

سورة الباعوث



GENERAL INFORMATION

Current Order of Compilation	107
Location	30th Juz
Order of Revelation	17
Ayaah / Words / Letters	07 / 25 / 114
Revealed in	Makkah
Classification	Early Makkan
Other Names	Ara'ayta al-ladhī & Ad-Deen
Unique Root Words	1 (mīm 'ayn nūn)

SURAH CONTENT

AYAH 01

The Holy Prophet (S) is addressed and some unfortunate reflections of the denial of the Hereafter, in the deeds of the rejectors, are expressed.

AYAH 02-03

Not observing the rights of people in the lower class of the society

SIGNS OF PRETENTIOUS BELIEVERS

AYAH 04-06

Not observing the right of God to be worshiped

AYAH 07

Being inattentive to other people's needs

RELATIONSHIP TO THE PREVIOUS SURAH (1)

The previous Surah, Quraysh, concludes on a demand on Quraysh that they should enslave themselves fully and worship the Master of this house (the Ka'ba).

Allah tells them what they **should be doing** (enslaving themselves to Him.)

In this Surah, Ma'un, Allah tells us what they **are doing** presently without Emaan (Belief). A contrast between what they should be doing, and what they are doing instead.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE PREVIOUS SURAH (2)

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT in Surah Quraysh

Allah mentions His favors on Quraysh, and due to His favors upon them – they should enslave themselves and submit to their Merciful Master.

NEGATIVE REINFORCEMENT in Surah Ma'un

The Quraysh, however, did not become Muslim – so Allah criticized them in this surah for their evil acts. He comments on the reality of their behavior without Islam.

THE TONE OF THE SURAH

This surah is a sharp, intelligent, uncompromising, unapologetic depiction of social corruption in that society.

Allah's Messenger is not in social or political power in Makkah, and for him to criticize and point direct fingers at the leaders who have power to harm – requires full trust in Allah.

THE OCCASION OF REVELATION

With respect to the occasion of the revelation of Surah al-Ma'un, it is said to have been revealed about **Abu Sufyan**. He slaughtered two big camels for himself and his friends every day. One day, an orphan went to him and asked him for some help, but Abu Sufyan hit him with his cane and made him stay away.

Some others have said that the ayah was revealed about Walid bin Mughira or 'As bin Wa'il.

THE MERITS OF RECITATION

If one recites Surah al-Ma'un after 'Isha prayer, God will forgive him or her and will protect him or her until the adhan of the morning prayer. ~ Holy Prophet (S)

If one recites Surah al-Ma'un after the Asr prayer, he or she will be protected by God until the next afternoon. ~Imam Sadiq (A)

If one recites Sura al-Ma'un in obligatory and recommended prayers, God will accept his or her prayer and fasting and will no longer inspect his or her actions. ~Holy Prophet (S)

*Have you seen him who denies
the Final Judgement?*

أَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي يُكَذِّبُ بِالذِّكْرِ

1

aRa'ayt: Did you see?

Used when Allah is empowering His Messenger in confidence and honoring him and his morality in comparison to the disbelievers.

a lam taRa: Did you not see?

Used when Allah's Messenger was overwhelmed and extremely saddened that the leaders have power and media against the message of Allah and Allah is consoling him.

KAFIR vs MUKADHIB

alladhee yakfuru bid-deen – the one who **rejects** the religion.
outright denial and rejection.

alladhee yukazibu bid-deen – the one who **lies against** the religion. The one who is doing takdhib – they are lying against the religion, saying it is a lie.

Deniers of Deen (MUKADHIB)

Mukadhib (Denier): One who knows that something is true but lies against it by choking and killing his conscience and rejecting it.

ATTRIBUTES RELATED TO



Humanity

1. Reject ones without social standing
2. Do not assist or motivate in helping the needy
3. Refuse even small acts of kindness



Divinity

- Offer Salaat
1. As a habit with no spiritual connection with the Creator – a prayer of neglectfulness
 2. To be seen in public – a show off

*Then such is the man who repulses
the orphan (with harshness)*

فَذٰلِكَ الَّذِيْ يَدُعُّ الْيَتِيْمَ

2

YATEEM – someone who lost their parents in childhood.

They feel depressed, hopeless, like there is no ground to stand on. These people are most in need of pity and courtesy.

When someone denies the Judgment Day and the next life, they deny a reality that Allah placed in their Fitrah (natural disposition). When one denies the reality – they lie against themselves, so their heart contradicts and contradiction in the self makes one at unease, making the heart feel harden and closed. When the heart goes hard – Mercy is lost and results in oppression of the weak and this makes them a disgusting person who even repulse and oppress innocent orphan.

And encourages not the feeding of the indigent

وَلَا يَحْضُرُ عَلَى طَعَامِ الْمِسْكِينِ

3

MISKEEN – a poor person. (NOTE that SINGULAR is used here) for 2 reasons.

1. Forget many poor people, he doesn't even encourage the feeding of one poor person (miskeen).
2. It makes the criminal remember the particular poor person they treated badly.

Allah is telling them that He knows what specific crime they did today against that poor.

Here, Abu Lahab, who was the treasurer, is criticized because treasurer has the duty to feed the poor and support the weak at an official level, but they do not fulfill their role. Instead of helping the needy, they were wasting money on rich.

Why doesn't he encourage people to give to the poor?

If he encourages people to feed the poor – people will ask him why he doesn't feed the orphan and poor himself?

So woe to those praying ones

فَوَيْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ

4

MUSALLIN – those who pray

Note that Allah did not use the term, Fa Waylun Lil Munafiqeen (Curse on the hypocrites), rather said Fa Waylun Lil Musallin (Curse on those who pray). This is a message for all of us to be terrified and reflect.

Who are careless of
their prayers

الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُونَ

5

SAAHOOWN – Neglectful

Saahoown comes from the root word, Sahw. It means to forget something out of neglectfulness because something – of a greater thought to you – was on your mind.

Here those are described who are neglectful about their prayers. They neither consider any value for their prescribed daily canonical prayers, nor lay stress on its proper time, nor observe its conditions and rites.

Sajdah Sahw

The prostration of *forgetfulness* (because your mind was thinking about something else).

*Those who (want but) to
be seen (of men)*

الَّذِينَ هُمْ يُرَاءُونَ

6

RAA'A: Literally means “of two parties to struggle against the other”.
Here it means that they're trying really hard to be seen while praying.

This refers to those who do these acts so others will think they are good and will spread the word that they are good people. This is a serious spiritual illness that can destroy the heart like cyanide destroys the body.

*But refuse (to supply) (even)
neighborly needs*

وَيَمْنَعُونَ الْمَاعُونَ

7

MA'UN: Small acts of kindness

Referring to generally insignificant items, which these faithless people refuse to share with the needy.

The faithless ones are so stingy and miserly that they withhold even thing of insignificance from people, especially neighbors - things like salt, water, matches for fire, dishes, and the like, which are the necessities of life.

These little things, although may not cost much, but they are sometimes very helpful, so when they refuse to give them this produces some notable difficulties in the lives of people.

SO THE MESSAGE IS

Note that the ayaah related to Divinity are in the middle while the ayaah related to the humanity on either side.

So, the Message is That you have to be good to the people and good to Allah. You have to have a balance of a good relationship with Allah and the people.

LASTLY ... YET ANOTHER CONNECTION

Allah is telling the leaders of the Quraysh (in Surah Quraysh)....

He who gave you food (at'amahum min joo').

NOW ALLAH IS ASKING THEM

Are you not going to give even a little when Allah gave you everything you have?

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

May Allah (SwT) give us taufeeq to be
His true servants!
Ameen.