

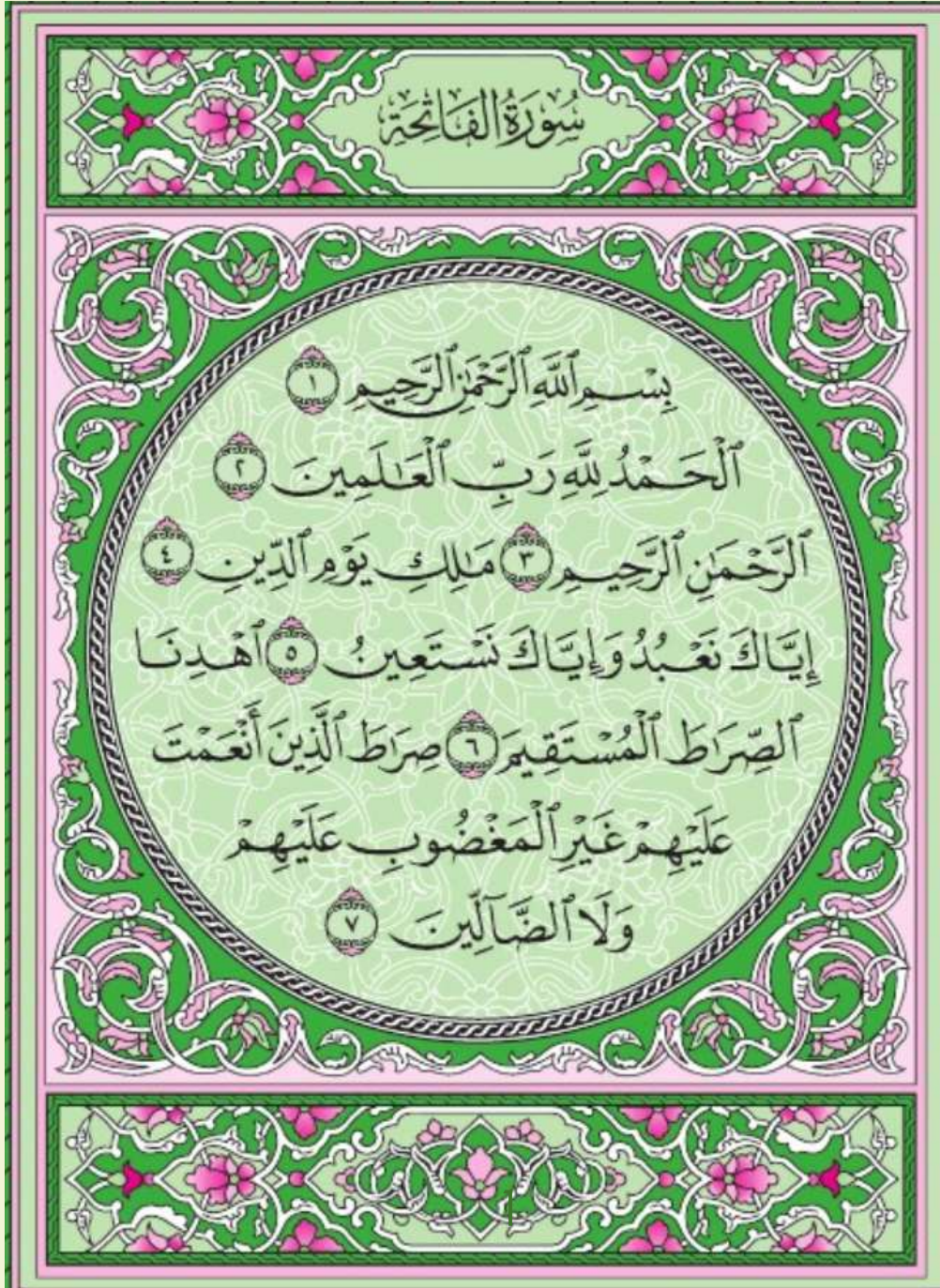
INTRODUCTION

- ♥ When we get exposed to many new things and concepts, then every part of us has to change with it. And as the old sayings go, “old is gold”, “less is more”, and in reality the truth is gold, the fitra is gold, and the point is to find the truth. And the truth is free from any desire.
- ♥ For example, the pillars of Islam and faith are the same, but the more we go through nurturing, the more feelings we will have to the same pillar and to the same Name of Allah. Something that is authentic and true does not confuse us, but we need to be open to receiving and accepting the guidance.

سورة الفاتحة

SURAH AL FATIHA

OPENING CHAPTER



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful.

2

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

[All] praise is [due] to Allah, Lord of the worlds -

3

الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful,

4

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

Sovereign of the Day of Recompense.

5

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

It is You we worship and You we ask for help.

6

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

Guide us to the straight path -

7

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ

The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favor, not of those who have evoked [Your] anger or of those who are astray.

GUIDE US TO THE STRAIGHT PATH

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

Guide us to the straight path

♥ (لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله) is clear and true. It is clear that Allah is One, and the path is clear and the final messenger being Mohammed (ﷺ) is all clear. But what happens is people become crowded so they become busy from seeing the truth, or sometimes they are attached to what their forefathers did, but the most truthful and clearest evidence is Oneness of Allah and that we need to be one for One.

- ♥ No matter how much people try to bring down the Qur'an or speak against it, it remains the truth.
- ♥ Even if we are guided to the truth, do we think it is the end of the journey? No, we need more guidance and Allah gives us more feelings to the same matter.
- ♥ The more we are open and going forward, the more we will see beauty, even if it is in the same Surah Al Fatiha, the same prayer, the same salam, and the same "alhamdulillah". The more the barriers are removed, the more we will taste the sweetness of the truth and the bitterness of falsehood go away. But we have to taste both to recognize both.
- ♥ To increase in faith does not mean to change the platform of faith, but the more we go

through things, the more we will appreciate our faith.

- ♥ We all need guidance from the truth and there cannot be guidance with something false. People say, "I found a way of how to cheat or to steal", but this is not guidance. Sometimes people are guided to sin and feel they have then been guided, subhan Allah. We ask Allah for the well-being. Ameen. For example, someone may be going through a problem, so they are told to go to energy, to change furniture to bring good energy, or to wear a stone.
- ♥ Guidance is something we get with ease and that is free of charge. Guidance is not about new trends, but it needs to be based on the

truth. Guidance that is “built-in” in all of us is our fitra.

- ♥ It is like a “chip” that has been inserted in us and no one can change “its coding”. It can get covered, but no one can remove it.

GUIDANCE IS BASED ON THE TRUTH

1. Fitra (Natural disposition): everyone, even if no one is told about Islam, feels and has the instinct to believe in One.
2. Divine revelation (Qur'an and Sunnah): The divine revelation will never change and Allah will send reminders to the people.

FITRA (NATURAL DISPOSITION)

- ♥ All of us have a moment in our life where our fitra was covered and then we went through something to bring out the truth in us.

- ♥ The fitra is pure and when we have good feelings then this is from the fitra, but bad feelings are from the shaitan. For example, we see someone and feel we want to say “salam”; this is fitra which is pure and wants good. Or when we see something on the floor, the fitra is to remove it so no one gets hurt. It is something good and pure.
- ♥ When Musa (عليه السلام) and his family were in the cold desert and he saw fire, he wanted to get from it to keep his family warm, and then Allah gave him even more guidance – the guidance of prophethood.
- ♥ He followed his fitra and it lead to more guidance. But what can prevent people from using the fitra which Allah has placed in all of

us? When we think, “how can I go and do this”, how can there be “fire in a desert”?

- ♥ In the story of the prostitute who saw a thirsty dog licking the mud. Her instinct was that she wanted to give water to the dog. There was a well, but there is a struggle to fetch the water. She took her shoe and went to the well to get water and give it to the dog. As a result, Allah forgave her sins.
- ♥ Allah will bring guidance to everyone, regardless of what their past may be, and He brings it in a way that no one can imagine.
- ♥ When she gave water to the dog, Allah forgave her and all her life changed.
- ♥ Allah is Al Ghafoor Al Wadood Who conceals the sins and is so loving. Allah will bring guidance to remove that past thinking where

we think we are not worthy to receive guidance.

- ♥ There was a man who was known as a thief. As he was bought to steal from someone, he could hear Surah Al Hadid being recited and following ayah was said:

SURAH AL HADID 16

أَلَمْ يَأْنِ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ تَخْشَعَ قُلُوبُهُمْ لِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَمَا نَزَلَ مِنَ
الْحَقِّ

Has the time not come for those who have believed that their hearts should become humbly submissive at the remembrance of Allah and what has come down of the truth?

- ♥ When he heard this, he said, “by Allah, I will not steal again”. He repented and returned back to Allah and then became a scholar, subhan Allah.

- ♥ Allah will not look down on anyone; He will still bring guidance. We all need the truth and cannot be guided with falsehood.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FITRA

- ♥ The fitra is true, straightforward, familiar and uncomplicated.

SURAH AR ROOM 30

فَأَقِمْ وَجْهَكَ لِلدِّينِ حَنِيفًا ۚ فِطْرَتَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي فَطَرَ النَّاسَ عَلَيْهَا ۚ لَا تَبْدِيلَ لِخَلْقِ اللَّهِ ۚ ذَلِكَ الدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

So direct your face toward the religion, inclining to truth. [Adhere to] the fitrah of Allah upon which He has created [all] people. No change should there be in the creation of Allah. That is the correct religion, but most of the people do not know.

- ♥ Allah placed the fitra in us to turn to One, this is the “fitra of Allah”. And there is no change in the creation of this fitra which Allah has created. This is the straight, upright religion.

- ♥ The important pillar of fitra is tawheed – Oneness of Allah. The instinct of the heart is to turn to One and only One, and not to turn to many.
- ♥ The real fitra is Oneness of Allah, and someone might think, “if this is the case, then when why is not everyone on it?”. Because they either follow their forefathers or follow anything that comes along.

EVERYONE IS BORN ON THE FITRA

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " مَا
 مِنْ مَوْلُودٍ إِلَّا يُلَدُّ عَلَى الْفِطْرَةِ فَأَبَوَاهُ يُهَوِّدَانِهِ وَيُنَصِّرَانِهِ
 وَيُشْرِكَانِهِ "

Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) as saying: No baby is born but is upon the Fitra (of Islam). It is his parents who make him a Jew or a Christian or a Polytheist.¹

¹ Sahih Muslim 2658

- ♥ People are born pure and simple; they think straight. They are not born with a “web-mind”, thinking “if I say this, what will the other person think?”.
- ♥ Allah is perfect, so if we are ourselves, He will not think bad of us, but this “web” comes when we deal with imperfect people. We are dealing with people who have sensitivities, faults and desires, so we become like a “web”. And our faith needs to be connected to the One Who is perfect and this will make us straight.
- ♥ Allah does not need anything from us, He will not be affected by us and we cannot benefit or harm Him, so it makes everything straight and clear for us. But when we think, “this person will think like this if I do this, and this one will

react like this”, then we will never be at rest. We will not have any space.

- ♥ If we act or do not act based on people's sensitivities, faults and desires, then it will not be straight and we cannot be straight.
- ♥ The shaitan will not leave a person until he starts to become complicated, such to the point that a person wants to leave his body, subhan Allah. But anything from Allah is pure, good and simple; it makes us in harmony with everything and enjoy everything around us.
- ♥ Allah is very gentle in reminding us of Him. Even for the sinner, Allah stretches His Hands to him so He may forgive him.
- ♥ The fitra is tawheed which is to believe in One Who is perfect and worship One Who is perfect.

- ♥ And if someone covers his fitra by refusing to believe in Allah or to worship many, Allah will not leave him. He will make him go through a situation that he will take him back to his fitra. He will be in the middle of the sea and every mean of rescue will be disabled.

SURAH YUNUS 22

هُوَ الَّذِي يُسَيِّرُكُمْ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا كُنْتُمْ فِي الْفُلِكِ وَجَرِينِ
 بِهِمْ بِرِيحٍ طَيِّبَةٍ وَفَرِحُوا بِهَا جَاءَتْهَا رِيحٌ عَاصِفٌ وَجَاءَهُمُ الْمَوْجُ
 مِنْ كُلِّ مَكَانٍ وَظَنُّوا أَنَّهُمْ أُحِيطَ بِهِمْ ۖ دَعَوُا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ
 الدِّينَ لَئِن أَنْجَيْتَنَا مِنْ هَذِهِ لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الشَّاكِرِينَ

It is He who enables you to travel on land and sea until, when you are in ships and they sail with them by a good wind and they rejoice therein, there comes a storm wind and the waves come upon them from everywhere and they assume that they are surrounded, supplicating Allah, sincere to Him in religion, "If You should save us from this, we will surely be among the thankful."

- ♥ Everyone in the ship, regardless of what they believe, will make dua to One, subhan Allah. The situation where everyone will be levelled in their tawheed is when there is no solution. May Allah protect us from reaching a point like this. Ameen.
- ♥ We do not want to be in the middle of the sea to realize that Allah is One. What makes someone to turn to One, did anyone tell them to turn to One? Fitra. It is fitra inserted in all of us and when will be shown? In situations like this.
- ♥ They said if they are saved then they will be among the grateful, so Allah saves them. But what happened?

SURAH YUNUS 23

فَلَمَّا أَنْجَاهُمْ إِذَا هُمْ يَبْغُونَ فِي الْأَرْضِ بِغَيْرِ الْحَقِّ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ
إِنَّمَا بَغْيِكُمْ عَلَىٰ أَنْفُسِكُمْ مَتَاعَ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا ثُمَّ إِلَيْنَا مَرْجِعُكُمْ
فَنُنَبِّئُكُمْ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ

But when He saves them, at once they commit injustice upon the earth without right. O mankind, your injustice is only against yourselves, [being merely] the enjoyment of worldly life. Then to Us is your return, and We will inform you of what you used to do.

- ♥ They transgressed and this will all go against them. They can enjoy the little in this life and will all return to Allah.
- ♥ So their invocation was just for “emergency”, but they did not act on it after tasting only One is there.
- ♥ Even with food, there are some foods that we do not incline to, but then we think, “what will people think?”, and our mind becomes complicated.

- ♥ Guidance is to be united to one path, it is to be united to one paradise. Guidance unites everyone.

SURAH AZ ZUKHRUF 26 TO 28

خَتَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ وَعَلَى سَمْعِهِمْ وَعَلَى أَبْصَارِهِمْ غِشَاوَةً
وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ

Allah has set a seal upon their hearts and upon their hearing, and over their vision is a veil. And for them is a great punishment.

26

وَإِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ لِأَبِيهِ وَقَوْمِهِ إِنَّنِي بَرَاءٌ مِمَّا تَعْبُدُونَ

And [mention, O Muhammad (ﷺ)], when Abraham said to his father and his people, "Indeed, I am disassociated from that which you worship

27

إِلَّا الَّذِي فَطَرَنِي فَإِنَّهُ سَيَهْدِينِ

Except for He who created me; and indeed, He will guide me."

28

وَجَعَلَهَا كَلِمَةً بَاقِيَةً فِي عَقْبِهِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ

And he made it a word remaining among his descendants that they might return [to it].

- ♥ Then Allah guided Ibrahim (عليه السلام) to be a leader of the deen and father of the prophets.
- ♥ It is fitra to believe in One Whom we cannot see. People will not answer their fitra when they go with the flow of the people.

MAY ALLAH GUIDE US AND KEEP US FIRM. AMEEN

REFERENCES

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



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