# THE GLORIOUS QURAN

# Surah Yasin

A new translation in plain English

TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH BY DR MUSHARRAF HUSSAIN AL-AZHARI



# THE GLORIOUS QURAN

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#### **Preface**

# Glorious Quran translated in plain English with titled sections for easy reading

I have under taken this translation because I owe so much to the Quran, it has made my life meaningful and worth living. I believe it will offer new insights and understanding for people living in a global village in the age of science and information technology. I have been a serious student of the glorious Quran for more than 40 years, memorising it, learning its language and finally studying the science of Tafsir and Hadith at Al Azhar University Cairo. Over the decades I have read and taught several translations of the glorious Quran in English and Urdu but felt a need for a fresh translation in plain English that is up to date both in its presentation and language. I hope this will help you to experience the eloquence and effective style of Divine words.

#### **Plain English**

My goal has been to translate the meaning of the divine message by being faithful and accurate in expressing the exact meaning of Quranic words by relying on classical Arabic dictionaries and commentaries of Quran. What has been a source of consolation for me is the fact that Muslims regard only the Arabic Quran as the Quran, the translations are simply interpretations. I am therefore pleased to present my understanding of the text as I have learnt it from my eminent teachers, the previous prominent translators and illustrious commentators. Plain contemporary English has been my goal, so I avoided archaic words, did not translate all Arabic idioms instead I used English idioms. How successful I have been in providing a meaning that is clear, plain and contemporary is for you to judge. I hope this translation will move you to reflect on this powerful life changing revelation from our Creator.

#### **Subject matter presented under Section headings**

These headings correspond to major themes presented in the text, they are not just attention grabbing but add to clarity of meaning, reflect its contents, specific topics that will help the reader to understand what Prof Tarif Khalidi has called "bursts of revelation". Since the Quran was revealed according to the need of the time from 5 to 10 verses at any one time. The headings will also help you to understand Allah's speech as being clearly linked.

I have written a comprehensive Introduction to each Surah that highlights the period of revelation, the major themes and special passages. To explain and present different meanings I have sparingly used footnotes to add value to the communicative process of translation, for conveying literal meanings and cross referencing.

My Review panel was Sh Yasrab shah, Maulana Asif Ali, Mufti M Ismael, Hafiz Naveed Iqbal, Dr. Ahmed Meliberry and the imams of Karimia Institute. The translation will be approved by the University of Al-Azhar.

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### Key

#### **Reading instructions**

Ayah numbers are mentioned at the start on the English translation but are noted at the end within the Arabic.

#### **Numbers**

- 0 .
- 1 1
- 2 Y
- 3 ٣
- 4 6
- 5 4
- 6 7
- 7 4
- 8 Λ
- 9 9
- 10 1.

### SURAH YASIN

This is an early Makkan Surah revealed at a time when Muslims were being persecuted. It opens by reassuring the messenger of the importance of his role in guiding humanity. The Prophet Muhammad & called this Surah "heart of the Quran," since it provides powerful arguments for the beliefs of Islam; oneness of Allah, messengership of Muhammad & and the resurrection.

Next it highlights the stubbornness and the arrogance of Makkans as the chief reason for their disbelief, which is illustrated by the story of three messengers who came to a town and were rejected. This comes as a warning to the Makkans that their behaviour is no different from those previous generations, so the consequences would be no different - defeat! The brave supporter who stands up for the messengers is a consolation for the small band of Muslims in Makkah. There is a poignant lament describing human condition of disbelief and denial of truth "have you not seen how many generations before them We have destroyed?" (31). Another reason given for not accepting Allah as the creator is selfishness, man being self-centred and greedy. (47)

The next few sections describe Allah's creative power and invite humanity to reflect on creation, a marvel of incredible complexity and beauty. Attention is drawn to dry dead Earth, how the rain produces lush vegetation, pointing to the belief in the resurrection, just as dead Earth can come to life. There is no

reason why dry bones cannot be given life.

A description of Judgement Day follows when the trumpet is blown, justice will be done, evidence of one's deeds will not come just from the records kept by the angels but every limb will speak out. The accuracy and the preciseness of this evidence cannot be disputed and that is why the divine judgement will be perfect. A vivid description of luxuries and delights of paradise is presented including the beatific vision, the Lord himself will greet people of paradise; they will see him in his glory and Majesty. This truly will be the climax of life in paradise. Once again the reader is invited to reflect on the beauty of nature. How we witness things that seem paradoxical: for example fire from green trees. How can fire and water exist together? Isn't this a proof of Allah's power to bring dead to life because "when He wants to do something all He says is 'be, and it is!' So glorified is He in whose hand lies the control of everything and to Him shall you be returned." (82-3) Finally, the Messenger & is reassured once more "Let not their speech distress you, We know what they hide and what they reveal." (76)

## Beloved messenger came

<sup>6</sup>in order that you warn people whose forefathers were not warned before them... لرَّحُلنُ مِنْ شَيْءِ إِنْ أَنْتُمُ إِلَّا تَكُنِ بُوْنَ @ قَالُوْا

In the name of Allah the Most Kind, Most Caring.

#### Beloved messenger 🗯 is honoured

<sup>1</sup>Ya sin <sup>2</sup>By the Qur'an full of wisdom <sup>3</sup>you are certainly one of the messengers <sup>4</sup>on the straight path. <sup>5</sup>Sent with a revelation from the Almighty the most kind, <sup>6</sup>in order that you warn people whose forefathers were not warned before them, so they are neglectful.

#### Stubbornness and arrogance lead to misguidance

<sup>7</sup>The judgement has been passed against most of them, for they do not believe. <sup>8</sup>It is as though We have placed iron collars around their necks and up to their chins keeping their head held back unable to submit. <sup>9</sup>We have put a screen in front and a screen behind them and covered them over so they cannot see. <sup>10</sup>It is the same whether you warn them or not; they will not believe. <sup>11</sup>You can only warn the one who listens to the Reminder carefully and is in awe of Rahman without seeing Him, so give him good news of forgiveness and a generous reward. <sup>12</sup>We shall resurrect the dead and have recorded all they have sent ahead and left behind them, This We have computed in a clear document. <sup>a</sup>

#### The story of three messengers

<sup>13</sup> Tell them a parable<sup>b</sup> about people of the town where the messengers came. <sup>14</sup> We sent two to them who they rejected so we sent a third to support them, they said, 'We are messengers to you'. <sup>15</sup> They replied, 'You are mere humans like us; the Rahman has not sent anything. You are just lying.' <sup>16</sup> They said: 'Our Lord knows we are messengers to you,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Imam lit means the leader, guide, the Torah is also refered to as imam Hud;21. Here it refers to the Divine tablet

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> A parable is a story with a moral lesson not necessarily an historical event.

#### Worship your Creator

<sup>22</sup> Why shouldn't I worship Him who created me and to Him you shall be returned.

وقف عفران١١

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<sup>17</sup> our responsibility is to pass on the Clear Message only.' <sup>18</sup> They said: 'Your presence brings us nothing but evil, if you do not stop we will stone you and you will be tortured by us.' <sup>19</sup> They responded, 'The evil you fear coming is from yourselves. Will you not listen? You are people who have gone beyond limits.'

#### A brave man stands up for the messengers

<sup>20</sup> A man from the far side of the town came hurriedly and said 'O my people follow the messengers, <sup>21</sup> follow those who do not ask any reward from you and are rightly guided. <sup>22</sup> Why shouldn't I worship Him who created me and to Him you shall be returned. <sup>23</sup> How can I take gods besides Him, when their intercession<sup>c</sup> would not help in the slightest, neither would they be able to save me if Rahman wanted to harm me. <sup>24</sup> Obviously I would be misguided. <sup>25</sup> I certainly believe in your Lord, so *please* listen to me!

#### **Human disbelief lamented**

<sup>26</sup>He was told, 'Go into paradise.' He said, 'would that my people knew <sup>27</sup>how my Lord has forgiven and exalted me among the most respected. <sup>28</sup>We did not send an army from the sky against his people, nor were We going to. <sup>29</sup>There was just one blast so they fell down dead. <sup>30</sup>How unfortunate for people that whenever a messenger comes to them they mocked him. <sup>31</sup>Have they not seen how many previous generations We have destroyed who will not come back to them, <sup>32</sup>but will be brought before Us.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Shaf'ah is intercession; to put in a good word for some one, plead on some ones behalf

Allahs' precision

<sup>38</sup> The sun travels in its orbit that is precisely determined by the All Mighty and the All Knowing, تُرحبُون ﴿ وَمَا تَأْتِيْهِ

#### The wonder of lifeless Earth producing food

<sup>33</sup> A sign for them is the lifeless Earth how We give to it life and from it produced grain for them to eat. <sup>34</sup> There We have grown gardens of date palms and grapes and made flowing springs of water, <sup>35</sup> so they could eat its fruits, yet it is not the fruit of their labour<sup>d</sup>, so why are they not grateful? <sup>36</sup> Glory be to Him who created everything in pairs; that the Earth produces, of humankind themselves and that which they have not yet discovered.<sup>e</sup>

#### The orbits of sun and moon

<sup>37</sup> The night is another sign for them as we gradually peel away the daylight from it, they go into pitch darkness. <sup>38</sup> The sun travels in its orbit that is precisely determined by the All Mighty and the All Knowing, <sup>39</sup> and We have also determined precise phases of the moon until it turns back to a shrivelled date-stalk<sup>f</sup>, <sup>40</sup> neither can the sun over take the moon, nor can the night the day. They are all floating in their fixed orbit.

#### The ships sailing on open seas

<sup>41</sup> Another sign for them is the laden ship in which We carried their forefathers<sup>9</sup> <sup>42</sup> and We created similar to it for them what they ride on. <sup>43</sup> We can drown them if we so wished none can help them nor can they be saved, <sup>44</sup> except kindness from Us and respite for some time. <sup>45</sup> When it is said to them, be mindful now in the present and the future so that you may be cared for, <sup>46</sup> Unfortunately whenever a sign of their Lord comes to them they just turn away from it.

d literally "it was not made by their hands."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> Scientists believe there are more than 12 million living species on Earth, so far only 2 million of these have been recognised and named.

f Refers to the Crescent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> A reference to the Ark of Nuh.

# Judgement Day begins

<sup>51</sup>When the trumpet will be blown they will come out of their graves and hastily go to their Lord, وَإِذَا قِيْلَ

16

#### Selfishness leads to misguidance

<sup>47</sup>When it is said to them spend from that which Allah has given to you, the disbelievers say to the Muslims 'why should we feed those who if Allah wanted He could have fed them?' Indeed you are severely misguided. <sup>48</sup> And they say 'when will this promise be fulfilled if you are truthful?' <sup>49</sup> They are just waiting a single blast that will wipe them out, whilst they are arguing among themselves. <sup>50</sup> They will not be able to make a Will nor have the chance to return home.

#### When the trumpet is blown

<sup>51</sup>When the trumpet will be blown they will come out of their graves and go hastily to their Lord, <sup>52</sup> saying 'Oh woe to us! who has resurrected us from our graves?' This is the promise of Rahman and the truth spoken by the messengers. <sup>53</sup> It was only a single blast that brought them all before us. <sup>54</sup>so today, no one will be unjustly treated and all will be rewarded according to what they did.

#### Separation of the righteous and the wicked

<sup>55</sup> Today the people of paradise will be enjoying themselves <sup>56</sup> they and their spouses seated comfortably on couches in cool shade <sup>57</sup> There they will have fruit and whatever they call for. <sup>58</sup> 'Peace 'a word from the most kind. <sup>h</sup> <sup>59</sup> On the other hand that day the sinners will be told to 'Step aside', <sup>60</sup> did I not command you O children of Adam not to worship Satan since he is your open enemy?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>h</sup> This greeting og 'Salam' will be directly from Allah, this highlights the climax of all the pleasures of Paradise.

#### **People admit sins**

65 Today we shall seal your mouth and make your hands speak and your feet testify what you used to do.

<sup>61</sup>That you should worship Me, this is the straight path. <sup>62</sup>He misguided many of your generations, why did you not think?

#### The limbs will testify

<sup>63</sup> This is hell that you were warned about, <sup>64</sup> so today burn in it as a result of your disobedience. <sup>65</sup> Today We shall seal your mouth *and make* your hands speak and your feet testify what you used to do. <sup>66</sup> If We wanted We could have snatched their eyesight so they would struggle on the path, then how will they see? <sup>67</sup> If We wanted We could have paralysed them in their places so they would not be able to come and go<sup>i</sup>. <sup>68</sup> Whoever We let get old We gradually cause him to slump in figure do you not understand?

#### The glorious Quran is a serious message

<sup>69</sup> We did not teach him the *Messenger* poetry nor does it befit him, it is a Reminder and an illuminating Quran <sup>70</sup> to warn anyone who is truly alive, the verdict has been passed against the disbelievers.

#### The taming of livestock for people's benefit

<sup>71</sup>Have they not seen how some of the things made by Our hands, among them are livestock which they own? <sup>72</sup>We have tamed the livestock for them. Some are their mounts and some they eat. <sup>73</sup>For them are other benefits too and some for drink. Will they not be grateful? <sup>74</sup>Yet they have taken other god besides Allah thinking they will be helped. <sup>75</sup>They are incapable of helping them even if there was an army of them present.

Literally come + go.

# فَلَا يَخُزُنُكَ قُولُهُمُ

اِنَّا نَعُلَمُ مَا يُسِرُّونَ وَمَا يُعُلِنُونَ ﴿ اَوَلَمُ يَرَ الْإِنْسَانُ اَنَّا خَلَقُنٰهُ مِنْ نَظْفَةٍ فَإِذَا هُو خَصِيْمُ الْإِنْسَانُ اَنَّا خَلَقُنٰهُ مِنْ نَظْفَةٍ فَإِذَا هُو خَصِيْمُ الْإِنْسَانُ اَنَّا خَلَقُنٰهُ مِنْ نَظْفَةٍ فَإِذَا هُو خَصِيْمُ اللَّهِ مَنْ الْعَجْدِينَ الْعَظَامَ وَهِي رَمِيْمُ ﴿ قُلْ يُحْمِينِهَا النَّيْ خَلُقَةُ وَقَالَ مَنْ لَيْحُي الْعِظَامَ وَهِي رَمِيْمُ ﴿ قُلْ يُحْمِينِهَا النَّيْ فَا اللَّهُ اللَّي اَنْشَاهَا النَّيْ فَا اللَّهُ الللَّهُ الللَّهُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللللَّالِ اللَّهُ اللللْمُ اللللللَّهُ اللللْمُ اللللْمُ اللللْمُ اللَّهُ ال

## The Power of Allahs word

<sup>82</sup>When he wants to do something all He says is 'Be' and it is!

#### A word of reassurance for the Messenger &

<sup>76</sup>Let not their speech sadden you. We know what they hide and what they reveal. <sup>77</sup>Or does man not see that We created him from a drop of sperm fluid, so why is he so quarrelsome? <sup>78</sup> And makes up arguments against Us and forgets his own creation and he asks 'Who can resurrect disintegrating bones?' <sup>79</sup>Tell them it is He who created them the first time. He knows all His creation well.

#### Fire from the green tree

<sup>80</sup> It is He who made fire for you from the green tree, and from this you light fire. <sup>81</sup> Is He not the one who created the heavens and the Earth? And is He incapable of creating like them again? Nay! He is the All Knowing Creator. <sup>82</sup> When he wants to do something all He says is 'Be' and it is! <sup>83</sup> So glory to Him in Whose hand lies control of everything and you shall be returned to Him.

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