



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

# اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ

## RECITE IN THE NAME OF YOUR LORD

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## INTRODUCTION

- Earlier we saw from Surah Al Burooj how to remain firm on faith in difficult situations. Then in Surah At Taariq the nurturing was more inner - from what holds us back. There was a lot of purification, extracting false piercings, anything that was latching on and piercing in the heart.

- In the end, to accept we are still in life so there will be plots. Now we go to the next level which is tasbeeh - to Surah Al A'laa.
- We go through situations that strike us from the outside as well as inner piercings from the nafs, but now Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) takes us higher. The name of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Most High and nothing can be higher than Him.
- The surahs in the last juz may be short but are very heavy as they are filled with all the nurturing from the previous ayat.



# SURAH AL A' LA'A



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

سَبِّحْ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى ﴿١﴾ الَّذِي خَلَقَ فَسَوَّى ﴿٢﴾ وَالَّذِي قَدَّرَ فَهَدَى ﴿٣﴾  
 وَالَّذِي أَخْرَجَ الْمَرْعَى ﴿٤﴾ فَجَعَلَهُ غُثَاءً أَحْوَى ﴿٥﴾ سَنُقْرِئُكَ  
 فَلَا تَنْسَى ﴿٦﴾ إِلَّا مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ إِنَّهُ يَعْلَمُ الْجَهْرَ وَمَا يَخْفَى ﴿٧﴾ وَنُيَسِّرُكَ  
 لِلْيُسْرَى ﴿٨﴾ فَذَكَرْ إِن نَّفَعَتِ الذِّكْرَى ﴿٩﴾ سَيَذَكِّرُ مَنْ يَخْشَى ﴿١٠﴾  
 وَيَنْجِنُهَا الْأَشْقَى ﴿١١﴾ الَّذِي يَصِلُ النَّارَ الْكُبْرَى ﴿١٢﴾ ثُمَّ لَا يَمُوتُ  
 فِيهَا وَلَا يَحْيَى ﴿١٣﴾ قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ تَزَكَّى ﴿١٤﴾ وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ رَبِّهِ فَصَلَّى ﴿١٥﴾  
 بَلْ تُؤْثِرُونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا ﴿١٦﴾ وَالْآخِرَةَ خَيْرٌ وَأَبْقَى ﴿١٧﴾ إِنَّ  
 هَذَا لَفِي الصُّحُفِ الْأُولَى ﴿١٨﴾ صُحُفِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمُوسَى ﴿١٩﴾

- We ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to teach us as He taught Adam (عليه السلام) and to make us understand as He made Suleiman (عليه السلام) understand.
- We have no knowledge except what Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) teaches us.
- The sky was mentioned several times in the previous surahs. Even when we face difficulties, we tend to look up, to what is high.
- Now in this surah, the sky is not mentioned but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Most High.
- The theme of the surah is a reminder for the believers of the Day of Judgement.
- This surah is part of the musabbihat in which the tasbeeh appears in different forms. Surah Al Israa' is about the value of the Qur'an. Then

from Surah Al Hashr we learn that though there can be ‘hashr’ (crowds) in our lives, in the end we go to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) so we need to be free from shirk. Surah As Saff is about being in rows. Surah Al Jumuah is about being united.

- Surah Al ‘Alaa also mentions about the prayer. The command for prayer was not ordained on earth but when Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) took the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) above as mentioned in Surah Al Israa’.
- Tasbeeh means to remove any kind of fault, anything wrong, any wrong thinking about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), His Names, His Actions, Attributes or His decrees. He is (قَائِمًا بِالْقِسْطِ) ([that He is] maintaining [creation] in justice.)

- We lose tasbeeh when we assume things based on what we know or expect a pattern.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is never dealing with us according our calculations. Through the decrees Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) shows us matters happen not based on our calculations
- Swimming is horizontally on the sea but with tasbeeh it is as if we are swimming upwards and away.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 1

1.

سَبِّحِ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى

Exalt the name of your Lord, the Most High,

- This was a command to the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم).
- We say this in the prayer, in the sujood, when our eyes are covered and we cannot see anything. From the outside the sujood may appear as a position of weakness but this is the position where the slave is closest to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Our honor is to be a slave of Allah. This submission and sujood is only for Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- The honor is because the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is the messenger of Allah, the leader of all humanity,
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) emphasizes that He is in the highest position, He has the highest quality,



peak in meaning of all Names, highest in mercy, highest in power and everything.

- Never to think low about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). It is unfair to attribute anything low to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

## SURAH AL A'LAA 1 & 2

2.

الَّذِي خَلَقَ فَسَوَّى

Who created and proportioned

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) not only created us, but He created us with - قسط - everything in proportion.
- The who does not know Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will question situations if a person cannot see or cannot hear. He will think bad of Allah (سبحانه)

(وتعالى). But everything is fair and there is never any injustice towards anyone.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 3

### وَالَّذِي قَدَّرَ فَهَدَىٰ

And Who destined and [then] guided

- Whatever was decreed for you, He is guiding you to it. It was decreed for us to be born in a certain time, in a certain way.
- Ibrahim (عليه السلام) was born to a family where the father used to make idols. Musa (عليه السلام) grew up in the home of a tyrant.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will guide everyone irrespective of where and how they were born.

- We cannot question why was someone born here or there. So many of our doubts come as a result of this kind of thinking. Disbelief can come as a result of it, a person can lose his firmness.

## SURAH AL A' LAA 4

وَالَّذِي أَخْرَجَ الْمَرْعَىٰ

And who brings out the pasture

- The word (الْمَرْعَىٰ) comes from a root meaning to care.
- Cattle do not have intellect yet Allah (سبحانه) brings them food and cares for them. If this is for the animals, don't you think Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will care for you, o human? He will not only give you food of duniya but what is greater.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 5

فَجَعَلَهُ غُثَاءً أَحْوَىٰ

And [then] makes it black stubble.

- The meaning of (غُثَاءً أَحْوَىٰ) is anything that is cut off from leaves that turns black and loses its color.
- Anything that was green put turned dry, cannot come back.
- This is the reality of this world. Everything has to come to an end.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) shows that He gave us food and it will become stubble.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 6

سَنُقْرِيكَ فَلَا تَنْسَىٰ

We will make you recite, [O Muhammad], and you will not forget,

- This is addressed to the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)
- There are moments of nurturing in our lives that we cannot forget. These moments show so much tasbeeh - that only He is the Most High.

### SURAH AL A'LAA 7

إِلَّا مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ ۚ إِنَّهُ يَعْلَمُ الْجَهْرَ وَمَا يَخْفَىٰ

Except what Allah should will. Indeed, He knows what is declared and what is hidden.

- This refers to when matters get abrogated. Those ayahs that are not mentioned again or even those that were overruled later.
- The Will of Allah is according to His perfect wisdom and knowledge. It is not random.

- Anything Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) abrogated was for a great benefit. He knows the wisdom behind it.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 8

وَنُيَسِّرْكَ لِلْيُسْرَىٰ

And We will ease you toward ease.

- The Qur'an guides to what is straight, upright and just. May Allah always make us connected to the Qur'an.
- We know how our life was before and after knowing Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and His Words.
- We always want to know the Qur'an. It is a lot of protection, guidance, elevation to make us see a bigger picture.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 9

فَذَكِّرْ إِن نَّفَعَتِ الذِّكْرَىٰ

So remind, if the reminder should benefit;



- When we are filled with His Words, when we have the feelings, when we see the truth, we cannot keep it inside us. There has to be reminder.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) constantly reminds us to Who He is.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 10

سَيَذَكَّرُ مَنْ يَخْشَى

He who fears [ Allah ] will be reminded.

- Then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells us who will benefit from the reminders.
- The one who takes these reminders is the one who has khashya - fear based on knowledge.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 11

وَيَتَجَنَّبُهَا الْأَشْقَى

But the wretched one will avoid it -

- We might think the opposite is the one who is arrogant of his knowledge. But the pattern with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is more than what we think.
- Especially when we have more knowledge, we make more assumptions and patterns.
- The miserable one is actually one who disbelieved, who was arrogant to the truth and to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

## SURAH AL A'LAA 12

الَّذِي يَصْلَى النَّارَ الْكُبْرَى

[He] who will [enter and] burn in the greatest Fire,

- The root of the word (يَصْلَى) is to be connected. We never want to be connected to the fire

- We do not want to turn away from the reminders. This is torment.

### SURAH AL A'LAA 13

ثُمَّ لَا يَمُوتُ فِيهَا وَلَا يَحْيَىٰ

Neither dying therein nor living.

- When someone is in torment he will wish for it to end.
- Even though they are alive, they are not living.

### SURAH AL A'LAA 14

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ تَزَكَّىٰ

He has certainly succeeded who purifies himself

- Purification is from sins, shirk, wrong thinking about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), attributing anything unfair and unjust to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

- When we face situations of conflict, we do not want to jump into them but to come out of it, by remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

## SURAH AL A' LA A 15

وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ رَبِّهِ فَصَلَّى

And mentions the name of his Lord and prays.

- Then reconnect to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). There is nothing more beautiful than the prayer.

## SURAH AL A' LA A 15

سَمِعْتَهُ مِنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لَعَلَّ اللَّهَ أَنْ  
يَنْفَعَنِي بِهِ . قَالَ سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقُولُ  
" إِنَّ أَوَّلَ مَا يُحَاسَبُ بِهِ الْعَبْدُ بِصَلَاتِهِ فَإِنْ صَلَحَتْ فَقَدْ أَفْلَحَ  
" وَأَنْجَحَ وَإِنْ فَسَدَتْ فَقَدْ خَابَ وَخَسِرَ

'I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) say: "The first thing for which a person will be brought to account will be his Salah. If it is sound then he

will have succeeded, be salvaged, but if it is not then he will have lost and be doomed."<sup>1</sup>

- People who do not know about the prayer may think it is so hard but what they do not know is that these are five minutes of peace where no one can pull you away. So we cherish and enjoy this prayer.
- The heart that is at rest, can enjoy the prayer.
- If we are not at rest, we cannot enjoy it.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 16

بَلْ تُؤْثِرُونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا

But you prefer the worldly life,

- If a person will not purify and connect to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), he will go to the tangible worldly life.

<sup>1</sup> Sunan an-Nasa'i 465

## SURAH AL A'LAA 17

وَالْآخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ وَأَبْقَىٰ

While the Hereafter is better and more enduring.

- The Hereafter is so pure. In duniya there is pain, sickness, worriers and troubles but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells us that the hereafter is purified for us.

## SURAH AL A'LAA 18

إِنَّ هَذَا لَفِي الصُّحُفِ الْأُولَىٰ

Indeed, this is in the former scriptures,

- This is not something new or strange.
- There is a the misconception that Islam is only for Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم) but Islam is the religion of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for all times.



## SURAH AL A'LAA 19

## صُحُفِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمُوسَىٰ

The scriptures of Abraham and Moses.

- Ibrahim (عليه السلام) and Musa (عليه السلام) were both messengers of determination.
- Ibrahim (عليه السلام) was Khalil Allah and and Musa (عليه السلام) was Kaleem Allah. In the prayer you have that khulwa with Allah and speak to Him.
- Ibrahim made dua-

## SURAH IBRAHIM 40

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةِ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي ۚ رَبَّنَا وَتَقَبَّلْ دُعَاءِ

My Lord, make me an establisher of prayer, and [many] from my descendants. Our Lord, and accept my supplication.

- Musa (عليه السلام) prayed in his grave.

## MUSA (عليه السلام) PRAYED IN HIS GRAVE

أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " مَرَرْتُ عَلَى قَبْرِ مُوسَى عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ وَهُوَ يُصَلِّي فِي قَبْرِهِ " .

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: "I passed by the grave of Musa, peace be upon him, and he was praying in his grave." So much connection of these feigns through the prayer.

- But then to go to the most high, tasbeeh.
- In the end , we see that when we take it back to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), there is a lot of calmness and stillness. It is not about what our nafs is going through, or about being patient but to purely go back to Him.

- May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) give us the submission, without being stuck with calculations or assumptions.
- When we love someone, we want to connect with them so much and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants us to connect with Him five times everyday.
- To start our day with the Fajr prayer, then in the time of hustle to reconnect to Him with the Dhuhr prayer and then the 'Asr prayer. Then with the Magrib prayer when it is a time of change and finally to end the night with the 'Isha prayer.

## NURTURING LESSONS

- We see from the beginning and the end of surah to always go back to tawheed.
- What Ibrahim (عليه السلام) faced with his father and what Musa (عليه السلام) faced with firawn only further emphasizes that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Most High.

### THE PROPHET (صلى الله عليه وسلم) RECITED SURAH AL 'ALAA

عَنِ النَّعْمَانِ بْنِ بَشِيرٍ، قَالَ كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقْرَأُ فِي الْجُمُعَةِ بِ { سَبِّحِ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى } وَ { هَلْ أَتَاكَ حَدِيثُ الْغَاشِيَةِ } وَرُبَّمَا اجْتَمَعَ الْعِيدُ وَالْجُمُعَةُ فَيَقْرَأُ بِهِمَا فِيمَا جَمِيعًا .

It was narrated that An-Nu'man bin Bashir said:

"The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) used to recite 'Glorify the name of your Lord, the Most High'(Al-A'la 87) and 'Has there come to you the

narration of the overwhelming (i.e. the Day of Resurrection)?' (Al-Ghashiyah 88) in the Jumu'ah prayer, and sometimes 'Eid and Jumu'ah would fall on the same day, and he would recite them in both 'Eid and Jumu'ah prayer."

- Tasbeeh is at all times not only the we are drowning or in our lowest, but also when going up. Even when we see great openings.
- We think to go higher is with something new but what takes us high is reminders. It keeps us humble. We do not look like we know or anyone knows.

MAY ALLAH MAKE US FROM THOSE WHO HAVE KHASHYA.  
AMEEN.

## REFERENCES

1. تفسير الشيخ السعدي - TAFSEER SHEIKH AS SA'ADY



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[LISTEN TO THE CLASS – FOR WOMEN](#)

<https://vimeopro.com/markazalsalam/recite-in-the-name-of-your-lord>

TO REQUEST ACCESS TO THE RECORDING: <https://markazalsalam.com/recordings-notes>

[CLASS NOTES FOR WOMEN AND MEN](#)

FOR STUDENTS OF KNOWLEDGE, TEACHERS AND DA'EES IN ENGLISH

<https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsENG>

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<https://t.me/dropletsofdew>

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<https://t.me/truthfulentry>