires; but satan's promises are nothing but deception.

004.121 They (his dupes) will have their dwelling in Hell, and from it they will find no way of escape.

004.122 But those who believe and do deeds of righteousness,Ñwe shall soon admit them to gardens, with rivers flowing beneath,-to dwell therein for ever. God's promise is the truth, and whose word can be truer than God's?

004.123 Not your desires, nor those of the People of the Book (can prevail): whoever works evil, will be requited accordingly. Nor will he find, besides God, any protector or helper.

004.124 If any do deeds of righteousness,Ñbe they male or femaleÑand have faith, they will enter Heaven, and not the least injustice will be done to them.

004.125 Who can be better in religion than one who submits his whole self to God, does good, and follows the way of Abraham the true in Faith? For God did take Abraham for a friend.

004.126 But to God belong all things in the heavens and on earth: And He it is that Encompasseth all things.

004.127 They ask thy instruction concerning the women say: God doth instruct you about them: And (remember) what hath been rehearsed unto you in the Book, concerning the orphans of women to whom ye give not the portions prescribed,

and yet whom ye desire to marry, as also concerning the children who are weak and oppressed: that ye stand firm for justice to orphans. There is not a good deed which ye do, but God is well-acquainted therewith.

004.128 If a wife fears cruelty or desertion on her husband's part, there is no blame on them if they arrange an amicable settlement between themselves; and such settlement is best; even though men's souls are swayed by greed. But if ye do good and practise self-restraint, God is well-acquainted with all that ye do.

004.129 Ye are never able to be fair and just as between women, even if it is your ardent desire: But turn not away (from a woman) altogether, so as to leave her (as it were) hanging (in the air). If ye come to a friendly understanding, and practise self-restraint, God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

004.130 But if they disagree (and must part), God will provide abundance for all from His all-reaching bounty: for God is He that careth for all and is Wise.

004.131 To God belong all things in the heavens and on earth. Verily we have directed the People of the Book before you, and you (o Muslims) to fear God. But if ye deny Him, lo! unto God belong all things in the heavens and on earth, and God is free of all wants, worthy of all praise.

004.132 Yea, unto God belong all things in the heavens and on earth, and enough is God to carry through all affairs.

004.133 If it were His will, He could destroy you, o mankind, and create another race; for He hath power this to do.

004.134 If any one desires a reward in this life, in God's (gift) is the reward (both) of this life and of the hereafter: for God is He that heareth and seeth (all things).

004.135 O ye who believe! stand out firmly for justice, as witnesses to God, even as against yourselves, or your parents, or your kin, and whether it be (against) rich or poor: for God can best protect both. Follow not the lusts (of your hearts), lest ye swerve, and if ye distort (justice) or decline to do justice, verily God is well-acquainted with all that ye do.

004.136 O ye who believe! Believe in God and His Apostle, and the scripture which He hath sent to His Apostle and the scripture which He sent to those before (him). Any who denieth God, His angels, His Books, His Apostles, and the Day of Judgment, hath gone far, far astray.

004.137 Those who believe, then reject faith, then believe (again) and (again) reject faith, and go on increasing in unbelief,ÑGod will not forgive them nor guide them nor guide them on the way.

004.138 To the Hypocrites give the glad tidings that there is for them (but) a grievous penalty;-

004.139 Yea, to those who take for friends unbelievers rather than believers:

is it honour they seek among them? Nay,Ñall honour is with God.

004.140 Already has He sent you Word in the Book, that when ye hear the signs of God held in defiance and ridicule, ye are not to sit with them unless they turn to a different theme: if ye did, ye would be like them. For God will collect the hypocrites and those who defy faithÑall in Hell:-

004.141 (These are) the ones who wait and watch about you: if ye do gain a victory from God, they say: "Were we not with you?"Ñbut if the unbelievers gain a success, they say (to them): "Did we not gain an advantage over you, and did we not guard you from the believers?" but God will judge betwixt you on the Day of Judgment. And never will God grant to the unbelievers a way (to triumphs) over the believers.

004.142 The HypocritesÑthey think they are over-reaching God, but He will over-reach them: When they stand up to prayer, they stand without earnestness, to be seen of men, but little do they hold God in remembrance;

004.143 (They are) distracted in mind even in the midst of it,Ñbeing (sincerely) for neither one group nor for another whom God leaves straying,Ñnever wilt thou find for him the way.

004.144 O ye who believe! Take not for friends unbelievers rather than believers: Do ye wish to offer God an open proof against yourselves?

004.145 The Hypocrites will be in the lowest depths of the Fire: no helper wilt thou find for them;-

004.146 Except for those who repent, mend (their lives) hold fast to God, and purify their religion as in God's sight: if so they will be (numbered) with the believers. And soon will God grant to the believers a reward of immense value.

004.147 What can God gain by your punishment, if ye are grateful and ye believe? Nay, it is God that recogniseth (all good), and knoweth all things.

004.148 God loveth not that evil should be noised abroad in public speech, except where injustice hath been done; for God is He who heareth and knoweth all things.

004.149 Whether ye publish a good deed or conceal it or cover evil with pardon, verily God doth blot out (sins) and hath power (in the judgment of values).

004.150 Those who deny God and His apostles, and (those who) wish to separate God from His apostles, saying: "We believe in some but reject others": And (those who) wish to take a course midway,-

004.151 They are in truth (equally) unbelievers; and we have prepared for unbelievers a humiliating punishment.

004.152 To those who believe in God and His apostles and make no distinction between any of the apostles, we shall soon give their (due) rewards: for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

004.153 The people of the Book ask thee to cause a book to descend to them from

heaven: Indeed they asked Moses for an even greater (miracle), for they said: "Show us God in public," but they were dazed for their presumption, with thunder and lightning. Yet they worshipped the calf even after clear signs had come to them; even so we forgave them; and gave Moses manifest proofs of authority.

004.154 And for their covenant we raised over them (the towering height) of Mount (Sinai); and (on another occasion) we said: "Enter the gate with humility"; and (once again) we commanded them: "Transgress not in the matter of the sabbath." And we took from them a solemn covenant.

004.155 (They have incurred divine displeasure): In that they broke their covenant; that they rejected the signs of God; that they slew the Messengers in defiance of right; that they said, "Our hearts are the wrappings (which preserve God's Word; We need no more)";ÑNay, God hath set the seal on their hearts for their blasphemy, and little is it they believe;-

004.156 That they rejected Faith; that they uttered against Mary a grave false charge;

004.157 That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Apostle of God";Ñbut they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not:-

004.158 Nay, God raised him up unto Himself; and God is Exalted in Power, Wise;-

004.159 And there is none of the People of the Book but must believe in him before his death; and on the Day of Judgment he will be a witness against them;-

004.160 For the iniquity of the Jews We made unlawful for them certain (foods) good and wholesome which had been lawful for them;Ñin that they hindered many from God's Way;-

004.161 That they took usury, though they were forbidden; and that they devoured men's substance wrongfully;Ñwe have prepared for those among them who reject faith a grievous punishment.

004.162 But those among them who are well-grounded in knowledge, and the believers, believe in what hath been revealed to thee and what was revealed before thee: And (especially) those who establish regular prayer and practise regular charity and believe in God and in the Last Day: To them shall We soon give a great reward.

004.163 We have sent thee inspiration, as We sent it to Noah and the Messengers after him: we sent inspiration to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob and the Tribes, to Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron, and solomon, and to David We gave the Psalms.

004.164 Of some apostles We have already told thee the story; of others We have not;Ñand to Moses God spoke direct;-

004.165 Apostles who gave good news as well as warning, that mankind, after (the coming) of the apostles, should have no plea against God: For God is Exalted in Power, Wise.

004.166 But God beareth witness that what He hath sent unto thee He hath sent from His (own) knowledge, and the angels bear witness: But enough is God for a witness.

004.167 Those who reject Faith and keep off (men) from the way of God, have verily strayed far, far away from the Path.

004.168 Those who reject Faith and do wrong,ÑGod will not forgive them nor guide them to any way-

004.169 Except the way of Hell, to dwell therein for ever. And this to God is easy.

004.170 O Mankind! The Apostle hath come to you in truth from God: believe in him: It is best for you. But if ye reject Faith, to God belong all things in the heavens and on earth: And God is All-knowing, All-wise.

004.171 O People of the Book! Commit no excesses in your religion: Nor say of God aught but the truth. Christ Jesus the son of Mary was (no more than) an apostle of God, and His Word, which He bestowed on Mary, and a spirit proceeding from Him: so believe in God and His apostles. Say not "Trinity" : desist: it will be better for you: for God is one God: Glory be to Him: (far exalted is He) above having a son. To Him belong all things in the heavens and on earth. And enough is God as a Disposer of affairs.

004.172 Christ disdaineth nor to serve and worship God, nor do the angels, those nearest (to God): those who disdain His worship and are arrogant,-He will gather them all together unto Himself to (answer).

004.173 But to those who believe and do deeds of righteousness, He will give their (due) rewards,Ñand more, out of His bounty: But those who are disdainful and arrogant, He will punish with a grievous penalty; Nor will they find, besides God, any to protect or help them.

004.174 O mankind! verily there hath come to you a convincing proof from your Lord: For We have sent unto you a light (that is) manifest.

004.175 Then those who believe in God, and hold fast to Him,Ñsoon will He admit them to mercy and grace from Himself, and guide them to Himself by a straight way.

004.176 They ask thee for a legal decision. Say: God directs (thus) about those who leave no descendants or ascendants as heirs. If it is a man that dies, leaving a sister but no child, she shall have half the inheritance: If (such a deceased was) a woman, who left no child, Her brother takes her inheritance: If there are two sisters, they shall have two-thirds of the inheritance (between

them): if there are brothers and sisters, (they share), the male having twice the share of the female. Thus doth God make clear to you (His law), lest ye err. And God hath knowledge of all things.

THE TABLE, THE TABLE SPREAD,
CHAPTER NO. 005

005.001 O ye who believe! fulfil (all) obligations.

005.002 Lawful unto you (for food) are all four-footed animals, with the exceptions named: But animals of the chase are forbidden while ye are in the sacred precincts or in pilgrim garb: for God doth command according to His will and plan.

005.003 O ye who believe! Violate not the sanctity of the symbols of God, nor of the sacred month, nor of the animals brought for sacrifice, nor the garlands that mark out such animals, nor the people resorting to the sacred house, seeking of the bounty and good pleasure of their Lord. But when ye are clear of the sacred precincts and of pilgrim garb, ye may hunt and let not the hatred of some people in (once) shutting you out of the Sacred Mosque lead you to transgression (and hostility on your part). Help ye one another in righteousness and piety, but help ye not one another in sin and rancour: fear God: for God is strict in punishment.

005.004 Forbidden to you (for food) are: dead meat, blood, the flesh of swine, and that on which hath been invoked the name of other than God; that which hath been killed by strangling, or by a violent blow, or by a headlong fall, or by being gored to death; that which hath been (partly) eaten by a wild animal; unless ye are able to slaughter it (in due form); that which is sacrificed on stone (altars); (forbidden) also is the division (of meat) by raffling with arrows: that is impiety. This day have those who reject faith given up all hope of your religion: yet fear them not but fear Me. This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion. But if any is forced by hunger, with no inclination to transgression, God is indeed Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

005.005 They ask thee what is lawful to them (as food). Say: lawful unto you are (all) things good and pure: and what ye have taught your trained hunting animals (to catch) in the manner directed to you by God: eat what they catch for you, but pronounce the name of God over it: and fear God; for God is swift in taking account.

005.006 This day are (all) things good and pure made lawful unto you. The food of the People of the Book is lawful unto you and yours is lawful unto them. (Lawful unto you in marriage) are (not only) chaste women who are believers, but chaste women among the People of the Book, revealed before your time,Ñwhen ye give them their due dowers, and desire chastity, not lewdness, nor secret intrigues if any one rejects faith, fruitless is his work, and in the Hereafter he will be in the ranks of those who have lost (all spiritual good).

005.007 O ye who believe! when ye prepare for prayer, wash your faces, and your

hands (and arms) to the elbows; Rub your heads (with water); and (wash) your feet to the ankles. If ye are in a state of ceremonial impurity, bathe your whole body. But if ye are ill, or on a journey, or one of you cometh from offices of nature, or ye have been in contact with women, and ye find no water, then take for yourselves clean sand or earth, and rub therewith your faces and hands, God doth not wish to place you in a difficulty, but to make you clean, and to complete his favour to you, that ye may be grateful.

005.008 And call in remembrance the favour of God unto you, and His covenant, which He ratified with you, when ye said: "We hear and we obey": And fear God, for God knoweth well the secrets of your hearts.

005.009 O ye who believe! stand out firmly for God, as witnesses to fair dealing, and let not the hatred of others to you make you swerve to wrong and depart from justice. Be just: that is next to piety: and fear God. For God is well-acquainted with all that ye do.

005.010 To those who believe and do deeds of righteousness hath God promised forgiveness and a great reward.

005.011 Those who reject faith and deny our signs will be companions of Hell-fire.

005.012 O ye who believe! Call in remembrance the favour of God unto you when certain men formed the design to stretch out their hands against you, but (God) held back their hands from you: so fear God. And on God let believers put (all) their trust.

005.013 God did aforetime take a covenant from the Children of Israel, and we appointed twelve captains among them. And God said: "I am with you: if ye (but) establish regular prayers, practise regular charity, believe in my apostles, honour and assist them, and loan to God a beautiful loan, verily I will wipe out from you your evils, and admit you to gardens with rivers flowing beneath; but if any of you, after this, resisteth faith, he hath truly wandered from the path or rectitude."

005.014 But because of their breach of their covenant, We cursed them, and made their hearts grow hard; they change the words from their (right) places and forget a good part of the message that was sent them, nor wilt thou cease to find themÑbarring a fewÑever bent on (new) deceits: but forgive them, and overlook (their misdeeds): for God loveth those who are kind.

005.015 From those, too, who call themselves Christians, We did take a covenant, but they forgot a good part of the message that was sent them: so we estranged them, with enmity and hatred between the one and the other, to the day of judgment. And soon will God show them what it is they have done.

005.016 O people of the Book! There hath come to you our Apostle, revealing to you much that ye used to hide in the Book, and passing over much (that is now unnecessary):

005.017 There hath come to you from God a (new) light and a perspicuous Book,-

005.018 Wherewith God guideth all who seek His good pleasure to ways of peace and safety, and leadeth them out of darkness, by His will, unto the light,Ñguideth them to a path that is straight.

005.019 In blasphemy indeed are those that say that God is Christ the son of Mary. Say: "Who then hath the least power against God, if His will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother, and all everyÑone that is on the earth? For to God belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between. He createth what He pleaseth. For God hath power over all things."

005.020 (Both) the Jews and the Christians say: "We are sons of God, and his beloved." Say: "Why then doth He punish you for your sins? Nay, ye are but men,Ñof the men he hath created: He forgiveth whom He pleaseth, and He punisheth whom He pleaseth: and to God belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between: and unto Him is the final goal (of all)"

005.021 O People of the Book! Now hath come unto you, making (things) clear unto you, Our Apostle, after the break in (the series of) our apostles, lest ye should say: "There came unto us no bringer of glad tidings and no warner (from evil)": But now hath come unto you a bringer of glad tidings and a warner (from evil). And God hath power over all things.

005.022 Remember Moses said to his people: "O my people! Call in remembrance the favour of God unto you, when He produced prophets among you, made you kings, and gave you what He had not given to any other among the peoples.

005.023 "O my people! Enter the holy land which God hath assigned unto you, and turn not back ignominiously, for then will ye be overthrown, to your own ruin."

005.024 They said: "O Moses! In this land are a people of exceeding strength: Never shall we enter it until they leave it: if (once) they leave, then shall we enter."

005.025 (But) among (their) God-fearing men were two on whom God had bestowed His grace: They said: "Assault them at the (proper) Gate: when once ye are in, victory will be yours;

005.026 But on God put your trust if ye have faith."

005.027 They said: "O Moses! while they remain there, never shall we be able to enter, to the end of time. Go thou, and thy Lord, and fight ye two, while we sit here (and watch)."

005.028 He said: "O my Lord! I have power only over myself and my brother: so separate us from this rebellious people!"

005.029 God said: "Therefore will the land be out of their reach for forty years: In distraction will they wander through the land: But sorrow thou not over these rebellious people.

005.030 Recite to them the truth of the story of the two sons of Adam. Behold!

they each presented a sacrifice (to God): It was accepted from one, but not from the other. Said the latter: "Be sure I will slay thee." "Surely," said the former, "God doth accept of the sacrifice of those who are righteous.

005.031 "If thou dost stretch thy hand against me, to slay me, it is not for me to stretch my hand against thee to slay thee: for I do fear God, the cherisher of the worlds.

005.032 "For me, I intend to let thee draw on thyself my sin as well as thine, for thou wilt be among the companions of the fire, and that is the reward of those who do wrong."

005.033 The (selfish) soul of the other led him to the murder of his brother: he murdered him, and became (himself) one of the lost ones.

005.034 Then God sent a raven, who scratched the ground, to show him how to hide the shame of his brother. "Woe is me!" said he; "Was I not even able to be as this raven, and to hide the shame of my brother?" then he became full of regrets-

005.035 On that account: We ordained for the Children of Israel that if any one slew a personÑunless it be for murder or for spreading mischief in the landÑit would be as if he slew the whole people: and if any one saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of the whole people. Then although there came to them Our apostles with clear signs, yet, even after that, many of them continued to commit excesses in the land.

005.036 The punishment of those who wage war against God and His Apostle, and strive with might and main for mischief through the land is: execution, or crucifixion, or the cutting off of hands and feet from opposite sides, or exile from the land: that is their disgrace in this world, and a heavy punishment is theirs in the Hereafter;

005.037 Except for those who repent before they fall into your power: in that case, know that God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

005.038 O ye who believe! Do your duty to God, seek the means of approach unto Him, and strive with might and main in his cause: that ye may prosper.

005.039 As to those who reject Faith,Ñif they had everything on earth, and twice repeated, to give as ransom for the penalty of the Day of Judgment, it would never be accepted of them, theirs would be a grievous penalty.

005.040 Their wish will be to get out of the Fire, but never will they get out therefrom: their penalty will be one that endures.

005.041 As to the thief, Male or female, cut off his or her hands: a punishment by way of example, from God, for their crime: and God is Exalted in power.

005.042 But if the thief repents after his crime, and amends his conduct, God turneth to him in forgiveness; for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

005.043 Knowest thou not that to God (alone) belongeth the dominion of the

heavens and the earth? He punisheth whom He pleaseth, and He forgiveth whom He pleaseth: and God hath power over all things.

005.044 O Apostle! let not those grieve thee, who race each other into unbelief: (whether it be) among those who say "We believe" with their lips but whose hearts have no faith; or it be among the Jews,Ñmen who will listen to any lie,Ñwill listen even to others who have never so much as come to thee. They change the words from their (right) times and places: they say, "If ye are given this, take it, but if not, beware!" If any one's trial is intended by God, thou hast no authority in the least for him against God. For suchÑit is not God's will to purify their hearts. For them there is disgrace in this world, and in the Hereafter a heavy punishment.

005.045 (They are fond of) listening to falsehood, of devouring anything forbidden. If they do come to thee, either judge between them, or decline to interfere. If thou decline, they cannot hurt thee in the least. If thou judge, judge in equity between them. For God loveth those who judge in equity.

005.046 But why do they come to thee for decision, when they have (their own) law before them?Ñtherein is the (plain) command of God; yet even after that, they would turn away. For they are not (really) People of Faith.

005.047 It was We who revealed the law (to Moses): therein was guidance and light. By its standard have been judged the Jews, by the prophets who bowed (as in Islam) to God's will, by the rabbis and the doctors of law: for to them was entrusted the protection of God's book, and they were witnesses thereto: therefore fear not men, but fear me, and sell not my signs for a miserable price. If any do fail to judge by (the light of) what God hath revealed, they are (no better than) Unbelievers.

005.048 We ordained therein for them: "Life for life, eye for eye, nose or nose, ear for ear, tooth for tooth, and wounds equal for equal." But if any one remits the retaliation by way of charity, it is an act of atonement for himself. And if any fail to judge by (the light of) what God hath revealed, they are (No better than) wrong-doers.

005.049 And in their footsteps We sent Jesus the son of Mary, confirming the Law that had come before him: We sent him the Gospel: therein was guidance and light, and confirmation of the Law that had come before him: a guidance and an admonition to those who fear God.

005.050 Let the people of the Gospel judge by what God hath revealed therein. If any do fail to judge by (the light of) what God hath revealed, they are (no better than) those who rebel.

005.051 To thee We sent the Scripture in truth, confirming the scripture that came before it, and guarding it in safety: so judge between them by what God hath revealed, and follow not their vain desires, diverging from the Truth that hath come to thee. To each among you have we prescribed a law and an open way. If God had so willed, He would have made you a single people, but (His plan is) to test you in what He hath given you: so strive as in a race in all virtues.

The goal of you all is to God; it is He that will show you the truth of the matters in which ye dispute;

005.052 And this (He commands): Judge thou between them by what God hath revealed, and follow not their vain desires, but beware of them lest they beguile thee from any of that (teaching) which God hath sent down to thee. And if they turn away, be assured that for some of their crime it is God's purpose to punish them. And truly most men are rebellious.

005.053 Do they then seek after a judgment of (the days of) ignorance? But who, for a people whose faith is assured, can give better judgment than God?

005.054 O ye who believe! take not the Jews and the Christians for your friends and protectors: They are but friends and protectors to each other. And he amongst you that turns to them (for friendship) is of them. Verily God guideth not a people unjust.

005.055 Those in whose hearts is a diseaseÑthou seest how eagerly they run about amongst them, saying: "We do fear lest a change of fortune bring us disaster." Ah! perhaps God will give (thee) victory, or a decision according to His will. Then will they repent of the thoughts which they secretly harboured in their hearts.

005.056 And those who believe will say: "Are these the men who swore their strongest oaths by God, that they were with you?" All that they do will be in vain, and they will fall into (nothing but) ruin.

005.057 O ye who believe! if any from among you turn back from his Faith, soon will God produce a people whom He will love as they will love Him,Ñlowly with the believers, mighty against the rejecters, fighting in the way of God, and never afraid of the reproaches of such as find fault. That is the grace of God, which He will bestow on whom He pleaseth. And God encompasseth all, and He knoweth all things.

005.058 Your (real) friends are (no less than) God, His Apostle, and the (fellowship of) believers,Ñthose who establish regular prayers and regular charity, and they bow down humbly (in worship).

005.059 As to those who turn (for friendship) to God, His Apostle, and the (fellowship of) believers,Ñit is the fellowship of God that must certainly triumph.

005.060 O ye who believe! take not for friends and protectors those who take your religion for a mockery or sport,Ñwhether among those who received the Scripture before you, or among those who reject Faith; but fear ye God, if ye have faith (indeed).

005.061 When ye proclaim your call to prayer they take it (but) as mockery and sport; that is because they are a people without understanding.

005.062 Say: "O people of the Book! Do ye disapprove of us for no other reason than that we believe in God, and the revelation that hath come to us and that

which came before (us), and (perhaps) that most of you are rebellious and disobedient?"

005.063 Say: "Shall I point out to you something much worse than this, (as judged) by the treatment it received from God? those who incurred the curse of God and His wrath, those of whom some He transformed into apes and swine, those who worshipped evil;Ñthese are (many times) worse in rank, and far more astray from the even path!"

005.064 When they come to thee, they say: "We believe": but in fact they enter with a mind against Faith, and they go out with the same but God knoweth fully all that they hide.

005.065 Many of them dost thou see, racing each other in sin and rancour, and their eating of things forbidden. Evil indeed are the things that they do.

005.066 Why do not the rabbis and the doctors of Law forbid them from their (habit of) uttering sinful words and eating things forbidden? Evil indeed are their works.

005.067 The Jews say: "God's hand is tied up." Be their hands tied up and be they accursed for the (blasphemy) they utter. Nay, both His hands are widely outstretched: He giveth and spendeth (of His bounty) as He pleaseth. But the revelation that cometh to thee from God increaseth in most of them their obstinate rebellion and blasphemy. Amongst them we have placed enmity and hatred till the Day of Judgment. Every time they kindle the fire of war, God doth extinguish it; but they (ever) strive to do mischief on earth. And God loveth not those who do mischief.

005.068 If only the People of the Book had believed and been righteous, We should indeed have blotted out their iniquities and admitted them to gardens of bliss.

005.069 If only they had stood fast by the Law, the Gospel, and all the revelation that was sent to them from their Lord, they would have enjoyed happiness from every side. There is from among them a party on the right course: but many of them follow a course that is evil.

005.070 O Apostle! proclaim the (message) which hath been sent to thee from thy Lord. If thou didst not, thou wouldst not have fulfilled and proclaimed His mission. And God will defend thee from men (who mean mischief). For God guideth not those who reject Faith.

005.071 Say: "O People of the Book! ye have no ground to stand upon unless ye stand fast by the Law, the Gospel, and all the revelation that has come to you from your Lord." It is the revelation that cometh to thee from thy Lord, that increaseth in most of them their obstinate rebellion and blasphemy. But sorrow thou not over (these) people without Faith.

005.072 Those who believe (in the Qur'an), those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), and the Sabians and the Christians,Ñany who believe in God and the Last Day, and work righteousness,Ñon them shall be no fear, nor shall they

grieve.

005.073 We took the covenant of the Children of Israel and sent them apostles, every time, there came to them an apostle with what they themselves desired notÑsome (of these) they called impostors, and some they (go so far as to) slay.

005.074 They thought there would be no trial (or punishment); so they became blind and deaf; yet God (in mercy) turned to them; yet again many of them became blind and deaf. But God sees well all that they do.

005.075 They do blaspheme who say: "God is Christ the son of Mary." But said Christ: "O Children of Israel! worship God, my Lord and your Lord." Whoever joins other gods with God,ÑGod will forbid him the garden, and the Fire will be his abode. There will for the wrong-doers be no one to help.

005.076 They do blaspheme who say: God is one of three in a Trinity: for there is no god except One God. If they desist not from their word (of blasphemy), verily a grievous penalty will befall the blasphemers among them.

005.077 Why turn they not to God, and seek His forgiveness? For God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

005.078 Christ the son of Mary was no more than an apostle; many were the apostles that passed away before him. His mother was a woman of truth. They had both to eat their (daily) food. See how God doth make His signs clear to them; yet see in what ways they are deluded away from the truth!

005.079 Say: "Will ye worship, besides God, something which hath no power either to harm or benefit you? But God,ÑHe it is that heareth and knoweth all things."

005.080 Say: "O people of the Book! exceed not in your religion the bounds (of what is proper), trespassing beyond the truth, nor follow the vain desires of people who went wrong in times gone by,Ñwho misled many, and strayed (themselves) from the even way.

005.081 Curses were pronounced on those among the Children of Israel who rejected Faith, by the tongue of David and of Jesus the son of Mary: because they disobeyed and persisted in excesses.

005.082 Nor did they (usually) forbid one another the iniquities which they committed: evil indeed were the deeds which they did.

005.083 Thou seest many of them turning in friendship to the Unbelievers. Evil indeed are (the works) which their souls have sent forward before them (with the result), that God's wrath is on them, and in torment will they abide.

005.084 If only they had believed in God, in the Apostle, and in what hath been revealed to him, never would they have taken them for friends and protectors, but most of them are rebellious wrong-doers.

005.085 Strongest among men in enmity to the believers wilt thou find the Jews

and Pagans; and nearest among them in love to the believers wilt thou find those who say, "We are Christians": because amongst these are men devoted to learning and men who have renounced the world, and they are not arrogant.

005.086 And when they listen to the revelation received by the Apostle, thou wilt see their eyes overflowing with tears, for they recognise the truth: they pray: "Our Lord! we believe; write us down among the witnesses.

005.087 "What cause can we have not to believe in God and the truth which has come to us, seeing that we long for our Lord to admit us to the company of the righteous?"

005.088 And for this their prayer hath God rewarded them with gardens, with rivers flowing underneath,Ñtheir eternal home. Such is the recompense of those who do good.

005.089 But those who reject Faith and belie our Signs,Ñthey shall be companions of Hell-fire.

005.090 O ye who believe! make not unlawful the good things which God hath made lawful for you, but commit no excess: for God loveth not those given to excess.

005.091 Eat of the things which God hath provided for you, lawful and good; but fear God, in Whom ye believe.

005.092 God will not call you to account for what is futile in your oaths, but He will call you to account for your deliberate oaths: for expiation, feed ten indigent persons, on a scale of the average for the food of your families; or clothe them; or give a slave his freedom. If that is beyond your means, fast for three days. That is the expiation for the oaths ye have sworn. But keep to your oaths. Thus doth God make clear to you His signs, that ye may be grateful.

005.093 O ye who believe! Intoxicants and gambling, (dedication of) stones, and (divination by) arrows, are an abomination,Ñof Satan's handwork: eschew such (abomination), that ye may prosper.

005.094 Satan's plan is (but) to excite enmity and hatred between you, with intoxicants and gambling, and hinder you from the remembrance of God, and from prayer: will ye not then abstain?

005.095 Obey God, and obey the Apostle, and beware (of evil): if ye do turn back, know ye that it is Our Apostle's duty to proclaim (the message) in the clearest manner.

005.096 On those who believe and do deeds of righteousness there is no blame for what they ate (in the past), when they guard themselves from evil, and believe, and do deeds of righteousness,Ñ(or) again, guard themselves from evil and believe,Ñ(or) again, guard themselves from evil and do good. For God loveth those who do good.

005.097 O ye who believe! God doth but make a trial of you in a little matter of game well within reach of game well within reach of your hands and your lances, that He may test who feareth him unseen: any who transgress thereafter,

will have a grievous penalty.

005.098 O ye who believe! Kill not game while in the sacred precincts or in pilgrim garb. If any of you doth so intentionally, the compensation is an offering, brought to the Ka'ba, of a domestic animal equivalent to the one he killed, as adjudged by two just men among you; or by way of atonement, the feeding of the indigent; or its equivalent in fasts: that he may taste of the penalty of his deed. God forgives what is past: for repetition God will exact from him the penalty. For God is Exalted, and Lord of Retribution.

005.099 Lawful to you is the pursuit of water-game and its use for food,Ñfor the benefit of yourselves and those who travel; but forbidden is the pursuit of land-game;Ñas long as ye are in the sacred precincts or in pilgrim garb. And fear God, to Whom ye shall be gathered back.

005.100 God made the Ka'ba, the Sacred House, an asylum of security for men, as also the Sacred Months, the animals for offerings, and the garlands that mark them: That ye may know that God hath knowledge of what is in the heavens and on earth and that God is well acquainted with all things.

005.101 Know ye that God is strict in punishment and that God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

005.102 The Apostle's duty is but to proclaim (the message). But God knoweth all that ye reveal and ye conceal.

005.103 Say: "Not equal are things that are bad and things that are good, even though the abundance of the bad may dazzle thee; so fear God, O ye that understand; that (so) ye may prosper."

005.104 O ye who believe! Ask not questions about things which, if made plain to you, may cause you trouble. But if ye ask about things when the Qur'an is being revealed, they will be made plain to you, God will forgive those: for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Forbearing.

005.105 Some people before you did ask such questions, and on that account lost their faith.

005.106 It was not God who instituted (superstitions like those of) a slit-ear she-camel, or a she-camel let loose for free pasture, or idol sacrifices for twin-births in animals, or stallion-camels freed from work: It is blasphemers who invent a lie against God; but most of them lack wisdom.

005.107 When it is said to them: "Come to what God hath revealed; come to the Apostle": They say: "Enough for us are the ways we found our fathers following." what! even though their fathers were void of knowledge and guidance?

005.108 O ye who believe! Guard your own souls: If ye follow (right) guidance, no hurt can come to you from those who stray. the goal of you all is to God: it is He that will show you the truth of all that ye do.

005.109 O ye who believe! When death approaches any of you, (take) witnesses

among yourselves when making bequests,Ñtwo just men of your own (brotherhood) or others from outside if ye are journeying through the earth, and the chance of death befalls you (thus). If ye doubt (their truth), detain them both after prayer, and let them both swear by God: "We wish not in this for any worldly gain, even though the (beneficiary) be our near relation: we shall hide not the evidence before God: if we do, then behold! the sin be upon us!"

005.110 But if it gets known that these two were guilty of the sin (of perjury), let two others stand forth in their places,Ñnearest in kin from among those who claim a lawful right: let them swear by God: "We affirm that our witness is truer than that of those two, and that we have not trespassed (beyond the truth): if we did, behold! the wrong be upon us!"

005.111 That is most suitable: that they may give the evidence in its true nature and shape, or else they would fear that other oaths would be taken after their oaths. But fear God, and listen (to His counsel): for God guideth not a rebellious people:

005.112 One day will God gather the apostles together, and ask: "What was the response ye received (from men to your teaching)?" They will say: "We have no knowledge: it is Thou Who knowest in full all that is hidden."

005.113 Then will God say: "O Jesus the son of Mary! Recount My favour to thee and to thy mother. Behold! I strengthened thee with the holy spirit, so that thou didst speak to the people in childhood and in maturity. Behold! I taught thee the Book and Wisdom, the Law and the Gospel and behold! thou makest out of clay, as it were, the figure of a bird, by My leave, and thou breathest into it and it becometh a bird by My leave, and thou healest those born blind, and the lepers, by My leave. And behold! thou bringest forth the dead by My leave. And behold! I did restrain the Children of Israel from (violence to) thee when thou didst show them the clear Signs, and the unbelievers among them said: 'This is nothing but evident magic.'

005.114 "And behold! I inspired the disciples to have faith in Me and Mine Apostle: they said, 'We have faith, and do thou bear witness that we bow to God as Muslims'".

005.115 Behold! the disciples, said: "O Jesus the son of Mary! can thy Lord send down to us a table set (with viands) from heaven?" Said Jesus: "Fear God, if ye have faith."

005.116 They said: "We only wish to eat thereof and satisfy our hearts, and to know that thou hast indeed told us the truth; and that we ourselves may be witnesses to the miracle."

005.117 Said Jesus the son of Mary: "O God our Lord! Send us from heaven a table set (with viands), that there may be for usÑfor the first and the last of usÑa solemn festival and a sign from thee; and provide for our sustenance, for thou art the best Sustainer (of our needs)."

005.118 God said: "I will send it down unto you: But if any of you after that

resisteth faith, I will punish him with a penalty such as I have not inflicted on any one among all the peoples."

005.119 And behold! God will say: "O Jesus the son of Mary! Didst thou say unto men, worship me and my mother as gods in derogation of God'?" He will say: "Glory to Thee! never could I say what I had no right (to say). Had I said such a thing, thou wouldst indeed have known it. Thou knowest what is in my heart, Thou I know not what is in Thine. For Thou knowest in full all that is hidden.

005.120 "Never said I to them aught except what Thou didst command me to say, to wit, 'worship God, my Lord and your Lord'; and I was a witness over them whilst I dwelt amongst them; when Thou didst take me up Thou wast the Watcher over them, and Thou art a witness to all things.

005.121 "If Thou dost punish them, they are Thy servant: If Thou dost forgive them, Thou art the Exalted in power, the Wise."

005.122 God will say: "This is a day on which the truthful will profit from their truth: theirs are gardens, with rivers flowing beneath,Ñtheir eternal Home: God well-pleased with them, and they with God: That is the great salvation, (the fulfilment of all desires).

005.123 To God doth belong the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is therein, and it is He Who hath power over all things.

CATTLE, LIVESTOCK,
CHAPTER NO. 006

006.001 Praise be God, Who created the heavens and the earth, and made the darkness and the light. Yet those who reject Faith hold (others) as equal, with their Guardian-Lord.

006.002 He it is created you from clay, and then decreed a stated term (for you). And there is in His presence another determined term; yet ye doubt within yourselves!

006.003 And He is God in the heavens and on earth. He knoweth what ye hide, and what ye reveal, and He knoweth the (recompense) which ye earn (by your deeds).

006.004 But never did a single one of the signs of their Lord reach them, but they turned away therefrom.

006.005 And now they reject the truth when it reaches them: but soon shall they learn the reality of what they used to mock at.

006.006 See they not how many of those before them We did destroy?Ñgenerations We had established on the earth, in strength such as We have not given to youÑfor whom We poured out rain from the skies in abundance, and gave (fertile) streams flowing beneath their (feet): yet for their sins We destroyed them, and raised in their wake fresh generations (to succeed them).

006.007 If We had sent unto thee a written (message) on parchment, so that they could touch it with their hands, the Unbelievers would have been sure to say:

"This is nothing but obvious magic!"

006.008 They say: "Why is not an angel sent down to him?" If we did send down an angel, the matter would be settled at once, and no respite would be granted them.

006.009 If We had made it an angel, We should have sent him as a man, and We should certainly have caused them confusion in a matter which they have already covered with confusion.

006.010 Mocked were (many) apostles before thee; but their scoffers were hemmed in by the thing that they mocked.

006.011 Say: "Travel through the earth and see what was the end of those who rejected Truth."

006.012 Say: "To whom belongeth all that is in the heavens and on earth?" Say: "To God. He hath inscribed for Himself (the rule of) Mercy. That He will gather you together for the Day of Judgment, there is no doubt whatever. It is they who have lost their own souls, that will not believe.

006.013 To him belongeth all that dwelleth (or lurketh) in the night and the day. For he is the one who heareth and knoweth all things."

006.014 Say: "Shall I take for my protector any other than God, the Maker of the heavens and the earth? And He it is that feedeth but is not fed." Say: "Nay! but I am commanded to be the first of those who bow to God (in Islam), and be not thou of the company of those who join gods with God."

006.015 Say: "I would, if I disobeyed my Lord, indeed have fear of the penalty of a Mighty Day.

006.016 "On that day, if the penalty is averted from any, it is due to God's mercy; And that would be (Salvation), the obvious fulfilment of all desire.

006.017 "If God touch thee with affliction, none can remove it but He; if He touch thee with happiness, He hath power over all things.

006.018 "He is the irresistible, (watching) from above over His worshippers; and He is the Wise, acquainted with all things."

006.019 Say: "What thing is most weighty in evidence?" Say: "God is witness between me and you; This Qur'an hath been revealed to me by inspiration, that I may warn you and all whom it reaches. Can ye possibly bear witness that besides God there is another God?" Say: "Nay! I cannot bear witness!" Say: "But in truth He is the one God, and I truly am innocent of (your blasphemy of) joining others with Him."

006.020 Those to whom We have given the Book know this as they know their own sons. Those who have lost their own souls refuse therefore to believe.

006.021 Who doth more wrong than he who inventeth a lie against God or rejecteth His sings? But verily the wrong-doers never shall prosper.

006.022 One day shall We gather them all together: We shall say to those who ascribed partners (to Us): "Where are the partners whom ye (invented and) talked about?"

006.023 There will then be (left) no subterfuge for them but to say: "By God our Lord, we were not those who joined gods with God."

006.024 Behold! how they lie against their own souls! But the (lie) which they invented will leave them in the lurch.

006.025 Of them there are some who (pretend to) listen to thee; but We have thrown veils on their hearts, So they understand it not, and deafness in their ears; if they saw every one of the signs, not they will believe in them; in so much that when they come to thee, they (but) dispute with thee; the Unbelievers say: "These are nothing but tales of the ancients."

006.026 Others they keep away from it, and themselves they keep away; but they only destroy their own souls, and they perceive it not.

006.027 If thou couldst but see when they are confronted with the Fire! They will say: "Would that we were but sent back! Then would we not reject the signs of our Lord, but would be amongst those who believe!"

006.028 Yea, in their own (eyes) will become manifest what before they concealed. But if they were returned, they would certainly relapse to the things they were forbidden, for they are indeed liars.

006.029 And they (sometimes) say: "There is nothing except our life on this earth, and never shall we be raised up again."

006.030 If thou couldst but see when they are confronted with their Lord! He will say: "Is not this the truth?" They will say: "Yea, by our Lord!" He will say: "Taste ye then the penalty, because ye rejected Faith."

006.031 Lost indeed are they who treat it as a falsehood that they must meet God,Ñuntil on a sudden the hour is on them, and they say: "Ah! woe unto us that we took no thought of it"; for they bear their burdens on their backs, and evil indeed are the burdens that they bear?

006.032 What is the life of this world but play and amusement? But best is the home in the hereafter, for those who are righteous. Will ye not then understand?

006.033 We know indeed the grief which their words do cause thee: It is not thee they reject: it is the signs of God, which the wicked contemn.

006.034 Rejected were the apostles before thee: with patience and constancy they bore their rejection and their wrongs, until Our aid did reach them: there is none that can alter the words (and decrees) of God. Already hast thou received some account of those apostles.

006.035 If their spurning is hard on thy mind, yet if thou wert able to seek a tunnel in the ground or a ladder to the skies and bring them a sign,Ñ(what

good?). If it were God's will, He could gather them together unto true guidance: so be not thou amongst those who are swayed by ignorance (and impatience)!

006.036 Those who listen (in truth), be sure, will accept: as to the dead, God will raise them up; then will they be turned unto Him.

006.037 They say: "Why is not a sign sent down to him from his Lord?" Say: "God hath certainly power to send down a sign: but most of them understand not.

006.038 There is not an animal (that lives) on the earth, nor a being that flies on its wings, but (forms part of) communities like you. Nothing have we omitted from the Book, and they (all) shall be gathered to their Lord in the end.

006.039 Those who reject our sings are deaf and dumb,Ñin the midst of darkness profound: whom God willeth, He leaveth to wander: whom He willeth, He placeth on the way that is straight.

006.040 Say: "Think ye to yourselves, if there come upon you the wrath of God, or the Hour (that ye dread), would ye then call upon other than God?Ñ(reply) if ye are truthful!

006.041 "Nay,ÑOn Him would ye call, and if it be His will, He would remove (the distress) which occasioned your call upon Him, and ye would forget (the false gods) which ye join with Him!"

006.042 Before thee We sent (apostles) to many nations, and We afflicted the nations with suffering and adversity, that they might learn humility.

006.043 When the suffering reached them from us, why then did they not learn humility? On the contrary their hearts became hardened, and Satan made their (sinful) acts seem alluring to them.

006.044 But when they forgot the warning they had received, We opened to them the gates of all (good) things, until, in the midst of their enjoyment of Our gifts, on a sudden, We called them to account, when lo! they were plunged in despair!

006.045 Of the wrong-doers the last remnant was cut off. Praise be to God, the Cherisher of the worlds.

006.046 Say: "Think ye, if God took away your hearing and your sight, and sealed up your hearts, whoÑa god other than GodÑcould restore them to you?" See how We explain the signs by various (symbols); yet they turn aside.

006.047 Say: "Think ye, if the punishment of God comes to you, whether suddenly or openly, will any be destroyed except those who do wrong?

006.048 We send the apostles only to give good news and to warn: so those who believe and mend (their lives),Ñupon them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

006.049 But those who reject our signs,Ñthem shall punishment touch, for that

they ceased not from transgressing.

006.050 Say: "I tell you not that with me are the treasures of God, nor do I know what is hidden, nor do I tell you I am an angel. I but follow what is revealed to me." Say: "can the blind be held equal to the seeing?" Will ye then consider not?

006.051 Give this warning to those in whose (hearts) is the fear that they will be brought (to judgment) before their Lord: except for Him they will have no protector nor intercessor: that they may guard (against evil).

006.052 Send not away those who call on their Lord morning and evening, seeking His face. In naught art thou accountable for them, and in naught are they accountable for thee, that thou shouldst turn them away, and thus be (one) of the unjust.

006.053 Thus did We try some of them by comparison with others, that they should say: "Is it these then that God hath favoured from amongst us?" Doth not God know best those who are grateful?

006.054 When those come to thee who believe in Our signs, Say: "Peace be on you: Your Lord hath inscribed for Himself (the rule of) mercy: verily, if any of you did evil in ignorance, and thereafter repented, and amend (his conduct), lo! He is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

006.055 Thus do We explain the signs in detail: that the way of the sinners may be shown up.

006.056 Say: "I am forbidden to worship thoseÑothers than GodÑwhom ye call upon." Say: "I will not follow your wain desires: If I did, I would stray from the path, and be not of the company of those who receive guidance."

006.057 Say: "For me, I (work) on a clear sign from my Lord, but ye reject Him. What ye would see hastened, is not in my power. The command rests with none but God: He declares the truth, and He is the best of judges."

006.058 Say: "If what ye would see hastened were in my power, the matter would be settled at once between you and me. But God knoweth best those who do wrong."

006.059 With Him are the keys of the unseen, the treasures that none knoweth but He. He knoweth whatever there is on the earth and in the sea. Not a leaf doth fall but with His knowledge: there is not a grain in the darkness (or depths) of the earth, nor anything fresh or dry (green or withered), but is (inscribed) in a record clear (to those who can read).

006.060 It is He who doth take your souls by night, and hath knowledge of all that ye have done by day: by day doth He raise you up again; that a term appointed be fulfilled; In the end unto Him will be your return; then will He show you the truth of all that ye did.

006.061 He is the irresistible, (watching) from above over His worshippers, and He sets guardians over you. At length, when death approaches one of you, Our

angels take his soul, and they never fail in their duty.

006.062 Then are men returned unto God, their protector, the (only) reality: Is not His the command? and He is the swiftest in taking account.

006.063 Say: "Who is it that delivereth you from the dark recesses of land and sea, when ye call upon Him in humility and silent terror: 'If He only delivers us from these (dangers), (we vow) we shall truly show our gratitude'.?"

006.064 Say "It is God that delivereth you from these and all (other) distresses: and yet ye worship false gods!"

006.065 Say: "He hath power to send calamities on you, from above and below, or to cover you with confusion in party strife, giving you a taste of mutual vengeanceÑeach from the other." See how We explain the signs by various (symbols); that they may understand.

006.066 But thy people reject this, though it is the truth. Say: "Not mine is the responsibility for arranging your affairs;

006.067 For every message is a limit of time, and soon shall ye know it."

006.068 When thou seest men engaged in vain discourse about Our signs, turn away from them unless they turn to a different theme. If Satan ever makes thee forget, then after recollection, sit not thou in the company of those who do wrong.

006.069 On their account no responsibility falls on the righteous, but (their duty) is to remind them, that they may (learn to) fear God.

006.070 Leave alone those who take their religion to be mere play and amusement, and are deceived by the life of this world. But proclaim (to them) this (truth): that every soul delivers itself to ruin by its own acts: it will find for itself no protector or intercessor except God: if it offered every ransom, (or reparation), none will be accepted: such is (the end of) those who deliver themselves to ruin by their own acts: they will have for drink (only) boiling water, and for punishment, one most grievous: for they persisted in rejecting God.

006.071 Say: "Shall we indeed call on others besides God,Ñthings that can do us neither good nor harm,Ñand turn on our heels after receiving guidance from God?Ñlike one whom the evil ones have made into a fool, wandering bewildered through the earth, his friends calling, come to us', (vainly) guiding him to the path." Say: "God's guidance is the (only) guidance, and we have been directed to submit ourselves to the Lord of the worlds;-

006.072 "To establish regular prayers and to fear God: for it is to Him that we shall be gathered together."

006.073 It is He who created the heavens and the earth in true (proportions): the day He saith, "Be," behold! it is. His word is the truth. His will be the dominion the day the trumpet will be blown. He knoweth the unseen as well as that which is open. For He is the Wise, well acquainted (with all things).

006.074 Lo! Abraham said to his father Azar: "Takest thou idols for gods? For I see thee and thy people in manifest error."

006.075 So also did We show Abraham the power and the laws of the heavens and the earth, that he might (with understanding) have certitude.

006.076 When the night covered him over, He saw a star: He said: "This is my Lord." But when it set, He said: "I love not those that set."

006.077 When he saw the moon rising in splendour, he said: "This is my Lord." But when the moon set, He said: "unless my Lord guide me, I shall surely be among those who go astray."

006.078 When he saw the sun rising in splendour, he said: "This is my Lord; this is the greatest (of all)." But when the sun set, he said: "O my people! I am indeed free from your (guilt) of giving partners to God.

006.079 "For me, I have set my face, firmly and truly, towards Him Who created the heavens and the earth, and never shall I give partners to God."

006.080 His people disputed with him. He said: "(Come) ye to dispute with me, about God, when He (Himself) hath guided me? I fear not (the beings) ye associate with God: Unless my Lord willeth, (nothing can happen). My Lord comprehendeth in His knowledge all things. Will ye not (yourselves) be admonished?

006.081 "How should I fear (the beings) ye associate with God, when ye fear not to give partners to God without any warrant having been given to you? Which of (us) two parties hath more right to security? (tell me) if ye know.

006.082 "It is those who believe and confuse not their beliefs with wrongÑthat are (truly) in security, for they are on (right) guidance."

006.083 That was the reasoning about Us, which We gave to Abraham (to use) against his people: We raise whom We will, degree after degree: for thy Lord is full of wisdom and knowledge.

006.084 We gave him Isaac and Jacob: all (three) guided: and before him, We guided Noah, and among his progeny, David, Solomon, Job, Joseph, Moses, and Aaron: thus do We reward those who do good:

006.085 And Zakariya and John, and Jesus and Elias: all in the ranks of the righteous:

006.086 And Isma'il and Elisha, and Jonas, and Lot: and to all We gave favour above the nations:

006.087 (To them) and to their fathers, and progeny and brethren: We chose them, and we guided them to a straight way.

006.088 This is the guidance of God: He giveth that guidance to whom He pleaseth, of His worshippers. If they were to join other gods with Him, all that they did would be vain for them.

006.089 These were the men to whom We gave the Book, and authority, and prophethood: if these (their descendants) reject them, Behold! We shall entrust their charge to a new people who reject them not.

006.090 Those were the (prophets) who received God's guidance: Copy the guidance they received; Say: "No reward for this do I ask of you: This is no less than a message for the nations."

006.091 No just estimate of God do they make when they say: "Nothing doth God send down to man (by way of revelation)" Say: "Who then sent down the Book which Moses brought?Ña light and guidance to man: But ye make it into (separate) sheets for show, while ye conceal much (of its contents): therein were ye taught that which ye knew notÑneither ye nor your fathers." Say: "God (sent it down)": Then leave them to plunge in vain discourse and trifling.

006.092 And this is a Book which We have sent down, bringing blessings, and confirming (the revelations) which came before it: that thou mayest warn the mother of cities and all around her. Those who believe in the Hereafter believe in this (Book), and they are constant in guarding their prayers.

006.093 Who can be more wicked than one who inventeth a lie against God, or saith, "I have received inspiration," when he hath received none, or (again) who saith, "I can reveal the like of what God hath revealed"? If thou couldst but see how the wicked (do fare) in the flood of confusion at death!Ñthe angels stretch forth their hands, (saying),"Yield up your souls: this day shall ye receive your reward,Ña penalty of shame, for that ye used to tell lies against God, and scornfully to reject of His signs!"

006.094 "And behold! ye come to us bare and alone as We created you for the first time: ye have left behind you all (the favours) which We bestowed on you: We see not with you your intercessors whom ye thought to be partners in your affairs: so now all relations between you have been cut off, and your (pet) fancies have left you in the lurch!"

006.095 It is God Who causeth the seed-grain and the date-stone to split and sprout. He causeth the living to issue from the dead, and He is the one to cause the dead to issue from the living. That is God: then how are ye deluded away from the truth?

006.096 He it is that cleaveth the day-break (from the dark): He makes the night for rest and tranquillity, and the sun and moon for the reckoning (of time): Such is the judgment and ordering of (Him), the Exalted in Power, the Omniscient.

006.097 It is He Who maketh the stars (as beacons) for you, that ye may guide yourselves, with their help, through the dark spaces of land and sea: We detail Our signs for people who know.

006.098 It is He Who hath produced you from a single person: here is a place of sojourn and a place of departure: We detail Our signs for people who understand.

006.099 It is He Who sendeth down rain from the skies: with it We produce vegetation of all kinds: from some We produce green (crops), out of which We produce grain, heaped up (at harvest); out of the date-palm and its sheaths (or spathes) (come) clusters of dates hanging low and near: and (then there are) gardens of grapes, and olives, and pomegranates, each similar (in kind) yet different (in variety): when they begin to bear fruit, feast your eyes with the fruit and the ripeness thereof. Behold! in these things there are signs for people who believe.

006.100 Yet they make the Jinns equals with God, though God did create the Jinns; and they falsely, having no knowledge, attribute to Him sons and daughters. Praise and glory be to Him! (for He is) above what they attribute to Him!

006.101 To Him is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth: How can He have a son when He hath no consort? He created all things, and He hath full knowledge of all things.

006.102 That is God, your Lord! there is no god but He, the Creator of all things: then worship ye Him: and He hath power to dispose of all affairs.

006.103 No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all vision: He is above all comprehension, yet is acquainted with all things.

006.104 "Now have come to you, from your Lord, proofs (to open your eyes): if any will see, it will be for (the good of) his own soul; if any will be blind, it will be to his own (harm): I am not (here) to watch over your doings."

006.105 Thus do we explain the signs by various (symbols): that they may say, "Thou hast taught (us) diligently," and that We may make the matter clear to those who know.

006.106 Follow what thou art taught by inspiration from thy Lord: there is no god but He: and turn aside from those who join gods with God.

006.107 If it had been God's plan, they would not have taken false gods: but We made thee not one to watch over their doings, nor art thou set over them to dispose of their affairs.

006.108 Revile not ye those whom they call upon besides God, lest they out of spite revile God in their ignorance. Thus have We made alluring to each people its own doings. In the end will they return to their Lord, and We shall then tell them the truth of all that they did.

006.109 They swear their strongest oaths by God, that if a (special) sign came to them, by it they would believe. Say: "Certainly (all) signs are in the power of God: but what will make you (Muslims) realise that (even) if (special) signs came, they will not believe."?

006.110 We (too) shall turn to (confusion) their hearts and their eyes, even as they refused to believe in this in the first instance: We shall leave them in their trespasses, to wander in distraction.

006.111 Even if We did send unto them angels, and the dead did speak unto them, and We gathered together all things before their very eyes, they are not the ones to believe, unless it is in God's plan. But most of them ignore (the truth).

006.112 Likewise did We make for every Messenger an enemy,Ñevil ones among men and jinns, inspiring each other with flowery discourses by way of deception. If thy Lord had so planned, they would not have done it: so leave them and their inventions alone.

006.113 To such (deceit) let the hearts of those incline, who have no faith in the hereafter: let them delight in it, and let them earn from it what they may.

006.114 Say: "Shall I seek for judge other than God?Ñwhen He it is Who hath sent unto you the Book, explained in detail." They know full well, to whom We have given the Book, that it hath been sent down from thy Lord in truth. Never be then of those who doubt.

006.115 The word of thy Lord doth find its fulfilment in truth and in justice: None can change His words: for He is the one who heareth and knoweth all.

006.116 Wert thou to follow the common run of those on earth, they will lead thee away from the way of God. They follow nothing but conjecture: they do nothing but lie.

006.117 Thy Lord knoweth best who strayeth from His way: He knoweth best who they are that receive His guidance.

006.118 So eat of (meats) on which God's name hath been pronounced, if ye have faith in His signs.

006.119 Why should ye not eat of (meats) on which God's name hath been pronounced, when He hath explained to you in detail what is forbidden to youÑexcept under compulsion of necessity? But many do mislead (men) by their appetites unchecked by knowledge. Thy Lord knoweth best those who transgress.

006.120 Eschew all sin, open or secret: those who earn sin will get due recompense for their "earnings."

006.121 Eat not of (meats) on which God's name hath not been pronounced: That would be impiety. But the evil ones ever inspire their friends to contend with you if ye were to obey them, ye would indeed be Pagans.

006.122 Can he who was dead, to whom We gave life, and a light whereby he can walk amongst men, be like him who is in the depths of darkness, from which he can never come out? Thus to those without faith their own deeds seem pleasing.

006.123 Thus have We placed leaders in every town, its wicked men, to plot (and burrow) therein: but they only plot against their own souls, and they perceive it not.

006.124 When there comes to them a sign (from God), They say: "We shall not believe until we receive one (exactly) like those received by God's apostles."

God knoweth best where (and how) to carry out His mission. Soon will the wicked be overtaken by humiliation before God, and a severe punishment, for all their plots.

006.125 Those whom God (in His plan) willeth to guide,ÑHe openeth their breast to Islam; those whom He willeth to leave straying,ÑHe maketh their breast close and constricted, as if they had to climb up to the skies: thus doth God (heap) the penalty on those who refuse to believe.

006.126 This is the way of thy Lord, leading straight: We have detailed the signs for those who receive admonition.

006.127 For them will be a home of peace in the presence of their Lord: He will be their friend, because they practised (righteousness).

006.128 One day will He gather them all together, (and say): "O ye assembly of Jinns! Much (toll) did ye take of men." Their friends amongst men will say: "Our Lord! we made profit from each other: but (alas!) we reached our termÑwhich thou didst appoint for us." He will say: "The Fire be your dwelling-place: you will dwell therein for ever, except as God willeth." for thy Lord is full of wisdom and knowledge.

006.129 Thus do we make the wrong-doers turn to each other, because of what they earn.

006.130 "O ye assembly of Jinns and men! came there not unto you apostles from amongst you, setting forth unto you My signs, and warning you of the meeting of this Day of yours?" They will say: "We bear witness against ourselves." It was the life of this world that deceived them. So against themselves will they bear witness that they rejected Faith.

006.131 (The apostles were sent) thus, for thy Lord would not destroy for their wrong-doing men's habitations whilst their occupants were unwarned.

006.132 To all are degrees (or ranks) according to their deeds: for thy Lord is not unmindful of anything that they do.

006.133 Thy Lord is self-sufficient, full of Mercy: if it were His will, He could destroy you, and in your place appoint whom He will as your successors, even as He raised you up from the posterity of other people.

006.134 All that hath been promised unto you will come to pass: nor can ye frustrate it (in the least bit).

006.135 Say: "O my people! Do whatever ye can: I will do (my part): soon will ye know who it is whose end will be (best) in the Hereafter: certain it is that the wrong-doers will not prosper."

006.136 Out of what God hath produced in abundance in tilth and in cattle, they assigned Him a share: they say, according to their fancies: "This is for God, and this"Ñfor our "partners"! but the share of their" partners "reacheth not God, whilst the share of God reacheth their "partners" ! evil (and unjust) is their assignment!

006.137 Even so, in the eyes of most of the pagans, their "partners" made alluring the slaughter of their children, in order to lead them to their own destruction, and cause confusion in their religion. If God had willed, they would not have done so: But leave alone them and their inventions.

006.138 And they say that such and such cattle and crops are taboo, and none should eat of them except those whomÑso they sayÑWe wish; further, there are cattle forbidden to yoke or burden, and cattle on which, (at slaughter), the name of God is not pronounced;Ñinventions against God's name: soon will He requite them for their inventions.

006.139 They say: "What is in the wombs of such and such cattle is specially reserved (for food) for our men, and forbidden to our women; but if it is still-born, then all have share therein. For their (false) attribution (of superstitions to God), He will soon punish them: for He is full of wisdom and knowledge.

006.140 Lost are those who slay their children, from folly, without knowledge, and forbid food which God hath provided for them, inventing (lies) against God. They have indeed gone astray and heeded no guidance.

006.141 It is He Who produceth gardens, with trellises and without, and dates, and tilth with produce of all kinds, and olives and pomegranates, similar (in kind) and different (in variety): eat of their fruit in their season, but render the dues that are proper on the day that the harvest is gathered. But waste not by excess: for God loveth not the wasters.

006.142 Of the cattle are some for burden and some for meat: eat what God hath provided for you, and follow not the footsteps of Satan: for he is to you and avowed enemy.

006.143 (Take) eight (head of cattle) in (four) pairs: of sheep a pair, and of goats a pair; say, hath He forbidden the two males, or the two females, or (the young) which the wombs of the two females enclose? Tell me with knowledge if ye are truthful:

006.144 Of camels a pair, and oxen a pair; say, hath He forbidden the two males, or the two females, or (the young) which the wombs of the two females enclose?Ñ Were ye present when God ordered you such a thing? But who doth more wrong than one who invents a lie against God, to lead astray men without knowledge? For God guideth not people who do wrong.

006.145 Say: "I find not in the message received by me by inspiration any (meat) forbidden to be eaten by one who wishes to eat it, unless it be dead meat, or blood poured forth, or the flesh of swine,Ñfor it is an abominationÑor, what is impious, (meat) on which a name has been invoked, other than God's". But (even so), if a person is forced by necessity, without wilful disobedience, nor transgressing due limits,Ñthy Lord is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

006.146 For those who followed the Jewish Law, We forbade every (animal) with

undivided hoof, and We forbade them that fat of the ox and the sheep, except what adheres to their backs or their entrails, or is mixed up with a bone: this in recompense for their wilful disobedience: for We are true (in Our ordinances).

006.147 If they accuse thee of falsehood, say: "Your Lord is full of mercy all-embracing; but from people in guilt never will His wrath be turned back.

006.148 Those who give partners (to God) will say: "If God had wished, we should not have given partners to Him nor would our fathers; nor should we have had any taboos." So did their ancestors argue falsely, until they tasted of Our wrath. Say: "Have ye any (certain) knowledge? If so, produce it before us. Ye follow nothing but conjecture: ye do nothing but lie."

006.149 Say: "With God is the argument that reaches home: if it had been His will, He could indeed have guided you all."

006.150 Say: "Bring forward your witnesses to prove that God did forbid so and so." If they bring such witnesses, be not thou amongst them: Nor follow thou the vain desires of such as treat our signs as falsehoods, and such as believe not in the Hereafter: for they hold others as equal with their Guardian-Lord.

006.151 Say: "Come, I will rehearse what God hath (really) prohibited you from": Join not anything as equal with Him; be good to your parents; kill not your children on a plea of want;ÑWe provide sustenance for you and for them;Ñcome not nigh to shameful deeds. Whether open or secret; take not life, which God hath made sacred, except by way of justice and law: thus doth He command you, that ye may learn wisdom.

006.152 And come not nigh to the orphan's property, except to improve it, until he attain the age of full strength; give measure and weight with (full) justice;Ñno burden do We place on any soul, but that which it can bear;Ñwhenever ye speak, speak justly, even if a near relative is concerned; and fulfil the covenant of God: thus doth He command you, that ye may remember.

006.153 Verily, this is My way, leading straight: follow it: follow not (other) paths: they will scatter you about from His (great) path: thus doth He command you. that ye may be righteous.

006.154 Moreover, We gave Moses the Book, completing (Our favour) to those who would do right, and explaining all things in detail,Ñand a guide and a mercy, that they might believe in the meeting with their Lord.

006.155 And this is a Book which We have revealed as a blessing: so follow it and be righteous, that ye may receive mercy:

006.156 Lest ye should say: "The Book was sent down to two Peoples before us, and for our part, we remained unacquainted with all that they learned by assiduous study:"

006.157 Or lest ye should say: "If the Book had only been sent down to us, we should have followed its guidance better than they." Now then hath come unto

you a clear (sign) from your Lord,Ñand a guide and a mercy: then who could do more wrong than one who rejecteth God's signs, and turneth away therefrom? In good time shall We requite those who turn away from Our signs, with a dreadful penalty, for their turning away.

006.158 Are they waiting to see if the angels come to them, or thy Lord (Himself), or certain of the signs of thy Lord! the day that certain of the signs of thy Lord do come, no good will it do to a soul to believe in them then if it believed not before nor earned righteousness through its faith. Say: "Wait ye: we too are waiting."

006.159 As for those who divide their religion and break up into sects, thou hast no part in them in the least: their affair is with God: He will in the end tell them the truth of all that they did.

006.160 He that doeth good shall have ten times as much to his credit: He that doeth evil shall only be recompensed according to his evil: no wrong shall be done unto (any of) them.

006.161 Say: "Verily, my Lord hath guided me to a way that is straight,Ña religion of right,Ñthe path (trod) by Abraham the true in Faith, and he (certainly) joined not gods with God."

006.162 Say: "Truly, my prayer and my service of sacrifice, my life and my death, are (all) for God, the Cherisher of the Worlds:

006.163 No partner hath He: this am I commanded, and I am the first of those who bow to His will.

006.164 Say: "Shall I seek for (my) Cherisher other than God, when He is the Cherisher of all things (that exist)? Every soul draws the meed of its acts on none but itself: no bearer of burdens can bear of burdens can bear the burden of another. Your goal in the end is towards God: He will tell you the truth of the things wherein ye disputed."

006.165 It is He Who hath made you (His) agents, inheritors of the earth: He hath raised you in ranks, some above others: that He may try you in the gifts He hath given you: for thy Lord is quick in punishment: yet He is indeed Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

THE HEIGHTS,
CHAPTER NO. 007

007.001 Alif, Lam, Mim, Sad.

007.002 A Book revealed unto thee,ÑSo let thy heart be oppressed no more by any difficulty on that account,Ñthat with it thou mightest warn (the erring) and teach the Believers).

007.003 Follow (O men!) the revelation given unto you from your Lord, and follow not, as friends or protectors, other than Him. Little it is ye remember of admonition.

007.004 How many towns have We destroyed (for their sins)? Our punishment took them on a sudden by night or while they slept for their afternoon rest.

007.005 When (thus) Our punishment took them, no cry did they utter but this: "Indeed we did wrong."

007.006 Then shall we question those to whom Our message was sent and those by whom We sent it.

007.007 And verily, We shall recount their whole story with knowledge, for We were never absent (at any time or place).

007.008 The balance that day will be true (to nicety): those whose scale (of good) will be heavy, will prosper:

007.009 Those whose scale will be light, will be their souls in perdition, for that they wrongfully treated Our signs.

007.010 It is We Who have placed you with authority on earth, and provided you therein with means for the fulfilment of your life: small are the thanks that ye give!

007.011 It is We Who created you and gave you shape; then We bade the angels bow down to Adam, and they bowed down; not so Iblis; He refused to be of those who bow down.

007.012 (God) said: "What prevented thee from bowing down when I commanded thee?" He said: "I am better than he: Thou didst create me from fire, and him from clay."

007.013 (God) said: "Get thee down from this: it is not for thee to be arrogant here: get out, for thou art of the meanest (of creatures)."

007.014 He said: "Give me respite till the day they are raised up."

007.015 (God) said: "Be thou among those who have respite."

007.016 He said: "Because thou hast thrown me out of the way, lo! I will lie in wait for them on thy straight way:

007.017 "Then will I assault them from before them and behind them, from their right and their left: Nor wilt thou find, in most of them, gratitude (for thy mercies)."

007.018 (God) said: "Get out from this, disgraced and expelled. If any of them follow thee,ÑHell will I fill with you all.

007.019 "O Adam! dwell thou and thy wife in the Garden, and enjoy (its good things) as ye wish: but approach not this tree, or ye run into harm and transgression."

007.020 Then began Satan to whisper suggestions to them, bringing openly before their minds all their shame that was hidden from them (before): he said: "Your Lord only forbade you this tree, lest ye should become angels or such beings as live for ever."

007.021 And he swore to them both, that he was their sincere adviser.

007.022 So by deceit he brought about their fall: when they tasted of the tree, their shame became manifest to them, and they began to sew together the leaves of the garden over their bodies. And their Lord called unto them: "Did I not forbid you that tree, and tell you that Satan was an avowed enemy unto you?"

007.023 They said: "Our Lord! We have wronged our own souls: If thou forgive us not and bestow not upon us Thy Mercy, we shall certainly be lost."

007.024 (God) said: "Get ye down. With enmity between yourselves. On earth will be your dwelling-place and your means of livelihood,Ñfor a time."

007.025 He said: "Therein shall ye live, and therein shall ye die; but from it shall ye be taken out (at last)."

007.026 O ye Children of Adam! We have bestowed raiment upon you to cover your shame, as well as to be an adornment to you. But the raiment of righteousness,Ñthat is the best. Such are among the Signs of God, that they may receive admonition!

007.027 O ye Children of Adam! Let not Satan seduce you, in the same manner as He got your parents out of the Garden, stripping them of their raiment, to expose their shame: for he and his tribe watch you from a position where ye cannot see them: We made the evil ones friends (only) to those without faith.

007.028 When they do aught that is shameful, they say: "We found our fathers doing so"; and "God commanded us thus": Say: "Nay, God never commands what is shameful: do ye say of God what ye know not?"

007.029 Say: "My Lord hath commanded justice; and that ye set your whole selves (to Him) at every time and place of prayer, and call upon Him, making your devotion sincere as in His sight: such as He created you in the beginning, so shall ye return."

007.030 Some He hath guided: Others have (by their choice) deserved the loss of their way; in that they took the evil ones, in preference to God, for their friends and protectors, and think that they receive guidance.

007.031 O Children of Adam! wear your beautiful apparel at every time and place of prayer: eat and drink: But waste not by excess, for God loveth not the wasters.

007.032 Say: Who hath forbidden the beautiful (gifts) of God, which He hath produced for His servants, and the things, clean and pure, (which He hath provided) for sustenance? Say: They are, in the life of this world, for those who believe, (and) purely for them on the Day of Judgment. Thus do We explain the signs in detail for those who understand.

007.033 Say: the things that my Lord hath indeed forbidden are: shameful deeds, whether open or secret; sins and trespasses against truth or reason; assigning of partners to God, for which He hath given no authority; and saying things about God of which ye have no knowledge.

007.034 To every people is a term appointed: when their term is reached, not an hour can they cause delay, nor (an hour) can they advance (it in anticipation).

007.035 O ye Children of Adam! whenever there come to you apostles from amongst you, rehearsing My signs unto you,Ñthose who are righteous and mend (their lives),Ñon them shall be no fear nor shall they grieve.

007.036 But those who reject Our signs and treat them with arrogance,Ñthey are companions of the Fire, to dwell therein (for ever).

007.037 Who is more unjust than one who invents a lie against God or rejects His Signs? For such, their portion appointed must reach them from the Book (of decrees): until, when our messengers (of death) arrive and take their souls, they say: "Where are the things that ye used to invoke besides God?" They will reply, "They have left us in the lurch," And they will bear witness against themselves, that they had rejected God.

007.038 He will say: "Enter ye in the company of the peoples who passed away before youÑmen and jinns,Ñinto the Fire." Every time a new people enters, it curses its sister-people (that went before), until they follow each other, all into the Fire. Saith the last about the first: "Our Lord! it is these that misled us: so give them a double penalty in the Fire." He will say: "Doubled for all" : but this ye do not understand.

007.039 Then the first will say to the last: "See then! No advantage have ye over us; so taste ye of the penalty for all that ye did !"

007.040 To those who reject Our signs and treat them with arrogance, no opening will there be of the gates of heaven, nor will they enter the garden, until the camel can pass through the eye of the needle: Such is Our reward for those in sin.

007.041 For them there is Hell, as a couch (below) and folds and folds of covering above: such is Our requital of those who do wrong.

007.042 But those who believe and work righteousness,Ñno burden do We place on any soul, but that which it can bear,Ñthey will be Companions of the Garden, therein to dwell (for ever).

007.043 And We shall remove from their hearts any lurking sense of injury;Ñbeneath them will be rivers flowing;Ñand they shall say: "Praise be to God, who hath guided us to this (felicity): never could we have found guidance, had it not been for the guidance of God: indeed it was the truth, that the apostles of our Lord brought unto us." And they shall hear the cry: "Behold! the garden before you! Ye have been made its inheritors, for your deeds (of righteousness)."

007.044 The Companions of the Garden will call out to the Companions of the Fire: "We have indeed found the promises of our Lord to us true: Have you also found Your Lord's promises true?" They shall say, "Yes"; but a crier shall proclaim between them: "The curse of God is on the wrong-doers;-

007.045 "Those who would hinder (men) from the path of God and would seek in it something crooked: they were those who denied the Hereafter."

007.046 Between them shall be a veil, and on the heights will be men who would know every one by his marks: they will call out to the Companions of the Garden, "peace on you": they will not have entered, but they will have an assurance (thereof).

007.047 When their eyes shall be turned towards the Companions of the Fire, they will say: "Our Lord! send us not to the company of the wrong-doers."

007.048 The men on the heights will call to certain men whom they will know from their marks, saying: "Of what profit to you were your hoards and your arrogant ways?

007.049 "Behold! are these not the men whom you swore that God with His Mercy would never bless? Enter ye the Garden: no fear shall be on you, nor shall ye grieve."

007.050 The Companions of the Fire will call to the Companions of the Garden: "Pour down to us water or anything that God doth provide for your sustenance." They will say: "Both these things hath God forbidden to those who rejected Him."

007.051 "Such as took their religion to be mere amusement and play, and were deceived by the life of the world." That day shall We forget them as they forgot the meeting of this day of theirs, and as they were wont to reject Our signs.

007.052 For We had certainly sent unto them a Book, based on knowledge, which We explained in detail,Ña guide and a mercy to all who believe.

007.053 Do they just wait for the final fulfilment of the event? On the day the event is finally fulfilled, those who disregarded it before will say: "The apostles of our Lord did indeed bring true (tidings). Have we no intercessors now to intercede on our behalf? Or could we be sent back? then should we behave differently from our behaviour in the past." In fact they will have lost their souls, and the things they invented will leave them in the lurch.

007.054 Your Guardian-Lord is God, Who created the heavens and the earth in six days, and is firmly established on the throne (of authority): He draweth the night as a veil o'er the day, each seeking the other in rapid succession: He created the sun, the moon, and the stars, (all) governed by laws under His command. Is it not His to create and to govern? Blessed be God, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds!

007.055 Call on your Lord with humility and in private: for God loveth not those who trespass beyond bounds.

007.056 Do no mischief on the earth, after it hath been set in order, but call on Him with fear and longing (in your hearts): for the Mercy of God is (always) near to those who do good.

007.057 It is He Who sendeth the winds like heralds of glad tidings, going before His mercy: when they have carried the heavy-laden clouds, We drive them to a land that is dead, make rain to descend thereon, and produce every kind of harvest therewith: thus shall We raise up the dead: perchance ye may remember.

007.058 From the land that is clean and good, by the will of its Cherisher, springs up produce, (rich) after its kind: but from the land that is bad, springs up nothing but that which is niggardly: thus do we explain the signs by various (symbols) to those who are grateful.

007.059 We sent Noah to his people. He said: "O my people! worship God! ye have no other god but Him. I fear for you the punishment of a dreadful day!

007.060 The leaders of his people said: "Ah! we see thee evidently wandering (in mind)."

007.061 He said: "O my people! No wandering is there in my (mind): on the contrary I am an apostle from the Lord and Cherisher of the worlds!

007.062 "I but fulfil towards you the duties of my Lord's mission: Sincere is my advice to you, and I know from God something that ye know not.

007.063 "Do ye wonder that there hath come to you a message from your Lord, through a man of your own people, to warn you,Ñso that ye may fear God and haply receive His Mercy?"

007.064 But they rejected him, and We delivered him, and those with him, in the Ark: but We overwhelmed in the flood those who rejected Our signs. They were indeed a blind people!

007.065 To the 'Ad people, (We sent) Hud, one of their (own) brethren: He said: O my people! worship God! ye have no other god but Him will ye not fear (God)?"

007.066 The leaders of the Unbelievers among his people said: "Ah! we see thou art an imbecile!" and "We think thou art a liar!"

007.067 He said: "O my people! I am no imbecile, but (I am) an apostle from the Lord and Cherisher of the worlds!

007.068 "I but fulfil towards you the duties of my Lord's mission: I am to you a sincere and trustworthy adviser.

007.069 "Do ye wonder that there hath come to you a message from your Lord through a man of your own people, to warn you? call in remembrance that He made you inheritors after the people of Noah, and gave you a stature tall among the nations. Call in remembrance the benefits (ye have received) from God: that so ye may prosper."

007.070 They said: "Comest thou to us, that we may worship God alone, and give up the cult of our fathers? bring us what thou threatenest us with, if so be that thou tellest the truth!"

007.071 He said: "Punishment and wrath have already come upon you from your Lord: dispute ye with me over names which ye have devisedÑye and your

fathers,Ñwithout authority from God? then wait: I am amongst you, also waiting."

007.072 We saved him and those who adhered to him. By Our mercy, and We cut off the roots of those who rejected Our signs and did not believe.

007.073 To the Thamud people (We sent) Salih, one of their own brethren: He said: "O my people! worship God: ye have no other god but Him. Now hath come unto you a clear (Sign) from your Lord! This she-camel of God is a Sign unto you: So leave her to graze in God's earth, and let her come to no harm, or ye shall be seized with a grievous punishment.

007.074 "And remember how He made you inheritors after the 'Ad people and gave you habitations in the land: ye build for yourselves palaces and castles in (open) plains, and care out homes in the mountains; so bring to remembrance the benefits (ye have received) from God, and refrain from evil and mischief on the earth."

007.075 The leaders of the arrogant party among his people said to those who were reckoned powerlessÑthose among them who believed: "know ye indeed that Salih is an apostle from his Lord?" They said: "We do indeed believe in the revelation which hath been sent through him."

007.076 The Arrogant party said: "For our part, we reject what ye believe in."

007.077 Then they ham-strung the she-camel, and insolently defied the order of their Lord, saying: "O Salih! bring about thy threats, if thou art an apostle (of God)!"

007.078 So the earthquake took them unawares, and they lay prostrate in their homes in the morning!

007.079 So Salih left them, saying: "O my people! I did indeed convey to you the message for which I was sent by my Lord: I gave you good counsel, but ye love not good counsellors!"

007.080 We also (sent) Lut: He said to his people: "Do ye commit lewdness such as no people in creation (ever) committed before you?

007.081 "For ye practise your lusts on men in preference to women : ye are indeed a people transgressing beyond bounds."

007.082 And his people gave no answer but this: they said, "Drive them out of your city: these are indeed men who want to be clean and pure!"

007.083 But we saved him and his family, except his wife: she was of those who legged behind.

007.084 And we rained down on them a shower (of brimstone): Then see what was the end of those who indulged in sin and crime!

007.085 To the Madyan people We sent Shu'aib, one of their own brethren: he said: "O my people! worship God; Ye have no other god but Him. Now hath come unto you a clear (Sign) from your Lord! Give just measure and weight, nor

withhold from the people the things that are their due; and do no mischief on the earth after it has been set in order: that will be best for you, if ye have Faith.

007.086 "And squat not on every road, breathing threats, hindering from the path of God those who believe in Him, and seeking in it something crooked; But remember how ye were little, and He gave you increase. And hold in your mind's eye what was the end of those who did mischief.

007.087 "And if there is a party among you who believes in the message with which I have been sent, and a party which does not believe, hold yourselves in patience until God doth decide between us: for He is the best to decide.

007.088 The leaders, the arrogant party among his people, said: "O Shu'aib! we shall certainly drive thee out of our cityÑ(thee) and those who believe with thee; or else ye (thou and they) shall have to return to our ways and religion." He said: "What! even though we do detest (them)?

007.089 "We should indeed invent a lie against God, if we returned to your ways after God hath rescued us therefrom; nor could we by any manner of means return thereto unless it be as in the will and plan of God, Our Lord. Our Lord can reach out to the utmost recesses of things by His knowledge. In the God is our trust. our Lord! decide Thou between us and our people in truth, for Thou art the best to decide."

007.090 The leaders, the unbelievers among his people, said: "If ye follow Shu'aib, be sure then ye are ruined!"

007.091 But the earthquake took them unawares, and they lay prostrate in their homes before the morning!

007.092 The men who reject Shu'aib became as if they had never been in the homes where they had flourished: the men who rejected Shu'aibÑit was they who were ruined!

007.093 So Shu'aib left them, saying: "O my people! I did indeed convey to you the messages for which I was sent by my Lord: I gave you good counsel, but how shall I lament over a people who refuse to believe!"

007.094 Whenever We sent a prophet to a town, We took up its people in suffering and adversity, in order that they might learn humility.

007.095 Then We changed their suffering into prosperity, until they grew and multiplied, and began to say: "Our fathers (too) were touched by suffering and affluence" ... Behold! We called them to account of a sudden, while they realised not (their peril).

007.096 If the people of the towns had but believed and feared God, We should indeed have opened out to them (All kinds of) blessings from heaven and earth; but they rejected (the truth), and We brought them to book for their misdeeds.

007.097 Did the people of the towns feel secure against the coming of Our wrath by night while they were asleep?

007.098 Or else did they feel secure against its coming in broad daylight while they played about (care-free)?

007.099 Did they then feel secure against the plan of God?Ñbut no one can feel secure from the Plan of God, except those (doomed) to ruin!

007.100 To those who inherit the earth in succession to its (previous) possessors, is it not a guiding, (lesson) that, if We so willed, We could punish them (too) for their sins, and seal up their hearts so that they could not hear?

007.101 Such were the towns whose story We (thus) relate unto thee: There came indeed to them their apostles with clear (signs): But they would not believe what they had rejected before. Thus doth God seal up the hearts of those who reject faith.

007.102 Most of them We found not men (true) to their covenant: but most of them We found rebellious and disobedient.

007.103 Then after them We sent Moses with Our signs to Pharaoh and his chiefs, but they wrongfully rejected them: So see what was the end of those who made mischief.

007.104 Moses said: "O Pharaoh! I am an apostle from the Lord of the worlds,-

007.105 One for whom it is right to say nothing but truth about God. Now have I come unto you (people), from your Lord, with a clear (Sign): So let the Children of Israel depart along with me."

007.106 (Pharaoh) said: "If indeed thou hast come with a Sign, show it forth,Ñif thou tellest the truth."

007.107 Then (Moses) threw his rod, and behold! it was a serpent, plain (for all to see)!

007.108 And he drew out his hand, and behold! it was white to all beholders!

007.109 Said the Chiefs of the people of Pharaoh: "This is indeed a sorcerer well-versed.

007.110 "His plan is to get you out of your land: then what is it ye counsel?"

007.111 They said: "Keep him and his brother in suspense (for a while); and send to the cities men to collect-

007.112 And bring up to thee all (our) sorcerers well-versed."

007.113 So there came the sorcerers to Pharaoh: They said, "of course we shall have a (suitable) reward if we win!"

007.114 He said: "Yea, (and more),Ñfor ye shall in that case be (raised to posts) nearest (to my person)."

007.115 They said: "O Moses! wilt thou throw (first), or shall we have the (first) throw?"

007.116 Said Moses: "Throw ye (first)." So when they threw, they bewitched the eyes of the people, and struck terror into them: for they showed a great (feat of) magic.

007.117 We put it into Moses's mind by inspiration: "Throw (now) thy rod":and behold! it swallows up straight away all the falsehoods which they fake!

007.118 Thus truth was confirmed, and all that they did was made of no effect.

007.119 So the (great ones) were vanquished there and then, and were made to look small.

007.120 But the sorcerers fell down prostrate in adoration.

007.121 Saying: "We believe in the Lord of the Worlds,-

007.122 "The Lord of Moses and Aaron."

007.123 Said Pharaoh: "Believe ye in Him before I give you permission? Surely this is a trick which ye have planned in the city to drive out its people: but soon shall ye know (the consequences).

007.124 "Be sure I will cut off your hands and your feet on apposite sides, and I will cause you all to die on the cross."

007.125 They said: "For us, We are but sent back unto our Lord:

007.126 "But thou dost wreak thy vengeance on us simply because we believed in the Signs of our Lord when they reached us! Our Lord! pour out on us patience and constancy, and take our souls unto thee as Muslims (who bow to thy will)!

007.127 Said the chiefs of Pharaoh's people: "Wilt thou leave Moses and his people, to spread mischief in the land, and to abandon thee and thy gods?" He said: "Their male children will we slay; (only) their females will we save alive; and we have over them (power) irresistible."

007.128 Said Moses to his people: "Pray for help from God, and (wait) in patience and constancy: for the earth is God's, to give as a heritage to such of His servants as He pleaseth; and the end is (best) for the righteous.

007.129 They said: "We have had (nothing but) trouble, both before and after thou camest to us." He said: "It may be that your Lord will destroy your enemy and make you inheritors in the earth; that so He may try you by your deeds."

007.130 We punished the people of Pharaoh with years (of droughts) and shortness of crops; that they might receive admonition.

007.131 But when good (times) came, they said, "This is due to us;" When gripped by calamity, they ascribed it to evil omens connected with Moses and those with him! Behold! in truth the omens of evil are theirs in God's sight, but most of them do not understand!

007.132 They said (to Moses): "Whatever be the Signs thou bringest, to work therewith thy sorcery on us, we shall never believe in thee.

007.133 So We sent (plagues) on them: Wholesale death, Locusts, Lice, Frogs, And Blood: Signs openly self-explained: but they were steeped in arrogance,Ña people given to sin.

007.134 Every time the penalty fell on them, they said: "O Moses! on your behalf call on thy Lord in virtue of his promise to thee: If thou wilt remove the penalty from us, we shall truly believe in thee, and we shall send away the Children of Israel with thee."

007.135 But every time We removed the penalty from them according to a fixed term which they had to fulfil,ÑBehold! they broke their word!

007.136 So We exacted retribution from them: We drowned them in the sea, because they rejected Our Signs and failed to take warning from them.

007.137 And We made a people, considered weak (and of no account), inheritors of lands in both east and west,Ñlands whereon We sent down Our blessings. The fair promise of thy Lord was fulfilled for the Children of Israel, because they had patience and constancy, and We levelled to the ground the great works and fine buildings which Pharaoh and his people erected (with such pride).

007.138 We took the Children of Israel (with safety) across the sea. They came upon a people devoted entirely to some idols they had. They said: "O Moses! fashion for us a god like unto the gods they have." He said: "Surely ye are a people without knowledge.

007.139 "As to these folk,Ñthe cult they are in is (but) a fragment of a ruin, and vain is the (worship) which they practise."

007.140 He said: "Shall I seek for you a god other than the (true) God, when it is God Who hath endowed you with gifts above the nations?"

007.141 And remember We rescued you from Pharaoh's people, who afflicted you with the worst of penalties, who slew your male children and saved alive your females: in that was a momentous trial from your Lord.

007.142 We appointed for Moses thirty nights, and completed (the period) with ten (more): thus was completed the term (of communion) with his Lord, forty nights. And Moses had charged his brother Aaron (before he went up): "Act for me amongst my people: Do right, and follow not the way of those who do mischief."

007.143 When Moses came to the place appointed by Us, and his Lord addressed him, He said: "O my Lord! show (Thyself) to me, that I may look upon thee." God said: "By no means canst thou see Me (direct); But look upon the mount; if it abide in its place, then shalt thou see Me." When his Lord manifested His glory on the Mount, He made it as dust. And Moses fell down in a swoon. When he recovered his senses he said: "Glory be to Thee! to Thee I turn in repentance, and I am the first to believe."

007.144 (God) said: "O Moses! I have chosen thee above (other) men, by the mission I (have given thee) and the words I (have spoken to thee): take then

the (revelation) which I give thee, and be of those who give thanks."

007.145 And We ordained laws for him in the tablets in all matters, both commanding and explaining all things, (and said): "Take and hold these with firmness, and enjoin thy people to hold fast by the best in the precepts: soon shall I show you the homes of the wicked,Ñ(How they lie desolate)."

007.146 Those who behave arrogantly on the earth in defiance of rightÑthem will I turn away from My signs: Even if they see all the signs, they will not believe in them; and if they see the way of right conduct, they will not adopt it as the way; but if they see the way of error, that is the way they will adopt. For they have rejected our signs, and failed to take warning from them.

007.147 Those who reject Our signs and the meeting in the Hereafter,Ñvain are their deeds: Can they expect to be rewarded except as they have wrought?

007.148 The people of Moses made, in his absence, out of their ornaments, the image of calf, (for worship): it seemed to low: did they not see that it could neither speak to them, nor show them the way? They took it for worship and they did wrong.

007.149 When they repented, and saw that they had erred, they said: "If our Lord have not mercy upon us and forgive us, we shall indeed be of those who perish."

007.150 When Moses came back to his people, angry and grieved, he said: "Evil it is that ye have done in my place in my absence: did ye make haste to bring on the judgment of your Lord?" He put down the tablets, seized his brother by (the hair of) his head, and dragged him to him. Aaron said: "Son of my mother! the people did indeed reckon me as naught, and went near to slaying me! Make not the enemies rejoice over my misfortune, nor count thou me amongst the people of sin."

007.151 Moses prayed: "O my Lord! forgive me and my brother! admit us to Thy mercy! for Thou art the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!"

007.152 Those who took the calf (for worship) will indeed be overwhelmed with wrath from their Lord, and with shame in this life: thus do We recompense those who invent (falsehoods).

007.153 But those who do wrong but repent thereafter and (truly) believe,Ñverily thy Lord is thereafter Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

007.154 When the anger of Moses was appeased, he took up the tablets: in the writing thereon was guidance and Mercy for such as fear their Lord.

007.155 And Moses chose seventy of his people for Our place of meeting: when they were seized with violent quaking, he prayed: "O my Lord! if it had been Thy will Thou couldst have destroyed, long before, both them and me: wouldst Thou destroy us for the deeds of the foolish ones among us? this is no more than Thy trial: by it Thou causest whom Thou wilt to stray, and Thou leadest whom Thou wilt into the right path. Thou art our Protector: so forgive us and

give us Thy mercy; for Thou art the best of those who forgive.

007.156 "And ordain for us that which is good, in this life and in the Hereafter: for we have turned unto Thee." He said: "With My punishment I visit whom I will; but My mercy extendeth to all things. That (mercy) I shall ordain for those who do right, and practise regular charity, and those who believe in Our signs;-

007.157 "Those who follow the apostle, the unlettered Prophet, whom they find mentioned in their own (scriptures),Ñin the law and the Gospel;Ñfor he commands them what is just and forbids them what is evil; he allows them as lawful what is good (and pure) and prohibits them from what is bad (and impure); He releases them from their heavy burdens and from the yokes that are upon them. So it is those who believe in him, honour him, help him, and follow the light which is sent down with him,Ñit is they who will prosper."

007.158 day: "O men! I am sent unto you all, as the Apostle of God, to Whom belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth: there is no god but He: it is He That giveth both life and death. So believe in God and His Apostle, the Unlettered Prophet, who believeth in God and His words: follow him that (so) ye may be guided."

007.159 Of the people of Moses there is a section who guide and do justice in the light of truth.

007.160 We divided them into twelve tribes or nations. We directed Moses by inspiration, when his (thirsty) people asked him for water: "Strike the rock with thy staff": out of it there gushed forth twelve springs: Each group knew its own place for water. We gave them the shade of clouds, and sent down to them manna and quails, (saying): "Eat of the good things We have provided for you": (but they rebelled); to Us they did no harm, but they harmed their own souls.

007.161 And remember it was said to them: "Dwell in this town and eat therein as ye wish, but say the word of humility and enter the gate in a posture of humility: We shall forgive you your faults; We shall increase (the portion of) those who do good."

007.162 But the transgressors among them changed the word from that which had been given them so we sent on them a plague from heaven. For that they repeatedly transgressed.

007.163 Ask them concerning the town standing close by the sea. Behold! they transgressed in the matter of the Sabbath. For on the day of their Sabbath their fish did come to them, openly holding up their heads, but on the day they had no Sabbath, they came not: thus did We make a trial of them, for they were given to transgression.

007.164 When some of them said: "Why do ye preach to a people whom God will destroy or visit with a terrible punishment?"Ñsaid the preachers:" To discharge our duty to your Lord, and perchance they may fear Him."

007.165 When they disregarded the warnings that had been given them, We rescued those who forbade Evil; but We visited the wrong-doers with a grievous punishment because they were given to transgression.

007.166 When in their insolence they transgressed (all) prohibitions, We said to them: "Be ye apes, despised and rejected."

007.167 Behold! thy Lord did declare that He would send against them, to the Day of Judgment, those who would afflict them with grievous penalty. Thy Lord is quick in retribution, but He is also Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

007.168 We broke them up into sections on this earth. There are among them some that are the righteous, and some that are the opposite. We have tried them with both prosperity and adversity: In order that they might turn (to us).

007.169 After them succeeded an (evil) generation: They inherited the Book, but they chose (for themselves) the vanities of this world, saying (for excuse): "(Everything) will be forgiven us." (Even so), if similar vanities came their way, they would (again) seize them. Was not the covenant of the Book taken from them, that they would not ascribe to God anything but the truth? and they study what is in the Book. But best for the righteous is the home in the Hereafter. Will ye not understand?

007.170 As to those who hold fast by the Book and establish regular prayer,Ñnever shall We suffer the reward of the righteous to perish.

007.171 When We shook the Mount over them, as if it had been a canopy, and they thought it was going to fall on them (We said): "Hold firmly to what We have given you, and bring (ever) to remembrance what is therein; perchance ye may fear God."

007.172 When thy Lord drew forth from the Children of AdamÑfrom their loinsÑtheir descendants, and made them testify concerning themselves, (saying): "Am I not your Lord (who cherishes and sustains you)?"ÑThey said: "Yea! We do testify!" (This), lest ye should say on the Day of Judgment: "Of this we were never mindful":

007.173 Or lest ye should say: "Our fathers before us may have taken false gods, but we are (their) descendants after them: wilt Thou then destroy us because of the deeds of men who were futile?"

007.174 Thus do We explain the signs in detail; and perchance they may turn (unto Us).

007.175 Relate to them the story of the man to whom We sent Our signs, but he passed them by: so Satan followed him up, and he went astray.

007.176 If it had been Our will, We should have elevated him with Our signs; but he inclined to the earth, and followed his own vain desires. His similitude is that of a dog: if you attack him, he lolls out his tongue, or if you leave him alone, he (still) lolls out his tongue. That is the similitude of those who reject Our signs; So relate the story; perchance they may reflect.

007.177 Evil as an example are people who reject Our signs and wrong their own souls.

007.178 Whom God doth guide,Ñhe is on the right path: whom He rejects from His guidance,Ñsuch are the persons who perish.

007.179 Many are the Jinns and men we have made for Hell: They have hearts wherewith they understand not, eyes wherewith they see not, and ears wherewith they hear not. They are like cattle,Ñnay more misguided: for they are heedless (of warning).

007.180 The most beautiful names belong to God: so call on him by them; but shun such men as use profanity in his names: for what they do, they will soon be requited.

007.181 Of those We have created are people who direct (others) with truth. And dispense justice therewith.

007.182 Those who reject Our signs, We shall gradually visit with punishment, in ways they perceive not;

007.183 Respite will I grant unto them: for My scheme is strong (and unfailing).

007.184 Do they not reflect? Their companion is not seized with madness: he is but a perspicuous warner.

007.185 Do they see nothing in the government of the heavens and the earth and all that God hath created? (Do they not see) that it may well be that their terms is nigh drawing to an end? In what message after this will they then believe?

007.186 To such as God rejects from His guidance, there can be no guide: He will leave them in their trespasses, wandering in distraction.

007.187 They ask thee about the (final) HourÑwhen will be its appointed time? Say: "The knowledge thereof is with my Lord (alone): None but He can reveal as to when it will occur. Heavy were its burden through the heavens and the earth. Only, all of a sudden will it come to you." They ask thee as if thou Wert eager in search thereof: Say: "The knowledge thereof is with God (alone), but most men know not."

007.188 Say: "I have no power over any good or harm to myself except as God willeth. If I had knowledge of the unseen, I should have multiplied all good, and no evil should have touched me: I am but a warner, and a bringer of glad tidings to those who have faith."

007.189 It is He Who created you from a single person, and made his mate of like nature, in order that he might dwell with her (in love). When they are united, she bears a light burden and carries it about (unnoticed). When she grows heavy, they both pray to God their Lord, (saying): "If Thou givest us a goodly child, we vow we shall (ever) be grateful."

007.190 But when He giveth them a goodly child, they ascribe to others a share in the gift they have received: but God is exalted high above the partners they ascribe to Him.

007.191 Do they indeed ascribe to Him as partners things that can create nothing, but are themselves created?

007.192 No aid can they give them, nor can they aid themselves!

007.193 If ye call them to guidance, they will not obey: For you it is the same whether ye call them or ye hold your peace!

007.194 Verily those whom ye call upon besides God are servants like unto you: Call upon them, and let them listen to your prayer, if ye are (indeed) truthful!

007.195 Have they feet to walk with? Or hands to lay hold with? Or eyes to see with? Or ears to hear with? Say: "Call your 'god-partners', scheme (your worst) against me, and give me no respite!

007.196 "For my Protector is God, Who revealed the Book (from time to time), and He will choose and befriend the righteous.

007.197 "But those ye call upon besides Him, are unable to help you, and indeed to help themselves."

007.198 If thou callest them to guidance, they hear not. Thou wilt see them looking at thee, but they see not.

007.199 Hold to forgiveness; command what is right; But turn away from the ignorant.

007.200 If a suggestion from Satan assail thy (mind), seek refuge with God; for He heareth and knoweth (all things).

007.201 Those who fear God, when a thought of evil from Satan assaults them, bring God to remembrance, when lo! they see (aright)!

007.202 But their brethren (the evil ones) plunge them deeper into error, and never relax (their efforts).

007.203 If thou bring them not a revelation, they say: "Why hast thou not got it together?" Say: "I but follow what is revealed to me from my Lord: this is (nothing but) lights from your Lord, and Guidance, and mercy, for any who have faith."

007.204 When the Qur'an is read, listen to it with attention, and hold your peace: that ye may receive Mercy.

007.205 And do thou (O reader!) Bring thy Lord to remembrance in thy (very) soul, with humility and in reverence, without loudness in words, in the mornings and evenings; and be not thou of those who are unheedful.

007.206 Those who are near to thy Lord, disdain not to do Him worship: They celebrate His praises, and bow down before Him.

SPOILS OF WAR, BOOTY,
CHAPTER NO. 008

008.001 They ask thee concerning (things taken as) spoils of war. Say: "(such) spoils are at the disposal of God and the Apostle: So fear God, and keep straight the relations between yourselves: Obey God and His Apostle, if ye do believe."

008.002 For, Believers are those who, when God is mentioned, feel a tremor in their hearts, and when they hear His signs rehearsed, find their faith strengthened, and put (all) their trust in their Lord;

008.003 Who establish regular prayers and spend (freely) out of the gifts We have given them for sustenance:

008.004 Such in truth are the believers: they have grades of dignity with their Lord, and forgiveness, and generous sustenance:

008.005 Just as thy Lord ordered thee out of thy house in truth, even though a party among the Believers disliked it,

008.006 Disputing with thee concerning the truth after it was made manifest, as if they were being driven to death and they (actually) saw it.

008.007 Behold! God promised you one of the two (enemy) parties, that it should be yours: Ye wished that the one unarmed should be yours, but God willed to justify the Truth according to His words and to cut off the roots of the Unbelievers;-

008.008 That He might justify Truth and prove Falsehood false, distasteful though it be to those in guilt.

008.009 Remember ye implored the assistance of your Lord, and He answered you: "I will assist you with a thousand of the angels, ranks on ranks."

008.010 God made it but a message of hope, and an assurance to your hearts: (in any case) there is no help except from God: and God is Exalted in Power, Wise.

008.011 Remember He covered you with a sort of drowsiness, to give you calm as from Himself, and he caused rain to descend on you from heaven, to clean you therewith, to remove from you the stain of Satan, to strengthen your hearts, and to plant your feet firmly therewith.

008.012 Remember thy Lord inspired the angels (with the message): "I am with you: give firmness to the Believers: I will instil terror into the hearts of the Unbelievers: smite ye above their necks and smite all their finger-tips off them."

008.013 This because they contended against God and His Apostle: If any contend against God and His Apostle, God is strict in punishment.

008.014 Thus (will it be said): "Taste ye then of the (punishment): for those who resist God, is the penalty of the Fire."

008.015 O ye who believe! when ye meet the Unbelievers in hostile array, never turn your backs to them.

008.016 If any do turn his back to them on such a dayÑunless it be in a stratagem of war, or to retreat to a troop (of his own)Ñhe draws on himself the wrath of God, and his abode is Hell,Ñan evil refuge (indeed)!

008.017 It is not ye who slew them; it was God: when thou threwest (a handful of dust), it was not thy act, but God's: in order that He might test the Believers by a gracious trial from Himself: for God is He Who heareth and knoweth (all things).

008.018 That, and also because God is He Who makes feeble the plans and stratagem of the Unbelievers.

008.019 (O Unbelievers!) if ye prayed for victory and judgment, now hath the judgment come to you: if ye desist (from wrong), it will be best for you: if ye return (to the attack), so shall We. Not the least good will your forces be to you even if they were multiplied: for verily God is with those who believe!

008.020 O ye who believe! Obey God and His Apostle, and turn not away from him when ye hear (him speak).

008.021 Nor be like those who say, "We hear," but listen not:

008.022 For the worst of beasts in the sight of God are the deaf and the dumb,Ñthose who understand not.

008.023 If God had found in them any good. He would indeed have made them listen: (As it is), if He had made them listen, they would but have turned back and declined (Faith).

008.024 O ye who believe! give your response to God and His Apostle, when He calleth you to that which will give you life; and know that God cometh in between a man and his heart, and that it is He to Whom ye shall (all) be gathered.

008.025 And fear tumult or oppression, which affecteth not in particular (only) those of you who do wrong: and know that God is strict in punishment.

008.026 Call to mind when ye were a small (band), despised through the land, and afraid that men might despoil and kidnap you; But He provided a safe asylum for you, strengthened you with His aid, and gave you Good things for sustenance: that ye might be grateful.

008.027 O ye that believe! betray not the trust of God and the Apostle, nor misappropriate knowingly things entrusted to you.

008.028 And know ye that your possessions and your progeny are but a trial; and that it is God with Whom lies your highest reward.

008.029 O ye who believe! if ye fear God, He will grant you a criterion (to judge between right and wrong), remove from you (all) evil (that may afflict) you, and forgive you: for God is the Lord of grace unbounded.

008.030 Remember how the Unbelievers plotted against thee, to keep thee in bonds, or slay thee, or get thee out (of thy home). They plot and plan, and God too plans; but the best of planners is God.

008.031 When Our Signs are rehearsed to them, they say: "We have heard this (before): if we wished, we could say (words) like these: these are nothing but tales of the ancients."

008.032 Remember how they said: "O God if this is indeed the Truth from Thee, rain down on us a shower of stones form the sky, or send us a grievous penalty."

008.033 But God was not going to send them a penalty whilst thou wast amongst them; nor was He going to send it whilst they could ask for pardon.

008.034 But what plea have they that God should not punish them, when they keep out (men) from the sacred MosqueÑand they are not its guardians? No men can be its guardians except the righteous; but most of them do not understand.

008.035 Their prayer at the House (of God) is nothing but whistling and clapping of hands: (Its only answer can be), "Taste ye the penalty because ye blasphemed."

008.036 The Unbelievers spend their wealth to hinder (man) from the path of God, and so will they continue to spend; but in the end they will have (only) regrets and sighs; at length they will be overcome: and the Unbelievers will be gathered together to Hell;-

008.037 In order that God may separate the impure from the pure, put the impure, one on another, heap them together, and cast them into Hell. They will be the ones to have lost.

008.038 Say to the Unbelievers, if (now) they desist (from Unbelief), their past would be forgiven them; but if they persist, the punishment of those before them is already (a matter of warning for them).

008.039 And fight them on until there is no more tumult or oppression, and there prevail justice and faith in God altogether and everywhere; but if they cease, verily God doth see all that they do.

008.040 If they refuse, be sure that God is your ProtectorÑthe best to protect and the best to help.

008.041 And know that out of all the booty that ye may acquire (in war), a fifth share is assigned to God,Ñand to the Apostle, and to near relatives, orphans, the needy, and the wayfarer,Ñif ye do believe in God and in the revelation We sent down to Our servant on the Day of Testing,Ñthe Day of the meeting of the two forces. For God hath power over all things.

008.042 Remember ye were on the hither side of the valley, and they on the farther side, and the caravan on lower ground than ye. Even if ye had made a mutual appointment to meet, ye would certainly have failed in the appointment: But (thus ye met), that God might accomplish a matter already enacted; that

those who died might die after a clear Sign (had been given), and those who lived might live after a Clear Sign (had been given). And verily God is He Who heareth and knoweth (all things).

008.043 Remember in thy dream God showed them to thee as few: if He had shown them to thee as many, ye would surely have been discouraged, and ye would surely have disputed in (your) decision; but God saved (you): for He knoweth well the (secrets) of (all) hearts.

008.044 And remember when ye met, He showed them to you as few in your eyes, and He made you appear as contemptible in their eyes: that God might accomplish a matter already enacted. For to God do all questions go back (for decision).

008.045 O ye who believe! When ye meet a force, be firm, and call God in remembrance much (and often); that ye may prosper:

008.046 And obey God and His Apostle; and fall into no disputes, lest ye lose heart and your power depart; and be patient and persevering: For God is with those who patiently persevere:

008.047 And be not like those who started from their homes insolently and to be seen of men, and to hinder (men) from the path of God: For God compasseth round about all that they do.

008.048 Remember Satan made their (sinful) acts seem alluring to them, and said: "No one among men can overcome you this day, while I am near to you": But when the two forces came in sight of each other, he turned on his heels, and said: "Lo! I am clear of you; lo! I see what ye see not; Lo! I fear God: for God is strict in punishment."

008.049 Lo! the hypocrites say, and those in whose hearts is a disease: "These people,Ñtheir religion has misled them." But if any trust in God, behold! God is Exalted in might, Wise.

008.050 If thou couldst see, when the angels take the souls of the Unbelievers (at death), (How) they smite their faces and their backs, (saying): "Taste the penalty of the blazing Fire-

008.051 "Because of (the deeds) which your (own) hands sent forth; for God is never unjust to His servants:

008.052 "(Deeds) after the manner of the people of Pharaoh and of those before them: They rejected the Signs of God, and God punished them for their crimes: for God is Strong, and Strict in punishment:

008.053 "Because God will never change the grace which He hath bestowed on a people until they change what is in their (own) souls: and verily God is He Who heareth and knoweth (all things)."

008.054 (Deeds) after the manner of the people of Pharaoh and those before them": They treated as false the Signs of their Lord: so We destroyed them for their crimes, and We drowned the people of Pharaoh: for they were all oppressors and wrong-doers.

008.055 For the worst of beasts in the sight of God are those who reject Him: They will not believe.

008.056 They are those with whom thou didst make a covenant, but they break their covenant every time, and they have not the fear (of God).

008.057 If ye gain the mastery over them in war, disperse, with them, those who follow them, that they may remember.

008.058 If thou fearest treachery from any group, throw back (their covenant) to them, (so as to be) on equal terms: for God loveth not the treacherous.

008.059 Let not the unbelievers think that they can get the better (of the godly): they will never frustrate (them).

008.060 Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into (the hearts of) the enemies, of God and your enemies, and others besides, whom ye may not know, but whom God doth know. Whatever ye shall spend in the cause of God, shall be repaid unto you, and ye shall not be treated unjustly.

008.061 But if the enemy incline towards peace, do thou (also) incline towards peace, and trust in God: for He is One that heareth and knoweth (all things).

008.062 Should they intend to deceive thee,Ñverily God sufficeth thee: He it is That hath strengthened thee with His aid and with (the company of) the Believers;

008.063 And (moreover) He hath put affection between their hearts: not if thou hadst spent all that is in the earth, couldst thou have produced that affection, but God hath done it: for He is Exalted in might, Wise.

008.064 O Apostle! sufficient unto thee is God,Ñ(unto thee) and unto those who follow thee among the Believers.

008.065 O Apostle! rouse the Believers to the fight. If there are twenty amongst you, patient and persevering, they will vanquish two hundred: if a hundred, they will vanquish a thousand of the Unbelievers: for these are a people without understanding.

008.066 For the present, God hath lightened your (task), for He knoweth that there is a weak spot in you: But (even so), if there are a hundred of you, patient and persevering, they will vanquish two hundred, and if a thousand, they will vanquish two thousand, with the leave of God: for God is with those who patiently persevere.

008.067 It is not fitting for an apostle that he should have prisoners of war until he hath thoroughly subdued the land. Ye look for the temporal goods of this world; but God looketh to the Hereafter: And God is Exalted in might, Wise.

008.068 Had it not been for a previous ordainment from God, a severe penalty would have reached you for the (ransom) that ye took.

008.069 But (now) enjoy what ye took in war, lawful and good: but fear God: for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

008.070 O Apostle! say to those who are captives in your hands: "If God findeth any good in your hearts, He will give you something better than what has been taken from you, and He will forgive you: for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful."

008.071 But if they have treacherous designs against thee, (O Apostle!), they have already been in treason against God, and so hath He given (thee) power over them. And God so He Who hath (full) knowledge and wisdom.

008.072 Those who believed, and adopted exile, and fought for the Faith, with their property and their persons, in the cause of God, as well as those who gave (them) asylum and aid,Ñthese are (all) friends and protectors, one of another. As to those who believed but came not into exile, ye owe no duty of protection to them until they come into exile; but if they seek your aid in religion, it is your duty to help them, except against a people with whom ye have a treaty of mutual alliance. And (remember) God seeth all that ye do.

008.073 The Unbelievers are protectors, one of another: Unless ye do this, (protect each other), there would be tumult and oppression on earth, and great mischief.

008.074 Those who believe, and adopt exile, and fight for the Faith, in the cause of God as well as those who give (them) asylum and aid,Ñthese are (all) in very truth the Believers: for them is the forgiveness of sins and a provision most generous.

008.075 And those who accept Faith subsequently, and adopt exile, and fight for the Faith in your company,Ñthey are of you. But kindred by blood have prior rights against each other in the Book of God. Verily God is well-acquainted with all things.

REPENTANCE, DISPENSATION,
CHAPTER NO. 009

009.001 A (declaration) of immunity from God and His Apostle, to those of the Pagans with whom ye have contracted mutual alliances:-

009.002 Go ye, then, for four months, backwards and forwards, (as ye will), throughout the land, but know ye that ye cannot frustrate God (by your falsehood) but that God will cover with shame those who reject Him.

009.003 And an announcement from God and His Apostle, to the people (assembled) on the day of the Great Pilgrimage,Ñthat God and His Apostle dissolve (treaty) obligations with the Pagans. If then, ye repent, it were best for you; but if ye turn away, know ye that ye cannot frustrate God. And proclaim a grievous penalty to those who reject Faith.

009.004 (But the treaties are) not dissolved with those Pagans with whom ye have entered into alliance and who have not subsequently failed you in aught,

nor aided any one against you. So fulfil your engagements with them to the end of their term: for God loveth the righteous.

009.005 But when the forbidden months are past, then fight and slay the Pagans wherever ye find them, an seize them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem (of war); but if they repent, and establish regular prayers and practise regular charity, then open the way for them: for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

009.006 If one amongst the Pagans ask thee for asylum, grant it to him, so that he may hear the word of God; and then escort him to where he can be secure. That is because they are men without knowledge.

009.007 How can there be a league, before God and His Apostle, with the Pagans, except those with whom ye made a treaty near the sacred Mosque? As long as these stand true to you, stand ye true to them: for God doth love the righteous.

009.008 How (can there be such a league), seeing that if they get an advantage over you, they respect not in you the ties either of kinship or of covenant? With (fair words from) their mouths they entice you, but their hearts are averse from you; and most of them are rebellious and wicked.

009.009 The Signs of God have they sold for a miserable price, and (many) have they hindered from His way: evil indeed are the deeds they have done.

009.010 In a Believer they respect not the ties either of kinship or of covenant! It is they who have transgressed all bounds.

009.011 But (even so), if they repent, establish regular prayers, and practise regular charity,Ñthey are your brethren in Faith: (thus) do We explain the Signs in detail, for those who understand.

009.012 But if they violate their oaths after their covenant, and taunt you for your Faith,Ñfight ye the chiefs of Unfaith: for their oaths are nothing to them: that thus they may be restrained.

009.013 Will ye not fight people who violated their oaths, plotted to expel the Apostle, and took the aggressive by being the first (to assault) you? Do ye fear them? Nay, it is God Whom ye should more justly fear, if ye believe!

009.014 Fight them, and God will punish them by your hands, cover them with shame, help you (to victory) over them, heal the breasts of Believers,

009.015 And still the indignation of their hearts. For God will turn (in mercy) to whom He will; and God is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

009.016 Or think ye that ye shall be abandoned, as though God did not know those among you who strive with might and main, and take none for friends and protectors except God, His Apostle, and the (community of) Believers? But God is well-acquainted with (all) that ye do.

009.017 It is not for such as join gods with God, to visit or maintain the

mosques of God while they witness against their own souls to infidelity. The works of such bear no fruit: In Fire shall they dwell.

009.018 The mosques of God shall be visited and maintained by such as believe in God and the Last Day, establish regular prayers, and practise regular charity, and fear none (at all) except God. It is they who are expected to be on true guidance.

009.019 Do ye make the giving of drink to pilgrims, or the maintenance of the Sacred Mosque, equal to (the pious service of) those who believe in God and the Last Day, and strive with might and main in the cause of God? They are not comparable in the sight of God: and God guides not those who do wrong.

009.020 Those who believe, and suffer exile and strive with might and main, in God's cause, with their goods and their persons, have the highest rank in the sight of God: they are the people who will achieve (salvation).

009.021 Their Lord doth give them glad tidings of a Mercy from Himself, of His good pleasure, and of gardens for them, wherein are delights that endure:

009.022 They will dwell therein for ever. Verily in God's presence is a reward, the greatest (of all).

009.023 O ye who believe! take not for protectors your fathers and your brothers if they love infidelity above Faith: if any of you do so, they do wrong.

009.024 Say: If it be that your fathers, your sons, your brothers, your mates, or your kindred; the wealth that ye have gained; the commerce in which ye fear a decline: or the dwellings in which ye delightÑare dearer to you than God, or His Apostle, or the striving in His cause;Ñthen wait until God brings about His decision: and God guides not the rebellious.

009.025 Assuredly God did help you in many battle-fields and on the day of Hunain: Behold! your great numbers elated you, but they availed you naught: the land, for all that it is wide, did constrain you, and ye turned back in retreat.

009.026 But God did pour His calm on the Apostle and on the Believers, and sent down forces which ye saw not: He punished the Unbelievers; thus doth He reward those without Faith.

009.027 Again will God, after this, turn (in mercy) to whom He will: for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

009.028 O ye who believe! Truly the Pagans are unclean; so let them not, after this year of theirs, approach the Sacred Mosque. And if ye fear poverty, soon will God enrich you, if He wills, out of His bounty, for God is All-knowing, All-wise.

009.029 Fight those who believe not in God nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by God and His Apostle, nor acknowledge the religion of Truth, (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay

the Jizya with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued.

009.030 The Jews call 'Uzair a son of God, and the Christians call Christ the son of God. That is a saying from their mouth; (in this) they but imitate what the unbelievers of old used to say. God's curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth!

009.031 They take their priests and their anchorites to be their lords in derogation of God, and (they take as their Lord) Christ the son of Mary; yet they were commanded to worship but One God: there is no god but He. Praise and glory to Him: (Far is He) from having the partners they associate (with Him).

009.032 Fain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not allow but that His light should be perfected, even though the Unbelievers may detest (it).

009.033 It is He Who hath sent His Apostle with guidance and the Religion of Truth, to proclaim it over all religion, even though the Pagans may detest (it).

009.034 O ye who believe! there are indeed many among the priests and anchorites, who in Falsehood devour the substance of men and hinder (them) from the way of God. And there are those who bury gold and silver and spend it not in the way of God: announce unto them a most grievous penalty-

009.035 On the Day when heat will be produced out of that (wealth) in the fire of Hell, and with it will be branded their foreheads, their flanks, and their backs, their flanks, and their backs.Ñ"This is the (treasure) which ye buried for yourselves: taste ye, then, the (treasures) ye buried!"

009.036 The number of months in the sight of God is twelve (in a year)Ñso ordained by Him the day He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are sacred: that is the straight usage. So wrong not yourselves therein, and fight the Pagans all together as they fight you all together. But know that God is with those who restrain themselves.

009.037 Verily the transposing (of a prohibited month) is an addition to Unbelief: the Unbelievers are led to wrong thereby: for they make it lawful one year, and forbidden another year, in order to adjust the number of months forbidden by God and make such forbidden ones lawful. The evil of their course seems pleasing to them. But God guideth not those who reject Faith.

009.038 O ye who believe! what is the matter with you, that, when ye are asked to go forth in the cause of God, ye cling heavily to the earth? Do ye prefer the life of this world to the Hereafter? But little is the comfort of this life, as compared with the Hereafter.

009.039 Unless ye go forth, He will punish you with a grievous penalty, and put others in your place; but Him ye would not harm in the least. For God hath power over all things.

009.040 If ye help not (your leader), (it is no matter): for God did indeed

help him, when the Unbelievers drove him out: he had no more than one companion; they two were in the cave, and he said to his companion, "Have no fear, for God is with us": then God sent down His peace upon him, and strengthened him with forces which ye saw not, and humbled to the depths the word of the Unbelievers. But the word of God is exalted to the heights: for God is Exalted in might, Wise.

009.041 Go ye forth, (whether equipped) lightly or heavily, and strive and struggle, with your goods and your persons, in the cause of God. That is best for you, if ye (but) knew.

009.042 If there had been immediate gain (in sight), and the journey easy, they would (all) without doubt have followed thee, but the distance was long, (and weighed) on them. They would indeed swear by God, "If we only could, we should certainly have come out with you": They would destroy their own souls; for God doth know that they are certainly lying.

009.043 God give thee grace! why didst thou grant them until those who told the truth were seen by thee in a clear light, and thou hadst proved the liars?

009.044 Those who believe in God and the Last Day ask thee for no exemption from fighting with their goods and persons. And God knoweth well those who do their duty.

009.045 Only those ask thee for exemption who believe not in God and the Last Day, and whose hearts are in doubt, so that they are tossed in their doubts to and fro.

009.046 If they had intended to come out, they would certainly have made some preparation therefor; but God was averse to their being sent forth; so He made them lag behind, and they were told, "Sit ye among those who sit (inactive)."

009.047 If they had come out with you, they would not have added to your (strength) but only (made for) disorder, hurrying to and fro in your midst and sowing sedition among you, and there would have been some among you who would have listened to them. But God knoweth well those who do wrong.

009.048 Indeed they had plotted sedition before, and upset matters for thee, until,Ñthe Truth arrived, and the Decree of God became manifest much to their disgust.

009.049 Among them is (many) a man who says: "Grant me exemption and draw me not into trial." Have they not fallen into trial already? and indeed Hell surrounds the Unbelievers (on all sides).

009.050 If good befalls thee, it grieves them; but if a misfortune befalls thee, they say, "We took indeed our precautions beforehand," and they turn away rejoicing.

009.051 Say: "Nothing will happen to us except what God has decreed for us: He is our protector": and on God let the Believers put their trust.

009.052 Say: "Can you expect for us (any fate) other than one of two glorious

thingsÑ(Martyrdom or victory)? But we can expect for you either that God will send his punishment from Himself, or by our hands. So wait (expectant); we too will wait with you."

009.053 Say: "Spend (for the cause) willingly or unwillingly: not from you will it be accepted: for ye are indeed a people rebellious and wicked."

009.054 The only reasons why their contributions are not accepted are: that they reject God and His Apostle; that they come to prayer without earnestness; and that they offer contributions unwillingly.

009.055 Let not their wealth nor their (following in) sons dazzle thee: in reality God's plan is to punish them with these things in this life, and that their souls may perish in their (very) denial of God.

009.056 They swear by God that they are indeed of you; but they are not of you: yet they are afraid (to appear in their true colours).

009.057 If they could find a place to flee to, or caves, or a place of concealment, they would turn straightaway thereto, with an obstinate rush.

009.058 And among them are men who slander thee in the matter of (the distribution of) the alms: if they are given part thereof, they are pleased, but if not, behold! they are indignant!

009.059 If only they had been content with what God and His Apostle gave them, and had said, "Sufficient unto us is God! God and His Apostle will soon give us of His bounty: to God do we turn our hopes!" (that would have been the right course).

009.060 Alms are for the poor and the needy, and those employed to administer the (funds); for those whose hearts have been (recently) reconciled (to Truth); for those in bondage and in debt; in the cause of God; and for the wayfarer: (thus is it) ordained by God, and God is full of knowledge and wisdom.

009.061 Among them are men who molest the Prophet and say, "He is (all) ear." Say, "He listens to what is best for you: he believes in God, has faith in the Believers, and is a Mercy to those of you who believe." But those who molest the Apostle will have a grievous penalty.

009.062 To you they swear by God. In order to please you: But it is more fitting that they should please God and His Apostle, if they are Believers.

009.063 Know they not that for those who oppose God and His Apostle, is the Fire of Hell?Ñwherein they shall dwell. That is the supreme disgrace.

009.064 The Hypocrites are afraid lest a Sura should be sent down about them, showing them what is (really passing) in their hearts. Say: "Mock ye! But verily God will bring to light all that ye fear (should be revealed).

009.065 If thou dost question them, they declare (with emphasis): "We were only talking idly and in play." Say: "Was it at God, and His Signs, and His Apostle, that ye were mocking?"

009.066 Make ye no excuses: ye have rejected Faith after ye had accepted it. If We pardon some of you, We will punish others amongst you, for that they are in sin.

009.067 The Hypocrites, men and women, (have an understanding) with each other: They enjoin evil, and forbid what is just, and are close with their hands. They have forgotten God; so He hath forgotten them. Verily the Hypocrites are rebellious and perverse.

009.068 God hath promised the Hypocrites men and women, and the rejecters, of Faith, the fire of Hell: Therein shall they dwell: Sufficient is it for them: for them is the curse of God, and an enduring punishment,-

009.069 As in the case of those before you: they were mightier than you in power, and more flourishing in wealth and children. They had their enjoyment of their portion: and ye have of yours, as did those before you; and ye indulge in idle talk as they did. They!Ñtheir work are fruitless in this world and in the Hereafter, and they will lose (all spiritual good).

009.070 Hath not the story reached them of those before them?Ñthe People of Noah, and 'Ad, and Thamud; the People of Abraham, the men of Midian, and the cities overthrown. To them came their apostles with clear signs. It is not God Who wrongs them, but they wrong their own souls.

009.071 The Believers, men and women, are protectors one of another: they enjoin what is just, and forbid what is evil: they observe regular prayers, practise regular charity, and obey God and His Apostle. On them will God pour His mercy: for God is Exalted in power, Wise.

009.072 God hath promised to Believers, men and women, gardens under which rivers flow, to dwell therein, and beautiful mansions in gardens of everlasting bliss. But the greatest bliss is the good pleasure of God: that is the supreme felicity.

009.073 O Prophet! strive hard against the unbelievers and the Hypocrites, and be firm against them. Their abode is Hell,Ñan evil refuge indeed.

009.074 They swear by God that they said nothing (evil), but indeed they uttered blasphemy, and they did it after accepting Islam; and they meditated a plot which they were unable to carry out: this revenge of theirs was (their) only return for the bounty with which God and His Apostle had enriched them! If they repent, it will be best for them; but if they turn back (to their evil ways), God will punish them with a grievous penalty in this life and in the Hereafter: They shall have none on earth to protect or help them.

009.075 Amongst them are men who made a covenant with God, that if He bestowed on them of His bounty, they would give (largely) in charity, and be truly amongst those who are righteous.

009.076 But when He did bestow of His bounty, they became covetous, and turned back (from their covenant), averse (from its fulfilment).

009.077 So He hath put as a consequence hypocrisy into their hearts, (to last) till the Day, whereon they shall meet Him: because they broke their covenant with God, and because they lied (again and again).

009.078 Know they not that God doth know their secret (thoughts) and their secret counsels, and that God knoweth well all things unseen?

009.079 Those who slander such of the believers as give themselves freely to (deeds of) charity, as well as such as can find nothing to give except the fruits of their labour,Ñand throw ridicule on them,ÑGod will throw back their ridicule on them: and they shall have a grievous penalty.

009.080 Whether thou ask for their forgiveness, or not, (their sin is unforgivable): if thou ask seventy times for their forgiveness, God will not forgive them: because they have rejected God and His Apostle: and God guideth not those who are perversely rebellious.

009.081 Those who were left behind (in the Tabuk expedition) rejoiced in their inaction behind the back of the Apostle of God: they hated to strive and fight, with their goods and their persons, in the cause of God: they said, "Go not forth in the heat." Say, "The fire of Hell is fiercer in heat." If only they could understand!

009.082 Let them laugh a little: much will they weep: a recompense for the (evil) that they do.

009.083 If, then, God bring thee back to any of them, and they ask thy permission to come out (with thee), say: "Never shall ye come out with me, nor fight an enemy with me: for ye preferred to sit inactive on the first occasion: Then sit ye (now) with those who lag behind."

009.084 Nor do thou ever pray for any of them that dies, nor stand at his grave; for they rejected God and His Apostle, and died in a state of perverse rebellion.

009.085 Nor let their wealth nor their (following in) sons dazzle thee: God's plan is to punish them with these things in this world, and that their souls may perish in their (very) denial of God.

009.086 When a Sura comes down, enjoining them to believe in God and to strive and fight along with His Apostle, those with wealth and influence among them ask thee for exemption, and say: "Leave us (behind): we would be with those who sit (at home)."

009.087 They prefer to be with (the women), who remain behind (at home): their hearts are sealed and so they understand not.

009.088 But the Apostle, and those who believe with him, strive and fight with their wealth and their persons: for them are (all) good things: and it is they who will prosper.

009.089 God hath prepared for them gardens under which rivers flow, to dwell therein: that is the supreme felicity.

009.090 And there were, among the desert Arabs (also), men who made excuses and came to claim exemption; and those who were false to God and His Apostle (merely) sat inactive. Soon will a grievous penalty seize the Unbelievers among them.

009.091 There is no blame on those who are infirm, or ill, or who find no resources to spend (on the cause), if they are sincere (in duty) to God and His Apostle: no ground (of complaint) can there be against such as do right: and God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

009.092 Nor (is there blame) on those who came to thee to be provided with mounts, and when thou saidst, "I can find no mounts for you," they turned back, their eyes streaming with tears of grief that they had no resources wherewith to provide the expenses.

009.093 The ground (of complaint) is against such as claim exemption while they are rich. They prefer to stay with the (women) who remain behind: God hath sealed their hearts; so they know not (What they miss).

009.094 They will present their excuses to you when ye return to them. Say thou: "Present no excuses: we shall not believe you: God hath already informed us of the true state of matters concerning you: It is your actions that God and His Apostle will observe: in the end will ye be brought back to Him Who knoweth what is hidden and what is open: then will He show you the truth of all that ye did."

009.095 They will swear to you by God, when ye return to them, that ye may leave them alone. So leave them alone: For they are an abomination, and Hell is their dwelling-place,-a fitting recompense for the (evil) that they did.

009.096 They will swear unto you, that ye may be pleased with them but if ye are pleased with them, God is not pleased with those who disobey.

009.097 The Arabs of the desert are the worst in Unbelief and hypocrisy, and most fitted to be in ignorance of the command which God hath sent down to His Apostle: But God is All-knowing, All-Wise.

009.098 Some of the desert Arabs look upon their payments as a fine, and watch for disasters for you: on them be the disaster of evil: for God is He That heareth and knoweth (all things).

009.099 But some of the desert Arabs believe in God and the Last Day, and look on their payments as pious gifts bringing them nearer to God and obtaining the prayers of the Apostle. Aye, indeed they bring them nearer (to Him): soon will God admit them to His Mercy: for God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

009.100 The vanguard (of Islam)Ñthe first of those who forsook (their homes) and of those who gave them aid, and (also) those who follow them in (all) good deeds,Ñwell-pleased is God with them, as are they with Him: for them hath He prepared gardens under which rivers flow, to dwell therein for ever: that is the supreme felicity.

009.101 Certain of the desert Arabs round about you are hypocrites, as well as (desert Arabs) among the Medina folk: they are obstinate in hypocrisy: thou knowest them not: We know them: twice shall We punish them: and in addition shall they be sent to a grievous penalty.

009.102 Others (there are who) have acknowledged their wrong-doings: they have mixed an act that was good with another that was evil. Perhaps God will turn unto them (in Mercy): for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

009.103 Of their goods, take alms, that so thou mightest purify and sanctify them; and pray on their behalf. Verily thy prayers are a source of security for them: And God is One Who heareth and knoweth.

009.104 Know they not that God doth accept repentance from His votaries and receives their gifts of charity, and that God is verily He, the Oft-Returning, Most Merciful?

009.105 And say: "Work (righteousness): Soon will God observe your work, and His Apostle, and the Believers: Soon will ye be brought back to the knower of what is hidden and what is open: then will He show you the truth of all that ye did."

009.106 There are (yet) others, held in suspense for the command of God, whether He will punish them, or turn in mercy to them: and God is All-Knowing, Wise.

009.107 And there are those who put up a mosque by way of mischief and infidelityÑto disunite the BelieversÑand in preparation for one who warred against God and His Apostle aforetime. They will indeed swear that their intention is nothing but good; But God doth declare that they are certainly liars.

009.108 Never stand thou forth therein. There is a mosque whose foundation was laid from the first day on piety; it is more worthy of the standing forth (for prayer) therein. In it are men who love to be purified; and God loveth those who make themselves pure.

009.109 Which then is best?Ñhe that layeth his foundation on piety to God and His good pleasure?Ñor he that layeth his foundation on an undermined sand-cliff ready to crumble to pieces? and it doth crumble to pieces with him, into the fire of Hell. And God guideth not people that do wrong.

009.110 The foundation of those who so build is never free from suspicion and shakiness in their hearts, until their hearts are cut to pieces. And God is All-Knowing, Wise.

009.111 God hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods; for theirs (in return) is the garden (of Paradise): they fight in His cause, and slay and are slain: a promise binding on Him in truth, through the Law, the Gospel, and the Qur'an: and who is more faithful to his covenant than God? then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded: that is the achievement supreme.

009.112 Those that turn (to God) in repentance; that serve Him, and praise Him; that wander in devotion to the cause of God,: that bow down and prostrate themselves in prayer; that enjoin good and forbid evil; and observe the limit set by God;Ñ(These do rejoice). So proclaim the glad tidings to the Believers.

009.113 It is not fitting, for the Prophet and those who believe, that they should pray for forgiveness for Pagans, even though they be of kin, after it is clear to them that they are companions of the Fire.

009.114 And Abraham prayed for his father's forgiveness only because of a promise he had made to him. But when it became clear to him that he was an enemy to God, he dissociated himself from him: for Abraham was most tender-hearted, forbearing.

009.115 And God will not mislead a people after He hath guided them, in order that He may make clear to them what to fear (and avoid)Ñfor God hath knowledge of all things.

009.116 Unto God belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth. He giveth life and He taketh it. Except for Him ye have no protector nor helper.

009.117 God turned with favour to the Prophet, the Muhajirs, and the Ansar,Ñwho followed him in a time of distress, after that the hearts of a part of them had nearly swerved (from duty); but He turned to them (also): for He is unto them Most Kind, Most Merciful.

009.118 (He turned in mercy also) to the three who were left behind; (they felt guilty) to such a degree that the earth seemed constrained to them, for all its spaciousness, and their (very) souls seemed straitened to them,Ñand they perceived that there is no fleeing from God (and no refuge) but to Himself. Then He turned to them, that they might repent: for God is Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.

009.119 O ye who believe! Fear God and be with those who are true (in word and deed).

009.120 It was not fitting for the people of Medina and the Bedouin Arabs of the neighbourhood, to refuse to follow God's Apostle, nor to prefer their own lives to his: because nothing could they suffer or do, but was reckoned to their credit as a deed of righteousness,Ñwhether they suffered thirst, or fatigue, or hunger, in the cause of God, or trod paths to raise the ire of the Unbelievers, or received any injury whatever from an enemy: for God suffereth not the reward to be lost of those who do good;-

009.121 Nor could they spend anything (for the cause)Ñsmall or greatÑnor cut across a valley, but the deed is inscribed to their credit: that God may requite their deed with the best (possible reward).

009.122 Nor should the Believers all go forth together: if a contingent from every expedition remained behind, they could devote themselves to studies in religion, and admonish the people when they return to them,Ñthat thus they (may learn) to guard themselves (against evil).

009.123 O ye who believe! fight the unbelievers who gird you about, and let them find firmness in you: and know that God is with those who fear Him.

009.124 Whenever there cometh down a sura, some of them say: "Which of you has had His faith increased by it?" Yea, those who believe,Ñtheir faith is increased and they do rejoice.

009.125 But those in whose hearts is a disease,Ñit will add doubt to their doubt, and they will die in a state of Unbelief.

009.126 See they not that they are tried every year once or twice? Yet they turn not in repentance, and they take no heed.

009.127 Whenever there cometh down a Sura, they look at each other, (saying), "Doth anyone see you?" Then they turn aside: God hath turned their hearts (from the light); for they are a people that understand not.

009.128 Now hath come unto you an Apostle from amongst yourselves: it grieves him that ye should perish: ardently anxious is he over you: to the Believers is he most kind and merciful.

009.129 But if they turn away, Say: "God sufficeth me: there is no god but He: On Him is my trust,ÑHe the Lord of the Throne (of Glory) Supreme!"

JONAH,
CHAPTER NO. 010

010.001 A.L.R. These are the ayats of the Book of Wisdom.

010.002 Is it a matter of wonderment to men that We have sent Our inspiration to a man from among themselves?Ñthat he should warn mankind (of their danger), and give the good news to the Believers that they have before their Lord the lofty rank of truth. (But) say the Unbelievers: "This is indeed an evident sorcerer!"

010.003 Verily your Lord is God, who created the heavens and the earth in six days, and is firmly established on the throne (of authority), regulating and governing all things. No intercessor (can plead with Him) except after His leave (hath been obtained). This is God your Lord; Him therefore serve ye: will ye not receive admonition?

010.004 To Him will be your returnÑof all of you. The promise of God is true and sure. It is He Who beginneth the process of creation, and repeateth it, that He may reward with justice those who believe and work righteousness; but those who reject Him will have draughts of boiling fluids, and a penalty grievous, because they did reject Him.

010.005 It is He Who made the sun to be a shining glory and the moon to be a light (of beauty), and measured out stages for her; that ye might know the number of years and the count (of time). Nowise did God create this but in truth and righteousness. (Thus) doth He explain His Signs in detail, for those who understand.

010.006 Verily, in the alternation of the night and the day, and in all that God hath created, in the heavens and the earth, are signs for those who fear Him.

010.007 Those who rest not their hope on their meeting with Us, but are pleased and satisfied with the life of the present, and those who heed not Our Signs,-

010.008 Their abode is the Fire, because of the (evil) they earned.

010.009 Those who believe, and work righteousness,Ñtheir Lord will guide them because of their faith: beneath them will flow rivers in gardens of bliss.

010.010 (This will be) their cry therein: "Glory to Thee, O God!" And "Peace" will be their greeting therein! and the close of their cry will be: "Praise be to God, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds!"

010.011 If God were to hasten for men the ill (they have earned) as they would fain hasten on the good,Ñthen would their respite be settled at once. But We leave those who rest not their hope on their meeting with Us, in their trespasses, wandering in distraction to and fro.

010.012 When trouble toucheth a man, He crieth unto Us (in all postures)Ñlying down on his side, or sitting, or standing. But when We have solved his trouble, he passeth on his way as if he had never cried to Us for a trouble that touched him! thus do the deeds of transgressors seem fair in their eyes!

010.013 Generations before you We destroyed when they did wrong: their apostles came to them with clear-signs, but they would not believe! thus do We requite those who sin!

010.014 Then We made you heirs in the land after them, to see how ye would behave!

010.015 But when Our Clear Signs are rehearsed unto them, those who rest not their hope on their meeting with Us, Say: "Bring us a reading other than this, or change this," Say: "It is not for me, of my own accord, to change it: I follow naught but what is revealed unto me: if I were to disobey my Lord, I should myself fear the penalty of a Great Day (to come)."

010.016 Say: "If God had so willed, I should not have rehearsed it to you, nor would He have made it known to you. A whole life-time before this have I tarried amongst you: will ye not then understand?"

010.017 Who doth more wrong than such as forge a lie against God, or deny His Signs? But never will prosper those who sin.

010.018 They serve, besides God, things that hurt them not nor profit them, and they say: "These are our intercessors with God." Say: "Do ye indeed inform God of something He knows not, in the heavens or on earth?ÑGlory to Him! and far is He above the partners they ascribe (to Him)!"

010.019 Mankind was but one nation, but differed (later). Had it not been for a word that went forth before from thy Lord, their differences would have been

settled between them.

010.020 They say: "Why is not a sign sent down to him from his Lord?" Say: "The Unseen is only for God (to know), then wait ye: I too will wait with you."

010.021 When We make mankind taste of some mercy after adversity hath touched them, behold! they take to plotting against Our Signs! Say: "Swifter to plan is God!" Verily, Our messengers record all the plots that ye make!

010.022 He it is Who enableth you to traverse through land and sea; so that ye even board ships;Ñthey sail with them with a favourable wind, and they rejoice thereat; then comes a stormy wind and the waves come to them from all sides, and they think they are being overwhelmed: they cry unto God, sincerely offering (their) duty unto Him saying, "If thou dost deliver us from this, we shall truly show our gratitude!"

010.023 But when he delivereth them, behold! they transgress insolently through the earth in defiance of right! O mankind! your insolence is against your own souls,Ñan enjoyment of the life of the present: in the end, to Us is your return, and We shall show you the truth of all that ye did.

010.024 The likeness of the life of the present is as the rain which We send down from the skies: by its mingling arises the produce of the earthÑwhich provides food for men and animals: (It grows) till the earth is clad with its golden ornaments and is decked out (in beauty): the people to whom it belongs think they have all powers of disposal over it: There reaches it Our command by night or by day, and We make it like a harvest clean-mown, as if it had not flourished only the day before! thus do We explain the Signs in detail for those who reflect.

010.025 But God doth call to the Home of Peace: He doth guide whom He pleaseth to a way that is straight.

010.026 To those who do right is a goodly (reward)ÑYea, more (than in measure)! No darkness nor shame shall cover their faces! they are companions of the garden; they will abide therein (for aye)!

010.027 But those who have earned evil will have a reward of like evil: ignominy will cover their (faces): No defender will they have from (the wrath of) God: Their faces will be covered, as it were, with pieces from the depth of the darkness of night: they are companions of the Fire: they will abide therein (for aye)!

010.028 One day shall We gather them all together. Then shall We say to those who joined gods (with Us): "To your place! ye and those ye joined as 'partners' We shall separate them, and their "Partners" shall say: "It was not us that ye worshipped!

010.029 "Enough is God for a witness between us and you: we certainly knew nothing of your worship of us!"

010.030 There will every soul prove (the fruits of) the deeds it sent before:

they will be brought back to God their rightful Lord, and their invented falsehoods will leave them in the lurch.

010.031 Say: "Who is it that sustains you (in life) from the sky and from the earth? or who is it that has power over hearing and sight? And who is it that brings out the living from the dead and the dead from the living? and who is it that rules and regulates all affairs?" They will soon say, "God". Say, "will ye not then show piety (to Him)?"

010.032 Such is God, your real Cherisher and Sustainer: apart from truth, what (remains) but error? How then are ye turned away?

010.033 Thus is the word of thy Lord proved true against those who rebel: Verily they will not believe.

010.034 Say: "Of your 'partners', can any originate creation and repeat it?" Say: "It is God Who originates creation and repeats it: then how are ye deluded away (from the truth)?"

010.035 Say: "Of your 'partners' is there any that can give any guidance towards truth?" Say: "It is God Who gives guidance towards truth, is then He Who gives guidance to truth more worthy to be followed, or he who finds not guidance (himself) unless he is guided? what then is the matter with you? How judge ye?"

010.036 But most of them follow nothing but fancy: truly fancy can be of no avail against truth. Verily God is well aware of all that they do.

010.037 This Qur'an is not such as can be produced by other than God; on the contrary it is a confirmation of (revelations) that went before it, and a fuller explanation of the BookÑwherein there is no doubtÑfrom the Lord of the worlds.

010.038 Or do they say, "He forged it"? say: "Bring then a Sura like unto it, and call (to your aid) anyone you can besides God, if it be ye speak the truth!"

010.039 Nay, they charge with falsehood that whose knowledge they cannot compass, even before the elucidation thereof hath reached them: thus did those before them make charges of falsehood: but see what was the end of those who did wrong!

010.040 Of them there are some who believe therein, and some who do not: and thy Lord knoweth best those who are out for mischief.

010.041 If they charge thee with falsehood, say: "My work to me, and yours to you! ye are free from responsibility for what I do, and I for what ye do!"

010.042 Among them are some who (pretend to) listen to thee: But canst thou make the deaf to hear,Ñeven though they are without understanding?

010.043 And among them are some who look at thee: but canst thou guide the blind,Ñeven though they will not see?

010.044 Verily God will not deal unjustly with man in aught: It is man that wrongs his own soul.

010.045 One day He will gather them together: (It will be) as if they had tarried but an hour of a day: they will recognise each other: assuredly those will be lost who denied the meeting with God and refused to receive true guidance.

010.046 Whether We show thee (realised in thy life-time) some part of what We promise them,Ñor We take thy soul (to Our Mercy) (Before that),Ñin any case, to Us is their return: ultimately God is witness, to all that they do.

010.047 To every people (was sent) an apostle: when their apostle comes (before them), the matter will be judged between them with justice, and they will not be wronged.

010.048 They say: "When will this promise come to pass,Ñif ye speak the truth?"

010.049 Say: "I have no power over any harm or profit to myself except as God willeth. To every people is a term appointed: when their term is reached, not an hour can they cause delay, nor (an hour) can they advance (it in anticipation)."

010.050 Say: "Do ye see,Ñif His punishment should come to you by night or by day,Ñwhat portion of it would the sinners wish to hasten?

010.051 "Would ye then believe in it at last, when it actually cometh to pass? (It will then be said): 'Ah! now? and ye wanted (aforetime) to hasten it on!'

010.052 "At length will be said to the wrong-doers: 'Taste ye the enduring punishment! ye get but the recompense of what ye earned!'"

010.053 They seek to be informed by thee: "Is that true?" Say: "Aye! by my Lord! it is the very truth! and ye cannot frustrate it!"

010.054 Every soul that hath sinned, if it possessed all that is on earth, would fain give it in ransom: They would declare (their) repentance when they see the penalty: but the judgment between them will be with justice, and no wrong will be done unto them.

010.055 Is it not (the case) that to God belongeth whatever is in the heavens and on earth? Is it not (the case) that God's promise is assuredly true? Yet most of them understand not.

010.056 It is He Who giveth life and who taketh it, and to Him shall ye all be brought back.

010.057 O mankind! there hath come to you a direction from your Lord and a healing for the (diseases) in your hearts,Ñand for those who believe, a guidance and a Mercy.

010.058 Say: "In the bounty of God. And in His Mercy,Ñin that let them rejoice": that is better than the (wealth) they hoard.

010.059 Say: "See ye what things God hath sent down to you for sustenance? Yet ye hold forbidden some things thereof and (some things) lawful." Say: "Hath God indeed permitted you, or do ye invent (things) to attribute to God?"

010.060 And what think those who invent lies against God, of the Day of Judgment? Verily God is full of bounty to mankind, but most of them are ungrateful.

010.061 In whatever business thou mayest be, and whatever portion thou mayest be reciting from the Qur'an,Ñand whatever deed ye (mankind) may be doing,ÑWe are witnesses thereof when ye are deeply engrossed therein. Nor is hidden from thy Lord (so much as) the weight of an atom on the earth or in heaven. And not the least and not the greatest of these things but are recorded in a clear record.

010.062 Behold! verily on the friends of God there is no fear, nor shall they grieve;

010.063 Those who believe and (constantly) guard against evil;-

010.064 For them are glad tidings, in the life of the present and in the Hereafter; no change can there be in the words of God. This is indeed the supreme felicity.

010.065 Let not their speech grieve thee: for all power and honour belong to God: It is He Who heareth and knoweth (all things).

010.066 Behold! verily to God belong all creatures, in the heavens and on earth. What do they follow who worship as His "partners" other than God? They follow nothing but fancy, and they do nothing but lie.

010.067 He it is That hath made you the night that ye may rest therein, and the day to make things visible (to you). Verily in this are signs for those who listen (to His Message).

010.068 They say: "God hath begotten a son!"ÑGlory be to Him! He is self-sufficient! His are all things in the heavens and on earth! No warrant have ye for this! say ye about God what ye know not?

010.069 Say: "Those who invent a lie against God will never prosper."

010.070 A little enjoyment in this world!Ñand then, to Us will be their return, then shall We make them taste the severest penalty for their blasphemies.

010.071 Relate to them the story of Noah. Behold! he said to his people: "O my people, if it be hard on your (mind) that I should stay (with you) and commemorate the signs of God,Ñyet I put my trust in God. Get ye then an agreement about your plan and among your partners, so your plan be on to you dark and dubious. Then pass your sentence on me, and give me no respite.

010.072 "But if ye turn back, (consider): no reward have I asked of you: my reward is only due from God, and I have been commanded to be of those who

submit to God's will (in Islam)."

010.073 They rejected Him, but We delivered him, and those with him, in the Ark, and We made them inherit (the earth), while We overwhelmed in the flood those who rejected Our Signs. Then see what was the end of those who were warned (but heeded not)!

010.074 Then after him We sent (many) apostles to their peoples: they brought them Clear Signs, but they would not believe what they had already rejected beforehand. Thus do We seal the hearts of the transgressors.

010.075 Then after them sent We Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh and his chiefs with Our Signs. But they were arrogant: they were a people in sin.

010.076 When the Truth did come to them from Us, they said: "This is indeed evident sorcery!"

010.077 Said Moses: "Say ye (this) about the truth when it hath (actually) reached you? Is sorcery (like) this? But sorcerers will not prosper."

010.078 They said: "Hast thou come to us to turn us away from the ways we found our fathers following,Ñin order that thou and thy brother may have greatness in the land? But not we shall believe in you!"

010.079 Said Pharaoh: "Bring me every sorcerer well versed."

010.080 When the sorcerers came, Moses said to them: "Throw ye what ye (wish) to throw!"

010.081 When they had had their throw, Moses said: "What ye have brought is sorcery: God will surely make it of no effect: for God prospereth not the work of those who make mischief.

010.082 "And God by His words doth prove and establish His truth, however much the sinners may hate it!"

010.083 But none believed in Moses except some children of his people, because of the fear of Pharaoh and his chiefs, lest they should persecute them; and certainly Pharaoh was mighty on the earth and one who transgressed all bounds.

010.084 Moses said: "O my people! If ye do (really) believe in God, then in Him put your trust if ye submit (your will to His)."

010.085 They said: "In God do we put out trust. Our Lord! make us not a trial for those who practise oppression;

010.086 "And deliver us by Thy Mercy from those who reject (Thee)."

010.087 We inspired Moses and his brother with this Message: "Provide dwellings for your people in Egypt, make your dwellings into places of worship, and establish regular prayers: and give glad tidings to those who believe!"

010.088 Moses prayed: "Our Lord! Thou hast indeed bestowed on Pharaoh and his chiefs splendour and wealth in the life of the present, and so, Our Lord, they mislead (men) from Thy Path. Deface our Lord, the features of their wealth, and

send hardness to their hearts, so they will not believe until they see the grievous penalty."

010.089 God said: "Accepted is your prayer (O Moses and Aaron)! So stand ye straight, and follow not the path of those who know not."

010.090 We took the Children of Israel across the sea: Pharaoh and his hosts followed them in insolence and spite. At length, when overwhelmed with the flood, he said: "I believe that there is no god except Him Whom the Children of Israel believe in: I am of those who submit (to God in Islam)."

010.091 (It was said to him): "Ah now!ÑBut a little while before, wast thou in rebellion!Ñand thou didst mischief (and violence)!

010.092 "This day shall We save thee in the body, that thou mayest be a sign to those who come after thee! but verily, many among mankind are heedless of Our Signs!"

010.093 We settled the Children of Israel in a beautiful dwelling-place, and provided for them sustenance of the best: it was after knowledge had been granted to them, that they fell into schisms. Verily God will judge between them as to the schisms amongst them, on the Day of Judgment.

010.094 If thou wert in doubt as to what We have revealed unto thee, then ask those who have been reading the Book from before thee: the Truth hath indeed come to thee from thy Lord: so be in no wise of those in doubt.

010.095 Nor be of those who reject the signs of God, or thou shalt be of those who perish.

010.096 Those against whom the word of thy Lord hath been verified would not believe-

010.097 Even if every Sign was brought unto them,Ñuntil they see (for themselves) the penalty grievous.

010.098 Why was there not a single township (among those We warned), which believed,Ñso its faith should have profited it,Ñexcept the people of Jonah? When they believed, We removed from them the penalty of ignominy in the life of the present, and permitted them to enjoy (their life) for a while.

010.099 If it had been thy Lord's will, they would all have believed,Ñall who are on earth! wilt thou then compel mankind, against their will, to believe!

010.100 No soul can believe, except by the will of God, and He will place doubt (or obscurity) on those who will not understand.

010.101 Say: "Behold all that is in the heavens and on earth"; but neither Signs nor Warners profit those who believe not.

010.102 Do they then expect (any thing) but (what happened in) the days of the men who passed away before them? Say: "Wait ye then: for I, too, will wait with you."

010.103 In the end We deliver Our apostles and those who believe: Thus is it fitting on Our part that We should deliver those who believe!

010.104 Say: "O ye men! If ye are in doubt as to my religion, (behold!) I worship not what ye worship, other than God! But I worship GodÑWho will take your souls (at death): I am commanded to be (in the ranks) of the Believers,

010.105 "And further (thus): 'set thy face towards religion with true piety, and never in any wise be of the Unbelievers;

010.106 "'Nor call on any, other than God;ÑSuch will neither profit thee nor hurt thee: if thou dost, behold! thou shalt certainly be of those who do wrong.'"

010.107 If God do touch thee with hurt, there is none can remove it but He: if He do design some benefit for thee, there is none can keep back His favour: He causeth it to reach whomsoever of His servants He pleaseth. And He is the Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

010.108 Say: "O ye men! Now Truth hath reached you from your Lord! those who receive guidance, do so for the good of their own souls; those who stray, do so to their own loss: and I am not (set) over you to arrange your affairs."

010.109 Follow thou the inspiration sent unto thee, and be patient and constant, till God do decide: for He is the best to decide.

HUD,
CHAPTER NO. 011

011.001 A. L. R. (This is) a Book, with verses basic or fundamental (of established meaning), further explained in detail,Ñfrom One Who is Wise and Well-acquainted (with all things):

011.002 (It teacheth) that ye should worship none but God. (Say): "Verily I am (sent) unto you from Him to warn and to bring glad tidings:

011.003 "(And to preach thus), 'Seek ye the forgiveness of your Lord, and turn to Him in repentance; that He may grant you enjoyment, good (and true), for a term appointed, and bestow His abounding grace on all who abound in merit! But if ye turn away, then I fear for you the penalty of a great day:

011.004 'To God is your return, and He hath power over all things.'"

011.005 Behold! they fold up their hearts, that they may lie hid from Him! Ah even when they cover themselves with their garments, He knoweth what they conceal, and what they reveal: for He knoweth well the (inmost secrets) of the hearts.

011.006 There is no moving creature on earth but its sustenance dependeth on God: He knoweth the time and place of its definite abode and its temporary deposit: All is in a clear Record.

011.007 He it is Who created the heavens and the earth in six DaysÑand His Throne was over the watersÑthat He might try you, which of you is best in

conduct. But if thou wert to say to them, "Ye shall indeed be raised up after death", the Unbelievers would be sure to say, "This is nothing but obvious sorcery!"

011.008 If We delay the penalty for them for a definite term, they are sure to say, "What keeps it back?" Ah! On the day it (actually) reaches them, nothing will turn it away from them, and they will be completely encircled by that which they used to mock at!

011.009 If We give man a taste of Mercy from Ourselves, and then withdraw it from him, behold! he is in despair and (falls into) blasphemy.

011.010 But if We give him a taste of (Our) favours after adversity hath touched him, he is sure to say, "All evil has departed from me:" Behold! he falls into exultation and pride.

011.011 Not so do those who show patience and constancy, and work righteousness; for them is forgiveness (of sins) and a great reward.

011.012 Perchance thou mayest (feel the inclination) to give up a part of what is revealed unto thee, and thy heart feeleth straitened lest they say, "Why is not a treasure sent down unto him, or why does not an angel come down with him?" But thou art there only to warn! It is God that arrangeth all affairs!

011.013 Or they may say, "He forged it," Say, "Bring ye then ten suras forged, like unto it, and call (to your aid) whomsoever ye can, other than God!ÑIf ye speak the truth!

011.014 "If then they (your false gods) answer not your (call), know ye that this revelation is sent down (replete) with the knowledge of God, and that there is no god but He! will ye even then submit (to Islam)?"

011.015 Those who desire the life of the present and its glitter,Ñto them we shall pay (the price of) their deeds therein,Ñwithout diminution.

011.016 They are those for whom there is nothing in the Hereafter but the Fire: vain are the designs they frame therein, and of no effect and the deeds that they do!

011.017 Can they be (like) those who accept a Clear (Sign) from their Lord, and whom a witness from Himself doth teach, as did the Book of Moses before it,Ña guide and a mercy? They believe therein; but those of the Sects that reject it,Ñthe Fire will be their promised meeting-place. Be not then in doubt thereon: for it is the truth from thy Lord: yet many among men do not believe!

011.018 Who doth more wrong than those who invent a life against God? They will be turned back to the presence of their Lord, and the witnesses will say, "These are the ones who lied against their Lord! Behold! the Curse of God is on those who do wrong!-

011.019 "Those who would hinder (men) from the path of God and would seek in it something crooked: these were they who denied the Hereafter!"

011.020 They will in no wise frustrate (His design) on earth, nor have they protectors besides God! Their penalty will be doubled! They lost the power to hear, and they did not see!

011.021 They are the ones who have lost their own souls: and the (fancies) they invented have left them in the lurch!

011.022 Without a doubt, these are the very ones who will lose most in the Hereafter!

011.023 But those who believe and work righteousness, and humble themselves before their Lord,ÑThey will be companions of the gardens, to dwell therein for aye!

011.024 These two kinds (of men) may be compared to the blind and deaf, and those who can see and hear well. Are they equal when compared? Will ye not then take heed?

011.025 We sent Noah to his people (with a mission): "I have come to you with a Clear Warning:

011.026 "That ye serve none but God: Verily I do fear for you the penalty of a grievous day."

011.027 But the chiefs of the Unbelievers among his people said: "We see (in) thee nothing but a man like ourselves: Nor do we see that any follow thee but the meanest among us, in judgment immature: Nor do we see in you (all) any merit above us: in fact we think ye are liars!"

011.028 He said: "O my people! See ye if (it be that) I have a Clear Sign from my Lord, and that He hath sent Mercy unto me from His own presence, but that the Mercy hath been obscured from your sight? shall we compel you to accept it when ye are averse to it?

011.029 "And O my people! I ask you for no wealth in return: my reward is from none but God: But I will not drive away (in contempt) those who believe: for verily they are to meet their Lord, and ye I see are the ignorant ones!

011.030 "And O my people! who would help me against God if I drove them away? Will ye not then take heed?

011.031 "I tell you not that with me are the treasures of God, nor do I know what is hidden, nor claim I to be an angel. Nor yet do I say, of those whom your eyes do despise that God will not grant them (all) that is good: God knoweth best what is in their souls: I should, if I did, indeed be a wrong-doer."

011.032 They said: "O Noah! thou hast disputed with us, and (much) hast thou prolonged the dispute with us: now bring upon us what thou threatenest us with, if thou speakest the truth!?"

011.033 He said: "Truly, God will bring it on you if He wills,Ñand then, ye will not be able to frustrate it!

011.034 "Of no profit will be my counsel to you, much as I desire to give you (good) counsel, if it be that God willeth to leave you astray: He is your Lord! and to Him will ye return!"

011.035 Or do they say, "He has forged it"? Say: "If I had forged it, on me were my sin! and I am free of the sins of which ye are guilty!

011.036 It was revealed to Noah: "None of thy people will believe except those who have believed already! So grieve no longer over their (evil) deeds.

011.037 "But construct an Ark under Our eyes and Our inspiration, and address Me no (further) on behalf of those who are in sin: for they are about to be overwhelmed (in the Flood)."

011.038 Forthwith he (starts) constructing the Ark: Every time that the chiefs of his people passed by him, they threw ridicule on him. He said: "If ye ridicule us now, we (in our turn) can look down on you with ridicule likewise!

011.039 "But soon will ye know who it is on whom will descend a penalty that will cover them with shame,Ñon whom will be unloosed a penalty lasting:"

011.040 At length, behold! there came Our command, and the fountains of the earth gushed forth! We said: "Embark therein, of each kind two, male and female, and your familyÑexcept those against whom the word has already gone forth,Ñand the Believers." but only a few believed with him.

011.041 So he said: "Embark ye on the Ark, In the name of God, whether it move or be at rest! For my Lord is, be sure, Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful!"

011.042 So the Ark floated with them on the waves (towering) like mountains, and Noah called out to his son, who had separated himself (from the rest): "O my son! embark with us, and be not with the unbelievers!"

011.043 The son replied: "I will betake myself to some mountain: it will save me from the water." Noah said: "This day nothing can save, from the command of God, any but those on whom He hath mercy! "And the waves came between them, and the son was among those overwhelmed in the Flood.

011.044 Then the word went forth: "O earth! swallow up thy water, and O sky! Withhold (thy rain)!" and the water abated, and the matter was ended. The Ark rested on Mount Judi, and the word went forth: "Away with those who do wrong!"

011.045 And Noah called upon his Lord, and said: "O my Lord! surely my son is of my family! and Thy promise is true, and Thou art the justest of Judges!"

011.046 He said: "O Noah! He is not of thy family: For his conduct is unrighteous. So ask not of Me that of which thou hast no knowledge! I give thee counsel, lest thou act like the ignorant!"

011.047 Noah said: "O my Lord! I do seek refuge with Thee, lest I ask Thee for that of which I have no knowledge. And unless thou forgive me and have Mercy on me, I should indeed be lost!"

011.048 The word came: "O Noah! Come down (from the Ark) with peace from Us,

and blessing on thee and on some of the peoples (who will spring) from those with thee: but (there will be other) peoples to whom We shall grant their pleasures (for a time), but in the end will a grievous penalty reach them from Us."

011.049 Such are some of the stories of the unseen, which We have revealed unto thee: before this, neither thou nor thy people knew them. So persevere patiently: for the End is for those who are righteous.

011.050 To the 'Ad People (We sent) Hud, one of their own brethren. He said: "O my people! worship God! ye have no other god but Him. (Your other gods) ye do nothing but invent!

011.051 "O my people! I ask of you no reward for this (Message). My reward is from none but Him who created me: Will ye not then understand?

011.052 "And O my people! Ask forgiveness of your Lord, and turn to Him (in repentance): He will send you the skies pouring abundant rain, and add strength to your strength: so turn ye not back in sin!"

011.053 They said: "O Hud! No Clear (Sign) that hast thou brought us, and we are not the ones to desert our gods on thy word! Nor shall we believe in thee!

011.054 "We say nothing but that (perhaps) some of our gods may have seized thee with imbecility." He said: "I call God to witness, and do ye bear witness, that I am free from the sin of ascribing, to Him,

011.055 "Other gods as partners! so scheme (your worst) against me, all of you, and give me no respite.

011.056 "I put my trust in God, My Lord and your Lord! There is not a moving creature, but He hath grasp of its fore-lock. Verily, it is my Lord that is on a straight Path.

011.057 "If ye turn away,ÑI (at least) have conveyed the Message with which I was sent to you. My Lord will make another people to succeed you, and you will not harm Him in the least. For my Lord hath care and watch over all things."

011.058 So when Our decree issued, We saved Hud and those who believed with him, by (special) Grace from Ourselves: We saved them from a severe penalty.

011.059 Such were the 'Ad People: they rejected the Signs of their Lord and Cherisher; disobeyed His apostles; And followed the command of every powerful, obstinate transgressor.

011.060 And they were pursued by a Curse in this life,Ñand on the Day of Judgment. Ah! Behold! for the 'Ad rejected their Lord and Cherisher! Ah! Behold! removed (from sight) were 'Ad the people of Hud!

011.061 To the Thamud People (We sent) Salih, one of their own brethren. He said: "O my people! Worship God: ye have no other god but Him. It is He Who hath produced you from the earth and settled you therein: then ask forgiveness of Him, and turn to Him (in repentance): for my Lord is (always) near, ready to

answer."

011.062 They said: "O Salih! thou hast been of us! a centre of our hopes hitherto! dost thou (now) forbid us the worship of what our fathers worshipped? But we are really in suspicious (disquieting) doubt as to that to which thou invitest us."

011.063 He said: "O my people! do ye see? if I have a Clear (Sign) from my Lord and He hath sent Mercy unto me from Himself,Ñwho then can help me against God if I were to disobey Him? What then would ye add to my (portion) but perdition?

011.064 "And O my people! This she-camel of God is a symbol to you: leave her to feed on God's (free) earth, and inflict no harm on her, or a swift penalty will seize you!"

011.065 But they did ham-string her. So he said: "Enjoy yourselves in your homes for three days: (Then will be your ruin): (Behold) there a promise not to be belied!"

011.066 When Our Decree issued, We saved Salih and those who believed with him, by (special) Grace from OurselvesÑand from the Ignominy of that day. For thy LordÑHe is the Strong One, and able to enforce His Will.

011.067 The (mighty) Blast overtook the wrong-doers, and they lay prostrate in their homes before the morning,-

011.068 As if they had never dwelt and flourished there. Ah! Behold! for the Thamud rejected their Lord and Cherisher! Ah! Behold! removed (from sight) were the Thamud!

011.069 There came Our messengers to Abraham with glad tidings. They said, "Peace!" He answered, "Peace!" and hastened to entertain them with a roasted calf.

011.070 But when he saw their hands went not towards the (meal), he felt some mistrust of them, and conceived a fear of them. They said: "Fear not: We have been sent against the people of Lut."

011.071 And his wife was standing (there), and she laughed: But we gave her glad tidings of Isaac, and after him, of Jacob.

011.072 She said: "Alas for me! shall I bear a child, seeing I am an old woman, and my husband here is an old man? That would indeed be a wonderful thing!"

011.073 They said: "Dost thou wonder at God's decree? The grace of God and His blessings on you, o ye people of the house! for He is indeed worthy of all praise, full of all glory!"

011.074 When fear had passed from (the mind of) Abraham and the glad tidings had reached him, he began to plead with us for Lut's people.

011.075 For Abraham was, without doubt, forbearing (of faults), compassionate, and given to look to God.

011.076 O Abraham! Seek not this. The decree of thy Lord hath gone forth: for them there cometh a penalty that cannot be turned back!

011.077 When Our messengers came to Lut, he was grieved on their account and felt himself powerless (to protect) them. He said: "This is a distressful day."

011.078 And his people came rushing towards him, and they had been long in the habit of practising abominations. He said: "O my people! Here are my daughters: they are purer for you (if ye marry)! Now fear God, and cover me not with shame about my guests! Is there not among you a single right-minded man?"

011.079 They said: "Well dost thou know we have no need of thy daughters: indeed thou knowest quite well what we want!"

011.080 He said: "Would that I had power to suppress you or that I could betake myself to some powerful support."

011.081 (The Messengers) said: "O Lut! We are Messengers from thy Lord! By no means shall they reach thee! now travel with thy family while yet a part of the night remains, and let not any of you look back: but thy wife (will remain behind): To her will happen what happens to the people. Morning is their time appointed: Is not the morning nigh?"

011.082 When Our Decree issued, We turned (the cities) upside down, and rained down on them brimstones hard as baked clay, spread, layer on layer,-

011.083 Marked as from thy Lord: Nor are they ever far from those who do wrong!

011.084 To the Madyan People (We sent) Shu'aib, one of their own brethren: he said: "O my people! worship God: Ye have no other god but Him. And give not short measure or weight: I see you in prosperity, but I fear for you the penalty of a day that will compass (you) all round.

011.085 "And O my people! give just measure and weight, nor withhold from the people the things that are their due: commit not evil in the land with intent to do mischief.

011.086 "That which is left you by God is best for you, if ye (but) believed! but I am not set over you to keep watch!"

011.087 They said: "O Shu'aib! Does thy (religion of) prayer command thee that we leave off the worship which our fathers practised, or that we leave off doing what we like with our property? truly, thou art the one that forbeareth with faults and is right-minded!"

011.088 He said: "O my people! see ye whether I have a Clear (Sign) from my Lord, and He hath given me sustenance (pure and) good as from Himself? I wish not, in opposition to you, to do that which I forbid you to do. I only desire (your) betterment to the best of my power; and my success (in my task) can only come from God. In Him I trust, and unto Him I look.

011.089 "And O my people! let not my dissent (from you) cause you to sin, lest ye suffer a fate similar to that of the people of Noah or of Hud or of Salih,

nor are the people of Lut far off from you!

011.090 "But ask forgiveness of your Lord, and turn unto Him (in repentance): For my Lord is indeed full of mercy and loving-kindness."

011.091 They said: "O Shu'aib! much of what thou sayest we do not understand! In fact among us we see that thou hast no strength! Were it not for thy family, we should certainly have stoned thee! for thou hast among us no great position!"

011.092 He said: "O my people! is then my family of more consideration with you than God? For ye cast Him away behind your backs (with contempt). But verily my Lord encompasseth on all sides all that ye do!

011.093 "And O my people! Do whatever ye can: I will do (my part): Soon will ye know who it is on whom descends the penalty of ignominy; and who is a liar! and watch ye! for I too am watching with you!"

011.094 When Our decree issued, We saved Shu'aib and those who believed with him, by (special) mercy from Ourselves: But the (mighty) blast did seize the wrong-doers, and they lay prostrate in their homes by the morning,-

011.095 As if they had never dwelt and flourished there! Ah! Behold! How the Madyan were removed (from sight) as were removed the Thamud!

011.096 And we sent Moses, with Our Clear (Signs) and an authority manifest,

011.097 Unto Pharaoh and his chiefs: but they followed the command of Pharaoh and the command of Pharaoh was no right (guide).

011.098 He will go before his people on the Day of Judgment, and lead them into the Fire (as cattle are led to water): But woeful indeed will be the place to which they are led!

011.099 And they are followed by a curse in this (life) and on the Day of Judgment: and woeful is the gift which shall be given (unto them)!

011.100 These are some of the stories of communities which We relate unto thee: of them some are standing, and some have been mown down (by the sickle of time).

011.101 It was not We that wronged them: They wronged their own souls: the deities, other than God, whom they invoked, profited them no whit when there issued the decree of thy Lord: Nor did they add aught (to their lot) but perdition!

011.102 Such is the chastisement of thy Lord when He chastises communities in the midst of their wrong: grievous, indeed, and severe is His chastisement.

011.103 In that is a Sign for those who fear the penalty of the Hereafter: that is a Day for which mankind will be gathered together: that will be a Day of Testimony.

011.104 Nor shall We delay it but for a term appointed.

011.105 The day it arrives, no soul shall speak except by His leave: of those (gathered) some will be wretched and some will be blessed.

011.106 Those who are wretched shall be in the Fire: There will be for them therein (nothing but) the heaving of sighs and sobs:

011.107 They will dwell therein for all the time that the heavens and the earth endure, except as thy Lord willeth: for thy Lord is the (sure) accomplisher of what He planneth.

011.108 And those who are blessed shall be in the Garden: They will dwell therein for all the time that the heavens and the earth endure, except as thy Lord willeth: a gift without break.

011.109 Be not then in doubt as to what these men worship. They worship nothing but what their fathers worshipped before (them): but verily We shall pay them back (in full) their portion without (the least) abatement.

011.110 We certainly gave the Book to Moses, but differences arose therein: had it not been that a word had gone forth before from thy Lord, the matter would have been decided between them, but they are in suspicious doubt concerning it.

011.111 And, of a surety, to all will your Lord pay back (in full the recompense) of their deeds: for He knoweth well all that they do.

011.112 Therefore stand firm (in the straight Path) as thou art commanded,Ñthou and those who with thee turn (unto God); and transgress not (from the Path): for He seeth well all that ye do.

011.113 And incline not to those who do wrong, or the Fire will seize you; and ye have no protectors other than God, nor shall ye be helped.

011.114 And establish regular prayers at the two ends of the day and at the approaches of the night: For those things, that are good remove those that are evil: Be that the word of remembrance to those who remember (their Lord):

011.115 And be steadfast in patience; for verily God will not suffer the reward of the righteous to perish.

011.116 Why were there not, among the generations before you, persons possessed of balanced good sense, prohibiting (men) from mischief in the earthÑexcept a few among them whom We saved (from harm)? But the wrong-doers pursued the enjoyment of the good things of life which were given them, and persisted in sin.

011.117 Nor would thy Lord be the One to destroy communities for a single wrong-doing, if its members were likely to mend.

011.118 If thy Lord had so willed, He could have made mankind one people: but they will not cease to dispute.

011.119 Except those on whom thy Lord hath bestowed His Mercy: and for this did He create them: and the Word of thy Lord shall be fulfilled: "I will fill Hell with jinns and men all together."

011.120 All that we relate to thee of the stories of the apostles,Ñwith it We make firm thy heart: in them there cometh to thee the Truth, as well as an exhortation and a message of remembrance to those who believe.

011.121 Say to those who do not believe: "Do what ever ye can: We shall do our part;

011.122 "And wait ye! We too shall wait."

011.123 To God do belong the unseen (secrets) of the heavens and the earth, and to Him goeth back every affair (for decision): then worship Him, and put thy trust in Him: and thy Lord is not unmindful of aught that ye do.

JOSEPH,
CHAPTER NO. 012

012.001 A.L.R. These are the symbols (or Verses) of the perspicuous Book.

012.002 We have sent it down as an Arabic Qur'an, in order that ye may learn wisdom.

012.003 We do relate unto thee the most beautiful of stories, in that We reveal to thee this (portion of the) Qur'an: before this, thou too was among those who knew it not.

012.004 Behold! Joseph said to his father: "O my father! I did see eleven stars and the sun and the moon: I saw them prostrate themselves to me!"

012.005 Said (the father): "My (dear) little son! relate not thy vision to thy brothers, lest they concoct a plot against thee: for Satan is to man an avowed enemy!

012.006 "Thus will thy Lord choose thee and teach thee the interpretation of stories (and events) and perfect His favour to thee and to the posterity of JacobÑeven as He perfected it to thy fathers Abraham and Isaac aforetime! for God is full of knowledge and wisdom."

012.007 Verily in Joseph and his brethren are signs (or symbols) for seekers (after Truth).

012.008 They said: "Truly Joseph and his brother are loved more by our father than we: But we are a goodly body! really our father is obviously wandering (in his mind)!

012.009 "Slay ye Joseph or cast him out to some (unknown) land, that so the favour of your father may be given to you alone: (there will be time enough) for you to be righteous after that!"

012.010 Said one of them: "Slay not Joseph, but if ye must do something, throw him down to the bottom of the well: he will be picked up by some caravan of travellers."

012.011 They said: "O our father! why dost thou not trust us with Joseph,Ñseeing we are indeed his sincere well-wishers?

012.012 "Send him with us tomorrow to enjoy himself and play, and we shall take every care of him."

012.013 (Jacob) said: "Really it saddens me that ye should take him away: I fear lest the wolf should devour him while ye attend not to him."

012.014 They said: "If the wolf were to devour him while we are (so large) a party, then should we indeed (first) have perished ourselves!"

012.015 So they did take him away, and they all agreed to throw him down to the bottom of the well: and We put into his heart (this Message): 'Of a surety thou shalt (one day) tell them the truth of this their affair while they know (thee) not'

012.016 Then they came to their father in the early part of the night, weeping.

012.017 They said: "O our father! We went racing with one another, and left Joseph with our things; and the wolf devoured him.... But thou wilt never believe us even though we tell the truth."

012.018 They stained his shirt with false blood. He said: "Nay, but your minds have made up a tale (that may pass) with you, (for me) patience is most fitting: Against that which ye assert, it is God (alone) Whose help can be sought"..

012.019 Then there came a caravan of travellers: they sent their water-carrier (for water), and he let down his bucket (into the well)...He said: "Ah there! Good news! Here is a (fine) young man!" So they concealed him as a treasure! But God knoweth well all that they do!

012.020 The (Brethren) sold him for a miserable price, for a few dirhams counted out: in such low estimation did they hold him!

012.021 The man in Egypt who bought him, said to his wife: "Make his stay (among us) honourable: may be he will bring us much good, or we shall adopt him as a son." Thus did We establish Joseph in the land, that We might teach him the interpretation of stories (and events). And God hath full power and control over His affairs; but most among mankind know it not.

012.022 When Joseph attained His full manhood, We gave him power and knowledge: thus do We reward those who do right.

012.023 But she in whose house he was, sought to seduce him from his (true) self: she fastened the doors, and said: "Now come, thou (dear one)!" He said: "God forbid! truly (thy husband) is my lord! he made my sojourn agreeable! truly to no good come those who do wrong!"

012.024 And (with passion) did she desire him, and he would have desired her, but that he saw the evidence of his Lord: thus (did We order) that We might turn away from him (all) evil and shameful deeds: for he was one of Our servants, sincere and purified.

012.025 So they both raced each other to the door, and she tore his shirt from

the back: they both found her lord near the door. She said: "What is the (fitting) punishment for one who formed an evil design against thy wife, but prison or a grievous chastisement?"

012.026 He said: "It was she that sought to seduce meÑfrom my (true) self." And one of her household saw (this) and bore witness, (thus):Ñ"If it be that his shirt is rent from the front, then is her tale true, and he is a liar!

012.027 "But if it be that his shirt is torn from the back, then is she the liar, and he is telling the truth!"

012.028 So when he saw his shirt,Ñthat it was torn at the back,Ñ(her husband) said: "Behold! It is a snare of you women! truly, mighty is your snare!

012.029 "O Joseph, pass this over! (O wife), ask forgiveness for thy sin, for truly thou hast been at fault!"

012.030 Ladies said in the City: "The wife of the (great) 'Aziz is seeking to seduce her slave from his (true) self: Truly hath he inspired her with violent love: we see she is evidently going astray."

012.031 When she heard of their malicious talk, she sent for them and prepared a banquet for them: she gave each of them a knife: and she said (to Joseph), "Come out before them." When they saw him, they did extol him, and (in their amazement) cut their hands: they said, "God preserve us! no mortal is this! this is none other than a noble angel!"

012.032 She said: "There before you is the man about whom ye did blame me! I did seek to seduce him from his (true) self but he did firmly save himself guiltless!....and now, if he doth not my bidding, he shall certainly be cast into prison, and (what is more) be of the company of the vilest!"

012.033 He said: "O my Lord! the prison is more to my liking than that to which they invite me: Unless Thou turn away their snare from me, I should (in my youthful folly) feel inclined towards them and join the ranks of the ignorant."

012.034 So his Lord hearkened to him (in his prayer), and turned away from him their snare: Verily He heareth and knoweth (all things).

012.035 Then it occurred to the men, after they had seen the signs, (that it was best) to imprison him for a time.

012.036 Now with him there came into the prison two young men. Said one of them: "I see myself (in a dream) pressing wine." said the other: "I see myself (in a dream) carrying bread on my head, and birds are eating, thereof." "Tell us" (they said) "The truth and meaning thereof: for we see thou art one that doth good (to all)."

012.037 He said: "Before any food comes (in due course) to feed either of you, I will surely reveal to you the truth and meaning of this ere it befall you: that is part of the (duty) which my Lord hath taught me. I have (I assure you) abandoned the ways of a people that believe not in God and that (even) deny the Hereafter.

012.038 "And I follow the ways of my fathers,ÑAbraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and never could we attribute any partners whatever to God: that (comes) of the grace of God to us and to mankind: yet most men are not grateful.

012.039 "O my two companions of the prison! (I ask you): are many lords differing among themselves better, or the One God, Supreme and Irresistible?

012.040 "If not Him, ye worship nothing but names which ye have named,Ñye and your fathers,Ñfor which God hath sent down no authority: the command is for none but God: He hath commanded that ye worship none but Him: that is the right religion, but most men understand not...

012.041 "O my two companions of the prison! As to one of you, he will pour out the wine for his lord to drink: as for the other, he will hang from the cross, and the birds will eat from off his head. (so) hath been decreed that matter whereof ye twain do enquire"...

012.042 And of the two, to that one whom he consider about to be saved, he said: "Mention me to thy lord." But Satan made him forget to mention him to his lord: and (Joseph) lingered in prison a few (more) years.

012.043 The king (of Egypt) said: "I do see (in a vision) seven fat kine, whom seven lean ones devour, and seven green ears of corn, and seven (others) withered. O ye chiefs! Expound to me my vision if it be that ye can interpret visions."

012.044 They said: "A confused medley of dreams: and we are not skilled in the interpretation of dreams."

012.045 But the man who had been released, one of the two (who had been in prison) and who now bethought him after (so long) a space of time, said: "I will tell you the truth of its interpretation: send ye me (therefore)."

012.046 "O Joseph!" (he said) "O man of truth! Expound to us (the dream) of seven fat kine whom seven lean ones devour, and of seven green ears of corn and (seven) others withered: that I may return to the people, and that they may understand."

012.047 (Joseph) said: "For seven years shall ye diligently sow as is your wont: and the harvests that ye reap, ye shall leave them in the ear,Ñexcept a little, of which ye shall eat.

012.048 "Then will come after that (period) seven dreadful (years), which will devour what ye shall have laid by in advance for them,Ñ(all) except a little which ye shall have (specially) guarded.

012.049 "Then will come after that (period) a year in which the people will have abundant water, and in which they will press (wine and oil)."

012.050 So the king said: "Bring ye him unto me." But when the messenger came to him, (Joseph) said: "Go thou back to thy lord, and ask him, 'What is the state of mind of the ladies who cut their hands'? For my Lord is certainly well aware of their snare."

012.051 (The king) said (to the ladies): "What was your affair when ye did seek to seduce Joseph from his (true) self?" The ladies said: "God preserve us! no evil know we against him!" Said the 'Aziz's wife: "Now is the truth manifest (to all): it was I who sought to seduce him from his (true) self: He is indeed of those who are (ever) true (and virtuous).

012.052 "This (say I), in order that He may know that I have never been false to him in his absence, and that God will never guide the snare of the false ones.

012.053 "Nor do I absolve my own self (of blame): the (human) soul is certainly prone to evil, unless my Lord do bestow His Mercy: but surely my Lord is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful."

012.054 So the king said: "Bring him unto me; I will take him specially to serve about my own person." Therefore when he had spoken to him, he said: "Be assured this day, thou art, before our own presence, with rank firmly established, and fidelity fully proved!

012.055 (Joseph) said: "Set me over the store-houses of the land: I will indeed guard them, as one that knows (their importance)."

012.056 Thus did We give established power to Joseph in the land, to take possession therein as, when, or where he pleased. We bestow of our Mercy on whom We please, and We suffer not, to be lost, the reward of those who do good.

012.057 But verily the reward of the Hereafter is the best, for those who believe, and are constant in righteousness.

012.058 Then came Joseph's brethren: they entered his presence, and he knew them, but they knew him not.

012.059 And when he had furnished them forth with provisions (suitable) for them, he said: "Bring unto me a brother ye have, of the same father as yourselves, (but a different mother): see ye not that I pay out full measure, and that I do provide the best hospitality?

012.060 "Now if ye bring him not to me, ye shall have no measure (of corn) from me, nor shall ye (even) come near me."

012.061 They said: "We shall certainly seek to get our wish about him from his father: Indeed we shall do it."

012.062 And (Joseph) told his servants to put their stock-in-trade (with which they had bartered) into their saddle-bags, so they should know it only when they returned to their people, in order that they might come back.

012.063 Now when they returned to their father, they said: "O our father! No more measure of grain shall we get (unless we take our brother): So send our brother with us, that we may get our measure; and we will indeed take every care of him."

012.064 He said: "Shall I trust you with him with any result other than when I

trusted you with his brother aforetime? But God is the best to take care (of him), and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!"

012.065 Then when they opened their baggage, they found their stock-in-trade had been returned to them. They said: "O our father! What (more) can we desire? this our stock-in-trade has been returned to us: so we shall get (more) food for our family; We shall take care of our brother; and add (at the same time) a full camel's load (of grain to our provisions). This is but a small quantity.

012.066 (Jacob) said: "Never will I send him with you until ye swear a solemn oath to me, in God's name, that ye will be sure to bring him back to me unless ye are yourselves hemmed in (and made powerless). And when they had sworn their solemn oath, he said: "Over all that we say, be God the witness and guardian!"

012.067 Further he said: "O my sons! enter not all by one gate: enter ye by different gates. Not that I can profit you aught against God (with my advice): None can command except God: On Him do I put my trust: and let all that trust put their trust on Him."

012.068 And when they entered in the manner their father had enjoined, it did not profit them in the least against (the plan of) God: It was but a necessity of Jacob's soul, which he discharged. For he was, by our instruction, full of knowledge (and experience): but most men know not.

012.069 Now when they came into Joseph's presence, he received his (full) brother to stay with him. He said (to him): "Behold! I am thy (own) brother; so grieve not at aught of their doings."

012.070 At length when he had furnished them forth with provisions (suitable) for them, he put the drinking cup into his brother's saddle-bag. Then shouted out a crier: "O ye (in) the caravan! behold! ye are thieves, without doubt!"

012.071 They said, turning towards them: "What is it that ye miss?"

012.072 They said: "We miss the great beaker of the king; for him who produces it, is (the reward of) a camel load; I will be bound by it."

012.073 (The brothers) said: "By God! well ye know that we came not to make mischief in the land, and we are no thieves!"

012.074 (The Egyptians) said: "What then shall be the penalty of this, if ye are (proved) to have lied?"

012.075 They said: "The penalty should be that he in whose saddle-bag it is found, should be held (as bondman) to atone for the (crime). Thus it is we punish the wrong-doers!"

012.076 So he began (the search) with their baggage, before (he came to) the baggage of his brother: at length he brought it out of his brother's baggage. Thus did We plan for Joseph. He could not take his brother by the law of the king except that God willed it (so). We raise to degrees (of wisdom) whom We please: but over all endued with knowledge is one, the All-Knowing.

012.077 They said: "If he steals, there was a brother of his who did steal before (him)." But these things did Joseph keep locked in his heart, revealing not the secrets to them. He (simply) said (to himself): "Ye are the worse situated; and God knoweth best the truth of what ye assert!"

012.078 They said: "O exalted one! Behold! he has a father, aged and venerable, (who will grieve for him); so take one of us in his place; for we see that thou art (gracious) in doing good."

012.079 He said: "God forbid that we take other than him with whom we found our property: indeed (if we did so), we should be acting wrongfully.

012.080 Now when they saw no hope of his (yielding), they held a conference in private. The leader among them said: "Know ye not that your father did take an oath from you in God's name, and how, before this, ye did fail in your duty with Joseph? Therefore will I not leave this land until my father permits me, or God commands me; and He is the best to command.

012.081 "Turn ye back to your father, and say, 'O our father! behold! thy son committed theft! we bear witness only to what we know, and we could not well guard against the unseen!

012.082 "'Ask at the town where we have been and the caravan in which we returned, and (you will find) we are indeed telling the truth.'"

012.083 Jacob said: "Nay, but ye have yourselves contrived a story (good enough) for you. So patience is most fitting (for me). Maybe God will bring them (back) all to me (in the end). For He is indeed full of knowledge and wisdom."

012.084 And he turned away from them, and said: "How great is my grief for Joseph!" And his eyes became white with sorrow, and he fell into silent melancholy.

012.085 They said: "By God! (never) wilt thou cease to remember Joseph until thou reach the last extremity of illness, or until thou die!"

012.086 He said: "I only complain of my distraction and anguish to God, and I know from God that which ye know not...

012.087 "O my sons! go ye and enquire about Joseph and his brother, and never give up hope of God's Soothing Mercy: truly no one despairs of God's Soothing Mercy, except those who have no faith."

012.088 Then, when they came (back) into (Joseph's) presence they said: "O exalted one! distress has seized us and our family: we have (now) brought but scanty capital: so pay us full measure, (we pray thee), and treat it as charity to us: for God doth reward the charitable."

012.089 He said: "Know ye how ye dealt with Joseph and his brother, not knowing (what ye were doing)?"

012.090 They said: "Art thou indeed Joseph?" He said, "I am Joseph, and this is

my brother: God has indeed been gracious to us (all): behold, he that is righteous and patient,Ñnever will God suffer the reward to be lost, of those who do right."

012.091 They said: "By God! indeed has God preferred thee above us, and we certainly have been guilty of sin!"

012.092 He said: "This day let no reproach be (cast) on you: God will forgive you, and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!

012.093 "Go with this my shirt, and cast it over the face of my father: he will come to see (clearly). Then come ye (here) to me together with all your family."

012.094 When the caravan left (Egypt), their father said: "I do indeed scent the presence of Joseph: Nay, think me not a dotard."

012.095 They said: "By God! truly thou art in thine old wandering mind."

012.096 Then when the bearer of the good news came, He cast (the shirt) over his face, and he forthwith regained clear sight. He said: "Did I not say to you, 'I know from God that which ye know not?'"

012.097 They said: "O our father! ask for us forgiveness for our sins, for we were truly at fault."

012.098 He said: "Soon will I ask my Lord for forgiveness for you: for he is indeed Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

012.099 Then when they entered the presence of Joseph, he provided a home for his parents with himself, and said: "Enter ye Egypt (all) in safety if it please God."

012.100 And he raised his parents high on the throne (of dignity), and they fell down in prostration, (all) before him. He said: "O my father! this is the fulfilment of my vision of old! God hath made it come true! He was indeed good to me when He took me out of prison and brought you (all here) out of the desert, (even) after Satan had sown enmity between me and my brothers. Verily my Lord understandeth best the mysteries of all that He planneth to do, for verily He is full of knowledge and wisdom.

012.101 "O my Lord! Thou hast indeed bestowed on me some power, and taught me something of the interpretation of dreams and events,ÑO Thou Creator of the heavens and the earth! Thou art my Protector in this world and in the Hereafter. Take Thou my soul (at death) as one submitting to Thy will (as a Muslim), and unite me with the righteous."

012.102 Such is one of the stories of what happened unseen, which We reveal by inspiration unto thee; nor wast thou (present) with them then when they concerted their plans together in the process of weaving their plots.

012.103 Yet no faith will the greater part of mankind have, however ardently thou dost desire it.

012.104 And no reward dost thou ask of them for this: it is no less than a message for all creatures.

012.105 And how many Signs in the heavens and the earth do they pass by? Yet they turn (their faces) away from them!

012.106 And most of them believe not in God without associating (other as partners) with Him!

012.107 Do they then feel secure from the coming against them of the covering veil of the wrath of God,Ñor of the coming against them of the (final) Hour all of a sudden while they perceive not?

012.108 Say thou: "This is my way: I do invite unto God,Ñon evidence clear as the seeing with one's eyes,ÑI and whoever follows me. Glory to God! and never will I join gods with God!"

012.109 Nor did We send before thee (as apostles) any but men, whom we did inspire,Ñ(men) living in human habitations. Do they not travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those before them? But the home of the hereafter is best, for those who do right. Will ye not then understand?

012.110 (Respite will be granted) until, when the apostles give up hope (of their people) and (come to) think that they were treated as liars, there reaches them Our help, and those whom We will are delivered into safety. But never will be warded off our punishment from those who are in sin.

012.111 There is, in their stories, instruction for men endued with understanding. It is not a tale invented, but a confirmation of what went before it,Ña detailed exposition of all things, and a guide and a mercy to any such as believe.

THE THUNDER,
CHAPTER NO. 013

013.001 A.L.M.R. These are the signs (or verses) of the Book: that which hath been revealed unto thee from thy Lord is the Truth; but most men believe not.

013.002 God is He Who raised the heavens without any pillars that ye can see; is firmly established on the throne (of authority); He has subjected the sun and the moon (to his Law)! Each one runs (its course) for a term appointed. He doth regulate all affairs, explaining the signs in detail, that ye may believe with certainty in the meeting with your Lord.

013.003 And it is He who spread out the earth, and set thereon mountains standing firm and (flowing) rivers: and fruit of every kind He made in pairs, two and two: He draweth the night as a veil o'er the Day. Behold, verily in these things there are signs for those who consider!

013.004 And in the earth are tracts (diverse though) neighbouring, and gardens of vines and fields sown with corn, and palm treesÑgrowing out of single roots or otherwise: watered with the same water, yet some of them We make more excellent than others to eat. Behold, verily in these things there are signs

for those who understand!

013.005 If thou dost marvel (at their want of faith), strange is their saying: "When we are (actually) dust, shall we indeed then be in a creation renewed?" They are those who deny their Lord! They are those round whose necks will be yokes (of servitude): they will be Companions of the Fire, to dwell therein (for aye)!

013.006 They ask thee to hasten on the evil in preference to the good: Yet have come to pass, before them, (many) exemplary punishments! But verily thy Lord is full of forgiveness for mankind for their wrong-doing, and verily thy Lord is (also) strict in punishment.

013.007 And the Unbelievers say: "Why is not a sign sent down to him from his Lord?" But thou art truly a warner, and to every people a guide.

013.008 God doth know what every female (womb) doth bear, by how much the wombs fall short (of their time or number) or do exceed. Every single thing is before His sight, in (due) proportion.

013.009 He knoweth the unseen and that which is open: He is the Great, the Most High.

013.010 It is the same (to Him) whether any of you conceal his speech or declare it openly; whether he lie hid by night or walk forth freely by day.

013.011 For each (such person) there are (angels) in succession, before and behind him: They guard him by command of God. Verily never will God change the condition of a people until they change it themselves (with their own souls). But when (once) God willeth a people's punishment, there can be no turning it back, nor will they find, besides Him, any to protect.

013.012 It is He Who doth show you the lightning, by way both of fear and of hope: It is He Who doth raise up the clouds, heavy with (fertilising) rain!

013.013 Nay, thunder repeateth His praises, and so do the angels, with awe: He flingeth the loud-voiced thunder-bolts, and therewith He striketh whomsoever He will..yet these (are the men) who (dare to) dispute about God, with the strength of His power (supreme)!

013.014 For Him (alone) is prayer in Truth: any others that they call upon besides Him hear them no more than if they were to stretch forth their hands for water to reach their mouths but it reaches them not: for the prayer of those without Faith is nothing but (futile) wandering (in the mind).

013.015 Whatever beings there are in the heavens and the earth do prostrate themselves to God (Acknowledging subjection),Ñwith good-will or in spite of themselves: so do their shadows in the morning and evenings.

013.016 Say: "Who is the Lord and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth?" Say: "(It is) God." Say: "Do ye then take (for worship) protectors other than Him, such as have no power either for good or for harm to themselves?" Say: "Are the blind equal with those who see? Or the depths of darkness equal with light?" Or

do they assign to God partners who have created (anything) as He has created, so that the creation seemed to them similar? Say: "God is the Creator of all things: He is the One, the Supreme and Irresistible."

013.017 He sends down water from the skies, and the channels flow, each according to its measure: But the torrent bears away to foam that mounts up to the surface. Even so, from that (ore) which they heat in the fire, to make ornaments or utensils therewith, there is a scum likewise. Thus doth God (by parables) show forth Truth and Vanity. For the scum disappears like forth cast out; while that which is for the good of mankind remains on the earth. Thus doth God set forth parables.

013.018 For those who respond to their Lord, are (all) good things. But those who respond not to Him,ÑEven if they had all that is in the heavens and on earth, and as much more, (in vain) would they offer it for ransom. For them will the reckoning be terrible: their abode will be Hell,Ñwhat a bed of misery!

013.019 Is then one who doth know that that which hath been revealed unto thee from thy Lord is the Truth, like one who is blind? It is those who are endued with understanding that receive admonition;-

013.020 Those who fulfil the covenant of God and fail not in their plighted word;

013.021 Those who join together those things which God hath commanded to be joined, hold their Lord in awe, and fear the terrible reckoning;

013.022 Those who patiently persevere, seeking the countenance of their Lord; Establish regular prayers; spend, out of (the gifts) We have bestowed for their sustenance, secretly and openly; and turn off Evil with good: for such there is the final attainment of the (eternal) home,-

013.023 Gardens of perpetual bliss: they shall enter there, as well as the righteous among their fathers, their spouses, and their offspring: and angels shall enter unto them from every gate (with the salutation):

013.024 "Peace unto you for that ye persevered in patience! Now how excellent is the final home!"

013.025 But those who break the Covenant of God, after having plighted their word thereto, and cut asunder those things which God has commanded to be joined, and work mischief in the land;Ñon them is the curse; for them is the terrible home!

013.026 God doth enlarge, or grant by (strict) measure, the sustenance (which He giveth) to whomso He pleaseth. (The wordly) rejoice in the life of this world: But the life of this world is but little comfort in the Hereafter.

013.027 The Unbelievers say: "Why is not a sign sent down to him from his Lord?" Say: "Truly God leaveth, to stray, whom He will; But He guideth to Himself those who turn to Him in penitence,-

013.028 "Those who believe, and whose hearts find satisfaction in the remembrance of God: for without doubt in the remembrance of God do hearts find satisfaction.

013.029 "For those who believe and work righteousness, is (every) blessedness, and a beautiful place of (final) return."

013.030 Thus have we sent thee amongst a People before whom (long since) have (other) Peoples (gone and) passed away; in order that thou mightest rehearse unto them what We send down unto thee by inspiration; yet do they reject (Him), the Most Gracious! Say: "He is my Lord! There is no god but He! On Him is my trust, and to Him do I turn!"

013.031 If there were a Qur'an with which mountains were moved, or the earth were cloven asunder, or the dead were made to speak, (this would be the one!) But, truly, the command is with God in all things! Do not the Believers know, that, had God (so) willed, He could have guided all mankind (to the right)? But the Unbelievers,Ñnever will disaster cease to seize them for their (ill) deeds, or to settle close to their homes, until the promise of God come to pass, for, verily, God will not fail in His promise.

013.032 Mocked were (many) apostles before thee: but I granted respite to the unbelievers, and finally I punished them: Then how (terrible) was my requital!

013.033 Is then He who standeth over every soul (and knoweth) all that it doth, (like any others)? And yet they ascribe partners to God. Say: "But name them! is it that ye will inform Him of something he knoweth not on earth, or is it (just) a show of words?" Nay! to those who believe not, their pretence seems pleasing, but they are kept back (thereby) from the path. And those whom God leaves to stray, no one can guide.

013.034 For them is a penalty in the life of this world, but harder, truly, is the penalty of the Hereafter: and defender have they none against God.

013.035 The parable of the Garden which the righteous are promised!Ñbeneath it flow rivers: perpetual is the enjoyment thereof and the shade therein: such is the end of the Righteous; and the end of Unbelievers in the Fire.

013.036 Those to whom We have given the Book rejoice at what hath been revealed unto thee: but there are among the clans those who reject a part thereof. Say: "I am commanded to worship God, and not to join partners with Him. Unto Him do I call, and unto Him is my return."

013.037 Thus have We revealed it to be a judgment of authority in Arabic. Wert thou to follow their (vain) desires after the knowledge which hath reached thee, then wouldst thou find neither protector nor defender against God.

013.038 We did send apostles before thee, and appointed for them wives and children: and it was never the part of an apostle to bring a sign except as God permitted (or commanded). For each period is a Book (revealed).

013.039 God doth blot out or confirm what He pleaseth: with Him is the Mother

of the Book.

013.040 Whether We shall show thee (within thy life-time) part of what we promised them or take to ourselves thy soul (before it is all accomplished),Ñthy duty is to make (the Message) reach them: it is our part to call them to account.

013.041 See they not that We gradually reduce the land (in their control) from its outlying borders? (Where) God commands, there is none to put back His Command: and He is swift in calling to account.

013.042 Those before them did (also) devise plots; but in all things the master-planning is God's He knoweth the doings of every soul: and soon will the Unbelievers know who gets home in the end.

013.043 The Unbelievers say: "No apostle art thou." Say: "Enough for a witness between me and you is God, and such as have knowledge of the Book."

ABRAHAM,
CHAPTER NO. 014

014.001 A. L. R. A Book which We have revealed unto thee, in order that thou mightest lead mankind out of the depths of darkness into lightÑby the leave of their LordÑto the Way of (Him) the Exalted in power, worthy of all praise!-

014.002 Of God, to Whom do belong all things in the heavens and on earth! But alas for the Unbelievers for a terrible penalty (their Unfaith will bring them)!-

014.003 Those who love the life of this world more than the Hereafter, who hinder (men) from the Path of God and seek therein something crooked: they are astray by a long distance.

014.004 We sent not an apostle except (to teach) in the language of his (own) people, in order to make (things) clear to them. Now God leaves straying those whom He pleases and guides whom He pleases: and He is Exalted in power, full of Wisdom.

014.005 We sent Moses with Our signs (and the command). "Bring out thy people from the depths of darkness into light, and teach them to remember the Days of God." Verily in this there are Signs for such as are firmly patient and constant,Ñgrateful and appreciative.

014.006 Remember! Moses said to his people: "Call to mind the favour of God to you when He delivered you from the people of Pharaoh: they set you hard tasks and punishments, slaughtered your sons, and let your women-folk live: therein was a tremendous trial from your Lord."

014.007 And remember! your Lord caused to be declared (publicly): "If ye are grateful, I will add more (favours) unto you; But if ye show ingratitude, truly My punishment is terrible indeed."

014.008 And Moses said: "If ye show ingratitude, ye and all on earth together,

yet is God free of all wants, worthy of all praise.

014.009 Has not the story reached you, (O people!), of those who (went) before you?Ñof the people of Noah, and 'Ad, and Thamud?ÑAnd of those who (came) after them? None knows them but God. To them came apostles with Clear (Signs); but they put their hands up to their mouths, and said: "We do deny (the mission) on which ye have been sent, and we are really in suspicious (disquieting) doubt as to that to which ye invite us."

014.010 Their apostles said: "Is there a doubt about God, The Creator of the heavens and the earth? It is He Who invites you, in order that He may forgive you your sins and give you respite for a term appointed!" They said: "Ah! ye are no more than human, like ourselves! Ye wish to turn us away from the (gods) our fathers used to worship: then bring us some clear authority."

014.011 Their apostles said to them: "True, we are human like yourselves, but God doth grant His grace to such of his servants as He pleases. It is not for us to bring you an authority except as God permits. And on God let all men of faith put their trust.

014.012 "No reason have we why we should not put our trust on God. Indeed He Has guided us to the Ways we (follow). We shall certainly bear with patience all the hurt you may cause us. For those who put their trust should put their trust on God."

014.013 And the Unbelievers said to their apostles: "Be sure we shall drive you out of our land, or ye shall return to our religion." But their Lord inspired (this Message) to them: "Verily We shall cause the wrong-doers to perish!

014.014 "And verily We shall cause you to abide in the land, and succeed them. This for such as fear the Time when they shall stand before My tribunal,Ñsuch as fear the punishment denounced."

014.015 But they sought victory and decision (there and then), and frustration was the lot of every powerful obstinate transgressor.

014.016 In front of such a one is Hell, and he is given, for drink, boiling fetid water.

014.017 In gulps will he sip it, but never will he be near swallowing it down his throat: death will come to him from every quarter, yet will he not die: and in front of him will be a chastisement unrelenting.

014.018 The parable of those who reject their Lord is that their works are as ashes, on which the wind blows furiously on a tempestuous day: No power have they over aught that they have earned: that is the straying far, far (from the goal).

014.019 Seest thou not that God created the heavens and the earth in Truth? If He so will, He can remove you and put (in your place) a new creation?

014.020 Nor is that for God any great matter.

014.021 They will all be marshalled before God together: then will the weak say to those who were arrogant, "For us, we but followed you; can ye then avail us to all against the wrath of God?" They will reply, "If we had received the Guidance of God, we should have given it to you: to us it makes no difference (now) whether we rage, or bear (these torments) with patience: for ourselves there is no way of escape."

014.022 And Satan will say when the matter is decided: "It was God Who gave you a promise of Truth: I too promised, but I failed in my promise to you. I had no authority over you except to call you but ye listened to me: then reproach not me, but reproach your own souls. I cannot listen to your cries, nor can ye listen to mine. I reject your former act in associating me with God. For wrong-doers there must be a grievous penalty."

014.023 But those who believe and work righteousness will be admitted to gardens beneath which rivers flow,Ñto dwell therein for aye with the leave of their Lord. Their greeting therein will be: "Peace!"

014.024 Seest thou not how God sets forth a parable?ÑA goodly word like a goodly tree, whose root is firmly fixed, and its branches (reach) to the heavens,Ñof its Lord. So God sets forth parables for men, in order that they may receive admonition.

014.025 It brings forth its fruit at all times, by the leave of its Lord. So God sets forth parables for men, in order that they may receive admonition.

014.026 And the parable of an evil Word is that of an evil tree: It is torn up by the root from the surface of the earth: it has no stability.

014.027 God will establish in strength those who believe, with the word that stands firm, in this world and in the Hereafter; but God will leave, to stray, those who do wrong: God doeth what He willeth.

014.028 Hast thou not turned thy vision to those who have changed the favour of God. Into blasphemy and caused their people to descend to the House of Perdition?-

014.029 Into Hell? They will burn therein,Ñan evil place to stay in!

014.030 And they set up (idols) as equal to God, to mislead (men) from the Path! Say: "Enjoy (your brief power)! But verily ye are making straightway for Hell!"

014.031 Speak to my servants who have believed, that they may establish regular prayers, and spend (in charity) out of the sustenance we have given them, secretly and openly, before the coming of a Day in which there will be neither mutual bargaining nor befriending.

014.032 It is God Who hath created the heavens and the earth and sendeth down rain from the skies, and with it bringeth out fruits wherewith to feed you; it is He Who hath made the ships subject to you, that they may sail through the sea by His command; and the rivers (also) hath He made subject to you.

014.033 And He hath made subject to you the sun and the moon, both diligently pursuing their courses; and the night and the day hath he (also) made subject to you.

014.034 And He giveth you of all that ye ask for. But if ye count the favours of God, never will ye be able to number them. Verily, man is given up to injustice and ingratitude.

014.035 Remember Abraham said: "O my Lord! make this city one of peace and security: and preserve me and my sons from worshipping idols.

014.036 "O my Lord! they have indeed led astray many among mankind; He then who follows my (ways) is of me, and he that disobeys me,Ñbut Thou art indeed Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

014.037 "O our Lord! I have made some of my offspring to dwell in a valley without cultivation, by Thy Sacred House; in order, O our Lord, that they may establish regular Prayer: so fill the hearts of some among men with love towards them, and feed them with fruits: so that they may give thanks.

014.038 "O our Lord! truly Thou dost know what we conceal and what we reveal: for nothing whatever is hidden from God, whether on earth or in heaven.

014.039 "Praise be to God, Who hath granted unto me in old age Isma'il and Isaac: for truly my Lord is He, the Hearer of Prayer!

014.040 O my Lord! make me one who establishes regular Prayer, and also (raise such) among my offspring O our Lord! and accept Thou my Prayer.

014.041 "O our Lord! cover (us) with Thy ForgivenessÑme, my parents, and (all) Believers, on the Day that the Reckoning will be established!

014.042 Think not that God doth not heed the deeds of those who do wrong. He but giveth them respite against a Day when the eyes will fixedly stare in horror,-

014.043 They running forward with necks outstretched, their heads uplifted, their gaze returning not towards them, and their hearts a (gaping) void!

014.044 So warn mankind of the Day when the Wrath will reach them: then will the wrong-doers say: "Our Lord! respite us (if only) for a short term: we will answer Thy call, and follow the apostles!" "What! were ye not wont to swear aforetime that ye should suffer no decline?

014.045 "And ye dwelt in the dwellings of men who wronged their own souls; ye were clearly shown how We dealt with them; and We put forth (many) parables in your behoof!"

014.046 Mighty indeed were the plots which they made, but their plots were (well) within the sight of God, even though they were such as to shake the hills!

014.047 Never think that God would fail his apostles in His promise: for God is Exalted in power,Ñthe Lord of Retribution.

014.048 One day the earth will be changed to a different earth, and so will be the heavens, and (men) will be marshalled forth, before God, the One, the Irresistible;

014.049 And thou wilt see the sinners that day bound together in fetters;-

014.050 Their garments of liquid pitch, and their faces covered with Fire;

014.051 That God may requite each soul according to its deserts; and verily God is swift in calling to account.

014.052 Here is a Message for mankind: Let them take warning therefrom, and let them know that He is (no other than) One God: let men of understanding take heed.

AL-HIJR, STONELAND, ROCK CITY,
CHAPTER NO. 015

015.001 A. L. R. These are the Ayats of Revelation,Ñof a Qur'an that makes things clear.

015.002 Again and again will those who disbelieve, wish that they had bowed (to God's will) in Islam.

015.003 Leave them alone, to enjoy (the good things of this life) and to please themselves: let (false) hope amuse them: soon will knowledge (undeceive them).

015.004 Never did We destroy a population that had not a term decreed and assigned beforehand.

015.005 Neither can a people anticipate its term, nor delay it.

015.006 They say: "O thou to whom the Message is being revealed! truly thou art mad (or possessed)!

015.007 "Why bringest thou not angels to us if it be that thou hast the Truth?"

015.008 We send not the angels down except for just cause: if they came (to the ungodly), behold! no respite would they have!

015.009 We have, without doubt, sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it (from corruption).

015.010 We did send apostles before thee amongst the religious sects of old:

015.011 But never came an apostle to them but they mocked him.

015.012 Even so do we let it creep into the hearts of the sinners -

015.013 That they should not believe in the (Message); but the ways of the ancients have passed away.

015.014 Even if We opened out to them a gate from heaven, and they were to continue (all day) ascending therein,

015.015 They would only say: "Our eyes have been intoxicated: Nay, we have been bewitched by sorcery."

015.016 It is We Who have set out the zodiacal signs in the heavens, and made them fair-seeming to (all) beholders;

015.017 And (moreover) We have guarded them from every evil spirit accursed:

015.018 But any that gains a hearing by stealth, is pursued by a flaming fire, bright (to see).

015.019 And the earth We have spread out (like a carpet); set thereon mountains firm and immovable; and produced therein all kinds of things in due balance.

015.020 And We have provided therein means of subsistence,Ñfor you and for those for whose sustenance ye are not responsible.

015.021 And there is not a thing but its (sources and) treasures (inexhaustible) are with Us; but We only send down thereof in due and ascertainable measures.

015.022 And We send the fecundating winds, then cause the rain to descend from the sky, therewith providing you with water (in abundance), though ye are not the guardians of its stores.

015.023 And verily, it is We Who give life, and Who give death: it is We Who remain inheritors (after all else passes away).

015.024 To Us are known those of you who hasten forward, and those who lag behind.

015.025 Assuredly it is thy Lord Who will gather them together: for He is perfect in Wisdom and Knowledge.

015.026 We created man from sounding clay, from mud moulded into shape;

015.027 And the Jinn race, We had created before, from the fire of a scorching wind.

015.028 Behold! thy Lord said to the angels: "I am about to create man, from sounding clay from mud moulded into shape;

015.029 "When I have fashioned him (in due proportion) and breathed into him of My spirit, fall ye down in obeisance unto him."

015.030 So the angels prostrated themselves, all of them together:

015.031 Not so Iblis: he refused to be among those who prostrated themselves.

015.032 (God) said: "O Iblis! what is your reason for not being among those who prostrated themselves?"

015.033 (Iblis) said: "I am not one to prostrate myself to man, whom Thou didst create from sounding clay, from mud moulded into shape."

015.034 (God) said: "Then get thee out from here; for thou art rejected, accursed.

015.035 "And the curse shall be on thee till the day of Judgment."

015.036 (Iblis) said: "O my Lord! give me then respite till the Day the (dead) are raised."

015.037 (God) said: "Respite is granted thee

015.038 "Till the Day of the Time appointed."

015.039 (Iblis) said: "O my Lord! because Thou hast put me in the wrong, I will make (wrong) fair-seeming to them on the earth, and I will put them all in the wrong,-

015.040 "Except Thy servants among them, sincere and purified (by Thy Grace)."

015.041 (God) said: "This (way of My sincere servants) is indeed a way that leads straight to Me.

015.042 "For over My servants no authority shalt thou have, except such as put themselves in the wrong and follow thee."

015.043 And verily, Hell is the promised abode for them all!

015.044 To it are seven gates: for each of those gates is a (special) class (of sinners) assigned.

015.045 The righteous (will be) amid gardens and fountains (of clear-flowing water).

015.046 (Their greeting will be): "Enter ye here in peace and security."

015.047 And We shall remove from their hearts any lurking sense of injury: (they will be) brothers (joyfully) facing each other on thrones (of dignity).

015.048 There no sense of fatigue shall touch them, nor shall they (ever) be asked to leave.

015.049 Tell My servants that I am indeed the Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful;

015.050 And that My Penalty will be indeed the most grievous Penalty.

015.051 Tell them about the guests of Abraham.

015.052 When they entered his presence and said, "Peace!" He said, "We feel afraid of you!"

015.053 They said: "Fear not! We give thee glad tidings of a son endowed with wisdom."

015.054 He said: "Do ye give me glad tidings that old age has seized me? Of what, then, is your good news?"

015.055 They said: "We give thee glad tidings in truth: be not then in despair!"

015.056 He said: "And who despairs of the mercy of his Lord, but such as go astray?"

015.057 Abraham said: "What then is the business on which ye (have come), O ye

messengers (of God)?"

015.058 They said: "We have been sent to a people (deep) in sin,

015.059 "Excepting the adherents of Lut: them we are certainly (charged) to save (from harm),ÑAll -

015.060 "Except his wife, who, We have ascertained, will be among those who will lag behind."

015.061 At length when the messengers arrived among the adherents of Lut,

015.062 He said: "Ye appear to be uncommon folk."

015.063 They said: "Yea, we have come to thee to accomplish that of which they doubt.

015.064 "We have brought to thee that which is inevitably due, and assuredly we tell the truth.

015.065 "Then travel by night with thy household, when a portion of the night (yet remains), and do thou bring up the rear: let no one amongst you look back, but pass on whither ye are ordered."

015.066 And We made known this decree to him, that the last remnants of those (sinners) should be cut off by the morning.

015.067 The inhabitants of the city came in (mad) joy (at news of the young men).

015.068 Lut said: "These are my guests: disgrace me not:

015.069 "But fear God, and shame me not."

015.070 They said: "Did we not forbid thee (to speak) for all and sundry?"

015.071 He said: "There are my daughters (to marry), if ye must act (so)."

015.072 Verily, by thy life (O Prophet), in their wild intoxication, they wander in distraction, to and fro.

015.073 But the (mighty) Blast overtook them before morning,

015.074 And We turned (the cities) upside down, and rained down on them brimstones hard as baked clay.

015.075 Behold! in this are Signs for those who by tokens do understand.

015.076 And the (cities were) right on the high-road.

015.077 Behold! in this is a sign for those who believed.

015.078 And the Companions of the Wood were also wrong-doers;

015.079 So We exacted retribution from them. They were both on an open highway, plain to see.

015.080 The Companions of the Rocky Tract also rejected the apostles:

015.081 We sent them Our Sings, but they persisted in turning away from them.

015.082 Out of the mountains did they hew (their) edifices, (feeling themselves) secure.

015.083 But the (mighty) Blast seized them of a morning,

015.084 And of no avail to them was all that they did (with such art and care)!

015.085 We created not the heavens, the earth, and all between them, but for just ends. And the Hour is surely coming (when this will be manifest). So overlook (any human faults) with gracious forgiveness.

015.086 For verily it is thy Lord who is the Master-Creator, knowing all things.

015.087 And We have bestowed upon thee the Seven Oft-repeated (verses) and the Grand Qur'an.

015.088 Strain not thine eyes. (Wistfully) at what We have bestowed on certain classes of them, nor grieve over them: but lower thy wing (in gentleness) to the believers.

015.089 And say: "I am indeed he that warneth openly and without ambiguity,"-

015.090 (Of just such wrath) as We sent down on those who divided (Scripture into arbitrary parts),-

015.091 (So also on such) as have made Qur'an into shreds (as they please).

015.092 Therefore, by the Lord, We will, of a surety, call them to account,

015.093 For all their deeds.

015.094 Therefore expound openly what thou art commanded, and turn away from those who join false gods with God.

015.095 For sufficient are We unto thee against those who scoff,-

015.096 Those who adopt, with God, another god: but soon will they come to know.

015.097 We do indeed know how thy heart is distressed at what they say.

015.098 But celebrate the praises of thy Lord, and be of those who prostrate themselves in adoration.

015.099 And serve thy Lord until there come unto thee the Hour that is Certain.

THE BEE,
CHAPTER NO. 016

016.001 (Inevitable) cometh (to pass) the Command of God: seek ye not then to hasten it: Glory to Him, and far is He above having the partners they ascribe unto Him!

016.002 He doth send down His angels with inspiration of His Command, to such

of His servants as He pleaseth, (saying): "Warn (Man) that there is no god but I: so do your duty unto Me."

016.003 He has created the heavens and the earth for just ends: Far is He above having the partners they ascribe to Him!

016.004 He has created man from a sperm-drop; and behold this same (man) becomes an open disputer!

016.005 And cattle He has created for you (men): from them ye derive warmth, and numerous benefits, and of their (meat) ye eat.

016.006 And ye have a sense of pride and beauty in them as ye drive them home in the evening, and as ye lead them forth to pasture in the morning.

016.007 And they carry your heavy loads to lands that ye could not (otherwise) reach except with souls distressed: for your Lord is indeed Most Kind, Most Merciful,

016.008 And (He has created) horses, mules, and donkeys, for you to ride and use for show; and He has created (other) things of which ye have no knowledge.

016.009 And unto God leads straight the Way, but there are ways that turn aside: if God had willed, He could have guided all of you.

016.010 It is He who sends down rain from the sky: from it ye drink, and out of it (grows) the vegetation on which ye feed your cattle.

016.011 With it He produces for you corn, olives, date-palms, grapes and every kind of fruit: verily in this is a sign for those who give thought.

016.012 He has made subject to you the Night and the Day; the sun and the moon; and the stars are in subjection by His Command: verily in this are Signs for men who are wise.

016.013 And the things on this earth which He has multiplied in varying colours (and qualities): verily in this is a sign for men who celebrate the praises of God (in gratitude).

016.014 It is He Who has made the sea subject, that ye may eat thereof flesh that is fresh and tender, and that ye may extract therefrom ornaments to wear; and thou seest the ships therein that plough the waves, that ye may seek (thus) of the bounty of God and that ye may be grateful.

016.015 And He has set up on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with you; and rivers and roads; that ye may guide yourselves;

016.016 And marks and sign-posts; and by the stars (men) guide themselves.

016.017 Is then He Who creates like one that creates not? Will ye not receive admonition?

016.018 If ye would count up the favours of God, never would ye be able to number them: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

016.019 And God doth know what ye conceal, and what ye reveal.

016.020 Those whom they invoke besides God create nothing and are themselves created.

016.021 (They are things) dead, lifeless: nor do they know when they will be raised up.

016.022 Your God is one God: as to those who believe not in the Hereafter, their hearts refuse to know, and they are arrogant.

016.023 Undoubtedly God doth know what they conceal, and what they reveal: verily He loveth not the arrogant.

016.024 When it is said to them, "What is it that your Lord has revealed?" they say, "Tales of the ancients!"

016.025 Let them bear, on the Day of Judgment, their own burdens in full, and also (something) of the burdens of those without knowledge, whom they misled. Alas, how grievous the burdens they will bear!

016.026 Those before them did also plot (against God's Way): but God took their structures from their foundations, and the roof fell down on them from above; and the Wrath seized them from directions they did not perceive.

016.027 Then, on the Day of Judgment, He will cover them with shame, and say: "Where are My 'partners' concerning whom ye used to dispute (with the godly)?" Those endued with knowledge will say: "This Day, indeed, are the Unbelievers covered with shame and misery,-

016.028 "(Namely) those whose lives the angels take in a state of wrong-doing to their own souls." Then would they offer submission (with the pretence), "We did no evil (knowingly)." (The angels will reply), "Nay, but verily God knoweth all that ye did;

016.029 "So enter the gates of Hell, to dwell therein. Thus evil indeed is the abode of the arrogant."

016.030 To the righteous (when) it is said, "What is it that your Lord has revealed?" they say, "All that is good." To those who do good, there is good in this world, and the Home of the Hereafter is even better and excellent indeed is the Home of the righteous,-

016.031 Gardens of Eternity which they will enter: beneath them flow (pleasant) rivers: they will have therein all that they wish: thus doth God reward the righteous,-

016.032 (Namely) those whose lives the angels take in a state of purity, saying (to them), "Peace be on you; enter ye the Garden, because of (the good) which ye did (in the world)."

016.033 Do the (ungodly) wait until the angels come to them, or there comes the Command of thy Lord (for their doom)? So did those who went before them. But God wronged them not: nay, they wronged their own souls.

016.034 But the evil results of their deeds overtook them, and that very (Wrath) at which they had scoffed hemmed them in.

016.035 The worshippers of false gods say: "If God had so willed, we should not have worshipped aught but HimÑneither we nor our fathers,Ñnor should we have prescribed prohibitions other than His." So did those who went before them. But what is the mission of apostles but to preach the Clear Message?

016.036 For We assuredly sent amongst every People an apostle, (with the Command), "Serve God, and eschew Evil": of the People were some whom God guided, and some on whom error became inevitably (established). So travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those who denied (the Truth).

016.037 If thou art anxious for their guidance, yet God guideth not such as He leaves to stray, and there is none to help them.

016.038 They swear their strongest oaths by God, that God will not raise up those who die: Nay, but it is a promise (binding) on Him in truth: but most among mankind realise it not.

016.039 (They must be raised up), in order that He may manifest to them the truth of that wherein they differ, and that the rejecters of Truth may realise that they had indeed (surrendered to) Falsehood.

016.040 For to anything which We have willed, We but say the word, "Be", and it is.

016.041 To those who leave their homes in the cause of God, after suffering oppression,ÑWe will assuredly give a goodly home in this world; but truly the reward of the Hereafter will be greater. If they only realised (this)!

016.042 (They are) those who persevere in patience, and put their trust on their Lord.

016.043 And before thee also the apostles We sent were but men, to whom We granted inspiration: if ye realise this not, ask of those who possess the Message.

016.044 (We sent them) with Clear Signs and Books of dark prophecies; and We have sent down unto thee (also) the Message; that thou mayest explain clearly to men what is sent for them, and that they may give thought.

016.045 Do then those who devise evil (plots) feel secure that God will not cause the earth to swallow them up, or that the Wrath will not seize them from directions they little perceive?-

016.046 Or that He may not call them to account in the midst of their goings to and fro, without a chance of their frustrating Him?-

016.047 Or that He may not call them to account by a process of slow wastageÑfor thy Lord is indeed full of kindness and mercy.

016.048 Do they not look at God's creation, (even) among (inanimate) things,ÑHow their (very) shadows turn round, from the right and the left,

prostrating themselves to God, and that in the humblest manner?

016.049 And to God doth obeisance all that is in the heavens and on earth, whether moving (living) creatures or the angels: for none are arrogant (before their Lord).

016.050 They all revere their Lord, high above them, and they do all that they are commanded.

016.051 God has said: "Take not (for worship) two gods: for He is just One God: then fear Me (and Me alone)."

016.052 To Him belongs whatever is in the heavens and on earth, and to Him is duty due always: then will ye fear other than God?

016.053 And ye have no good thing but is from God: and moreover, when ye are touched by distress, unto Him ye cry with groans;

016.054 Yet, when He removes the distress from you, behold! some of you turn to other gods to join with their Lord-

016.055 (As if) to show their ingratitude for the favours we have bestowed on them! then enjoy (your brief day): but soon will ye know (your folly)!

016.056 And they (even) assign, to things they do not know, a portion out of that which We have bestowed for their sustenance! By God, ye shall certainly be called to account for your false inventions.

016.057 And they assign daughters for God!ÑGlory be to Him!Ñand for themselves (sons,Ñthe issue) they desire!

016.058 When news is brought to one of them, of (the birth of) a female (child), his face darkens, and he is filled with inward grief!

016.059 With shame does he hide himself from his people, because of the bad news he has had! Shall he retain it on (sufferance and) contempt, or bury it in the dust? Ah! what an evil (choice) they decide on?

016.060 To those who believe not in the Hereafter, applies the similitude of evil: to God applies the highest similitude: for He is the Exalted in Power, full of Wisdom.

016.061 If God were to punish men for their wrong-doing, He would not leave, on the (earth), a single living creature: but He gives them respite for a stated Term: When their Term expires, they would not be able to delay (the punishment) for a single hour, just as they would not be able to anticipate it (for a single hour).

016.062 They attribute to God what they hate (for themselves), and their tongues assert the falsehood that all good things are for themselves: without doubt for them is the Fire, and they will be the first to be hastened on into it!

016.063 By God, We (also) sent (Our apostles) to Peoples before thee; but Satan

made, (to the wicked), their own acts seem alluring: He is also their patron today, but they shall have a most grievous penalty.

016.064 And We sent down the Book to thee for the express purpose, that thou shouldst make clear to them those things in which they differ, and that it should be a guide and a mercy to those who believe.

016.065 And God sends down rain from the skies, and gives therewith life to the earth after its death: verily in this is a Sign for those who listen.

016.066 And verily in cattle (too) will ye find an instructive sign. From what is within their bodies between excretions and blood, We produce, for your drink, milk, pure and agreeable to those who drink it.

016.067 And from the fruit of the date-palm and the vine, ye get out wholesome drink and food: behold, in this also is a sign for those who are wise.

016.068 And thy Lord taught the Bee to build its cells in hills, on trees, and in (men's) habitations;

016.069 Then to eat of all the produce (of the earth), and find with skill the spacious paths of its Lord: there issues from within their bodies a drink of varying colours, wherein is healing for men: verily in this is a Sign for those who give thought.

016.070 It is God who creates you and takes your souls at death; and of you there are some who are sent back to a feeble age, so that they know nothing after having known (much): for God is All-Knowing, All-Powerful.

016.071 God has bestowed His gifts of sustenance more freely on some of you than on others: those more favoured are not going to throw back their gifts to those whom their right hands possess, so as to be equal in that respect. Will they then deny the favours of God?

016.072 And God has made for you mates (and companions) of your own nature, and made for you, out of them, sons and daughters and grandchildren, and provided for you sustenance of the best: will they then believe in vain things, and be ungrateful for God's favours?-

016.073 And worship others than God,Ñsuch as have no power of providing them, for sustenance, with anything in heavens or earth, and cannot possibly have such power?

016.074 Invent not similitudes for God: for God knoweth, and ye know not.

016.075 God sets forth the Parable (of two men: one) a slave under the dominion of another; He has no power of any sort; and (the other) a man on whom We have bestowed goodly favours from Ourselves, and he spends thereof (freely), privately and publicly: are the two equal? (By no means;) praise be to God. But most of them understand not.

016.076 God sets forth (another) Parable of two men: one of them dumb, with no power of any sort; a wearisome burden is he to his master; whichever way be

directs him, he brings no good: is such a man equal with one who commands Justice, and is on a Straight Way?

016.077 To God belongeth the Mystery of the heavens and the earth. And the Decision of the Hour (of Judgment) is as the twingkling of an eye, or even quicker: for God hath power over all things.

016.078 It is He Who brought you forth from the wombs of your mothers when ye knew nothing; and He gave you hearing and sight and intelligence and affections: that ye may give thanks (to God).

016.079 Do they not look at the birds, held poised in the midst of (the air and) the sky? Nothing holds them up but (the power of) God. Verily in this are signs for those who believe.

016.080 It is God Who made your habitations homes of rest and quiet for you; and made for you, out of the skins of animals, (tents for) dwellings, which ye find so light (and handy) when ye travel and when ye stop (in your travels); and out of their wool, and their soft fibres (between wool and hair), and their hair, rich stuff and articles of convenience (to serve you) for a time.

016.081 It is God Who made out of the things He created, some things to give you shade; of the hills He made some for your shelter; He made you garments to protect you from heat, and coats of mail to protect you from your (mutual) violence. Thus does He complete His favours on you, that ye may bow to His Will (in Islam).

016.082 But if they turn away, thy duty is only to preach the clear Message.

016.083 They recognise the favours of God; then they deny them; and most of them are (creatures) ungrateful.

016.084 One Day We shall raise from all Peoples a Witness: then will no excuse be accepted from Unbelievers, nor will they receive any favours.

016.085 When the wrong-doers (actually) see the Penalty, then will it in no way be mitigated, nor will they then receive respite.

016.086 When those who gave partners to God will see their "partners", they will say: "Our Lord! these are our 'partners,' those whom we used to invoke besides Thee." But they will throw back their word at them (and say): "Indeed ye are liars!"

016.087 That Day shall they (openly) show (their) submission to God; and all their inventions shall leave them in the lurch.

016.088 Those who reject God and hinder (men) from the Path of GodÑfor them will We add Penalty to Penalty; for that they used to spread mischief.

016.089 One day We shall raise from all Peoples a witness against them, from amongst themselves: and We shall bring thee as a witness against these (thy people): and We have sent down to thee the Book explaining all things, a Guide, a Mercy, and Glad Tidings to Muslims.

016.090 God commands justice, the doing of good, and liberality to kith and kin, and He forbids all shameful deeds, and injustice and rebellion: He instructs you, that ye may receive admonition.

016.091 Fulfil the Covenant of God when ye have entered into it, and break not your oaths after ye have confirmed them; indeed ye have made God your surety; for God knoweth all that ye do.

016.092 And be not like a woman who breaks into untwisted strands the yarn which she has spun, after it has become strong. Nor take your oaths to practise deception between yourselves, lest one party should be more numerous than another: for God will test you by this; and on the Day of Judgment He will certainly make clear to you (the truth of) that wherein ye disagree.

016.093 If God so willed, He could make you all one people: But He leaves straying whom He pleases, and He guides whom He pleases: but ye shall certainly be called to account for all your actions.

016.094 And take not your oaths, to practise deception between yourselves, with the result that someone's foot may slip after it was firmly planted, and ye may have to taste the evil (consequences) of having hindered (men) from the Path of God, and a Mighty Wrath descend on you.

016.095 Nor sell the covenant of God for a miserable price: for with God is (a prize) far better for you, if ye only knew.

016.096 What is with you must vanish: what is with God will endure. And We will certainly bestow, on those who patiently persevere, their reward according to the best of their actions.

016.097 Whoever works righteousness, man or woman, and has Faith, verily, to him will We give a new Life, a life that is good and pure and We will bestow on such their reward according to the best of their actions.

016.098 When thou dost read the Qur'an, seek God's protection from Satan the rejected one.

016.099 No authority has he over those who believe and put their trust in their Lord.

016.100 His authority is over those only, who take him as patron and who join partners with God.

016.101 When We substitute one revelation for another,Ñand God knows best what He reveals (in stages),Ñthey say, "Thou art but a forger": but most of them understand not.

016.102 Say, the Holy Spirit has brought the revelation from thy Lord in Truth, in order to strengthen those who believe, and as a Guide and Glad Tidings to Muslims.

016.103 We know indeed that they say, "It is a man that teaches him." The tongue of him they wickedly point to is notably foreign, while this is Arabic,

pure and clear.

016.104 Those who believe not in the Signs of God,ÑGod will not guide them, and theirs will be a grievous Penalty.

016.105 It is those who believe not in the Signs of God, that forge falsehood: it is they who lie!

016.106 Any one who, after accepting faith in God, utters Unbelief,Ñexcept under compulsion, his heart remaining firm in FaithÑbut such as open their breast to Unbelief, on them is Wrath from God, and theirs will be a dreadful Penalty.

016.107 This because they love the life of this world better than the Hereafter: and God will not guide those who reject Faith.

016.108 Those are they whose hearts, ears, and eyes God has sealed up, and they take no heed.

016.109 Without doubt, in the Hereafter they will perish.

016.110 But verily thy Lord,Ñto those who leave their homes after trials and persecutions,Ñand who thereafter strive and fight for the faith and patiently persevere,ÑThy Lord, after all this is oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

016.111 One Day every soul will come up struggling for itself, and every soul will be recompensed (fully) for all its actions, and none will be unjustly dealt with.

016.112 God sets forth a Parable: a city enjoying security and quiet, abundantly supplied with sustenance from every place: Yet was it ungrateful for the favours of God: so God made it taste of hunger and terror (in extremes) (closing in on it) like a garment (from every side), because of the (evil) which (its people) wrought.

016.113 And there came to them an Apostle from among themselves, but they falsely rejected him; so the Wrath seized them even in the midst of their iniquities.

016.114 So eat of the sustenance which God has provided for you, lawful and good; and be grateful for the favours of God, if it is He Whom ye serve.

016.115 He has only forbidden you dead meat, and blood, and the flesh of swine, and any (food) over which the name of other than God has been invoked. But if one is forced by necessity, without wilful disobedience, nor transgressing due limits,Ñthen God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

016.116 But say notÑfor any false thing that your tongues may put forth,Ñ"This is lawful, and this is forbidden," so as to ascribe false things to God. For those who ascribe false things to God, will never prosper.

016.117 (In such falsehood) is but a paltry profit; but they will have a most grievous Penalty.

016.118 To the Jews We prohibited such things as We have mentioned to thee before: We did them no wrong, but they were used to doing wrong to themselves.

016.119 But verily thy Lord,Ñto those who do wrong in ignorance, but who thereafter repent and make amends,Ñthy Lord, after all this, is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

016.120 Abraham was indeed a model, devoutly obedient to God, (and) true in Faith, and he joined not gods with God:

016.121 He showed his gratitude for the favours of God, who chose him, and guided him to a Straight Way.

016.122 And We gave him Good in this world, and he will be, in the Hereafter, in the ranks of the Righteous.

016.123 So We have taught thee the inspired (Message), "Follow the ways of Abraham the True in Faith, and he joined not gods with God."

016.124 The Sabbath was only made (strict) for those who disagreed (as to its observance); But God will judge between them on the Day of Judgment, as to their differences.

016.125 Invite (all) to the Way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious: for thy Lord knoweth best, who have strayed from His Path, and who receive guidance.

016.126 And if ye do catch them out, catch them out no worse than they catch you out: But if ye show patience, that is indeed the best (course) for those who are patient.

016.127 And do thou be patient, for thy patience is but from God; nor grieve over them: and distress not thyself because of their plots.

016.128 For God is with those who restrain themselves, and those who do good.

ISRA', THE NIGHT JOURNEY, CHILDREN OF ISRAEL,
CHAPTER NO. 017

017.001 Glory to (God) Who did take His servant for a Journey by night from the Sacred Mosque to the farthest Mosque, whose precincts We did bless,Ñin order that We might show him some of Our Signs: for He is the One Who heareth and seeth (all things).

017.002 We gave Moses the Book, and made it a Guide to the Children of Israel, (commanding): "Take not other than Me as Disposer of (your) affairs."

017.003 O ye that are sprung from those whom We carried (in the Ark) with Noah! Verily he was a devotee most grateful.

017.004 And We gave (Clear) Warning to the Children of Israel in the Book, that twice would they do mischief on the earth and be elated with mighty arrogance (and twice would they be punished)!

017.005 When the first of the warnings came to pass, We sent against you Our

servants given to terrible warfare: They entered the very inmost parts of your homes; and it was a warning (completely) fulfilled.

017.006 Then did We grant you the Return as against them: We gave you increase in resources and sons, and made you the more numerous in man-power.

017.007 If ye did well, ye did well for yourselves; if ye did evil, (ye did it) against yourselves. So when the second of the warnings came to pass, (We permitted your enemies) to disfigure your faces, and to enter your Temple as they had entered it before, and to visit with destruction all that fell into their power.

017.008 It may be that your Lord may (yet) show Mercy unto you; but if ye revert (to your sins), We shall revert (to Our punishments): And we have made Hell a prison for those who reject (all Faith).

017.009 Verily this Qur'an doth guide to that which is most right (or stable), and giveth the Glad Tidings to the Believers who work deeds of righteousness, that they shall have a magnificent reward;

017.010 And to those who believe not in the Hereafter, (it announceth) that We have prepared for them a Penalty Grievous (indeed).

017.011 The prayer that man should make for good, he maketh for evil; for man is given to hasty (deeds).

017.012 We have made the Night and the Day as two (of Our) Signs: the Sign of the Night have We obscured, while the Sign of the Day We have made to enlighten you; that ye may seek bounty from your Lord, and that ye may know the number and count of the years: all things have We explained in detail.

017.013 Every man's fate We have fastened on his own neck: On the Day of Judgment We shall bring out for him a scroll, which he will see spread open.

017.014 (It will be said to him:) "Read thine (own) record: Sufficient is thy soul this day to make out an account against thee."

017.015 Who receiveth guidance, receiveth it for his own benefit: who goeth astray doth so to his own loss: No bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another: nor would We visit with Our Wrath until We had sent an apostle (to give warning).

017.016 When We decide to destroy a population, We (first) send a definite order to those among them who are given the good things of this life and yet transgress; so that the word is proved true against them: then (it is) We destroy them utterly.

017.017 How many generations have We destroyed after Noah? and enough is thy Lord to note and see the sins of His servants.

017.018 If any do wish for the transitory things (of this life), We readily grant themÑsuch things as We will, to such person as We will: in the end have We provided Hell for them: they will burn therein, disgraced and rejected.

017.019 Those who do wish for the (things of) the Hereafter, and strive therefor with all due striving, and have Faith,Ñthey are the ones whose striving is acceptable (to God).

017.020 Of the bounties of thy Lord We bestow freely on allÑThese as well as those: The bounties of thy Lord are not closed (to anyone).

017.021 See how We have bestowed more on some than on others; but verily the Hereafter is more in rank and gradation and more in excellence.

017.022 Take not with God another object of worship; or thou (O man!) wilt sit in disgrace and destitution.

017.023 Thy Lord hath decreed that ye worship none but Him, and that ye be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in thy life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them, but address them in terms of honour.

017.024 And, out of kindness, lower to them the wing of humility, and say: "My Lord! bestow on them thy Mercy even as they cherished me in childhood."

017.025 Your Lord knoweth best what is in your hearts: If ye do deeds of righteousness, verily He is Most Forgiving to those who turn to Him again and again (in true penitence).

017.026 And render to the kindred their due rights, as (also) to those in want, and to the wayfarer: But squander not (your wealth) in the manner of a spendthrift.

017.027 Verily spendthrifts are brothers of the Evil Ones; and the Evil One is to his Lord (himself) ungrateful.

017.028 And even if thou hast to turn away from them in pursuit of the Mercy from thy Lord which thou dost expect, yet speak to them a word of easy kindness.

017.029 Make not thy hand tied (like a niggard's) to thy neck, nor stretch it forth to its utmost reach, so that thou become blameworthy and destitute.

017.030 Verily thy Lord doth provide sustenance in abundance for whom He pleaseth, and He provideth in a just measure. For He doth know and regard all His servants.

017.031 Kill not your children for fear of want: We shall provide sustenance for them as well as for you. Verily the killing of them is a great sin.

017.032 Nor come nigh to adultery: for it is a shameful (deed) and an evil, opening the road (to other evils).

017.033 Nor take lifeÑwhich God has made sacredÑexcept for just cause. And if anyone is slain wrongfully, we have given his heir authority (to demand qisas or to forgive): but let him nor exceed bounds in the matter of taking life; for he is helped (by the Law).

017.034 Come not nigh to the orphan's property except to improve it, until he

attains the age of full strength; and fulfil (every) engagement, for (every) engagement will be enquired into (on the Day of Reckoning).

017.035 Give full measure when ye measure, and weigh with a balance that is straight: that is the most fitting and the most advantageous in the final determination.

017.036 And pursue not that of which thou hast no knowledge; for every act of hearing, or of seeing or of (feeling in) the heart will be enquired into (on the Day of Reckoning).

017.037 Nor walk on the earth with insolence: for thou canst not rend the earth asunder, nor reach the mountains in height.

017.038 Of all such things the evil is hateful in the sight of thy Lord.

017.039 These are among the (precepts of) wisdom, which thy Lord has revealed to thee. Take not, with God, another object of worship, lest thou shouldst be thrown into Hell, blameworthy and rejected.

017.040 Has then your Lord (O Pagans!) preferred for you sons, and taken for Himself daughters among the angels? Truly ye utter a most dreadful saying!

017.041 We have explained (things) in various (ways) in this Qur'an, in order that they may receive admonition, but it only increases their flight (from the Truth)!

017.042 Say: If there had been (other) gods with Him, as they say,Ñbehold, they would certainly have sought out a way to the Lord of the Throne!

017.043 Glory to Him! He is high above all that they say!ÑExalted and Great (beyond measure)!

017.044 The seven heavens and the earth, and all beings therein, declare His glory: there is not a thing but celebrates His praise; And yet ye understand not how they declare His glory! Verily He is Oft-Forbear, Most Forgiving!

017.045 When thou dost recite the Qur'an, We put, between thee and those who believe not in the Hereafter, a veil invisible:

017.046 And We put coverings over their hearts (and minds) lest they should understand the Qur'an, and deafness into their ears: when thou dost commemorate thy Lord and Him alone in the Qur'an, they turn on their backs, fleeing (from the Truth).

017.047 We know best why it is they listen, when they listen to thee; and when they meet in private conference, behold, the wicked say, "Ye follow none other than a man bewitched!"

017.048 See what similes they strike for thee: but they have gone astray, and never can they find a way.

017.049 They say: "What! when we are reduced to bones and dust, should we really be raised up (to be) a new creation?"

017.050 Say: "(Nay!) be ye stones or iron,

017.051 "Or created matter which, in your minds, is hardest (to be raised up),Ñ(Yet shall ye be raised up)!" then will they say: "Who will cause us to return?" Say: "He who created you first!" Then will they wag their heads towards thee, and say, "When will that be?" Say, "May be it will be quite soon!

017.052 "It will be on a Day when He will call you, and ye will answer (His call) with (words of) His praise, and ye will think that ye tarried but a little while!"

017.053 Say to My servants that they should (only) say those things that are best: for Satan doth sow dissensions among them: For Satan is to man an avowed enemy.

017.054 It is your Lord that knoweth you best: If He please, He granteth you mercy, or if He please, punishment: We have not sent thee to be a disposer of their affairs for them.

017.055 And it is your Lord that knoweth best all beings that are in the heavens and on earth: We did bestow on some prophets more (and other) gifts than on others: and We gave to David (the gift of) the Psalms.

017.056 Say: "Call on thoseÑbesides HimÑwhom ye fancy: they have neither the power to remove your troubles from you nor to change them."

017.057 Those whom they call upon do desire (for themselves) means of access to their Lord,Ñeven those who are nearest: they hope for His Mercy and fear His Wrath: for the Wrath of thy Lord is something to take heed of.

017.058 There is not a population but We shall destroy it before the Day of Judgment or punish it with a dreadful Penalty: that is written in the (eternal) Record.

017.059 And We refrain from sending the signs, only because the men of former generations treated them as false: We sent the she-camel to the Thamud to open their eyes, but they treated her wrongfully: We only send the Signs by way of terror (and warning from evil).

017.060 Behold! We told thee that thy Lord doth encompass mankind round about: We granted the vision which We showed thee, but as a trial for men,Ñas also the Cursed Tree (mentioned) in the Qur'an: We put terror (and warning) into them, but it only increases their inordinate transgression!

017.061 Behold! We said to the angels: "Bow down unto Adam": They bowed down except Iblis: He said, "Shall I bow down to one whom Thou didst create from clay?"

017.062 He said: "Seest Thou? this is the one whom Thou hast honoured above me! If Thou wilt but respite me to the Day of Judgment, I will surely bring his descendants under my swayÑall but a few!"

017.063 (God) said: "Go thy way; if any of them follow thee, verily Hell will

be the recompense of you (all)Ñan ample recompense.

017.064 "Lead to destruction those whom thou canst among them, with thy (seductive) voice; make assaults on them with thy cavalry and thy infantry; mutually share with them wealth and children; and make promises to them." But Satan promises them nothing but deceit.

017.065 "As for My servants, no authority shalt thou have over them:" Enough is thy Lord for a Disposer of affairs.

017.066 Your Lord is He That maketh the Ship go smoothly for you through the sea, in order that ye may seek of his Bounty. For he is unto you most Merciful.

017.067 When distress seizes you at sea, those that ye call uponÑbesides HimselfÑleave you in the lurch! but when He brings you back safe to land, ye turn away (from Him). Most ungrateful is man!

017.068 Do ye then feel secure that He will not cause you to be swallowed up beneath the earth when ye are on land, or that He will not send against you a violent tornado (with showers of stones) so that ye shall find no one to carry out your affairs for you?

017.069 Or do ye feel secure that He will not send you back a second time to sea and send against you a heavy gale to drown you because of your ingratitude, so that ye find no helper. Therein against Us?

017.070 We have honoured the sons of Adam; provided them with transport on land and sea; given them for sustenance things good and pure; and conferred on them special favours, above a great part of our creation.

017.071 One day We shall call together all human beings with their (respective) Imams: those who are given their record in their right hand will read it (with pleasure), and they will not be dealt with unjustly in the least.

017.072 But those who were blind in this world, will be blind in the hereafter, and most astray from the Path.

017.073 And their purpose was to tempt thee away from that which We had revealed unto thee, to substitute in our name something quite different; (in that case), behold! they would certainly have made thee (their) friend!

017.074 And had We not given thee strength, thou wouldst nearly have inclined to them a little.

017.075 In that case We should have made thee taste an equal portion (of punishment) in this life, and an equal portion in death: and moreover thou wouldst have found none to help thee against Us!

017.076 Their purpose was to scare thee off the land, in order to expel thee; but in that case they would not have stayed (therein) after thee, except for a little while.

017.077 (This was Our) way with the apostles We sent before thee: thou wilt find no change in Our ways.

017.078 Establish regular prayersÑat the sun's decline till the darkness of the night, and the morning prayer and reading: for the prayer and reading in the morning carry their testimony.

017.079 And pray in the small watches of the morning: (it would be) an additional prayer (or spiritual profit) for thee: soon will thy Lord raise thee to a Station of Praise and Glory!

017.080 Say: "O my Lord! Let my entry be by the Gate of Truth and Honour, and likewise my exit by the Gate of Truth and Honour; and grant me from Thy Presence an authority to aid (me)."

017.081 And say: "Truth has (now) arrived, and Falsehood perished: for Falsehood is (by its nature) bound to perish."

017.082 We send down (stage by stage) in the Qur'an that which is a healing and a mercy to those who believe: to the unjust it causes nothing but loss after loss.

017.083 Yet when We bestow Our favours on man, he turns away and becomes remote on his side (instead of coming to Us), and when evil seizes him he gives himself up to despair!

017.084 Say: "Everyone acts according to his own disposition: But your Lord knows best who it is that is best guided on the Way."

017.085 They ask thee concerning the Spirit (of inspiration). Say: "The Spirit (cometh) by command of my Lord: of knowledge it is only a little that is communicated to you, (O men!)"

017.086 If it were Our Will, We could take away that which We have sent thee by inspiration:then wouldst thou find none to plead thy affair in that matter as against Us,-

017.087 Except for Mercy from thy Lord: for his bounty is to thee (indeed) great.

017.088 Say: "If the whole of mankind and Jinns were to gather together to produce the like of this Qur'an, they could not produce the like thereof, even if they backed up each other with help and support.

017.089 And We have explained to man, in this Qur'an, every kind of similitude: yet the greater part of men refuse (to receive it) except with ingratitude!

017.090 They say: "We shall not believe in thee, until thou cause a spring to gush forth for us from the earth,

017.091 "Or (until) thou have a garden of date trees and vines, and cause rivers to gush forth in their midst, carrying abundant water;

017.092 "Or thou cause the sky to fall in pieces, as thou sayest (will happen), against us; or thou bring God and the angels before (us) face to face:

017.093 "Or thou have a house adorned with gold, or thou mount a ladder right

into the skies. No, we shall not even believe in thy mounting until thou send down to us a book that we could read." Say: "Glory to my Lord! Am I aught but a man,Ñan apostle?"

017.094 What kept men back from belief when Guidance came to them, was nothing but this: they said, "Has God sent a man (like us) to be (His) Apostle?"

017.095 Say, "If there were settled, on earth, angels walking about in peace and quiet, We should certainly have sent them down from the heavens an angel for an apostle."

017.096 Say: "Enough is God for a witness between me and you: for He is well acquainted with His servants, and He sees (all things).

017.097 It is he whom God guides, that is on true Guidance; but he whom He leaves astrayÑfor such wilt thou find no protector besides Him. On the Day of Judgment We shall gather, them together, prone on their faces, blind, dumb, and deaf: their abode will be Hell: every time it shows abatement, We shall increase from them the fierceness of the Fire.

017.098 That is their recompense, because they rejected Our signs, and said, "When we are reduced to bones and broken dust, should we really be raised up (to be) a new Creation?"

017.099 See they not that God, Who created the heavens and the earth, has power to create the like of them (anew)? Only He has decreed a term appointed, of which there is no doubt. But the unjust refuse (to receive it) except with ingratitude.

017.100 Say: "If ye had control of the Treasures of the Mercy of my Lord, behold, ye would keep them back, for fear of spending them: for man is (every) niggardly!"

017.101 To Moses We did give Nine Clear Sings: As the Children of Israel: when he came to them, Pharaoh said to him: "O Moses! I consider thee, indeed, to have been worked upon by sorcery!

017.102 Moses said, "Thou knowest well that these things have been sent down by none but the Lord of the heavens and the earth as eye-opening evidence: and I consider thee indeed, O Pharaoh, to be one doomed to destruction!"

017.103 So he resolved to remove them from the face of the earth: but We did drown him and all who were with him.

017.104 And We said thereafter to the Children of Israel, "Dwell securely in the land (of promise)": but when the second of the warnings came to pass, We gathered you together in a mingled crowd.

017.105 We sent down the (Qur'an) in Truth, and in Truth has it descended: and We sent thee but to give Glad Tidings and to warn (sinners).

017.106 (It is) a Qur'an which We have divided (into parts from time to time), in order that thou mightest recite it to men at intervals: We have revealed it

by stages.

017.107 Say: "Whether ye believe in it or not, it is true that those who were given knowledge beforehand, when it is recited to them, fall down on their faces in humble prostration,

017.108 "And they say: 'Glory to our Lord! Truly has the promise of our Lord been fulfilled!'"

017.109 They fall down on their faces in tears, and it increases their (earnest) humility.

017.110 Say: "Call upon God, or call upon Rahman: by whatever name ye call upon Him, (it is well): for to Him belong the Most Beautiful Names. Neither speak thy Prayer aloud, nor speak it in a low tone, but seek a middle course between."

017.111 Say: "Praise be to God, who begets no son, and has no partner in (His) dominion: Nor (needs) He any to protect Him from humiliation: yea, magnify Him for His greatness and glory!"

THE CAVE,
CHAPTER NO. 018

018.001 Praise be to God, Who hath sent to His Servant the Book, and hath allowed therein no Crookedness:

018.002 (He hath made it) Straight (and Clear) in order that He may warn (the godless) of a terrible Punishment from Him, and that He may give Glad Tidings to the Believers who work righteous deeds, that they shall have a goodly Reward,

018.003 Wherein they shall remain for ever:

018.004 Further, that He may warn those (also) who say, "God hath begotten a son":

018.005 No knowledge have they of such a thing, nor had their fathers. It is a grievous thing that issues from their mouths as a saying what they say is nothing but falsehood!

018.006 Thou wouldst only, perchance, fret thyself to death, following after them, in grief, if they believe not in this Message.

018.007 That which is on earth we have made but as a glittering show for the earth, in order that We may test themÑas to which of them are best in conduct.

018.008 Verily what is on earth we shall make but as dust and dry soil (without growth or herbage).

018.009 Or dost thou reflect that the Companions of the Cave and of the Inscription were wonders among Our Sign?

018.010 Behold, the youths betook themselves to the Cave: they said, "Our Lord! bestow on us Mercy from Thyself, and dispose of our affair for us in the right

way!"

018.011 Then We draw (a veil) over their ears, for a number of years, in the Cave, (so that they heard not):

018.012 Then We roused them, in order to test which of the two parties was best at calculating the term of years they had tarried!

018.013 We relate to thee their story in truth: they were youths who believed in their Lord, and We advanced them in guidance:

018.014 We gave strength to their hearts: Behold, they stood up and said: "Our Lord is the Lord of the heavens and of the earth: never shall we call upon any god other than Him: if we did, we should indeed have uttered an enormity!

018.015 "These our people have taken for worship gods other than Him: why do they not bring forward an authority clear (and convincing) for what they do? Who doth more wrong than such as invent a falsehood against God?

018.016 "When ye turn away from them and the things they worship other than God, betake yourselves to the Cave: Your Lord will shower His mercies on you and disposes of your affair towards comfort and ease."

018.017 Thou wouldst have seen the sun, when it rose, declining to the right from their Cave, and when it set, turning away from them to the left, while they lay in the open space in the midst of the Cave. Such are among the Signs of God: He whom God, guides is rightly guided; but he whom God leaves to stray,Ñfor him wilt thou find no protector to lead him to the Right Way.

018.018 Thou wouldst have deemed them awake, whilst they were asleep, and We turned them on their right and on their left sides: their dog stretching forth his two fore-legs on the threshold: if thou hadst come up on to them, thou wouldst have certainly turned back from them in flight, and wouldst certainly have been filled with terror of them.

018.019 Such (being their state), we raised them up (from sleep), that they might question each other. Said one of them, "How long have ye stayed (here)?" They said, "We have stayed (perhaps) a day, or part of a day." (At length) they (all) said, "God (alone) knows best how long ye have stayed here.... Now send ye then one of you with this money of yours to the town: let him find out which is the best food (to be had) and bring some to you, that (ye may) satisfy your hunger therewith: And let him behave with care and courtesy, and let him not inform any one about you.

018.020 "For if they should come upon you, they would stone you or force you to return to their cult, and in that case ye would never attain prosperity."

018.021 Thus did We make their case known to the people, that they might know that the promise of God is true, and that there can be no doubt about the Hour of Judgment. Behold, they dispute among themselves as to their affair. (Some) said, "Construct a building over them": Their Lord knows best about them: those who prevailed over their affair said, "Let us surely build a place of worship

over them."

018.022 (Some) say they were three, the dog being the fourth among them; (others) say they were five, the dog being the sixth,Ñdoubtfully guessing at the unknown; (yet others) say they were seven, the dog being the eighth. Say thou: "My Lord knoweth best their number; It is but few that know their (real case)." Enter not, therefore, into controversies concerning them, except on a matter that is clear, nor consult any of them about (the affair of) the Sleepers.

018.023 Nor say of anything, "I shall be sure to do so and so tomorrow"-

018.024 Without adding, "So please God!" and call thy Lord to mind when thou forgettest, and say, "I hope that my Lord will guide me ever closer (even) than this to the right road."

018.025 So they stayed in their Cave three hundred years, and (some) add nine (more)

018.026 Say: "God knows best how long they stayed: with Him is (the knowledge of) the secrets of the heavens and the earth: how clearly He sees, how finely He hears (everything)! They have no protector other than Him; nor does He share His Command with any person whatsoever.

018.027 And recite (and teach) what has been revealed to thee of the Book of thy Lord: none can change His Words, and none wilt thou find as a refuge other than Him.

018.028 And keep thy soul content with those who call on their Lord morning and evening, seeking His Face; and let not thine eyes pass beyond them, seeking the pomp and glitter of this Life; no obey any whose heart We have permitted to neglect the remembrance of Us, one who follows his own desires, whose case has gone beyond all bounds.

018.029 Say, "The truth is from your Lord": Let him who will believe, and let him who will, reject (it): for the wrong-doers We have prepared a Fire whose (smoke and flames), like the walls and roof of a tent, will hem them in: if they implore relief they will be granted water like melted brass, that will scald their faces, how dreadful the drink! How uncomfortable a couch to recline on!

018.030 As to those who believe and work righteousness, verily We shall not suffer to perish the reward of any who do a (single) righteous deed.

018.031 For them will be Gardens of Eternity; beneath them rivers will flow; they will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold, and they will wear green garments of fine silk and heavy brocade: They will recline therein on raised thrones. How good the recompense! How beautiful a couch to recline on!

018.032 Set forth to them the parable of two men: for one of them We provided two gardens of grape-vines and surrounded them with date palms; in between the two We placed corn-fields.

018.033 Each of those gardens brought forth its produce, and failed not in the least therein: in the midst of them We caused a river to flow.

018.034 (Abundant) was the produce this man had : he said to his companion, in the course of a mutual argument: "more wealth have I than you, and more honour and power in (my following of) men."

018.035 He went into his garden in a state (of mind) unjust to his soul: He said, "I deem not that this will ever perish,

018.036 "Nor do I deem that the Hour (of Judgment) will (ever) come: Even if I am brought back to my Lord, I shall surely find (there) something better in exchange."

018.037 His companion said to him, in the course of the argument with him: "Dost thou deny Him Who created thee out of dust, then out of a sperm-drop, then fashioned thee into a man?

018.038 "But (I think) for my part that He is God, My Lord, and none shall I associate with my Lord.

018.039 "Why didst thou not, as thou wentest into thy garden, say: 'God's will (be done)! There is no power but with God!' If thou dost see me less than thee in wealth and sons,

018.040 "It may be that my Lord will give me something better than thy garden, and that He will send on thy garden thunderbolts (by way of reckoning) from heaven, making it (but) slippery sand!-

018.041 "Or the water of the garden will run off underground so that thou wilt never be able to find it."

018.042 So his fruits (and enjoyment) were encompassed (with ruin), and he remained twisting and turning his hands over what he had spent on his property, which had (now) tumbled to pieces to its very foundations, and he could only say, "Woe is me! Would I had never ascribed partners to my Lord and Cherisher!"

018.043 Nor had he numbers to help him against God, nor was he able to deliver himself.

018.044 There, the (only) protection comes from God, the True One. He is the Best to reward, and the Best to give success.

018.045 Set forth to them the similitude of the life of this world: It is like the rain which we send down from the skies: the earth's vegetation absorbs it, but soon it becomes dry stubble, which the winds do scatter: it is (only) God who prevails over all things.

018.046 Wealth and sons are allurements of the life of this world: But the things that endure, good deeds, are best in the sight of thy Lord, as rewards, and best as (the foundation for) hopes.

018.047 One Day We shall remove the mountains, and thou wilt see the earth as a level stretch, and We shall gather them, all together, nor shall We leave out

any one of them.

018.048 And they will be marshalled before thy Lord in ranks, (with the announcement), "Now have ye come to Us (bare) as We created you first: aye, ye thought We shall not fulfil the appointment made to you to meet (Us)!":

018.049 And the Book (of Deeds) will be placed (before you); and thou wilt see the sinful in great terror because of what is (recorded) therein; they will say, "Ah! woe to us! what a Book is this! It leaves out nothing small or great, but takes account thereof!" They will find all that they did, placed before them: And not one will thy Lord treat with injustice.

018.050 Behold! We said to the angels, "Bow down to Adam": They bowed down except Iblis. He was one of the Jinns, and he broke the Command of his Lord. Will ye then take him and his progeny as protectors rather than Me? And they are enemies to you! Evil would be the exchange for the wrong-doers!

018.051 I called them not to witness the creation of the heavens and the earth, nor (even) their own creation: nor is it for helpers such as Me to take as lead (men) astray!

018.052 One Day He will say, "Call on those whom ye thought to be My partners," and they will call on them, but they will not listen to them; and We shall make for them a place of common perdition.

018.053 And the Sinful shall see the fire and apprehend that they have to fall therein: no means will they find to turn away therefrom.

018.054 We have explained in detail in this Qur'an, for the benefit of mankind, every kind of similitude: but man is, in most things, contentious.

018.055 And what is there to keep back men from believing, now that Guidance has come to them, nor from praying for forgiveness from their Lord, but that (they ask that) the ways of the ancients be repeated with them, or the Wrath be brought to them face to face?

018.056 We only send the apostles to give Glad Tidings and to give warnings: But the unbelievers dispute with vain argument, in order therewith to weaken the truth, and they treat My Signs as a jest, as also the fact that they are warned!

018.057 And who doth more wrong than one who is reminded of the Signs of his Lord, but turns away from them, forgetting the (deeds) which his hands have sent forth? Verily We have set veils over their hearts lest they should understand this, and over their ears, deafness, if thou callest them to guidance, even then will they never accept guidance.

018.058 But your Lord is Most forgiving, full of Mercy. If He were to call them (at once) to account for what they have earned, then surely He would have earned, then surely He would have hastened their punishment: but they have their appointed time, beyond which they will find no refuge.

018.059 Such were the populations we destroyed when they committed iniquities;

but we fixed an appointed time for their destruction.

018.060 Behold, Moses said to his attendant, "I will not give up until I reach the junction of the two seas or (until) I spend years and years in travel."

018.061 But when they reached the Junction, they forgot (about) their Fish, which took its course through the sea (straight) as in a tunnel.

018.062 When they had passed on (some distance), Moses said to his attendant: "Bring us our early meal; truly we have suffered much fatigue at this (stage of) our journey."

018.063 He replied: "Sawest thou (what happened) when we betook ourselves to the rock? I did indeed forget (about) the Fish: none but Satan made me forget to tell (you) about it: it took its course through the sea in a marvellous way!"

018.064 Moses said: "That was what we were seeking after:" So they went back on their footsteps, following (the path they had come).

018.065 So they found one of Our servants, on whom We had bestowed Mercy from Ourselves and whom We had taught knowledge from Our own Presence.

018.066 Moses said to him: "May I follow thee, on the footing that thou teach me something of the (Higher) Truth which thou hast been taught?"

018.067 (The other) said: "Verily thou wilt not be able to have patience with me!"

018.068 "And how canst thou have patience about things about which thy understanding is not complete?"

018.069 Moses said: "Thou wilt find me, if God so will, (truly) patient: nor shall I disobey thee in aught."

018.070 The other said: "If then thou wouldst follow me, ask me no questions about anything until I myself speak to thee concerning it."

018.071 So they both proceeded: until, when they were in the boat, he scuttled it. Said Moses: "Hast thou scuttled it in order to drown those in it? Truly a strange thing hast thou done!"

018.072 He answered: "Did I not tell thee that thou canst have no patience with me?"

018.073 Moses said: "Rebuke me not for forgetting, nor grieve me by raising difficulties in my case."

018.074 Then they proceeded: until, when they met a young man, he slew him. Moses said: "Hast thou slain an innocent person who had slain none? Truly a foul (unheard of) thing hast thou done!"

018.075 He answered: "Did I not tell thee that thou canst have no patience with me?"

018.076 (Moses) said: "If ever I ask thee about anything after this, keep me not in thy company: then wouldst thou have received (full) excuse from my side."

018.077 Then they proceeded: until, when they came to the inhabitants of a town, they asked them for food, but they refused them hospitality. They found there a wall on the point of falling down, but he set it up straight. (Moses) said: "If thou hadst wished, surely thou couldst have exacted some recompense for it!"

018.078 He answered: "This is the parting between me and thee: now will I tell thee the interpretation of (those things) over which thou wast unable to hold patience.

018.079 "As for the boat, it belonged to certain men in dire want: they plied on the water: I but wished to render it unserviceable, for there was after them a certain king who seized on every boat by force.

018.080 "As for the youth, his parents were people of Faith, and we feared that he would grieve them by obstinate rebellion and ingratitude (to God and man).

018.081 "So we desired that their Lord would give them in exchange (a son) better in purity (of conduct) and closer in affection.

018.082 "As for the wall, it belonged to two youths, orphans, in the Town; there was, beneath it, a buried treasure, to which they were entitled: their father had been a righteous man: So thy Lord desired that they should attain their age of full strength and get out their treasureÑa mercy (and favour) from thy Lord. I did it not of my own accord. Such is the interpretation of (those things) over which thou wast unable to hold patience."

018.083 They ask thee concerning Zul-qarnain. Say, "I will rehearse to you something of his story."

018.084 Verily We established his power on earth, and We gave him the ways and the means to all ends.

018.085 One (such) way he followed,

018.086 Until, when he reached the setting of the sun, he found it set in a spring of murky water: Near it he found a People: We said: "O Zul-qarnain! (thou hast authority,) either to punish them, or to treat them with kindness."

018.087 He said: "Whoever doth wrong, him shall we punish; then shall he be sent back to his Lord; and He will punish him with a punishment unheard-of (before).

018.088 "But whoever believes, and works righteousness,Ñhe shall have a goodly reward, and easy will be his task as We order it by our Command."

018.089 Then followed he (another) way,

018.090 Until, when he came to the rising of the sun, he found it rising on a people for whom We had provided no covering protection against the sun.

018.091 (He left them) as they were: We completely understood what was before him.

018.092 Then followed he (another) way,

018.093 Until, when he reached (a tract) between two mountains, he found, beneath them, a people who scarcely understood a word.

018.094 They said: "O Zul-qarnain! the Gog and Magog (People) do great mischief on earth: shall we then render thee tribute in order that thou mightest erect a barrier between us and them?

018.095 He said: "(The power) in which my Lord has established me is better (than tribute): Help me therefore with strength (and labour): I will erect a strong barrier between you and them:

018.096 "Bring me blocks of iron." At length, when he had filled up the space between the two steep mountain-sides, He said, "Blow (with your bellows)" Then, when he had made it (red) as fire, he said: "Bring me, that I may pour over it, molten lead."

018.097 Thus were they made powerless to scale it or to dig through it.

018.098 He said: "This is a mercy from my Lord: But when the promise of my Lord comes to pass, He will make it into dust; and the promise of my Lord is true."

018.099 On that day We shall leave them to surge like waves on one another: the trumpet will be blown, and We shall collect them all together.

018.100 And We shall present Hell that day for Unbelievers to see, all spread out,-

018.101 (Unbelievers) whose eyes had been under a veil from remembrance of Me, and who had been unable even to hear.

018.102 Do the Unbelievers think that they can take My servants as protectors besides Me? Verily We have prepared Hell for the Unbelievers for (their) entertainment.

018.103 Say: "Shall we tell you of those who lose most in respect of their deeds?-

018.104 "Those whose efforts have been wasted in this life, while they thought that they were acquiring good by their works?"

018.105 They are those who deny the Signs of their Lord and the fact of their having to meet Him (in the Hereafter): vain will be their works, nor shall We, on the Day of Judgment, give them any weight.

018.106 That is their reward, Hell, because they rejected Faith, and took My Signs and My Messengers by way of jest.

018.107 As to those who believe and work righteous deeds, they have, for their entertainment, the Gardens of Paradise,

018.108 Wherein they shall dwell (for aye): no change will they wish for from them.

018.109 Say: "If the ocean were ink (wherewith to write out) the words of my Lord, sooner would the ocean be exhausted than would the words of my Lord, even if we added another ocean like it, for its aid."

018.110 Say: "I am but a man like yourselves, (but) the inspiration has come to me, that your God is one God: whoever expects to meet his Lord, let him work righteousness, and, in the worship of his Lord, admit no one as partner.

MARY,
CHAPTER NO. 019

019.001 Kaf. Ha. Ya. 'Ain. Sad.

019.002 (This is) a recital of the Mercy of thy Lord to His servant Zakariya.

019.003 Behold! he cried to his Lord in secret,

019.004 Praying: "O my Lord! infirm indeed are my bones, and the hair of my head doth glisten with grey: but never am I unblest, O my Lord, in my prayer to Thee!

019.005 "Now I fear (what) my relatives (and colleagues) (will do) after me: but my wife is barren: so give me an heir as from Thyself,-

019.006 "(One that) will (truly) represent me, and represent the posterity of Jacob; and make him, O my Lord! one with whom Thou art well-pleased!"

019.007 (His prayer was answered): "O Zakariya! We give thee good news of a son: His name shall be Yahya: on none by that name have We conferred distinction before."

019.008 He said: "O my Lord! How shall I have a son, when my wife is barren and I have grown quite decrepit from old age?"

019.009 He said: "So (it will be) thy Lord saith, 'that is easy for Me: I did indeed create thee before, when thou hadst been nothing!'"

019.010 (Zakariya) said: "O my Lord! give me a Sign." "Thy Sign," was the answer, "Shall be that thou shalt speak to no man for three nights, although thou art not dumb."

019.011 So Zakariya came out to his people from him chamber: He told them by signs to celebrate God's praises in the morning and in the evening.

019.012 (To his son came the command): "O Yahya! take hold of the Book with might": and We gave him Wisdom even as a youth,

019.013 And piety (for all creatures) as from Us, and purity: He was devout,

019.014 And kind to his parents, and he was not overbearing or rebellious.

019.015 So Peace on him the day he was born, the day that he dies, and the day that he will be raised up to life (again)!

019.016 Relate in the Book (the story of) Mary, when she withdrew from her family to a place in the East.

019.017 She placed a screen (to screen herself) from them; then We sent her our angel, and he appeared before her as a man in all respects.

019.018 She said: "I seek refuge from thee to (God) Most Gracious: (come not near) if thou dost fear God."

019.019 He said: "Nay, I am only a messenger from thy Lord, (to announce) to thee the gift of a holy son.

019.020 She said: "How shall I have a son, seeing that no man has touched me, and I am not unchaste?"

019.021 He said: "So (it will be): Thy Lord saith, 'that is easy for Me: and (We wish) to appoint him as a Sign unto men and a Mercy from Us':It is a matter (so) decreed."

019.022 So she conceived him, and she retired with him to a remote place.

019.023 And the pains of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a palm-tree: She cried (in her anguish): "Ah! would that I had died before this! would that I had been a thing forgotten and out of sight!"

019.024 But (a voice) cried to her from beneath the (palm-tree): "Grieve not! for thy Lord hath provided a rivulet beneath thee;

019.025 "And shake towards thyself the trunk of the palm-tree: It will let fall fresh ripe dates upon thee.

019.026 "So eat and drink and cool (thine) eye. And if thou dost see any man, say, 'I have vowed a fast to (God) Most Gracious, and this day will I enter into not talk with any human being'"

019.027 At length she brought the (babe) to her people, carrying him (in her arms). They said: "O Mary! truly an amazing thing hast thou brought!

019.028 "O sister of Aaron! Thy father was not a man of evil, nor thy mother a woman unchaste!"

019.029 But she pointed to the babe. They said: "How can we talk to one who is a child in the cradle?"

019.030 He said: "I am indeed a servant of God: He hath given me revelation and made me a prophet;

019.031 "And He hath made me blessed wheresoever I be, and hath enjoined on me Prayer and Charity as long as I live;

019.032 "(He) hath made me kind to my mother, and not overbearing or miserable;

019.033 "So peace is on me the day I was born, the day that I die, and the day that I shall be raised up to life (again)"!

019.034 Such (was) Jesus the son of Mary: (it is) a statement of truth, about

which they (vainly) dispute.

019.035 It is not befitting to (the majesty of) God that He should beget a son. Glory be to Him! when He determines a matter, He only says to it, "Be", and it is.

019.036 Verily God is my Lord and your Lord: Him therefore serve ye: this is a Way that is straight.

019.037 But the sects differ among themselves: and woe to the unbelievers because of the (coming) Judgment of a Momentous Day!

019.038 How plainly will they see and hear, the Day that they will appear before Us! but the unjust today are in error manifest!

019.039 But warn them of the Day of Distress, when the matter will be determined: for (behold,) they are negligent and they do not believe!

019.040 It is We Who will inherit the earth, and all beings thereon: to Us will they all be returned.

019.041 (Also mention in the Book (the story of) Abraham: He was a man of Truth, a prophet.

019.042 Behold, he said to his father: "O my father! why worship that which heareth not and seeth not, and can profit thee nothing?

019.043 "O my father! to me hath come knowledge which hath not reached thee: so follow me: I will guide thee to a way that is even and straight.

019.044 "O my father! serve not Satan: for Satan is a rebel against (God) Most Gracious.

019.045 "O my father! I fear lest a Penalty afflict thee from (God) Most Gracious, so that thou become to Satan a friend."

019.046 (The father) replied: "Dost thou hate my gods, O Abraham? If thou forbear not, I will indeed stone thee: Now get away from me for a good long while!"

019.047 Abraham said: "Peace be on thee: I will pray to my Lord for thy forgiveness: for He is to me Most Gracious.

019.048 "And I will turn away from you (all) and from those whom ye invoke besides God: I will call on my Lord: perhaps, by my prayer to my Lord, I shall be not unblest."

019.049 When he had turned away from them and from those whom they worshipped besides God, We bestowed on him Isaac and Jacob, and each one of them We made a prophet.

019.050 And We bestowed of Our Mercy on them, and We granted them lofty honour on the tongue of truth.

019.051 Also mention in the Book (the story of) Moses: for he was specially

chosen, and he was an apostle (and) a prophet.

019.052 And we called him from the right side of Mount (Sinai), and made him draw near to Us, for mystic (converse).

019.053 And, out of Our Mercy, We gave him his brother Aaron, (also) a prophet.

019.054 Also mention in the Book (the story of) Isma'il: He was (strictly) true to what he promised, and he was an apostle (and) a prophet.

019.055 He used to enjoin on his people Prayer and Charity, and he was most acceptable in the sight of his Lord.

019.056 Also mention in the Book the case of Idris: He was a man of truth (and sincerity), (and) a prophet:

019.057 And We raised him to a lofty station.

019.058 Those were some of the prophets on whom God did bestow His Grace,Ñof the posterity of Adam, and of those who We carried (in the Ark) with Noah, and of the posterity of Abraham and Israel of those whom We guided and chose. Whenever the Signs of (God) Most Gracious were rehearsed to them, they would fall down in prostrate adoration and in tears.

019.059 But after them there followed a posterity who missed prayers and followed after lusts soon, then, will they face Destruction,-

019.060 Except those who repent and believe, and work righteousness: for these will enter the Garden and will not be wronged in the least,-

019.061 Gardens of Eternity, those which (God) Most Gracious has promised to His servants in the Unseen: for His promise must (necessarily) come to pass.

019.062 They will not there hear any vain discourse, but only salutations of Peace: And they will have therein their sustenance, morning and evening.

019.063 Such is the Garden which We give as an inheritance to those of Our servants who guard against Evil.

019.064 (The angels say:) "We descend not but by command of thy Lord: to Him belongeth what is before us and what is behind us, and what is between: and thy Lord never doth forget,-

019.065 "Lord of the heavens and of the earth, and of all that is between them; so worship Him, and be constant and patient in His worship: knowest thou of any who is worthy of the same Name as He?"

019.066 Man says: "What! When I am dead, shall I then be raised up alive?"

019.067 But does not man call to mind that We created him before out of nothing?

019.068 So, by thy Lord, without doubt, We shall gather them together, and (also) the Evil Ones (with them); then shall We bring them forth on their knees round about Hell;

019.069 Then shall We certainly drag out from every sect all those who were worst in obstinate rebellion against (God) Most Gracious.

019.070 And certainly We know best those who are most worthy of being burned therein.

019.071 Not one of you but will pass over it: this is, with thy Lord, a Decree which must be accomplished.

019.072 But We shall save those who guarded against evil, and We shall leave the wrong-doers therein, (humbled) to their knees.

019.073 When Our Clear Signs are rehearsed to them, the Unbelievers say to those who believe, "Which of the two sides is best in point of position? Which makes the best show in council?"

019.074 But how many (countless) generations before them have we destroyed, who were even better in equipment and in glitter to the eye?

019.075 Say: "If any men go astray, (God) Most Gracious extends (the rope) to them, until, when they see the warning of God (being fulfilled)Ñeither in punishment or in (the approach of) the Hour,Ñthey will at length realise who is worst in position, and (who) weakest in forces!

019.076 "And God doth advance in guidance those who seek guidance: and the things that endure, Good Deeds, are best in the sight of thy Lord, as rewards, and best in respect of (their) eventual return."

019.077 Hast thou then seen the (sort of) man who rejects Our Signs, yet says: "I shall certainly be given wealth and children?"

019.078 Has he penetrated to the Unseen, or has he taken a contract with (God) Most Gracious?

019.079 Nay! We shall record what he says, and We shall add and add to his punishment.

019.080 To Us shall return all that he talks of and he shall appear before Us bare and alone.

019.081 And they have taken (for worship) gods other than God, to give them power and glory!

019.082 Instead, they shall reject their worship, and become adversaries against them.

019.083 Seest thou not that We have set the Evil Ones on against the unbelievers, to incite them with fury?

019.084 So make no haste against them, for We but count out to them a (limited) number (of days).

019.085 The day We shall gather the righteous to (God) Most Gracious, like a band presented before a king for honours,

019.086 And We shall drive the sinners to Hell, like thirsty cattle driven down to water,-

019.087 None shall have the power of intercession, but such a one as has received permission (or promise) from (God) Most Gracious.

019.088 They say: "(God) Most Gracious has begotten a son!"

019.089 Indeed ye have put forth a thing most monstrous!

019.090 At it the skies are ready to burst, the earth to split asunder, and the mountains to fall down in utter ruin,

019.091 That they should invoke a son for (God) Most Gracious.

019.092 For it is not consonant with the majesty of (God) Most Gracious that He should beget a son.

019.093 Not one of the beings in the heavens and the earth but must come to (God) Most Gracious as a servant.

019.094 He does take an account of them (all), and hath numbered them (all) exactly.

019.095 And everyone of them will come to Him singly on the Day of Judgment.

019.096 On those who believe and work deeds of righteousness, will (God) Most Gracious bestow love.

019.097 So have We made the (Qur'an) easy in thine own tongue, that with it thou mayest give Glad Tidings to the righteous, and warnings to people given to contention.

019.098 But how many (countless) generations before them have We destroyed? Canst thou find a single one of them (now) or hear (so much as) a whisper of them?

TA-HA,
CHAPTER NO. 020

020.001 Ta-Ha.

020.002 We have not sent down the Qur'an to thee to be (an occasion) for thy distress,

020.003 But only as an admonition to those who fear (God),-

020.004 A revelation from Him Who created the earth and the heavens on high.

020.005 (God) Most Gracious is firmly established on the throne (of authority).

020.006 To Him belongs what is in the heavens and on earth, and all between them, and all beneath the soil.

020.007 If thou pronounce the word aloud, (it is no matter): for verily He knoweth what is secret and what is yet more hidden.

020.008 God! there is no god but He! To Him belong the most Beautiful Names.

020.009 Has the story of Moses reached thee?

020.010 Behold, he saw a fire: So he said to his family, "Tarry ye; I perceive a fire; perhaps I can bring you some burning brand therefrom, or find some guidance at the fire."

020.011 But when he came to the fire, a voice was heard: "O Moses!

020.012 "Verily I am thy Lord! therefore (in My presence) put off thy shoes: thou art in the sacred valley Tuwa.

020.013 "I have chosen thee: listen, then, to the inspiration (sent to thee).

020.014 "Verily, I am God: There is no god but I: So serve thou Me (only), and establish regular prayer for celebrating My praise.

020.015 "Verily the Hour is comingÑMy design is to keep it hiddenÑfor every soul to receive its reward by the measure of its Endeavour.

020.016 "Therefore let not such as believe not therein but follow their own lusts, divert thee therefrom, lest thou perish!"..

020.017 "And what is that in the right hand, O Moses?"

020.018 He said, "It is my rod: on it I lean; with it I beat down fodder for my flocks; and in it I find other uses."

020.019 (God) said, "Throw it, O Moses!"

020.020 He threw it, and behold! It was a snake, active in motion.

020.021 (God) said, "Seize it, and fear not: We shall return it at once to its former condition"..

020.022 "Now draw thy hand close to thy side: It shall come forth white (and shining), without harm (or stain),Ñas another Sign,-

020.023 "In order that We may show thee (two) of our Greater Signs.

020.024 "Go thou to Pharaoh, for he has indeed transgressed all bounds."

020.025 (Moses) said: "O my Lord! expand me my breast;

020.026 "Ease my task for me;

020.027 "And remove the impediment from my speech,

020.028 "So they may understand what I say:

020.029 "And give me a Minister from my family,

020.030 "Aaron, my brother;

020.031 "Add to my strength through him,

020.032 "And make him share my task:

020.033 "That we may celebrate Thy praise without stint,

020.034 "And remember Thee without stint:

020.035 "For Thou art He that (ever) regardeth us."

020.036 (God) said: "Granted is thy prayer, O Moses!"

020.037 "And indeed We conferred a favour on thee another time (before).

020.038 "Behold! We sent to thy mother, by inspiration, the message:

020.039 "'Throw (the child) into the chest, and throw (the chest) into the river: the river will cast him up on the bank, and he will be taken up by one who is an enemy to Me and an enemy to him': But I cast (the garment of) love over thee from Me: and (this) in order that thou mayest be reared under Mine eye.

020.040 "Behold! thy sister goeth forth and saith, 'shall I show you one who will nurse and rear the (child)?' So We brought thee back to thy mother, that her eye might be cooled and she should not grieve. Then thou didst slay a man, but We saved thee from trouble, and We tried thee in various ways. Then didst thou tarry a number of years with the people of Midian. Then didst thou come hither as ordained, O Moses!

020.041 "And I have prepared thee for Myself (for service)"..

020.042 "Go, thou and thy brother, with My Signs, and slacken not, either of you, in keeping Me in remembrance.

020.043 "Go, both of you, to Pharaoh, for he has indeed transgressed all bounds;

020.044 "But speak to him mildly; perchance he may take warning or fear (God)."

020.045 They (Moses and Aaron) said: "Our Lord! We fear lest he hasten with insolence against us, or lest he transgress all bounds."

020.046 He said: "Fear not: for I am with you: I hear and see (everything).

020.047 "So go ye both to him, and say, 'Verily we are apostles sent by thy Lord: Send forth, therefore, the Children of Israel with us, and afflict them not: with a Sign, indeed, have we come from thy Lord! and peace to all who follow guidance!

020.048 "'Verily it has been revealed to us that the Penalty (awaits) those who reject and turn away.'"

020.049 (When this message was delivered), (Pharaoh) said: "Who, then, O Moses, is the Lord of you two?"

020.050 He said: "Our Lord is He Who gave to each (created) thing its form and nature, and further, gave (it) guidance."

020.051 (Pharaoh) said: "What then is the condition of previous generations?"

020.052 He replied: "The knowledge of that is with my Lord, duly recorded: my Lord never errs, nor forgets,-

020.053 "He Who has, made for you the earth like a carpet spread out; has enabled you to go about therein by roads (and channels); and has sent down water from the sky." With it have We produced diverse pairs of plants each separate from the others.

020.054 Eat (for yourselves) and pasture your cattle: verily, in this are Signs for men endued with understanding.

020.055 From the (earth) did We create you, and into it shall We return you, and from it shall We bring you out once again.

020.056 And We showed Pharaoh all Our Signs, but he did reject and refuse.

020.057 He said: "Hast thou come to drive us out of our land with thy magic, O Moses?

020.058 "But we can surely produce magic to match thine! So make a tryst between us and thee, which we shall not fail to keepÑneither we nor thouÑin a place where both shall have even chances."

020.059 Moses said: "Your tryst is the Day of the Festival, and let the people be assembled when the sun is well up."

020.060 So Pharaoh withdrew: He concerted his plan, and then came (back).

020.061 Moses said to him: Woe to you! Forge not ye a lie against God, lest He destroy you (at once) utterly by chastisement: the forger must suffer frustration!"

020.062 So they disputed, one with another, over their affair, but they kept their talk secret.

020.063 They said: "These two are certainly (expert) magicians: their object is to drive you out from your land with their magic, and to do away with your most cherished institutions.

020.064 "Therefore concert your plan, and then assemble in (serried) ranks: He wins (all along) today who gains the upper hand."

020.065 They said: "O Moses! whether wilt thou that thou throw (first) or that we be the first to throw?"

020.066 He said, "Nay, throw ye first!" Then behold their ropes and their rods-so it seemed to him on account of their magicÑbegan to be in lively motion!

020.067 So Moses conceived in his mind a (sort of) fear.

020.068 We said: "Fear not! for thou hast indeed the upper hand:

020.069 "Throw that which is in thy right hand: Quickly will it swallow up that which they have faked what they have faked is but a magician's trick: and the

magician thrives not, (no matter) where he goes."

020.070 So the magicians were thrown down to prostration: they said, "We believe in the Lord of Aaron and Moses".

020.071 (Pharaoh) said: "Believe ye in Him before I give you permission? Surely this must be your leader, who has taught you magic! be sure I will cut off your hands and feet on opposite sides, and I will have you crucified on trunks of palm-trees: so shall ye know for certain, which of us can give the more severe and the more lasting punishment!"

020.072 They said: "Never shall we regard thee as more than the Clear Sings that have come to us, or than Him Who created us! so decree whatever thou desirest to decree: for thou canst only decree (touching) the life of this world.

020.073 "For us, we have believed in our Lord: may He forgive us our faults, and the magic to which thou didst compel us: for God is Best and Most Abiding."

020.074 Verily he who comes to his Lord as a sinner (at Judgment),Ñfor him is Hell: therein shall he neither die nor live.

020.075 But such as come to Him as Believers who have worked righteous deeds,Ñfor them are ranks exalted,-

020.076 Gardens of Eternity, beneath which flow rivers: they will dwell therein for aye: such is the reward of those who purify themselves (from evil).

020.077 We sent an inspiration to Moses: "Travel by night with My servants, and strike a dry path for them through the sea, without fear of being overtaken (by Pharaoh) and without (any other) fear."

020.078 Then Pharaoh pursued them with his forces, but the waters completely overwhelmed them and covered them up.

020.079 Pharaoh led his people astray instead of leading them aright.

020.080 O ye Children of Israel! We delivered you from your enemy, and We made a Covenant with you on the right side of Mount (Sinai), and We sent down to you Manna and quails:

020.081 (Saying): "Eat of the good things We have provided for your sustenance, but commit no excess therein, lest My Wrath should justly descend on you: and those on whom descends My Wrath do perish indeed!

020.082 "But, without doubt, I am (also) He that forgives again and again, to those who repent, believe, and do right, who,Ñin fine, are ready to receive true guidance."

020.083 (When Moses was up on the Mount, God said:) "What made thee hasten in advance of thy people, O Moses?"

020.084 He replied: "Behold, they are close on my footsteps: I hastened to thee, O my Lord, to please thee."

020.085 (God) said: "We have tested thy people in thy absence: the Samiri has led them astray."

020.086 So Moses returned to his people in a state of indignation and sorrow. He said: "O my people! did not your Lord make a handsome promise to you? Did then the promise seem to you long (in coming)? Or did ye desire that Wrath should descend from your Lord on you, and so ye broke your promise to me?"

020.087 They said: "We broke not the promise to thee, as far as lay in our power: but we were made to carry the weight of the ornaments of the (whole) people, and we threw them (into the fire), and that was what the Samiri suggested.

020.088 "Then he brought out (of the fire) before the (people) the image of a calf: It seemed to low: so they said: This is your god, and the god of Moses, but (Moses) has forgotten!"

020.089 Could they not see that it could not return them a word (for answer), and that it had no power either to harm them or to do them good?

020.090 Aaron had already, before this said to them: "O my people! ye are being tested in this: for verily your Lord is (God) Most Gracious; so follow me and obey my command."

020.091 They had said: "We will not abandon this cult, but we will devote ourselves to it until Moses returns to us."

020.092 (Moses) said: "O Aaron! what kept thee back, when thou sawest them going wrong,

020.093 "From following me? Didst thou then disobey my order?"

020.094 (Aaron) replied: "O son of my mother! Seize (me) not by my beard nor by (the hair of) my head! Truly I feared lest thou shouldst say, 'Thou has caused a division among the children of Israel, and thou didst not respect my word!'"

020.095 (Moses) said: "What then is thy case, O Samiri?"

020.096 He replied: "I saw what they saw not: so I took a handful (of dust) from the footprint of the Apostle, and threw it (into the calf): thus did my soul suggest to me."

020.097 (Moses) said: "Get thee gone! but thy (punishment) in this life will be that thou wilt say, 'touch me not'; and moreover (for a future penalty) thou hast a promise that will not fail: Now look at thy god, of whom thou hast become a devoted worshipper: We will certainly (melt) it in a blazing fire and scatter it broadcast in the sea!"

020.098 But the god of you all is the One God: there is no god but He: all things He comprehends in His knowledge.

020.099 Thus do We relate to thee some stories of what happened before: for We have sent thee a Message from Our own Presence.

020.100 If any do turn away therefrom, verily they will bear a burden on the Day of judgment;

020.101 They will abide in this (state): and grievous will the burden be to them on that Day,-

020.102 The Day when the Trumpet will be sounded: that Day, We shall gather the sinful, blear-eyed (with terror).

020.103 In whispers will they consult each other: "Yet tarried not longer than ten (Days);

020.104 We know best what they will say, when their leader most eminent in conduct will say: "Ye tarried not longer than a day!"

020.105 They ask thee concerning the Mountains: say, "My Lord will uproot them and scatter them as dust;

020.106 "He will leave them as plains smooth and level;

020.107 "Nothing crooked or curved wilt thou see in their place."

020.108 On that Day will they follow the Caller (straight): no crookedness (can they show) him: all sounds shall humble themselves in the Presence of (God) Most Gracious: nothing shalt thou hear but the tramp of their feet (as they march).

020.109 On that Day shall no intercession avail except for those for whom permission has been granted by (God) Most Gracious and whose word is acceptable to Him.

020.110 He knows what (appears to His creatures as) before or after or behind them: but they shall not compass it with their knowledge.

020.111 (All) faces shall be humbled before (Him)Ñthe Living, the Self-Subsisting, Eternal: hopeless indeed will be the man that carries iniquity (on his back).

020.112 But he who works deeds of righteousness, and has faith, will have no fear of harm nor of any curtailment (of what is his due).

020.113 Thus have We sent this downÑan arabic Qur'anÑand explained therein in detail some of the warnings, in order that they may fear God, or that it may cause their remembrance (of Him).

020.114 High above all is God, the King, the Truth! Be not in haste with the Qur'an before its revelation to thee is completed, but say, "O my Lord! advance me in knowledge."

020.115 We had already, beforehand, taken the covenant of Adam, but he forgot: and We found on his part no firm resolve.

020.116 When We said to the angels, "Prostrate yourselves to Adam", they prostrated themselves, but not Iblis: he refused.

020.117 Then We said: "O Adam! verily, this is an enemy to thee and thy wife: so let him not get you both out of the Garden, so that thou art landed in misery.

020.118 "There is therein (enough provision) for thee not to go hungry nor to go naked,

020.119 "Nor to suffer from thirst, nor from the sun's heat."

020.120 But Satan whispered evil to him: he said, "O Adam! shall I lead thee to the Tree of Eternity and to a kingdom that never decays?"

020.121 In the result, they both ate of the tree, and so their nakedness appeared to them: they began to sew together, for their covering, leaves from the Garden: thus did Adam disobey his Lord, and allow himself to be seduced.

020.122 But his Lord chose him (for His Grace): He turned to him, and gave him Guidance.

020.123 He said: "Get ye down, both of you,Ñall together, from the Garden, with enmity one to another: but if, as is sure, there comes to you Guidance from Me, whosoever follows My Guidance, will not lose his way, nor fall into misery.

020.124 "But whosoever turns away from My Message, verily for him is a life narrowed down, and We shall raise him up blind on the Day of Judgment."

020.125 He will say: "O my Lord! why hast Thou raised me up blind, while I had sight (before)?"

020.126 (God) will say: "Thus didst Thou, when Our Signs came unto thee, disregard them: so wilt thou, this day, be disregarded."

020.127 And thus do We recompense him who transgresses beyond bounds and believes not in the Sings of his Lord: and the Penalty of the Hereafter is far more grievous and more enduring.

020.128 Is it not a warning to such men (to call to mind) how many generations before them We destroyed, in whose haunts they (now) move? Verily, in this are Signs for men endued with understanding.

020.129 Had it not been for a Word that went forth before from thy Lord, (their punishment) must necessarily have come; but there is a Term appointed (for respite).

020.130 Therefore be patient with what they say, and celebrate (constantly) the praises of thy Lord, before the rising of the sun, and before its setting; yea, celebrate them for part of the hours of the night, and at the sides of the day: that thou mayest have (spiritual) joy.

020.131 Nor strain thine eyes in longing for the things We have given for enjoyment to parties of them, the splendour of the life of this world, through which We test them: but the provision of thy Lord is better and more enduring.

020.132 Enjoin prayer on thy people, and be constant therein. We ask thee not to provide sustenance: We provide it for thee. But the (fruit of) the Hereafter is for righteousness.

020.133 They say: "Why does he not bring us a sign from his Lord?" Has not a Clear Sign come to them of all that was in the former Books of revelation?

020.134 And if We had inflicted on them a penalty before this, they would have said: "Our Lord! If only Thou hadst sent us an apostle, we should certainly have followed Thy Signs before we were humbled and put to shame."

020.135 Say: "Each one (of us) is waiting: wait ye, therefore, and soon shall ye know who it is that is on the straight and even way, and who it is that has received Guidance."

THE PROPHETS,
CHAPTER NO. 021

021.001 Closer and closer to mankind comes their Reckoning: yet they heed not and they turn away.

021.002 Never comes (aught) to them of a renewed Message from their Lord, but they listen to it as in jest,-

021.003 Their hearts toying as with trifles. The wrong-doers conceal their private counsels, (saying), "Is this (one) more than a man like yourselves? Will ye go to witchcraft with your eyes open?"

021.004 Say: "My Lord knoweth (every) word (spoken) in the heavens and on earth: He is the One that heareth and knoweth (all things)."

021.005 "Nay," they say, "(these are) medleys of dream!ÑNay, He forged it!ÑNay, He is (but) a poet! Let him then bring us a Sign like the ones that were sent to (Prophets) of old!"

021.006 (As to those) before them, not one of the populations which We destroyed believed: will these believe?

021.007 Before thee, also, the apostles We sent were but men, to whom We granted inspiration: If ye realise this not, ask of those who possess the Message.

021.008 Nor did We give them bodies that ate no food, nor were they exempt from death.

021.009 In the end We fulfilled to them Our Promise, and We saved them and those whom We pleased, but We destroyed those who transgressed beyond bounds.

021.010 We have revealed for you (O men!) a book in which is a Message for you: will ye not then understand?

021.011 How many were the populations We utterly destroyed because of their iniquities, setting up in their places other peoples?

021.012 Yet, when they felt Our Punishment (coming), behold, they (tried to)

flee from it.

021.013 Flee not, but return to the good things of this life which were given you, and to your homes in order that ye may be called to account.

021.014 They said: "Ah! woe to us! We were indeed wrong-doers!"

021.015 And that cry of theirs ceased not, till We made them as a field that is mown, as ashes silent and quenched.

021.016 Not for (idle) sport did We create the heavens and the earth and all that is between!

021.017 If it had been Our wish to take (just) a pastime, We should surely have taken it from the things nearest to Us, if We would do (such a thing)!

021.018 Nay, We hurl the Truth against falsehood, and it knocks out its brain, and behold, falsehood doth perish! Ah! woe be to you for the (false) things ye ascribe (to Us).

021.019 To Him belong all (creatures) in the heavens and on earth: Even those who are in His (very) Presence are not too proud to serve Him, nor are they (ever) weary (of His service):

021.020 They celebrate His praises night and day, nor do they ever flag or intermit.

021.021 Or have they taken (for worship) gods from the earth who can raise (the dead)?

021.022 If there were, in the heavens and the earth, other gods besides God, there would have been confusion in both! but glory to God, the Lord of the Throne: (High is He) above what they attribute to Him!

021.023 He cannot be questioned for His acts, but they will be questioned (for theirs).

021.024 Or have they taken for worship (other) gods besides him? Say, "Bring your convincing proof: this is the Message of those with me and the Message of those before me." But most of them know not the Truth, and so turn away.

021.025 Not an apostle did We send before thee without this inspiration sent by Us to him: that there is no god but I; therefore worship and serve Me.

021.026 And they say: "(God) Most Gracious has begotten offspring." Glory to Him! they are (but) servants raised to honour.

021.027 They speak not before He speaks, and they act (in all things) by His Command.

021.028 He knows what is before them, and what is behind them, and they offer no intercession except for those who are acceptable, and they stand in awe and reverence of His (Glory).

021.029 If any of them should say, "I am a god besides Him", such a one We

should reward with Hell: thus do We reward those who do wrong.

021.030 Do not the Unbelievers see that the heavens and the earth were joined together (as one unit of creation), before we clove them asunder? We made from water every living thing. Will they not then believe?

021.031 And We have set on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with them, and We have made therein broad highways (between mountains) for them to pass through: that they may receive Guidance.

021.032 And We have made the heavens as a canopy well guarded: yet do they turn away from the Signs which these things (point to)!

021.033 It is He Who created the Night and the Day, and the sun and the moon: all (the celestial bodies) swim along, each in its rounded course.

021.034 We granted not to any man before thee permanent life (here): if then thou shouldst die, would they live permanently?

021.035 Every soul shall have a taste of death: and We test you by evil and by good by way of trial. to Us must ye return.

021.036 When the Unbelievers see thee, they treat thee not except with ridicule. "Is this," (they say), "the one who talks of your gods?" and they blaspheme at the mention of (God) Most Gracious!

021.037 Man is a creature of haste: soon (enough) will I show you My Signs; then ye will not ask Me to hasten them!

021.038 They say: "When will this promise come to pass, if ye are telling the truth?"

021.039 If only the Unbelievers knew (the time) when they will not be able to ward off the fire from their faces, nor yet from their backs, and (when) no help can reach them!

021.040 Nay, it may come to them all of a sudden and confound them: no power will they have then to avert it, nor will they (then) get respite.

021.041 Mocked were (many) apostle before thee; But their scoffers were hemmed in by the thing that they mocked.

021.042 Say: "Who can keep you safe by night and by day from (the Wrath of) (God) Most Gracious?" Yet they turn away from the mention of their Lord.

021.043 Or have they gods that can guard them from Us? They have no power to aid themselves, nor can they be defended from Us.

021.044 Nay, We gave the good things of this life to these men and their fathers until the period grew long for them; See they not that We gradually reduce the land (in their control) from its outlying borders? Is it then they who will win?

021.045 Say, "I do but warn you according to revelation": But the deaf will not hear the call, (even) when they are warned!

021.046 If but a breath of the Wrath of thy Lord do touch them, they will then say, "Woe to us! we did wrong indeed!"

021.047 We shall set up scales of justice for the Day of Judgment, so that not a soul will be dealt with unjustly in the least, and if there be (no more than) the weight of a mustard seed, We will bring it (to account): and enough are We to take account.

021.048 In the past We granted to Moses and Aaron the criterion (for judgment), and a Light and a Message for those who would do right,-

021.049 Those who fear their Lord in their most secret thoughts, and who hold the Hour (of Judgment) in awe.

021.050 And this is a blessed Message which We have sent down: will ye then reject it?

021.051 We bestowed aforetime on Abraham his rectitude of conduct, and well were We acquainted with him.

021.052 Behold! he said to his father and his people, "What are these images, to which ye are (so assiduously) devoted?"

021.053 They said, "We found our fathers worshipping them."

021.054 He said, "Indeed ye have been in manifest errorÑye and your fathers."

021.055 They said, "Have you brought us the Truth, or are you one of those who jest?"

021.056 He said, "Nay, your Lord is the Lord of the heavens and the earth, He Who created them (from nothing): and I am a witness to this (Truth).

021.057 "And by God, I have a plan for your idolsÑafter ye go away and turn your backs"..

021.058 So he broke them to pieces, (all) but the biggest of them, that they might turn (and address themselves) to it.

021.059 They said, "Who has done this to our gods? He must indeed be some man of impiety!"

021.060 They said, "We heard a youth talk of them: He is called Abraham."

021.061 They said, "Then bring him before the eyes of the people, that they may bear witness."

021.062 They said, "Art thou the one that did this with our gods, O Abraham?"

021.063 He said: "Nay, this was done byÑthis is their biggest one! ask them, if they can speak intelligently!"

021.064 So they turned to themselves and said, "Surely ye are the ones in the wrong!"

021.065 Then were they confounded with shame: (they said), "Thou knowest full

well that these (idols) do not speak!"

021.066 (Abraham) said, "Do ye then worship, besides God, things that can neither be of any good to you nor do you harm?

021.067 "Fie upon you, and upon the things that ye worship besides God! Have ye no sense?"..

021.068 They said, "Burn him and protect your gods, If ye do (anything at all)!"

021.069 We said, "O Fire! be thou cool, and (a means of) safety for Abraham!"

021.070 Then they sought a stratagem against him: but We made them the ones that lost most!

021.071 But We delivered him and (his nephew) Lut (and directed them) to the land which We have blessed for the nations.

021.072 And We bestowed on him Isaac and, as an additional gift, (a grandson), Jacob, and We made righteous men of every one (of them).

021.073 And We made them leaders, guiding (men) by Our Command, and We sent them inspiration to do good deeds, to establish regular prayers, and to practise regular charity; and they constantly served Us (and Us only).

021.074 And to Lut, too, We gave Judgment and Knowledge, and We saved him from the town which practised abominations: truly they were a people given to Evil, a rebellious people.

021.075 And We admitted him to Our Mercy: for he was one of the Righteous.

021.076 (Remember) Noah, when he cried (to Us) aforetime: We listened to his (prayer) and delivered him and his family from great distress.

021.077 We helped him against people who rejected Our Signs: truly they were a people given to Evil: so We drowned them (in the Flood) all together.

021.078 And remember David and Solomon, when they gave judgment in the matter of the field into which the sheep of certain people had strayed by night: We did witness their judgment.

021.079 To Solomon We inspired the (right) understanding of the matter: to each (of them) We gave Judgment and Knowledge; it was Our power that made the hills and the birds celebrate Our praises, with David: it was We Who did (all these things).

021.080 It was We Who taught him the making of coats of mail for your benefit, to guard you from each other's violence: will ye then be grateful?

021.081 (It was Our power that made) the violent (unruly) wind flow (tamely) for Solomon, to his order, to the land which We had blessed: for We do know all things.

021.082 And of the evil ones, were some who dived for him, and did other work

besides; and it was We Who guarded them.

021.083 And (remember) Job, when He cried to his Lord, "Truly distress has seized me, but Thou art the Most Merciful of those that are merciful."

021.084 So We listened to him: We removed the distress that was on him, and We restored his people to him, and doubled their number,Ñas a Grace from Ourselves, and a thing for commemoration, for all who serve Us.

021.085 And (remember) Isma'il, Idris, and Zul-kifl, all (men) of constancy and patience;

021.086 We admitted them to Our mercy: for they were of the righteous ones.

021.087 And remember Zun-nun, when he departed in wrath: He imagined that We had no power over him! But he cried through the deptHs of darkness, "There is no god but thou: glory to thee: I was indeed wrong!"

021.088 So We listened to him: and delivered him from distress: and thus do We deliver those who have faith.

021.089 And (remember) Zakariya, when he cried to his Lord: "O my Lord! leave me not without offspring, though thou art the best of inheritors."

021.090 So We listened to him: and We granted him Yahya: We cured his wife's (Barrenness) for him. These (three) were ever quick in emulation in good works; they used to call on Us with love and reverence, and humble themselves before Us.

021.091 And (remember) her who guarded her chastity: We breathed into her of Our spirit, and We made her and her son a sign for all peoples.

021.092 Verily, this brotherhood of yours is a single brotherhood, and I am your Lord and Cherisher: therefore serve Me (and no other).

021.093 But (later generations) cut off their affair (of unity), one from another: (yet) will they all return to Us.

021.094 Whoever works any act of righteousness and has faith,ÑHis endeavour will not be rejected: We shall record it in his favour.

021.095 But there is a ban on any population which We have destroyed: that they shall not return,

021.096 Until the Gog and Magog (people) are let through (their barrier), and they swiftly swarm from every hill.

021.097 Then will the true promise draw nigh (of fulfilment): then behold! the eyes of the Unbelievers will fixedly stare in horror: "Ah! Woe to us! we were indeed heedless of this; nay, we truly did wrong!"

021.098 Verily ye, (unbelievers), and the (false) gods that ye worship besides God, are (but) fuel for Hell! to it will ye (surely) come!

021.099 If these had been gods, they would not have got there! but each one

will abide therein.

021.100 There, sobbing will be their lot, nor will they there hear (aught else).

021.101 Those for whom the good (record) from Us has gone before, will be removed far therefrom.

021.102 Not the slightest sound will they hear of Hell: what their souls desired, in that will they dwell.

021.103 The Great Terror will bring them no grief: but the angels will meet them (with mutual greetings): "This is your Day,Ñ(the Day) that ye were promised."

021.104 The Day that We roll up the heavens like a scroll rolled up for books (completed),Ñeven as We produced the first creation, so shall We produce a new one: a promise We have undertaken: truly shall We fulfil it.

021.105 Before this We wrote in the Psalms, after the Message (given to Moses): My servants the righteous, shall inherit the earth."

021.106 Verily in this (Qur'an) is a Message for people who would (truly) worship God.

021.107 We sent thee not, but as a Mercy for all creatures.

021.108 Say: "What has come to me by inspiration is that your God is One God: will ye therefore bow to His Will (in Islam)?"

021.109 But if they turn back, Say: "I have proclaimed the Message to you all alike and in truth; but I know not whether that which ye are promised is near or far.

021.110 "It is He Who knows what is open in speech and what ye hide (in your hearts).

021.111 "I know not but that it may be a trial for you, and a grant of (worldly) livelihood (to you) for a time."

021.112 Say: "O my Lord! judge Thou in truth!" "Our Lord Most Gracious is the One Whose assistance should be sought against the blasphemies ye utter!"

THE PILGRIMAGE,
CHAPTER NO. 022

022.001 O mankind! fear your Lord! for the convulsion of the Hour (of Judgment) will be a thing terrible!

022.002 The Day ye shall see it, every mother giving suck shall forget her suckling-babe, and every pregnant female shall drop her load (unformed): thou shalt see mankind as in a drunken riot, yet not drunk: but dreadful will be the Wrath of God.

022.003 And yet among men there are such as dispute about God, without

knowledge, and follow every evil one obstinate in rebellion!

022.004 About the (Evil One) it is decreed that whoever turns to him for friendship, him will he lead astray, and he will guide him to the Penalty of the Fire.

022.005 O mankind! if ye have a doubt about the Resurrection, (consider) that We created you out of dust, then out of sperm, then out of a leech-like clot, then out of a morsel of flesh, partly formed and partly unformed, in order that We may manifest (our power) to you; and We cause whom We will to rest in the wombs for an appointed term, then do We bring you out as babes, then (foster you) that ye may reach your age of full strength; and some of you are called to die, and some are sent back to the feeblest old age, so that they know nothing after having known (much), and (further), thou seest the earth barren and lifeless, but when We pour down rain on it, it is stirred (to life), it swells, and it puts forth every kind of beautiful growth (in pairs).

022.006 This is so, because God is the Reality: it is He Who gives life to the dead, and it is He Who has power over all things.

022.007 And verily the Hour will come: there can be no doubt about it, or about (the fact) that God will raise up all who are in the graves.

022.008 Yet there is among men such a one as disputes about God, without Knowledge, without Guidance, and without a Book of Enlightenment,-

022.009 (Disdainfully) bending his side, in order to lead (men) astray from the Path of God: for him there is disgrace in this life, and on the Day of Judgment We shall make him taste the Penalty of burning (Fire).

022.010 (It will be said): "This is because of the deeds which thy hands sent forth, for verily God is not unjust to His servants.

022.011 There are among men some who serve God, as it were, on the verge: if good befalls them, they are, therewith, well content; but if a trial comes to them, they turn on their faces: they lose both this world and the Hereafter: that is loss for all to see!

022.012 They call on such deities, besides God, as can neither hurt nor profit them: that is straying far indeed (from the Way)!

022.013 (Perhaps) they call on one whose hurt is nearer than his profit: evil, indeed, is the patron, and evil the companion (or help)!

022.014 Verily God will admit those who believe and work righteous deeds, to Gardens, beneath which rivers flow: for God carries out all that He plans.

022.015 If any think that God will not help him (His Apostle) in this world and the Hereafter, let him stretch out a rope to the ceiling and cut (himself) off: then let him see whether his plan will remove that which enrages (him)!

022.016 Thus have We sent down Clear Sings; and verily God doth guide whom He will!

022.017 Those who believe (in the Qur'an), those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), and the Sabians, Christians, Magians, and Polytheists,ÑGod will judge between them on the Day of Judgment: for God is witness of all things.

022.018 Seest thou not that to God bow down in worship all things that are in the heavens and on earth,Ñthe sun, the moon, the stars; the hills, the trees, the animals; and a great number among mankind? But a great number are (also) such as are fit for Punishment: and such as God shall disgrace,ÑNone can raise to honour: for God carries out all that He wills.

022.019 These two antagonists dispute with each other about their Lord: But those who deny (their Lord),Ñfor them will be cut out a garment of Fire: over their heads will be poured out boiling water.

022.020 With it will be scalded what is within their bodies, as well as (their) skins.

022.021 In addition there will be maces of iron (to punish) them.

022.022 Every time they wish to get away therefrom, from anguish, they will be forced back therein, and (it will be said), "Taste ye the Penalty of Burning!"

022.023 God will admit those who believe and work righteous deeds, to Gardens beneath which rivers flow: they shall be adorned therein with bracelets of gold and pearls; and their garments there will be of silk.

022.024 For they have been guided (in this life) to the purest of speeches; they have been guided to the Path of Him Who is Worthy of (all) Praise.

022.025 As to those who have rejected (God), and would keep back (men) from the Way of God, and from the Sacred Mosque, which We have made (open) to (all) menÑequal is the dweller there and the visitor from the countryÑand any whose purpose therein is profanity or wrong-doingÑthem will We cause to taste of a most Grievous Penalty.

022.026 Behold! We gave the site, to Abraham, of the (Sacred) House, (saying): "Associate not anything (in worship) with Me; and sanctify My House for those who compass it round, or stand up, or bow, or prostrate themselves (therein in prayer).

022.027 "And proclaim the Pilgrimage among men: they will come to thee on foot and (mounted) on every kind of camel, lean on account of journeys through deep and distant mountain highways;

022.028 "That they may witness the benefits (provided) for them, and celebrate the name of God, through the Days appointed, over the cattle which He has provided for them (for sacrifice): then eat ye thereof and feed the distressed ones in want.

022.029 "Then let them complete the rites prescribed for them, perform their vows, and (again) circumambulate the Ancient House."

022.030 Such (is the Pilgrimage): whoever honours the sacred rites of God, for

him it is good in the Sight of his Lord. Lawful to you (for food in Pilgrimage) are cattle, except those mentioned to you (as exception): but shun the abomination of idols, and shun the word that is false,-

022.031 Being true in faith to God, and never assigning partners to Him: if anyone assigns partners to God, is as if he had fallen from heaven and been snatched up by birds, or the wind had swooped (like a bird on its prey) and thrown him into a far-distant place.

022.032 Such (is his state): and whoever holds in honour the symbols of God, (in the sacrifice of animals), such (honour) should come truly from piety of heart.

022.033 In them ye have benefits for a term appointed: in the end their place of sacrifice is near the Ancient House.

022.034 To every people did We appoint rites (of sacrifice), that they might celebrate the name of God over the sustenance He gave them from animals (fit for food). But your God is One God: submit then your wills to Him (in Islam): and give thou the good news to those who humble themselves,-

022.035 To those whose hearts when God is mentioned, are filled with fear, who show patient perseverance over their afflictions, keep up regular prayer, and spend (in charity) out of what We have bestowed upon them.

022.036 The sacrificial camels we have made for you as among the symbols from God: in them is (much) good for you: then pronounce the name of God over them as they line up (for sacrifice): when they are down on their sides (after slaughter), eat ye thereof, and feed such as (beg not but) live in contentment, and such as beg with due humility: thus have We made animals subject to you, that ye may be grateful.

022.037 It is not their meat nor their blood, that reaches God: it is your piety that reaches Him: He has thus made them subject to you, that ye may glorify God for His Guidance to you and proclaim the good news to all who do right.

022.038 Verily God will defend (from ill) those who believe: verily, God loveth not any that is a traitor to faith, or show ingratitude.

022.039 To those against whom war is made, permission is given (to fight), because they are wronged;Ñand verily, God is most powerful for their aid;-

022.040 (They are) those who have been expelled from their homes in defiance of right,Ñ(for no cause) except that they say, "our Lord is God". Did not God check one set of people by means of another, there would surely have been pulled down monasteries, churches, synagogues, and mosques, in which the name of God is commemorated in abundant measure. God will certainly aid those who aid his (cause);Ñfor verily God is full of Strength, Exalted in Might, (able to enforce His Will).

022.041 (They are) those who, if We establish them in the land, establish

regular prayer and give regular charity, enjoin the right and forbid wrong: with God rests the end (and decision) of (all) affairs.

022.042 If they treat thy (mission) as false, so did the peoples before them (with their prophets),Ñthe People of Noah, and 'Ad and Thamud;

022.043 Those of Abraham and Lut;

022.044 And the Companions of the Madyan People; and Moses was rejected (in the same way). But I granted respite to the Unbelievers, and (only) after that did I punish them: but how (terrible) was my rejection (of them)!

022.045 How many populations have We destroyed, which were given to wrong-doing? They tumbled down on their roofs. And how many wells are lying idle and neglected, and castles lofty and well-built?

022.046 Do they not travel through the land, so that their hearts (and minds) may thus learn wisdom and their ears may thus learn to hear? Truly it is not their eyes that are blind, but their hearts which are in their breasts.

022.047 Yet they ask thee to hasten on the Punishment! But God will not fail in His Promise. Verily a Day in the sight of thy Lord is like a thousand years of your reckoning.

022.048 And to how many populations did I give respite, which were given to wrong-doing? in the end I punished them. To me is the destination (of all).

022.049 Say: "O men! I am (sent) to you only to give a Clear Warning:

022.050 "Those who believe and work righteousness, for them is forgiveness and a sustenance most generous.

022.051 "But those who strive against Our Signs, to frustrate them,Ñthey will be Companions of the Fire."

022.052 Never did We send an apostle or a prophet before thee, but, when he framed a desire, Satan threw some (vanity) into his desire: but God will cancel anything (vain) that Satan throws in, and God will confirm (and establish) His Signs: for God is full of Knowledge and Wisdom:

022.053 That He may make the suggestions thrown in by Satan, but a trial for those in whose hearts is a disease and who are hardened of heart: verily the wrong-doers are in a schism far (from the Truth):

022.054 And that those on whom knowledge has been bestowed may learn that the (Qur'an) is the Truth from thy Lord, and that they may believe therein, and their hearts may be made humbly (open) to it: for verily God is the Guide of those who believe, to the Straight Way.

022.055 Those who reject Faith will not cease to be in doubt concerning (Revelation) until the Hour (of Judgment) comes suddenly upon them, or there comes to them the Penalty of a Day of Disaster.

022.056 On that Day of Dominion will be that of God: He will judge between

them: so those who believe and work righteous deeds will be in Gardens of Delight.

022.057 And for those who reject Faith and deny our Signs, there will be a humiliating Punishment.

022.058 Those who leave their homes in the cause of God, and are then slain or die,ÑOn them will God bestow verily a goodly Provision: Truly God is He Who bestows the best provision.

022.059 Verily He will admit them to a place with which they shall be well pleased: for God is All-Knowing, Most Forbearing.

022.060 That (is so). And if one has retaliated to no greater extent than the injury he received, and is again set upon inordinately, God will help him: for God is One that blots out (sins) and forgives (again and again).

022.061 That is because God merges night into day, and He merges day into night, and verily it is God Who hears and sees (all things).

022.062 That is because GodÑHe is the Reality; and those besides Him whom they invoke,Ñthey are but vain Falsehood: verily God is He, Most High, Most Great.

022.063 Seest thou not that God sends down rain from the sky, and forthwith the earth becomes clothed with green? for God is He Who understands the finest mysteries, and is well-acquainted (with them).

022.064 To Him belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: for verily God,ÑHe is free of all wants, Worthy of all Praise.

022.065 Seest thou not that God has made subject to you (men) all that is on the earth, and the ships that sail through the sea by His Command? He withholds the sky (rain) from failing on the earth except by His leave: for God is Most Kind and Most Merciful to man.

022.066 It is He Who gave you life, will cause you to die, and will again give you life: Truly man is a most ungrateful creature!

022.067 To every People have We appointed rites and ceremonies which they must follow: let them not then dispute with thee on the matter, but do thou invite (them) to thy Lord: for thou art assuredly on the Right Way.

022.068 If they do wrangle with thee, say, "God knows best what it is ye are doing."

022.069 "God will judge between you on the Day of Judgment concerning the matters in which ye differ."

022.070 Knowest thou not that God knows all that is in heaven and on earth? Indeed it is all in a Record, and that is easy for God.

022.071 Yet they worship, besides God, things for which no authority has been sent down to them, and of which they have (really) no knowledge: for those that do wrong there is no helper.

022.072 When Our Clear Signs are rehearsed to them, thou wilt notice a denial on the faces of the Unbelievers! they nearly attack with violence those who rehearse Our Signs to them. Say, "Shall I tell you of something (far) worse than these Signs? It is the Fire (of Hell)! God has promised it to the Unbelievers! and evil is that destination!"

022.073 O men! Here is a parable set forth! listen to it! Those on whom, besides God, ye call, cannot create (even) a fly, if they all met together for the purpose! and if the fly should snatch away anything from them, they would have no power to release it from the fly. Feeble are those who petition and those whom they petition!

022.074 No just estimate have they made of God: for God is He Who is strong and able to Carry out His Will.

022.075 God chooses messengers from angels and from men for God is He Who hears and sees (all things).

022.076 He knows what is before them and what is behind them: and to God go back all questions (for decision).

022.077 O ye who believe! bow down, prostrate yourselves, and adore your Lord; and do good; that ye may prosper.

022.078 And strive in His cause as ye ought to strive, (with sincerity and under discipline). He has chosen you, and has imposed no difficulties on you in religion; it is the cult of your father Abraham. It is He Who has named you Muslims, both before and in this (Revelation); that the Apostle may be a witness for you, and ye be witnesses for mankind! So establish regular Prayer, give regular Charity, and hold fast to God! He is your ProtectorÑthe Best to protect and the Best to help!

THE BELIEVERS,
CHAPTER NO. 023

023.001 The believers must (eventually) win through,-

023.002 Those who humble themselves in their prayers;

023.003 Who avoid vain talk;

023.004 Who are active in deeds of charity;

023.005 Who abstain from sex,

023.006 Except with those joined to them in the marriage bond, or (the captives) whom their right hands possess,Ñfor (in their case) they are free from blame,

023.007 But those whose desires exceed those limits are transgressors;-

023.008 Those who faithfully observe their trusts and their covenants;

023.009 And who (strictly) guard their prayers;-

023.010 These will be the heirs,

023.011 Who will inherit Paradise: they will dwell therein (for ever).

023.012 Man We did create from a quintessence (of clay);

023.013 Then We placed him as (a drop of) sperm in a place of rest, firmly fixed;

023.014 Then We made the sperm into a clot of congealed blood; then of that clot We made a (foetus) lump; then we made out of that lump bones and clothed the bones with flesh; then we developed out of it another creature. So blessed be God, the best to create!

023.015 After that, at length ye will die

023.016 Again, on the Day of Judgment, will ye be raised up.

023.017 And We have made, above you, seven tracts; and We are never unmindful of (our) Creation.

023.018 And We send down water from the sky according to (due) measure, and We cause it to soak in the soil; and We certainly are able to drain it off (with ease).

023.019 With it We grow for you gardens of date-palms and vines: in them have ye abundant fruits: and of them ye eat (and have enjoyment),-

023.020 Also a tree springing out of Mount Sinai, which produces oil, and relish for those who use it for food.

023.021 And in cattle (too) ye have an instructive example: from within their bodies We produce (milk) for you to drink; there are, in them, (besides), numerous (other) benefits for you; and of their (meat) ye eat;

023.022 An on them, as well as in slips, ye side.

023.023 (Further, We sent a long line of prophets for your instruction). We sent Noah to his people: He said, "O my people! worship God! Ye have no other god but Him. Will ye not fear (Him)?"

023.024 The chiefs of the Unbelievers among his people said: "He is no more than a man like yourselves: his wish is to assert his superiority over you: if God had wished (to send messengers), He could have sent down angels; never did we hear such a thing (as he says), among our ancestors of old."

023.025 (And some said): "He is only a man possessed: wait (and have patience) with him for a time."

023.026 (Noah) said: "O my Lord! help me: for that they accuse me of falsehood!"

023.027 So We inspired him (with this message): "Construct the Ark within Our sight and under Our guidance: then when comes Our Command, and the fountains of the earth gush forth, take thou on board pairs of every species, male and

female, and thy familyÑexcept those of them against whom the Word has already gone forth: And address Me not in favour of the wrong-doers; for they shall be drowned (in the Flood).

023.028 And when thou hast embarked on the ArkÑthou and those with thee,Ñsay: "Praise be to God, Who has saved us from the people who do wrong."

023.029 And say: "O my Lord! enable me to disembark with thy blessing: for Thou art the Best to enable (us) to disembark."

023.030 Verily in this there are Signs (for men to understand); (thus) do We try (men).

023.031 Then We raised after them another generation.

023.032 And We sent to them an apostle from among themselves, (saying), "Worship God! ye have no other god but Him. Will ye not fear (Him)?"

023.033 And the chiefs of his people, who disbelieved and denied the Meeting in the Hereafter, and on whom We had bestowed the good things of this life, said: "He is no more than a man like yourselves: he eats of that of which ye eat, and drinks of what ye drink.

023.034 "If ye obey a man like yourselves, behold, it is certain ye will be lost.

023.035 "Does he promise that when ye die and become dust and bones, ye shall be brought forth (again)?

023.036 "Far, very far is that which ye are promised!

023.037 "There is nothing but our life in this world! We shall die and we live! But we shall never be raised up again!

023.038 "He is only a man who invents a lie against God, but we are not the ones to believe in him!"

023.039 (The prophet) said: "O my Lord! help me: for that they accuse me of falsehood."

023.040 (God) said: "In but a little while, they are sure to be sorry!"

023.041 Then the Blast overtook them with justice, and We made them as rubbish of dead leaves (floating on the stream of Time)! So away with the people who do wrong!

023.042 Then We raised after them other generations.

023.043 No people can hasten their term, nor can they delay (it).

023.044 Then sent We our apostles in succession: every time there came to a people their apostle, they accused him of falsehood: so We made them follow each other (in punishment): We made them as a tale (that is told): So away with a people that will not believe!

023.045 Then We sent Moses and his brother Aaron, with Our Signs and authority

manifest,

023.046 To Pharaoh and his Chiefs: But these behaved insolently: they were an arrogant people.

023.047 They said: "Shall we believe in two men like ourselves? And their people are subject to us!"

023.048 So they accused them of falsehood, and they became of those who were destroyed.

023.049 And We gave Moses the Book, in order that they might receive guidance.

023.050 And We made the son of Mary and his mother as a Sign: We gave them both shelter on high ground, affording rest and security and furnished with springs.

023.051 O ye apostles! enjoy (all) things good and pure, and work righteousness: for I am well-acquainted with (all) that ye do.

023.052 And verily this Brotherhood of yours is a single Brotherhood, and I am your Lord and Cherisher: therefore fear Me (and no other).

023.053 But people have cut off their affair (of unity), between them, into sects: each party rejoices in that which is with itself.

023.054 But leave them in their confused ignorance for a time.

023.055 Do they think that because We have granted them abundance of wealth and sons,

023.056 We would hasten them on in every good? Nay, they do not understand.

023.057 Verily those who live in awe for fear of their Lord;

023.058 Those who believe in the Signs of their Lord;

023.059 Those who join not (in worship) partners with their Lord;

023.060 And those who dispense their charity with their hearts full of fear, because they will return to their Lord;-

023.061 It is these who hasten in every good work, and these who are foremost in them.

023.062 On no soul do We place a burden greater than it can bear: before Us is a record which clearly shows the truth: they will never be wronged.

023.063 But their hearts are in confused ignorance of this; and there are, besides that, deeds of theirs, which they will (continue) to do,-

023.064 Until, when We seize in Punishment those of them who received the good things of this world, behold, they will groan in supplication!

023.065 (It will be said): "Groan not in supplication this day: for ye shall certainly not be helped by Us.

023.066 "My Signs used to be rehearsed to you, but ye used to turn back on your heels-

023.067 "In arrogance: talking nonsense about the (Qur'an), like one telling fables by night."

023.068 Do they not ponder over the Word (of God), or has anything (new) come to them that did not come to their fathers of old?

023.069 Or do they not recognise their Apostle, that they deny him?

023.070 Or do they say, "He is possessed"? Nay, he has brought them the Truth, but most of them hate the Truth.

023.071 If the Truth had been in accord with their desires, truly the heavens and the earth, and all beings therein would have been in confusion and corruption! Nay, We have sent them their admonition, but they turn away from their admonition.

023.072 Or is it that thou askest them for some recompense? But the recompense of thy Lord is best: He is the Best of those who give sustenance.

023.073 But verily thou callest them to the Straight Way;

023.074 And verily those who believe not in the Hereafter are deviating from that Way.

023.075 If We had mercy on them and removed the distress which is on them, they would obstinately persist in their transgression, wandering in distraction to and fro.

023.076 We inflicted Punishment on them, but they humbled not themselves to their Lord, nor do they submissively entreat (Him)!-

023.077 Until We open on them a gate leading to a severe Punishment: then Lo! they will be plunged in despair therein!

023.078 It is He Who has created for you (the faculties of) hearing, sight, feeling and understanding: little thanks it is ye give!

023.079 And He has multiplied you through the earth, and to Him shall ye be gathered back.

023.080 It is He Who gives life and death, and to Him (is due) the alternation of Night and Day: will ye not then understand?

023.081 On the contrary they say things similar to what the ancients said.

023.082 They say: "What! when we die and become dust and bones, could we really be raised up again?

023.083 "Such things have been promised to us and to our fathers before! they are nothing but tales of the ancients!"

023.084 Say: "To whom belong the earth and all beings therein? (say) if ye know!"

023.085 They will say, "To God!" say: "Yet will ye not receive admonition?"

023.086 Say: "Who is the Lord of the seven heavens, and the Lord of the Throne (of Glory) Supreme?"

023.087 They will say, "(They belong) to God." Say: "Will ye not then be filled with awe?"

023.088 Say: "Who is it in whose hands is the governance of all things,Ñwho protects (all), but is not protected (of any)? (say) if ye know."

023.089 They will say, "(It belongs) to God." Say: "Then how are ye deluded?"

023.090 We have sent them the Truth: but they indeed practise falsehood!

023.091 No son did God beget, nor is there any god along with Him: (if there were many gods), behold, each god would have taken away what he had created, and some would have lorded it over others! Glory to God! (He is free) from the (sort of) things they attribute to Him!

023.092 He knows what is hidden and what is open: too high is He for the partners they attribute to Him!

023.093 Say: "O my Lord! if Thou wilt show me (in my lifetime) that which they are warned against,-

023.094 "Then, O my Lord! put me not amongst the people who do wrong!"

023.095 And We are certainly able to show thee (in fulfilment) that against which they are warned.

023.096 Repel evil with that which is best: We are well acquainted with the things they say.

023.097 And say "O my Lord! I seek refuge with Thee from the suggestions of the Evil Ones.

023.098 "And I seek refuge with Thee O my Lord! lest they should come near me."

023.099 (In Falsehood will they be) Until, when death comes to one of them, he says: "O my Lord! send me back (to life),-

023.100 "In order that I may work righteousness in the things I neglected."Ñ"By no means! It is but a word he says."ÑBefore them is a Partition till the Day they are raised up.

023.101 Then when the Trumpet is blown, there will be no more relationships between them that Day, nor will one ask after another!

023.102 Then those whose balance (of good deeds) is heavy,Ñthey will attain salvation:

023.103 But those whose balance is light, will be those who have lost their souls, in Hell will they abide.

023.104 The Fire will burn their faces, and they will therein grin, with their

lips displaced.

023.105 "Were not My Signs rehearsed to you, and ye did but treat them as falsehood?"

023.106 They will say: "our Lord! Our misfortune overwhelmed us, and we became a people astray!

023.107 "Our Lord! bring us out of this: if ever we return (to Evil), then shall we be wrong-doers indeed!"

023.108 He will say: "Be ye driven into it (with ignominy)! And speak ye not to Me!

023.109 "A part of My servants there was, who used to pray 'our Lord! we believe; then do Thou forgive us, and have mercy upon us: For Thou art the Best of those who show mercy!"

023.110 "But ye treated them with ridicule, so much so that (ridicule of) them made you forget My Message while ye were laughing at them!

023.111 "I have rewarded them this Day for their patience and constancy: they are indeed the ones that have achieved Bliss..."

023.112 He will say: "What number of years did ye stay on earth?"

023.113 They will say: "We stayed a day or part of a day: but ask those who keep account."

023.114 He will say: "Ye stayed not but a little,Ñif ye had only known!

023.115 "Did ye then think that We had created you in jest, and that ye would not be brought back to Us (for account)?"

023.116 Therefore exalted be God, the King, the Reality: there is no god but He, the Lord of the Throne of Honour!

023.117 If anyone invokes, besides God, Any other god, he has no authority therefor; and his reckoning will be only with his Lord! and verily the Unbelievers will fail to win through!

023.118 So say: "O my Lord! grant Thou forgiveness and mercy for Thou art the Best of those who show mercy!"

LIGHT,
CHAPTER NO. 024

024.001 A sura which We have sent down and which We have ordained in it have We sent down Clear Signs, in order that ye may receive admonition.

024.002 The woman and the man guilty of adultery or fornication,Ñflog each of them with a hundred stripes: Let not compassion move you in their case, in a matter prescribed by God, if ye believe in God and the Last Day: and let a party of the Believers witness their punishment.

024.003 Let no man guilty of adultery or fornication marry and but a woman

similarly guilty, or an Unbeliever: nor let any but such a man or an Unbeliever marry such a woman: to the Believers such a thing is forbidden.

024.004 And those who launch a charge against chaste women, and produce not four witnesses (to support their allegations),Ñflog them with eighty stripes; and reject their evidence ever after: for such men are wicked transgressors;-

024.005 Unless they repent thereafter and mend (their conduct); for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

024.006 And for those who launch a charge against their spouses, and have (in support) no evidence but their own,Ñtheir solitary evidence (can be received) if they bear witness four times (with an oath) by God that they are solemnly telling the truth;

024.007 And the fifth (oath) (should be) that they solemnly invoke the curse of God on themselves if they tell a lie.

024.008 But it would avert the punishment from the wife, if she bears witness four times (with an oath) By God, that (her husband) is telling a lie;

024.009 And the fifth (oath) should be that she solemnly invokes the wrath of God on herself if (her accuser) is telling the truth.

024.010 If it were not for God's grace and mercy on you, and that God is Oft-Returning, full of Wisdom,Ñ(Ye would be ruined indeed).

024.011 Those who brought forward the lie are a body among yourselves: think it not to be an evil to you; On the contrary it is good for you: to every man among them (will come the punishment) of the sin that he earned, and to him who took on himself the lead among them, will be a penalty grievous.

024.012 Why did not the believersÑmen and womenÑwhen ye heard of the affair,Ñput the best construction on it in their own minds and say, "This (charge) is an obvious lie" ?

024.013 Why did they not bring four witnesses to prove it? When they have not brought the witnesses, such men, in the sight of God, (stand forth) themselves as liars!

024.014 Were it not for the grace and mercy of God on you, in this world and the Hereafter, a grievous penalty would have seized you in that ye rushed glibly into this affair.

024.015 Behold, ye received it on your tongues, and said out of your mouths things of which ye had no knowledge; and ye thought it to be a light matter, while it was most serious in the sight of God.

024.016 And why did ye not, when ye heard it, say?Ñ"It is not right of us to speak of this: Glory to God! this is a most serious slander!"

024.017 God doth admonish you, that ye may never repeat such (conduct), if ye are (true) Believers.

024.018 And God makes the Signs plain to you: for God is full of knowledge and wisdom.

024.019 Those who love (to see) scandal published broadcast among the Believers, will have a grievous Penalty in this life and in the Hereafter: God knows, and ye know not.

024.020 Were it not for the grace and mercy of God on you, and that God is full of kindness and mercy, (ye would be ruined indeed).

024.021 O ye who believe! follow not Satan's footsteps: if any will follow the footsteps of Satan, he will (but) command what is shameful and wrong: and were it not for the grace and mercy of God on you, not one of you would ever have been pure: but God doth purify whom He pleases: and God is One Who hears and knows (all things).

024.022 Let not those among you who are endued with grace and amplitude of means resolve by oath against helping their kinsmen, those in want, and those who have left their homes in God's cause: let them forgive and overlook, do you not wish that God should forgive you? For God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

024.023 Those who slander chaste women, indiscreet but believing, are cursed in this life and in the Hereafter: for them is a grievous Penalty,-

024.024 On the Day when their tongues, their hands, and their feet will bear witness against them as to their actions.

024.025 On that Day God will pay them back (all) their just dues, and they will realise that God is the (very) Truth, that makes all things manifest.

024.026 Women impure are for men impure, and men impure for women impure and women of purity are for men of purity, and men of purity are for women of purity: these are not affected by what people say: for them there is forgiveness, and a provision honourable.

024.027 O ye who believe! enter not houses other than your own, until ye have asked permission and saluted those in them: that is best for you, in order that ye may heed (what is seemly).

024.028 If ye find no one in the house, enter not until permission is given to you: if ye are asked to go back, go back: that makes for greater purity for yourselves: and God knows well all that ye do.

024.029 It is no fault on your part to enter houses not used for living in, which serve some (other) use for you: And God has knowledge of what ye reveal and what ye conceal.

024.030 Say to the believing men that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty: that will make for greater purity for them: And God is well acquainted with all that they do.

024.031 And say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that they should not display their beauty and ornaments

except what (must ordinarily) appear thereof; that they should draw their veils over their bosoms and not display their beauty except to their husbands, their fathers, their husband's fathers, their sons, their husbands' sons, their brothers or their brothers' sons, or their sisters' sons, or their women, or the slaves whom their right hands possess, or male servants free of physical needs, or small children who have no sense of the shame of sex; and that they should not strike their feet in order to draw attention to their hidden ornaments. And O ye Believers! turn ye all together towards God, that ye may attain Bliss.

024.032 Marry those among you who are single, or the virtuous ones among yourselves, male or female: if they are in poverty, God will give them means out of His grace: for God encompasseth all, and he knoweth all things.

024.033 Let those who find not the wherewithal for marriage keep themselves chaste, until God gives them means out of His grace. And if any of your slaves ask for a deed in writing (to enable them to earn their freedom for a certain sum), give them such a deed if ye know any good in them: yea, give them something yourselves out of the means which God has given to you. But force not your maids to prostitution when they desire chastity, in order that ye may make a gain in the goods of this life. But if anyone compels them, yet, after such compulsion, is God, Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful (to them),

024.034 We have already sent down to you verses making things clear, an illustration from (the story of) people who passed away before you, and an admonition for those who fear (God).

024.035 God is the Light of the heavens and the earth. The Parable of His Light is as if there were a Niche and within it a Lamp: the Lamp enclosed in Glass: the glass as it were a brilliant star: Lit from a blessed Tree, an Olive, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil is well-nigh luminous, though fire scarce touched it: Light upon Light! God doth guide whom He will to His Light: God doth set forth Parables for men: and God doth know all things.

024.036 (Lit is such a Light) in houses, which God hath permitted to be raised to honour; for the celebration, in them, of His name: In them is He glorified in the mornings and in the evenings, (again and again),-

024.037 By men whom neither traffic nor merchandise can divert from the Remembrance of God, nor from regular Prayer, nor from the practice of regular Charity: Their (only) fear is for the Day when hearts and eyes will be transformed (in a world wholly new),-

024.038 That God may reward them according to the best of their deeds, and add even more for them out of His Grace: for God doth provide for those whom He will, without measure.

024.039 But the Unbelievers,Ñtheir deeds are like a mirage in sandy deserts, which the man parched with thirst mistakes for water; until when he comes up to it, he finds it to be nothing: But he finds God (ever) with him, and God will pay him his account: and God is swift in taking account.

024.040 Or (the Unbelievers' state) is like the depths of darkness in a vast deep ocean, overwhelmed with billow topped by billow, topped by (dark) clouds: depths of darkness, one above another: if a man stretches out his hands, he can hardly see it! for any to whom God giveth not light, there is no light!

024.041 Seest thou not that it is God Whose praises all beings in the heavens and on earth do celebrate, and the birds (of the air) with wings outspread? Each one knows its own (mode of) prayer and praise. And God knows well all that they do.

024.042 Yea, to God belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth; and to God is the final goal (of all).

024.043 Seest thou not that God makes the clouds move gently, then joins them together, then makes them into a heap?Ñthen wilt thou see rain issue forth from their midst. And He sends down from the sky mountain masses (of clouds) wherein is hail: He strikes therewith whom He pleases and He turns it away from whom He pleases, the vivid flash of His lightning well-nigh blinds the sight.

024.044 It is God Who alternates the Night and the Day: verily in these things is an instructive example for those who have vision!

024.045 And God has created every animal from water: of them there are some that creep on their bellies; some that walk on two legs; and some that walk on four. God creates what He wills for verily God has power over all things.

024.046 We have indeed sent down signs that make things manifest: and God guides whom He wills to a way that is straight.

024.047 They say, "We believe in God and in the apostle, and we obey": but even after that, some of them turn away: they are not (really) Believers.

024.048 When they are summoned to God and His apostle, in order that He may judge between them, behold some of them decline (to come).

024.049 But if the right is on their side, they come to him with all submission.

024.050 Is it that there is a disease in their hearts? or do they doubt, or are they in fear, that God and His Apostle will deal unjustly with them? Nay, it is they themselves who do wrong.

024.051 The answer of the Believers, when summoned to God and His Apostle, in order that He may judge between them, is no other than this: they say, "We hear and we obey": it is such as these that will attain felicity.

024.052 It is such as obey God and His Apostle, and fear God and do right, that will win (in the end),

024.053 They swear their strongest oaths by God that, if only thou wouldst command them, they would leave (their homes). Say: "Swear ye not; Obedience is (more) reasonable; verily, God is well acquainted with all that ye do."

024.054 Say: "Obey God, and obey the Apostle: but if ye turn away, he is only

responsible for the duty placed on him and ye for that placed on you. If ye obey him, ye shall be on right guidance. The Apostle's duty is only to preach the clear (Message).

024.055 God has promised, to those among you who believe and work righteous deeds, that He will, of a surety, grant them in the land, inheritance (of power), as He granted it to those before them; that He will establish in authority their religionÑthe one which He has chosen for them; and that He will change (their state), after the fear in which they (lived), to one of security and peace: 'They will worship Me (alone) and not associate aught with Me. 'If any do reject Faith after this, they are rebellious and wicked.

024.056 So establish regular Prayer and give regular Charity; and obey the Apostle; that ye may receive mercy.

024.057 Never think thou that the Unbelievers are going to frustrate (God's Plan) on earth: their abode is the Fire,Ñand it is indeed an evil refuge!

024.058 O ye who believe! let those whom your right hands possess, and the (children) among you who have not come of age ask your permission (before they come to your presence), on three occasions: before morning prayer; the while ye doff your clothes for the noonday heat; and after the late-night prayer: these are your three times of undress: outside those times it is not wrong for you or for them to move about attending to each other: Thus does God make clear the Signs to you: for God is full of knowledge and wisdom.

024.059 But when the children among you come of age, let them (also) ask for permission, as do those senior to them (in age): Thus does God make clear His Signs to you: for God is full of knowledge and wisdom.

024.060 Such elderly women as are past the prospect of marriage,Ñthere is no blame on them if they lay aside their (outer) garments, provided they make not a wanton display of their beauty: but it is best for them to be modest: and God is One Who sees and knows all things.

024.061 It is no fault in the blind nor in one born lame, nor in one afflicted with illness, nor in yourselves, that ye should eat in your own houses, or those of your fathers, or your mothers, or your brothers, or your sisters, or your father's brothers or your father's sisters, or your mohter's brothers, or your mother's sisters, or in houses of which the keys are in your possession, or in the house of a sincere friend of yours: there is no blame on you, whether ye eat in company or separately. But if ye enter houses, salute each otherÑa greeting of blessing and purity as from God. Thus does God make clear the signs to you: that ye may understand.

024.062 Only those are believers, who believe in God and His Apostle: when they are with him on a matter requiring collective action, they do not depart until they have asked for his leave; those who ask for thy leave are those who believe in God and His Apostle; so when they ask for thy leave, for some business of theirs, give leave to those of them whom thou wilt, and ask God for their forgiveness: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

024.063 Deem not the summons of the Apostle among yourselves like the summons of one of you to another: God doth know those of you who slip away under shelter of some excuse: then let those beware who withstand the Apostle's order, lest some trial befall them, or a grievous penalty be inflicted on them.

024.064 Be quite sure that to God doth belong whatever is in the heavens and on earth. Well doth He know what ye are intent upon: and one day they will be brought back to Him, and He will tell them the truth of what they did: for God doth know all things.

THE CRITERION, THE STANDARD,
CHAPTER NO. 025

025.001 Blessed is He who sent down the criterion to His servant, that it may be an admonition to all creatures;-

025.002 He to whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: no son has He begotten, nor has He a partner in His dominion: it is He who created all things, and ordered them in due proportions.

025.003 Yet have they taken, besides him, gods that can create nothing but are themselves created; that have no control of hurt or good to themselves; nor can they control death nor life nor resurrection.

025.004 But the misbelievers say: "Naught is this but a lie which he has forged, and others have helped him at it." In truth it is they who have put forward an iniquity and a falsehood.

025.005 And they say: "Tales of the ancients, which he has caused to be written: and they are dictated before him morning and evening."

025.006 Say: "The (Qur'an) was sent down by Him who knows the mystery (that is) in the heavens and the earth: verily He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

025.007 And they say: "What sort of an apostle is this, who eats food, and walks through the streets? Why has not an angel been sent down to him to give admonition with him?

025.008 "Or (Why) has not a treasure been bestowed on him, or why has he (not) a garden for enjoyment?" The wicked say: "Ye follow none other than a man bewitched."

025.009 See what kinds of comparisons they make for thee! But they have gone astray, and never a way will they be able to find!

025.010 Blessed is He who, if that were His will, could give thee better (things) than those,ÑGardens beneath which rivers flow; and He could give thee palaces (secure to dwell in).

025.011 Nay they deny the hour (of the judgment to come): but We have prepared a blazing fire for such as deny the hour:

025.012 When it sees them from a place fAr off, they will hear its fury and its ranging sigh.

025.013 And when they are cast, bound together into a constricted place therein, they will pLead for destruction there and then!

025.014 "This day plead not for a single destruction: plead for destruction oft-repeated!"

025.015 Say: "Is that best, or the eternal garden, promised to the righteous? for them, that is a reward as well as a goal (of attainment).

025.016 "For them there will be therein all that they wish for: they will dwell (there) for aye: A promise to be prayed for from thy Lord."

025.017 The day He will gather them together as well as those whom they worship besides God, He will ask: "Was it ye who let these My servants astray, or did they stray from the Path themselves?"

025.018 They will say: "Glory to Thee! not meet was it for us that we should take for protectors others besides Thee: But Thou didst bestow, on them and their fathers, good things (in life), until they forgot the Message: for they were a people (worthless and) lost."

025.019 (God will say): "Now have they proved you liars in what ye say: so ye cannot avert (your penalty) nor (get) help." And whoever among you does wrong, him shall We cause to taste of a grievous Penalty.

025.020 And the apostles whom We sent before thee were all (men) who ate food and walked through the streets: We have made some of you as a trial for others: will ye have patience? for God is One Who sees (all things).

025.021 Such as fear not the meeting with Us (for Judgment) say: "Why are not the angels sent down to us, or (why) do we not see our Lord?" Indeed they have an arrogant conceit of themselves, and mighty is the insolence of their impiety!

025.022 The Day they see the angels,Ñno joy will there be to the sinners that Day: The (angels) will say: "There is a barrier forbidden (to you) altogether!"

025.023 And We shall turn to whatever deeds they did (in this life), and We shall make such deeds as floating dust scattered about.

025.024 The Companions of the Garden will be well, that Day, in their abode, and have the fairest of places for repose.

025.025 The Day the heaven shall be rent asunder with clouds, and angels shall be sent down, descending (in ranks),-

025.026 That Day, the dominion as of right and truth, shall be (wholly) for (God) Most Merciful: it will be a Day of dire difficulty for the Misbelievers.

025.027 The Day that the wrong-doer will bite at his hands, he will say, "Oh! would that I had taken a (straight) path with the Apostle!

025.028 "Ah! woe is me! Would that I had never taken such a one for a friend!

025.029 "He did lead me astray from the Message (of God) after it had come to

me! Ah! the Evil One is but a traitor to man!" Then the Apostle will say:

025.030 "O my Lord! Truly my people took this Qur'an for just foolish nonsense."

025.031 Thus have We made for every prophet an enemy among the sinners: but enough is thy Lord to guide and to help.

025.032 Those who reject Faith say: "Why is not the Qur'an revealed to him all at once? Thus (is it revealed), that We may strengthen thy heart thereby, and We have rehearsed it to thee in slow, well-arranged stages, gradually.

025.033 And no question do they bring to thee but We reveal to thee the truth and the best explanation (thereof).

025.034 Those who will be gathered to Hell (prone) on their faces,Ñthey will be in an evil plight, and, as to Path, most astray.

025.035 (Before this,) We sent Moses The Book, and appointed his brother Aaron with him as minister;

025.036 And We command: "Go ye both, to the people who have rejected our Signs:" And those (people) We destroyed with utter destruction.

025.037 And the people of Noah,Ñwhen they rejected the apostles, We drowned them, and We made them as a Sign for mankind; and We have prepared for (all) wrong-doers a grievous Penalty;-

025.038 As also 'Ad and Thamud, and the Companions of the Rass, and many a generation between them.

025.039 To each one We set forth Parables and examples; and each one We broke to utter annihilation (for their sins).

025.040 And the (Unbelievers) must indeed have passed by the town on which was rained a shower of evil: did they not then see it (with their own eyes)? But they fear not the Resurrection.

025.041 When they see thee, they treat thee no otherwise than in mockery: "Is this the one whom God has sent as an apostle?"

025.042 "He indeed would well-nigh have misled us from our gods, had it not been that we were constant to them!"ÑSoon will they know, when they see the Penalty, who it is that is most misled in Path!

025.043 Seest thou such a one as taketh for his god his own passion (or impulse)? Couldst thou be a disposer of affairs for him?

025.044 Or thinkest thou that most of them listen or understand? They are only like cattle;Ñnay, they are worse astray in Path.

025.045 Hast thou not turned thy vision to thy Lord?ÑHow He doth prolong the shadow! If He willed, He could make it stationary! then do We make the sun its guide;

025.046 Then We draw it in towards Ourselves,Ña contraction by easy stages.

025.047 And He it is Who makes the Night as a Robe for you, and Sleep as Repose, and makes the Day (as it were) a Resurrection.

025.048 And He it is Who sends the winds as heralds of glad tidings, going before His mercy, and We send down pure water from the sky,-

025.049 That with it We may give life to a dead land, and slake the thirst of things We have created,Ñcattle and men in great numbers.

025.050 And We have distributed the (water) amongst them, in order that they may celebrate (our) praises, but most men are averse (to aught) but (rank) ingratitude.

025.051 Had it been Our Will, We could have sent a warner to every centre of population.

025.052 Therefore listen not to the Unbelievers, but strive against them with the utmost strenuousness, with the (Qur'an).

025.053 It is He Who has let free the two bodies of flowing water: One palatable and sweet, and the other salt and bitter; yet has He made a barrier between them, a partition that is forbidden to be passed.

025.054 It is He Who has created man from water: then has He established relationships of lineage and marriage: for thy Lord has power (over all things).

025.055 Yet do they worship, besides God, things that can neither profit them nor harm them: and the Misbeliever is a helper (of Evil), against his own Lord!

025.056 But thee We only sent to give glad tidings and admonition.

025.057 Say: "No reward do I ask of you for it but this: that each one who will may take a (straight) Path to his Lord."

025.058 And put thy trust in Him Who lives and dies not; and celebrate his praise; and enough is He to be acquainted with the faults of His servants;-

025.059 He Who created the heavens and the earth and all that is between, in six days, and is firmly established on the Throne (of Authority): God Most Gracious: ask thou, then, about Him of any acquainted (with such things).

025.060 When it is said to them, "Adore ye (God) Most Gracious!", they say, "And what is (God) Most Gracious? Shall we adore that which thou commandest us?" And it increases their flight (from the Truth).

025.061 Blessed is He Who made constellations in the skies, and placed therein a Lamp and a Moon giving light;

025.062 And it is He Who made the Night and the Day to follow each other: for such as have the will to celebrate His praises or to show their gratitude.

025.063 And the servants of (God) Most Gracious are those who walk on the earth

in humility, and when the ignorant address them, they say, "Peace!";

025.064 Those who spend the night in adoration of their Lord prostrate and standing;

025.065 Those who say, "Our Lord! avert from us the Wrath of Hell, for its Wrath is indeed an affliction grievous,-

025.066 "Evil indeed is it as an abode, and as a place to rest in";

025.067 Those who, when they spend, are not extravagant and not niggardly, but hold a just (balance) between those (extremes);

025.068 Those who invoke not, with God, any other god, nor slay such life as God has made sacred except for just cause, nor commit fornication;Ñand any that does this (not only) meets punishment.

025.069 (But) the Penalty on the Day of Judgment will be doubled to him, and he will dwell therein in ignominy,-

025.070 Unless he repents, believes, and works righteous deeds, for God will change the evil of such persons into good, and God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful,

025.071 And whoever repents and does good has truly turned to God with an (acceptable) conversion;-

025.072 Those who witness no falsehood, and, if they pass by futility, they pass by it with honourable (avoidance);

025.073 Those who, when they are admonished with the Signs of their Lord, droop not down at them as if they were deaf or blind;

025.074 And those who pray, "Our Lord! Grant unto us wives and offspring who will be the comfort of our eyes, and give us (the grace) to lead the righteous."

025.075 Those are the ones who will be rewarded with the highest place in heaven, because of their patient constancy: therein shall they be met with salutations and peace,

025.076 Dwelling therein;Ñhow beautiful an abode and place of rest!

025.077 Say (to the Rejecters): "My Lord is not uneasy because of you if ye call not on Him: But ye have indeed rejected (Him), and soon will come the inevitable (punishment)!"

THE POETS,
CHAPTER NO. 026

026.001 Ta. Sin. Mim.

026.002 These are verses of the Book that makes (things) clear.

026.003 It may be thou frettest thy soul with grief, that they do not become Believers.

026.004 If (such) were Our Will, We could send down to them from the sky a Sign, to which they would bend their necks in humility.

026.005 But there comes not to them a newly-revealed Message from (God) Most Gracious, but they turn away therefrom.

026.006 They have indeed rejected (the Message): so they will know soon (enough) the truth of what they mocked at!

026.007 Do they not look at the earth,Ñhow many noble things of all kinds We have produced therein?

026.008 Verily, in this is a Sign: but most of them do not believe.

026.009 And verily, thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

026.010 Behold, thy Lord called Moses: "Go to the people of iniquity,-

026.011 "The people of the Pharaoh: will they not fear God?"

026.012 He said: "O my Lord! I do fear that they will charge me with falsehood:

026.013 "My breast will be straitened. And my speech may not go (smoothly): so send unto Aaron.

026.014 "And (further), they have a charge of crime against me; and I fear they may slay me."

026.015 God said: "By no means! proceed then, both of you, with Our Signs; We are with you, and will listen (to your call).

026.016 "So go forth, both of you, to Pharaoh, and say: 'We have been sent by the Lord and Cherisher of the worlds;

026.017 "'Send thou with us the Children of Israel.'"

026.018 (Pharaoh) said: "Did we not cherish thee as a child among us, and didst thou not stay in our midst many years of thy life?

026.019 "And thou didst a deed of thine which (thou knowest) thou didst, and thou art an ungrateful (wretch)!"

026.020 Moses said: "I did it then, when I was in error.

026.021 "So I fled from you (all) when I feared you; but my Lord has (since) invested me with judgment (and wisdom) and appointed me as one of the apostles.

026.022 "And this is the favour with which thou dost reproach me,Ñthat thou hast enslaved the Children of Israel!"

026.023 Pharaoh said: "And what is the 'Lord and Cherisher of the worlds'?"

026.024 (Moses) said: "The Lord and Cherisher of the heavens and the earth, and all between,Ñif ye want to be quite sure."

026.025 (Pharaoh) said to those around: "Did ye not listen (to what he says)?"

026.026 (Moses) said: "Your Lord and the Lord of your fathers from the

beginning!"

026.027 (Pharaoh) said: "Truly your apostle who has been sent to you is a veritable madman!"

026.028 (Moses) said: "Lord of the East and the West, and all between! if ye only had sense!"

026.029 (Pharaoh) said: "If thou dost put forward any god other than me, I will certainly put thee in prison!"

026.030 (Moses) said: "Even if I showed you something clear (and) convincing?"

026.031 (Pharaoh) said: "Show it then, if thou tellest the truth!"

026.032 So (Moses) threw his rod, and behold, it was a serpent, plain (for all to see)!

026.033 And he drew out his hand, and behold, it was white to all beholders!

026.034 (Pharaoh) said to the Chiefs around him: "This is indeed a sorcerer well-versed:

026.035 "His plan is to get you out of your land by his sorcery; then what is it ye counsel?"

026.036 They said: "Keep him and his brother in suspense (for a while), and dispatch to the Cities heralds to collect-

026.037 "And bring up to thee all (our) sorcerers well-versed."

026.038 So the sorcerers were got together for the appointment of a day well-known,

026.039 And the people were told: "Are ye (now) assembled?-

026.040 "That we may follow the sorcerers (in religion) if they win?"

026.041 So when the sorcerers arrived, they said to Pharaoh: "Of courseÑshall we have a (suitable) reward if we win?

026.042 He said: "Yea, (and more),Ñfor ye shall in that case be (raised to posts) nearest (to my person)."

026.043 Moses said to them: "Throw yeÑthat which ye are about to throw!"

026.044 So they threw their ropes and their rods, and said: "By the might of Pharaoh, it is we who will certainly win!"

026.045 Then Moses threw his rod, when, behold, it straightway swallows up all the falsehoods which they fake!

026.046 Then did the sorcerers fall down, prostrate in adoration,

026.047 Saying: "We believe in the Lord of the Worlds,

026.048 "The Lord of Moses and Aaron."

026.049 Said (Pharaoh): "Believe ye in Him before I give you permission? surely he is your leader, who has taught you sorcery! but soon shall ye know!

026.050 "Be sure I will cut off your hands and your feet on opposite sides, and I will cause you all to die on the cross!"

026.051 They said: "No matter! for us, we shall but return to our Lord!

026.052 "Only, our desire is that our Lord will forgive us our faults, that we may become foremost among the believers!"

026.053 By inspiration we told Moses: "Travel by night with my servants; for surely ye shall be pursued."

026.054 Then Pharaoh sent heralds to (all) the Cities,

026.055 (Saying): "These (Israelites) are but a small band,

026.056 "And they are raging furiously against us;

026.057 "But we are a multitude amply fore-warned."

026.058 So We expelled them from gardens, springs,

026.059 Treasures, and every kind of honourable position;

026.060 Thus it was, but We made the Children of Israel inheritors of such things.

026.061 So they pursued them at sunrise.

026.062 And when the two bodies saw each other, the people of Moses said: "We are sure to be overtaken."

026.063 (Moses) said: "By no means! my Lord is with me! Soon will He guide me!"

026.064 Then We told Moses by inspiration: "Strike the sea with thy rod." So it divided, and each separate part became like the huge, firm mass of a mountain.

026.065 And We made the other party approach thither.

026.066 We delivered Moses and all who were with him;

026.067 But We drowned the others.

026.068 Verily in this is a Sign: but most of them do not believe.

026.069 And verily thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

026.070 And rehearse to them (something of) Abraham's story.

026.071 Behold, he said to his father and his people: "What worship ye?"

026.072 They said: "We worship idols, and we remain constantly in attendance on them."

026.073 He said: "Do they listen to you when ye call (on them), or do you good or harm?"

026.074 They said: "Nay, but we found our fathers doing thus (what we do)."

026.075 He said: "Do ye then see whom ye have been worshipping,-

026.076 "Ye and your fathers before you?-

026.077 "For they are enemies to me; not so the Lord and Cherisher of the Worlds;

026.078 "Who created me, and it is He Who guides me;

026.079 "Who gives me food and drink,

026.080 "And when I am ill, it is He Who cures me;

026.081 "Who will cause me to die, and then to life (again);

026.082 "And who, I hope, will forgive me my faults on the day of Judgment.

026.083 "O my Lord! bestow wisdom on me, and join me with the righteous;

026.084 "Grant me honourable mention on the tongue of truth among the latest (generations);

026.085 "Make me one of the inheritors of the Garden of Bliss;

026.086 "Forgive my father, for that he is among those astray;

026.087 "And let me not be in disgrace on the Day when (men) will be raised up;-

026.088 "The Day whereon neither wealth nor sons will avail,

026.089 "But only he (will prosper) that brings to God a sound heart;

026.090 "To the righteous, the Garden will be brought near,

026.091 "And to those straying in Evil, the Fire will be placed in full view;

026.092 "And it shall be said to them: 'Where are the (gods) ye worshipped-

026.093 "'Besides God? Can they help you or help themselves?'

026.094 "Then they will be thrown headlong into the (Fire),Ñthey and those straying in Evil,

026.095 "And the whole hosts of Iblis together.

026.096 "They will say there in their mutual bickerings:

026.097 "'By God, we were truly in an error manifest,

026.098 "'When we held you as equals with the Lord of the Worlds;

026.099 "'And our seducers were only those who were steeped in guilt.

026.100 "'Now, then, we have none to intercede (for us),

026.101 "'Nor a single friend to feel (for us).

026.102 "'Now if we only had a chance of return we shall truly be of those who

believe!'"

026.103 Verily in this is a Sign but most of them do not believe.

026.104 And verily thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

026.105 The people of Noah rejected the apostles.

026.106 Behold, their brother Noah said to them: "Will ye not fear (God)?

026.107 "I am to you an apostle worthy of all trust:

026.108 "So fear God, and obey me.

026.109 "No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds:

026.110 "So fear God, and obey me."

026.111 They said: "Shall we believe in thee when it is the meanest that follow thee?"

026.112 He said: "And what do I know as to what they do?

026.113 "Their account is only with my Lord, if ye could (but) understand.

026.114 "I am not one to drive away those who believe.

026.115 "I am sent only to warn plainly in public."

026.116 They said: "If thou desist not, O Noah! thou shalt be stoned (to death)."

026.117 He said: "O my Lord! truly my people have rejected me.

026.118 "Judge Thou, then, between me and them openly, and deliver me and those of the Believers who are with me."

026.119 So We delivered him and those with him, in the Ark filled (with all creatures).

026.120 Thereafter We drowned those who remained behind.

026.121 Verily in this is a Sign: but most of them do not believe.

026.122 And verily thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

026.123 The 'Ad (people) rejected the apostles.

026.124 Behold, their brother Hud said to them: "Will ye not fear (God)?

026.125 "I am to you an apostle worthy of all trust:

026.126 "So fear God and obey me.

026.127 "No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds.

026.128 "Do ye build a landmark on every high place to amuse yourselves?

026.129 "And do ye get for yourselves fine buildings in the hope of living therein (for ever)?

026.130 "And when ye exert your strong hand, do ye do it like men of absolute power?

026.131 "Now fear God, and obey me.

026.132 "Yea, fear Him Who has bestowed on you freely all that ye know.

026.133 "Freely has He bestowed on you cattle and sons,-

026.134 "And Gardens and Springs.

026.135 "Truly I fear for you the Penalty of a Great Day."

026.136 They said: "It is the same to us whether thou admonish us or be not among (our) admonishers!

026.137 "This is no other than a customary device of the ancients,

026.138 "And we are not the ones to receive Pains and Penalties!"

026.139 So they rejected him, and We destroyed them. Verily in this is a Sign: but most of them do not believe.

026.140 And verily thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

026.141 The Thamud (people) rejected the apostles.

026.142 Behold, their brother Salih said to them: "Will you not fear (God)?

026.143 "I am to you an apostle worthy of all trust.

026.144 "So fear God, and obey me.

026.145 "No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds.

026.146 "Will ye be left secure, in (the enjoyment of) all that ye have here?-

026.147 "Gardens and Springs,

026.148 "And corn-fields and date-palms with spathes near breaking (with the weight of fruit)?

026.149 "And ye carve houses out of (rocky) mountains with great skill.

026.150 "But fear God and obey me;

026.151 "And follow not the bidding of those who are extravagant,-

026.152 "Who make mischief in the land, and mend not (their ways)."

026.153 They said: "Thou art only one of those bewitched!

026.154 "Thou art no more than a mortal like us: then bring us a Sign, if thou tellest the truth!"

026.155 He said: "Here is a she-camel: she has a right of watering, and ye have

a right of watering, (severally) on a day appointed.

026.156 "Touch her not with harm, lest the Penalty of a Great Day seize you."

026.157 But they ham-strung her: then did they become full of regrets.

026.158 But the Penalty seized them. Verily in this is a Sign: but most of them do not believe.

026.159 And verily thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

026.160 The people of Lut rejected the apostles.

026.161 Behold, their brother Lut said to them: "Will ye not fear (God)?

026.162 "I am to you an apostle worthy of all trust.

026.163 "So fear God and obey me.

026.164 "No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the lord of the Worlds.

026.165 "Of all the creatures in the world, will ye approach males,

026.166 "And leave those whom God has created for you to be your mates? Nay, ye are a people transgressing (all limits)!"

026.167 They said: "If thou desist not, O Lut! thou wilt assuredly be cast out!"

026.168 He said: "I do detest your doings."

026.169 "O my Lord! deliver me and my family from such things as they do!"

026.170 So We delivered him and his family,Ñall

026.171 Except an old woman who lingered behind.

026.172 But the rest We destroyed utterly.

026.173 We rained down on them a shower (of brimstone): and evil was the shower on those who were admonished (but heeded not)!

026.174 Verily in this is a Sign: but most of them do not believe.

026.175 And verily thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might Most Merciful.

026.176 The Companions of the Wood rejected the apostles.

026.177 Behold, Shu'aib said to them: "Will ye not fear (God)?

026.178 "I am to you an apostle worthy of all trust.

026.179 "So fear God and obey me.

026.180 "No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds.

026.181 "Give just measure, and cause no loss (to others by fraud).

026.182 "And weigh with scales true and upright.

026.183 "And withhold not things justly due to men, nor do evil in the land, working mischief.

026.184 "And fear Him Who created you and (who created) the generations before (you)"

026.185 They said: "Thou art only one of those bewitched!

026.186 "Thou art no more than a mortal like us, and indeed we think thou art a liar!

026.187 "Now cause a piece of the sky to fall on us, if thou art truthful!"

026.188 He said: "My Lord knows best what ye do."

026.189 But they rejected him. Then the punishment of a day of overshadowing gloom seized them, and that was the Penalty of a Great Day.

026.190 Verily in that is a Sign: but most of them do not believe.

026.191 And verily thy Lord is He, the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

026.192 Verily this is a Revelation from the Lord of the Worlds:

026.193 With it came down the spirit of Faith and Truth-

026.194 To thy heart and mind, that thou mayest admonish.

026.195 In the perspicuous Arabic tongue.

026.196 Without doubt it is (announced) in the mystic Books of former peoples.

026.197 Is it not a Sign to them that the Learned of the Children of Israel knew it (as true)?

026.198 Had We revealed it to any of the non-Arabs,

026.199 And had he recited it to them, they would not have believed in it.

026.200 Thus have We caused it to enter the hearts of the sinners.

026.201 They will not believe in it until they see the grievous Penalty;

026.202 But the (Penalty) will come to them of a sudden, while they perceive it not;

026.203 Then they will say: "Shall we be respited?"

026.204 Do they then ask for Our Penalty to be hastened on?

026.205 Seest thou? If We do let them enjoy (this life) for a few years,

026.206 Yet there comes to them at length the (Punishment) which they were promised!

026.207 It will profit them not that they enjoyed (this life)!

026.208 Never did We destroy a population, but had its warners -

026.209 By way of reminder; and We never are unjust.

026.210 No evil ones have brought down this (Revelation):

026.211 It would neither suit them nor would they be able (to produce it).

026.212 Indeed they have been removed far from even (a chance of) hearing it.

026.213 So call not on any other god with God, or thou wilt be among those under the Penalty.

026.214 And admonish thy nearest kinsmen,

026.215 And lower thy wing to the Believers who follow thee.

026.216 Then if they disobey thee, say: "I am free (of responsibility) for what ye do!"

026.217 And put thy trust on the Exalted in Might, the Merciful,-

026.218 Who seeth thee standing forth (in prayer),

026.219 And thy movements among those who prostrate themselves,

026.220 For it is He Who heareth and knoweth all things.

026.221 Shall I inform you, (O people!), on whom it is that the evil ones descend?

026.222 They descend on every lying, wicked person,

026.223 (Into whose ears) they pour hearsay vanities, and most of them are liars.

026.224 And the Poets,ÑIt is those straying in Evil, who follow them:

026.225 Seest thou not that they wander distracted in every valley?-

026.226 And that they say what they practise not?-

026.227 Except those who believe, work righteousness, engage much in the remembrance of God, and defend themselves only after they are unjustly attacked. And soon will the unjust assailants know what vicissitudes their affairs will take!

THE ANT, THE ANTS,
CHAPTER NO. 027

027.001 These are verses of the Qur'an,-a book that makes (things) clear;

027.002 A guide: and glad tidings for the believers,-

027.003 Those who establish regular prayers and give in regular charity, and also have (full) assurance of the hereafter.

027.004 As to those who believe not in the Hereafter, We have made their deeds pleasing in their eyes; and so they wander about in distraction.

027.005 Such are they for whom a grievous Penalty is (waiting); and in the

Hereafter theirs will be the greatest loss.

027.006 As to thee, the Qur'an is bestowed upon thee from the presence of one who is wise and all-knowing.

027.007 Behold! Moses said to his family: "I perceive a fire; soon will I bring you from there some information, or I will bring you a burning brand to light our fuel, that ye may warn yourselves.

027.008 But when he came to the (fire), a voice was heard: "Blessed are those in the fire and those around: and glory to God, the Lord of the worlds.

027.009 "O Moses! verily, I am God, the exalted in might, the wise!....

027.010 "Now do thou throw thy rod!" But when he saw it moving (of its own accord)as if it had been a snake, he turned back in retreat, and retraced not his steps: "O Moses!" (it was said), "Fear not: truly, in My presence, those called as apostles have no fear,-

027.011 "But if any have done wrong and have thereafter substituted good to take the place of evil, truly, I am Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

027.012 "Now put thy hand into thy bosom, and it will come forth white without stain (or harm): (these are) among the nine Signs (thou wilt take) to Pharaoh and his people: for they are a people rebellious in transgression."

027.013 But when Our Signs came to them, that should have opened their eyes, they said: "This is sorcery manifest!"

027.014 And they rejected those Signs in iniquity and arrogance, though their souls were convinced thereof: so see what was the end of those who acted corruptly!

027.015 We gave (in the past) knowledge to David and Solomon: And they both said: "Praise be to God, Who has favoured us above many of his servants who believe!"

027.016 And Solomon was David's heir. He said: "O ye people! We have been taught the speech of birds, and on us has been bestowed (a little) of all things: this is indeed Grace manifest (from God.)"

027.017 And before Solomon were marshalled his hosts,Ñof Jinns and men and birds, and they were all kept in order and ranks.

027.018 At length, when they came to a (lowly) valley of ants, one of the ants said: "O ye ants, get into your habitations, lest Solomon and his hosts crush you (under foot) without knowing it."

027.019 So he smiled, amused at her speech; and he said: "O my Lord! so order me that I may be grateful for Thy favours, which thou hast bestowed on me and on my parents, and that I may work the righteousness that will please Thee: And admit me, by Thy Grace, to the ranks of Thy righteous Servants."

027.020 And he took a muster of the Birds; and he said: "Why is it I see not

the Hoopoe? Or is he among the absentees?

027.021 "I will certainly punish him with a severe penalty, or execute him, unless he bring me a clear reason (for absence)."

027.022 But the Hoopoe tarried not far: he (came up and) said: "I have compassed (territory) which thou hast not compassed, and I have come to thee from Saba with tidings true.

027.023 "I found (there) a woman ruling over them and provided with every requisite; and she has a magnificent throne.

027.024 "I found her and her people worshipping the sun besides God: Satan has made their deeds seem pleasing in their eyes, and has kept them away from the Path,Ñso they receive no guidance,-

027.025 "(Kept them away from the Path), that they should not worship God, Who brings to light what is hidden in the heavens and the earth, and knows what ye hide and what ye reveal.

027.026 "God!Ñthere is no god but He!ÑLord of the Throne Supreme!"

027.027 (Solomon) said: "Soon shall we see whether thou hast told the truth or lied!

027.028 "Go thou, with this letter of mine, and deliver it to them: then draw back from them, and (wait to) see what answer they return"...

027.029 (The queen) said: "Ye chiefs! here is delivered to meÑa letter worthy of respect.

027.030 "It is from Solomon, and is (as follows): 'In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful:

027.031 "'Be ye not arrogant against me, but come to me in submission (to the true Religion).'"

027.032 She said: "Ye chiefs! advise me in (this) my affair: no affair have I decided except in your presence."

027.033 They said: "We are endued with strength, and given to vehement war: but the command is with thee; so consider what thou wilt command."

027.034 She said: "Kings, when they enter a country, despoil it, and make the noblest of its people its meanest thus do they behave.

027.035 "But I am going to send him a present, and (wait) to see with what (answer) return (my) ambassadors."

027.036 Now when (the embassy) came to Solomon, he said: "Will ye give me abundance in wealth? But that which God has given me is better than that which He has given you! Nay it is ye who rejoice in your gift!

027.037 "Go back to them, and be sure we shall come to them with such hosts as they will never be able to meet: We shall expel them from there in disgrace,

and they will feel humbled (indeed)."

027.038 He said (to his own men): "Ye chiefs! which of you can bring me her throne before they come to me in submission?"

027.039 Said an 'Ifrit, of the Jinns: "I will bring it to thee before thou rise from thy council: indeed I have full strength for the purpose, and may be trusted."

027.040 Said one who had knowledge of the Book: "I will bring it to thee within the twinkling of an eye!" Then when (Solomon) saw it placed firmly before him, he said: "This is by the Grace of my Lord!Ñto test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! and if any is grateful, truly his gratitude is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is Free of all Needs, Supreme in Honour !"

027.041 He said: "Transform her throne out of all recognition by her: let us see whether she is guided (to the truth) or is one of those who receive no guidance."

027.042 So when she arrived, she was asked, "Is this thy throne?" She said, "It was just like this; and knowledge was bestowed on us in advance of this, and we have submitted to God (in Islam)."

027.043 And he diverted her from the worship of others besides God: for she was (sprung) of a people that had no faith.

027.044 She was asked to enter the lofty Palace: but when she saw it, she thought it was a lake of water, and she (tucked up her skirts), uncovering her legs. He said: "This is but a palace paved smooth with slabs of glass." She said: "O my Lord! I have indeed wronged my soul: I do (now) submit (in Islam), with Solomon, to the Lord of the Worlds."

027.045 We sent (aforetime), to the Thamud, their brother Salih, saying, "Serve God": But behold, they became two factions quarrelling with each other.

027.046 He said: "O my people! why ask ye to hasten on the evil in preference to the good? If only ye ask God for forgiveness, ye may hope to receive mercy.

027.047 They said: "Ill omen do we augur from thee and those that are with thee". He said: "Your ill omen is with God; yea, ye are a people under trial."

027.048 There were in the city nine men of a family, who made mischief in the land, and would not reform.

027.049 They said: "Swear a mutual oath by God that we shall make a secret night attack on him and his people, and that we shall then say to his heir (when he seeks vengeance): 'We were not present at the slaughter of his people, and we are positively telling the truth.'"

027.050 They plotted and planned, but We too planned, even while they perceived it not.

027.051 Then see what was the end of their plot!Ñthis, that We destroyed them

and their people, all (of them).

027.052 Now such were their houses,Ñin utter ruin,Ñbecause they practised wrong-doing. Verily in this is a Sign for people of knowledge.

027.053 And We saved those who believed and practised righteousness.

027.054 (We also sent) Lut (as an apostle): behold, He said to his people, "Do ye do what is shameful though ye see (its iniquity)?

027.055 Would ye really approach men in your lusts rather than women? Nay, ye are a people (grossly) ignorant!

027.056 But his people gave no other answer but this: they said, "Drive out the followers of Lut from your city: these are indeed men who want to be clean and pure!"

027.057 But We saved him and his family, except his wife; her We destined to be of those who lagged behind.

027.058 And We rained down on them a shower (of brimstone): and evil was the shower on those who were admonished (but heeded not)!

027.059 Say: Praise be to God, and Peace on his servants whom He has chosen (for his Message). (Who) is better?ÑGod or the false gods they associate (with Him)?

027.060 Or, Who has created the heavens and the earth, and Who sends you down rain from the sky? Yea, with it We cause to grow well-planted orchards full of beauty of delight: it is not in your power to cause the growth of the trees in them. (Can there be another) god besides God? Nay, they are a people who swerve from justice.

027.061 Or, Who has made the earth firm to live in; made rivers in its midst; set thereon mountains immovable; and made a separating bar between the two bodies of flowing water? (can there be another) god besides God? Nay, most of them know not.

027.062 Or, Who listens to the (soul) distressed when it calls on Him, and Who relieves its suffering, and makes you (mankind) inheritors of the earth? (Can there be another) god besides God? Little it is that ye heed!

027.063 Or, Who guides you through the depths of darkness on land and sea, and Who sends the winds as heralds of glad tidings, going before His Mercy? (Can there be another) god besides God?ÑHigh is God above what they associate with Him!

027.064 Or, Who originates creation, then repeats it, and who gives you sustenance from heaven and earth? (Can there be another) god besides God? Say, "Bring forth your argument, if ye are telling the truth!"

027.065 Say: None in the heavens or on earth, except God, knows what is hidden: nor can they perceive when they shall be raised up (for Judgment).

027.066 Still less can their knowledge comprehend the Hereafter: Nay, they are in doubt and uncertainty thereanent; nay, they are blind thereunto!

027.067 The Unbelievers say: "What! when we become dust,Ñwe and our fathers,Ñshall we really be raised (from the dead)?

027.068 "It is true we were promised this,Ñwe and our fathers before (us): these are nothing but tales of the ancients."

027.069 Say: "Go ye through the earth and see what has been the end of those guilty (of sin)."

027.070 But grieve not over them, nor distress thyself because of their plots.

027.071 They also say: "When will this promise (come to pass)? (Say) if ye are truthful."

027.072 Say: "It may be that some of the events which ye wish to hasten on may be (close) in your pursuit!"

027.073 But verily thy Lord is full of grace to mankind: Yet most of them are ungrateful.

027.074 And verily thy Lord knoweth all that their hearts do hide. As well as all that they reveal.

027.075 Nor is there aught of the unseen, in heaven or earth, but is (recorded) in a clear record.

027.076 Verily this Qur'an doth explain to the Children of Israel most of the matters in which they disagree.

027.077 And it certainly is a Guide and a Mercy to those who believe.

027.078 Verily thy Lord will decide between them by His Decree: and He is Exalted in Might, All-Knowing.

027.079 So put thy trust in God: for thou art on (the path of) manifest Truth.

027.080 Truly thou canst not cause the dead to listen, nor canst thou cause the deaf to hear the call, (especially) when they turn back in retreat.

027.081 Nor canst thou be a guide to the blind, (to prevent them) from straying: only those wilt thou get to listen who believe in Our Signs, and they will bow in Islam.

027.082 And when the Word is fulfilled against them (the unjust), we shall produce from the earth a beast to (face) them: He will speak to them, for that mankind did not believe with assurance in Our Signs.

027.083 One day We shall gather together from every people a troop of those who reject our Signs, and they shall be kept in ranks,-

027.084 Until, when they come (before the Judgment-seat), (God) will say: "Did ye reject My Signs, though ye comprehended them not in knowledge, or what was it ye did?"

027.085 And the Word will be fulfilled against them, because of their wrong-doing, and they will be unable to speak (in plea).

027.086 See they not that We have made the Night for them to rest in and the Day to give them light? Verily in this are Signs for any people that believe!

027.087 And the Day that the Trumpet will be soundedÑthen will be smitten with terror those who are in the heavens, and those who are on earth, except such as God will please (to exempt): and all shall come to His (Presence) as beings conscious of their lowliness.

027.088 Thou seest the mountains and thinkest them firmly fixed: but they shall pass away as the clouds pass away: (such is) the artistry of God, who disposes of all things in perfect order: for he is well acquainted with all that ye do.

027.089 If any do good, good will (accrue) to them therefrom; and they will be secure from terror that Day.

027.090 And if any do evil, their faces will be thrown headlong into the Fire: "Do ye receive a reward other than that which ye have earned by your deeds?"

027.091 For me, I have been commanded to serve the Lord of this city, Him Who has sanctified it and to Whom (belong) all things: and I am commanded to be of those who bow in Islam to God's Will,-

027.092 And to rehearse the Qur'an: and if any accept guidance, they do it for the good of their own souls, and if any stray, say: "I am only a Warner".

027.093 And say: "Praise be to God, Who will soon show you His Signs, so that ye shall know them"; and thy Lord is not unmindful of all that ye do.

THE STORY, STORIES,
CHAPTER NO. 028

028.001 Ta. Sin. Mim.

028.002 These are Verses of the Book that makes (things) clear.

028.003 We rehearse to thee some of the story of Moses and Pharaoh in Truth, for people who believe.

028.004 Truly Pharaoh elated himself in the land and broke up its people into sections, depressing a small group among them: their sons he slew, but he kept alive their females: for he was indeed a maker of mischief.

028.005 And We wished to be Gracious to those who were being depressed in the land, to make them leaders (in Faith) and make them heirs,

028.006 To establish a firm place for them in the land, and to show Pharaoh, Haman, and their hosts, at their hands, the very things against which they were taking precautions.

028.007 So We sent this inspiration to the mother of Moses: "Suckle (thy child), but when thou hast fears about him, cast him into the river, but fear not nor grieve: for We shall restore him to thee, and We shall make him one of

Our apostles."

028.008 Then the people of Pharaoh picked him up (from the river): (It was intended) that (Moses) should be to them an adversary and a cause of sorrow: for Pharaoh and Haman and (all) their hosts were men of sin.

028.009 The wife of Pharaoh said: "(Here is) joy of the eye, for me and for thee: slay him not. It may be that he will be use to us, or we may adopt him as a son." And they perceived not (what they were doing)!

028.010 But there came to be a void in the heart of the mother of Moses: She was going almost to disclose his (case), had We not strengthened her heart (with faith), so that she might remain a (firm) believer.

028.011 And she said to the sister of (Moses), "Follow him" so she (the sister) watched him in the character of a stranger. And they knew not.

028.012 And we ordained that he refused suck at first, until (His sister came up and) said: "Shall I point out to you the people of a house that will nourish and bring him up for you and be sincerely attached to him?"...

028.013 Thus did We restore him to his mother, that her eye might be comforted, that she might not grieve, and that she might know that the promise of God is true: but most of them do not understand.

028.014 When he reached full age, and was firmly established (in life), We bestowed on him wisdom and knowledge: for thus do We reward those who do good.

028.015 And he entered the city at a time when its people were not watching: and he found there two men fighting,Ñone of his own religion, and the other, of his foes. Now the man of his own religion appealed to him against his foe, and Moses struck him with his fist and made an end of him. He said: "This is a work of Evil (Satan): for he is an enemy that manifestly misleads!"

028.016 He prayed: "O my Lord! I have indeed wronged my soul! Do Thou then forgive me!" So (God) forgave him: for He is the Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

028.017 He said: "O my Lord! For that Thou hast bestowed Thy Grace on me, never shall I be a help to those who sin!"

028.018 So he saw the morning in the city, looking about, in a state of fear, when behold, the man who had, the day before, sought his help called aloud for his help (again). Moses said to him: "Thou art truly, it is clear, a quarrelsome fellow!"

028.019 Then, when he decided to lay hold of the man who was an enemy to both of them, that man said: "O Moses! Is it thy intention to slay me as thou slewest a man yesterday? Thy intention is none other than to become a powerful violent man in the land, and not to be one who sets things right!"

028.020 And there came a man, running, from the furthest end of the City. He said: "O Moses! the Chiefs are taking counsel together about thee, to slay thee: so get thee away, for I do give thee sincere advice."

028.021 He therefore got away therefrom, looking about, in a state of fear. He prayed "O my Lord! save me from people given to wrong-doing."

028.022 Then, when he turned his face towards (the land of) Madyan, he said: "I do hope that my Lord will show me the smooth and straight Path."

028.023 And when he arrived at the watering (place) in Madyan, he found there a group of men watering (their flocks), and besides them he found two women who were keeping back (their flocks). He said: "What is the matter with you?" They said: "We cannot water (our flocks) until the shepherds take back (their flocks): And our father is a very old man."

028.024 So he watered (their flocks) for them; then he turned back to the shade, and said:"O my Lord! truly am I in (desperate) need of any good that Thou dost send me!"

028.025 Afterwards one of the (damsels) came (back) to him, walking bashfully. She said: "My father invites thee that he may reward thee for having watered (our flocks) for us." So when he came to him and narrated the story, he said: "Fear thou not: (well) hast thou escaped from unjust people."

028.026 Said one of the (damsels): "O my (dear) father! engage him on wages: truly the best of men for thee to employ is the (man) who is strong and trusty"....

028.027 He said: "I intend to wed one of these my daughters to thee, on condition that thou serve me for eight years; but if thou complete ten years, it will be (grace) from thee. But I intend not to place thee under a difficulty: thou wilt find me, indeed, if God wills, one of the righteous."

028.028 He said: "Be that (the agreement) between me and thee: whichever of the two terms I fulfil, let there be no ill-will to me. Be God a witness to what we say."

028.029 Now when Moses had fulfilled the term, and was travelling with his family, he perceived a fire in the direction of Mount Tur. He said to his family: "Tarry ye; I perceive a fire; I hope to bring you from there some information, or a burning firebrand, that ye may warm yourselves."

028.030 But when he came to the (fire), a voice was heard from the right bank of the valley, from a tree in hallowed ground: "O Moses! Verily I am God, the Lord of the Worlds....

028.031 "Now do thou throw thy rod!" but when he saw it moving (of its own accord) as if it had been a snake, he turned back in retreat, and retraced not his steps: O Moses!" (It was said), "Draw near, and fear not: for thou art of those who are secure.

028.032 "Move thy hand into thy bosom, and it will come forth white without stain (or harm), and draw thy hand close to thy side (to guard) against fear. Those are the two credentials from thy Lord to Pharaoh and his Chiefs: for truly they are a people rebellious and wicked."

028.033 He said: "O my Lord! I have slain a man among them, and I fear lest they slay me.

028.034 "And my brother AaronÑHe is more eloquent in speech than I: so send him with me as a helper, to confirm (and strengthen) me: for I fear that they may accuse me of falsehood."

028.035 He said: "We will certainly strengthen thy arm through thy brother, and invest you both with authority, so they shall not be able to touch you: with Our Sign shall ye triumph,Ñyou two as well as those who follow you."

028.036 When Moses came to them with Our clear signs, they said: "This is nothing but sorcery faked up: never did we head the like among our fathers of old!"

028.037 Moses said: "My Lord knows best who it is that comes with guidance from Him and whose end will be best in the Hereafter: certain it is that the wrong-doers will not prosper."

028.038 Pharaoh said: "O Chiefs! no god do I know for you but myself: therefore, O Haman! light me a (kiln to bake bricks) out of clay, and build me a lofty palace, that I may mount up to the god of Moses: but as far as I am concerned, I think (Moses) is a liar!"

028.039 And he was arrogant and insolent in the land, beyond reason,ÑHe and his hosts: they thought that they would not have to return to Us!

028.040 So We seized him and his hosts, and We flung them into the sea: Now behold what was the end of those who did wrong!

028.041 And we made them (but) leaders inviting to the Fire; and on the Day of Judgment no help shall they find.

028.042 in this world We made a curse to follow them and on the Day of Judgment they will be among the loathed (and despised).

028.043 We did reveal to Moses the Book after We had destroyed the earlier generations, (to give) Insight to men, and guidance and Mercy, that they might receive admonition.

028.044 Thou wast not on the Western side when We decreed the Commission to Moses, nor wast thou a witness (of those events).

028.045 But We raised up (new) generations, and long were the ages that passed over them; but thou wast not a dweller among the people of Madyan, rehearsing Our Signs to them; but it is We Who send apostles (with inspiration).

028.046 Nor wast thou at the side of (the Mountain of) Tur when we called (to Moses). Yet (art thou sent) as Mercy from thy Lord, to give warning to a people to whom no warner had come before thee: in order that they may receive admonition.

028.047 If (We had) not (sent thee to the Quraish),Ñin case a calamity should seize them for (the deeds) that their hands have sent forth, they might say:

"Our Lord! why didst Thou not sent us an apostle? We should then have followed Thy Signs and been amongst those who believe!"

028.048 But (now), when the Truth has come to them from Ourselves, they say, "Why are not (Signs) sent to him, like those which were sent to Moses?" Do they not then reject (the Signs) which were formerly sent to Moses? They say: "Two kinds of sorcery, each assisting the other!" And they say: "For us, we reject all (such things)!"

028.049 Say: "Then bring ye a Book from God, which is a better guide than either of them, that I may follow it! (do), if ye are truthful!"

028.050 But if they hearken not to thee, know that they only follow their own lusts: and who is more astray than one who follow his own lusts, devoid of guidance from God? for God guides not people given to wrong-doing.

028.051 Now have We caused the Word to reach them themselves, in order that they may receive admonition.

028.052 Those to whom We sent the Book before this,Ñthey do believe in this (revelation):

028.053 And when it is recited to them, they say: "We believe therein, for it is the Truth from our Lord: indeed we have been Muslims (bowing to God's Will) from before this.

028.054 Twice will they be given their reward, for that they have persevered, that they avert Evil with Good, and that they spend (in charity) out of what We have given them.

028.055 And when they hear vain talk, they turn away therefrom and say: "To us our deeds, and to you yours; peace be to you: we seek not the ignorant."

028.056 It is true thou wilt not be able to guide every one, whom thou lovest; but God guides those whom He will and He knows best those who receive guidance.

028.057 They say: "If we were to follow the guidance with thee, we should be snatched away from our land." Have We not established for them a secure sanctuary, to which are brought as tribute fruits of all kinds,Ña provision from Ourselves? but most of them understand not.

028.058 And how many populations We destroyed, which exulted in their life (of ease and plenty)! now those habitations of theirs, after them, are deserted,ÑAll but a (miserable) few! and We are their heirs!

028.059 Nor was thy Lord the one to destroy a population until He had sent to its centre an apostle, rehearsing to them Our Signs; nor are We going to destroy a population except when its members practise iniquity.

028.060 The (material) things which ye are given are but the conveniences of this life and the glitter thereof; but that which is with God is better and more enduring: will ye not then be wise?

028.061 Are (these two) alike?Ñone to whom We have made a goodly promise, and

who is going to reach its (fulfilment), and one to whom We have given the good things of this life, but who, on the Day of Judgment, is to be among those brought up (for punishment)?

028.062 That Day (God) will call to them, and say "Where are my 'partners'?Ñwhom ye imagined (to be such)?"

028.063 Those against whom the charge will be proved, will say: "Our Lord! These are the ones whom we led astray: we led them astray, as we were astray ourselves: we free ourselves (from them) in Thy presence: it was not us they worshipped."

028.064 It will be said (to them): "Call upon your 'partners' (for help)" :they will call upon them, but they will not listen to them; and they will see the Penalty (before them); (how they will wish) 'if only they had been open to guidance!'

028.065 That Day (God) will call to them, and say: "What was the answer ye gave to the apostles?"

028.066 Then the (whole) story that Day will seem obscure to them (like light to the blind) and they will not be able (even) to question each other.

028.067 But any that (in this life) had repented, believed, and worked righteousness, will have hopes to be among those who achieve salvation.

028.068 Thy Lord does create and choose as He pleases: no choice have they (in the matter): Glory to God! and far is He above the partners they ascribe (to Him)!

028.069 And thy Lord knows all that their hearts conceal and all that they reveal.

028.070 And He is God: There is no god but He. To Him be praise, at the first and at the last: for Him is the Command, and to Him shall ye (all) be brought back.

028.071 Say: See ye? If God were to make the night perpetual over you to the Day of Judgment, what god is there other than God, who can give you enlightenment? Will ye not then hearken?

028.072 Say: See ye? If God were to make the day perpetual over you to the Day of Judgment, what god is there other than God, who can give you a night in which ye can rest? Will ye not then see?

028.073 It is out of His Mercy that He has made for you Night and Day,Ñthat ye may rest therein, and that ye may seek of his Grace;Ñand in order that ye may be grateful.

028.074 The Day that He will call on them, He will say: "Where are my 'partners'? whom ye imagined (to be such)?"

028.075 And from each people shall We draw a witness, and We shall say: "Produce your Proof": then shall they know that the Truth is in God (alone),

and the (lies) which they invented will leave them in lurch.

028.076 Qarun was doubtless, of the people of Moses; but he acted insolently towards them: such were the treasures We had bestowed on him that their very keys would have been a burden to a body of strong men, behold, his people said to him: "Exult not, for God loveth not those who exult (in riches).

028.077 "But seek, with the (wealth) which God has bestowed on thee, the Home of the Hereafter, nor forget thy portion in this world: but do thou good, as God has been good to thee, and seek not (occasions for) mischief in the land: for God loves not those who do mischief."

028.078 He said: "This has been given to me because of a certain knowledge which I have." Did he not know that God had destroyed, before him, (whole) generations,Ñwhich were superior to him in strength and greater in the amount (of riches) they had collected? but the wicked are not called (immediately) to account for their sins.

028.079 So he went forth among his people in the (pride of his wordly) glitter. Said those whose aim is the Life of this World: "Oh! that we had the like of what Qarun has got! for he is truly a lord of mighty good fortune!"

028.080 But those who had been granted (true) knowledge said: "Alas for you! The reward of God (in the Hereafter) is best for those who believe and work righteousness: but this none shall attain, save those who steadfastly persevere (in good)."

028.081 Then We caused the earth to swallow up him and his house; and he had not (the least little) party to help him against God, nor could he defend himself.

028.082 And those who had envied his position the day before began to say on the morrow: "Ah! it is indeed God Who enlarges the provision or restricts it, to any of His servants He pleases! had it not been that God was gracious to us, He could have caused the earth to swallow us up! Ah! those who reject God will assuredly never prosper."

028.083 That Home of the Hereafter We shall give to those who intend not high-handedness or mischief on earth: and the end is (best) for the righteous.

028.084 If any does good, the reward to him is better than his deed; but if any does evil, the doers of evil are only punished (to the extent) of their deeds.

028.085 Verily He Who ordained the Qur'an for thee, will bring thee back to the Place of Return. Say: "My Lord knows best who it is that brings true guidance, and who is in manifest error."

028.086 And thou hadst not expected that the Book would be sent to thee except as a Mercy from thy Lord: Therefore lend not thou support in any way to those who reject (God's Message).

028.087 And let nothing keep thee back from the Signs of God after they have been revealed to thee: and invite (men) to thy Lord, and be not of the company

of those who join gods with God.

028.088 And call not, besides God, on another god. There is no god but He. Everything (that exists) will perish except His own Face. To Him belongs the Command, and to Him will ye (all) be brought back.

THE SPIDER,
CHAPTER NO. 029

029.001 A.L.M.

029.002 Do men think that they will be left alone on saying, "We believe", and that they will not be tested?

029.003 We did test those before them, and God will certainly know those who are true from those who are false.

029.004 Do those who practise evil think that they will get the better of Us? Evil is their judgment!

029.005 For those whose hopes are in the meeting with God (in the Hereafter, let them strive); for the term (appointed) by God is surely coming and He hears and knows (all things).

029.006 And if any strive (with might and main), they do so for their own souls: for God is free of all needs from all creation.

029.007 Those who believe and work righteous deeds,Ñfrom them shall We blot out all evil (that may be) in them, and We shall reward them according to the best of their deeds.

029.008 We have enjoined on man kindness to parents: but if they (either of them) strive (to force) thee to join with Me (in worship) anything of which thou hast no knowledge, obey them not. Ye have (all) to return to me, and I will tell you (the truth) of all that ye did.

029.009 And those who believe and work righteous deeds,Ñthem shall We admit to the company of the Righteous.

029.010 Then there are among men such as say, "We believe in God"; but when they suffer affliction in (the cause of) God, they treat men's oppression as if it were the Wrath of God! And if help comes (to thee) from thy Lord, they are sure to say, "We have (always) been with you!" Does not God know best all that is in the hearts of all creation?

029.011 And God most certainly knows those who believe, and as certainly those who are Hypocrites.

029.012 And the Unbelievers say to those who believe: "Follow our path, and we will bear (the consequences) of your faults." Never in the least will they bear their faults: in fact they are liars!

029.013 They will bear their own burdens, and (other) burdens along with their own, and on the Day of Judgments they will be called to account for their

falsehoods.

029.014 We (once) sent Noah to his people, and he tarried among them a thousand years less fifty: but the Deluge overwhelmed them while they (persisted in) sin.

029.015 But We saved him and the companions of the Ark, and We made the (Ark) a Sign for all peoples!

029.016 And (We also saved) Abraham: behold, he said to his people, "Serve God and fear Him: that will be best for youÑIf ye understand!

029.017 "For ye do worship idols besides God, and ye invent falsehood. The things that ye worship besides God have no power to give you sustenance: then seek ye sustenance from God, serve Him, and be grateful to Him: to Him will be your return.

029.018 "And if ye reject (the Message), so did generations before you: and the duty of the apostle is only to preach publicly (and clearly)."

029.019 See they not how God originates creation, then repeats it: truly that is easy for God.

029.020 Say: "Travel through the earth and see how God did originate creation; so will God produce a later creation: for God has power over all things.

029.021 "He punishes whom He pleases, and He grants Mercy to whom He pleases, and towards Him are ye turned.

029.022 "Not on earth nor in heaven will ye be able (fleeing) to frustrate (his Plan), nor have ye, besides God, any protector or helper."

029.023 Those who reject the Signs of God and the Meeting with Him (in the Hereafter),Ñit is they who shall despair of My Mercy: it is they who will (suffer) a most grievous Penalty.

029.024 So naught was the answer of (Abraham's) people except that they said: "Slay him or burn him." But God did save him from the Fire. Verily in this are Signs for people who believe.

029.025 And he said: "For you, ye have taken (for worship) idols besides God, out of mutual love and regard between yourselves in this life; but on the Day of Judgment ye shall disown each other and curse each other: and your abode will be the Fire, and ye shall have none to help."

029.026 But Lut had faith in Him: He said: "I will leave home for the sake of my Lord: for He is Exalted in Might, and Wise."

029.027 And We gave (Abraham) Isaac and Jacob, and ordained among his progeny Prophethood and Revelation, and We granted him his reward in this life; and he was in the Hereafter (of the company) of the Righteous.

029.028 And (remember) Lut: behold, he said to his people: "Ye do commit lewdness, such as no people in Creation (ever) committed before you.

029.029 "Do ye indeed approach men, and cut off the highway?Ñand practise wickedness (even) in your councils?" But his people gave no answer but this: they said: "Bring us the Wrath of God if thou tellest the truth."

029.030 He said: "O my Lord! help Thou me against people who do mischief!"

029.031 When Our Messengers came to Abraham with the good news, they said: "We are indeed going to destroy the people of this township: for truly they are (addicted to) crime."

029.032 He said: "But there is Lut there." They said: "Well do we know who is there : we will certainly save him and his following,Ñexcept his wife: she is of those who lag behind!"

029.033 And when Our Messengers came to Lut, he was grieved on their account, and felt himself powerless (to protect) them: but they said: "Fear thou not, nor grieve: we are (here) to save thee and thy following, except thy wife: she is of those who lag behind.

029.034 "For we are going to bring down on the people of this township a Punishment from heaven, because they have been wickedly rebellious."

029.035 And We have left thereof an evident Sign, for any people who (care to) understand.

029.036 To the Madyan (people) (We sent) their brother Shu'aib. Then he said: "O my people! serve God, and fear the Last Day: nor commit evil on the earth, with intent to do mischief."

029.037 But they rejected him: Then the mighty Blast seized them, and they lay prostrate in their homes by the morning.

029.038 (Remember also) the 'Ad and the Thamud (people): clearly will appear to you from (the traces) of their buildings (their fate): the Evil One made their deeds alluring to them, and kept them back from the Path, though they were gifted with intelligence and skill.

029.039 (Remember also) Qarun, Pharaoh, and Haman: there came to them Moses with Clear Signs, but they behaved with insolence on the earth; yet they could not overreach (Us).

029.040 Each one of them We seized for his crime: of them, against some We sent a violent tornado (with showers of stones); some were caught by a (mighty) Blast; some We caused the earth to swallow up; and some We drowned (in the waters): It was not God Who injured (or oppressed) them:" They injured (and oppressed) their own souls.

029.041 The parable of those who take protectors other than God is that of the spider, who builds (to itself) a house; but truly the flimsiest of houses is the spider's house;Ñif they but knew.

029.042 Verily God doth know of (every thing) whatever that they call upon besides Him: and He is Exalted (in power), Wise.

029.043 And such are the Parables We set forth for mankind, but only those understand them who have knowledge.

029.044 God created the heavens and the earth in true (proportions): verily in that is a Sign for those who believe.

029.045 Recite what is sent of the Book by inspiration to thee, and establish regular Prayer: for Prayer restrains from shameful and unjust deeds; and remembrance of God is the greatest (thing in life) without doubt. And God knows the (deeds) that ye do.

029.046 And dispute ye not with the People of the Book, except with means better (than mere disputation), unless it be with those of them who inflict wrong (and injury): but say, "We believe in the revelation which has come down to us and in that which came down to you; Our God and your God is one; and it is to Him we bow (in Islam)."

029.047 And thus (it is) that We have sent down the Book to thee. So the People of the Book believe therein, as also do some of these (pagan Arabs): and none but Unbelievers reject our signs.

029.048 And thou wast not (able) to recite a Book before this (Book came), nor art thou (able) to transcribe it with thy right hand: In that case, indeed, would the talkers of vanities have doubted.

029.049 Nay, here are Signs self-evident in the hearts of those endowed with knowledge: and none but the unjust reject Our Signs.

029.050 Ye they say: "Why are not Signs sent down to him from his Lord?" Say: "The signs are indeed with God: and I am indeed a clear Warner."

029.051 And is it not enough for them that we have sent down to thee the Book which is rehearsed to them? Verily, in it is Mercy and a Reminder to those who believe.

029.052 Say: "Enough is God for a witness between me and you: He knows what is in the heavens and on earth. And it is those who believe in vanities and reject God, that will perish (in the end).

029.053 They ask thee to hasten on the Punishment (for them): had it not been for a term (of respite) appointed, the Punishment would certainly have come to them: and it will certainly reach them,Ñof a sudden, while they perceive not!

029.054 They ask thee to hasten on the Punishment: but, of a surety, Hell will encompass the Rejecters of Faith!-

029.055 On the Day that the Punishment shall cover them from above them and from below them, and (a Voice) shall say: "Taste ye (the fruits) of your deeds!"

029.056 O My servants who believe! truly, spacious is My Earth: therefore serve ye MeÑ(and Me alone)!

029.057 Every soul shall have a taste of death in the end to Us shall ye be

brought back.

029.058 But those who believe and work deeds of righteousnessÑto them shall We give a Home in Heaven,Ñlofty mansions beneath which flow rivers,Ñto dwell therein for aye;Ñan excellent reward for those who do (good)!-

029.059 Those who persevere in patience, and put their trust, in their Lord and Cherisher.

029.060 How many are the creatures that carry not their own sustenance? It is God who feeds (both) them and you: for He hears and knows (all things).

029.061 If indeed thou ask them who has created the heavens and the earth and subjected the sun and the moon (to his Law), they will certainly reply, "God". How are they then deluded away (from the truth)?

029.062 God enlarges the sustenance (which He gives) to whichever of His servants He pleases; and He (similarly) grants by (strict) measure, (as He pleases): for God has full knowledge of all things.

029.063 And if indeed thou ask them who it is that sends down rain from the sky, and gives life therewith to the earth after its death, they will certainly reply, "God!" Say, "Praise be to God!" But most of them understand not.

029.064 What is the life of this world but amusement and play? but verily the Home in the Hereafter,Ñthat is life indeed, if they but knew.

029.065 Now, if they embark on a boat, they call on God, making their devotion sincerely (and exclusively) to Him; but when He has delivered them safely to (dry) land, behold, they give a share (of their worship to others)!-

029.066 Disdaining ungratefully Our gifts, and giving themselves up to (worldly) enjoyment! But soon will they know.

029.067 Do they not then see that We have made a sanctuary secure, and that men are being snatched away from all around them? Then, do they believe in that which is vain, and reject the Grace of God?

029.068 And who does more wrong than he who invents a lie against God or rejects the Truth when it reaches him? Is there not a home in Hell for those who reject Faith?

029.069 And those who strive in Our (cause),ÑWe will certainly guide them to our Paths: For verily God is with those who do right.

THE ROMANS, THE BYZANTINES,
CHAPTER NO. 030

030.001 A. L. M.

030.002 The Roman Empire has been defeated-

030.003 In a land close by; but they, (even) after (this) defeat of theirs, will soon be victorious-

030.004 Within a few years. With God is the Decision, in the past and in the Future: on that Day shall the Believers rejoice-

030.005 With the help of God. He helps whom He will, and He is exalted in might, most merciful.

030.006 (It is) the promise of God. Never does God depart from His promise: but most men understand not.

030.007 They know but the outer (things) in the life of this world: but of the End of things they are heedless.

030.008 Do they not reflect in their own minds? Not but for just ends and for a term appointed, did God create the heavens and the earth, and all between them: yet are there truly many among men who deny the meeting with their Lord (at the Resurrection)!

030.009 Do they not travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those before them? They were superior to them in strength: they tilled the soil and populated it in greater numbers than these have done: there came to them their apostles with Clear (Signs). (Which they rejected, to their own destruction): It was not God Who wronged them, but they wronged their own souls.

030.010 In the long run evil in the extreme will be the End of those who do evil; for that they rejected the Signs of God, and held them up to ridicule.

030.011 It is God Who begins (the process of) creation; then repeats it; then shall ye be brought back to Him.

030.012 On the Day that the Hour will be established, the guilty will be struck dumb with despair.

030.013 No intercessor will they have among their "Partners" and they will (themselves) reject their "Partners".

030.014 On the Day that the Hour will be established,Ñthat Day shall (all men) be sorted out.

030.015 Then those who have believed and worked righteous deeds, shall be made happy in a Mead of Delight.

030.016 And those who have rejected Faith and falsely denied our Signs and the meeting of the Hereafter,Ñsuch shall be brought forth to Punishment.

030.017 So (give) glory to God, when ye reach eventide and when ye rise in the morning;

030.018 Yea, to Him be praise, in the heavens and on earth; and in the late afternoon and when the day begins to decline.

030.019 It is He Who brings out the living from the dead, and brings out the dead from the living, and Who gives life to the earth after it is dead: and thus shall ye be brought out (from the dead).

030.020 Among His Signs in this, that He created you from dust; and

then,Ñbehold, ye are men scattered (far and wide)!

030.021 And among His Signs is this, that He created for you mates from among yourselves, that ye may dwell in tranquillity with them, and He has put love and mercy between your (hearts): verily in that are Signs for those who reflect.

030.022 And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variations in your languages and your colours: verily in that are Signs for those who know.

030.023 And among His Signs is the sleep that ye take by night and by day, and the quest that ye (make for livelihood) out of His Bounty: verily in that are signs for those who hearken.

030.024 And among His Signs, He shows you the lightning, by way both of fear and of hope, and He sends down rain from the sky and with it gives life to the earth after it is dead: verily in that are Signs for those who are wise.

030.025 And among His Signs is this, that heaven and earth stand by His Command: then when He calls you, by a single call, from the earth, behold, ye (straightway) come forth.

030.026 To Him belongs every being that is in the heavens and on earth: all are devoutly obedient to Him.

030.027 It is He Who begins (the process of) creation; then repeats it; and for Him it is most easy. To Him belongs the loftiest similitude (we can think of) in the heavens and the earth: for He is Exalted in Might, full of wisdom.

030.028 He does propound to you a similitude from your own (experience): do ye have partners among those whom your right hands possess, to share as equals in the wealth We have bestowed on you? Do ye fear them as ye fear each other? Thus do we explain the Signs in detail to a people that understand.

030.029 Nay, the wrong-doers (merely) follow their own lusts, being devoid of knowledge. But who will guide those whom God leaves astray? To them there will be no helpers.

030.030 So set thou thy face steadily and truly to the Faith: (establish) God's handiwork according to the pattern on which He has made mankind: no change (let there be) in the work (wrought) by God: that is the standard Religion: but most among mankind understand not.

030.031 Turn ye back in repentance to Him, and fear Him: establish regular prayers, and be not ye among those who join gods with God,-

030.032 Those who split up their Religion, and become (mere) Sects,Ñeach party rejoicing in that which is with itself!

030.033 When trouble touches men, they cry to their Lord, turning back to Him in repentance: but when He gives them a taste of Mercy as from Himself, behold, some of them pay part-worship to other god's besides their Lord,-

030.034 (As if) to show their ingratitude for the (favours) We have bestowed on them! Then enjoy (your brief day); but soon will ye know (your folly).

030.035 Or have We sent down authority to them, which points out to them the things to which they pay part-worship?

030.036 When We give men a taste of Mercy, they exult thereat: and when some evil afflicts them because of what their (own) hands have sent forth, behold, they are in despair!

030.037 See they not that God enlarges the provision and restricts it, to whomsoever He pleases? Verily in that are Signs for those who believe.

030.038 So give what is due to kindred, the needy, and the wayfarer. That is best for those who seek the Countenance, of God, and it is they who will prosper.

030.039 That which ye lay out for increase through the property of (other) people, will have no increase with God: but that which ye lay out for charity, seeking the Countenance of God, (will increase): it is these who will get a recompense multiplied.

030.040 It is God Who has created you: further, He has provided for your sustenance; then He will cause you to die; and again He will give you life. Are there any of your (false) "Partners" who can do any single one of these things? Glory to Him! and high is He above the partners they attribute (to him)!

030.041 Mischief has appeared on land and sea because of (the meed) that the hands of men have earned, that (God) may give them a taste of some of their deeds: in order that they may turn back (from Evil).

030.042 Say: "Travel through the earth and see what was the end of those before (you): Most of them worshipped others besides God."

030.043 But set thou thy face to the right Religion before there come from God the Day which there is no chance of averting: on that Day shall men be divided (in two).

030.044 Those who reject Faith will suffer from that rejection: and those who work righteousness will spread their couch (of repose) for themselves (in heaven):

030.045 That He may reward those who believe and work righteous deeds, out of his Bounty. For He loves not those who reject Faith.

030.046 Among His Signs is this, that He sends the Winds, as heralds of Glad Tidings, giving you a taste of His (Grace and) Mercy,Ñthat the ships may sail (majestically) by His Command and that ye may seek of His Bounty: in order that ye may be grateful.

030.047 We did indeed send, before thee, apostles to their (respective) peoples, and they came to them with Clear Signs: then, to those who transgressed, We meted out Retribution: and it was due from Us to aid those

who believed.

030.048 It is God Who sends the Winds, and they raise the Clouds: then does He spread them in the sky as He wills, and break them into fragments, until thou seest rain-drops issue from the midst thereof: then when He has made them reach such of his servants as He wills behold, they do rejoice!-

030.049 Even though, before they received (the rain)Ñjust before thisÑthey were dumb with despair!

030.050 Then contemplate (O man!) the memorials of God's Mercy!Ñhow He gives life to the earth after its death: verily the same will give life to the men who are dead: for He has power over all things.

030.051 And if We (but) send a Wind from which they see (their tilth) turn yellow,Ñbehold, they become, thereafter, Ungrateful (Unbelievers)!

030.052 So verily thou canst not make the dead to hear, nor canst thou make the deaf to hear the call, when they show their backs and turn away.

030.053 Nor canst thou lead back the blind from their straying: only those wilt thou make to hear, who believe in Our signs and submit (their wills in Islam).

030.054 It is God Who created you in a state of (helpless) weakness, then gave (you) strength after weakness, then, after strength, gave (you weakness and a hoary head: He creates as He wills, and it is He Who has all knowledge and power.

030.055 On the Day that the Hour (of Reckoning) will be established, the transgressors will swear that they tarried not but an hour: thus were they used to being deluded!

030.056 But those endued with knowledge and faith will say: "Indeed ye did tarry, within God's Decree, to the Day of Resurrection, and this is the Day of Resurrection: but yeÑye were not aware!"

030.057 So on that Day no excuse of theirs will avail the transgressors, nor will they be invited (then) to seek grace (by repentance).

030.058 verily We have propounded for men, in this Qur'an every kind of Parable: But if thou bring to them any Sign, the Unbelievers are sure to say, "Ye do nothing but talk vanities."

030.059 Thus does God seal up the hearts of those who understand not.

030.060 So patiently persevere: for verily the promise of God is true: nor let those shake thy firmness, who have (themselves) no certainty of faith.

LUQMAN,
CHAPTER NO. 031

031.001 A. L. M.

031.002 These are Verses of the Wise Book,-

031.003 A Guide and a Mercy to the Doers of Good,-

031.004 Those who establish regular Prayer, and give regular Charity, and have (in their hearts) the assurance of the Hereafter.

031.005 These are on (true) guidance from their Lord: and these are the ones who will prosper.

031.006 But there are, among men, those who purchase idle tales, without knowledge (or meaning), to mislead (men) from the Path of God and throw ridicule (on the Path): for such there will be a Humiliating Penalty.

031.007 When Our Signs are rehearsed to such a one, he turns away in arrogance, as if he heard them not, as if there were deafness in both his ears: announce to him a grievous Penalty.

031.008 For those who believe and work righteous deeds, there will be Gardens of Bliss,-

031.009 To dwell therein. The promise of God is true: and He is Exalted in Power, Wise.

031.010 He created the heavens without any pillars that ye can see; He set on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with you; and He scattered through it beasts of all kinds. We send down rain from the sky, and produce on the earth every kind of noble creature, in pairs.

031.011 Such is the Creation of God: now show Me what is there that others besides Him have created: nay, but the Transgressors are in manifest error.

031.012 we bestowed (in the past) Wisdom on Luqman: "Show (thy) gratitude to God." Any who is (so) grateful does so to the profit of his own soul: but if any is ungrateful, verily God is free of all wants, Worthy of all praise.

031.013 Behold, Luqman said to his son by way of instruction: "O my son! join not in worship (others) with God: for false worship is indeed the highest wrong-doing."

031.014 And We have enjoined on man (to be good) to his parents: in travail upon travail did his mother bear him, and in years twain was his weaning: (hear the command), "Show gratitude to Me and to thy parents: to Me is (thy final) Goal.

031.015 "But if they strive to make thee join in worship with Me things of which thou hast no knowledge, obey them not; yet bear them company in this life with justice (and consideration), and follow the way of those who turn to me (in love): in the end the return of you all is to Me, and I will tell you the truth (and meaning) of all that ye did."

031.016 "O my son!" (said Luqman), "If there be (but) the weight of a mustard-seed and it were (hidden) in a rock, or (anywhere) in the heavens or on earth, God will bring it forth: for God understands the finest mysteries, (and) is well-acquainted (with them).

031.017 "O my son! establish regular prayer, enjoin what is just, and forbid what is wrong: and bear with patient constancy whatever betide thee; for this is firmness (of purpose) in (the conduct of) affairs.

031.018 "And swell not thy cheek (for pride) at men, nor walk in insolence through the earth; for God loveth not any arrogant boaster.

031.019 "And be moderate in thy pace, and lower thy voice; for the harshest of sounds without doubt is the braying of the ass."

031.020 Do ye not see that God has subjected to your (use) all things in the heavens and on earth, and has made his bounties flow to you in exceeding measure, (both) seen and unseen? Yet there are among men those who dispute about God, without knowledge and without guidance, and without a Book to enlighten them!

031.021 When they are told to follow the (Revelation) that God has sent down, they say: "Nay, we shall follow the ways that we found our fathers (following). "What! even if it is Satan beckoning them to the Penalty of the (Blazing) Fire?

031.022 Whoever submits his whole self to God, and is a doer of good, has grasped indeed the most trustworthy hand-hold: and with God rests the End and Decision of (all) affairs.

031.023 But if any reject Faith, let not his rejection grieve thee: to Us is their return, and We shall tell them the truth of their deeds: for God knows well all that is in (men's) hearts.

031.024 We grant them their pleasure for a little while: in the end shall We drive them to a chastisement unrelenting.

031.025 If thou ask them, who it is that created the heavens and the earth. They will certainly say, "God". Say: "Praise be to God!" But most of them understand not.

031.026 To God belong all things in heaven and earth: verily God is He (that is) free of all wants, worthy of all praise.

031.027 And if all the trees on earth were pens and the ocean (were ink), with seven oceans behind it to add to its (supply), yet would not the words of God be exhausted (in the writing): for God is Exalted in Power, full of Wisdom.

031.028 And your creation or your resurrection is in no wise but as an individual soul: for God is He Who hears and sees (all things).

031.029 Seest thou not that God merges Night into Day and he merges Day into Night; that He has subjected the sun, and the moon (to his Law), each running its course for a term appointed; and that God is well-acquainted with all that ye do?

031.030 That is because God is the (only) Reality, and because whatever else they invoke besides Him is Falsehood; and because God,ÑHe is the Most High, Most Great.

031.031 Seest thou not that the ships sail through the ocean by the Grace of God?Ñthat He may show you of His Signs? Verily in this are Signs for all who constantly persevere and give thanks.

031.032 When a wave covers them like the canopy (of clouds), they call to God, offering Him sincere devotion. But when He has delivered them safely to land, there are among them those that halt between (right and wrong). But none reject Our Signs except only a perfidious ungrateful (wretch)!

031.033 O mankind! do your duty to your Lord, and fear (the coming of) a Day when no father can avail aught for his son, nor a son avail aught for his father. Verily, the promise of God is true: let not then this present life deceive you, nor let the chief Deceiver deceive you about God.

031.034 Verily the knowledge of the Hour is with God (alone). It is He Who sends down rain, and He Who knows what is in the wombs. Nor does any one know what it is that he will earn on the morrow: Nor does any one know in what land he is to die. Verily with God is full knowledge and He is acquainted (with all things).

THE PROSTRATION, WORSHIP, ADORATION,
CHAPTER NO. 032

032.001 A. L. M.

032.002 (This is) the Revelation of the Book in which there is no doubt,Ñfrom the Lord of the Worlds.

032.003 Or do they say, "He has forged it"? Nay, it is the Truth from thy Lord, that thou mayest admonish a people to whom no warner has come before thee: in order that they may receive guidance.

032.004 It is God Who has created the heavens and the earth, and all between them, in six Days, and is firmly established on the Throne (of Authority): ye have none, besides Him, to protect or intercede (for you): will ye not then receive admonition?

032.005 He rules (all) affairs from the heavens to the earth: in the end will (all affairs) go up to Him, on a Day, the space whereof will be (as) a thousand years of your reckoning.

032.006 Such is He, the Knower of all things, hidden and open, the Exalted (in power), the Merciful;-

032.007 He Who has made everything which He has created most good: He began the creation of man with (nothing more than) clay,

032.008 And made his progeny from a quintessence of the nature of a fluid despised:

032.009 But He fashioned him in due proportion, and breathed into him something of His spirit. And He gave you (the faculties of) hearing and sight and feeling (and understanding): little thanks do ye give!

032.010 And they say: "What! when we lie, hidden and lost, in the earth, shall we indeed be in a Creation renewed? Nay, they deny the Meeting with their Lord.

032.011 Say: "The Angel of Death, put in charge of you, will (duly) take your souls: then shall ye be brought back to your Lord."

032.012 If only thou couldst see when the guilty ones will bend low their heads before their Lord, (saying:) "Our Lord! We have seen and we have heard: Now then send us back (to the world): we will work righteousness: for we do indeed (now) believe."

032.013 If We had so willed, We could certainly have brought every soul its true guidance: but the Word from Me will come true, "I will fill Hell with Jinns and men all together."

032.014 "Taste ye thenÑfor ye forgot the Meeting of this Day of yours, and We too will forget youÑtaste ye the Penalty of Eternity for your (evil) deeds!"

032.015 Only those believe in Our Signs, who, when they are recited to them, fall down in adoration, and celebrate the praises of their Lord, nor are they (ever) puffed up with pride.

032.016 Their limbs do forsake their beds of sleep, the while they call on their Lord, in Fear and Hope: and they spend (in charity) out of the sustenance which We have bestowed on them.

032.017 Now no person knows what delights of the eye are kept hidden (in reserve) for themÑas a reward for their (good) deeds.

032.018 Is then the man who believes no better than the man who is rebellious and wicked? Not equal are they.

032.019 For those who believe and do righteous deeds are Gardens as hospitable homes, for their (good) deeds.

032.020 As to those who are rebellious and wicked, their abode will be the Fire: every time they wish to get away therefrom, they will be forced thereinto, and it will be said to them: "Taste ye the Penalty of the Fire, the which ye were wont to reject as false."

032.021 And indeed We will make them taste of the Penalty of this (life) prior to the supreme Penalty, in order that they may (repent and) return.

032.022 And who does more wrong than one to whom are recited the Signs of his Lord, and who then turns away therefrom? Verily from those who transgress We shall exact (due) Retribution.

032.023 We did indeed aforetime give the Book to Moses: be not then in doubt of its reaching (thee): and We made it a guide to the Children of Israel.

032.024 And We appointed, from among them, leaders, giving guidance under Our command, so long as they persevered with patience and continued to have faith in Our Signs.

032.025 Verily thy Lord will judge between them on the Day of Judgment, in the matters wherein they differ (among themselves)

032.026 Does it not teach them a lesson, how many generations We destroyed before them, in whose dwellings they (now) go to and fro? Verily in that are Signs: Do they not then listen?

032.027 And do they not see that We do drive rain to parched soil (bare of herbage), and produce therewith crops, providing food for their cattle and themselves? Have they not the vision?

032.028 They say: "When will this decision be, if ye are telling the truth?"

032.029 Say: "On the Day of Decision, no profit will it be to Unbelievers if they (then) believe! nor will they be granted a respite."

032.030 So turn away from them, and wait: they too are waiting.

THE CLANS, THE COALITION, THE COMBINED FORCES,
CHAPTER NO. 033

033.001 O Prophet! Fear God, and hearken not to the Unbelievers and the Hypocrites: verily God is full of Knowledge and Wisdom.

033.002 But follow that which comes to thee by inspiration from thy Lord: for God is well acquainted with (all) that ye do.

033.003 And put thy trust in God, and enough is God as a disposer of affairs.

033.004 God has not made for any man two hearts in his (one) body: nor has He made your wives whom ye divorce by Zihar your mothers: nor has He made your adopted sons your sons. Such is (only) your (manner of) speech by your mouths. But God tells (you) the Truth, and He shows the (right) Way.

033.005 Call them by (the names of) their fathers: that is juster in the sight of God. But if ye know not their father's (names, call them) your Brothers in faith, or your maulas. But there is no blame on you if ye make a mistake therein: (what counts is) the intention of your hearts: and God is Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.

033.006 The Prophet is closer to the Believers than their own selves, and his wives are their mothers. Blood-relations among each other have closer personal ties, in the Decree of God. Than (the Brotherhood of) Believers and Muhajirs: nevertheless do ye what is just to your closest friends: such is the writing in the Decree (of God).

033.007 And remember We took from the prophets their covenant: As (We did) from thee: from Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus the son of Mary: We took from them a solemn covenant:

033.008 That (God) may question the (custodians) of Truth concerning the Truth they (were charged with): And He has prepared for the Unbelievers a grievous Penalty.

033.009 O ye who believe! Remember the Grace of God, (bestowed) on you, when there came down on you hosts (to overwhelm you): But We sent against them a hurricane and forces that ye saw not: but God sees (clearly) all that ye do.

033.010 Behold! they came on you from above you and from below you, and behold, the eyes became dim and the hearts gaped up to the throats, and ye imagined various (vain) thoughts about God!

033.011 In that situation were the Believers tried: they were shaken as by a tremendous shaking.

033.012 And behold! The Hypocrites and those in whose hearts is a disease (even) say: "God and His Apostle promised us nothing but delusion!"

033.013 Behold! A party among them said: "Ye men of Yathrib! ye cannot stand (the attack)! therefore go back!" And a band of them ask for leave of the Prophet, saying, "Truly our houses are bare and exposed," though they were not exposed they intended nothing but to run away.

033.014 And if an entry had been effected to them from the sides of the (city), and they had been incited to sedition, they would certainly have brought it to pass, with none but a brief delay!

033.015 And yet they had already covenanted with God not to turn their backs, and a covenant with God must (surely) be answered for.

033.016 Say: "Running away will not profit you if ye are running away from death or slaughter; and even if (ye do escape), no more than a brief (respite) will ye be allowed to enjoy!"

033.017 Say: "Who is it that can screen you from God if it be His wish to give you punishment or to give you Mercy?" Nor will they find for themselves, besides God, any protector or helper.

033.018 Verily God knows those among you who keep back (men) and those who say to their brethren, "Come along to us", but come not to the fight except for just a little while.

033.019 Covetous over you. Then when fear comes, thou wilt see them looking to thee, their eyes revolving, like (those of) one over whom hovers death: but when the fear is past, they will smite you with sharp tongues, covetous of goods. Such men have no faith, and so God has made their deeds of none effect: and that is easy for God.

033.020 They think that the Confederates have not withdrawn; and if the Confederates should come (again), they would wish they were in the deserts (wandering) among the Bedouins, and seeking news about you (from a safe distance); and if they were in your midst, they would fight but little.

033.021 Ye have indeed in the Apostle of God a beautiful pattern (of conduct) for any one whose hope is in God and the Final Day, and who engages much in the Praise of God.

033.022 When the Believers saw the Confederate forces, they said: "This is what God and his Apostle had promised us, and God and His Apostle told us what was true." And it only added to their faith and their zeal in obedience.

033.023 Among the Believers are men who have been true to their covenant with God: of them some have completed their vow (to the extreme), and some (still) wait: but they have never changed (their determination) in the least:

033.024 That God may reward the men of Truth for their Truth, and punish the Hypocrites if that be His Will, or turn to them in Mercy: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

033.025 And God turned back the Unbelievers for (all) their fury: no advantage did they gain; and enough is God for the believers in their fight. And God is full of Strength, able to enforce His Will.

033.026 And those of the People of the Book who aided themÑGod did take them down from their strongholds and cast terror into their hearts. (So that) some ye slew, and some ye made prisoners.

033.027 And He made you heirs of their lands, their houses, and their goods, and of a land which ye had not frequented (before). And God has power over all things.

033.028 O Prophet! Say to thy Consorts: "If it be that ye desire the life of this World, and its glitter,Ñthen come! I will provide for your enjoyment and set you free in a handsome manner.

033.029 But if ye seek God and His Apostle, and the Home of the Hereafter, verily God has prepared for the well-doers amongst you a great reward.

033.030 O Consorts of the Prophet! If any of you were guilty of evident unseemly conduct, the Punishment would be doubled to her, and that is easy for God.

033.031 But any of you that is devout in the service of God and His Apostle, and works righteousness,Ñto her shall We grant her reward twice: and We have prepared for her a generous Sustenance.

033.032 O Consorts of the Prophet! Ye are not like any of the (other) women: if ye do fear (God), be not too complacent of speech, lest one in whose heart is a disease should be moved with desire: but speak ye a speech (that is) just.

033.033 And stay quietly in your houses, and make not a dazzling display, like that of the former Times of Ignorance; and establish regular Prayer, and give regular Charity; and obey God and His Apostle. And God only wishes to remove all abomination from you, ye members of the Family, and to make you pure and spotless.

033.034 And recite what is rehearsed to you in your homes, of the Signs of God and His Wisdom: for God understands the finest mysteries and is well-acquainted (with them).

033.035 For Muslim men and women,Ñfor believing men and women, for devout men and women, for true men and women, for men and women who are patient and constant, for men and women who humble themselves, for men and women who give in Charity, for men and women who fast (and deny themselves), for men and women who guard their chastity, and for men and women who engage much in God's praise,Ñfor them has God prepared forgiveness and great reward.

033.036 It is not fitting for a Believer, man or woman, when a matter has been decided by God and His Apostle to have any option about their decision: if any one disobeys God and His Apostle, he is indeed on a clearly wrong Path.

033.037 Behold! Thou didst say to one who had received the grace of God and thy favour: "Retain thou (in wedlock) thy wife, and fear God." But thou didst hide in thy heart that which God was about to make manifest: thou didst fear the people, but it is more fitting that thou shouldst fear God. Then when Zaid had dissolved (his marriage) with her, with the necessary (formality), We joined her in marriage to thee: in order that (in future) there may be no difficulty to the Believers in (the matter of) marriage with the wives of their adopted sons, when the latter have dissolved with the necessary (formality) (their marriage) with them. And God's command must be fulfilled.

033.038 There can be no difficulty to the Prophet in what God has indicated to him as a duty. It was the practice (approved) of God amongst those of old that have passed away. And the command of God is a decree determined.

033.039 (It is the practice of those) who preach the Messages of God, and fear Him, and fear none but God. And enough is God to call (men) to account.

033.040 Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but (he is) the Apostle of God, and the Seal of the Prophets: and God has full knowledge of all things.

033.041 O ye who believe! Celebrate the praises of God, and do this often;

033.042 And glorify Him morning and evening.

033.043 He it is Who sends blessings on you, as do His angels, that He may bring you out from the depths of Darkness into Light: and He is Full of Mercy to the Believers.

033.044 Their salutation on the Day they meet Him will be "Peace!"; and He has prepared for them a generous Reward.

033.045 O Prophet! Truly We have sent thee as a Witness, a Bearer of Glad Tidings, and Warner,-

033.046 And as one who invites to God's (grace) by His leave, and as a lamp spreading light.

033.047 Then give the Glad Tidings to the Believers, that they shall have from God a very great Bounty.

033.048 And obey not (the behests) of the Unbelievers and the Hypocrites, and heed not their annoyances, but put thy Trust in God. For enough is God as a

Disposer of affairs.

033.049 O ye who believe! When ye marry believing women, and then divorce them before ye have touched them, no period of 'Iddat have ye to count in respect of them: so give them a present. And set them free in a handsome manner.

033.050 O Prophet! We have made lawful to thee thy wives to whom thou hast paid their dowers; and those whom thy right hand possesses out of the prisoners of war whom God has assigned to thee; and daughters of thy paternal uncles and aunts, and daughters of thy maternal uncles and aunts, who migrated (from Makka) with thee; and any believing woman who dedicates her soul to the Prophet if the Prophet wishes to wed her;Ñthis only for thee, and not for the Believers (at large); We know what We have appointed for them as to their wives and the captives whom their right hands possess;Ñin order that there should be no difficulty for thee. And God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

033.051 Thou mayest defer (the turn of) any of them that thou pleasest, and thou mayest receive any thou pleasest: and there is no blame on thee if thou invite one whose (turn) thou hadst set aside. This were nigher to the cooling of their eyes, the prevention of their grief, and their satisfactionÑthat of all of themÑwith that which thou hast to give them: and God knows (all) that is in your hearts: and God is All-Knowing, Most Forbearing.

033.052 It is not lawful for thee (to marry more) women after this, nor to change them for (other) wives, even though their beauty attract thee, except any thy right hand should possess (as handmaidens): and God doth watch over all things.

033.053 O ye who believe! Enter not the Prophet's houses,Ñuntil leave is given you,Ñfor a meal, (and then) not (so early as) to wait for its preparation: but when ye are invited, enter; and when ye have taken your meal, disperse, without seeking familiar talk. Such (behaviour) annoys the Prophet: he is ashamed to dismiss you, but God is not ashamed (to tell you) the truth. And when ye ask (his ladies) for anything ye want, ask them from before a screen: that makes for greater purity for your hearts and for theirs. Nor is it right for you that ye should annoy God's Apostle, or that ye should marry his widows after him at any time. Truly such a thing is in God's sight an enormity.

033.054 Whether ye reveal anything or conceal it, verily God has full knowledge of all things.

033.055 There is no blame (on these ladies if they appear) before their fathers or their sons, their brothers, or their brother's sons, or their sisters' sons, or their women, or the (slaves) whom their right hands possess. And, (ladies), fear God; for God is Witness to all things.

033.056 God and His angels send blessings on the Prophet: O ye that believe! Send ye blessings on him, and salute him with all respect.

033.057 Those who annoy God and His ApostleÑGod has cursed them in this World and in the Hereafter, and has prepared for them a humiliating Punishment.

033.058 And those who annoy believing men and women undeservedly, bear (on themselves) a calumny and a glaring sin.

033.059 O Prophet! Tell thy wives and daughters, and the believing women, that they should cast their outer garments over their persons (when abroad): that is most convenient, that they should be known (as such) and not molested. And God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

033.060 Truly, if the Hypocrites, and those in whose hearts is a disease, and those who stir up sedition in the City, desist not, We shall certainly stir thee up against them: Then will they not be able to stay in it as thy neighbours for any length of time:

033.061 They shall have a curse on them: whenever they are found, they shall be seized and slain (without mercy).

033.062 (Such was) the practice (approved) of God among those who lived aforetime: No change wilt thou find in the practice (approved) of God.

033.063 Men ask thee concerning the Hour: Say, "The knowledge thereof is with God (alone)": and what will make thee understand?Ñperchance the Hour is nigh!

033.064 Verily God has cursed the Unbelievers and prepared for them a Blazing Fire,-

033.065 To dwell therein for ever: no protector will they find, nor helper.

033.066 The Day that their faces will be turned upside down in the Fire, they will say: "Woe to us! Would that we had obeyed God and obeyed the Apostle!"

033.067 And they would say: "Our Lord! We obeyed our chiefs and our great ones, and they misled us as to the (right) Path.

033.068 "Our Lord! Give them double Penalty and curse them with a very great Curse!"

033.069 O ye who believe! Be ye not like those who vexed and insulted Moses, but God cleared him of the (calumnies) they had uttered: and he was honourable in God's sight.

033.070 O ye who believe! Fear God, and (always) say a word directed to the Right:

033.071 That He may make your conduct whole and sound and forgive you your sins: He that obeys God and His Apostle, has already attained the highest achievement.

033.072 We did indeed offer the Trust to the Heavens and the Earth and the Mountains; but they refused to undertake it, being afraid thereof: but man undertook it;ÑHe was indeed unjust and foolish;-

033.073 (With the result) that God has to punish the Hypocrites, men and women, and the Unbelievers, men and women, and God turns in Mercy to the Believers, men and women: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

SABA, SHEBA,
CHAPTER NO. 034

034.001 Praise be to God, to Whom belong all things in the heavens and on earth: to Him be Praise in the Hereafter: and He is Full of Wisdom, acquainted with all things.

034.002 He knows all that goes into the earth, and all that comes out thereof; all that comes down from the sky and all that ascends thereto and He is the Most Merciful, the Oft-Forgiving.

034.003 The Unbelievers say, "Never to us will come the Hour": Say, "Nay! but most surely, by my Lord, it will come upon you;Ñby Him Who knows the unseen,Ñfrom Whom is not hidden the least little atom in the heavens or on earth: Nor is there anything less than that, or greater, but is in the Record Perspicuous:

034.004 That He may reward those who believe and work deeds of righteousness: for such is Forgiveness and a Sustenance Most Generous."

034.005 But those who strive against Our Signs, to frustrate them,Ñfor such will be a Penalty,Ña Punishment most humiliating.

034.006 And those to whom knowledge has come see that the (Revelation) sent down to thee from thy LordÑthat is the Truth, and that it guides to the Path of the Exalted (in might), Worthy of all praise.

034.007 The Unbelievers say (in ridicule): "Shall we point out to you a man that will tell you, when ye are all scattered to pieces in disintegration, that ye shall (then be raised) in a New Creation?

034.008 "Has he invented a falsehood against God, or has a spirit (seized) him?"ÑNay, it is those who believe not in the Hereafter, that are in (real) Penalty, and in farthest error.

034.009 See they not what is before them and behind them, of the sky and the earth? If We wished, We could cause the earth to swallow them up, or cause a piece of the sky to fall upon them. Verily in this is a Sign for every devotee that turns to God (in repentance).

034.010 We bestowed Grace aforetime on David from ourselves: "O ye Mountains! Sing ye back the Praises of God with him! and ye birds (also)! And We made the iron soft for him;-

034.011 (Commanding), "Make thou coast of mail, balancing well the rings of chain armour, and work ye righteousness; for be sure I see (clearly) all that ye do."

034.012 And to Solomon (We made) the Wind (obedient): Its early morning (stride) was a month's (journey), and its evening (stride) was a month's (journey); and We made a Font of molten brass to flow for him; and there were Jinns that worked in front of him, by the leave of his Lord, and if any of them turned aside from our command, We made him taste of the Penalty of the Blazing

Fire.

034.013 They worked for him as he desired, (making) arches, images, basons as large as reservoirs, and (cooking) cauldrons fixed (in their places): "Work ye, sons of David, with thanks! but few of My servants are grateful!"

034.014 Then, when We decreed (Solomon's) death, nothing showed them his death except a little worm of the earth, which kept (slowly) gnawing away at his staff: so when he fell down, the Jinns saw plainly that if they had known the unseen, they would not have tarried in the humiliating Penalty (of their Task).

034.015 There was, for Saba, aforetime, a Sign in their home-landÑtwo Gardens to the right and to the left. "Eat of the Sustenance (provided) by your Lord, and be grateful to Him: a territory fair and happy, and a Lord Oft-Forgiving!

034.016 But they turned away (from God), and We sent against them the Flood (released) from the dams, and We converted their two garden (rows) into "gardens" producing bitter fruit, and tamarisks, and some few (stunted) Lote-trees.

034.017 That was the Requital We gave them because they ungratefully rejected Faith: and never do We give (such) requital except to such as are ungrateful rejecters.

034.018 Between them and the Cities on which We had poured our blessings, We had placed Cities in prominent positions, and between them We had appointed stages of journey in due proportion: "Travel therein, secure, by night and by day."

034.019 But they said: "Our Lord! Place longer distances between our journey-stages": but they wronged themselves (therein). At length We made them as a tale (that is told), and We dispersed them all in scattered fragments. Verily in this are Signs for every (soul that is) patiently constant and grateful.

034.020 And on them did Satan prove true his idea, and they followed him, all but a party that believed.

034.021 But he had no authority over them,Ñexcept that We might test the man who believes in the Hereafter from him who is in doubt concerning it: and thy Lord doth watch over all things.

034.022 Say: "Call upon other (gods) whom ye fancy, besides God: They have no power,Ñnot the weight of an atom,Ñin the heavens or on earth: No (sort of) share have they therein, nor is any of them a helper to God.

034.023 "No intercession can avail in His Presence, except for those for whom He has granted permission. So far (is this the case) that, when terror is removed from their hearts (at the Day of Judgment, then) will they say, 'what is it that your Lord commanded?' they will say, 'That which is true and just; and He is the Most High Most Great'."

034.024 Say: "Who gives you sustenance, from the heavens and the earth?" Say:

"It is God; and certain it is that either we or ye are on right guidance or in manifest error!"

034.025 Say: "Ye shall not be questioned as to our sins, nor shall we be questioned as to what ye do."

034.026 Say: "Our Lord will gather us together and will in the end decide the matter between us (and you) in truth and justice: and He is the one to decide, the One Who knows all."

034.027 Say: "Show me those whom ye have joined with Him as partners: by no means (can ye). Nay, He is God, the Exalted in Power, the Wise."

034.028 We have not sent thee but as a universal (Messenger) to men, giving them glad tidings, and warning them (against sin), but most men understand not.

034.029 They say: "When will this promise (come to pass) if ye are telling the truth?"

034.030 Say: "The appointment to you is for a Day, which ye cannot put back for an hour nor put forward."

034.031 The Unbelievers say: "We shall neither believe in this scripture nor in (any) that (came) before it." Couldst thou but see when the wrong-doers will be made to stand before their Lord, throwing back the word (of blame) on one another! Those who had been despised will say to the arrogant ones: "Had it not been for you, we should certainly have been believers!"

034.032 The arrogant ones will say to those who had been despised: "Was it we who kept you back from Guidance after it reached you? Nay, rather, it was ye who transgressed.

034.033 Those who had been despised will say to the arrogant ones: "Nay! it was a plot (of yours) by day and by night: Behold! Ye (constantly) ordered us to be ungrateful to God and to attribute equals to Him!" They will declare (their) repentance when they see the Penalty: We shall put yokes on the necks of the Unbelievers: It would only be a requital for their (ill) Deeds.

034.034 Never did We send a warner to a population, but the wealthy ones among them said: "We believe not in the (Message) with which ye have been sent."

034.035 They said: "We have more in wealth and in sons, and we cannot be punished."

034.036 Say: "Verily my Lord enlarges and restricts the Provision to whom He pleases, but most men understand not."

034.037 It is not your wealth nor your sons, that will bring you nearer to Us in degree: but only those who believe and work righteousnessÑthese are the ones for whom there is a multiplied Reward for their deeds, while secure they (reside) in the dwellings on high!

034.038 Those who strive against Our Signs, to frustrate them, will be given over into Punishment.

034.039 Say: "Verily my Lord enlarges and restricts the Sustenance to such of his servants as He pleases: and nothing do ye spend in the least (in His cause) but He replaces it: for He is the Best of those who grant Sustenance.

034.040 One Day He will gather them all together, and say to the angels, "Was it you that these men used to worship?"

034.041 They will say, "Glory to Thee! our (tie) is with TheeÑas ProtectorÑnot with them. Nay, but they worshipped the Jinns: most of them believed in them."

034.042 So on that Day no power shall they have over each other, for profit or harm: and We shall say to the wrong-doers, "Taste ye the Penalty of the Fire,Ñthe which ye were wont to deny!"

034.043 When Our Clear Signs are rehearsed to them, they say, "This is only a man who wishes to hinder you from the (worship) which your fathers practised." And they say, "This is only a falsehood invented!" and the Unbelievers say of the Truth when it comes to them, "This is nothing but evident magic!"

034.044 But We had not given them Books which they could study, nor sent apostles to them before thee as Warners.

034.045 And their predecessors rejected (the Truth); these have not received a tenth of what We had granted to those: yet when they rejected My apostles, how (terrible) was My rejection (of them)!

034.046 Say: "I do admonish you on one point: that ye do stand up before God,Ñ(It may be) in pairs, or (it may be) singly,Ñand reflect (within yourselves): your Companion is not possessed: he is no less than a warner to you, in face of a terrible Penalty."

034.047 Say: "No reward do I ask of you: it is (all) in your interest: my reward is only due from God: And He is witness to all things."

034.048 Say: "Verily my Lord doth cast the (mantle of) Truth (over His servants),ÑHe that has full knowledge of (all) that is hidden."

034.049 Say: "The Truth has arrived, and Falsehood neither creates anything new, nor restores anything."

034.050 Say: "If I am astray, I only stray to the loss of my own soul: but if I receive guidance, it is because of the inspiration of my Lord to me: it is He Who hears all things, and is (ever) near."

034.051 If thou couldst but see when they will quake with terror; but then there will be no escape (for them), and they will be seized from a position (quite) near.

034.052 And they will say, "We do believe (now) in the (Truth)"; but how could they receive (Faith) from a position (so far off,-

034.053 Seeing that they did reject Faith (entirely) before, and that they (continually) cast (slanders) on the unseen from a position far off?

034.054 And between them and their desires, is placed a barrier, as was done in the past with their partisans: for they were indeed in suspicious (disquieting) doubt.

THE ANGELS, ORIGNATOR,
CHAPTER NO. 035

035.001 Praise be to God, Who created (out of nothing) the heavens and the earth, Who made the angels, messengers with wings,Ñtwo, or three, or four (pairs): He adds to Creation as He pleases: for God has power over all things.

035.002 What God out of his Mercy doth bestow on mankind there is none can withhold: what He doth withhold, there is none can grant, apart from Him: and He is the Exalted in Power, full of Wisdom.

035.003 O men! Call to mind the grace of God unto you! is there a creator, other than God, to give you sustenance from heaven or earth? There is no god but He: how then are ye deluded away from the Truth?

035.004 And if they reject thee, so were apostles rejected before thee: to God back for decision all affairs.

035.005 O men! Certainly the promise of God is true. Let not then this present life deceive you, nor let the Chief Deceiver deceive you about God.

035.006 Verily Satan is an enemy to you: so treat him as an enemy. He only invites his adherents, that they may become Companions of the Blazing Fire.

035.007 For those who reject God, is a terrible Penalty: but for those who believe and work righteous deeds, is Forgiveness, and a magnificent Reward.

035.008 Is he, then, to whom the evil of his conduct is made alluring, so that he looks upon it as good, (equal to one who is rightly guided)? For God leaves to stray whom He wills, and guides whom He wills. So let not thy soul go out in (vainly) sighing after them: for God knows well all that they do!

035.009 It is God Who sends forth the Winds, so that they raise up the Clouds, and We drive them to a land that is dead, and revive the earth therewith after its death: even so (will be) the Resurrection!

035.010 If any do seek for glory and power,Ñto God belong all glory and power. To Him mount up (all) Words of Purity: It is He Who exalts each Deed of Righteousness. Those that lay Plots of Evil,Ñfor them is a Penalty terrible; and the plotting of such will be void (of result).

035.011 And God did create you from dust; then from a sperm-drop; then He made you in pairs. And no female conceives, or lays down (her load), but with His knowledge. Nor is a man long-lived granted length of days, nor is a part cut off from his life, but is in a Decree (ordained). All this is easy to God.

035.012 Nor are the two bodies of flowing water alike,Ñthe one palatable, sweet, and pleasant to drink, and the other, salt and bitter. Yet from each (kind of water) do ye eat flesh fresh and tender, and ye extract ornaments to

wear; and thou seest the ships therein that plough the waves, that ye may seek (thus) of the Bounty of God that ye may be grateful.

035.013 He merges Night into Day, and he merges Day into Night, and he has subjected the sun and the moon (to his Law): each one runs its course for a term appointed. Such is God your Lord: to Him belongs all Dominion. And those whom ye invoke besides Him have not the least power.

035.014 If ye invoke them, they will not listen to your call, and if they were to listen, they cannot answer your (prayer). On the Day of Judgment they will reject your "Partnership". and none, (O man!) can tell thee (the Truth) like the One Who is acquainted with all things.

035.015 O ye men! It is ye that have need of God: but God is the One Free of all wants, worthy of all praise.

035.016 If He so pleased, He could blot you out and bring in a New Creation.

035.017 Nor is that (at all) difficult for God.

035.018 Nor can a bearer of burdens bear another's burdens if one heavily laden should call another to (bear) his load. Not the least portion of it can be carried (by the other). Even though he be nearly related. Thou canst but admonish such as fear their Lord unseen and establish regular Prayer. And whoever purifies himself does so for the benefit of his own soul; and the destination (of all) is to God.

035.019 The blind and the seeing are not alike;

035.020 Nor are the depths of Darkness and the Light;

035.021 Nor are the (chilly) shade and the (genial) heat of the sun:

035.022 Nor are alike those that are living and those that are dead. God can make any that He wills to hear; but thou canst not make those to hear who are (buried) in graves.

035.023 Thou art no other than a warner.

035.024 Verily We have sent thee in truth, as a bearer of glad tidings, and as a warner: and there never was a people, without a warner having lived among them (in the past).

035.025 And if they reject thee, so did their predecessors, to whom came their apostles with Clear Signs, Books of dark prophecies, and the Book of Enlightenment.

035.026 In the end did I punish those who rejected Faith: and how (terrible) was My rejection (of them)!

035.027 Seest thou not that God sends down rain from the sky? With it We then bring out produce of various colours. And in the mountains are tracts white and red, of various shades of colour, and black intense in hue.

035.028 And so amongst men and crawling creatures and cattle, are they of

various colours. Those truly fear God, among His Servants, who have knowledge: for God is Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving.

035.029 Those who rehearse the Book of God, establish regular Prayer, and spend (in Charity) out of what We have provided for them, secretly and openly, hope for a commerce that will never fail:

035.030 For He will pay them their meed, nay, He will give them (even) more out of His Bounty: for He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Ready to appreciate (service).

035.031 That which We have revealed to thee of the Book is the Truth,Ñconfirming what was (revealed) before it: for God is assuredlyÑwith respect to His ServantsÑwell acquainted and Fully Observant.

035.032 Then We have given the Book for inheritance to such of Our Servants as We have chosen: but there are among them some who wrong their own souls; some who follow a middle course; and some who are, by God's leave, foremost in good deeds; that is the highest Grace.

035.033 Gardens of Eternity will they enter: therein will they be adorned with bracelets of gold and pearls; and their garments there will be of silk.

035.034 And they will say: "Praise be to God, Who has removed from us (all) sorrow: for our Lord is indeed Oft-Forgiving Ready to appreciate (service):

035.035 "Who has, out of His Bounty, settled us in a Home that will last: no toil nor sense of weariness shall touch us therein."

035.036 But those who reject (God)Ñfor them will be the Fire of Hell: No term shall be determined for them, so they should die, nor shall its Penalty be lightened for them. Thus do We reward every ungrateful one!

035.037 Therein will they cry aloud (for assistance): "Our Lord! Bring us out: we shall work righteousness, not the (deeds) we used to do!"Ñ"Did We not give you long enough life so that he that would should receive admonition? and (moreover) the warner came to you. So taste ye (the fruits of your deeds): for the wrong-doers there is no helper."

035.038 Verily God knows (all) the hidden things of the heavens and the earth: verily He has full knowledge of all that is in (men's) hearts.

035.039 He it is That has made you inheritors in the earth: if, then, any do reject (God), their rejection (works) against themselves: their rejection but adds to the odium for the Unbelievers in the sight of their Lord: their rejection but adds to (their own) undoing.

035.040 Say: "Have ye seen (these) 'Partners' of yours whom ye call upon besides God? Show Me what it is they have created in the (wide) earth. Or have they a share in the heavens? Or have We given them a Book from which they (can derive) clear (evidence)?ÑNay, the wrong-doers promise each other nothing but delusions.

035.041 It is God Who sustains the heavens and the earth, lest they cease (to

function): and if they should fail, there is noneÑnot oneÑcan sustain them thereafter: Verily He is Most Forbearing, Oft-Forgiving.

035.042 They swore their strongest oaths by God that if a warner came to them, they would follow his guidance better than any (other) of the Peoples: But when a warner came to them, it has only increased their flight (from righteousness),-

035.043 On account of their arrogance in the land and their plotting of Evil, but the plotting of Evil will hem in only the authors thereof. Now are they but looking for the way the ancients were dealt with? But no change wilt thou find in God's way (of dealing): no turning off wilt thou find in God's way (of dealing).

035.044 Do they not travel through the earth, and see what was the End of those before them,Ñthough they were superior to them in strength? Nor is God to be frustrated by anything whatever in the heavens or on earth: for He is All-Knowing. All-Powerful.

035.045 If God were to punish men according to what they deserve. He would not leave on the back of the (earth) a single living creature: but He gives them respite for a stated Term: when their Term expires, verily God has in His sight all His Servants.

YA-SIN,
CHAPTER NO. 036

036.001 Ya Sin.

036.002 By the Qur'an, full of Wisdom,-

036.003 Thou art indeed one of the apostles,

036.004 On a Straight Way.

036.005 It is a Revelation sent down by (Him), the Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

036.006 In order that thou mayest admonish a people, whose fathers had received no admonition, and who therefore remain heedless (of the Signs of God).

036.007 The Word is proved true against the greater part of them: for they do not believe.

036.008 We have put yokes round their necks right up to their chins, so that their heads are forced up (and they cannot see).

036.009 And We have put a bar in front of them and a bar behind them, and further, We have covered them up; so that they cannot see.

036.010 The same is it to them whether thou admonish them or thou do not admonish them: they will not believe.

036.011 Thou canst but admonish such a one as follows the Message and fears the (Lord) Most Gracious, unseen: give such a one, therefore, good tidings, of

Forgiveness and a Reward most generous.

036.012 Verily We shall give life to the dead, and We record that which they send before and that which they leave behind, and of all things have We taken account in a clear Book (of evidence).

036.013 Set forth to them, by way of a parable, the (story of) the Companions of the City. Behold!, there came apostles to it.

036.014 When We (first) sent to them two apostles, they rejected them: But We strengthened them with a third: they said, "Truly, we have been sent on a mission to you."

036.015 The (people) said: "Ye are only men like ourselves; and (God) Most Gracious sends no sort of revelation: ye do nothing but lie."

036.016 They said: "Our Lord doth know that we have been sent on a mission to you:

036.017 "And our duty is only to proclaim the clear Message."

036.018 The (people) said: "for us, we augur an evil omen from you: if ye desist not, we will certainly stone you. And a grievous punishment indeed will be inflicted on you by us."

036.019 They said: "Your evil omens are with yourselves: (deem ye this an evil omen). If ye are admonished? Nay, but ye are a people transgressing all bounds!"

036.020 Then there came running, from the farthest part of the City, a man, saying, "O my people! Obey the apostles:

036.021 "Obey those who ask no reward of you (for themselves), and who have themselves received Guidance.

036.022 "It would not be reasonable in me if I did not serve Him Who created me, and to Whom ye shall (all) be brought back.

036.023 "Shall I take (other) gods besides Him? If (God) Most Gracious should intend some adversity for me, of no use whatever will be their intercession for me, nor can they deliver me.

036.024 "I would indeed, if I were to do so, be in manifest Error.

036.025 "For me, I have faith in the Lord of you (all): listen, then, to me!"

036.026 It was said: "Enter thou the Garden." He said: "Ah me! Would that my People knew (what I know)!-

036.027 "For that my Lord has granted me Forgiveness and has enrolled me among those held in honour!"

036.028 And We sent not down against his People, after him, any hosts from heaven, nor was it needful for Us so to do.

036.029 It was no more than a single mighty Blast, and behold! they were (like

ashes) quenched and silent.

036.030 Ah! Alas for (My) Servants! There comes not an apostle to them but they mock him!

036.031 See they not how many generations before them we destroyed? Not to them will they return:

036.032 But each one of them allÑwill be brought before Us (for judgment).

036.033 A Sign for them is the earth that is dead: We do give it life, and produce grain therefrom, of which ye do eat.

036.034 And We produce therein orchard with date-palms and vines, and We cause springs to gush forth therein:

036.035 That they may enjoy the fruits of this (artistry): It was not their hands that made this: will they not then give thanks?

036.036 Glory to God, Who created in pairs all things that the earth produces, as well as their own (human) kind and (other) things of which they have no knowledge.

036.037 And a Sign for them is the Night: We withdraw therefrom the Day, and behold they are plunged in darkness;

036.038 And the sun runs his course for a period determined for him: that is the decree of (Him), the Exalted in Might, the All-Knowing.

036.039 And the Moon,ÑWe have measured for her mansions (to traverse) till she returns like the old (and withered) lower part of a date-stalk.

036.040 It is not permitted to the Sun to catch up the Moon, nor can the Night outstrip the Day: Each (just) swims along in (its own) orbit (according to Law).

036.041 And a Sign for them is that We bore their race (through the Flood) in the loaded Ark;

036.042 And We have created for them similar (vessels) on which they ride.

036.043 If it were Our Will, We could drown them: then would there be no helper (to hear their cry), nor could they be delivered,

036.044 Except by way of Mercy from Us, and by way of (world) convenience (to serve them) for a time.

036.045 When they are told, "Fear ye that which is before you and that which will be after you, in order that ye may receive Mercy," (they turn back).

036.046 Not a Sign comes to them from among the Signs of their Lord, but they turn away therefrom.

036.047 And when they are told, "Spend ye of (the bounties) with which God has provided you," the Unbelievers say to those who believe: "Shall we then feed those whom, if God had so willed, He would have fed, (Himself)?ÑYe are in

nothing but manifest error."

036.048 Further, they say, "When will this promise (come to pass), if what ye say is true?"

036.049 They will not (have to) wait for aught but a single Blast: it will seize them while they are yet disputing among themselves!

036.050 No (chance) will they then have, by will, to dispose (of their affairs), nor to return to their own people!

036.051 The trumpet shall be sounded, when behold! from the sepulchres (men) will rush forth to their Lord!

036.052 They will say: "Ah! Woe unto us! Who hath raised us up from our beds of repose?"... (A voice will say:) "This is what (God) Most Gracious had promised. And true was the word of the apostles!"

036.053 It will be no more than a single Blast, when lo! they will all be brought up before Us!

036.054 Then, on that Day, not a soul will be wronged in the least, and ye shall but be repaid the meeds of your past Deeds.

036.055 Verily the Companions of the Garden shall that Day have joy in all that they do;

036.056 They and their associates will be in groves of (cool) shade, reclining on Thrones (of dignity);

036.057 (Every) fruit (enjoyment) will be there for them; they shall have whatever they call for;

036.058 "Peace!"Ña word (of salutation) from a Lord Most Merciful!

036.059 "And O ye in sin! Get ye apart this Day!

036.060 "Did I not enjoin on you, O ye Children of Adam, that ye should not worship Satan; for that he was to you an enemy avowed?-

036.061 "And that ye should worship Me, (for that) this was the Straight Way?

036.062 "But he did lead astray a great multitude of you. Did ye not, then, understand?

036.063 "This is the Hell of which ye were (repeatedly) warned!

036.064 "Embrace ye the (fire) this Day, for that ye (persistently) rejected (Truth)."

036.065 That Day shall We set a seal on their mouths. But their hands will speak to us, and their feet bear witness, to all that they did.

036.066 If it had been our Will, We could surely have blotted out their eyes; then should they have run about groping for the Path, but how could they have seen?

036.067 And if it had been Our Will, We could have transformed them (to remain) in their places; then should they have been unable to move about, nor could they have returned (after error).

036.068 If We grant long life to any, We cause him to be reversed in nature: Will they not then understand?

036.069 We have not instructed the (Prophet) in Poetry, nor is it meet for him: this is no less than a Message and a Qur'an making things clear:

036.070 That it may give admonition to any (who are) alive, and that the charge may be proved against those who reject (Truth).

036.071 See they not that it is We Who have created for themÑamong the things which Our hands have fashionedÑcattle, which are under their dominion?-

036.072 And that We have subjected them to their (use)? of them some do carry them and some they eat:

036.073 And they have (other) profits from them (besides), and they get (milk) to drink. Will they not then be grateful?

036.074 Yet they take (for worship) gods other than God, (hoping) that they might be helped!

036.075 They have not the power to help them: but they will be brought up (before Our Judgment-seat) as a troop (to be condemned).

036.076 Let not their speech, then, grieve thee. Verily We know what they hide as well as what they disclose.

036.077 Doth not man see that it is We Who created him from sperm? yet behold! he (stands forth) as an open adversary!

036.078 And he makes comparisons for Us, and forgets his own (origin and) Creation: He says, "Who can give life to (dry) bones and decomposed ones (at that)?"

036.079 Say, "He will give them life Who created them for the first time! for He is Well-versed in every kind of creation!-

036.080 "The same Who produces for you fire out of the green tree, when behold! ye kindle therewith (your own fires)!

036.081 "Is not He Who created the heavens and the earth able to create the like thereof?"ÑYea, indeed! for He is the Creator Supreme, of skill and knowledge (infinite)!

036.082 Verily, when He intends a thing, His Command is, "be", and it is!

036.083 So glory to Him in Whose hands is the dominion of all things: and to Him will ye be all brought back.

THOSE WHO SET THE RANKS, DRAWN UP IN RANKS,
CHAPTER NO. 037

037.001 By those who range themselves in ranks,

037.002 And so are strong in repelling (evil),

037.003 And thus proclaim the Message (of God)!

037.004 Verily, verily, your God is one!-

037.005 Lord of the heavens and of the earth and all between them, and Lord of every point at the rising of the sun!

037.006 We have indeed decked the lower heaven with beauty (in) the stars,-

037.007 (For beauty) and for guard against all obstinate rebellious evil spirits,

037.008 (So) they should not strain their ears in the direction of the Exalted Assembly but be cast away from every side,

037.009 Repulsed, for they are under a perpetual penalty,

037.010 Except such as snatch away something by stealth, and they are pursued by a flaming fire, of piercing brightness.

037.011 Just ask their opinion: are they the more difficult to create, or the (other) beings We have created? Them have We created out of a sticky clay!

037.012 Truly dost thou marvel, while they ridicule,

037.013 And, when they are admonished, pay no heed,-

037.014 And, when they see a Sign, turn it to mockery,

037.015 And say, "This is nothing but evident sorcery!

037.016 "What! when we die, and become dust and bones, shall we (then) be raised up (again)

037.017 "And also our fathers of old?"

037.018 Say thou: "Yea, and ye shall then be humiliated (on account of your evil)."

037.019 Then it will be a single (compelling) cry; and behold, they will begin to see!

037.020 They will say, "Ah! Woe to us! This is the Day of Judgment!"

037.021 (A voice will say,) "This is the Day of Sorting Out, whose truth ye (once) denied!"

037.022 "Bring ye up", it shall be said, "The wrong-doers and their wives, and the things they worshipped-

037.023 "Besides God, and lead them to the Way to the (Fierce) Fire!

037.024 "But stop them, for they must be asked:

037.025 "'What is the matter with you that ye help not each other?'"

037.026 Nay, but that day they shall submit (to Judgment);

037.027 And they will turn to one another, and question one another.

037.028 They will say: "It was ye who used to come to us from the right hand (of power and authority)!"

037.029 They will reply: "Nay, ye yourselves had no Faith!

037.030 "Nor had we any authority over you. Nay, it was ye who were a people in obstinate rebellion!

037.031 "So now has been proved true, against us, the word of our Lord that we shall indeed (have to) taste (the punishment of our sins).

037.032 "We led you astray: for truly we were ourselves astray."

037.033 Truly, that Day, they will (all) share in the Penalty.

037.034 Verily that is how We shall deal with Sinners.

037.035 For they, when they were told that there is no god except God, would puff themselves up with Pride,

037.036 And say: "What! shall we give up our gods for the sake of a Poet possessed?"

037.037 Nay! he has come with the (very) Truth, and he confirms (the Message of) the apostles (before him).

037.038 Ye shall indeed taste of the Grievous Penalty;-

037.039 But it will be no more than the retribution of (the Evil) that ye have wrought;-

037.040 But the sincere (and devoted) Servants of God,-

037.041 For them is a Sustenance determined,

037.042 Fruits (Delights); and they (shall enjoy) honour and dignity,

037.043 In Gardens of Felicity,

037.044 Facing each other on Thrones (of Dignity):

037.045 Round will be passed to them a Cup from a clear-flowing fountain,

037.046 Crystal-white, of a taste delicious to those who drink (thereof),

037.047 Free from headiness; nor will they suffer intoxication therefrom.

037.048 And besides them will be chaste women, restraining their glances, with big eyes (of wonder and beauty).

037.049 As if they were (delicate) eggs closely guarded.

037.050 Then they will turn to one another and question one another.

037.051 One of them will start the talk and say: "I had an intimate companion

(on the earth),

037.052 "Who used to say, 'what! art thou amongst those who bear witness to the Truth (of the Message)?

037.053 "'When we die and become dust and bones, shall we indeed receive rewards and punishments?'"

037.054 (A voice) said: "Would ye like to look down?"

037.055 He looked down and saw him in the midst of the Fire.

037.056 He said: "By God! thou wast little short of bringing me to perdition!

037.057 "Had it not been for the Grace of my Lord, I should certainly have been among those brought (there)!

037.058 "Is it (the case) that we shall not die,

037.059 "Except our first death, and that we shall not be punished?"

037.060 Verily this is the supreme achievement!

037.061 For the like of this let all strive, who wish to strive.

037.062 Is that the better entertainment or the Tree of Zaqqum?

037.063 For We have truly made it (as) a trial for the wrong-doers.

037.064 For it is a tree that springs out of the bottom of Hell-Fire:

037.065 The shoots of its fruit-stalks are like the heads of devils:

037.066 Truly they will eat thereof and fill their bellies therewith.

037.067 Then on top of that they will be given a mixture made of boiling water.

037.068 Then shall their return be to the (Blazing) Fire.

037.069 Truly they found their fathers on the wrong Path;

037.070 So they (too) were rushed down on their footsteps!

037.071 And truly before them, many of the ancients went astray;-

037.072 But We sent aforetime, among them, (apostles) to admonish them;-

037.073 Then see what was the end of those who were admonished (but heeded not),-

037.074 Except the sincere (and devoted) Servants of God.

037.075 (In the days of old), Noah cried to Us, and We are the best to hear prayer.

037.076 And We delivered him and his people from the Great Calamity,

037.077 And made his progeny to endure (on this earth);

037.078 And We left (this blessing) for him among generations to come in later

times:

037.079 "Peace and salutation to Noah among the nations!"

037.080 Thus indeed do we reward those who do right.

037.081 For he was one of our believing Servants.

037.082 Then the rest we overwhelmed in the Flood.

037.083 Verily among those who followed his Way was Abraham.

037.084 Behold! he approached his Lord with a sound heart.

037.085 Behold! he said to his father and to his people, "What is that which ye worship?

037.086 "Is it a falsehoodÑgods other than GodÑthat ye desire?

037.087 "Then what is your idea about the Lord of the worlds?"

037.088 Then did he cast a glance at the Stars.

037.089 And he said, "I am indeed sick (at heart)!"

037.090 So they turned away from him, and departed.

037.091 Then did he turn to their gods and said, "will ye not eat (of the offerings before you)?...

037.092 "What is the matter with you that ye speak not (intelligently)?"

037.093 Then did he turn upon them, striking (them) with the right hand.

037.094 Then came (the worshippers) with hurried steps, and faced (him).

037.095 He said: "Worship ye that which ye have (yourselves) carved?

037.096 "But God has created you and your handwork!"

037.097 They said, "Build him a furnace, and throw him into the blazing fire!"

037.098 (This failing), they then sought a stratagem against him, but We made them the ones most humiliated!

037.099 He said: "I will go to my Lord! He will surely guide me!

037.100 "O my Lord! Grant me a righteous (son)!"

037.101 So We gave him the good news of a boy ready to suffer and forbear.

037.102 Then, when (the son) reached (the age of) (serious) work with him, he said: "O my son! I see in vision that I offer thee in sacrifice: Now see what is thy view!" (The son) said: "O my father! Do as thou art commanded: thou will find me, if God so wills one practising Patience and Constancy!"

037.103 So when they had both submitted their wills (to God), and he had laid him prostrate on his forehead (for sacrifice),

037.104 We called out to him "O Abraham!

037.105 "Thou hast already fulfilled the vision!"Ñthus indeed do We reward those who do right.

037.106 For this was obviously a trial-

037.107 And We ransomed him with a momentous sacrifice:

037.108 And We left (this blessing) for him among generations (to come) in later times:

037.109 "Peace and salutation to Abraham!"

037.110 Thus indeed do We reward those who do right.

037.111 For he was one of our believing Servants.

037.112 And We gave him the good news of IsaacÑa prophet,Ñone of the Righteous.

037.113 We blessed him and Isaac: but of their progeny are (some) that do right, and (some) that obviously do wrong, to their own souls.

037.114 Again (of old) We bestowed Our favour on Moses and Aaron,

037.115 And We delivered them and their people from (their) Great Calamity;

037.116 And We helped them, so they overcame (their troubles);

037.117 And We gave them the Book which helps to make things clear;

037.118 And We guided them to the Straight Way.

037.119 And We left (this blessing) for them among generations (to come) in later times:

037.120 "Peace and salutation to Moses and Aaron!"

037.121 Thus indeed do We reward those who do right.

037.122 For they were two of our believing Servants.

037.123 So also was Elias among those sent (by Us).

037.124 Behold, he said to his people, "Will ye not fear (God)?

037.125 "Will ye call upon Baal and forsake the Best of Creators,-

037.126 "God, your Lord and Cherisher and the Lord and Cherisher of your fathers of old?"

037.127 But they rejected him, and they will certainly be called up (for punishment),-

037.128 Except the sincere and devoted Servants of God (among them).

037.129 And We left (this blessing) for him among generations (to come) in later times:

037.130 "Peace and salutation to such as Elias!"

037.131 Thus indeed do We reward those who do right.

037.132 For he was one of our believing Servants.

037.133 So also was Lut among those sent (by Us).

037.134 Behold, We delivered him and his adherents, all

037.135 Except an old woman who was among those who lagged behind:

037.136 Then We destroyed the rest.

037.137 Verily, ye pass by their (sites), by day-

037.138 And by night: will ye not understand?

037.139 So also was Jonah among those sent (by Us).

037.140 When he ran away (like a slave from captivity) to the ship (fully) laden,

037.141 He (agreed to) cast lots, and he was condemned:

037.142 Then the big Fish did swallow him, and he had done acts worthy of blame.

037.143 Had it not been that he (repented and) glorified God,

037.144 He would certainly have remained inside the Fish till the Day of Resurrection.

037.145 But We cast him forth on the naked shore in a state of sickness,

037.146 And We caused to grow, over him, a spreading plant of the gourd kind.

037.147 And We sent him (on a mission) to a hundred thousand (men) or more.

037.148 And they believed; so We permitted them to enjoy (their life) for a while.

037.149 Now ask them their opinion: Is it that thy Lord has (only) daughters, and they have sons?-

037.150 Or that We created the angels female, and they are witnesses (thereto)?

037.151 Is it not that they say, from their own invention,

037.152 "God has begotten children"? but they are liars!

037.153 Did He (then) choose daughters rather than sons?

037.154 What is the matter with you? How judge ye?

037.155 Will ye not then receive admonition?

037.156 Or have ye an authority manifest?

037.157 Then bring ye your Book (of authority) if ye be truthful!

037.158 And they have invented a blood-relationship between Him and the Jinns:

but the Jinns know (quite well) that they have indeed to appear (before his Judgment-Seat)!

037.159 Glory to God! (He is free) from the things they ascribe (to Him)!

037.160 Not (so do) the Servants of God, sincere and devoted.

037.161 For, verily, neither ye nor those ye worship-

037.162 Can lead (any) into temptation concerning God,

037.163 Except such as are (themselves) going to the blazing Fire!

037.164 (Those ranged in ranks say): "Not one of us but has a place appointed;

037.165 "And we are verily ranged in ranks (for service);

037.166 "And we are verily those who declare (God's) glory!"

037.167 And there were those who said,

037.168 "If only we had had before us a Message from those of old,

037.169 "We should certainly have been Servants of God, sincere (and devoted)!"

037.170 But (now that the Qur'an has come), they reject it: But soon will they know!

037.171 Already has Our Word been passed before (this) to our Servants sent (by Us),

037.172 That they would certainly be assisted,

037.173 And that Our forces,Ñthey surely must conquer.

037.174 So turn thou away from them for a little while,

037.175 And watch them (how they fare), and they soon shall see (how thou farest)!

037.176 Do they wish (indeed) to hurry on our Punishment?

037.177 But when it descends into the open space before them, evil will be the morning for those who were warned (and heeded not)!

037.178 So turn thou away from them for a little while,

037.179 And watch (how they fare) and they soon shall see (how thou farest)!

037.180 Glory to thy Lord, the Lord of Honour and Power! (He is free) from what they ascribe (to Him)!

037.181 And Peace on the apostles!

037.182 And Praise to God, the Lord and Cherisher of the Worlds.

SAD, (THE LETTER) SAD (S),
CHAPTER NO. 038

038.001 Sad: By the Qur'an, Full of Admonition: (This is the Truth).

038.002 But the Unbelievers (are steeped) in self-glory and Separatism.

038.003 How many generations before them did We destroy? In the end they cried (for mercy)Ñwhen there was no longer time for being saved!

038.004 So they wonder that a Warner has come to them from among themselves! and the Unbelievers say, "This is a sorcerer telling lies!

038.005 "Has he made the gods (all) into one God? Truly this is a wonderful thing!"

038.006 And the leader among them go away (impatiently), (saying), "Walk ye away, and remain constant to your gods! For this is truly a thing designed (against you)!

038.007 "We never heard (the like) of this among the people of these latter days: this is nothing but a made-up tale!"

038.008 "What! has the Message been sent to himÑ(Of all persons) among us?"...but they are in doubt concerning My (Own) Message! Nay, they have not yet tasted My Punishment!

038.009 Or have they the treasures of the mercy of thy Lord,Ñthe Exalted in Power, the Grantor of Bounties without measure?

038.010 Or have they the dominion of the heavens and the earth and all between? If so, let them mount up with the ropes and means (to reach that end)!

038.011 But thereÑwill be put to flight even a host of confederates.

038.012 Before them (were many who) rejected apostles,Ñthe people of Noah, and 'Ad, and Pharaoh, the Lord of Stakes,

038.013 And Thamud, and the people of Lut, and the Companions of the Wood;Ñsuch were the Confederates.

038.014 Not one (of them) but rejected the apostles, but My punishment came justly and inevitably (on them).

038.015 These (today) only wait for a single mighty Blast, which (when it comes) will brook no delay.

038.016 They say: "Our Lord! hasten to us our sentence (even) before the Day of Account!"

038.017 Have patience at what they say, and remember our servant David, the man of strength: for he ever turned (to God).

038.018 It was We that made the hills declare, in unison with him, Our Praises, at eventide and at break of day,

038.019 And the birds gathered (in assemblies): all with him did turn (to God).

038.020 We strengthened his kingdom, and gave him wisdom and sound judgment in speech and decision.

038.021 Has the Story of the Disputants reached thee? Behold, they climbed over the wall of the private chamber;

038.022 When they entered the presence of David, and he was terrified of them, they said: "Fear not: we are two disputants, one of whom has wronged the other: Decide now between us with truth, and treat us not with injustice, but guide us to the even Path..

038.023 "This man is my brother: He has nine and ninety ewes, and I have (but) one: Yet he says, 'commit her to my care,' and is (moreover) harsh to me in speech."

038.024 (David) said: "He has undoubtedly wronged thee in demanding thy (single) ewe to be added to his (flock of) ewes: truly many are the partners (in business) who wrong each other: Not so do those who believe and work deeds of righteousness, and how few are they?"...and David gathered that We had tried him: he asked forgiveness of his Lord, fell down, bowing (in prostration), and turned (to God in repentance).

038.025 So We forgave him this (lapse): he enjoyed, indeed, a Near Approach to Us, and a beautiful place of (Final) Return.

038.026 O David! We did indeed make thee a vicegerent on earth: so judge thou between men in truth (and justice): Nor follow thou the lusts (of thy heart), for they will mislead thee from the Path of God: for those who wander astray from the Path of God, is a Penalty Grievous, for that they forget the Day of Account.

038.027 Not without purpose did We create heaven and earth and all between! that were the thought of Unbelievers! but woe to the Unbelievers because of the Fire (of Hell)!

038.028 Shall We treat those who believe and work deeds of righteousness, the same as those who do mischief on earth? Shall We treat those who guard against evil, the same as those who turn aside from the right?

038.029 (Here is) a Book which We have sent down unto thee, full of blessings, that they may mediate on its Signs, and that men of understanding may receive admonition.

038.030 To David We gave Solomon (for a son),ÑHow excellent in Our service! Ever did he turn (to Us)!

038.031 Behold, there were brought before him, at eventide coursers of the highest breeding, and swift of foot;

038.032 And he said, "Truly do I love the love of good, with a view to the glory of my Lord,"Ñuntil (the sun) was hidden in the veil (of night):

038.033 "Bring them back to me." then began he to pass his hand over (their) legs and their necks.

038.034 And We did try Solomon: We placed on his throne a body (without life);

but he did turn (to Us in true devotion):

038.035 He said, "O my Lord! Forgive me, and grant me a kingdom which, (it may be), suits not another after me: for Thou art the Grantor of Bounties (without measure).

038.036 Then We subjected the wind to his power, to flow gently to his order, Whithersoever he willed,-

038.037 As also the evil ones, (including) every kind of builder and diver,-

038.038 As also others bound together in fetters.

038.039 "Such are Our Bounties: whether thou bestow them (on others) or withhold them, no account will be asked."

038.040 And he enjoyed, indeed, a Near Approach to Us, and a beautiful Place of (Final) Return.

038.041 Commemorate Our Servant Job. Behold he cried to his Lord: "The Evil One has afflicted me with distress and suffering!"

038.042 (The command was given:) "Strike with thy foot: here is (water) wherein to wash, cool and refreshing, and (water) to drink."

038.043 And We gave him (back) his people, and doubled their number,Ñas a Grace from Ourselves, and a thing for commemoration, for all who have Understanding.

038.044 "And take in thy hand a little grass, and strike therewith: and break not (thy oath)." Truly We found him full of patience and constancy. How excellent in Our service! ever did he turn (to Us)!

038.045 And commemorate Our Servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, possessors of Power and Vision.

038.046 Verily We did choose them for a special (purpose)Ñproclaiming the Message of the Hereafter.

038.047 They were, in Our sight, truly, of the company of the Elect and the Good.

038.048 And commemorate Isma'il, Elisha, and Zul-Kifl: Each of them was of the Company of the Good.

038.049 This is a Message (of admonition): and verily, for the righteous, is a beautiful Place of (Final) Return,-

038.050 Gardens of Eternity, whose doors will (ever) be open to them;

038.051 Therein will they recline (at ease): Therein can they call (at pleasure) for fruit in abundance, and (delicious) drink;

038.052 And beside them will be chaste women restraining their glances, (companions) of equal age.

038.053 Such is the Promise made, to you for the Day of Account!

038.054 Truly such will be Our Bounty (to you); it will never fail;-

038.055 Yea, such! butÑfor the wrong-doers will be an evil place of (Final) Return!-

038.056 Hell!Ñthey will burn therein,Ñan evil bed (indeed, to lie on)!-

038.057 Yea, such!Ñthen shall they taste it,Ña boiling fluid, and a fluid dark, murky, intensely cold!-

038.058 And other Penalties of a similar kind, to match them!

038.059 Here is a troop rushing headlong with you! No welcome for them! truly, they shall burn in the Fire!

038.060 (The followers shall cry to the misleaders:) "Nay, ye (too)! No welcome for you! It is ye who have brought this upon us! Now evil is (this) place to stay in!"

038.061 They will say: "Our Lord! whoever brought this upon us,ÑAdd to him a double Penalty in the Fire!"

038.062 And they will say: "What has happened to us that we see not men whom we used to number among the bad ones?

038.063 "Did we treat them (as such) in ridicule, or have (our) eyes failed to perceive them?"

038.064 Truly that is just and fitting,Ñthe mutual recriminations of the People of the Fire!

038.065 Say: "Truly am I a Warner: no god is there but the one God, Supreme and Irresistible,-

038.066 "The Lord of the heavens and the earth, and all between,ÑExalted in Might, able to enforce His Will, forgiving again and again."

038.067 Say: "That is a Message Supreme (above all),-

038.068 "From which ye do turn away!

038.069 "No knowledge have I of the Chiefs on high, when they discuss (matters) among themselves.

038.070 'Only this has been revealed to me: that I am to give warning plainly and publicly."

038.071 Behold, thy Lord said to the angels: "I am about to create man from clay:

038.072 "When I have fashioned him (in due proportion) and breathed into him of My spirit, fall ye down in obeisance unto him."

038.073 So the angels prostrated themselves, all of them together:

038.074 Not so Iblis: he was haughty, and became one of those who reject Faith.

038.075 (God) said: "O Iblis! What prevents thee from prostrating thyself to one whom I have created with my hands? Art thou haughty? Or art thou one of the high (and mighty) ones?"

038.076 (Iblis) said: "I am better than he: thou createdst me from fire, and him thou createdst from clay."

038.077 (God) said: "Then get thee out from here: for thou art rejected, accursed.

038.078 "And My curse shall be on thee till the Day of Judgment."

038.079 (Iblis) said: "O my Lord! Give me then respite till the Day the (dead) are raised."

038.080 (God) said: "Respite then is granted thee-

038.081 "Till the Day of the Time Appointed."

038.082 (Iblis) said: "Then, by Thy power, I will put them all in the wrong,-

038.083 "Except Thy Servants amongst them, sincere and purified (by Thy Grace)."

038.084 (God) said: "Then it is just and fittingÑand I say what is just and fitting-

038.085 "That I will certainly fill Hell with thee and those that follow thee,Ñevery one."

038.086 Say: "No reward do I ask of you for this (Qur'an), nor am I a pretender.

038.087 "This is no less than a Message to (all) the Worlds.

038.088 "And ye shall certainly know the truth of it (all) after a while."

THE TROOPS, THRONGS,
CHAPTER NO. 039

039.001 The revelation of this Book is from God, the Exalted in Power, full of Wisdom.

039.002 Verily it is We Who have revealed the Book to thee in Truth: so serve God, offering Him sincere devotion.

039.003 Is it not to God that sincere devotion is due? But those who take for protectors other than God (say): "We only serve them in order that they may bring us nearer to God." Truly God will judge between them in that wherein they differ. But God guides not such as are false and ungrateful.

039.004 Had God wished to take to Himself a son, He could have chosen whom He pleased out of those whom He doth create: but Glory be to Him! (He is above such things.) He is God, the One, the Irresistible.

039.005 He created the heavens and the earth in true (proportions): He makes the Night overlap the Day, and the Day overlap the Night: He has subjected the sun and the moon (to His law): Each one follows a course for a time appointed. Is not He the Exalted in PowerÑHe Who forgives again and again?

039.006 He created you (all) from a single person: then created, of like nature, his mate; and he sent down for you eight head of cattle in pairs: He makes you, in the wombs of your mothers, in stages, one after another, in three veils of darkness. such is God, your Lord and Cherisher: to Him belongs (all) dominion. There is no god but He: then how are ye turned away (from your true Centre)?

039.007 If ye reject (God), Truly God hath no need of you; but He liketh not ingratitude from His servants: if ye are grateful, He is pleased with you. No bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another. In the end, to your Lord is your Return, when He will tell you the truth of all that ye did (in this life). for He knoweth well all that is in (men's) hearts.

039.008 When some trouble toucheth man, he crieth unto his Lord, turning to Him in repentance: but when He bestoweth a favour upon him as from Himself, (man) doth forget what he cried and prayed for before, and he doth set up rivals unto God, thus misleading others from God's Path. Say, "Enjoy thy blasphemy for a little while: verily thou art (one) of the Companions of the Fire!"

039.009 Is one who worships devoutly during the hour of the night prostrating himself or standing (in adoration), who takes heed of the Hereafter, and who places his hope in the Mercy of his LordÑ(like one who does not)? Say: "Are those equal, those who know and those who do not know? It is those who are endued with understanding that receive admonition.

039.010 Say: "O ye my servants who believe! Fear your Lord, good is (the reward) for those who do good in this world. Spacious is God's earth! those who patiently persevere will truly receive a reward without measure!"

039.011 Say: "Verily, I am commanded to serve God with sincere devotion;

039.012 "And I am commanded to be the first of those who bow to God in Islam."

039.013 Say: "I would, if I disobeyed my Lord, indeed have fear of the Penalty of a Mighty Day."

039.014 Say: "It is God I serve, with my sincere (and exclusive) devotion:

039.015 "Serve ye what ye will besides him." Say: "Truly, those in loss are those who lose their own souls and their People on the Day of Judgment: Ah! that is indeed the (real and) evident Loss!

039.016 They shall have Layers of Fire above them, and Layers (of Fire) below them: with this doth God warn off his servants: "O My Servants! then fear ye Me!"

039.017 Those who eschew Evil,Ñand fall not into its worship,Ñand turn to God (in repentance),Ñfor them is Good News: so announce the Good News to My

Servants,-

039.018 Those who listen to the Word, and follow the best (meaning) in it: those are the ones whom God has guided, and those are the ones endued with understanding.

039.019 Is, then, one against whom the decree of Punishment is justly due (equal to one who eschews Evil)? Wouldst thou, then, deliver one (who is) in the Fire?

039.020 But it is for those who fear their Lord. That lofty mansions, one above another, have been built: beneath them flow rivers (of delight): (such is) the Promise of God: never doth God fail in (His) promise.

039.021 Seest thou not that God sends down rain from the sky, and leads it through springs in the earth? Then He causes to grow, therewith, produce of various colours: then it withers; thou wilt see it grow yellow; then He makes it dry up and crumble away. Truly, in this, is a Message of remembrance to men of understanding.

039.022 Is one whose heart God has opened to Islam, so that he has received Enlightenment from God, (no better than one hard-hearted)? Woe to those whose hearts are hardened against celebrating the praises of God! they are manifestly wandering (in error)!

039.023 God has revealed (from time to time) the most beautiful Message in the form of a Book, consistent with itself, (yet) repeating (its teaching in various aspects): the skins of those who fear their Lord tremble thereat; then their skins and their hearts do soften to the celebration of God's praises. Such is the guidance of God: He guides therewith whom He pleases, but such as God leaves to stray, can have none to guide.

039.024 Is, then, one who has to fear the brunt of the Penalty on the Day of Judgment (and receive it) on his face, (like one guarded therefrom)? It will be said to the wrong-doers: "Taste ye (the fruits of) what ye earned!"

039.025 Those before them (also) rejected (revelation), and so the Punishment came to them from directions they did not perceive.

039.026 So God gave them a taste of humiliation in the present life, but greater is the punishment of the Hereafter, if they only knew!

039.027 We have put forth for men, in this Qur'an every kind of Parable, in order that they may receive admonition.

039.028 (It is) a Qur'an in Arabic, without any crookedness (therein): in order that they may guard against Evil.

039.029 God puts forth a Parable a man belonging to many partners at variance with each other, and a man belonging entirely to one master: are those two equal in comparison? Praise be to God! but most of them have no knowledge.

039.030 Truly thou wilt die (one day), and truly they (too) will die (one day).

039.031 In the end will ye (all), on the Day of Judgment, settle your disputes in the presence of your Lord.

039.032 Who, then, doth more wrong than one who utters a lie concerning God, and rejects the Truth when it comes to him; is there not in Hell an abode for blasphemers?

039.033 And he who brings the Truth and he who confirms (and supports) itÑsuch are the men who do right.

039.034 They shall have all that they wish for, in the presence of their Lord: such is the reward of those who do good:

039.035 So that God will turn off from them (even) the worst in their deeds and give them their reward according to the best of what they have done.

039.036 Is not God enough for his Servant? But they try to frighten thee with other (gods) besides Him! for such as God leaves to stray, there can be no guide.

039.037 And such as God doth guide there can be none to lead astray. Is not God Exalted in Power, (Able to enforce His Will), Lord of Retribution?

039.038 If indeed thou ask them who it is that created the heavens and the earth, they would be sure to say, "God". Say: "See ye then? the things that ye invoke besides God,Ñcan they, if God wills some Penalty for me, remove His Penalty?ÑOr if He wills some Grace for me, can they keep back his Grace?" Say: "Sufficient is God for me! In Him trust those who put their trust."

039.039 Say: "O my People! Do whatever ye can: I will do (my part): but soon will ye know-

039.040 "Who it is to whom comes a Penalty of ignominy, and on whom descends a Penalty that abides."

039.041 Verily We have revealed the Book to thee in Truth, for (instructing) mankind. He, then, that receives guidance benefits his own soul: but he that strays injures his own soul. Nor art thou set over them to dispose of their affairs.

039.042 It is God that takes the souls (of men) at death; and those that die not (He takes) during their sleep: those on whom He has passed the decree of death, He keeps back (from returning to life), but the rest He sends (to their bodies) for a term appointed verily in this are Signs for those who reflect.

039.043 What! Do they take for intercessors others besides God? Say: "Even if they have no power whatever and no intelligence?"

039.044 Say: "To God belongs exclusively (the right to grant) intercession: to Him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: In the End, it is to Him that ye shall be brought back."

039.045 When God, the One and Only, is mentioned, the hearts of those who believe not in the Hereafter are filled with disgust and horror; but when

(gods) other than He are mentioned, behold, they are filled with joy!

039.046 Say: "O God! Creator of the heavens and the earth! Knower of all that is hidden and open! it is Thou that wilt judge between Thy Servants in those matters about which they have differed."

039.047 Even if the wrong-doers had all that there is on earth, and as much more, (in vain) would they offer it for ransom from the pain of the Penalty on the Day of Judgment: but something will confront them from God, which they could never have counted upon!

039.048 For the evils of their Deeds will confront them, and they will be (completely) encircled by that which they used to mock at!

039.049 Now, when trouble touches man, he cries to Us: But when We bestow a favour upon him as from Ourselves, he says, "This has been given to me because of a certain knowledge (I have)!" Nay, but this is but a trial, but most of them understand not!

039.050 Thus did the (generations) before them say! But all that they did was of no profit to them.

039.051 Nay, the evil results of their Deeds overtook them. And the wrong-doers of this (generation)Ñthe evil results of their Deeds will soon overtake them (too), and they will never be able to frustrate (Our Plan)!

039.052 Know they not that God enlarges the provision or restricts it, for any He pleases? Verily, in this are Signs for those who believe!

039.053 Say: "O my Servants who have transgressed against their souls! Despair not of the Mercy of God: for God forgives all sins: for He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

039.054 "Turn ye to our Lord (in repentance) and bow to His (Will), before the Penalty comes on you: after that ye shall not be helped.

039.055 "And follow the best of (the courses) revealed to you from your Lord, before the Penalty comes on youÑof a sudden while ye perceive not!-

039.056 "Lest the soul should (then) say: 'Ah! Woe is me!ÑIn that I neglected (my duty) towards God, and was but among those who mocked!'-

039.057 "Or (lest) it should say: 'If only God had guided me, I should certainly have been among the righteous!'-

039.058 "Or (lest) it should say when it (actually) sees the penalty: 'If only I had another chance, I should certainly be among those who do good!'

039.059 "(The reply will be:) 'Nay, but there came to thee my Signs, and thou didst reject them: thou wast Haughty, and became one of those who reject faith!'"

039.060 On the Day of Judgment wilt thou see those who told lies against God;Ñtheir faces will be turned black; Is there not in Hell an abode for the

Haughty?

039.061 But God will deliver the righteous to their place of salvation: no evil shall touch them, nor shall they grieve.

039.062 God is the Creator of all things, and He is the Guardian and Disposer of all affairs.

039.063 To Him belong the keys of the heavens and the earth: and those who reject the Signs of God,Ñit is they who will be in loss.

039.064 Say: "Is it some one other than God that ye order me to worship, O ye ignorant ones?"

039.065 But it has already been revealed to thee,Ñas it was to those before thee,Ñ"If thou wert to join (gods with God), truly fruitless will be thy work (in life), and thou wilt surely be in the ranks of those who lose (all spiritual good)".

039.066 Nay, but worship God, and be of those who give thanks.

039.067 No just estimate have they made of God, such as is due to Him: On the Day of Judgment the whole of the earth will be but His handful, and the heavens will be rolled up in His right hand: Glory to Him! High is He above the Partners they attribute to Him!

039.068 The Trumpet will (just) be sounded, when all that are in the heavens and on earth will swoon, except such as it will please God (to exempt). Then will a second one be sounded, when, behold, they will be standing and looking on!

039.069 And the Earth will shine with the Glory of its Lord: the Record (of Deeds) will be placed (open); the prophets and the witnesses will be brought forward and a just decision pronounced between them; and they will not be wronged (in the least).

039.070 And to every soul will be paid in full (the fruit) of its Deeds; and (God) knoweth best all that they do.

039.071 The Unbelievers will be led to Hell in crowd: until, when they arrive, there, its gates will be opened. And its keepers will say, "Did not apostles come to you from among yourselves, rehearsing to you the Signs of your Lord, and warning you of the Meeting of This Day of yours?" The answer will be: "True: but the Decree of Punishment has been proved true against the Unbelievers!"

039.072 (To them) will be said: "Enter ye the gates of Hell, to dwell therein: and evil is (this) Abode of the Arrogant!"

039.073 And those who feared their Lord will be led to the Garden in crowds: until behold, they arrive there; its gates will be opened; and its keepers will say: "Peace be upon you! well have ye done! enter ye here, to dwell therein."

039.074 They will say: "Praise be to God, Who has truly fulfilled His Promise to us, and has given us (this) land in heritage: We can dwell in the Garden as we will: how excellent a reward for those who work (righteousness)!"

039.075 And thou wilt see the angels surrounding the Throne (Divine) on all sides, singing Glory and Praise to their Lord. The Decision between them (at Judgment) will be in (perfect) justice, and the cry (on all sides) will be, "Praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds!"

THE BELIEVER, THE FORGIVER (GOD),
CHAPTER NO. 040

040.001 Ha Mim

040.002 The revelation of this Book is from God, Exalted in Power, Full of Knowledge,-

040.003 Who forgiveth sin, accepteth repentance, is strict in punishment, and hath a long reach (in all things). there is no god but He: to Him is the final goal.

040.004 None can dispute about the Signs of God but the Unbelievers. Let not, then, their strutting about through the land deceive thee!

040.005 But (there were people) before them, who denied (the Signs),Ñthe People of Noah, and the Confederates (of Evil) after them; and every People plotted against their prophet, to seize him, and disputed by means of vanities, therewith to condemn the Truth; but it was I that seized them! and how (terrible) was My Requital!

040.006 Thus was the Decree of thy Lord proved true against the Unbelievers; that truly they are Companions of the Fire!

040.007 Those who sustain the Throne (of God) and those around it Sing Glory and Praise to their Lord; believe in Him; and implore Forgiveness for those who believe: "Our Lord! Thy Reach is over all things, in Mercy and Knowledge. Forgive, then, those who turn in Repentance, and follow Thy Path; and preserve them from the Penalty of the Blazing Fire!

040.008 "And grant, our Lord! that they enter the Gardens of Eternity, which Thou hast promised to them, and to the righteous among their fathers, their wives, and their posterity! For Thou art (He), the Exalted in Might, Full of Wisdom.

040.009 "And preserve them from (all) ills; and any whom Thou dost preserve from ills that Day,Ñon them wilt Thou have bestowed Mercy indeed: and that will be truly (for them) the highest Achievement".

040.010 The Unbelievers will be addressed: "Greater was the aversion of God to you than (is) your aversion to yourselves, seeing that ye were called to the Faith and ye used to refuse."

040.011 They will say: "Our Lord! twice hast Thou made us without life, and

twice hast Thou given us Life! Now have we recognised our sins: Is there any way out (of this)?"

040.012 (The answer will be:) "This is because, when God was invoked as the Only (object of worship), ye did reject Faith, but when partners were joined to Him, ye believed! the Command is with God, Most High, Most Great!"

040.013 He it is Who showeth you his Signs, and sendeth down sustenance for you from the sky: but only those receive admonition who turn (to God).

040.014 Call ye, then, upon God with sincere devotion to Him, even though the Unbelievers may detest it.

040.015 Raised high above ranks (or degrees), (He is) the Lord of the Throne (of Authority): by His Command doth He send the Spirit (of inspiration) to any of His servants he pleases, that it may warn (men) of the Day of Mutual Meeting,-

040.016 The Day whereon they will (all) come forth: not a single thing concerning them is hidden from God. Whose will be the dominion that Day?" That of God, the One the Irresistible!

040.017 That Day will every soul be requited for what it earned; no injustice will there be that Day, for God is Swift in taking account.

040.018 Warn them of the Day that is (ever) drawing near, when the hearts will (come) right up to the throats to choke (them); No intimate friend nor intercessor will the wrong-doers have, who could be listened to.

040.019 (God) knows of (the tricks) that deceive with the eyes, and all that the hearts (of men) conceal.

040.020 And God will judge with (justice and) Truth: but those whom (men) invoke besides Him, will not (be in a position) to judge at all. Verily it is God (alone) Who hears and sees (all things).

040.021 Do they not travel through the earth and see what was the End of those before them? They were even superior to them in strength, and in the traces (they have left) in the land: but God did call them to account for their sins, and none had they to defend them against God.

040.022 That was because there came to them their apostles with Clear (Signs), but they rejected them: So God called them to account: for He is Full of Strength, Strict in Punishment.

040.023 Of old We sent Moses, with Our Signs and an authority manifest,

040.024 To Pharaoh, Haman, and Qarun; but they called (him)" a sorcerer telling lies!"...

040.025 Now, when he came to them in Truth, from Us, they said, "Slay the sons of those who believe with him, and keep alive their females," but the plots of Unbelievers (end) in nothing but errors (and delusions)!...

040.026 Said Pharaoh: "Leave me to slay Moses; and let him call on his Lord! What I fear is lest he should change your religion, or lest he should cause mischief to appear in the land!"

040.027 Moses said: "I have indeed called upon my Lord and your Lord (for protection) from every arrogant one who believes not in the Day of Account!"

040.028 A believer, a man from among the people of Pharaoh, who had concealed his faith, said: "Will ye slay a man because he says, 'My Lord is God'?Ñwhen he has indeed come to you with Clear (Signs) from your Lord? and if he be a liar, on him is (the sin of) his lie: but, if he is telling the Truth, then will fall on you something of the (calamity) of which he warns you: Truly God guides not one who transgresses and lies!

040.029 "O my People! Yours is the dominion this day: Ye have the upper hand in the land: but who will help us from the Punishment of God, should it befall us?" Pharaoh said: "I but point out to you that which I see (myself); Nor do I guide you but to the Path of Right!"

040.030 Then said the man who believed: "O my people! Truly I do fear for you something like the Day (of disaster) of the Confederates (in sin)!-

040.031 "Something like the fate of the People of Noah, the 'Ad, and the Thamud, and those who came after them: but God never wishes injustice to his Servants.

040.032 "And O my people! I fear for you a Day when there will be Mutual calling (and wailing),-

040.033 "A Day when ye shall turn your backs and flee: No defender shall ye have from God: Any whom God leaves to stray, there is none to guide...

040.034 "And to you there came Joseph in times gone by, with Clear Signs, but ye ceased not to doubt of the (Mission) for which he had come: At length, when he died, ye said: 'No apostle will God send after him.' thus doth God leave to stray such as transgress and live in doubt,-

040.035 "(Such) as dispute about the Signs of God, without any authority that hath reached them, grievous and odious (is such conduct) in the sight of God and of the Believers. Thus doth God, seal up every heartÑof arrogant and obstinate Transgressors."

040.036 Pharaoh said: "O Haman! Build me a lofty palace, that I may attain the ways and means-

040.037 "The ways and means of (reaching) the heavens, and that I may mount up to the God of Moses: But as far as I am concerned, I think (Moses) is a liar!" Thus was made alluring, in Pharaoh's eyes, the evil of his deeds, and he was hindered from the Path; and the plot of Pharaoh led to nothing but perdition (for him).

040.038 The man who believed said further: "O my people! Follow me: I will lead you to the Path of Right.

040.039 "O my people! This life of the present is nothing but (temporary) convenience: It is the Hereafter that is the Home that will last.

040.040 "He that works evil will not be requited but by the like thereof: and he that works a righteous deedÑwhether man or womanÑand is a BelieverÑsuch will enter the Garden (of Bliss): Therein will they have abundance without measure.

040.041 "And O my people! How (strange) it is for me to call you to Salvation while ye call me to the Fire!

040.042 "Ye do call upon me to blaspheme against God, and to join with Him partners of whom I have no knowledge; and I call you to the Exalted in Power, Who forgives again and again!"

040.043 "Without doubt ye do call me to one who is not fit to be called to, whether in this world, or in the Hereafter; our return will be to God; and the Transgressors will be Companions of the Fire!

040.044 "Soon will ye remember what I say to you (now), My (own) affair I commit to God: for God (ever) watches over His Servants."

040.045 Then God saved him from (every) ill that they plotted (against him), but the burnt of the Penalty encompassed on all sides the People of Pharaoh.

040.046 In front of the Fire will they be brought, morning and evening: And (the sentence will be) on the Day that Judgment will be established: "Cast ye the People of Pharaoh into the severest Penalty!"

040.047 Behold, they will dispute with each other in the Fire! The weak ones (who followed) will say to those who had been arrogant, "We but followed you: Can ye then take (on yourselves) from us some share of the Fire?

040.048 Those who had been arrogant will say: "We are all in this (Fire)! Truly, God has judged between (his) Servants!"

040.049 Those in the Fire will say to the Keepers of Hell: "Pray to your Lord to lighten us the Penalty for a day (at least)!"

040.050 They will say: "Did there not come to you your apostles with Clear Signs?" They will say, "Yes". They will reply, "Then pray (as ye like)! But the prayer of those without Faith is nothing but (futile wandering) in (mazes of) error!"

040.051 We will, without doubt, help our apostles and those who believe, (both) in this world's life and on the Day when the Witnesses will stand forth,-

040.052 The Day when no profit will it be to Wrong-doers to present their excuses, but they will (only) have the Curse and the Home of Misery.

040.053 We did aforetime give Moses the (Book of) Guidance, and We gave the book in inheritance to the Children of Israel,-

040.054 A Guide and a Message to men of Understanding.

040.055 Patiently, then, persevere: for the Promise of God is true: and ask forgiveness for thy fault, and celebrate the Praises of thy Lord in the evening and in the morning.

040.056 Those who dispute about the signs of God without any authority bestowed on them,Ñthere is nothing in their breasts but (the quest of) greatness, which they shall never attain to: seek refuge, then, in God: It is He Who hears and sees (all things).

040.057 Assuredly the creation of the heavens and the earth is a greater (matter) than the creation of men: Yet most men understand not.

040.058 Not equal are the blind and those who (clearly) see: Nor are (equal) those who believe and work deeds of righteousness, and those who do evil. Little do ye learn by admonition!

040.059 The Hour will certainly come: Therein is no doubt: Yet most men believe not.

040.060 And your Lord says: "Call on Me; I will answer your (Prayer): but those who are too arrogant to serve Me will surely find themselves in HellÑin humiliation!"

040.061 It is God Who has made the Night for you, that ye may rest therein, and the days as that which helps (you) to see. Verily God is full of Grace and Bounty to men: yet most men give no thanks.

040.062 Such is God, your Lord, the Creator of all things, there is no god but He: Then how ye are deluded away from the Truth!

040.063 Thus are deluded those who are wont to reject the Signs of God.

040.064 It is God Who has made for you the earth as a resting place, and the sky as a canopy, and has given you shapeÑand made your shapes beautiful,Ñand has provided for you Sustenance, of things pure and good;Ñsuch is God your Lord. So Glory to God, the Lord of the Worlds!

040.065 He is the Living (One): There is no god but He: Call upon Him, giving Him sincere devotion. Praise be to God, Lord of the Worlds!

040.066 Say: "I have been forbidden to invoke those whom ye invoke besides God,Ñseeing that the Clear Sings have come to me from my Lord; and I have been commanded to bow (in Islam) to the Lord of the Worlds."

040.067 It is He Who has created you from dust then from a sperm-drop, then from a leech-like clot; then does he get you out (into the light) as a child: then lets you (grow and) reach your age of full strength; then lets you become old,Ñthough of you there are some who die before;Ñand lets you reach a Term appointed; in order that ye may learn wisdom.

040.068 It is He Who gives Life and Death; and when He decides upon an affair, He says to it, "Be", and it is.

040.069 Seest thou not those that dispute concerning the Sings of God? How are

they turned away (from Reality)?-

040.070 Those who reject the Book and the (revelations) with which We sent our apostles: but soon shall they know,-

040.071 When the yokes (shall be) round their necks, and the chains; they shall be dragged along-

040.072 In the boiling fetid fluid: then in the Fire shall they be burned;

040.073 Then shall it be said to them: "Where are the (deities) to which ye gave part-worship-

040.074 "In derogation of God?" They will reply: "They have left us in the lurch: Nay, we invoked not, of old, anything (that had real existence)." Thus does God leave the Unbelievers to stray.

040.075 "That was because ye were wont to rejoice on the earth in things other than the Truth, and that ye were wont to be insolent.

040.076 "Enter ye the gates of Hell, to dwell therein: and evil is (this) abode of the arrogant!"

040.077 So persevere in patience; for the Promise of God is true: and whether We show thee (in this life) some part of what We promise them,Ñor We take thy soul (to Our Mercy) (before that),-(in any case) it is to Us that they shall (all) return.

040.078 We did aforetime send apostles before thee: of them there are some whose story We have related to thee, and some whose story We have not related to thee. It was not (possible) for any apostle to bring a sign except by the leave of God: but when the Command of God issued, the matter was decided in truth and justice, and there perished, there and then those who stood on Falsehoods.

040.079 It is God Who made cattle for you, that ye may use some for riding and some for food;

040.080 And there are (other) advantages in them for you (besides); that ye may through them attain to any need (there may be) in your hearts; and on them and on ships ye are carried.

040.081 And He shows you (always) His Signs: then which of the Signs of God will ye deny?

040.082 Do they not travel through the earth and see what was the End of those before them? They were more numerous than these and superior in strength and in the traces (they have left) in the land: Yet all that they accomplished was of no profit to them.

040.083 For when their apostles came to them with Clear Signs, they exulted in such knowledge (and skill) as they had; but that very (Wrath) at which they were wont to scoff hemmed them in.

040.084 But when they saw Our Punishment, they said: "We believe in God,Ñthe one GodÑand we reject the partners we used to join with Him."

040.085 But their professing the Faith when they (actually) saw Our Punishment was not going to profit them. (Such has been) God's Way of dealing with His Servants (from the most ancient times). And even thus did the Rejecters of God perish (utterly)!

(SIGNS) SPELLED OUT, HA-MIM,
CHAPTER NO. 041

041.001 Ha Mim:

041.002 A Revelation from (God), Most Gracious, Most Merciful;-

041.003 A Book, whereof the verses are explained in detail;Ña Qur'an in Arabic, for people who understand;-

041.004 Giving good news and admonition: yet most of them turn away, and so they hear not.

041.005 They say: "Our hearts are under veils, (concealed) from that to which thou dost invite us, and in our ears in a deafness, and between us and thee is a screen: so do thou (what thou wilt); for us, we shall do (what we will!)"

041.006 Say thou: "I am but a man like you: It is revealed to me by Inspiration, that your God is one God: so stand true to Him, and ask for His Forgiveness." And woe to those who join gods with God,-

041.007 Those who practise not regular Charity, and who even deny the Hereafter.

041.008 For those who believe and work deeds of righteousness is a reward that will never fail.

041.009 Say: Is it that ye deny Him Who created the earth in two Days? And do ye join equals with Him? He is the Lord of (all) the Worlds.

041.010 He set on the (earth), mountains standing firm, high above it, and bestowed blessings on the earth, and measure therein all things to give them nourishment in due proportion, in four Days, in accordance with (the needs of) those who seek (Sustenance).

041.011 Moreover He comprehended in His design the sky, and it had been (as) smoke: He said to it and to the earth: "Come ye together, willingly or unwillingly." They said: "We do come (together), in willing obedience."

041.012 So He completed them as seven firmaments in two Days, and He assigned to each heaven its duty and command. And We adorned the lower heaven with lights, and (provided it) with guard. Such is the Decree of (Him) the Exalted in Might, Full of Knowledge.

041.013 But if they turn away, say thou: "I have warned you of a stunning Punishment (as of thunder and lightning) like that which (overtook) the 'Ad and

the Thamud!"

041.014 Behold, the apostles came to them, from before them and behind them, (preaching): "Serve none but God." They said, "If our Lord had so pleased, He would certainly have sent down angels (to preach). Now we reject your mission (altogether)."

041.015 Now the 'Ad behaved arrogantly through the land, against (all) truth and reason, and said: "Who is superior to us in strength?" What! did they not see that God, Who created them, was superior to them in strength? But they continued to reject Our Signs!

041.016 So We sent against them a furious Wind through days of disaster, that We might give them a taste of a Penalty of humiliation in this life; but the Penalty of a Hereafter will be more humiliating still: and they will find no help.

041.017 As to the Thamud, We gave them Guidance, but they preferred blindness (of heart) to Guidance: so the stunning Punishment of humiliation seized them, because of what they had earned.

041.018 But We delivered those who believed and practised righteousness.

041.019 On the Day that the enemies of God will be gathered together to the Fire, they will be marched in ranks.

041.020 At length, when they reach the (Fire), their hearing, their sight, and their skins will bear witness against them, as to (all) their deeds.

041.021 They will say to their skins: "Why bear ye witness against us?" They will say: "God hath given us speech,Ñ(He) Who giveth speech to everything: He created you for the first time, and unto Him were ye to return.

041.022 "Ye did not seek to hide yourselves, lest your hearing, your sight, and your skins should bear witness against you! But ye did think that God knew not many of the things that ye used to do!

041.023 "But this thought of yours which ye did entertain concerning your Lord, hath brought you to destruction, and (now) have ye become of those utterly lost!"

041.024 If, then, they have patience, the Fire will be a home for them! and if they beg to be received into favour, into favour will they not (then) be received.

041.025 And We have destined for them intimate companions (of like nature), who made alluring to them what was before them and behind them; and the sentence among the previous generations of Jinns and men, who have passed away, is proved against them; for they are utterly lost.

041.026 The Unbelievers say: "Listen not to this Qur'an, but talk at random in the midst of its (reading), that ye may gain the upper hand!"

041.027 But We will certainly give the Unbelievers a taste of a severe Penalty,

and We will requite them for the worst of their deeds.

041.028 Such is the requital of the enemies of God,Ñthe Fire: therein will be for them the Eternal Home: a (fit) requital, for that they were wont to reject Our Sings.

041.029 And the Unbelievers will say: "Our Lord! Show us those, among Jinns and men, who misled us: We shall crush them beneath our feet, so that they become the vilest (before all)."

041.030 In the case of those who say, "Our Lord is God", and, further, stand straight and steadfast, the angels descend on them (from time to time): "Fear ye not!" (they suggest), "Nor grieve! but receive the Glad Tidings of the Garden (of Bliss), the which ye were promised!

041.031 "We are your protectors in this life and in the Hereafter: therein shall ye have all that your souls shall desire; therein shall ye have all that ye ask for!-

041.032 "A hospitable gift from one Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful!"

041.033 Who is better in speech than one who calls (men) to God, works righteousness, and says, "I am of those who bow in Islam"?

041.034 Nor can goodness and Evil be equal. Repel (Evil) with what is better: Then will he between whom and thee was hatred become as it were thy friend and intimate!

041.035 And no one will be granted such goodness except those who exercise patience and self-restraint,Ñnone but persons of the greatest good fortune.

041.036 And if (at any time) an incitement to discord is made to thee by the Evil One, seek refuge in God. He is the One Who hears and knows all things.

041.037 Among His Sings are the Night and the Day, and the Sun and the Moon. Adore not the sun and the moon, but adore God, Who created them, if it is Him ye wish to serve.

041.038 But is the (Unbelievers) are arrogant, (no matter): for in the presence of thy Lord are those who celebrate His praises by night and by day. And they never flag (nor feel themselves above it).

041.039 And among His Signs in this: thou seest the earth barren and desolate; but when We send down rain to it, it is stirred to life and yields increase. Truly, He Who gives life to the (dead) earth can surely give life to (men) who are dead. For He has power over all things.

041.040 Those who pervert the Truth in Our Signs are not hidden from Us. Which is better?Ñhe that is cast into the Fire, or he that comes safe through, on the Day of Judgment? Do what ye will: verily He seeth (clearly) all that ye do.

041.041 Those who reject the Message when it comes to them (are not hidden from Us). And indeed it is a Book of exalted power.

041.042 No falsehood can approach it from before or behind it: It is sent down by One Full of Wisdom, Worthy of all Praise.

041.043 Nothing is said to thee that was not said to the apostles before thee: that thy lord has at his Command (all) forgiveness as well as a most Grievous Penalty.

041.044 Had We sent this as a Qur'an (in the language) other than Arabic, they would have said: "Why are not its verses explained in detail? What! (a Book) not in Arabic and (a Messenger an Arab?" Say: "It is a Guide and a Healing to those who believe; and for those who believe not, there is a deafness in their ears, and it is blindness in their (eyes): They are (as it were) being called from a place far distant!"

041.045 We certainly gave Moses the Book aforetime: but disputes arose therein. Had it not been for a Word that went forth before from thy Lord, (their differences) would have been settled between them: but they remained in suspicious disquieting doubt thereon.

041.046 Whoever works righteousness benefits his own soul; whoever works evil, it is against his own soul: nor is thy Lord ever unjust (in the least) to His Servants.

041.047 To Him is referred the Knowledge of the Hour (of Judgment: He knows all): No date-fruit comes out of its sheath, nor does a female conceive (within her womb) nor bring forth the Day that (God) will propound to them the (question), "Where are the partners (ye attributed to Me?" They will say, "We do assure thee not one of us can bear witness!"

041.048 The (deities) they used to invoke aforetime will leave them in the lurch, and they will perceive that they have no way of escape.

041.049 Man does not weary of asking for good (things), but if ill touches him, he gives up all hope (and) is lost in despair.

041.050 When we give him a taste of some Mercy from Ourselves, after some adversity has touched him, he is sure to say, "This is due to my (merit): I think not that the Hour (of Judgment) will (ever) be established; but if I am brought back to my Lord, I have (much) good (stored) in His sight!" But We will show the Unbelievers the truth of all that they did, and We shall give them the taste of a severe Penalty.

041.051 When We bestow favours on man, he turns away, and gets himself remote on his side (instead of coming to Us); and when evil seizes him, (he comes) full of prolonged prayer!

041.052 Say: "See ye if the (Revelation) is (really) from God, and yet do ye reject it? Who is more astray than one who is in a schism far (from any purpose)?"

041.053 Soon will We show them our Signs in the (furthest) regions (of the earth), and in their own souls, until it becomes manifest to them that this is

the Truth. Is it not enough that thy Lord doth witness all things?

041.054 Ah indeed! Are they in doubt concerning the Meeting with their Lord? Ah indeed! It is He that doth encompass all things!

COUNCEL, CONSULTATION,
CHAPTER NO. 042

042.001 Ha-Mim

042.002 'Ain. Sin. Qaf.

042.003 Thus doth (He) send inspiration to thee as (He did) to those before thee,ÑGod, Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom.

042.004 To Him belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: and He is Most High, Most Great.

042.005 The heavens are almost rent asunder from above them (by Him Glory): and the angels celebrate the Praises of their Lord, and pray for forgiveness for (all) beings on earth: Behold! Verily God is He, the Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

042.006 And those who take as protectors others besides Him,ÑGod doth watch over them; and thou art not the disposer of their affairs.

042.007 Thus have We sent by inspiration to thee an Arabic Qur'an: that thou mayest warn the Mother of Cities and all around her,Ñand warn (them) of the Day of Assembly, of which there is no doubt: (when) some will be in the Garden, and some in the Blazing Fire.

042.008 If God had so willed, He could have made them a single people; but He admits whom He will to His Mercy; and the Wrong-doers will have no protector nor helper.

042.009 What! Have they taken (for worship) protectors besides Him? But it is God,ÑHe is the Protector, and it is He Who gives life to the dead: It is He Who has power over all things,

042.010 Whatever it be wherein ye differ, the decision thereof is with God: such is God my Lord: In Him I trust, and to Him I turn.

042.011 (He is) the Creator of the heavens and the earth: He has made for you pairs from among yourselves, and pairs among cattle: by this means does He multiply you: there is nothing whatever like unto Him, and He is the One that hears and sees (all things).

042.012 To Him belong the keys of the heavens and the earth: He enlarges and restricts. The Sustenance to whom He will: for He knows full well all things.

042.013 The same religion has He established for you as that which He enjoined on NoahÑthe which We have sent by inspiration to theeÑand that which We enjoined on Abraham, Moses, and Jesus: Namely, that ye should remain steadfast in religion, and make no divisions therein: to those who worship other things

than God, hard is the (way) to which thou callest them. God chooses to Himself those whom He pleases, and guides to Himself those who turn (to Him).

042.014 And they became divided only after Knowledge reached them,Ñthrough selfish envy as between themselves. Had it not been for a Word that went forth before from thy Lord, (tending) to a Term appointed, the matter would have been settled between them: But truly those who have inherited the Book after them are in suspicious (disquieting) doubt concerning it.

042.015 Now then, for that (reason), call (them to the Faith), and stand steadfast as thou art commanded, nor follow thou their vain desires; but say: "I believe in the Book which God has sent down; and I am commanded to judge justly between you. God is our Lord and your Lord: for us (is the responsibility for) our deeds, and for you for your deeds. There is no contention between us and you. God will bring us together, and to Him is (our) Final Goal.

042.016 But those who dispute concerning God after He has been accepted,Ñfutile is their dispute in the Sight of their Lord: on them will be a Penalty terrible.

042.017 It is God Who has sent down the Book in Truth, and the Balance (by which to weigh conduct). And what will make thee realise that perhaps the Hour is close at hand?

042.018 Only those wish to hasten it who believe not in it: those who believe hold it in awe, and know that it is the Truth. Behold, verily those that dispute concerning the Hour are far astray.

042.019 Gracious is God to His servants: He gives Sustenance to whom He pleases: and He has power and can carry out His Will.

042.020 To any that desires the tilth of the Hereafter, We give increase in his tilth, and to any that desires the tilth of this world, We grant somewhat thereof, but he has no share or lot in the Hereafter.

042.021 What! have they partners (in godhead), who have established for them some religion without the permission of God? Had it not been for the Decree of Judgment, the matter would have been decided between them (at once). But verily the Wrong-doers will have a grievous Penalty.

042.022 Thou wilt see the Wrong-doers in fear on account of what they have earned, and (the burden of) that must (necessarily) fall on them. But those who believe and work righteous deeds will be in the luxuriant meads of the Gardens: they shall have, before their Lord, all that they wish for. That will indeed be the magnificent Bounty (of God).

042.023 That is (the Bounty) whereof God gives Glad Tidings to His Servants who believe and do righteous deeds. Say: "No reward do I ask of you for this except the love of those near of kin." And if any one earns any good, We shall give him an increase of good in respect thereof: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Ready to appreciate (service).

042.024 What! Do they say, "He has forged a falsehood against God"? But if God willed, He could seal up thy heart. And God blots out Vanity, and proves the Truth by His Words. For He knows well the secrets of all hearts.

042.025 He is the One that accepts repentance from His Servants and forgives sins: and He knows all that ye do.

042.026 And He listens to those who believe and do deeds of righteousness, and gives them increase of His Bounty: but for the Unbelievers their is a terrible Penalty.

042.027 If God were to enlarge the provision for His Servants, they would indeed transgress beyond all bounds through the earth; but he sends (it) down in due measure as He pleases. For He is with His Servants Well-acquainted, Watchful.

042.028 He is the One that sends down rain (even) after (men) have given up all hope, and scatters His Mercy (far and wide). And He is the Protector, Worthy of all Praise.

042.029 And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the living creatures that He has scattered through them: and He has power to gather them together when He wills.

042.030 Whatever misfortune happens to you, is because on the things your hands have wrought, and for many (of them) He grants forgiveness.

042.031 Nor can ye frustrate (aught), (fleeing) through the earth; nor have ye, besides God, any one to protect or to help.

042.032 And among His Signs are the ships, smooth-running through the ocean, (tall) as mountains.

042.033 If it be His Will He can still the Wind: then would they become motionless on the back of the (ocean). Verily in this are Signs for everyone who patiently perseveres and is grateful.

042.034 Or He can cause them to perish because of the (evil) which (the men) have earned; but much doth He forgive.

042.035 But let those know, who dispute about Our Signs, that there is for them no way of escape.

042.036 Whatever ye are given (here) is (but) a convenience of this life: but that which is with God is better and more lasting: (it is) for those who believe and put their trust in their Lord:

042.037 Those who avoid the greater crimes and shameful deeds, and, when they are angry even then forgive;

042.038 Those who hearken to their Lord, and establish regular Prayer; who (conduct) their affairs by mutual Consultation; who spend out of what We bestow on them for Sustenance;

042.039 And those who, when an oppressive wrong is inflicted on them, (are not cowed but) help and defend themselves.

042.040 The recompense for an injury is an injury equal thereto (in degree): but if a person forgives and makes reconciliation, his reward is due from God: for (God) loveth not those who do wrong.

042.041 But indeed if any do help and defend themselves after a wrong (done) to them, against such there is no cause of blame.

042.042 The blame is only against those who oppress men and wrong-doing and insolently transgress beyond bounds through the land, defying right and justice: for such there will be a penalty grievous.

042.043 But indeed if any show patience and forgive, that would truly be an exercise of courageous will and resolution in the conduct of affairs.

042.044 For any whom God leaves astray, there is no protector thereafter. And thou wilt see the Wrong-doers, when in sight of the Penalty, Say: "Is there any way (to effect) a return?"

042.045 And thou wilt see them brought forward to the (Penalty), in a humble frame of mind because of (their) disgrace, (and) looking with a stealthy glance. And the Believers will say: "Those are indeed in loss, who have given to perdition their own selves and those belonging to them on the Day of Judgment. Behold! Truly the Wrong-doers are in a lasting Penalty!"

042.046 And no protectors have they to help them, other than God. And for any whom God leaves to stray, there is no way (to the Goal).

042.047 Hearken ye to your Lord, before there come a Day which there will be no putting back, because of (the Ordainment of) God! that Day there will be for you no place of refuge nor will there be for you any room for denial (of your sins)!

042.048 If then they run away, We have not sent thee as a guard over them. Thy duty is but to convey (the Message). And truly, when We give man a taste of a Mercy from Ourselves, he doth exult thereat, but when some ill happens to him, on account of the deeds which his hands have sent forth, truly then is man ungrateful!

042.049 To God belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth. He creates what He wills (and plans). He bestows (children) male or female according to His Will (and Plan),

042.050 Or He bestows both males and females, and He leaves barren whom He will: for He is full of Knowledge and Power.

042.051 It is not fitting for a man that God should speak to him except by inspiration, or from behind a veil, or by the sending of a messenger to reveal, with God's permission, what God wills: for He is Most High, Most Wise.

042.052 And thus have We, by Our Command, sent inspiration to thee: thou

knewest not (before) what was Revelation, and what was Faith; but We have made the (Qur'an) a Light, wherewith We guide such of Our servants as We will; and verily thou dost guide (men) to the Straight Way,-

042.053 The Way of God, to Whom belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on earth. Behold (how) all affairs tend towards God!

ORNAMENTS OF GOLD, LUXURY,
CHAPTER NO. 043

043.001 Ha-Mim

043.002 By the Book that makes things clear,-

043.003 We have made it a Qur'an in Arabic, that ye may be able to understand (and learn wisdom).

043.004 And verily, it is in the Mother of the Book, in Our Presence, high (in dignity), full of wisdom.

043.005 Shall We then take away the Message from you and repel (you), for that ye are a people transgressing beyond bounds?

043.006 But how many were the prophets We sent amongst the peoples of old?

043.007 And never came there a prophet to them but they mocked him.

043.008 So We destroyed (them)Ñstronger in power than these;Ñand (thus) has passed on the Parable of the peoples of old.

043.009 If thou wert to question them, 'Who created the heavens and the earth?' They would be sure to reply, 'they were created by (Him), the Exalted in Power, Full of Knowledge';-

043.010 (Yea, the same that) has made for you the earth (like a carpet) spread out, and has made for you roads (and channels) therein, in order that ye may find guidance (on the way);

043.011 That sends down (from time to time) rain from the sky in due measure;Ñand We raise to life therewith a land that is dead; even so will ye be raised (from the dead);-

043.012 That has created pairs in all things, and has made for you ships and cattle on which ye ride,

043.013 In order that ye may sit firm and square on their backs, and when so seated, ye may celebrate the (kind) favour of your Lord, and say, "Glory to Him Who has subjected these to our (use), for we could never have accomplished this (by ourselves),

043.014 "And to our Lord, surely, must we turn back!"

043.015 Yet they attribute to some of His servants a share with Him (in his godhead)! truly is man a blasphemous ingrate avowed!

043.016 What! has He taken daughters out of what He himself creates, and

granted to you sons for choice?

043.017 When news is brought to one of them of (the birth of) what he sets up as a likeness to (God) Most Gracious, his face darkens, and he is filled with inward grief!

043.018 Is then one brought up among trinkets, and unable to give a clear account in a dispute (to be associated with God)?

043.019 And they make into females angels who themselves serve God. Did they witness their creation? Their evidence will be recorded, and they will be called to account!

043.020 ("Ah!") they say, "If it had been the will of (God) Most Gracious, we should not have worshipped such (deities)!" Of that they have no knowledge! they do nothing but lie!

043.021 What! have We given them a Book before this, to which they are holding fast?

043.022 Nay! they say: "We found our fathers following a certain religion, and we do guide ourselves by their footsteps."

043.023 Just in the same way, whenever We sent a Warner before thee to any people, the wealthy ones among them said: "We found our fathers following a certain religion, and we will certainly follow in their footsteps."

043.024 He said: "What! Even if I brought you better guidance than that which ye found your fathers following?" They said: "For us, we deny that ye (prophets) are sent (on a mission at all)."

043.025 So We exacted retribution from them: now see what was the end of those who rejected (Truth)!

043.026 Behold! Abraham said to his father and his people: "I do indeed clear myself of what ye worship:

043.027 "(I worship) only Him Who made me, and He will certainly guide me."

043.028 And he left it as a Word to endure among those who came after him, that they may turn back (to God).

043.029 Yea, I have given the good things of this life to these (men) and their fathers, until the Truth has come to them, and an apostle making things clear.

043.030 But when the Truth came to them, they said: "This is sorcery, and we do reject it."

043.031 Also, they say: "Why is not this Qur'an sent down to some leading man in either of the two (chief) cities?"

043.032 Is it they who would portion out the Mercy of thy Lord? It is We Who portion out between them their livelihood in the life of this world: and We raise some of them above others in ranks, so that some may command work from others. But the Mercy of thy Lord is better than the (wealth) which they amass.

043.033 And were it not that (all) men might become of one (evil) way of life, We would provide, for everyone that blasphemes against (God) Most Gracious, silver roofs for their houses and (silver) stair-ways on which to go up,

043.034 And (silver) doors to their houses, and thrones (of silver) on which they could recline,

043.035 And also adornments of gold. But all this were nothing but conveniences of the present life: The Hereafter, in the sight of thy Lord is for the Righteous.

043.036 If anyone withdraws himself from remembrance of (God) Most Gracious, We appoint for him an evil one, to be an intimate companion to him.

043.037 Such (evil ones) really hinder them from the Path, but they think that they are being guided aright!

043.038 At length, when (such a one) comes to Us, he says (to his evil companion): "Would that between me and thee were the distance of East and West!" Ah! evil is the companion (indeed)!

043.039 When ye have done wrong, it will avail you nothing, that Day, that ye shall be partners in Punishment!

043.040 Canst thou then make the deaf to hear, or give direction to the blind or to such as (wander) in manifest error?

043.041 Even if We take thee away, We shall be sure to exact retribution from them,

043.042 Or We shall show thee that (accomplished) which We have promised them: for verily We shall prevail over them.

043.043 So hold thou fast to the Revelation sent down to thee; verily thou art on a Straight Way.

043.044 The (Qur'an) is indeed the message, for thee and for thy people; and soon shall ye (all) be brought to account.

043.045 And question thou our apostles whom We sent before thee; did We appoint any deities other than (God) Most Gracious, to be worshipped?

043.046 We did send Moses aforetime, with Our Signs, to Pharaoh and his Chiefs: He said, "I am an apostle of the Lord of the Worlds."

043.047 But when he came to them with Our Signs, behold they ridiculed them.

043.048 We showed them Sign after Sign, each greater than its fellow, and We seized them with Punishment, in order that they might turn (to Us).

043.049 And they said, "O thou sorcerer! Invoke thy Lord for us according to His covenant with thee; for we shall truly accept guidance."

043.050 But when We removed the Penalty from them, behold, they broke their word.

043.051 And Pharaoh proclaimed among his people, saying: "O my people! Does not the dominion of Egypt belong to me, (witness) these streams flowing underneath my (palace)? What! see ye not then?

043.052 "Am I not better than this (Moses), who is a contemptible wretch and can scarcely express himself clearly?

043.053 "Then why are not gold bracelets bestowed on him, or (why) come (not) with him angels accompanying him in procession?"

043.054 Thus did he make fools of his people, and they obeyed him: truly were they a people rebellious (against God).

043.055 When at length they provoked Us, We exacted retribution from them, and We drowned them all.

043.056 And We made them (a people) of the Past and an Example to later ages.

043.057 When (Jesus) the son of Mary is held up as an example, behold, thy people raise a clamour thereat (in ridicule)!

043.058 And they say, "Are our gods best, or he?" This they set forth to thee, only by way of disputation: yea, they are a contentious people.

043.059 He was no more than a servant: We granted Our favour to him, and We made him an example to the Children of Israel.

043.060 And if it were Our Will, We could make angels from amongst you, succeeding each other on the earth.

043.061 And (Jesus) shall be a Sign (for the coming of) the Hour (of Judgment): therefore have no doubt about the (Hour), but follow ye Me: this is a Straight Way.

043.062 Let not the Evil One hinder you: for he is to you an enemy avowed.

043.063 When Jesus came with Clear Signs, he said: "Now have I come to you with Wisdom, and in order to make clear to you some of the (points) on which ye dispute: therefore fear God and obey me.

043.064 "For God, He is my Lord and your Lord: so worship ye Him: this is a Straight Way."

043.065 But sects from among themselves fell into disagreement: then woe to the wrong-doers, from the Penalty of a Grievous Day!

043.066 Do they only wait for the HourÑthat it should come on them all of a sudden, while they perceive not?

043.067 Friends on that day will be foes, one to another,Ñexcept the Righteous.

043.068 My devotees! no fear shall be on you that Day, nor shall ye grieve,-

043.069 (Being) those who have believed in Our Signs and bowed (their wills to Ours) in Islam.

043.070 Enter ye the Garden, ye and your wives, in (beauty and) rejoicing.

043.071 To them will be passed round, dishes and goblets of gold: there will be there all that the souls could desire, all that their ayes could delight in: and ye shall abide therein (for eye).

043.072 Such will be the Garden of which ye are made heirs for your (good) deeds (in life).

043.073 Ye shall have therein abundance of fruit, from which ye shall have satisfaction.

043.074 The sinners will be in the Punishment of Hell, to dwell therein (for aye):

043.075 Nowise will the (Punishment) be lightened for them, and in despair will they be there overwhelmed.

043.076 Nowise shall We be unjust to them: but it is they who have been unjust themselves.

043.077 They will cry: "O Malik! would that thy Lord put an end to us!" He will say, "Nay, but ye shall abide!"

043.078 Verily We have brought the Truth to you: but most of you have a hatred for Truth.

043.079 What! have they settled some plan (among themselves)? But it is We Who settle things.

043.080 Or do they think that We hear not their secrets and their private counsels? Indeed (We do), and Our messengers are by them, to record.

043.081 Say: "If (God) Most Gracious had a son, I would be the first to worship."

043.082 Glory to the Lord of the heavens and the earth, the Lord of the Throne (of Authority)! (He is free) from the things they attribute (to him)!

043.083 So leave them to babble and play (with vanities) until they meet that Day of theirs, which they have been promised.

043.084 It is He Who is God in heaven and God on earth; and He is full of Wisdom and Knowledge.

043.085 And blessed is He to Whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all between them: with Him is the Knowledge of the Hour (of Judgment): and to Him shall ye be brought back.

043.086 And those whom they invoke besides God have no power of intercession;Ñonly he who bears witness to the Truth, and they know (him).

043.087 If thou ask them, who created them, they will certainly say, God: How then are they deluded away (from the Truth)?

043.088 (God has knowledge) of the (Prophet's) cry, "O my Lord! Truly these are

people who will not believe!"

043.089 But turn away from them, and say "Peace!" But soon shall they know!

SMOKE,
CHAPTER NO. 044

044.001 Ha-Mim.

044.002 By the Book that makes things clear;-

044.003 We sent it down during a Blessed Night: for We (ever) wish to warn (against Evil).

044.004 In the (Night) is made distinct every affair of wisdom,

044.005 By command, from Our Presence. For We (ever) send (revelations),

044.006 As Mercy from thy Lord: for He hears and knows (all things);

044.007 The Lord of the heavens and the earth and all between them, if ye (but) have an assured faith.

044.008 There is no god but He: It is He Who gives life and gives death,ÑThe Lord and Cherisher to you and your earliest ancestors.

044.009 Yet they play about in doubt.

044.010 Then watch thou for the Day that the sky will bring forth a kind of smoke (or mist) plainly visible,

044.011 Enveloping the people: this will be a Penalty Grievous.

044.012 (They will say:) "Our Lord! remove the Penalty from us, for we do really believe!"

044.013 How shall the message be (effectual) for them, seeing that an Apostle explaining things clearly has (already) come to them,-

044.014 Yet they turn away from him and say: "Tutored (by others), a man possessed!"

044.015 We shall indeed remove the Penalty for a while, (but) truly ye will revert (to your ways).

044.016 One day We shall seize you with a mighty onslaught: We will indeed (then) exact Retribution!

044.017 We did, before them, try the people of Pharaoh: there came to them an apostle most honourable,

044.018 Saying: "Restore to me the Servants of God: I am to you an apostle worthy of all trust;

044.019 "And be not arrogant as against God: for I come to you with authority manifest.

044.020 "For me, I have sought safety with my Lord and your Lord, against your

injuring me.

044.021 "If ye believe me not, at least keep yourselves away from me."

044.022 (But they were aggressive:) then he cried to his Lord: "These are indeed a people given to sin."

044.023 (The reply came:) "March forth with My Servants by night: for ye are sure to be pursued.

044.024 "And leave the sea as a furrow (divided): for they are a host (destined) to be drowned."

044.025 How many were the gardens and springs they left behind,

044.026 And corn-fields and noble buildings,

044.027 And wealth (and conveniences of life), wherein they had taken such delight!

044.028 Thus (was their end)! And We made other people inherit (those things)!

044.029 And neither heaven nor earth shed a tear over them: nor were they given a respite (again).

044.030 We did deliver aforetime the Children of Israel from humiliating Punishment,

044.031 Inflicted by Pharaoh, for he was arrogant (even) among inordinate transgressors.

044.032 And We chose them aforetime above the nations, knowingly,

044.033 And granted them Signs in which there was a manifest trial

044.034 As to these (Quraish), they say forsooth:

044.035 "There is nothing beyond our first death, and we shall not be raised again.

044.036 "Then bring (back) our forefathers, if what ye say is true!"

044.037 What! Are they better than the people of Tubba and those who were before them? We destroyed them because they were guilty of sin.

044.038 We created not the heavens, the earth, and all between them, merely in (idle) sport:

044.039 We created them not except for just ends: but most of them do not understand.

044.040 Verily the Day of sorting out is the time appointed for all of them,-

044.041 The Day when no protector can avail his client in aught, and no help can they receive,

044.042 Except such as receive God's Mercy: for He is Exalted in Might, Most Merciful.

044.043 Verily the tree of Zaqqum

044.044 Will be the food of the Sinful,-

044.045 Like molten brass; it will boil in their insides.

044.046 Like the boiling of scalding water.

044.047 (A voice will cry: "Seize ye him and drag him into the midst of the Blazing Fire!

044.048 "Then pour over his head the Penalty of Boiling Water,

044.049 "Taste thou (this)! Truly wast thou mighty, full of honour!

044.050 "Truly this is what ye used to doubt!"

044.051 As to the Righteous (they will be) in a position of Security,

044.052 Among Gardens and Springs;

044.053 Dressed in fine silk and in rich brocade, they will face each other;

044.054 So; and We shall join them to Companions with beautiful, big, and lustrous eyes.

044.055 There can they call for every kind of fruit in peace and security;

044.056 Nor will they there taste Death, except the first death; and He will preserve them from the Penalty of the Blazing Fire,-

044.057 As a Bounty from thy Lord! that will be the supreme achievement!

044.058 Verily, We have made this (Qur'an) easy, in thy tongue, in order that they may give heed.

044.059 So wait thou and watch; for they (too) are waiting.

CROUCHING,
CHAPTER NO. 045

045.001 Ha-Mim.

045.002 The revelation of the Book is from God the Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom.

045.003 Verily in the heavens and the earth, are Signs for those who believe.

045.004 And in the creation of yourselves and the fact that animals are scattered (through the earth), are Signs for those of assured Faith.

045.005 And in the alternation of Night and Day, and the fact that God sends down Sustenance from the sky, and revives therewith the earth after its death, and in the change of the winds,Ñare Signs for those that are wise.

045.006 Such are the Signs of God, which We rehearse to thee in Truth; then in what exposition will they believe after (rejecting) God and His Signs?

045.007 Woe to each sinful dealer in Falsehoods:

045.008 He hears the Signs of God rehearsed to him, yet is obstinate and lofty, as if he had not heard them: then announce to him a Penalty Grievous!

045.009 And when he learns something of Our Signs, he takes them in jest: for such there will be a humiliating Penalty.

045.010 In front of them is Hell: and of no profit to them is anything they may have earned, nor any protectors they may have taken to themselves besides God: for them is a tremendous Penalty.

045.011 This is (true) Guidance and for those who reject the Signs of their Lord, is a grievous Penalty of abomination.

045.012 It is God Who has subjected the sea to you, that ships may sail through it by His command, that ye may seek of his Bounty, and that ye may be grateful.

045.013 And He has subjected to you, as from Him, all that is in the heavens and on earth: Behold, in that are Signs indeed for those who reflect.

045.014 Tell those who believe, to forgive those who do not look forward to the Days of God: It is for Him to recompense (for good or ill) each People according to what they have earned.

045.015 If any one does a righteous deed, it ensures to the benefit of his own soul; if he does evil, it works against (his own soul). In the end will ye (all) be brought back to your Lord.

045.016 We did aforetime grant to the Children of Israel the Book the Power of Command, and Prophethood; We gave them, for Sustenance, things good and pure; and We favoured them above the nations.

045.017 And We granted them Clear Signs in affairs (of Religion): it was only after knowledge had been granted to them that they fell into schisms, through insolent envy among themselves. Verily thy Lord will judge between them on the Day of Judgment as to those matters in which they set up differences.

045.018 Then We put thee on the (right) Way of Religion: so follow thou that (Way), and follow not the desires of those who know not.

045.019 They will be of no use to thee in the sight of God: it is only Wrong-doers (that stand as) protectors, one to another: but God is the Protector of the Righteous.

045.020 These are clear evidences to men and a Guidance and Mercy to those of assured Faith.

045.021 What! Do those who seek after evil ways think that We shall hold them equal with those who believe and do righteous deeds,Ñthat equal will be their life and their death? Ill is the judgment that they make.

045.022 God created the heavens and the earth for just ends, and in order that each soul may find the recompense of what it has earned, and none of them be wronged.

045.023 Then seest thou such a one as takes as his god his own vain desire? God has, knowing (him as such), left him astray, and sealed his hearing and his heart (and understanding), and put a cover on his sight. Who, then, will guide him after God (has withdrawn Guidance)? Will ye not then receive admonition?

045.024 And they say: "What is there but our life in this world? We shall die and we live, and nothing but time can destroy us." But of that they have no knowledge: they merely conjecture:

045.025 And when Our Clear Signs are rehearsed to them their argument is nothing but this: They say, "Bring (back) our forefathers, if what ye say is true!"

045.026 Say: "It is God Who gives you life, then gives you death; then He will gather you together for the Day of Judgment about which there is no doubt": But most men do not understand.

045.027 To God belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and the Day that the Hour of Judgment is established,Ñthat Day will the dealers in Falsehood perish!

045.028 And thou wilt see every sect bowing the knee: Every sect will be called to its Record: "This Day shall ye be recompensed for all that ye did!

045.029 "This Our Record speaks about you with truth: For We were wont to put on Record all that ye did."

045.030 Then, as to those who believed and did righteous deeds, their Lord will admit them to His Mercy that will be the achievement for all to see.

045.031 But as to those who rejected God, (to them will be said): "Were not Our Signs rehearsed to you? But ye were arrogant, and were a people given to sin!

045.032 "And when it was said that the promise of God was true, and that the HourÑthere was no doubt about its (coming), ye used to say, 'We know not what is the hour: we only think it is an idea, and we have no firm assurance.'"

045.033 Then will appear to them the evil (fruits) of what they did, and they will be completely encircled by that which they used to mock at!

045.034 It will also be said: "This Day We will forget you as ye forgot the meeting of this Day of yours! and your abode is the Fire, and no helpers have ye!

045.035 "This, because ye used to take the Signs of God in jest, and the life of the world deceived you:" (From) that Day, therefore, they shall not be taken out thence, nor shall they be received into Grace.

045.036 Then Praise be to God, Lord of the heavens and Lord of the earth,ÑLord and Cherisher of all the Worlds!

045.037 To Him be glory throughout the heavens and the earth: and He is Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom!

THE WIND-CURVED SANDHILLS, THE DUNES,
CHAPTER NO. 046

046.001 Ha-Mim.

046.002 The Revelation of the Book is from God the Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom.

046.003 We created not the heavens and the earth and all between them but for just ends, and for a Term Appointed: But those who reject Faith turn away from that whereof they are warned.

046.004 Say: "Do ye see what it is ye invoke besides God? Show me what it is they have created on earth, or have they a share in the heavens bring me a book (revealed) before this, or any remnant of knowledge (ye may have), if ye are telling the truth!

046.005 And who is more astray than one who invokes besides God, such as will not answer him to the Day of Judgment, and who (in fact) are unconscious of their call (to them)?

046.006 And when mankind are gathered together (at the Resurrection), they will be hostile to them and reject their worship (altogether)!

046.007 When Our Clear Signs are rehearsed to them, the Unbelievers say, of the Truth when it comes to them: "This is evident sorcery!"

046.008 Or do they say, "He has forged it"? Say: "Had I forged it, then can ye obtain no single (blessing) for me from God. He knows best of that whereof ye talk (so glibly)! Enough is He for a witness between me and you! And he is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

046.009 Say: "I am no bringer of new-fangled doctrine among the apostles, nor do I know what will be done with me or with you. I follow but that which is revealed to me by inspiration; I am but a Warner open and clear."

046.010 Say: "See ye? If (this teaching) be from God, and ye reject it, and a witness from among the Children of Israel testifies to its similarity (with earlier scripture), and has believed while ye are arrogant, (how unjust ye are!) truly, God guides not a people unjust."

046.011 The Unbelievers say of those who believe: "If (this Message) were a good thing, (such men) would not have gone to it first, before us!" And seeing that they guide not themselves thereby, they will say, "this is an (old,) falsehood!"

046.012 And before this, was the Book of Moses as a guide and a mercy: And this Book confirms (it) in the Arabic tongue; to admonish the unjust, and as Glad Tidings to those who do right.

046.013 Verily those who say, "Our Lord is God," and remain firm (on that Path),Ñon them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

046.014 Such shall be Companions of the Gardens, dwelling therein (for aye): a

recompense for their (good) deeds.

046.015 We have enjoined on man kindness to his parents: In pain did his mother bear him, and in pain did she give him birth. The carrying of the (child) to his weaning is (a period of) thirty months. At length, when he reaches the age of full strength and attains forty years, he says, "O my Lord! Grant me that I may be grateful for Thy favour which Thou has bestowed upon me, and upon both my parents, and that I may work righteousness such as Thou mayest approve; and be gracious to me in my issue. Truly have I turned to Thee and truly do I bow (to Thee) in Islam."

046.016 Such are they from whom We shall accept the best of their deeds and pass by their ill deeds: (They shall be) among the Companions of the Garden: a promise! of truth, which was made to them (in this life).

046.017 But (there is one) who says to his parents, "Fie on you! Do ye hold out the promise to me that I shall be raised up, even though generations have passed before me (without rising again)?" And they two seek God's aid, (and rebuke the son): "Woe to thee! Have faith! for the promise of God is true." But he says, "This is nothing but tales of the ancients!"

046.018 Such are they against whom is proved the sentence among the previous generations of Jinns and men, that have passed away; for they will be (utterly) lost.

046.019 And to all are (assigned) degrees according to the deeds which they (have done), and in order that (God) may recompense their deeds, and no injustice be done to them.

046.020 And on the Day that the Unbelievers will be placed before the Fire, (It will be said to them): "Ye received your good things in the life of the world, and ye took your pleasure out of them: but today shall ye be recompensed with a Penalty of humiliation: for that ye were arrogant on earth without just cause, and that ye (ever) transgressed."

046.021 Mention (Hud) one of 'Ad's (own) brethren: Behold, he warned his people about the winding Sand-tracts: but there have been warners before him and after him: "Worship ye none other than God: Truly I fear for you the Penalty of a Mighty Day."

046.022 They said: "Hast thou come in order to turn us aside from our gods? Then bring upon us the (calamity) with which thou dost threaten us, if thou art telling the truth?"

046.023 He said: "The Knowledge (of when it will come) is only with God: I proclaim to you the mission on which I have been sent: But I see that ye are a people in ignorance!"..

046.024 Then, when they saw the (Penalty in the shape of) a cloud traversing the sky, coming to meet their valleys, they said, "This cloud will give us rain!" "Nay, it is the (Calamity) ye were asking to be hastened!ÑA wind wherein is a Grievous Penalty!

046.025 "Everything will it destroy by the command of its Lord!" Then by the morning theyÑnothing was to be seen but (the ruins of) their houses! thus do We recompense those given to sin!

046.026 And We had firmly established them in a (prosperity and) power which We have not given to you (ye Quraish!) and We had endowed them with (faculties of) hearing, seeing, heart and intellect: but of no profit to them were their (faculties of) hearing, sight, and heart and intellect, when they went on rejecting the Signs of God; and they were (completely) encircled by that which they used to mock at!

046.027 We destroyed aforetime populations round about you; and We have shown the Signs in various ways, that they may turn (to Us).

046.028 Why then was no help forthcoming to them from those whom they worshipped as gods, besides God, as a means of access (to God)? Nay, they left them in the lurch: but that was their falsehood and their invention.

046.029 Behold, We turned towards thee a company of Jinns (quietly) listening to the Qur'an: when they stood in the presence thereof, they said, "Listen in silence!" When the (reading) was finished, they returned to their people, to warn (them of their sins).

046.030 They said, "O our people! We have heard a Book revealed after Moses, confirming what came before it: it guides (men) to the Truth and to a Straight Path.

046.031 "O our people, hearken to the one who invites (you) to God, and believe in him: He will forgive you your faults, and deliver you from a Penalty Grievous.

046.032 "If any does not hearken to the one who invites (us) to God, he cannot frustrate (God's Plan) on earth, and no protectors can he have besides God: such men (wander) in manifest error."

046.033 See they not that God, Who created the heavens and the earth, and never wearied with their creation, is able to give life to the dead? Yea, verily He has power over all things.

046.034 And on the Day that the Unbelievers will be placed before the Fire, (they will be asked,) "Is this not the Truth?" they will say, "Yea, by our Lord!" (One will say:) "Then taste ye the Penalty, for that ye were wont to deny (Truth)!"

046.035 Therefore patiently persevere, as did (all) apostles of inflexible purpose; and be in no haste about the (Unbelievers). On the Day that they see the (Punishment) promised them, (it will be) as if they had not tarried more than an hour in a single day. (Thine but) to proclaim the Message: but shall any be destroyed except those who transgress?

MUHAMMAD,
CHAPTER NO. 047

047.001 Those who reject God and hinder (men) from the Path of God,Ñtheir deeds will God render astray (from their mark).

047.002 But those who believe and work deeds of righteousness, and believe in the (Revelation) sent down to MuhammadÑfor it is the Truth from their Lord,ÑHe will remove from them their ills and improve their condition.

047.003 This because those who reject God follow vanities, while those who believe follow the Truth from their Lord: Thus does God set forth for men their lessons by similitudes.

047.004 Therefore, when ye meet the Unbelievers (in fight), smite at their necks; At length, when ye have thoroughly subdued them, bind a bond firmly (on them): thereafter (is the time for) either generosity or ransom: Until the war lays down its burdens. Thus (are ye commanded): but if it had been God's Will, He could certainly have exacted retribution from them (Himself); but (He lets you fight) in order to test you, some with others. But those who are slain in the Way of God,ÑHe will never let their deeds be lost.

047.005 Soon will He guide them and improve their condition,

047.006 And admit them to the Garden which He has announced for them.

047.007 O ye who believe! If ye will aid (the cause of) God, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly.

047.008 But those who reject (God),Ñfor them is destruction, and (God) will render their deeds astray (from their mark).

047.009 That is because they hate the Revelation of God; so He has made their deeds fruitless.

047.010 Do they not travel through the earth, and see what was the End of those before them (who did evil)? God brought utter destruction on them, and similar (fates await) those who reject God.

047.011 That is because God is the Protector of those who believe, but those who reject God have no protector.

047.012 Verily God will admit those who believe and do righteous deeds, to Gardens beneath which rivers flow; while those who reject God will enjoy (this world) and eat as cattle eat; and the Fire will be their abode.

047.013 And how many cities, with more power than thy city which has driven thee out, have We destroyed (for their sins)? and there was none to aid them.

047.014 Is then one who is on a clear (Path) from his Lord, no better than one to whom the evil of his conduct seems pleasing, and such as follow their own lusts?

047.015 (Here is) a Parable of the Garden which the righteous are promised: in it are rivers of water incorruptible; rivers of milk of which the taste never changes; rivers of wine, a joy to those who drink; and rivers of honey pure and clear. In it there are for them all kinds of fruits; and Grace from their Lord.

(Can those in such Bliss) be compared to such as shall dwell for ever in the Fire, and be given, to drink, boiling water, so that it cuts up their bowels (to pieces)?

047.016 And among them are men who listen to thee, but in the end, when they go out from thee, they say to those who have received Knowledge, "What is it he said just then?" Such are men whose hearts God has sealed, and who follow their own lusts.

047.017 But to those who receive Guidance, He increases the (light of) Guidance, and bestows on them their Piety and Restraint (from evil).

047.018 Do they then only wait for the Hour,Ñthat it should come on them of a sudden? But already have come some tokens thereof, and when it (actually) is on them, how can they benefit then by their admonition?

047.019 Know, therefore, that there is no god but God, and ask forgiveness for thy fault, and for the men and women who believe: for God knows how ye move about and how ye dwell in your homes.

047.020 Those who believe say, "Why is not a sura sent down (for us)?" But when a sura of basic or categorical meaning is revealed, and fighting is mentioned therein, thou wilt see those in whose hearts is a disease looking at thee with a look of one in swoon at the approach of death. But more fitting for them-

047.021 Were it to obey and say what is just, and when a matter is resolved on, it were best for them if they were true to God.

047.022 Then, is it to be expected of you, if ye were put in authority, that ye will do mischief in the land, and break your ties of kith and kin?

047.023 Such are the men whom God has cursed for He has made them deaf and blinded their sight.

047.024 Do they not then earnestly seek to understand the Qur'an, or are their hearts locked up by them?

047.025 Those who turn back as apostates after Guidance was clearly shown to them,Ñthe Evil One has instigated them and busied them up with false hopes.

047.026 This, because they said to those who hate what God has revealed, "We will obey you in part of (this) matter"; but God knows their (inner) secrets.

047.027 But how (will it be) when the angels take their souls at death, and smite their faces and their backs?

047.028 This because they followed that which called forth the Wrath of God, and they hated God's good pleasure; so He made their deeds of no effect.

047.029 Or do those in whose hearts is a disease, think that God will not bring to light all their rancour?

047.030 Had We so wiled, We could have shown them up to thee, and thou shouldst have known them by their marks: but surely thou wilt know them by the tone of

their speech! And God knows all that ye do.

047.031 And We shall try you until We test those among you who strive their utmost and persevere in patience; and We shall try your reported (mettle).

047.032 Those who reject God, hinder (men) from the Path of God, and resist the Apostle, after Guidance has been clearly shown to them, will not injure God in the least, but He will make their deeds of no effect.

047.033 O ye who believe! Obey God, and obey the apostle, and make not vain your deeds!

047.034 Those who reject God, and hinder (men) from the Path of God, then die rejecting God,ÑGod will not forgive them.

047.035 Be not weary and faint-hearted, crying for peace, when ye should be uppermost: for God is with you, and will never put you in loss for your (good) deeds.

047.036 The life of this world is but play and amusement: and if ye believe and guard against Evil, He will grant you your recompense, and will not ask you (to give up) your possessions.

047.037 If He were to ask you for all of them, and press you, ye would covetously withhold, and He would bring out all your ill-feeling.

047.038 Behold, ye are those invited to spend (of your substance) in the Way of God: But among you are some that are niggardly. But any who are niggardly are so at the expense of their own souls. But God is free of all wants, and it is ye that are needy. If ye turn back (from the Path), He will substitute in your stead another people; then they would not be like you!

VICTORY, CONQUEST,
CHAPTER NO. 048

048.001 Verily We have granted thee a manifest Victory:

048.002 That God may forgive thee thy faults of the past and those to follow; fulfil His favour to thee; and guide thee on the Straight Way;

048.003 And that God may help thee with powerful help.

048.004 It is He Who sent down tranquillity into the hearts of the Believers, that they may add faith to their faith;Ñfor to God belong the Forces of the heavens and the earth; and God is Full of Knowledge and Wisdom;-

048.005 That He may admit the men and women who believe, to Gardens beneath which rivers flow, to dwell therein for aye, and remove their ills from them;Ñand that is, in the sight of God, the highest achievement (for man),-

048.006 And that He may punish the Hypocrites, men and women, and the Polytheists men and women, who imagine an evil opinion of God. On them is a round of Evil: the Wrath of God is on them: He has cursed them and got Hell ready for them: and evil is it for a destination.

048.007 For to God belong the Forces of the heavens and the earth; and God is Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom.

048.008 We have truly sent thee as a witness, as a bringer of Glad Tidings, and as a Warner:

048.009 In order that ye (O men) may believe in God and His Apostle, that ye may assist and honour Him, and celebrate His praise morning and evening.

048.010 Verily those who plight their fealty to thee do no less than plight their fealty to God: the Hand of God is over their hands: then any one who violates his oath, does so to the harm of his own soul, and any one who fulfils what he has covenanted with God,ÑGod will soon grant him a great Reward.

048.011 The desert Arabs who lagged behind will say to thee: "We were engaged in (looking after) our flocks and herds, and our families: do thou then ask forgiveness for us." They say with their tongues what is not in their hearts. Say: "Who then has any power at all (to intervene) on your behalf with God, if His Will is to give you some loss or to give you some profit? But God is well acquainted with all that ye do.

048.012 "Nay, ye thought that the Apostle and the Believers would never return to their families; this seemed pleasing in your hearts, and ye conceived an evil thought, for ye are a people lost (in wickedness)."

048.013 And if any believe not in God and His Apostle, We have prepared, for those who reject God, a Blazing Fire!

048.014 To God belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: He forgives whom He wills, and He punishes whom He wills: but God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

048.015 Those who lagged behind (will say), when ye (are free to) march and take booty (in war): "Permit us to follow you." They wish to change God's decree: Say: "Not thus will ye follow us: God has already declared (this) beforehand": then they will say, "But ye are jealous of us." Nay, but little do they understand (such things).

048.016 Say to the desert Arabs who lagged behind: "Ye shall be summoned (to fight) against a people given to vehement war: then shall ye fight, or they shall submit. Then if ye show obedience, God will grant you a goodly reward, but if ye turn back as ye did before, He will punish you with a grievous Penalty."

048.017 No blame is there on the blind, nor is there blame on the lame, nor on one ill (if he joins not the war): But he that obeys God and his Apostle,Ñ(God) will admit him to Gardens beneath which rivers flow; and he who turns back, (God) will punish him with a grievous Penalty.

048.018 God's Good Pleasure was on the Believers when they swore Fealty to thee under the Tree: He knew what was in their hearts, and He sent down Tranquillity to them; and He rewarded them with a speedy Victory;

048.019 And many gains will they acquire (besides): and God is Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom.

048.020 God has promised you many gains that ye shall acquire, and He has given you these beforehand; and He has restrained the hands of men from you; that it may be a Sign for the Believers, and that He may guide you to a Straight Path;

048.021 And other gains (there are), which are not within your power, but which God has compassed: and God has power over all things.

048.022 If the Unbelievers should fight you, they would certainly turn their backs; then would they find neither protector nor helper.

048.023 (Such has been) the practice (approved) of God already in the past: no change wilt thou find in the practice (approved) of God.

048.024 And it is He Who has restrained their hands from you and your hands from them in the midst of Makka, after that He gave you the victory over them. And God sees well all that ye do.

048.025 They are the ones who denied Revelation and hindered you from the Sacred Mosque and the sacrificial animals, detained from reaching their place of sacrifice. Had there not been believing men and believing women whom ye did not know that ye were trampling down and on whose account a crime would have accrued to you without (your) knowledge, (God would have allowed you to force your way, but He held back your hands) that He may admit to His Mercy whom He will. If they had been apart, We should certainly have punished the Unbelievers among them with a grievous Punishment.

048.026 While the Unbelievers got up in their hearts heat and cantÑthe heat and cant of ignorance,ÑGod sent down His Tranquillity to his Apostle and to the Believers, and made them stick close to the command of self-restraint; and well were they entitled to it and worthy of it. And God has full knowledge of all things.

048.027 Truly did God fulfil the vision for His Apostle: ye shall enter the Sacred Mosque, if God wills, with minds secure, heads shaved, hair cut short, and without fear. For He knew what ye knew not, and He granted, besides this, a speedy victory.

048.028 It is He Who has sent His Apostle with Guidance and the Religion of Truth, to proclaim it over all religion: and enough is God for a Witness.

048.029 Muhammad is the apostle of God; and those who are with him are strong against Unbelievers, (but) compassionate amongst each other. Thou wilt see them bow and prostrate themselves (in prayer), seeking Grace from God and (His) Good Pleasure. On their faces are their marks, (being) the traces of their prostration. This is their similitude in the Taurat; and their similitude in the Gospel is: like a seed which sends forth its blade, then makes it strong; it then becomes thick, and it stands on its own stem, (filling) the sowers with wonder and delight. As a result, it fills the Unbelievers with rage at them. God has promised those among them who believe and do righteous deeds

forgiveness, and a great Reward.

THE PRIVATE APARTMENTS, THE INNER APARTMENTS,
CHAPTER NO. 049

049.001 O Ye who believe! Put not yourselves forward before God and His Apostle; but fear God: for God is He Who hears and knows all things.

049.002 O ye who believe! Raise not your voices above the voice of the Prophet, nor speak aloud to him in talk, as ye may speak aloud to one another, lest your deeds become vain and ye perceive not.

049.003 Those that lower their voices in the presence of God's Apostle,Ñtheir hearts has God tested for piety: for them is Forgiveness and a great Reward.

049.004 Those who shout out to thee from without the inner apartmentsÑmost of them lack understanding.

049.005 If only they had patience until thou couldst come out to them, it would be best for them: but God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

049.006 O ye who believe! If a wicked person comes to you with any news, ascertain the truth, lest ye harm people unwittingly, and afterwards become full of repentance for what ye have done.

049.007 And know that among you is God's Apostle: were he, in many matters, to follow your (wishes), ye would certainly fall into misfortune: But God has endeared the Faith to you, and has made it beautiful in your hearts, and He has made hateful to you Unbelief, wickedness, and rebellion: such indeed are those who walk in righteousness;-

049.008 A Grace and Favour from God; and God is full of Knowledge and Wisdom.

049.009 If two parties among the Believers fall into a quarrel, make ye peace between them: but if one of them transgresses

049.010 The Believers are but a single Brotherhood: So make peace and reconciliation between your two (contending) brothers; and fear God, that ye may receive Mercy.

049.011 O ye who believe! Let not some men among you laugh at others: It may be that the (latter) are better than the (former): Nor let some women laugh at others: It may be that the (latter are better than the (former): Nor defame nor be sarcastic to each other, nor call each other by (offensive) nicknames: Ill-seeming is a name connoting wickedness, (to be used of one) after he has believed: And those who do not desist are (indeed) doing wrong.

049.012 O ye who believe! Avoid suspicion as much (as possible): for suspicion in some cases is a sin: And spy not on each other behind their backs. Would any of you like to eat the flesh of his dead brother? Nay, ye would abhor it...But fear God: For God is Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.

049.013 O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other (not that ye

may despise (each other). Verily the most honoured of you in the sight of God is (he who is) the most righteous of you. And God has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things).

049.014 The desert Arabs say, "We believe." Say, "Ye have no faith; but ye (only)say, 'We have submitted our wills to God,' For not yet has Faith entered your hearts. But if ye obey God and His Apostle, He will not belittle aught of your deeds: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

049.015 Only those are Believers who have believed in God and His Apostle, and have never since doubted, but have striven with their belongings and their persons in the Cause of God: Such are the sincere ones, Were We then weary with the first Creation, that they should be in confused doubt about a new Creation?

049.016 Say: "What! Will ye instruct God about your religion? But God knows all that is in the heavens and on earth: He has full knowledge of all things.

049.017 They impress on thee as a favour that they have embraced Islam. Say, "Count not your Islam as a favour upon me: Nay, God has conferred a favour upon you that He has guided you to the faith, if ye be true and sincere.

049.018 "Verily God knows the secrets of the heavens and the earth: and God Sees well all that ye do."

QAF, (THE LETTER), (Q),
CHAPTER NO. 050

050.001 Qaf: By the Glorious Qur'an (Thou art God's Apostle).

050.002 But they wonder that there has come to them a Warner from among themselves. So the Unbelievers say: "This is a wonderful thing!

050.003 "What! When we die and become dust, (shall we live again?) That is a (sort of) return far (from our understanding)."

050.004 We already know how much of them the earth takes away: With Us is a record guarding (the full account).

050.005 But they deny the Truth when it comes to them: so they are in a confused state.

050.006 Do they not look at the sky above them?ÑHow We have made it and adorned it, and there are no flaws in it?

050.007 And the earthÑWe have spread it out, and set thereon mountains standing firm, and produced therein every kind of beautiful growth (in pairs)-

050.008 To be observed and commemorated by every devotee turning (to God).

050.009 And We send down from the sky rain charted with blessing, and We produce therewith gardens and Grain for harvests;

050.010 And tall (and stately) palm-trees, with shoots of fruit-stalks, piled one over another;-

050.011 As sustenance for (God's) Servants;Ñand We give (new) life therewith to land that is dead: Thus will be the Resurrection.

050.012 Before them was denied (the Hereafter) by the People of Noah, the Companions of the Rass, the Thamud,

050.013 The 'Ad, Pharaoh, the brethren of Lut,

050.014 The Companions of the Wood, and the People of Tubba'; each one (of them) rejected the apostles, and My warning was duly fulfilled (in them).

050.015 Were We then weary with the first Creation, that they should be in confused doubt about a new Creation?

050.016 It was We Who created man, and We know what dark suggestions his soul makes to him: for We are nearer to him than (his) jugular vein.

050.017 Behold, two (guardian angels) appointed to learn (his doings) learn (and noted them), one sitting on the right and one on the left.

050.018 Not a word does he utter but there is a sentinel by him, ready (to note it).

050.019 And the stupor of death will bring Truth (before his eyes): "This was the thing which thou wast trying to escape!"

050.020 And the Trumpet shall be blown: that will be the Day whereof Warning (had been given).

050.021 And there will come forth every soul: with each will be an (angel) to drive, and an (angel) to bear witness.

050.022 (It will be said:) "Thou wast heedless of this; now have We removed thy veil, and sharp is thy sight this Day!"

050.023 And his Companion will say: "Here is (his Record) ready with me!"

050.024 (The sentence will be:) "Throw, throw into Hell every contumacious Rejecter (of God)!-

050.025 "Who forbade what was good, transgressed all bounds, cast doubts and suspicions;

050.026 "Who set up another god beside God: Throw him into a severe penalty."

050.027 His Companion will say: "Our Lord! I did not make him transgress, but he was (himself) far astray."

050.028 He will say: "Dispute not with each other in My Presence: I had already in advance sent you Warning.

050.029 "The Word changes not before Me, and I do not the least injustice to My Servants."

050.030 One Day We will ask Hell, "Art thou filled to the full?" It will say, "Are there any more (to come)?"

050.031 And the Garden will be brought nigh to the Righteous,Ñno more a thing distant.

050.032 (A voice will say:) "This is what was promised for you,Ñfor every one who turned (to God) in sincere repentance, who kept (His Law),

050.033 "Who feared (God) Most Gracious Unseen, and brought a heart turned in devotion (to Him):

050.034 "Enter ye therein in Peace and Security; this is a Day of Eternal Life!"

050.035 There will be for them therein all that they wish,Ñand more besides in Our Presence.

050.036 But how many generations before them did We destroy (for their sins),Ñstronger in power than they? Then did they wander through the land: was there any place of escape (for them)?

050.037 Verily in this is a Message for any that has a heart and understanding or who gives ear and earnestly witnesses (the truth).

050.038 We created the heavens and the earth and all between them in Six Days, nor did any sense of weariness touch Us.

050.039 Bear, then, with patience, all that they say, and celebrate the praises of thy Lord, before the rising of the sun and before (its) setting.

050.040 And during part of the night, (also,) celebrate His praises, and (so likewise) after the postures of adoration.

050.041 And listen for the Day when the Caller will call out from a place quiet near,-

050.042 The Day when they will hear a (mighty) Blast in (very) truth: that will be the Day of Resurrection.

050.043 Verily it is We Who give Life and Death; and to Us is the Final Goal-

050.044 The Day when the Earth will be rent asunder, from (men) hurrying out: that will be a gathering together,Ñquite easy for Us.

050.045 We know best what they say; and thou art not one to overawe them by force. So admonish with the Qur'an such as fear My Warning!

THE WINNOWING WINDS,
CHAPTER NO. 051

051.001 By the (Winds) that scatter broadcast;

051.002 And those that lift and bear away heavy weights;

051.003 And those that flow with ease and gentleness;

051.004 And those that distribute and apportion by Command;-

051.005 Verily that which ye are promised is true;

051.006 And verily Judgment and Justice must indeed come to pass.

051.007 By the Sky with (its) numerous Paths,

051.008 Truly ye are in a doctrine discordant,

051.009 Through which are deluded (away from the Truth) such as would be deluded.

051.010 Woe to the falsehood-mongers,-

051.011 Those who (flounder) heedless in a flood of confusion:

051.012 They ask, "When will be the Day of Judgment and Justice?"

051.013 (It will be) a Day when they will be tried (and tested) over the Fire!

051.014 "Taste ye your trial! This is what ye used to ask to be hastened!"

051.015 As to the Righteous, they will be in the midst of Gardens and Springs,

051.016 Taking joy in the things which their Lord gives them, because, before then, they lived a good life.

051.017 They were in the habit of sleeping but little by night,

051.018 And in the hour of early dawn, they (were found) praying for Forgiveness;

051.019 And in their wealth and possessions (was remembered) the right of the (needy,) him who asked, and him who (for some reason) was prevented (from asking).

051.020 On the earth are signs for those of assured Faith,

051.021 As also in your own selves: Will ye not then see?

051.022 And in heaven is your Sustenance, as (also) that which ye are promised.

051.023 Then, by the Lord of heaven and earth, this is the very Truth, as much as the fact that ye can speak intelligently to each other.

051.024 Has the story reached thee, of the honoured guests of Abraham?

051.025 Behold, they entered his presence, and said: "Peace!" He said, "Peace!" (and thought, "These seem) unusual people."

051.026 Then he turned quickly to his household, brought out a fatted calf,

051.027 And placed it before them.. he said, "Will ye not eat?"

051.028 (When they did not eat), He conceived a fear of them. They said, "Fear not," and they gave him glad tidings of a son endowed with knowledge.

051.029 But his wife came forward (laughing) aloud: she smote her forehead and said: "A barren old woman!"

051.030 They said, "Even so has thy Lord spoken: and He is full of Wisdom and Knowledge."

051.031 (Abraham) said: "And what, O ye Messengers, is your errand (now)?"

051.032 They said, "We have been sent to a people (deep) in sin;-

051.033 "To bring on, on them, (a shower of) stones of clay (brimstone),

051.034 "Marked as from thy Lord for those who trespass beyond bounds."

051.035 Then We evacuated those of the Believers who were there,

051.036 But We found not there any just (Muslim) persons except in one house:

051.037 And We left there a Sign for such as fear the Grievous Penalty.

051.038 And in Moses (was another Sign): Behold, We sent him to Pharaoh, with authority manifest.

051.039 But (Pharaoh) turned back with his Chiefs, and said, "A sorcerer, or one possessed!"

051.040 So We took him and his forces, and threw them into the sea; and his was the blame.

051.041 And in the 'Ad (people) (was another Sign): Behold, We sent against them the devastating Wind:

051.042 It left nothing whatever that it came up against, but reduced it to ruin and rottenness.

051.043 And in the Thamud (was another Sign): Behold, they were told, "Enjoy (your brief day) for a little while!"

051.044 But they insolently defied the Command of their Lord: So the stunning noise (of an earthquake) seized them, even while they were looking on.

051.045 Then they could not even stand (on their feet), nor could they help themselves.

051.046 So were the People of Noah before them for they wickedly transgressed.

051.047 With power and skill did We construct the Firmament: for it is We Who create the vastness of pace.

051.048 And We have spread out the (spacious) earth: How excellently We do spread out!

051.049 And of every thing We have created pairs: That ye may receive instruction.

051.050 Hasten ye then (at once) to God: I am from Him a Warner to you, clear and open!

051.051 And make not another an object of worship with God: I am from Him a Warner to you, clear and open!

051.052 Similarly, no apostle came to the Peoples before them, but they said (of him) in like manner, "A sorcerer, or one possessed"!

051.053 Is this the legacy they have transmitted, one to another? Nay, they are themselves a people transgressing beyond bounds!

051.054 So turn away from them: not thine is the blame.

051.055 But teach (thy Message) for teaching benefits the Believers.

051.056 I have only created Jinns and men, that they may serve Me.

051.057 No Sustenance do I require of them, nor do I require that they should feed Me.

051.058 For God is He Who gives (all) Sustenance,ÑLord of Power,ÑSteadfast (for ever).

051.059 For the Wrong-doers, their portion is like unto the portion of their fellows (of earlier generations): then let them not ask Me to hasten (that portion)!

051.060 Woe, then, to the Unbelievers, on account of that Day of theirs which they have been promised!

THE MOUNT,
CHAPTER NO. 052

052.001 By the Mount (of Revelation);

052.002 By a Decree inscribed

052.003 In a Scroll unfolded;

052.004 By the much-frequented Fane;

052.005 By the Canopy Raised High;

052.006 And by the Ocean filled with Swell;-

052.007 Verily, the Doom of thy Lord will indeed come to pass;-

052.008 There is none can avert it;-

052.009 On the Day when the firmament will be in dreadful commotion.

052.010 And the mountains will fly hither and thither.

052.011 Then woe that Day to those that treat (Truth) as Falsehood;-

052.012 That play (and paddle) in shallow trifles.

052.013 That Day shall they be thrust down to the Fire of Hell, irresistibly.

052.014 "This:, it will be said, "Is the Fire,Ñwhich ye were wont to deny!

052.015 "Is this then a fake, or is it ye that do not see?

052.016 "Burn ye therein: the same is it to you whether ye bear it with patience, or not: Ye but receive the recompense of your (own) deeds."

052.017 As to the Righteous, they will be in Gardens, and in Happiness,-

052.018 Enjoying the (Bliss) which their Lord hath bestowed on them, and their Lord shall deliver them from the Penalty of the Fire.

052.019 (To them will be said:) "Eat and drink ye, with profit and health, because of your (good) deeds."

052.020 They will recline (with ease) on Thrones (of dignity) arranged in ranks; and We shall join them to Companions, with beautiful big and lustrous eyes.

052.021 And those who believe and whose families follow them in Faith,Ñto them shall We join their families: Nor shall We deprive them (of the fruit) of aught of their works: (Yet) is each individual in pledge for his deeds.

052.022 And We shall bestow on them, of fruit and meat, anything they shall desire.

052.023 They shall there exchange, one with another, a (loving) cup free of frivolity, free of all taint of ill.

052.024 Round about them will serve, (devoted) to them. Youths (handsome) as Pearls well-guarded.

052.025 They will advance to each other, engaging in mutual enquiry.

052.026 They will say: "Aforetime, we were not without fear for the sake of our people.

052.027 "But God has been good to us, and has delivered us from the Penalty of the Scorching Wind.

052.028 "Truly, we did call unto Him from of old: truly it is He, the Beneficent, the Merciful!"

052.029 Therefore proclaim thou the praises (of thy Lord): for by the Grace of thy Lord, thou art no (vulgar) soothsayer, nor art thou one possessed.

052.030 Or do they say:Ñ"A Poet! we await for him some calamity (hatched) by Time!"

052.031 Say thou: "Await ye!ÑI too will wait along with you!"

052.032 Is it that their faculties of understanding urge them to this, or are they but a people transgressing beyond bounds?

052.033 Or do they say, "He fabricated the (Message)"? Nay, they have no faith!

052.034 Let them then produce a recital like unto it,ÑIf (it be) they speak the truth!

052.035 Were they created of nothing, or were they themselves the creators?

052.036 Or did they create the heavens and the earth? Nay, they have no firm belief.

052.037 Or are the Treasures of thy Lord with them, or are they the managers

(of affairs)?

052.038 Or have they a ladder, by which they can (climb up to heaven and) listen (to its secrets)? Then let (such a) listener of theirs produce a manifest proof.

052.039 Or has He only daughters and ye have sons?

052.040 Or is it that thou dost ask for a reward, so that they are burdened with a load of debt?-

052.041 Or that the Unseen in it their hands, and they write it down?

052.042 Or do they intend a plot (against thee)? But those who defy God are themselves involved in a Plot!

052.043 Or have they a god other than God? Exalted is God far above the things they associate with Him!

052.044 Were they to see a piece of the sky falling (on them), they would (only) say: "Clouds gathered in heaps!"

052.045 So leave them alone until they encounter that Day of theirs, wherein they shall (perforce) swoon (with terror),-

052.046 The Day when their plotting will avail them nothing and no help shall be given them.

052.047 And verily, for those who do wrong, there is another punishment besides this: But most of them understand not.

052.048 Now await in patience the command of thy Lord: for verily thou art in Our eyes: and celebrate the praises of thy Lord the while thou standest forth,

052.049 And for part of the night also praise thou Him,Ñand at the retreat of the stars!

THE STAR,
CHAPTER NO. 053

053.001 By the Star when it goes down,-

053.002 Your Companion is neither astray nor being misled.

053.003 Nor does he say (aught) of (his own) Desire.

053.004 It is no less than inspiration sent down to him:

053.005 He was taught by one Mighty in Power,

053.006 Endued with Wisdom: for he appeared (in stately form);

053.007 While he was in the highest part of the horizon:

053.008 Then he approached and came closer,

053.009 And was at a distance of but two bow-lengths or (even) nearer;

053.010 So did (God) convey the inspiration to His ServantÑ (conveyed) what He (meant) to convey.

053.011 The (Prophet's) (mind and) heart in no way falsified that which he saw.

053.012 Will ye then dispute with him concerning what he saw?

053.013 For indeed he saw him at a second descent,

053.014 Near the Lote-tree beyond which none may pass:

053.015 Near it is the Garden of Abode.

053.016 Behold, the Lote-tree was shrouded (in mystery unspeakable!)

053.017 (His) sight never swerved, nor did it go wrong!

053.018 For truly did he see, of the Signs of his Lord, the Greatest!

053.019 Have ye seen Lat. and 'Uzza,

053.020 And another, the third (goddess), Manat?

053.021 What! for you the male sex, and for Him, the female?

053.022 Behold, such would be indeed a division most unfair!

053.023 These are nothing but names which ye have devised,Ñye and your fathers,Ñfor which God has sent down no authority (whatever). They follow nothing but conjecture and what their own souls desire!ÑEven though there has already come to them Guidance from their Lord!

053.024 Nay, shall man have (just) anything he hankers after?

053.025 But it is to God that the End and the Beginning (of all things) belong.

053.026 How many-so-ever be the angels in the heavens, their intercession will avail nothing except after God has given leave for whom He pleases and that he is acceptable to Him.

053.027 Those who believe not in the Hereafter, name the angels with female names.

053.028 But they have no knowledge therein. They follow nothing but conjecture; and conjecture avails nothing against Truth.

053.029 Therefore shun those who turn away from Our Message and desire nothing but the life of this world.

053.030 That is as far as knowledge will reach them. Verily thy Lord knoweth best those who stray from His Path, and He knoweth best those who receive guidance.

053.031 Yea, to God belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: so that He rewards those who do evil, according to their deeds, and He rewards those who do good, with what is best.

053.032 Those who avoid great sins and shameful deeds, only (falling into)

small faults,Ñverily thy Lord is ample in forgiveness. He knows you well when He brings you out of the earth, And when ye are hidden in your mothers' wombs. Therefore justify not yourselves: He knows best who it is that guards against evil.

053.033 Seest thou one who turns back,

053.034 Gives a little, then hardens (his heart)?

053.035 What! Has he knowledge of the Unseen so that he can see?

053.036 Nay, is he not acquainted with what is in the Books of Moses-

053.037 And of Abraham who fulfilled his engagements?-

053.038 Namely, that no bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another;

053.039 That man can have nothing but what he strives for;

053.040 That (the fruit of) his striving will soon come in sight:

053.041 Then will he be rewarded with a reward complete;

053.042 That to thy Lord is the final Goal;

053.043 That it is He Who granteth Laughter and Tears;

053.044 That it is He Who granteth Death and Life;

053.045 That He did create in pairs,Ñmale and female,

053.046 From a seed when lodged (in its place);

053.047 That He hath promised a Second Creation (Raising of the Dead);

053.048 That it is He Who giveth wealth and satisfaction;

053.049 That He is the Lord of Sirius (the Mighty Star);

053.050 And that it is He Who destroyed the (powerful) ancient 'Ad (people),

053.051 And the Thamud nor gave them a lease of perpetual life.

053.052 And before them, the people of Noah, for that they were (all) most unjust and most insolent transgressors,

053.053 And He destroyed the Overthrown Cities (of Sodom and Gomorrah).

053.054 So that (ruins unknown) have covered them up.

053.055 Then which of the gifts of thy Lord, (O man,) wilt thou dispute about?

053.056 This is a Warner, of the (series of) Warners of old!

053.057 The (Judgment) ever approaching draws nigh:

053.058 No (soul) but God can lay it bare.

053.059 Do ye then wonder at this recital?

053.060 And will ye laugh and not weep,-

053.061 Wasting your time in vanities?

053.062 But fall ye down in prostration to God, and adore (Him)!

THE MOON,
CHAPTER NO. 054

054.001 The Hour (of Judgment) is nigh, and the moon is cleft asunder.

054.002 But if they see a Sign, they turn away, and say, "This is (but) transient magic."

054.003 They reject (the warning) and follow their (own) lusts but every matter has its appointed time.

054.004 There have already come to them Recitals wherein there is (enough) to check (them),

054.005 Mature wisdom;Ñbut (the preaching of) Warners profits them not.

054.006 Therefore, (O Prophet,) turn away from them. The Day that the Caller will call (them) to a terrible affair,

054.007 They will come forth,Ñtheir eyes humbledÑfrom (their) graves, (torpid) like locusts scattered abroad,

054.008 Hastening, with eyes transfixed, towards the Caller!Ñ"Hard is this Day!", the Unbelievers will say.

054.009 Before them the People of Noah rejected (their apostle): they rejected Our servant, and said, "Here is one possessed!", and he was driven out.

054.010 Then he called on his Lord: "I am one overcome: do Thou then help (me)!"

054.011 So We opened the gates of heaven, with water pouring forth.

054.012 And We caused the earth to gush forth with springs, so the waters met (and rose) to the extent decreed.

054.013 But We bore him on an (Ark) made of broad planks and caulked with palm-fibre:

054.014 She floats under our eyes (and care): a recompense to one who had been rejected (with scorn)!

054.015 And We have left this as a Sign (for all time): then is there any that will receive admonition?

054.016 But how (terrible) was My Penalty and My Warning?

054.017 And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember: then is there any that will receive admonition?

054.018 The 'Ad (people) (too) rejected (Truth): then how terrible was My Penalty and My Warning?

054.019 For We sent against them a furious wind, on a Day of violent Disaster,

054.020 Plucking out men as if they were roots of palm-trees torn up (from the ground).

054.021 Yea, how (terrible) was My Penalty and My Warning!

054.022 But We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember: then is there any that will receive admonition?

054.023 The Thamud (also) rejected (their) Warners.

054.024 For they said: "What! a man! a Solitary one from among ourselves! shall we follow such a one? Truly should we then be straying in mind, and mad!

054.025 "Is it that the Message is sent to him, of all people amongst us? Nay, he is a liar, an insolent one!"

054.026 Ah! they will know on the morrow, which is the liar, the insolent one!

054.027 For We will send the she-camel by way of trial for them. So watch them, (O Salih), and possess thyself in patience!

054.028 And tell them that the water is to be divided between them: Each one's right to drink being brought forward (by suitable turns).

054.029 But they called to their companion, and he took a sword in hand, and hamstrung (her).

054.030 Ah! how (terrible) was My Penalty and My Warning!

054.031 For We sent against them a single Mighty Blast, and they became like the dry stubble used by one who pens cattle.

054.032 And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember: then is there any that will receive admonition?

054.033 The people of Lut rejected (his) warning.

054.034 We sent against them a violent Tornado with showers of stones, (which destroyed them), except Lut's household: them We delivered by early Dawn,-

054.035 As a Grace from Us: thus do We reward those who give thanks.

054.036 And (Lut) did warn them of Our Punishment, but they disputed about the Warning.

054.037 And they even sought to snatch away his guests from him, but We blinded their eyes. (They heard:) "Now taste ye My Wrath and My Warning."

054.038 Early on the morrow an abiding Punishment seized them:

054.039 "So taste ye My Wrath and My Warning."

054.040 And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember: then is there any that will receive admonition?

054.041 To the People of Pharaoh, too, aforetime, came Warners (from God).

054.042 The (people) rejected all Our Signs; but We seized them with such Penalty (as comes) from One Exalted in Power, able to carry out His Will.

054.043 Are your Unbelievers, (O Quraish), better than they? Or have ye an immunity in the Sacred Books?

054.044 Or do they say: "We acting together can defend ourselves"?

054.045 Soon will their multitude be put to flight, and they will show their backs.

054.046 Nay, the Hour (of Judgment) is the time promised them (for their full recompense): And that Hour will be most grievous and most bitter.

054.047 Truly those in sin are the ones straying in mind, and mad.

054.048 The Day they will be dragged through the Fire on their faces, (they will hear:) "Taste ye the touch of Hell!"

054.049 Verily, all things have We created in proportion and measure.

054.050 And Our Command is but a single (Act),Ñlike the twinkling of an eye.

054.051 And (oft) in the past, have We destroyed gangs like unto you: then is there any that will receive admonition?

054.052 All that they do is noted in (their) Books (of Deeds):

054.053 Every matter, small and great, is on record.

054.054 As to the Righteous, they will be in the midst of Gardens and Rivers,

054.055 In an Assembly of Truth, in the Presence of a Sovereign Omnipotent.

THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCY GIVING,
CHAPTER NO. 055

055.001 (God) Most Gracious!

055.002 It is He Who has taught the Qur'an.

055.003 He has created man:

055.004 He has taught him speech (and intelligence).

055.005 The sun and the moon follow courses (exactly) computed;

055.006 And the herbs and the treesÑboth (alike) bow in adoration.

055.007 And the Firmament has He raised high, and He has set up the Balance (of Justice),

055.008 In order that ye may not transgress (due) balance.

055.009 So establish weight with justice and fall not short in the balance.

055.010 It is He Who has spread out the earth for (His) creatures:

055.011 Therein is fruit and date-palms, producing spathes (enclosing dates);

055.012 Also corn, with (its) leaves and stalk for fodder, and sweet-smelling plants.

055.013 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.014 He created man from sounding clay like unto pottery,

055.015 And He created Jinns from fire free of smoke:

055.016 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.017 (He is) Lord of the two Easts and Lord of the two Wests:

055.018 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.019 He has let free the two bodies of flowing water, meeting together:

055.020 Between them is a Barrier which they do not transgress:

055.021 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.022 Out of them come Pearls and Coral:

055.023 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.024 And His are the Ships sailing smoothly through the seas, lofty as mountains:

055.025 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.026 All that is on earth will perish:

055.027 But will abide (for ever) the Face of thy Lord,Ñfull of Majesty, Bounty and Honour.

055.028 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.029 Of Him seeks (its need) every creature in the heavens and on earth: every day in (new) Splendour doth He (shine)!

055.030 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.031 Soon shall We settle your affairs, O both ye worlds!

055.032 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.033 O ye assembly of Jinns and men! If it be ye can pass beyond the zones of the heavens and the earth, pass ye! not without authority shall ye be able to pass!

055.034 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.035 On you will be sent (O ye evil ones twain!) a flame of fire (to burn) and a smoke (to choke): no defence will ye have:

055.036 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.037 When the sky is rent asunder, and it becomes red like ointment:

055.038 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.039 On that Day no question will be asked of man or Jinn as to his sin.

055.040 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.041 (For) the sinners will be known by their marks: and they will be seized by their forelocks and their feet.

055.042 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.043 This is the Hell which the Sinners deny:

055.044 In its midst and in the midst of boiling hot water will they wander round!

055.045 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.046 But for such as fear the time when they will stand before (the Judgment Seat of) their Lord, there will be two Gardens-

055.047 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.048 Containing all kinds (of trees and delights);-

055.049 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.050 In them (each) will be two Springs flowing (free);

055.051 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.052 In them will be Fruits of every kind, two and two.

055.053 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.054 They will recline on Carpets, whose inner linings will be of rich brocade: the Fruit of the Gardens will be near (and easy of reach).

055.055 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.056 In them will be (Maidens), chaste, restraining their glances, whom no man or Jinn before them has touched;-

055.057 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.058 Like unto Rubies and coral.

055.059 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.060 Is there any Reward for GoodÑother than Good?

055.061 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.062 And besides these two, there are two other Gardens,-

055.063 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.064 Dark-green in colour (from plentiful watering).

055.065 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.066 In them (each) will be two Springs pouring forth water in continuous

abundance:

055.067 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.068 In them will be Fruits, and dates and pomegranates:

055.069 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.070 In them will be fair (Companions), good, beautiful;-

055.071 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.072 Companions restrained (as to their glances), in (goodly) pavilions;-

055.073 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.074 Whom no man or Jinn before them has touched;-

055.075 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?-

055.076 Reclining on green Cushions and rich Carpets of beauty.

055.077 Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

055.078 Blessed be the name of thy Lord, full of Majesty, Bounty and Honour.

THE EVENT, THE INEVITABLE,
CHAPTER NO. 056

056.001 When the Event inevitable cometh to pass,

056.002 Then will no (soul) entertain falsehood concerning its coming.

056.003 (Many) will it bring low; (many) will it exalt;

056.004 When the earth shall be shaken to its depths,

056.005 And the mountains shall be crumbled to atoms,

056.006 Becoming dust scattered abroad,

056.007 And ye shall be sorted out into three classes.

056.008 Then (there will be) the Companions of the Right Hand;ÑWhat will be the Companions of the Right Hand?

056.009 And the Companions of the Left Hand,Ñwhat will be the Companions of the Left Hand?

056.010 And those Foremost (in Faith) will be Foremost (in the Hereafter).

056.011 These will be those Nearest to God:

056.012 In Gardens of Bliss:

056.013 A number of people from those of old,

056.014 And a few from those of later times.

056.015 (They will be) on Thrones encrusted (with gold and precious stones),

056.016 Reclining on them, facing each other.

056.017 Round about them will (serve) youths of perpetual (freshness),

056.018 With goblets, (shining) beakers, and cups (filled) out of clear-flowing fountains:

056.019 No after-ache will they receive therefrom, nor will they suffer intoxication:

056.020 And with fruits, any that they may select:

056.021 And the flesh of fowls, any that they may desire.

056.022 And (there will be) Companions with beautiful, big, and lustrous eyes,-

056.023 Like unto Pearls well-guarded.

056.024 A Reward for the deeds of their past (life).

056.025 Not frivolity will they hear therein, nor any taint of ill,-

056.026 Only the saying, "Peace! Peace".

056.027 The Companions of the Right Hand,Ñwhat will be the Companions of the Right Hand?

056.028 (They will be) among Lote-trees without thorns,

056.029 Among Talh trees with flowers (or fruits) piled one above another,-

056.030 In shade long-extended,

056.031 By water flowing constantly,

056.032 And fruit in abundance.

056.033 Whose season is not limited, nor (supply) forbidden,

056.034 And on Thrones (of Dignity), raised high.

056.035 We have created (their Companions) of special creation.

056.036 And made them virginÑpure (and undefiled), -

056.037 Beloved (by nature), equal in age,-

056.038 For the Companions of the Right Hand.

056.039 A (goodly) number from those of old,

056.040 And a (goodly) number from those of later times.

056.041 The Companions of the Left Hand,Ñwhat will be the Companions of the Left Hand?

056.042 (They will be) in the midst of a Fierce Blast of Fire and in Boiling Water,

056.043 And in the shades of Black Smoke:

056.044 Nothing (will there be) to refresh, nor to please:

056.045 For that they were wont to be indulged, before that, in wealth (and luxury),

056.046 And persisted obstinately in wickedness supreme!

056.047 And they used to say, "What! when we die and become dust and bones, shall we then indeed be raised up again?-

056.048 "(We) and our fathers of old?"

056.049 Say: "Yea, those of old and those of later times,

056.050 "All will certainly be gathered together for the meeting appointed for a Day well-known.

056.051 "Then will ye truly,ÑO ye that go wrong, and treat (Truth) as Falsehood!-

056.052 "Ye will surely taste of the Tree of Zaqqum.

056.053 "Then will ye fill your insides therewith,

056.054 "And drink Boiling Water on top of it:

056.055 "Indeed ye shall drink like diseased camels raging with thirst!"

056.056 Such will be their entertainment on the Day of Requital!

056.057 It is We Who have created you: why will ye not witness the Truth?

056.058 Do ye then see?ÑThe (human Seed) that ye throw out,-

056.059 Is it ye who create it, or are We the Creators?

056.060 We have decreed Death to be your common lot, and We are not to be frustrated

056.061 from changing your Forms and creating you (again) in (forms) that ye know not.

056.062 And ye certainly know already the first form of creation: why then do ye not celebrate His praises?

056.063 See ye the seed that ye sow in the ground?

056.064 Is it ye that cause it to grow, or are We the Cause?

056.065 Were it Our Will, We could crumble it to dry powder, and ye would be left in wonderment,

056.066 (Saying), "We are indeed left with debts (for nothing):

056.067 "Indeed are we shut out (of the fruits of our labour)"

056.068 See ye the water which ye drink?

056.069 Do ye bring it down (in rain) from the cloud or do We?

056.070 Were it Our Will, We could make it salt (and unpalatable): then why do ye not give thanks?

056.071 See ye the Fire which ye kindle?

056.072 Is it ye who grow the tree which feeds the fire, or do We grow it?

056.073 We have made it a memorial (of Our handiwork), and an article of comfort and convenience for the denizens of deserts.

056.074 Then celebrate with praises the name of thy Lord, the Supreme!

056.075 Furthermore I call to witness the setting of the Stars,-

056.076 And that is indeed a mighty adjuration if ye but knew,-

056.077 That this is indeed a qur'an Most Honourable,

056.078 In Book well-guarded,

056.079 Which none shall touch but those who are clean:

056.080 A Revelation from the Lord of the Worlds.

056.081 Is it such a Message that ye would hold in light esteem?

056.082 And have ye made it your livelihood that ye should declare it false?

056.083 Then why do ye not (intervene) when (the soul of the dying man) reaches the throat,-

056.084 And ye the while (sit) looking on,-

056.085 But We are nearer to him than ye, and yet see not,-

056.086 Then why do ye not,ÑIf you are exempt from (future) account,-

056.087 Call back the soul, if ye are true (in the claim of independence)?

056.088 Thus, then, if he be of those Nearest to God,

056.089 (There is for him) Rest and Satisfaction, and a Garden of Delights.

056.090 And if he be of the Companions of the Right Hand,

056.091 (For him is the salutation), "Peace be unto thee", from the Companions of the Right Hand.

056.092 And if he be of those who treat (Truth) as Falsehood, who go wrong,

056.093 For him is Entertainment with Boiling Water.

056.094 And burning in Hell-Fire.

056.095 Verily, this is the Very Truth and Certainly.

056.096 So celebrate with praises the name of thy Lord, the Supreme.

IRON,
CHAPTER NO. 057

057.001 Whatever is in the heavens and on earth,Ñlet it declare the Praises and Glory of God: for He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

057.002 To Him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: It is He Who gives Life and Death; and He has Power over all things.

057.003 He is the First and the Last, the Evident and the Immanent: and He has full knowledge of all things.

057.004 He it is Who created the heavens and the earth in Six Days, and is moreover firmly established on the Throne (of Authority). He knows what enters within the earth and what comes forth out of it, what comes down from heaven and what mounts up to it. And He is with you wheresoever ye may be. And God sees well all that ye do.

057.005 To Him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: and all affairs are referred back to God.

057.006 He merges Night into Day, and He merges Day into Night; and He has full knowledge of the secrets of (all) hearts.

057.007 Believe in God and His apostle, and spend (in charity) out of the (substance) whereof He has made you heirs. For, those of you who believe and spend (in charity),Ñfor them is a great Reward.

057.008 What cause have ye why ye should not believe in God?Ñand the Apostle invites you to believe in your Lord, and has indeed taken your Covenant, if ye are men of Faith.

057.009 He is the One Who sends to His Servant Manifest Signs, that He may lead you from the depths of Darkness into the Light and verily God is to you most kind and Merciful.

057.010 And what cause have ye why ye should not spend in the cause of God?ÑFor to God belongs the heritage of the heavens and the earth. Not equal among you are those who spent (freely) and fought, before the Victory, (with those who did so later). Those are higher in rank than those who spent (freely) and fought afterwards. But to all has God promised a goodly (reward). And God is well acquainted with all that ye do.

057.011 Who is he that will Loan to God a beautiful loan? for (God) will increase it manifold to his credit, and he will have (besides) a liberal Reward.

057.012 One Day shalt thou see the believing men and the believing womenÑhow their Light runs forward before them and by their right hands: (their greeting will be): "Good News for you this Day! Gardens beneath which flow rivers! to dwell therein for aye! This is indeed the highest Achievement!"

057.013 One Day will the HypocritesÑmen and womenÑsay to the Believers: "Wait for us! Let us borrow (a Light) from your Light!" It will be said: "Turn ye back to your rear! then seek a Light (where ye can)!" So a wall will be put up betwixt them, with a gate therein. Within it will be Mercy throughout, and

without it, all alongside, will be (Wrath and) Punishment!

057.014 (Those without) will call out, "Were we not with you?" (The others) will reply, "True! but ye led yourselves into temptation; ye looked forward (to our ruin); ye doubted (God's Promise); and (your false) desires deceived you; until there issued the Command of God. And the Deceiver deceived you in respect of God.

057.015 "This Day shall no ransom be accepted of you, nor of those who rejected God." Your abode is the Fire: that is the proper place to claim you: and an evil refuge it is!"

057.016 Has not the Time arrived for the Believers that their hearts in all humility should engage in the remembrance of God and of the Truth which has been revealed (to them), and that they should not become like those to whom was given Revelation aforetime, but long ages passed over them and their hearts grew hard? For many among them are rebellious transgressors.

057.017 Know ye (all) that God giveth life to the earth after its death! already have We shown the Signs plainly to you, that ye may learn wisdom.

057.018 For those who give in Charity, men and women, and loan to God a Beautiful Loan, it shall be increased manifold (to their credit), and they shall have (besides) a liberal reward.

057.019 And those who believe in God and His apostlesÑthey are the Sincere (lovers of Truth), and the witnesses (who testify), in the eyes of their Lord: They shall have their Reward and their Light. But those who reject God and deny Our Signs,Ñthey are the Companions of Hell-Fire.

057.020 Know ye (all), that the life of this world is but play and amusement, pomp and mutual boasting and multiplying, (in rivalry) among yourselves, riches and children. Here is a similitude: How rain and the growth which it brings forth, delight (the hearts of) the tillers; soon it withers; thou wilt see it grow yellow; then it becomes dry and crumbles away. But in the Hereafter is a Penalty severe (for the devotees of wrong). And Forgiveness from God and (His) Good Pleasure (for the devotees of God). And what is the life of this world, but goods and chattels of deception?

057.021 Be ye foremost (in seeking) Forgiveness from your Lord, and a Garden (of Bliss), the width whereof is as the width of heaven and earth, prepared for those who believe in God and His apostles: that is the Grace of God, which He bestows on whom he pleases: and God is the Lord of Grace abounding.

057.022 No misfortune can happen on earth or in your souls but is recorded in a decree before We bring it into existence: That is truly easy for God:

057.023 In order that ye may not despair over matters that pass you by, nor exult over favours bestowed upon you. For God loveth not any vainglorious boaster,-

057.024 Such persons as are covetous and commend covetousness to men. And if

any turn back (from God's Way), verily God is Free of all Needs, Worthy of all Praise.

057.025 We sent aforetime our apostles with Clear Signs and sent down with them the Book and the Balance (of Right and Wrong), that men may stand forth in justice; and We sent down Iron, in which is (material for) mighty war, as well as many benefits for mankind, that God may test who it is that will help, Unseen, Him and His apostles: For God is Full of Strength, Exalted in Might (and able to enforce His Will).

057.026 And We sent Noah and Abraham, and established in their line Prophethood and Revelation: and some of them were on right guidance. But many of them became rebellious transgressors.

057.027 Then, in their wake, We followed them up with (others of) Our apostles: We sent after them Jesus the son of Mary, and bestowed on him the Gospel; and We ordained in the hearts of those who followed him Compassion and Mercy. But the Monasticism which they invented for themselves, We did not prescribe for them: (We commanded) only the seeking for the Good Pleasure of God; but that they did not foster as they should have done. Yet We bestowed, on those among them who believed, their (due) reward, but many of them are rebellious transgressors.

057.028 O ye that believe! Fear God, and believe in His Apostle, and He will bestow on you a double portion of His Mercy: He will provide for you a Light by which ye shall walk (straight in your path), and He will forgive you (your past): for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

057.029 That the People of the Book may know that they have no power whatever over the Grace of God, that (His) Grace is (entirely) in His Hand, to bestow it on whomsoever He wills. For God is the Lord of Grace abounding.

SHE THAT DISPUTETH, THE PLEADING WOMAN,
CHAPTER NO. 058

058.001 God has indeed heard (and accepted) the statement of the woman who pleads with thee concerning her husband and carries her complaint (in prayer) to God: and God (always) hears the arguments between both sides among you: for God hears and sees (all things).

058.002 If any men among you divorce their wives by Zihar (calling them mothers), they cannot be their mothers: None can be their mothers except those who gave them birth. And in fact they use words (both) iniquitous and false: but truly God is one that blots out (sins), and forgives (again and again).

058.003 But those who divorce their wives by Zihar, then wish to go back on the words they uttered,Ñ(It is ordained that such a one) should free a slave before they touch each other: Thus are ye admonished to perform: and God is well-acquainted with (all) that ye do.

058.004 And if any has not (the wherewithal), he should fast for two months consecutively before they touch each other. But if any is unable to do so, he

should feed sixty indigent ones, this, that ye may show your faith in God and His Apostle. Those are limits (set by) God. For those who reject (Him), there is a grievous Penalty.

058.005 Those who resist God and His Apostle will be humbled to dust, as were those before them: for We have already sent down Clear Signs. And the Unbelievers (will have) a humiliating Penalty,-

058.006 On the Day that God will raise them all up (again) and show them the Truth (and meaning) of their conduct. God has reckoned its (value), though they may have forgotten it, for God is Witness to all things.

058.007 Seest thou not that God doth know (all) that is in the heavens and on earth? There is not a secret consultation between three, but He makes the fourth among them,ÑNor between five but He makes the sixth,Ñnor between fewer nor more, but He is in their midst, wheresoever they be: In the end will He tell them the truth of their conduct, on the Day of Judgment. For God has full knowledge of all things.

058.008 Turnest thou not thy sight towards those who were forbidden secret counsels yet revert to that which they were forbidden (to do)? And they hold secret counsels among themselves for iniquity and hostility, and disobedience to the Apostle. And when they come to thee, they salute thee, not as God salutes thee, (but in crooked ways): And they say to themselves, "Why does not God punish us for our words?" Enough for them is Hell: In it will they burn, and evil is that destination!

058.009 O ye who believe! When ye hold secret counsel, do it not for iniquity and hostility, and disobedience to the Prophet; but do it for righteousness and self-restraint; and fear God, to Whom ye shall be brought back.

058.010 Secret counsels are only (inspired) by the Evil One, in order that he may cause grief to the Believers; but he cannot harm them in the least, except as God permits; and on God let the Believers put their trust.

058.011 O ye who believe! When ye are told to make room in the assemblies, (spread out and) make room: (ample) room will God provide for you. And when ye are told to rise up, rise up God will rise up, to (suitable) ranks (and degrees), those of you who believe and who have been granted (mystic) Knowledge. And God is well-acquainted with all ye do.

058.012 O ye who believe! When ye consult the Apostle in private, spend something in charity before your private consultation. That will be best for you, and most conducive to purity (of conduct). But if ye find not (the wherewithal), God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

058.013 Is it that ye are afraid of spending sums in charity before your private consultation (with him)? If, then, ye do not so, and God forgives you, then (at least) establish regular prayer; practise regular charity; and obey God and His Apostle. And God is well-acquainted with all that ye do.

058.014 Turnest thou not thy attention to those who turn (in friendship) to

such as have the Wrath of God upon them? They are neither of you nor of them, and they swear to falsehood knowingly.

058.015 God has prepared for them a severe Penalty: evil indeed are their deeds.

058.016 They have made their oaths a screen (for their misdeeds): thus they obstruct (men) from the Path of God: therefore shall they have a humiliating Penalty.

058.017 Of no profit whatever to them, against God, will be their riches nor their sons: they will be Companions of the Fire, to dwell therein (for aye)!

058.018 One day will God raise them all up (for Judgment): then will they swear to Him as they swear to you: And they think that they have something (to stand upon). No, indeed! they are but liars!

058.019 The Evil One has got the better of them: so he has made them lose the remembrance of God. They are the Party of the Evil One. Truly, it is the Party of the Evil One that will perish!

058.020 Those who resist God and His Apostle will be among those most humiliated.

058.021 God has decreed: "It is I and My apostles who must prevail": For God is One full of strength, able to enforce His Will.

058.022 Thou wilt not find any people who believe in God and the Last Day, loving those who resist God and His Apostle, even though they were their fathers or their sons, or their brothers, or their kindred. For such He has written Faith in their hearts, and strengthened them with a spirit from Himself. And He will admit them to Gardens beneath which Rivers flow, to dwell therein (for ever). God will be well pleased with them, and they with Him. They are the Party of God. Truly it is the Party of God that will achieve Felicity.

EXILE, BANISHMENT,
CHAPTER NO. 059

059.001 Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the Praises and Glory of God: for He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

059.002 It is He Who got out the Unbelievers among the People of the Book from their homes at the first gathering (of the forces). Little did ye think that they would get out: And they thought that their fortresses would defend them from God! But the (Wrath of) God came to them from quarters from which they little expected (it), and cast terror into their hearts, so that they destroyed their dwellings by their own hands and the hands of the Believers, take warning, then, O ye with eyes (to see)!

059.003 And had it not been that God had decreed banishment for them, He would certainly have punished them in this world: And in the Hereafter they shall (certainly) have the Punishment of the Fire.

059.004 That is because they resisted God and His Apostle: and if any one resists God, verily God is severe in Punishment.

059.005 Whether ye cut down (O ye Muslim!) The tender palm-trees, or ye left them standing on their roots, it was by leave of God, and in order that He might cover with shame the rebellious transgresses.

059.006 What God has bestowed on His Apostle (and taken away) from themÑfor this ye made no expedition with either cavalry or camelry: but God gives power to His apostles over any He pleases: and God has power over all things.

059.007 What God has bestowed on His Apostle (and taken away) from the people of the townships,Ñbelongs to God,Ñto His Apostle and to kindred and orphans, the needy and the wayfarer; In order that it may not (merely) make a circuit between the wealthy among you. So take what the Apostle assigns to you, and deny yourselves that which he withholds from you. And fear God; for God is strict in Punishment.

059.008 (Some part is due) to the indigent Muhajirs, those who were expelled from their homes and their property, while seeking Grace from God and (His) Good Pleasure, and aiding God and His Apostle: such are indeed the sincere ones:-

059.009 But those who before them, had homes (in Medina) and had adopted the Faith,Ñshow their affection to such as came to them for refuge, and entertain no desire in their hearts for things given to the (latter), but give them preference over themselves, even though poverty was their (own lot). And those saved from the covetousness of their own souls,Ñthey are the ones that achieve prosperity.

059.010 And those who came after them say: "Our Lord! Forgive us, and our brethren who came before us into the Faith, and leave not, in our hearts, rancour (or sense of injury) against those who have believed. Our Lord! Thou art indeed Full of Kindness, Most Merciful."

059.011 Hast thou not observed the Hypocrites say to their misbelieving brethren among the People of the Book?Ñ"If ye are expelled, we too will go out with you, and we will never hearken to any one in your affair; and if ye are attacked (in fight) we will help you". But God is witness that they are indeed liars.

059.012 If they are expelled, never will they go out with them; and if they are attacked (in fight), they will never help them; and if they do help them, they will turn their backs; so they will receive no help.

059.013 Of a truth ye are stronger (than they) because of the terror in their hearts, (sent) by God. This is because they are men devoid of understanding.

059.014 They will not fight you (even) together, except in fortified townships, or from behind walls. Strong is their fighting (spirit) amongst themselves: thou wouldst think they were united, but their hearts are divided: that is because they are a people devoid of wisdom.

059.015 Like those who lately preceded them, they have tasted the evil result of their conduct; and (in the Hereafter there is) for them a grievous Penalty;-

059.016 (Their allies deceived them), like the Evil One, when he says to man, "Deny God": but when (man) denies God, (the Evil One) says, "I am free of thee: I do fear God, the Lord of the Worlds!"

059.017 The end of both will be that they will go into the Fire, dwelling therein for ever. Such is the reward of the wrong-doers.

059.018 O ye who believe! Fear God, and let every soul look to what (provision) He has sent forth for the morrow. Yea, fear God: for God is well-acquainted with (all) that ye do.

059.019 And be ye not like those who forgot God; and He made them forget their own souls! Such are the rebellious transgressors!

059.020 Not equal are the Companions of the Fire and the Companions of the Garden: it is the Companions of the Garden, that will achieve Felicity.

059.021 Had We sent down this Qur'an on a mountain, verily, thou wouldst have seen it humble itself and cleave asunder for fear of God. Such are the similitudes which We propound to men, that they may reflect.

059.022 God is He, than Whom there is no other god;ÑWho knows (all things) both secret and open; He, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

059.023 God is He, than Whom there is no other god;Ñthe Sovereign, the Holy One, the Source of Peace (and Perfection), the Guardian of Faith, the Preserver of Safety, the Exalted in Might, the Irresistible, the Supreme: Glory to God! (High is He) above the partners they attribute to Him.

059.024 He is God, the Creator, the Evolver, the Bestower of Forms (or Colours). To Him belong the Most Beautiful Names: whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare His Praises and Glory: and He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

SHE THAT IS TO BE EXAMINED, EXAMINING HER,
CHAPTER NO. 060

060.001 O ye who believe! Take not my enemies and yours as friends (or protectors),Ñoffering them (your) love, even though they have rejected the Truth that has come to you, and have (on the contrary) driven out the Prophet and yourselves (from your homes), (simply) because ye believe in God your Lord! If ye have come out to strive in My Way and to seek My Good Pleasure, (take them not as friends), holding secret converse of love (and friendship) with them: for I know full well all that ye conceal and all that ye reveal. And any of you that does this has strayed from the Straight Path.

060.002 If they were to get the better of you, they would behave to you as enemies, and stretch forth their hands and their tongues against you for evil: and they desire that ye should reject the Truth.

060.003 Of no profit to you will be your relatives and your children on the Day of Judgment: He will judge between you: for God sees well all that ye do.

060.004 There is for you an excellent example (to follow) in Abraham and those with him, when they said to their people: "We are clear of you and of whatever ye worship besides God: we have rejected you, and there has arisen, between us and you, enmity and hatred for ever,Ñunless ye believe in God and Him alone": But not when Abraham said to his father: "I will pray for forgiveness for thee, though I have no power (to get) aught on thy behalf from God." (They prayed): "Our Lord! in Thee do we trust, and to Thee do we turn in repentance: to Thee is (our) Final Goal.

060.005 "Our Lord! Make us not a (test and) trial for the Unbelievers, but forgive us, our Lord! for Thou art the Exalted in Might, the Wise."

060.006 There was indeed in them an excellent example for you to follow,Ñfor those whose hope is in God and in the Last Day. But if any turn away, truly God is Free of all Wants, Worthy of all Praise.

060.007 It may be that God will grant love (and friendship) between you and those whom ye (now) hold as enemies. For God has power (over all things); And God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

060.008 God forbids you not, with regard to those who fight you not for (your) Faith nor drive you out of your homes, from dealing kindly and justly with them: for God loveth those who are just.

060.009 God only forbids you, with regard to those who fight you for (your) Faith, and drive you out of your homes, and support (others) in driving you out, from turning to them (for friendship and protection). It is such as turn to them (in these circumstances), that do wrong.

060.010 O ye who believe! When there come to you believing women refugees, examine (and test) them: God knows best as to their Faith: if ye ascertain that they are Believers, then send them not back to the Unbelievers. They are not lawful (wives) for the Unbelievers, nor are the (Unbelievers) lawful (husbands) for them. But pay the Unbelievers what they have spent (on their dower), and there will be no blame on you if ye marry them on payment of their dower to them. But hold not to the guardianship of unbelieving women: ask for what ye have spent on their dowers, and let the (Unbelievers) ask for what they have spent (on the dowers of women who come over to you). Such is the command of God: He judges (with justice) between you. And God is Full of Knowledge and Wisdom.

060.011 And if any of your wives deserts you to the Unbelievers, and ye have an accession (by the coming over of a woman from the other side), then pay to those whose wives have deserted the equivalent of what they had spent (on their dower). And fear God, in Whom ye believe.

060.012 O Prophet! When believing women come to thee to take the oath of fealty to thee, that they will not associate in worship any other thing whatever with

God, that they will not steal, that they will not commit adultery (or fornication), that they will not kill their children, that they will not utter slander, intentionally forging falsehood, and that they will not disobey thee in any just matter,Ñthen do thou receive their fealty, and pray to God for the forgiveness (of their sins): for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

060.013 O ye who believe! Turn not (for friendship) to people on whom is the Wrath of God, of the Hereafter they are already in despair, just as the Unbelievers are in despair about those (buried) in graves.

THE RANKS, BATTLE ARRAY,
CHAPTER NO. 061

061.001 Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the Praises and Glory of God: for He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

061.002 O ye who believe! Why say ye that which ye do not?

061.003 Grievously odious is it in the sight of God that ye say that which ye do not.

061.004 Truly God loves those who fight in His Cause in battle array, as if they were a solid cemented structure.

061.005 And remember, Moses said to his people: "O my people! why do ye vex and insult me, though ye know that I am the apostle of God (sent) to you?" Then when they went wrong, God let their hearts go wrong. For God guides not those who are rebellious transgressors.

061.006 And remember, Jesus, the son of Mary, said: "O Children of Israel! I am the apostle of God (sent) to you, confirming the Law (which came) before me, and giving Glad Tidings of an Apostle to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmad." But when he came to them with Clear Signs, they said, "this is evident sorcery!"

061.007 Who doth greater wrong than one who invents falsehood against God, even as he is being invited to Islam? And God guides not those who do wrong.

061.008 Their intention is to extinguish God's Light (by blowing) with their mouths: But God will complete (the revelation of) His Light, even though the Unbelievers may detest (it).

061.009 It is He Who has sent His Apostle with Guidance and the Religion of Truth, that he may proclaim it over all religion, even though the Pagans may detest (it).

061.010 O ye who believe! Shall I lead you to a bargain that will save you from a grievous Penalty?-

061.011 That ye believe in God and His Apostle, and that ye strive (your utmost) in the Cause of God, with your property and your persons: That will be best for you, if ye but knew!

061.012 He will forgive you your sins, and admit you to Gardens beneath which

Rivers flow, and to beautiful mansions in Gardens of Eternity: that is indeed the Supreme Achievement.

061.013 And another (favour will He bestow,) which ye do love,Ñhelp from God and a speedy victory. So give the Glad Tidings to the Believers.

061.014 O ye who believe! Be ye helpers of God: As said Jesus the son of Mary to the Disciples, "Who will be my helpers to (the work of) God?" Said the disciples, "We are God's helpers!" then a portion of the Children of Israel believed, and a portion disbelieved: But We gave power to those who believed, against their enemies, and they became the ones that prevailed.

THE CONGREGATION, FRIDAY,
CHAPTER NO. 062

062.001 Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare the Praises and Glory of God,Ñthe Sovereign, the Holy One, the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

062.002 It is He Who has sent amongst the Unlettered an apostle from among themselves, to rehearse to them His Signs, to sanctify them, and to instruct them in Scripture and Wisdom,Ñalthough they had been, before, in manifest error;-

062.003 As well as (to confer all these benefits upon) others of them, who have not already joined them: And He is exalted in Might, Wise.

062.004 Such is the Bounty of God, which He bestows on whom He will: and God is the Lord of the highest bounty.

062.005 The similitude of those who were charged with the (obligations of the) Mosaic Law, but who subsequently failed in those (obligations), is that of a donkey which carries huge tomes (but understands them not). Evil is the similitude of people who falsify the Signs of God: and God guides not people who do wrong.

062.006 Say: "O ye that stand on Judaism! If ye think that ye are friends to God, to the exclusion of (other) men, then express your desire for Death, if ye are truthful!"

062.007 But never will they express their desire (for Death), because of the (deeds) their hands have sent on before them! and God knows well those that do wrong!

062.008 Say: "The Death from which ye flee will truly overtake you: then will ye be sent back to the Knower of things secret and open: and He will tell you (the truth of) the things that ye did!"

062.009 O ye who believe! When the call is proclaimed to prayer on Friday (the Day of Assembly), hasten earnestly to the Remembrance of God, and leave off business (and traffic): That is best for you if ye but knew!

062.010 And when the Prayer is finished, then may ye disperse through the land, and seek of the Bounty of God: and celebrate the Praises of God often (and

without stint): that ye may prosper.

062.011 But when they see some bargain or some amusement, they disperse headlong to it, and leave thee standing. Say: "The (blessing) from the Presence of God is better than any amusement or bargain! and God is the Best to provide (for all needs)."

THE HYPOCRITES,
CHAPTER NO. 063

063.001 When the Hypocrites come to thee, they say, "We bear witness that thou art indeed the Apostle of God." Yea, God knoweth that thou art indeed His Apostle, and God beareth witness that the Hypocrites are indeed liars.

063.002 They have made their oaths a screen (for their misdeeds): thus they obstruct (men) from the Path of God: truly evil are their deeds.

063.003 That is because they believed, then they rejected Faith: So a seal was set on their hearts: therefore they understand not.

063.004 When thou lookest at them, their exteriors please thee; and when they speak, thou listenest to their words. They are as (worthless as hollow) pieces of timber propped up, (unable to stand on their own). They think that every cry is against them. They are the enemies; so beware of them. The curse of God be on them! How are they deluded (away from the Truth)!

063.005 And when it is said to them, "Come, the Apostle of God will pray for your forgiveness", they turn aside their heads, and thou wouldst see them turning away their faces in arrogance.

063.006 It is equal to them whether thou pray for their forgiveness or not. God will not forgive them. Truly God guides not rebellious transgressors.

063.007 They are the ones who say, "Spend nothing on those who are with God's Apostle, to the end that they may disperse (and quit Medina)." But to God belong the treasures of the heavens and the earth; but the Hypocrites understand not.

063.008 They say, "If we return to Medina, surely the more honourable (element) will expel therefrom the meaner." But honour belongs to God and His Apostle, and to the Believers; but the Hypocrites know not.

063.009 O ye who believe! Let not your riches or your children divert you from the remembrance of God. If any act thus, the loss is their own.

063.010 and spend something (in charity) out of the substance which We have bestowed on you, before Death should come to any of you and he should say, "O my Lord! why didst Thou not give me respite for a little while? I should then have given (largely) in charity, and I should have been one of the doers of good".

063.011 But to no soul will God grant respite when the time appointed (for it) has come; and God is well acquainted with (all) that ye do.

MUTUAL DISILLUSION, HAGGLING,
CHAPTER NO. 064

064.001 Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare the Praises and Glory of God: to Him belongs dominion, and to Him belongs praise: and He has power over all things.

064.002 It is He Who has created you; and of you are some that are Unbelievers, and some that are Believers: and God sees well all that ye do.

064.003 He has created the heavens and the earth in just proportions, and has given you shape, and made your shapes beautiful: and to Him is the final Goal.

064.004 He knows what is in the heavens and on earth; and He knows what ye conceal and what ye reveal: yea, God knows well the (secrets) of (all) hearts.

064.005 Has not the story reached you, of those who rejected Faith aforetime? So they tasted the evil result of their conduct; and they had a grievous Penalty.

064.006 That was because there came to them apostles with Clear Signs, but they said: "Shall (mere) human beings direct us?" So they rejected (the Message) and turned away. But God can do without (them): and God is free of all needs, worthy of all praise.

064.007 The Unbelievers think that they will not be raised up (for Judgment). Say: "Yea, By my Lord, Ye shall surely be raised up: then shall ye be told (the truth) of all that ye did. And that is easy for God."

064.008 Believe, therefore, in God and His Apostle, and in the Light which we have sent down. And God is well acquainted with all that ye do.

064.009 The Day that He assembles you (all) for a Day of Assembly,Ñthat will be a Day of mutual loss and gain (among you), and those who believe in God and work righteousness,ÑHe will remove from them their ills, and He will admit them to Gardens beneath which Rivers flow, to dwell therein for ever: that will be the Supreme Achievement.

064.010 But those who reject Faith and treat Our Signs as falsehoods, they will be Companions of the Fire, to dwell therein for aye: and evil is that Goal.

064.011 No kind of calamity can occur, except by the leave of God: and if any one believes in God, (God) guides his heart (aright): for God knows all things.

064.012 So obey God, and obey His Apostle: but if ye turn back, the duty of Our Apostle is but to proclaim (the Message) clearly and openly.

064.013 God! There is no god but He: and on God, therefore, let the Believers put their trust.

064.014 O ye who believe! Truly, among your wives and your children are (some that are) enemies to yourselves: so beware of them! But if ye forgive and overlook, and cover up (their faults), verily God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

064.015 Your riches and your children may be but a trial: but in the Presence of God, is the highest, Reward.

064.016 So fear God as much as ye can; listen and obey and spend in charity for the benefit of your own soul and those saved from the covetousness of their own souls,Ñthey are the ones that achieve prosperity.

064.017 If ye loan to God, a beautiful loan, He will double it to your (credit), and He will grant you Forgiveness: for God is most Ready to appreciate (service), Most Forbearing,-

064.018 Knower of what is open, Exalted in Might, Full of Wisdom.

DIVORCE,
CHAPTER NO. 065

065.001 O Prophet! When ye do divorce women, divorce them at their prescribed periods, and count (accurately), their prescribed periods: And fear God your Lord: and turn them not out of their houses, nor shall they (themselves) leave, except in case they are guilty of some open lewdness, those are limits set by God: and any who transgresses the limits of God, does verily wrong his (own) soul: thou knowest not if perchance God will bring about thereafter some new situation.

065.002 Thus when they fulfil their term appointed, either take them back on equitable terms or part with them on equitable terms; and take for witness two persons from among you, endued with justice, and establish the evidence (as) before God. Such is the admonition given to him who believes in God and the Last Day. And for those who fear God, He (ever) prepares a way out,

065.003 And He provides for him from (sources) he never could imagine. And if any one puts his trust in God, sufficient is (God) for him. For God will surely accomplish his purpose: verily, for all things has God appointed a due proportion.

065.004 Such of your women as have passed the age of monthly courses, for them the prescribed period, if ye have any doubts, is three months, and for those who have no courses (it is the same): for those who carry (life within their wombs), their period is until they deliver their burdens: and for those who fear God, He will make their path easy.

065.005 That is the Command of God, which He has sent down to you: and if any one fears God, He will remove his ills, from him, and will enlarge his reward.

065.006 Let the women live (in 'iddat) in the same style as ye live, according to your means: Annoy them not, so as to restrict them. And if they carry (life in their wombs), then spend (your substance) on them until they deliver their burden: and if they suckle your (offspring), give them their recompense: and take mutual counsel together, according to what is just and reasonable. And if ye find yourselves in difficulties, let another woman suckle (the child) on the (father's) behalf.

065.007 Let the man of means spend according to his means: and the man whose resources are restricted, let him spend according to what God has given him. God puts no burden on any person beyond what He has given him. After a difficulty, God will soon grant relief.

065.008 How many populations that insolently opposed the Command of their Lord and of His apostles, did We not then call to account,Ñto severe account?Ñand We imposed on them an exemplary Punishment.

065.009 Then did they taste the evil result of their conduct, and the End of their conduct was Perdition.

065.010 God has prepared for them a severe Punishment (in the Hereafter). Therefore fear God, O ye men of understandingÑwho have believed!Ñfor God hath indeed sent down to you a Message,-

065.011 An Apostle, who rehearses to you the Signs of God containing clear explanations, that he may lead forth those who believe and do righteous deeds from the depths of Darkness into Light. And those who believe in God and work righteousness, He will admit to Gardens beneath which Rivers flow, to dwell therein for ever: God has indeed granted for them a most excellent Provision.

065.012 God is He Who created seven Firmaments and of the earth a similar number. Through the midst of them (all) descends His Command: that ye may know that God has power over all things, and that God comprehends, all things in (His) Knowledge.

BANNING, PROHIBITION,
CHAPTER NO. 066

066.001 O Prophet! Why holdest thou to be forbidden that which God has made lawful to thee? Thou seekest to please thy consorts. But God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

066.002 God has already ordained for you, (O men), the dissolution of your oaths (in some cases): and God is your Protector, and He is Full of Knowledge and Wisdom.

066.003 When the Prophet disclosed a matter in confidence to one of his consorts, and she then divulged it (to another), and God made it known to him, he confirmed part thereof and repudiated a part. Then when he told her thereof, she said, "Who told thee this? "He said, "He told me Who knows and is well-acquainted (with all things)."

066.004 If ye two turn in repentance to Him, your hearts are indeed so inclined; But if ye back up each other against him, truly God is his Protector, and Gabriel, and (every) righteous one among those who believe,Ñand furthermore, the angelsÑwill back (him) up.

066.005 It may be, if he divorced you (all), that God will give him in exchange consorts better than you,Ñwho submit (their wills), who believe, who are devout, who turn to God in repentance, who worship (in humility), who travel

(for Faith) and fast,Ñpreviously married or virgins.

066.006 O ye who believe! save yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is Men and Stones, over which are (appointed) angels stern (and) severe, who flinch not (from executing) the Commands they receive from God, but do (precisely) what they are commanded.

066.007 (They will say), "O ye Unbelievers! Make no excuses this Day! Ye are being but requited for all that ye did!"

066.008 O ye who believe! Turn to God with sincere repentance: In the hope that your Lord will remove from you your ills and admit you to Gardens beneath which Rivers flow,Ñthe Day that God will not permit to be humiliated the Prophet and those who believe with him. Their Light will run forward before them and by their right hands, while they say, "Our Lord! Perfect our Light for us, and grant us Forgiveness: for Thou hast power over all things."

066.009 O Prophet! Strive hard against the Unbelievers and the Hypocrites, and be firm against them. Their abode is Hell,Ñan evil refuge (indeed).

066.010 God sets forth, for an example to the Unbelievers, the wife of Noah and the wife of Lut: they were (respectively) under two of our righteous servants, but they were false to their (husbands), and they profited nothing before God on their account, but were told: "Enter ye the Fire along with (others) that enter!"

066.011 And God sets forth, as an example to those who believe the wife of Pharaoh: Behold she said: "O my Lord! Build for me, in nearness to Thee, a mansion in the Garden, and save me from Pharaoh and his doings, and save me from those that do wrong";

066.012 And Mary the daughter of 'Imran, who guarded her chastity; and We breathed into (her body) of Our spirit; and she testified to the truth of the words of her Lord and of His Revelations, and was one of the devout (servants).

THE SOVEREIGNTY, CONTROL,
CHAPTER NO. 067

067.001 Blessed be He in Whose hands is Dominion; and He over all things hath Power;-

067.002 He Who created Death and Life, that He may try which of you is best in deed: and He is the Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving;-

067.003 He Who created the seven heavens one above another: No want of proportion wilt thou see in the Creation of (God) Most Gracious. So turn thy vision again: seest thou any flaw?

067.004 Again turn thy vision a second time: (thy) vision will come back to thee dull and discomfited, in a state worn out.

067.005 And we have, (from of old), adorned the lowest heaven with Lamps, and We have made such (Lamps) (as) missiles to drive away the Evil Ones, and have

prepared for them the Penalty of the Blazing Fire.

067.006 For those who reject their Lord (and Cherisher) is the Penalty of Hell: and evil is (such), Destination.

067.007 When they are cast therein, they will hear the (terrible) drawing in of its breath even as it blazes forth,

067.008 Almost bursting with fury: Every time a Group is cast therein, its Keepers will ask, "Did no Warner come to you?"

067.009 They will say: "Yes indeed; a Warner did come to us, but we rejected him and said, 'God never sent down any (Message): ye are nothing but an egregious delusion!'"

067.010 They will further say: "Had we but listened or used our intelligence, we should not (now) be among the Companions of the Blazing Fire!"

067.011 They will then confess their sins: but far will be (Forgiveness) from the Companions of the Blazing Fire!

067.012 As for those who fear their Lord unseen, for them is Forgiveness and a great Reward.

067.013 And whether ye hide your word or publish it, He certainly has (full) knowledge, of the secrets of (all) hearts.

067.014 Should He not know,ÑHe that created? and He is the One that understands the finest mysteries (and) is well-acquainted (with them).

067.015 It is He Who has made the earth manageable for you, so traverse ye through its tracts and enjoy of the Sustenance which He furnishes: but unto Him is the Resurrection.

067.016 Do ye feel secure that He Who is in heaven will not cause you to be swallowed up by the earth when it shakes (as in an earthquake)?

067.017 Or do ye feel secure that He Who is in Heaven will not send against you a violent tornado (with showers of stones), so that ye shall know how (terrible) was My warning?

067.018 But indeed men before them rejected (My warning): then how (terrible) was My rejection (of them)?

067.019 Do they not observe the birds above them, spreading their wings and folding them in? None can uphold them except (God) Most Gracious: Truly (God) Most Gracious: Truly it is He that watches over all things.

067.020 Nay, who is there that can help you, (even as) an army, besides (God) Most Merciful? In nothing but delusion are the Unbelievers.

067.021 Or who is there that can provide you with Sustenance if He were to withhold His provision? Nay, they obstinately persist in insolent impiety and flight (from the Truth).

067.022 Is then one who walks headlong, with his face grovelling, better guided,Ñor one who walks evenly on a Straight Way?

067.023 Say: "It is He Who has created you (and made you grow), and made for you the faculties of hearing, seeing, feeling and understanding: little thanks it is ye give.

067.024 Say: "It is He Who has multiplied you through the earth, and to Him shall ye be gathered together."

067.025 They ask: When will this promise be (fulfilled)?ÑIf ye are telling the truth.

067.026 Say: "As to the knowledge of the time, it is with God alone: I am (sent) only to warn plainly in public."

067.027 At length, when they see it close at hand, grieved will be the faces of the Unbelievers, and it will be said (to them): "This is (the promise fulfilled), which ye were calling for!"

067.028 Say: "See ye?ÑIf God were to destroy me, and those with me, or if He bestows His Mercy on us,Ñyet who can deliver the Unbelievers from a grievous Penalty?"

067.029 Say: "He is (God) Most Gracious: We have believed in Him, and on Him have we put our trust: So, soon will ye know which (of us) it is that is in manifest error."

067.030 Say: "See ye?ÑIf your stream be some morning lost (in the underground earth), who then can supply you with clear-flowing water?"

THE PEN, (THE LETTER) N,
CHAPTER NO. 068

068.001 Nun. By the Pen and the (Record) which (men) write,-

068.002 Thou art not, by the Grace of thy Lord, mad or possessed.

068.003 Nay, verily for thee is a Reward unfailing:

068.004 And thou (standest) on an exalted standard of character.

068.005 Soon wilt thou see, and they will see,

068.006 Which of you is afflicted with madness.

068.007 Verily it is thy Lord that knoweth best, which (among men) hath strayed from His Path: and He knoweth best those who receive (true) Guidance.

068.008 So hearken not to those who deny (the Truth).

068.009 Their desire is that thou shouldst be pliant: so would they be pliant.

068.010 Heed not the type of despicable men,Ñready with oaths,

068.011 A slanderer, going about with calumnies,

068.012 (Habitually) hindering (all) good, transgressing beyond bounds, deep in sin,

068.013 Violent (and cruel),Ñwith all that, base-born,-

068.014 Because he possesses wealth and (numerous) sons.

068.015 When to him are rehearsed Our Signs, "Tales of the ancients", he cries!

068.016 Soon shall We brand (the beast) on the snout!

068.017 Verily We have tried them as We tried the People of the Garden, when they resolved to gather the fruits of the (garden) in the morning.

068.018 But made no reservation, ("If it be God's Will").

068.019 Then there came on the (garden) a visitation from thy Lord, (which swept away) all around, while they were asleep.

068.020 So the (garden) became, by the morning, like a dark and desolate spot, (whose fruit had been gathered).

068.021 As the morning broke, they called out, one to another,-

068.022 "Go ye to your tilth (betimes) in the morning, if ye would gather the fruits."

068.023 So they departed, conversing in secret low tones, (saying)-

068.024 "Let not a single indigent person break in upon you into the (garden) this day."

068.025 And they opened the morning, strong in an (unjust) resolve.

068.026 But when they saw the (garden), they said: "We have surely lost our way:

068.027 "Indeed we are shut out (of the fruits of our labour)!"

068.028 Said one of them, more just (than the rest): "Did I not say to you, 'Why not glorify (God)?'"

068.029 They said: "Glory to our Lord! Verily we have been doing wrong!"

068.030 Then they turned, one against another, in reproach.

068.031 They said: "Alas for us! We have indeed transgressed!

068.032 "It may be that our Lord will give us in exchange a better (garden) than this: for we do turn to Him (in repentance)!"

068.033 Such is the Punishment (in this life); but greater is the Punishment in the Hereafter,Ñif only they knew!

068.034 Verily, for the Righteous, are Gardens of Delight, in the Presence of their Lord.

068.035 Shall We then treat the People of Faith like the People of Sin?

068.036 What is the matter with you? How judge ye?

068.037 Or have ye a book through which ye learn-

068.038 That ye shall have, through it whatever ye choose?

068.039 Or have ye Covenants with Us to oath, reaching to the Day of Judgment, (providing) that ye shall have whatever ye shall demand?

068.040 Ask thou of them, which of them will stand surety for that!

068.041 Or have they some "Partners" (in Godhead)? Then let them produce their "partners", if they are truthful!

068.042 The Day that the shin shall be laid bare, and they shall be summoned to bow in adoration, but they shall not be able,-

068.043 Their eyes will be cast down,Ñignominy will cover them; seeing that they had been summoned aforetime to bow in adoration, while they were whole, (and had refused).

068.044 Then leave Me alone with such as reject this Message: by degrees shall We punish them from directions they perceive not.

068.045 A (long) respite will I grant them: truly powerful is My Plan.

068.046 Or is it that thou dost ask them for a reward, so that they are burdened with a load of debt?-

068.047 Or that the Unseen is in their hands, so that they can write it down?

068.048 So wait with patience for the Command of thy Lord, and be not like the Companion of the Fish,Ñwhen he cried out in agony.

068.049 Had not Grace from his Lord reached him, he would indeed have been cast off on the naked shore, in disgrace.

068.050 Thus did his Lord choose him and make him of the Company of the Righteous.

068.051 And the Unbelievers would almost trip thee up with their eyes when they hear the Message; and they say: "Surely he is possessed!"

068.052 But it is nothing less than a Message to all the worlds.

THE REALITY,
CHAPTER NO. 069

069.001 The Sure Reality!

069.002 What is the Sure Reality?

069.003 And what will make thee realise what the Sure Reality is?

069.004 The Thamud and the 'Ad People (branded) as false the Stunning Calamity!

069.005 But the Thamud,Ñthey were destroyed by a terrible Storm of thunder and lightning!

069.006 And the 'Ad, they were destroyed by a furious Wind, exceedingly violent;

069.007 He made it rage against them seven nights and eight days in succession: so that thou couldst see the (whole) people lying prostrate in its (path), as they had been roots of hollow palm-trees tumbled down!

069.008 Then seest thou any of them left surviving?

069.009 And Pharaoh, and those before him, and the Cities Overthrown, committed habitual Sin.

069.010 And disobeyed (each) the apostle of their Lord; so He punished them with an abundant Penalty.

069.011 We, when the water (of Noah's Flood) overflowed beyond its limits, carried you (mankind), in the floating (Ark),

069.012 That We might make it a Message unto you, and that ears (that should hear the tale and) retain its memory should bear its (lessons) in remembrance.

069.013 Then, when one blast is sounded on the Trumpet,

069.014 And the earth is moved, and its mountains, and they are crushed to powder at one stroke,-

069.015 On that Day shall the (Great) Event come to pass.

069.016 And the sky will be rent asunder, for it will that Day be flimsy,

069.017 And the angels will be on its sides, and eight will, that Day, bear the Throne of thy Lord above them.

069.018 That Day shall ye be brought to Judgment: not an act of yours that ye hide will be hidden.

069.019 Then he that will be given his Record in his right hand will say: "Ah here! Read ye my Record!

069.020 "I did really understand that my Account would (One Day) reach me!"

069.021 And he will be in a life of Bliss,

069.022 In a Garden on high,

069.023 The Fruits whereof (will hang in bunches) low and near.

069.024 "Eat ye and drink ye, with full satisfaction; because of the (good) that ye sent before you, in the days that are gone!"

069.025 And he that will be given his Record in his left hand, will say: "Ah! Would that my Record had not been given to me!

069.026 "And that I had never realised how my account (stood)!

069.027 "Ah! Would that (Death) had made an end of me!

069.028 "Of no profit to me has been my wealth!

069.029 "My power has perished from me!"...

069.030 (The stern command will say): "Seize ye him, and bind ye him,

069.031 "And burn ye him in the Blazing Fire.

069.032 "Further, make him march in a chain, whereof the length is seventy cubits!

069.033 "This was he that would not believe in God Most High.

069.034 "And would not encourage the feeding of the indigent!

069.035 "So no friend hath he here this Day.

069.036 "Nor hath he any food except the corruption from the washing of wounds,

069.037 "Which none do eat but those in sin."

069.038 So I do call to witness what ye see,

069.039 And what ye see not,

069.040 That this is verily the word of an honoured apostle;

069.041 It is not the word of a poet: little it is ye believe!

069.042 Nor is it the word of a soothsayer: little admonition it is ye receive.

069.043 (This is) a Message sent down from the Lord of the Worlds.

069.044 And if the apostle were to invent any sayings in Our name,

069.045 We should certainly seize him by his right hand,

069.046 And We should certainly then cut off the artery of his heart:

069.047 Nor could any of you withhold him (from Our wrath).

069.048 But verily this is a Message for the God-fearing.

069.049 And We certainly know that there are amongst you those that reject (it).

069.050 But truly (Revelation) is a cause of sorrow for the Unbelievers.

069.051 But verily it is Truth of assured certainty.

069.052 So glorify the name of thy Lord Most High.

THE ASCENDING STAIRWAYS, STAIRCASES UPWARD, SCKEPTIC, CHAPTER NO. 070

070.001 A questioner asked about a Penalty to befall-

070.002 The Unbelievers, the which there is none to ward off,-

070.003 (A Penalty) from God, Lord of the Ways of Ascent.

070.004 The angels and the spirit ascend unto him in a Day the measure whereof is (as) fifty thousand years:

070.005 Therefore do thou hold Patience,Ña Patience of beautiful (contentment).

070.006 They see the (Day) indeed as a far-off (event):

070.007 But We see it (quite) near.

070.008 The Day that the sky will be like molten brass,

070.009 And the mountains will be like wool,

070.010 And no friend will ask after a friend,

070.011 Though they will be put in sight of each other,Ñthe sinner's desire will be: Would that he could redeem himself from the Penalty of that Day by (sacrificing) his children,

070.012 His wife and his brother,

070.013 His kindred who sheltered him,

070.014 And all, all that is on earth,Ñso it could deliver him:

070.015 By no means! for it would be the Fire of Hell!-

070.016 Plucking out (his being) right to the skull!-

070.017 Inviting (all) such as turn their backs and turn away their faces (from the Right).

070.018 And collect (wealth) and hide it (from use)!

070.019 Truly man was created very impatient;-

070.020 Fretful when evil touches him;

070.021 And niggardly when good reaches him;-

070.022 Not so those devoted to Prayer;-

070.023 Those who remain steadfast to their prayer;

070.024 And those in whose wealth is a recognised right.

070.025 For the (needy) who asks and him who is prevented (for some reason from asking);

070.026 And those who hold to the truth of the Day of Judgment;

070.027 And those who fear the displeasure of their Lord,-

070.028 For their Lord's displeasure is the opposite of Peace and Tranquillity;-

070.029 And those who guard their chastity,

070.030 Except with their wives and the (captives) whom their right hands possess,Ñfor (then) they are not to be blamed,

070.031 But those who trespass beyond this are transgressors;-

070.032 And those who respect their trusts and covenants;

070.033 And those who stand firm in their testimonies;

070.034 And those who guard (the sacredness) of their worship;-

070.035 Such will be the honoured ones in the Gardens (of Bliss).

070.036 Now what is the matter with the Unbelievers that they rush madly before thee-

070.037 From the right and from the left, in crowds?

070.038 Does every man of them long to enter the Garden of Bliss?

070.039 By no means! For We have created them out of the (base matter) they know!

070.040 Now I do call to witness the Lord of all points in the East and the West that We can certainly-

070.041 Substitute for them better (men) than they; And We are not to be defeated (in Our Plan).

070.042 So leave them to plunge in vain talk and play about, until they encounter that Day of theirs which they have been promised!-

070.043 The Day whereon they will issue from their sepulchres in sudden haste as if they were rushing to a goal-post (fixed for them),-

070.044 Their eyes lowered in dejection,Ñignominy covering them (all over)! such is the Day the which they are promised!

NOAH,
CHAPTER NO. 071

071.001 We sent Noah to his People (with the Command): "Do thou warn thy People before there comes to them a grievous Penalty."

071.002 He said: "O my People! I am to you a Warner, clear and open:

071.003 "That ye should worship God, fear Him and obey me:

071.004 "So He may forgive you your sins and give you respite for a stated Term: for when the Term given by God is accomplished, it cannot be put forward: if ye only knew."

071.005 He said: "O my Lord! I have called to my People night and day:

071.006 "But my call only increases (their) flight (from the Right).

071.007 "And every time I have called to them, that Thou mightest forgive them, they have (only) thrust their fingers into their ears, covered themselves up with their garments, grown obstinate, and given themselves up to arrogance.

071.008 "So I have called to them aloud;

071.009 "Further I have spoken to them in public and secretly in private,

071.010 "Saying, 'Ask forgiveness from your Lord; for He is Oft-Forgiving;

071.011 "'He will send rain to you in abundance;

071.012 "'Give you increase in wealth and sons; and bestow on you gardens and bestow on you rivers (of flowing water).

071.013 "'What is the matter with you, that ye place not your hope for kindness and long-suffering in God,-

071.014 "'Seeing that it is He that has created you in diverse stages?

071.015 "'See ye not how God has created the seven heavens one above another,

071.016 "'And made the moon a light in their midst, and made the sun as a (Glorious) Lamp?

071.017 "'And God has produced you from the earth growing (gradually),

071.018 "'And in the End He will return you into the (earth), and raise you forth (again at the Resurrection)?

071.019 "'And God has made the earth for you as a carpet (spread out),

071.020 "'That ye may go about therein, in spacious roads.'"

071.021 Noah said: "O my Lord! They have disobeyed me, but they follow (men) whose wealth and children give them no increase but only Loss.

071.022 "And they have devised a tremendous Plot.

071.023 "And they have said (to each other), 'Abandon not your gods: Abandon neither Wadd nor Suwa', neither Yaguth nor Ya'uq, nor Nasr';-

071.024 "They have already misled many; and grant Thou no increase to the wrong-doers but in straying (from their mark)."

071.025 Because of their sins they were drowned (in the flood), and were made to enter the Fire (of Punishment): and they foundÑin lieu of GodÑnone to help them.

071.026 And Noah, said: "O my Lord! Leave not of the Unbelievers, a single one on earth!

071.027 "For, if Thou dost leave (any of) them, they will but mislead Thy devotees, and they will breed none but wicked ungrateful ones.

071.028 "O my Lord! Forgive me, my parents, all who enter my house in Faith, and (all) believing men and believing women: and to the wrong-doers grant Thou no increase but in perdition!"

THE JINN, SPRITES,
CHAPTER NO. 072

072.001 Say: It has been revealed to me that a company of Jinns listened (to the Qur'an). They said, 'We have really heard a wonderful Recital!

072.002 'It gives guidance to the Right, and we have believed therein: we shall not join (in worship) any (gods) with our Lord.

072.003 'And Exalted is the Majesty of our Lord: He has taken neither a wife nor a son.

072.004 'There were some foolish ones among us, who used to utter extravagant lies against God;

072.005 'But we do think that no man or spirit should say aught that untrue against God.

072.006 'True, there were persons among mankind who took shelter with persons among the Jinns, but they increased them in folly.

072.007 'And they (came to) think as ye thought, that God would not raise up any one (to Judgment).

072.008 'And we pried into the secrets of heaven; but we found it filled with stern guards and flaming fires.

072.009 'We used, indeed, to sit there in (hidden) stations, to (steal) a hearing; but any who listen now will find a flaming fire watching him in ambush.

072.010 'And we understand not whether ill is intended to those on earth, or whether their Lord (really) intends to guide them to right conduct.

072.011 'There are among us some that are righteous, and some the contrary: we follow divergent paths.

072.012 'But we think that we can by no means frustrate God throughout the earth, nor can we frustrate Him by flight.

072.013 'And as for us, since we have listened to the Guidance, we have accepted it: and any who believes in his Lord has no fear, either of a short (account) or of any injustice.

072.014 'Amongst us are some that submit their wills (to God), and some that swerve from justice. Now those who submit their willsÑthey have sought out (the path) of right conduct:

072.015 'But those who swerve,Ñthey are (but) fuel for Hell-fire'-

072.016 (And God's Message is): "If they (the Pagans) had (only) remained on the (right) Way, We should certainly have bestowed on them Rain in abundance.

072.017 "That We might try them by that (means). But if any turns away from the remembrance of his Lord, He will cause him to undergo a severe Penalty.

072.018 "And the places of worship are for God (alone): So invoke not any one along with God;

072.019 "Yet when the Devotee of God stands forth to invoke Him, they just make round him a dense crowd."

072.020 Say: "I do no more than invoke my Lord, and I join not with Him any (false god)."

072.021 Say: "It is not in my power to cause you harm, or to bring you to right conduct."

072.022 Say: "No one can deliver me from God (If I were to disobey Him), nor should I find refuge except in Him,

072.023 "Unless I proclaim what I receive from God and His Messages: for any that disobey God and His Apostle,Ñfor them is Hell: they shall dwell therein for ever."

072.024 At length, when they see (with their own eyes) that which they are promised,Ñthen will they know who it is that is weakest in (his) helper and least important in point of numbers.

072.025 Say: "I know not whether the (Punishment) which ye are promised is near, or whether my Lord will appoint for it a distant term.

072.026 "He (alone) knows the Unseen, nor does He make any one acquainted with His Mysteries,-

072.027 "Except an apostle whom He has chosen: and then He makes a band of watchers march before him and behind him,

072.028 "That He may know that they have (truly) brought and delivered the Messages of their Lord: and He surrounds (all the mysteries) that are with them, and takes account of every single thing."

THE ENSHROUDED ONE, BUNDLED UP,
CHAPTER NO. 073

073.001 O thou folded in garments!

073.002 Stand (to prayer) by night, but not all night,-

073.003 Half of it,Ñor a little less,

073.004 Or a little more; and recite the Qur'an in slow, measured rhythmic tones.

073.005 Soon shall We send down to thee a weighty Message.

073.006 Truly the rising by night is most potent for governing (the soul), and most suitable for (framing) the Word (of Prayer and Praise).

073.007 True, there is for thee by day prolonged occupation with ordinary duties:

073.008 But keep in remembrance the name of thy Lord and devote thyself to Him whole-heartedly.

073.009 (He is) Lord of the East and the West: there is no god but He: take Him therefore for (thy) Disposer of Affairs.

073.010 And have patience with what they say, and leave them with noble (dignity).

073.011 And leave Me (alone to deal with) those in possession of the good things of life, who (yet) deny the Truth; and bear with them for a little while.

073.012 With Us are Fetters (to bind them), and a Fire (to burn them),

073.013 And a Food that chokes, and a Penalty Grievous.

073.014 One Day the earth and the mountains will be in violent commotion. And the mountains will be as a heap of sand poured out and flowing down.

073.015 We have sent to you, (O men!) an apostle, to be a witness concerning you, even as We sent an apostle to Pharaoh.

073.016 But Pharaoh disobeyed the apostle; so We seized him with a heavy Punishment.

073.017 Then how shall ye, if ye deny (God), guard yourselves against a Day that will make children hoary-headed?-

073.018 Whereon the sky will be cleft asunder? His Promise needs must be accomplished.

073.019 Verily this is an Admonition: therefore, whoso will, let him take a (straight) path to his Lord!

073.020 Thy Lord doth know that thou standest forth (to prayer) nigh two-thirds of the night, or half the night, or a third of the night, and so doth a party of those with thee. But God doth appoint night and day in due measure He knoweth that ye are unable to keep count thereof. So He hath turned to you (in mercy): read ye, therefore, of the Qur'an as much as may be easy for you. He knoweth that there may be (some) among you in ill-health; others travelling through the land, seeking of God's bounty; yet others fighting in God's Cause, read ye, therefore, as much of the Qur'an as may be easy (for you); and establish regular Prayer and give regular Charity; and loan to God a Beautiful Loan. And whatever good ye send forth for your souls ye shall find it in God's Presence,Ñyea, better and greater, in Reward and seek ye the Grace of God: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

THE CLOAKED ONE, THE MAN WEARING A CLOAK,
CHAPTER NO. 074

074.001 O thou wrapped up (in the mantle)!

074.002 Arise and deliver thy warning!

074.003 And thy Lord do thou magnify!

074.004 And thy garments keep free from stain!

074.005 And all abomination shun!

074.006 Nor expect, in giving, any increase (for thyself)!

074.007 But, for thy Lord's (Cause), be patient and constant!

074.008 Finally, when the Trumpet is sounded,

074.009 That will beÑthat DayÑa Day of Distress,-

074.010 Far from easy for those without Faith.

074.011 Leave Me alone, (to deal) with the (creature) whom I created (bare and) alone!-

074.012 To whom I granted resources in abundance,

074.013 And sons to be by his side!-

074.014 To whom I made (life) smooth and comfortable!

074.015 Yet is he greedy-that I should add (yet more);-

074.016 By no means! For to Our Signs he has been refractory!

074.017 Soon will I visit him with a mount of calamities!

074.018 For he thought and he plotted;-

074.019 And woe to him! How he plotted!-

074.020 Yea, Woe to him; How he plotted!-

074.021 Then he looked round;

074.022 Then he frowned and he scowled;

074.023 Then he turned back and was haughty;

074.024 Then said he: "This is nothing but magic, derived from of old;

074.025 "This is nothing but the word of a mortal!"

074.026 Soon will I cast him into Hell-Fire!

074.027 And what will explain to thee what Hell-Fire is?

074.028 Naught doth it permit to endure, and naught doth it leave alone!-

074.029 Darkening and changing the colour of man!

074.030 Over it are Nineteen.

074.031 And We have set none but angels as Guardians of the Fire; and We have fixed their number only as a trial for Unbelievers,Ñin order that the People of the Book may arrive at certainty, and the Believers may increase in Faith,Ñand that no doubts may be left for the People of the Book and the Believers, and that those in whose hearts is a disease and the Unbelievers may say, "What symbol doth God intend by this ?" Thus doth God leave to stray whom He pleaseth, and guide whom He pleaseth: and none can know the forces of thy Lord, except He and this is no other than a warning to mankind.

074.032 Nay, verily: By the Moon,

074.033 And by the Night as it retreateth,

074.034 And by the Dawn as it shineth forth,-

074.035 This is but one of the mighty (portents),

074.036 A warning to mankind,-

074.037 To any of you that chooses to press forward, or to follow behind;-

074.038 Every soul will be (held) in pledge for its deeds.

074.039 Except the Companions of the Right Hand.

074.040 (They will be) in Gardens (of Delight): they will question each other,

074.041 And (ask) of the Sinners:

074.042 "What led you into Hell Fire?"

074.043 They will say: "We were not of those who prayed;

074.044 "Nor were we of those who fed the indigent;

074.045 "But we used to talk vanities with vain talkers;

074.046 "And we used to deny the Day of Judgment,

074.047 "Until there came to us (the Hour) that is certain."

074.048 Then will no intercession of (any) intercessors profit them.

074.049 Then what is the matter with them that they turn away from admonition?-

074.050 As if they were affrighted asses,

074.051 Fleeing from a lion!

074.052 Forsooth, each one of them wants to be given scrolls (of revelation) spread out!

074.053 By no means! But they fear not the Hereafter,

074.054 Nay, this surely is an admonition:

074.055 Let any who will, keep it in remembrance!

074.056 But none will keep it in remembrance except as God wills: He is the Lord of Righteousness, and the Lord of Forgiveness.

THE RISING OF THE DEAD, RESURRECTION,
CHAPTER NO. 075

075.001 I do call to witness the Resurrection Day;

075.002 And I do call to witness the self-reproaching spirit: (Eschew Evil).

075.003 Does man think that We cannot assemble his bones?

075.004 Nay, We are able to put together in perfect order the very tips of his fingers.

075.005 But man wishes to do wrong (even) in the time in front of him.

075.006 He questions: "When is the Day of Resurrection?"

075.007 At length, when the sight is dazed,

075.008 And the moon is buried in darkness.

075.009 And the sun and moon are joined together,-

075.010 That Day will Man say: "Where is the refuge?"

075.011 By no means! No place of safety!

075.012 Before thy Lord (alone), that Day will be the place of rest.

075.013 That Day will Man be told (all) that he put forward, and all that he put back.

075.014 Nay, man will be evidence against himself,

075.015 Even though he were to put up his excuses.

075.016 Move not thy tongue concerning the (Qur'an) to make haste therewith.

075.017 It is for Us to collect it and to promulgate it:

075.018 But when We have promulgated it, follow thou its recital (as promulgated):

075.019 Nay more, it is for Us to explain it (and make it clear):

075.020 Nay, (ye men!) but ye love the fleeting life,

075.021 And leave alone the Hereafter.

075.022 Some faces, that Day, will beam (in brightness and beauty);-

075.023 Looking towards their Lord;

075.024 And some faces, that Day, will be sad and dismal,

075.025 In the thought that some back-breaking calamity was about to be inflicted on them;

075.026 Yea, when (the soul) reaches to the collar-bone (in its exit),

075.027 And there will be a cry, "Who is a magician (to restore him)?"

075.028 And he will conclude that it was (the Time) of Parting;

075.029 And one leg will be joined with another:

075.030 That Day the Drive will be (all) to thy Lord!

075.031 So he gave nothing in charity, nor did he pray!-

075.032 But on the contrary, he rejected Truth and turned away!

075.033 Then did he stalk to his family in full conceit!

075.034 Woe to thee, (O men!), yea, woe!

075.035 Again, Woe to thee, (O men!), yea, woe!

075.036 Does man think that he will be left uncontrolled, (without purpose)?

075.037 Was he not a drop of sperm emitted (in lowly form)?

075.038 Then did he become a leech-like clot; then did (God) make and fashion (him) in due proportion.

075.039 And of him He made two sexes, male and female.

075.040 Has not He, (the same), the power to give life to the dead?

TIME, MAN, (EVERY) MAN, THIS (DAY-AND) AGE,
CHAPTER NO. 076

076.001 Has there not been over Man a long period of Time, when he was nothingÑ(not even) mentioned?

076.002 Verily We created Man from a drop of mingled sperm, in order to try him: So We gave him (the gifts), of Hearing and Sight.

076.003 We showed him the Way: whether he be grateful or ungrateful (rests on his will).

076.004 For the Rejecters we have prepared chains, yokes, and a blazing Fire.

076.005 As to the Righteous, they shall drink of a Cup (of Wine) mixed with Kafur,-

076.006 A Fountain where the Devotees of God do drink, making it flow in unstinted abundance.

076.007 They perform (their) vows, and they fear a Day whose evil flies far and wide.

076.008 And they feed, for the love of God, the indigent, the orphan, and the captive,-

076.009 (Saying),"We feed you for the sake of God alone: no reward do we desire from you, nor thanks.

076.010 "We only fear a Day of distressful Wrath from the side of our Lord."

076.011 But God will deliver them from the evil of that Day, and will shed over them a Light of Beauty and (blissful) Joy.

076.012 And because they were patient and constant, He will reward them with a Garden and (garments of) silk.

076.013 Reclining in the (Garden) on raised thrones, they will see there neither the sun's (excessive heat) nor (the moon's) excessive cold.

076.014 And the shades of the (Garden) will come low over them, and the bunches

(of fruit), there, will hang low in humility.

076.015 And amongst them will be passed round vessels of silver and goblets of crystal,-

076.016 Crystal-clear, made of silver: they will determine the measure thereof (according to their wishes).

076.017 And they will be given to drink there of a Cup (of Wine) mixed with Zanjabil,-

076.018 A fountain there, called Salsabil.

076.019 And round about them will (serve) youths of perpetual (freshness): If thou seest them, thou wouldst think them scattered Pearls.

076.020 And when thou lookest, it is there thou wilt see a Bliss and a Realm Magnificent.

076.021 Upon them will be green Garments of fine silk and heavy brocade, and they will be adorned with Bracelets of silver; and their Lord will give to them to drink of a Wine Pure and Holy.

076.022 "Verily this is a Reward for you, and your Endeavour is accepted and recognised."

076.023 It is We Who have sent down the Qur'an to thee by stages.

076.024 Therefore be patient with constancy to the Command of thy Lord, and hearken not to the sinner or the ingrate among them.

076.025 And celebrate the name or thy Lord morning and evening,

076.026 And part of the night, prostrate thyself to Him; and glorify Him a long night through.

076.027 As to these, they love the fleeting life, and put away behind them a Day (that will be) hard.

076.028 It is We Who created them, and We have made their joints strong; but, when We will, We can substitute the like of them by a complete change.

076.029 This is an admonition: Whosoever will, let him take a (straight) Path to his Lord.

076.030 But ye will not, except as God wills; for God is full of Knowledge and Wisdom.

076.031 He will admit to His Mercy whom He will; But the wrong-doers,Ñfor them has He prepared a grievous Penalty.

THE EMISSARIES, WINDS SENT FORTH,
CHAPTER NO. 077

077.001 By the (Winds) sent forth one after another (to man's profit);

077.002 Which then blow violently in tempestuous Gusts,

077.003 And scatter (things) far and wide;

077.004 Then separate them, one from another,

077.005 Then spread abroad a Message,

077.006 Whether of Justification or of Warning;-

077.007 Assuredly, what ye are promised must come to pass.

077.008 Then when the stars become dim;

077.009 When the heaven is cleft asunder;

077.010 When the mountains are scattered (to the winds) as dust;

077.011 And when the apostles are (all) appointed a time (to collect);-

077.012 For what Day are these (portents) deferred?

077.013 For the Day of Sorting out.

077.014 And what will explain to thee what is the Day of Sorting out?

077.015 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.016 Did We not destroy the men of old (for their evil)?

077.017 So shall We make later (generations) follow them.

077.018 Thus do We deal with men of sin.

077.019 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.020 Have We not created you from a fluid (held) despicable?-

077.021 The which We placed in a place of rest, firmly fixed,

077.022 For a period (of gestation), determined (according to need)?

077.023 For We do determine (according to need); for We are the best to determine (things).

077.024 Ah woe, that Day! to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.025 Have We not made the earth (as a place) to draw together.

077.026 The living and the dead,

077.027 And made therein mountains standing firm, lofty (in stature); and provided for you water sweet (and wholesome)?

077.028 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.029 (It will be said:) "Depart ye to that which ye used to reject as false!

077.030 "Depart ye to a Shadow (of smoke ascending) in three columns,

077.031 "(Which yields) no shade of coolness, and is of no use against the fierce Blaze.

077.032 "Indeed it throws about sparks (huge) as Forts,

077.033 "As if there were (a string of) yellow camels (marching swiftly)."

077.034 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.035 That will be a Day when they shall not be able to speak.

077.036 Nor will it be open to them to put forth pleas.

077.037 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.038 That will be a Day of Sorting out! We shall gather you together and those before (you)!

077.039 Now, if ye have a trick (or plot), use it against Me!

077.040 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.041 As to the Righteous, they shall be amidst (cool) shades and springs (of water).

077.042 And (they shall have) fruits,Ñall they desire.

077.043 "Eat ye and drink ye to your heart's content: for that ye worked (Righteousness).

077.044 Thus do We certainly reward the Doers of Good.

077.045 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.046 (O ye unjust!) Eat ye and enjoy yourselves (but) a little while, for that ye are Sinners.

077.047 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.048 And when it is said to them, "Prostrate yourselves!" they do not so.

077.049 Ah woe, that Day, to the Rejecters of Truth!

077.050 Then what Message, after that, will they believe in?

THE TIDINGS, THE ANNOUNCEMENT,
CHAPTER NO. 078

078.001 Concerning what are they disputing?

078.002 Concerning the Great News,

078.003 About which they cannot agree.

078.004 Verily, they shall soon (come to) know!

078.005 Verily, verily they shall soon (come to) know!

078.006 Have We not made the earth as a wide expanse,

078.007 And the mountains as pegs?

078.008 And (have We not) created you in pairs,

078.009 And made your sleep for rest,

078.010 And made the night as a covering,

078.011 And made the day as a means of subsistence?

078.012 And (have We not) built over you the seven firmaments,

078.013 And placed (therein) a Light of Splendour?

078.014 And do We not send down from the clouds water in abundance,

078.015 That We may produce therewith corn and vegetables,

078.016 And gardens of luxurious growth?

078.017 Verily the Day of Sorting out is a thing appointed,

078.018 The Day that the Trumpet shall be sounded, and ye shall come forth in crowds;

078.019 And the heavens shall be opened as if there were doors,

078.020 And the mountains shall vanish, as if they were a mirage.

078.021 Truly Hell is as a place of ambush,

078.022 For the transgressors a place of destination:

078.023 They will dwell therein for ages.

078.024 Nothing cool shall they taste therein, nor any drink,

078.025 Save a boiling fluid and a fluid, dark, murky, intensely cold,

078.026 A fitting recompense (for them).

078.027 For that they used not to fear any account (for their deeds),

078.028 But they (impudently) treated Our Signs as false.

078.029 And all things have We preserved on record.

078.030 "So taste ye (the fruits of your deeds); for no increase shall We grant you, except in Punishment."

078.031 Verily for the Righteous there will be a fulfilment of (the heart's) desires;

078.032 Gardens enclosed, and grapevines;

078.033 Companions of equal age;

078.034 And a cup full (to the brim).

078.035 No vanity shall they hear therein, nor Untruth:-

078.036 Recompense from thy Lord, a gift, (amply) sufficient,

078.037 (From) the Lord of the heavens and the earth, and all between, (God) Most Gracious: None shall have power to argue with Him.

078.038 The Day that the Spirit and the angels will stand forth in ranks, none shall speak except any who is permitted by (God) Most Gracious, and He will say what is right.

078.039 That Day will be the sure Reality: Therefore, whoso will, let him take a (straight) return to his Lord!

078.040 Verily, We have warned you of a Penalty near, the Day when man will see (the deeds) which his hands have sent forth, and the Unbeliever will say, "Woe unto me! Would that I were (metre) dust!"

THOSE WHO DRAG FORTH, SOUL-SNATCHERS,
CHAPTER NO. 079

079.001 By the (angels) who tear out (the souls of the wicked) with violence;

079.002 By those who gently draw out (the souls of the blessed);

079.003 And by those who glide along (on errands of mercy),

079.004 Then press forward as in a race,

079.005 Then arrange to do (the Commands of their Lord),

079.006 One Day everything that can be in commotion will be in violent commotion,

079.007 Followed by oft-repeated (commotions):

079.008 Hearts that Day will be in agitation;

079.009 Cast down will be (their owners') eyes.

079.010 They say (now): "What! shall we indeed be returned to (our) former state?

079.011 "What!Ñwhen we shall have become rotten bones?"

079.012 They say: "It would, in that case, be a return with loss!"

079.013 But verily, it will be but a single (Compelling) Cry,

079.014 When, behold, they will be in the (full) awakening (to Judgment).

079.015 Has the story of Moses reached thee?

079.016 Behold, thy Lord did call to him in the sacred valley of Tuwa:-

079.017 "Go thou to Pharaoh for he has indeed transgressed all bounds:

079.018 "And say to him, 'Wouldst thou that thou shouldst be purified (from sin)?-

079.019 "'And that I guide thee to thy Lord, so thou shouldst fear Him?'"

079.020 Then did (Moses) show him the Great Sign.

079.021 But (Pharaoh) rejected it and disobeyed (guidance);

079.022 Further, he turned his back, striving hard (against God).

079.023 Then he collected (his men) and made a proclamation,

079.024 Saying, "I am your Lord, Most High".

079.025 But God did punish him, (and made an) example of him,Ñin the Hereafter, as in this life.

079.026 Verily in this is an instructive warning for whosoever feareth (God).

079.027 What! Are ye the more difficult to create or the heaven (above)? (God) hath constructed it:

079.028 On high hath He raised its canopy, and He hath given it order and perfection.

079.029 Its night doth He endow with darkness, and its splendour doth He bring out (with light).

079.030 And the earth, moreover, hath He extended (to a wide expanse);

079.031 He draweth out therefrom its moisture and its pasture;

079.032 And the mountains hath He firmly fixed;-

079.033 For use and convenience to you and your cattle.

079.034 Therefore, when there comes the great, overwhelming (Event),-

079.035 The Day when man shall remember (all) that he strove for,

079.036 And Hell-Fire shall be placed in full view for (all) to see,-

079.037 Then, for such as had transgressed all bounds,

079.038 And had preferred the life of this world,

079.039 The Abode will be Hell-Fire;

079.040 And for such as had entertained the fear of standing before their Lord's (tribunal) and had restrained (their) soul from lower desires,

079.041 Their abode will be the Garden.

079.042 They ask thee about the Hour,-'When will be its appointed time?

079.043 Wherein art thou (concerned) with the declaration thereof?

079.044 With thy Lord in the Limit fixed therefor.

079.045 Thou art but a Warner for such as fear it.

079.046 The Day they see it, (It will be) as if they had tarried but a single evening, or (at most till) the following morn!

HE FROWNED!,
CHAPTER NO. 080

080.001 (The Prophet) frowned and turned away,

080.002 Because there came to him the blind man (interrupting).

080.003 But what could tell thee but that perchance he might grow (in spiritual understanding)?-

080.004 Or that he might receive admonition, and the teaching might profit him?

080.005 As to one who regards Himself as self-sufficient,

080.006 To him dost thou attend;

080.007 Though it is no blame to thee if he grow not (in spiritual understanding).

080.008 But as to him who came to thee striving earnestly,

080.009 And with fear (in his heart),

080.010 Of him wast thou unmindful.

080.011 By no means (should it be so)! For it is indeed a Message of instruction:

080.012 Therefore let whoso will, keep it in remembrance.

080.013 (It is) in Books held (greatly) in honour,

080.014 Exalted (in dignity), kept pure and holy,

080.015 (Written) by the hands of scribes-

080.016 Honourable and Pious and Just.

080.017 Woe to man! What hath made him reject God;

080.018 From what stuff hath He created him?

080.019 From a sperm-drop: He hath created him, and then mouldeth him in due proportions;

080.020 Then doth He make His path smooth for him;

080.021 Then He causeth him to die, and putteth him in his grave;

080.022 Then, when it is His Will, He will raise him up (again).

080.023 By no means hath he fulfilled what God hath commanded him.

080.024 Then let man look at his food, (and how We provide it):

080.025 For that We pour forth water in abundance,

080.026 And We split the earth in fragments,

080.027 And produce therein corn,

080.028 And Grapes and nutritious plants,

080.029 And Olives and Dates,

080.030 And enclosed Gardens, dense with lofty trees,

080.031 And fruits and fodder,-

080.032 For use and convenience to you and your cattle.

080.033 At length, when there comes the Deafening Noise,-

080.034 That Day shall a man flee from his own brother,

080.035 And from his mother and his father,

080.036 And from his wife and his children.

080.037 Each one of them, that Day, will have enough concern (of his own) to make him indifferent to the others.

080.038 Some faces that Day will be beaming,

080.039 Laughing, rejoicing.

080.040 And other faces that Day will be dust-stained,

080.041 Blackness will cover them:

080.042 Such will be the Rejecters of God, the doers of iniquity.

THE OVERTHROWING, EXTINGUISHED! WRAPPING THINGS UP, CHAPTER NO. 081

081.001 When the sun (with its spacious light) is folded up;

081.002 When the stars fall, losing their lustre;

081.003 When the mountains vanish (like a mirage);

081.004 When the she-camels, ten months with young, are left untended;

081.005 When the wild beasts are herded together (in the human habitations);

081.006 When the oceans boil over with a swell;

081.007 When the souls are sorted out, (being joined, like with like);

081.008 When the female (infant), buried alive, is questioned -

081.009 For what crime she was killed;

081.010 When the scrolls are laid open;

081.011 When the world on High is unveiled;

081.012 When the Blazing Fire is kindled to fierce heat;

081.013 And when the Garden is brought near;-

081.014 (Then) shall each soul know what it has put forward.

081.015 So verily I call to witness the planetsÑthat recede,

081.016 Go straight, or hide;

081.017 And the Night as it dissipates;

081.018 And the Dawn as it breathes away the darkness;-

081.019 Verily this is the word of a most honourable Messenger,

081.020 Endued with Power, with rank before the Lord of the Throne,

081.021 With authority there, (and) faithful to his trust.

081.022 And (O people!) your companion is not one possessed;

081.023 And without doubt he saw him in the clear horizon.

081.024 Neither doth he withhold grudgingly a knowledge of the Unseen.

081.025 Nor is it the word of an evil spirit accursed.

081.026 When whither go ye?

081.027 Verily this is no less than a Message to (all) the Worlds:

081.028 (With profit) to whoever among you wills to go straight:

081.029 But ye shall not will except as God wills,Ñthe Cherisher of the Worlds.

THE CLEAVING, BURSTING APART,
CHAPTER NO. 082

082.001 When the Sky is cleft asunder;

082.002 When the Stars are scattered;

082.003 When the Oceans are suffered to burst forth;

082.004 And when the Graves are turned upside down;-

082.005 (Then) shall each soul know what it hath sent forward and (what it hath) kept back.

082.006 O man! What has seduced thee from thy Lord Most Beneficent?-

082.007 Him Who created thee. Fashioned thee in due proportion, and gave thee a just bias;

082.008 In whatever Form He wills, does He put thee together.

082.009 Day! nit ye do reject Right and Judgment!

082.010 But verily over you (are appointed angels) to protect you,-

082.011 Kind and honourable,ÑWriting down (your deeds):

082.012 They know (and understand) all that ye do.

082.013 As for the Righteous, they will be in bliss;

082.014 And the WickedÑthey will be in the Fire,

082.015 Which they will enter on the Day of Judgment,

082.016 And they will not be able to keep away therefrom.

082.017 And what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is?

082.018 Again, what will explain to thee what the Day of Judgment is?

082.019 (It will be) the Day when no soul shall have power (to do) aught for another: For the command, that Day, will be (wholly) with God.

DEFRAUDING, THE CHEATS, CHEATING,
CHAPTER NO. 083

083.001 Woe to those that deal in fraud,-

083.002 Those who, when they have to receive by measure from men, exact full measure,

083.003 But when they have to give by measure or weight to men, give less than due.

083.004 Do they not think that they will be called to account?-

083.005 On a Mighty Day,

083.006 A Day when (all) mankind will stand before the Lord of the Worlds?

083.007 Day! Surely the record of the wicked is (preserved) in Sijjin.

083.008 And what will explain to thee what Sijjin is?

083.009 (There is) a Register (fully) inscribed.

083.010 Woe, that Day, to those that deny-

083.011 Those that deny the Day of Judgment.

083.012 And none can deny it but the Transgressor beyond bounds the Sinner!

083.013 When Our Signs are rehearsed to him, he says, "Tales of the ancients!"

083.014 By no means! but on their hearts is the stain of the (ill) which they do!

083.015 Verily, from (the Light of) their Lord, that Day, will they be veiled.

083.016 Further, they will enter the Fire of Hell.

083.017 Further, it will be said to them: "This is the (reality) which ye rejected as false!

083.018 Day, verily the record of the Righteous is (preserved) in 'Illiyin.

083.019 And what will explain to thee what 'Illiyun is?

083.020 (There is) a Register (fully) inscribed,

083.021 To which bear witness those Nearest (to God).

083.022 Truly the Righteous will be in Bliss:

083.023 On Thrones (of Dignity) will they command a sight (of all things):

083.024 Thou wilt recognise in their faces the beaming brightness of Bliss.

083.025 Their thirst will be slaked with Pure Wine sealed:

083.026 The seal thereof will be Musk: And for this let those aspire, who have aspirations:

083.027 With it will be (given) a mixture of Tasnim:

083.028 A spring, from (the waters) whereof drink those Nearest to God.

083.029 Those in sin used to laugh at those who believed,

083.030 And whenever they passed by them, used to wink at each other (in mockery);

083.031 And when they returned to their own people, they would return jesting;

083.032 And whenever they saw them, they would say, "Behold! These are the people truly astray!"

083.033 But they had not been sent as keepers over them!

083.034 But on this Day the Believers will laugh at the Unbelievers:

083.035 On Thrones (of Dignity) they will command (a sight) (of all things).

083.036 Will not the Unbelievers have been paid back for what they did?

THE SUNDERING, SPLITTING OPEN,
CHAPTER NO. 084

084.001 When the sky is rent asunder,

084.002 And hearkens to (the Command of) its Lord, and it must needs (do so);-

084.003 And when the earth is flattened out,

084.004 And casts forth what is within it and becomes (clean) empty,

084.005 And hearkens to (the Command of) its Lord,Ñand it must needs (do so);Ñ(then will come Home the full reality).

084.006 O thou man! Verily thou art ever toiling on towards thy LordÑpainfully toiling,Ñbut thou shalt meet Him.

084.007 Then he who is given his Record in his right hand,

084.008 Soon will his account be taken by an easy reckoning,

084.009 And he will turn to his people, rejoicing!

084.010 But he who is given his Record behind his back,-

084.011 Soon will he cry for perdition,

084.012 And he will enter a Blazing Fire.

084.013 Truly, did he go about among his people, rejoicing!

084.014 Truly, did he think that he would not have to return (to Us)!

084.015 Nay, nay! for his Lord was (ever) watchful of him!

084.016 So I do call to witness the ruddy glow of Sunset;

084.017 The Night and its Homing;

084.018 And the Moon in her fullness:

084.019 Ye shall surely travel from stage to stage.

084.020 What then is the matter with them, that they believe not?-

084.021 And when the Qur'an is read to them, they fall not prostrate,

084.022 But on the contrary the Unbelievers reject (it).

084.023 But God has full knowledge of what they secrete (in their breasts)

084.024 So announce to them a Penalty Grievous,

084.025 Except to those who believe and work righteous deeds: For them is a Reward that will never fail.

THE MANSIONS OF THE STARS, CONSTELLATIONS, CHAPTER NO. 085

085.001 By the sky, (displaying) the Zodiacal Signs;

085.002 By the promised Day (of Judgment);

085.003 By one that witnesses, and the subject of the witness;-

085.004 Woe to the makers of the pit (of fire),

085.005 Fire supplied (abundantly) with fuel:

085.006 Behold! they sat over against the (fire),

085.007 And they witnessed (all) that they were doing against the Believers.

085.008 And they ill-treated them for no other reason than that they believed in God, Exalted in Power, Worthy of all Praise!-

085.009 Him to Whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth! And God is Witness to all things.

085.010 Those who persecute (or draw into temptation) the Believers, men and women, and do not turn in repentance, will have the Penalty of Hell: They will have the Penalty of the Burning Fire.

085.011 For those who believe and do righteous deeds, will be Gardens; beneath which rivers flow: That is the great Salvation, (the fulfilment of all desires),

085.012 Truly strong is the Grip (and Power) of thy Lord.

085.013 It is He Who creates from the very beginning, and He can restore

(life).

085.014 And He is the Oft-Forgiving, Full of Loving-Kindness,

085.015 Lord of the Throne of Glory,

085.016 Doer (without let) of all that He intends.

085.017 Has the story reached thee, of the forces-

085.018 Of Pharaoh and the Thamud?

085.019 And yet the Unbelievers (persist) in rejecting (the Truth)!

085.020 But God doth encompass them from behind!

085.021 Day, this is a Glorious Qur'an,

085.022 (Inscribed) in a Tablet Preserved!

THE MORNING STAR, THE NIGHTCOMER,
CHAPTER NO. 086

086.001 By the Sky and the Night-Visitant (therein);-

086.002 And what will explain to thee what the Night-Visitant is?-

086.003 (It is) the Star of piercing brightness;-

086.004 There is no soul but has a protector over it.

086.005 Now let man but think from what he is created!

086.006 He is created from a drop emitted-

086.007 Proceeding from between the backbone and the ribs:

086.008 Surely (God) is able to bring him back (to life)!

086.009 The Day that (all) things secret will be tested,

086.010 (Man) will have no power, and no helper.

086.011 By the Firmament which returns (in its round),

086.012 And by the Earth which opens out (for the gushing of springs or the sprouting of vegetation),-

086.013 Behold this is the Word that distinguishes (Good from Evil):

086.014 It is not a thing for amusement.

086.015 As for them, they are but plotting a scheme,

086.016 And I am planning a scheme.

086.017 Therefore grant a delay to the Unbelievers: Give respite to them gently (for awhile).

THE MOST HIGH, GLORY TO YOUR LORD IN THE HIGHEST,
CHAPTER NO. 087

087.001 Glorify the name of thy Guardian-Lord Most High,

087.002 Who hath created, and further, given order and proportion;

087.003 Who hath ordained laws. And granted guidance;

087.004 And Who bringeth out the (green and luscious) pasture,

087.005 And then doth make it (but) swarthy stubble.

087.006 By degrees shall We teach thee to declare (the Message), so thou shalt not forget,

087.007 Except as God wills: For He knoweth what is manifest and what is hidden.

087.008 And We will make it easy for thee (to follow) the simple (Path).

087.009 Therefore give admonition in case the admonition profits (the hearer).

087.010 The admonition will be received by those who fear (God):

087.011 But it will be avoided by those most unfortunate ones,

087.012 Who will enter the Great Fire,

087.013 In which they will then neither die nor live.

087.014 But those will prosper who purify themselves,

087.015 And glorify the name of their Guardian-Lord, and (lift their hearts) in prayer.

087.016 Day (behold), ye prefer the life of this world;

087.017 But the Hereafter is better and more enduring.

087.018 And this is in the Books of the earliest (Revelation),-

087.019 The Books of Abraham and Moses.

THE OVERWHELMING, THE PALL,
CHAPTER NO. 088

088.001 Has the story reached thee of the overwhelming (Event)?

088.002 Some faces, that Day, will be humiliated,

088.003 Labouring (hard), weary,-

088.004 The while they enter the Blazing Fire,-

088.005 The while they are given, to drink, of a boiling hot spring,

088.006 No food will there be for them but a bitter Dhari'

088.007 Which will neither nourish nor satisfy hunger.

088.008 (Other) faces that Day will be joyful,

088.009 Pleased with their striving,-

088.010 In a Garden on high,

088.011 Where they shall hear no (word) of vanity:

088.012 Therein will be a bubbling spring:

088.013 Therein will be Thrones (of dignity), raised on high,

088.014 Goblets placed (ready),

088.015 And cushions set in rows,

088.016 And rich carpets (all) spread out.

088.017 Do they not look at the Camels, how they are made?-

088.018 And at the Sky, how it is raised high?-

088.019 And at the Mountains, how they are fixed firm?-

088.020 And at the Earth, how it is spread out?

088.021 Therefore do thou give admonition, for thou art one to admonish.

088.022 Thou art not one to manage (men's) affairs.

088.023 But if any turn away and reject God,-

088.024 God will punish him with a mighty Punishment,

088.025 For to Us will be their return;

088.026 Then it will be for Us to call them to account.

THE DAWN, DAYBREAK,
CHAPTER NO. 089

089.001 By the break of Day

089.002 By the Nights twice five;

089.003 By the even and odd (contrasted);

089.004 And by the Night when it passeth away;-

089.005 Is there (not) in these an adjuration (or evidence) for those who understand?

089.006 Seest thou not how thy Lord dealt with the 'Ad (people),-

089.007 Of the (city of) Iram, with lofty pillars,

089.008 The like of which were not produced in (all) the land?

089.009 And with the Thamud (people), who cut out (huge) rocks in the valley?-

089.010 And with Pharaoh, lord of stakes?

089.011 (All) these transgressed beyond bounds in the lands,

089.012 And heaped therein mischief (on mischief).

089.013 Therefore did thy Lord pour on them a scourge of diverse chastisements:

089.014 For thy Lord is (as a Guardian) on a watch-tower.

089.015 Now, as for man, when his Lord trieth him, giving him honour and gifts, then saith he, (puffed up), "My Lord hath honoured me."

089.016 But when He trieth him, restricting his subsistence for him, then saith he (in despair), "My Lord hath humiliated me!"

089.017 Nay, nay! but ye honour not the orphans!

089.018 Nor do ye encourage one another to feed the poor!-

089.019 And ye devour inheritanceÑall with greed,

089.020 And ye love wealth with inordinate love!

089.021 Nay! When the earth is pounded to powder,

089.022 And thy Lord cometh, and His angels, rank upon rank,

089.023 And Hell, that Day, is brought (face to face),Ñon that Day will man remember, but how will that remembrance profit him?

089.024 He will say: "Ah! Would that I had sent forth (good deeds) for (this) my (Future) Life!"

089.025 For, that Day, His Chastisement will be such as none (else) can inflict,

089.026 And His bonds will be such as none (other) can bind.

089.027 (To the righteous soul will be said:) "O (thou) soul, in (complete) rest and satisfaction!

089.028 "Come back thou to thy Lord,Ñwell pleased (thyself), and well-pleasing unto Him!

089.029 "Enter thou, then, among My devotees!

089.030 "Yea, enter thou My Heaven!

THE CITY, THIS COUNTRYSIDE,
CHAPTER NO. 090

090.001 I do call to witness this City;-

090.002 And thou art a freeman of this City;-

090.003 And (the mystic ties of) parent and child;-

090.004 Verily We have created man into toil and struggle.

090.005 Thinketh he, that none hath power over him?

090.006 He may say (boastfully); Wealth have I squandered in abundance!

090.007 Thinketh he that none beholdeth him?

090.008 Have We not made for him a pair of eyes?-

090.009 And a tongue, and a pair of lips?-

090.010 And shown him the two highways?

090.011 But he hath made no haste on the path that is steep.

090.012 And what will explain to thee the path that is steep?-

090.013 (It is:) freeing the bondman;

090.014 Or the giving of food in a day of privation

090.015 To the orphan with claims of relationship,

090.016 Or to the indigent (down) in the dust.

090.017 Then will he be of those who believe, and enjoin patience, (constancy, and self-restraint), and enjoin deeds of kindness and compassion.

090.018 Such are the Companions of the Right Hand.

090.019 But those who reject Our Signs, they are the (unhappy) Companions of the Left Hand.

090.020 On them will be Fire vaulted over (all round).

THE SUN,
CHAPTER NO. 091

091.001 By the Sun and his (glorious) splendour;

091.002 By the Moon as she follows him;

091.003 By the Day as it shows up (the Sun's) glory;

091.004 By the Night as it conceals it;

091.005 By the Firmament and its (wonderful) structure;

091.006 By the Earth and its (wide) expanse:

091.007 By the Soul, and the proportion and order given to it;

091.008 And its enlightenment as to its wrong and its right;-

091.009 Truly he succeeds that purifies it,

091.010 And he fails that corrupts it!

091.011 The Thamud (people) rejected (their prophet) through their inordinate wrong-doing,

091.012 Behold, the most wicked man among them was deputed (for impiety).

091.013 But the Apostle of God said to them: "It is a She-camel of God! And (bar her not from) having her drink!"

091.014 Then they rejected him (as a false prophet), and they hamstrung her. So

their Lord, on account of their crime, obliterated their traces and made them equal (in destruction, high and low)!

091.015 And for Him is no fear of its consequences.

THE NIGHT,
CHAPTER NO. 092

092.001 By the Night as it conceals (the light);

092.002 By the Day as it appears in glory;

092.003 By (the mystery of) the creation of male and female;-

092.004 Verily, (the ends) ye strive for are diverse.

092.005 So he who gives (in charity) and fears (God),

092.006 And (in all sincerity) testifies to the best,-

092.007 We will indeed make smooth for him the path to Bliss.

092.008 But he who is a greedy miser and thinks himself self-sufficient,

092.009 And gives the lie to the best,-

092.010 We will indeed make smooth for him the path to Misery;

092.011 Nor will his wealth profit him when he falls headlong (into the Pit).

092.012 Verily We take upon Ourselves to guide,

092.013 And verily unto Us (belong) the End and the Beginning.

092.014 Therefore do I warn you of a Fire blazing fiercely;

092.015 None shall reach it but those most unfortunate ones

092.016 Who give the lie to Truth and turn their backs.

092.017 But those most devoted to God shall be removed far from it,-

092.018 Those who spend their wealth for increase in self-purification,

092.019 And have in their minds no favour from anyone for which a reward is expected in return,

092.020 But only the desire to seek for the Countenance of their Lord Most High;

092.021 And soon will they attain (complete) satisfaction.

THE MORNING HOURS, MORNING BRIGHT!,
CHAPTER NO. 093

093.001 By the Glorious Morning Light,

093.002 And by the Night when it is still,-

093.003 Thy Guardian-Lord hath not forsaken thee, nor is He displeased.

093.004 And verily the Hereafter will be better for thee than the present.

093.005 And soon will thy Guardian-Lord give thee (that wherewith) thou shalt be well-pleased.

093.006 Did He not find thee an orphan and give thee shelter (and care)?

093.007 And He found thee wandering, and He gave thee guidance.

093.008 And He found thee in need, and made thee independent.

093.009 Therefore, treat not the orphan with harshness,

093.010 Nor repulse the petitioner (unheard);

093.011 But the bounty of the LordÑrehearse and proclaim!

SOLACE, CONSOLATION, RELIEF,
CHAPTER NO. 094

094.001 Have We not expanded thee thy breast?-

094.002 And removed from thee thy burden

094.003 The which did gall thy back?-

094.004 And raised high the esteem (in which) thou (art held)?

094.005 So, verily, with every difficulty, there is relief:

094.006 Verily, with every difficulty there is relief.

094.007 Therefore, when thou art free (from thine immediate task), still labour hard,

094.008 And to thy Lord turn (all) thy attention.

THE FIG, THE FIGTREE,
CHAPTER NO. 095

095.001 By the Fig and the Olive,

095.002 And the Mount of Sinai,

095.003 And this City of security,-

095.004 We have indeed created man in the best of moulds,

095.005 Then do We abase him (to be) the lowest of the low,-

095.006 Except such as believe and do righteous deeds: For they shall have a reward unfailing.

095.007 Then what can, after this, contradict thee, as to the judgment (to come)?

095.008 Is not God the wisest of judges?

THE CLOT, READ!,
CHAPTER NO. 096

096.001 Proclaim! (or read!) in the name of thy Lord and Cherisher, Who created-

096.002 Created man, out of a (mere) clot of congealed blood:

096.003 Proclaim! And thy Lord is Most Bountiful,-

096.004 He Who taught (the use of) the pen,-

096.005 Taught man that which he knew not.

096.006 Day, but man doth transgress all bounds,

096.007 In that he looketh upon himself as self-sufficient.

096.008 Verily, to thy Lord is the return (of all).

096.009 Seest thou one who forbids-

096.010 A votary when he (turns) to pray?

096.011 Seest thou if he is on (the road of) Guidance?-

096.012 Or enjoins Righteousness?

096.013 Seest thou if he denies (Truth) and turns away?

096.014 Knoweth he not that God doth see?

096.015 Let him beware! If he desist not, We will drag him by the forelock,-

096.016 A lying, sinful forelock!

096.017 Then, let him call (for help) to his council (of comrades):

096.018 We will call on the angels of punishment (to deal with him)!

096.019 Day, heed him not: But bow down in adoration, and bring thyself the closer (to God)!

POWER, FATE,
CHAPTER NO. 097

097.001 We have indeed revealed this (Message) in the Night of Power:

097.002 And what will explain to thee what the night of power is?

097.003 The Night of Power is better than a thousand months.

097.004 Therein come down the angels and the Spirit by God's permission, on every errand:

097.005 Peace!...This until the rise of morn!

THE CLEAR PROOF, EVIDENCE,
CHAPTER NO. 098

098.001 Those who reject (Truth), among the People of the Book and among the Polytheists, were not going to depart (from their ways) until there should come to them Clear Evidence,-

098.002 An apostle from God, rehearsing scriptures kept pure and holy:

098.003 Wherein are laws (or decrees) right and straight.

098.004 Nor did the People of the Book make schisms, until after there came to them Clear Evidence.

098.005 And they have been commanded no more than this: To worship God, offering Him sincere devotion, being true (in faith); to establish regular prayer; and to practise regular charity; and that is the Religion Right and Straight.

098.006 Those who reject (Truth), among the People of the Book and among the Polytheists, will be in Hell-Fire, to dwell therein (for aye). They are the worst of creatures.

098.007 Those who have faith and do righteous deeds,Ñthey are the best of creatures.

098.008 Their reward is with God: Gardens of Eternity, beneath which rivers flow; they will dwell therein for ever; God well pleased with them, and they with Him: all this for such as fear their Lord and Cherisher.

THE EARTHQUAKE,
CHAPTER NO. 099

099.001 When the earth is shaken to her (utmost) convulsion,

099.002 And the earth throws up her burdens (from within),

099.003 And man cries (distressed): 'What is the matter with her?'-

099.004 On that Day will she declare her tidings:

099.005 For that thy Lord will have given her inspiration.

099.006 On that Day will men proceed in companies sorted out, to be shown the deeds that they (had done).

099.007 Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good, see it!

099.008 And anyone who has done an atom's weight of evil, shall see it.

THE COURSER, THE CHARGERS,
CHAPTER NO. 100

100.001 By the (Steeds) that run, with panting (breath),

100.002 And strike sparks of fire,

100.003 And push home the charge in the morning,

100.004 And raise the dust in clouds the while,

100.005 And penetrate forthwith into the midst (of the foe) en masse;-

100.006 Truly man is, to his Lord, ungrateful;

100.007 And to that (fact) he bears witness (by his deeds);

100.008 And violent is he in his love of wealth.

100.009 Does he not know,Ñwhen that which is in the graves is scattered abroad

100.010 And that which is (locked up) in (human) breasts is made manifest-

100.011 That their Lord had been Well-acquainted with them, (even to) that Day.?

THE CALAMITY, THE STUNNING BLOW, THE DISASTER,
CHAPTER NO. 101

101.001 The (Day) of Noise and Clamour:

101.002 What is the (Day) of Noise and Clamour?

101.003 And what will explain to thee what the (Day) of Noise and Clamour is?

101.004 (It is) a Day whereon men will be like moths scattered about,

101.005 And the mountains will be like carded wool.

101.006 Then, he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) heavy,

101.007 Will be in a life of good pleasure and satisfaction.

101.008 But he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) light,-

101.009 Will have his home in a (bottomless) Pit.

101.010 And what will explain to thee what this is?

101.011 (It is) a Fire Blazing fiercely!

RIVALRY IN WORLD INCREASE, COMPETITION,
CHAPTER NO. 102

102.001 The mutual rivalry for piling up (the good things of this world) diverts you (from the more serious things),

102.002 Until ye visit the graves.

102.003 But nay, ye soon shall know (the reality).

102.004 Again, ye soon shall know!

102.005 Nay, were ye to know with certainty of mind, (ye would beware!)

102.006 Ye shall certainly see Hell-Fire!

102.007 Again, ye shall see it with certainty of sight!

102.008 Then, shall ye be questioned that Day about the joy (ye indulged in!).

THE DECLINING DAY, EVENTIDE, THE EPOCH,
CHAPTER NO. 103

103.001 By (the Token of) Time (through the ages),

103.002 Verily Man is in loss,

103.003 Except such as have Faith, and do righteous deeds, and (join together) in the mutual teaching of Truth, and of Patience and Constancy.

THE TRADUCER, THE GOSSIPMONGER,
CHAPTER NO. 104

104.001 Woe to every (kind of) scandal-monger and-backbiter,

104.002 Who pileth up wealth and layeth it by,

104.003 Thinking that his wealth would make him last for ever!

104.004 By no means! He will be sure to be thrown into That which Breaks to Pieces,

104.005 And what will explain to thee That which Breaks to Pieces?

104.006 (It is) the Fire of (the Wrath of) God kindled (to a blaze),

104.007 The which doth mount (Right) to the Hearts:

104.008 It shall be made into a vault over them,

104.009 In columns outstretched.

THE ELEPHANT,
CHAPTER NO. 105

105.001 Seest thou not how thy Lord dealt with the Companions of the Elephant?

105.002 Did He not make their treacherous plan go astray?

105.003 And He sent against them Flights of Birds,

105.004 Striking them with stones of baked clay.

105.005 Then did He make them like an empty field of stalks and straw, (of which the corn) has been eaten up.

WINTER, QURAYSH,
CHAPTER NO. 106

106.001 For the covenants (of security and safeguard enjoyed) by the Quraish,

106.002 Their covenants (covering) journeys by winter and summer,-

106.003 Let them adore the Lord of this House,

106.004 Who provides them with food against hunger, and with security against fear (of danger).

SMALL KINDNESSES, ALMSGIVING, HAVE YOU SEEN?,
CHAPTER NO. 107

107.001 Seest thou one who denies the Judgment (to come)?

107.002 Then such is the (man) who repulses the orphan (with harshness),

107.003 And encourages not the feeding of the indigent.

107.004 So woe to the worshippers

107.005 Who are neglectful of their prayers,

107.006 Those who (want but) to be seen (of men),

107.007 But refuse (to supply) (even) neighbourly needs.

ABUNDANCE, PLENTY,
CHAPTER NO. 108

108.001 To thee have We granted the Fount (of Abundance).

108.002 Therefore to thy Lord turn in Prayer and Sacrifice.

108.003 For he who hateth thee, he will be cut off (from Future Hope).

THE DISBELIEVERS, ATHEISTS,
CHAPTER NO. 109

109.001 Say : O ye that reject Faith!

109.002 I worship not that which ye worship,

109.003 Nor will ye worship that which I worship.

109.004 And I will not worship that which ye have been wont to worship,

109.005 Nor will ye worship that which I worship.

109.006 To you be your Way, and to me mine.

SUCCOUR, DIVINE SUPPORT,
CHAPTER NO. 110

110.001 When comes the Help of God, and Victory,

110.002 And thou dost see the people enter God's Religion in crowds,

110.003 Celebrate the praises of thy Lord, and pray for His Forgiveness: For He is Oft-Returning (in Grace and Mercy).

PALM FIBRE, THE FLAME,
CHAPTER NO. 111

111.001 Perish the hands of the Father of Flame! Perish he!

111.002 No profit to him from all his wealth, and all his gains!

111.003 Burnt soon will he be in a Fire of Blazing Flame!

111.004 His wife shall carry the (crackling) woodÑAs fuel!-

111.005 A twisted rope of palm-leaf fibre round her (own) neck!

THE UNITY, SINCERITY, ONENESS OF GOD,
CHAPTER NO. 112

112.001 Say: He is God, the One and Only;

112.002 God, the Eternal, Absolute;

112.003 He begetteth not, nor is He begotten;

112.004 And there is none like unto Him.

THE DAYBREAK, DAWN,
CHAPTER NO. 113

113.001 Say: I seek refuge with the Lord of the Dawn

113.002 From the mischief of created things;

113.003 From the mischief of Darkness as it overspreads;

113.004 From the mischief of those who practise secret arts;

113.005 And from the mischief of the envious one as he practises envy.

MANKIND,
CHAPTER NO. 114

114.001 Say: I seek refuge with the Lord and Cherisher of Mankind,

114.002 The King (or Ruler) of Mankind,

114.003 The God (for judge) of Mankind,-

114.004 From the mischief of the Whisperer (of Evil), who withdraws (after his whisper),-

114.005 (The same) who whispers into the hearts of Mankind,-

114.006 Among Jinns and among men.

— Qur'an..txt (Personal study archive — used by tacit community permission)