

In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful

## **Why The Quran?**

This question is not only posed by opponents of the Quran, the Holy Book of Islam, who try their level best to cast doubt on it and claim that it is not Divine. This type of people has been there since day one of Islam. Many, however, perished and the Quran continues to spread.

“Why the Quran?” is also posed by many Muslim youth especially those who grow up in a non Muslim environment. Out of ignorance, they also have doubts about the Quran.

Dr Ahmad Shoker, a dear brother from Saskatoon, wrote a book he called “Why Islam” which he addressed to his children to prove to them as well as to their peers why they are Muslims.

The present book is an attempt to introduce the Quran to those who do not know enough about it. The Quran is the title of the Holy book revealed to Prophet Muhammad more than fourteen centuries ago in Makkah Saudi Arabia. He was an unlettered man who never went to any school and he led an unnoticed life until the age of forty .He never aspired to be a Prophet of God but was rather taken by surprise when he received the first revelations .In fact he used to spend one month each year in a cave near Makkah contemplating about the basic issues of human existence. Unlike many of his people, most of whom were idol worshippers, he never prostrated before any man made idol and was looking for the real God of the universe. As he was doing this one night in Ramadan the ninth month of the lunar calendar, he was taken by surprise through the appearance of some one he never met before who embraced him and said: Read. His answer was I am not a reader. Then the person insisted: Read. Again Muhammad struggled with the same answer: I can not read. After the third time the visitor

said: Read in the name of your Lord who created. He created man from a hanging clot... Read and your Lord is the Most Honorable; Who taught by the pen .Taught man what he knew not.

That visitor then disappeared and the exhausted receiver repeated the words after him which he found inscribed in his memory. When Muhammad went back to his wife, Khadeeja, he was shivering with fear asking her to cover him up which she did. When he recovered, after a while, he told his wife the story .She then took him to a cousin of hers called Waraqa who had some knowledge of religion and who converted to Christianity .When the latter listened to the story he exclaimed: This is the Law that has been revealed to Moses .Your people will oppose you and I wish I would be a young man then to support you.

That was the beginning of the Quran. It was unexpectedly revealed to Muhammad, the unlettered man of Arabia. The visitor was angel Gabriel, the celestial messenger of Divine revelations to all prophets of God from Adam to Muhammad. Peace be upon them all.

Let us now see what happened next. The same angel repeated his visits with more revelations which Muhammad found himself knowing by heart and which he started to recite to people around him starting with his family members. In one visit the angel said to him: Muhammad you are the Messenger of Allah and I am angel Gabriel.

Now that the Prophet conveyed what he received, followers started to formulate around him and many of them not only memorized what they heard from him but they also started to write down the new revelations under the guidance and instructions of the Prophet. Members of this group called scribes were always around the Prophet every time he received new revelations which they committed to writing.

This process continued for 23 years and three things were thus taking place at the same time: one is that as the Prophet conveyed the new message more and more people embraced it and left idol worship; two the new converts memorized what they heard and many of them committed it to writing under the instructions of Muhammad who in his turn was guided by angel Gabriel.

Each year in the month of Ramadan angel Gabriel would come and listen to what was revealed so far which was recited in prayers by the Prophet with his followers listening to him and making sure of the accuracy of what they had both in memory and in writing. In the last year of the Prophet's life, when the Quran was complete, Angel Gabriel came down twice in Ramadan and listened to the whole Quran recited by the Prophet in the Taraweeh prayers at night while the followers were checking their records and memories as they listened to the blessed recitations.

This is how the Quran was revealed to Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him. Thus the Quran is unique in that it did not come down to us in the form of a book but was revealed piecemeal as we hinted earlier. It may be asked, however, how and when did the Quran become in book form as we have it today? As a matter of fact, it was not possible to compile the Quran in book form during the lifetime of the Prophet simply because the revelation was not yet complete. But as soon as the Quran was completed the first caliph after the Prophet, namely Abu Bakr AL Siddique established a committee of some prominent scribes led by Zayd ibn Thabet to compile all the written parchments of the Quran found in the custody of many households.

Thus a master copy of the Quran was established and it was put in the custody of Hafsa wife of the Prophet. Caliph Uthman, the third caliph after the Prophet re-appointed Zayd ibn Thabet as the head of a committee to make eight copies of the master Quran in order to distribute them to different areas of the emerging Islamic

empire. The said committee started its yeoman job using a technique not to write any verse except after the testimony of two witnesses concerning the authenticity of each verse .This technique was closely followed in writing every single verse until the committee came to write down the last verse for which they could find only one witness.

Thus they were reluctant to write down this verse. Until one of them exclaimed. He remembered and reminded many of those around him that that person who was the only witness available for that verse was given the credentials by the Prophet long before that to be one whose testimony is equal to that of two people. Thus the verse was at last recorded under the surprise of every one present

Thus several copies were made and distributed far and wide. We still have two of these copies; one at Top Capi Sarai Museum in Istanbul and the other in Tashkent Central Asia. When compared not only these two copies are identical but compared with any modern copy of the Quran published any where in the world we find that they are identical with all other copies of the Quran all over the world. Thus it is safe to say that we have one edition of the Quran all over the world.

This is how the Quran came to us in book form. We are talking about the Quran in Arabic and not translations of its meanings which can in no way take the place of the Quran.

Since the Quran was revealed piecemeal over a period of 23 years, its revelation is divided into two main categories: the Makkan category and the Madina category. As the names might indicate this is a reference to Makkah and Madina the two main cities of Islam at the time of the Prophet. For thirteen years the Quran was first revealed in Makkah and then for ten years in Madina. Basically the former portion of the Quran deals with establishing faith while the latter is full of legislation.

A crucial question presented by the opponents of the Quran since the very beginning is how can we prove that the Quran is from Allah and not from Muhammad or any other source for that matter? As a matter of fact, rejecters of Islam claimed that Muhammad was a wizard or that he was mad or that he was a liar. They also claimed that he fabricated the Quran. On the other hand, the Quran challenged all these accusations and asked these rejecters to produce any thing similar to it.

Although they were masters of Arabic rhetoric among whom there were numerous outspoken poets, they all failed to produce any thing like the Quran. One narration tells that a leader of Quraish once approached the Prophet and asked him to abandon the Quran offering him wealth, authority or to be taken to famous doctors to be cured of what they claimed he suffered from. Hearing these offers the Prophet recited to that leader the following chapter of the Quran called Fussilat (chapter 41) of which we quote some portions:

He said to that leader: Have you finished my uncle? The man nodded in the affirmative. Then the Prophet said: Then listen to me please: “In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful Ha Mim. A revelation from the Beneficent, the Merciful. A scripture whose verses are expounded, a Quran in Arabic for people who have knowledge. Glad tidings and a warning; but most of them turn away so that they hear not. They also say: Our hearts are protected from that unto which you call us, and in our ears there is deafness and between us and you there is a barrier. So act we also shall be acting.”

“Say: I am only a mortal like you. It is inspired in me that your God is One God, therefore take the straight path unto Him and seek forgiveness of Him and woe unto the idolaters: who give not the poor due and who are disbelievers in the Hereafter.”

The Prophet continued reciting the chapter while the man was listening attentively to what he said. The Prophet continued: “And make mention of the day when the enemies of Allah are gathered unto the Fire, they are driven on, till when they reach it their ears, their eyes and their skins would testify against them as to what they used to do. They said unto their skins: why do you testify against us? They said: Allah has made us utter as He makes all things utter; and it is He Who created you at the first, and unto Him you will be returned.”

“You did not hide your selves lest your ears, your eyes and your skins should testify against you, but you deemed that Allah knew not much of what you did. That your thought which you did think about your Lord has caused you to perish thus you became among the losers.”

“Those who disbelieve say: heed not this Quran, but drown the hearing of it, so that you may conquer. But surely We shall cause those who disbelieve to taste an awful doom, and surely We shall requite them the worst of what they used to do. That is the reward of Allah’s enemies: the Fire. Therein is their immortal abode, payment for as much as they denied Our revelations.”

Then the Prophet concluded the chapter with the following verses:

“We shall show them our portents in the horizons and within themselves until it will be manifest unto them that it is the Truth. Is not your Lord sufficient since He is Witness over all things. But nay. They are in doubt concerning the meeting with their Lord. Indeed He is encompassing all things.”

The man listened carefully all through and then he went back to his people after the Prophet recited to him the said chapter speaking highly of the Quran. Among what he said was that he did not think it was poetry, nor magic nor fabrication but something very special. He concluded by inviting them to accept the new message

and follow Muhammad. They, however, had one comment. They said he bewitched you father of Walid which was his nickname.

On an earlier occasion, the leaders of Quraish approached the Prophet's uncle Abu Taleb, who was like a second father and close supporter of the Prophet. They said to him among other things: Don't you see how your nephew gave the lie to our idols and disclosed the triviality of our dreams. Why don't you stop him from doing all this havoc to our creeds? Accordingly Abu Taleb begged his nephew saying: Have mercy upon me and yourself my son! Stop preaching your new religion please to keep me and yourself. Upon which the Prophet exclaimed: My uncle! By Allah, should they put the sun on my right hand palm and the moon on my left hand palm in order for me to abandon this matter, I will not leave it until Allah makes it prevail or I die in the attempt.

Let us come closer and see how we can prove that the Quran is Divine and not from a human source.

Apart from the fact that the Quran is only one and that it is now identical to the copies from the early days of Islam as we mentioned earlier, the Quran itself proves its truth. Let me give some examples:

Have we ever seen any author criticizing himself nay even condemning himself in his book? This is what the Quran does in dealing with Prophet Muhammad. In chapter eighty called Abasa (He Frowned) the Quran criticizes the attitude of Muhammad when a blind man interrupted his dialogue with a delegation of Quraish. The Prophet did not like the blind man's interruption and frowned so the Quran said to him "He frowned that the blind man came to him .Who can tell you may be the latter might be purified ;or that he might remember and so remembrance would benefit him .As for him who shows his independence you look forward to him and it is not for you to purify him .But as for him who came to

you running ,you turn away from him .Nay .This is but a warning for him who would remember”

Again in chapter 69 called al haaqqah Muhammad faces a threat of elimination:

We read what means:”Had he fabricated some lies against us we would have taken him by the right hand, then we would cut his jugular vein and no one of you would keep us from doing this to him.” So can any body condemn himself so strongly as the Quran does to Muhammad?

A third example is when Allah commanded Muhammad to accept the divorce of the wife of his adopted son Zayd and to marry the divorced wife himself. The Prophet was reluctant to do this for how come can he marry the divorced wife of his adopted son? This was against the customs of Arabia. Those were among the hardest times faced by the Prophet So the Quran refers to this in the following strong words :”When you said to the one whom Allah graced and you graced:” hold your wife to yourself and fear Allah” while you hide within your bosom what Allah is going to reveal and you fear people while you should have feared Allah .Then when Zayd had his share with her we made you marry her so that believers would not be blamed should they marry the ex-wives of their claimed sons” chapter 33

This shows clearly that the Quran is not from Muhammad .but from a different source whom we Muslims believe to be Allah. In chapter 68 called Alqalam “The Pen” the Quran refers to an opponent of Islam and threatens to humiliate him by marking his nose with a strike of a sword in a future battle .This threat took place early in Makkah, then the said man participated in a next battle and his nose received that mark from one sword exactly as the Quran predicted.

Here is another proof of the authenticity of the Quran.

During the confrontation between Quraish and Muhammad and his followers in Makkah the Persians conquered the Romans; so Quraish expressed their happiness and said: As the Persians who are idol worshippers emerged victorious over the Romans who are followers of a revealed religion like Islam then we, the Quraishites will soon conquer Muhammad and his group. The Quran said its word in chapter 30 called the Romans when it said: The Romans have been defeated in the lowest part of the land and they will conquer their conquerors in some years.

Who could tell that the battlefield where the Romans were defeated described as the lowest part of earth ,that this is indeed the lowest part of earth ?It also said they will reconquer in some years .Some years in Arabic means between three and nine years. And in less than ten years the Romans reconquered the Persians

Another important point is that if we go through the whole volume of the Quran which runs into hundreds of pages we do not find a single contradiction or mistake or error in the whole book although it was revealed in small portions in 23 years.

Not only this but let us contemplate the following astonishing proof of the authenticity of the Quran; in chapter two called al baqara verse 23 says: if you are in doubt concerning what we have sent down upon our slave then produce one chapter like unto it. Then in chapter eleven called Hud verse 13 says: Do they say he concocted it, say then bring ten chapters fabricated like it.

The point here is that when there was only one chapter before the challenge expressed in verse 23 chapter two the challenge was to produce just one chapter and when there were ten chapters before the second encounter the challenge was to Produce ten chapters like unto the Quran. This happened when no one knew how many chapters were between Hud and the beginning of the Quran, it refers to the ten chapters before Hud even before the revelation of

six of these chapters that were revealed after Hud as they were all revealed in Madina. So who could tell then that there will be ten chapters before Hud?

Let us come closer. It is Allah who knew such truth then.

Although the Quran is not a book of science or geography it makes over one hundred fifty scientific references which are all truth without exception some of these truths have only been discovered in the twentieth century... Here are some examples:

In chapter 39 called the Troops verse 6 the Quran says referring to Allah the AL Mighty: He created you in the wombs of your mothers, creation after creation in three layers of darkness.

Modern science confirms the existence of three layers of darkness that enshroud the fetus in the womb. How could an unlettered person like Muhammad know this when it was only discovered centuries after his time? It is Allah who speaks in the Quran and not Muhammad.

In chapter 29 called the Spider verse 41 we read:”the likeness of those who choose other patrons than Allah is as that of the she spider when she takes unto herself a house .And lo! The frailest of all houses is that of the spider if they but knew.”

At the time of the revelation of the above verse people thought that it refers to the very weak and flimsy web woven by the spider, but this is only the outward part of the truth .Indeed the frailest of all houses is that of the spider because once the she spider has intercourse with its mate she devours and eats him so there is no family in the web to make a house in the real sense of the word. Who again told the unlettered, unschooled Muhammad about these scientific facts? It is Allah alone and no one else.

Again at the time of Muhammad the world did not know that the earth is like a globe or that the sun and the moon follow a certain

orbit. This is what the Quran says in passing as an eye opener although it is not a book of geography or astronomy. In chapter 55 called the Beneficent verse 5 says: the sun and the moon run according to a certain measure and calculation. In chapter 39 verses 5 says: He makes night to surround the day and makes the day encircle the night. What is inside this circle is the earth which is a circle. The above are only samples of the numerous scientific references in the Quran that prove its authenticity if only people would open their minds and think.

I would like here to share a story about an evangelist from Holland who specialized in attacking the Holy Quran. In his memoirs he writes: I was once addressing a huge audience of lay Muslims in Malaysia and I started attacking the Quran casting doubts on its Divine source. Then all of a sudden there appeared to me someone I never saw before who interrupted me and signaled to me in anger saying: You are a liar and you know you are a liar. I turned to right to continue my speech and he was there in front of me and I turned to the left and he was still there repeating the same thing. So I had no other choice but to stop and go to my hotel where I declared my testimony as a Muslim.

I am mentioning this to show that there will always be people who would attack the Quran and this happened from the very beginning, but it so happened that many staunch opponents of the Quran embraced Islam in the end. The above is just one example. As a matter of fact one of the staunchest enemies of Islam from day one was Omer ibn al Khattab. He heard that his sister Fatima and her husband became Muslims which was a scandal to him. So he went to them and found them reading a part of the Quran which they hid from him.

Omer struck both of them and made his sister bleed. Then he asked her to show him what she was reading.

She, however, declined and said you are impure and this is Holy. He pleaded how can I read it then? Purify yourself first she replied. He entered her bath, took a quick shower and extended his hand to have the document which he was curious to read.

He started reading chapter 20 called Taha. As he read the first few verses that say: “Ta ha”. We have not revealed to you the Quran to put you in hardship; it is rather a reminder for him who fears; it is a revelation from Him Who created the earth and the supreme heavens; the Beneficent who prevailed on the Throne. Unto Him belong all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth and all that is in between and all that is under the ground.”

When Omer recited these verses he exclaimed: What a beautiful declaration! Where is Muhammad? I want to be a Muslim. And indeed from a bitter enemy of Islam he became one of the strongest defenders of the new faith. What a miracle!

Let me share two more incidents of the early days of Islam that prove it to be the truth and nothing but the truth. The first one is about the emperor of Abyssinia called the Negus who was a Christian king at the time of the Prophet of Islam. He was famous for his justice. So when the early Muslim of Makkah faced more tribulations at the hands of their disbelieving folks, the Prophet advised them to emigrate to Abyssinia so a delegation of over eighty people fled to that country. This move enraged Quraish, the disbelieving Arab tribe of the Prophet. It sent two cunning leaders to restore and punish the fleeing immigrants.

Before meeting with the Negus the two men delegation bribed all priests around him who promised to help them in their errand. When, however, they presented their case to the Negus, he said: I cannot surrender them to you before I hear what they have to say. Thus the stage was set for the Muslim emigrants to defend themselves.

They appointed Jaafar ibn abi Taleb, the Prophet's cousin, to speak on their behalf. Among other things he said in all humbleness and honesty: O King: we were people of evil and ignorance, who used to cut relations and eat dead carcasses until Allah sent us someone whose genealogy and honesty we know .He invited us to worship the One God Allah ,to do good and abandon all evils. We followed him but our leaders opposed his call and started to impose severe punishment on us the growing poor followers of the new Prophet. Thus he advised some us to immigrate to your country saying that you are a king under whom no one is wronged. Thus we came to you and they are now chasing us to restore us back to humiliation and torture.

Hearing this, the Negus exclaimed: by God I shall never surrender them to you for any cost. When he heard about the gifts presented to his priests he said: return to them all their gifts. Thus the mission of the chasing delegation was about to fail. But the cunning members came back to the Negus and said: ask them what their book says about Jesus Christ and his mother Virgin Mary.

The Negus, in all curiosity turned to Jaafar and asked him what does your book say about Virgin Mary and her son Jesus Christ? Seeking the guidance and help of God Jaafar replied: Jesus Christ is the spirit and word of God which He delivered to Virgin Mary .He said to him be and he was. He was the miracle of God AL Mighty; not the son of God nor God incarnate but a spirit from Him.

The Negus started to cry .He looked around him and found tears flowing from the faces of many of his priests. He exclaimed once again: by God this is identical to the message of Jesus Christ in its original form. Go hence! He said to the delegation .I am not surrendering them to you at all. Then he turned to the immigrants and said: Stay with me as long as you wish .You will have my full protection. Thus the conspiracy crashed to utter failure.

This response on the part of the reminds us of another similar response that happened in Syria which the Roman emperor Heraclius interviewed a delegation of some Arabs from the tribe of Quraish who were enemies to Islam and had so far two battles with the new Prophet losing one and emerging equal with the Muslims from the other.

The delegation was led by Abu Sufian, the father in law of the Prophet but until then the leader of his enemies. Heraclius asked Abu Sufian to stand in front of the delegation and answer his questions while his group would stand behind him and were asked to make signals to the emperor whenever Abu Sufian would lie. Lying was considered a scandal by Arabs even before Islam. The interview started as follows:

How is the new Prophet among you? Is he one whose fathers were kings so he is trying to restore the authority of his fathers. Abu Sufian said: the Prophet comes from a respectable family although they were not kings so he is not claiming back the lost fame of his family.

Heraclius then asked: Who follows him the rich or the poor people and do they increase or decrease? Abu Sufian said: Majority of his followers is poor and are on the increase. Heraclius nodded and continued: How is the war fare between you and him? He said: He won one battle; we almost won another and we don't know what he will do with the present truce with us?

Heraclius finally asked: Before being a Prophet did he ever lie to people? Abu Sufian said: no he never lied to people. Then Heraclius said: these are the qualities of real prophets. Most of their followers are usually poor; they increase and they do not lie because how can they lie about God when they don't lie to people. By God, Heraclius said: This new Prophet will own, if he lives, the place where my feet stand. Had it not been for my

capacity as king, I would readily go to pour water on his feet for ablution to perform his prayer.

On still another occasion, after the Islamic dominion started to spread to Syria and its neighbors a Muslim delegate entered the court of the Persian leader Rustom. The delegate called Rabyee ibn Aamer never cared about the lofty Persians rugs spread everywhere but pierced each rug with his spear as he walked across to meet with Rustom and deliver the message he came with.

In all astonishment of his behavior Rustom asked the man: what made you emerge from the desert? The man replied: Allah has sent us to emancipate people from man worship to God worship by His will; and to free people from the narrowness of this worldly life to the expanse of the world and the Hereafter; and from the injustice and oppression of other creeds to the fairness and justice of Islam.

These are only few examples of people who grasped the real spirit of Islam and manifested it in their behavior. That is why the whole world opened its gates for the new religion. This was not only limited to the old world of Asia and Africa but it also spread to Europe where the Spaniards welcomed the Muslims ,the adherents of the Quran, to conquer their country and liberate them from the oppression of their own co- religionists.

We come now to the big question: why the Quran? For which this paper has been prepared. The Quran itself answers this question .Here are a few quotations:

“O mankind! There has come to you an admonishment from your Lord and a healing for what is in the bosoms; guidance and a mercy for believers .Say: by the grace of Allah and His mercy .By this let them rejoice .It is better than what they accumulate.

Chapter 10 verses 57-58

The Quran here is given a number of titles: it is first an admonishment which is a touching advice that moves hearts, an ecstasy that moves men to tears.

It is also a healing for what is in the bosoms. Among other things the Quran is a healing from all misconceptions and doubts about creed in God , the Hereafter and this world. It introduces who God is and who God is not .We will mention a few examples of this. In fact scholars say that one third of the Quran speaks about God Almighty. Who he is, what His attributes are and what His actions are in this universe. Thus the Islamic creed is crystal clear concerning this most important issue

I remember in this connection, to have participated in a panel at a church in Burlington Ontario in which representatives from Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism and Islam participated. They were asked to answer this question: Who God is? How He looks like? Every speaker expressed his or her sect's viewpoint. The Christian representative, who was a professor of religion at Toronto University, said he was confused. He did not have a clear idea about God. The rest spoke vaguely and very briefly.

When my turn came to present the Islamic view, I quoted from the Quran defining who God is. Although the Church was packed with audience, they were all listening attentively to these quotations and many of them had many questions after the panel.

So the Quran dispels all misconceptions and doubts about God ALmighty. Not only this but it helps believers to take control of their urges and instincts so that they give vent to what is allowed and abstain from what is forbidden. And this is part of the healing of what is in the bosoms.

In due course, we will present some quotations of the Quran that introduce God Allah.

Another example of how the Quran justifies its message is the following quotation from chapter five verses 15, 16 which mean: there has come to you a light and a clear book by which Allah guides those who follow His satisfaction to paths of peace and

takes them out of layers of darkness and ushers them into light and guides them to a straight path.”

The most important issue introduced by the Quran is to prove that God called “Allah” meaning the One and Only God is unique; that He created the universe and thus is the only one worthy of worship.

The Quran stipulates that we creations come from God; we survive by Him and we will inevitably return to Him. In other words, He is the creator of life and death, the Provider and the Last resort. It is true we don’t have any physical description of God in the Quran, but the Quranic concept of God is so clear that it is not needed to describe him physically.

This is how the Quran introduces God:

Say He is God the Unique; God is the Absolute; He begets not; nor was He begotten and there is no one like unto Him (chapter 110)

In chapter two verses 255 we read: “Allah, there is no other deity except He, the Living, the Self subsistent; neither slumber nor sleep overtakes Him; unto Him belong all that is the heavens and all that is in the earth. Who is he that can intercede with Him except by His leave? He knows that which is in front of them and that which is behind them while they encompass nothing of His knowledge save what He will .His Chair includes the heavens and the earth, and He is never weary of preserving them. He is the Sublime, the Tremendous.”

Another example of how the Quran introduces Allah the Sovereign Lord of the universe is what we read in chapter 37 called al Naml “the Ants” as in the following verses:

“Say praise be to Allah and peace be upon His slaves whom He has chosen. Is Allah best or what you ascribe as partners? Who then has created the heavens and the earth and sends down for you

water from the sky by which We cause to spring forth joyous orchards, whose trees it never has been yours to cause to grow. Is there any god beside Allah? Nay but they are folk who ascribe equals (unto Him) Who then made the earth a fixed abode and made rivers go through it and placed firm hills therein, and set a barrier between the two seas? Is there any god beside Allah? Nay, but most of them know not. Who then answers the wronged one when he cries unto Him and removes evil and has made you successors of the earth? Is there any god beside Allah? Little do they reflect. Who then guides you in the darkness of land and sea, and who sends winds as heralds of His mercy? Is there any god beside Allah? High exalted be Allah from all what they ascribe (unto Him).

Who then starts creation then reproduces it and who provides for you from heaven and earth? Is there any god beside Allah? Say brings your proof if you are truthful.” Chapter 27 verses 59-64

Here is more about Allah in the Quran:

Allah it is who splits seeds and nucleuses. He brings forth the living from the dead and He is the bringer of the dead from the living. Such is Allah. Where else are you perverted?

He is the Cleaver of day break, and He has appointed night for stillness, and the sun and the moon for reckoning. That is the measuring of the Mighty, the Wise, and He it is Who has set for you the stars that you may be guided by them amid the darkness of the land and the sea. We have detailed the revelations for people, who have understanding,

He it is Who sends down water from the sky and therewith We bring forth buds of every kind; We bring forth the green blade from which We bring forth the thick clustered grain; and from the date palm, from the pollen thereof, spring pendant bunches and gardens of grapes and the olive and the pomegranate, alike and unlike .look upon the fruit thereof when they bear fruit and upon its repening. Lo! Therein verily are portents for a people, who believe,

Yet they ascribe as partners unto Him the Jinn (the spirits), although He created them, and they impute falsely, without knowledge, sons and daughters unto Him. Glorified be He and High Exalted above what they ascribe, He, indeed, the Originator of the heavens and the earth, how can He have a son, when there is for Him no consort, and He created all things and is Aware of every thing? Such is Allah, your Lord. There is no god save Him, the Creator of all things, so worship Him, and He is the Patron of all things, Vision comprehends Him not, while He comprehends all vision and He is the Subtle, the well informed.” Chapter 6 v 95-105

Here are two more quotations from the Quran introducing Allah. The first one is from chapter 57 called al Hadeed (Iron) which begins as follows:

“What is in heavens and earth glorifies Allah and He is the almighty, the Wise. His is the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth; He quickens and causes death and He is Able to do all things; He is the First and the Last; the Manifest and the Inward and He is Knower of all things; He it is Who created the heavens and the earth in six days, then He prevailed on the Throne; He knows all that enters the earth and all that emerges from it; and all that comes down from the sky and all that ascends to it; and He is with you wheresoever you may be ,and Allah is Seer of what you do. His is the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth and unto Allah all things will be returned. He causes night to pass into day and He causes day to pass into night; and He is Knower of all that is in the breasts. Chapter 57 Verses 1-6

The second example of how the Quran introduces Allah is the following one from chapter 59 called al Hashr (Exile): He is Allah, than Whom there is no other God Knower of the invisible and the visible; He is the Beneficent, the Merciful. He is Allah, than Whom there is no other God, the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One the Peace, Keeper of the Faith, the Overwhelming,

the Majestic, the Compeller, the Superb. Glorified be Allah from all that they ascribe as partners unto Him, He is Allah the Creator, the Shaper out of nothing, the Fashioner. His are the most beautiful names. All that in heavens and earth glorifies Him, and He is the Al Mighty, the Wise. This is how the Quran introduces Allah, the God of all creation. He is the God of Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus Christ and Muhammad. How clear and accurate is the definition of God in the Quran. But because Allah knows well that most people will not believe in Him, nor that He created them, He deals with this issue in the most convincing manner. Here are some examples: In chapter 56 called al Waqiah (the Event) the Quran says about Allah: We have created you, why don't you believe? Have you seen that which you emit? Do you create it or are We the Creators? We mete out death among you; and We are not to be outrun that We may transfigure you and make you what you know not. You already know the first creation; why, then, do you not reflect? Have you seen that which you cultivate? Is it you who foster it or are We the fosterers? If We so willed, We surely could make it chaff, then you would not cease to exclaim: Lo, we are laden with debt; nay we are deprived Have you observed the water that you drink? Is it you who shed it from the rain cloud or are We the Shedders? If We so willed We surely could make it bitter. Why then, you don't give thanks? Have you observed the fire which you strike out; was it you who made its tree or are We the makers? We made a memorial and an entertainment for the dwellers in the wilderness. Therefore glorify the name of your Lord, the Tremendous. Chapter 56 Verses 57-74

A closely related issue to that of Allah being capable to create us is the issue of the resurrection or life after death. The Quran teaches us that as Allah is the Creator, then He will bring people back to life for reckoning on a day called the Day of Resurrection. Again the Quran's logic cannot be rejected. Here is one or two examples.

In chapter 22 called Pilgrimage (al Haj) the Quran says:

O mankind! If you are in doubt concerning resurrection then Lo We have created you from dust ,then from a drop of seed, then from a hanging clot, then from a little lump of flesh fashioned and fashionless that We may make clear for you ; and We cause what We will to remain in the wombs for an appointed time; then We bring you forth as infants then we give you growth so that you attain your full strength; and among you there is he who dies and among you there is he who is brought back to the most abject stage of life, so that after knowledge, he would know nothing; and you see the earth barren, but when We send down water thereon, it shakes and swells and brings forth every lovely pair of growth. All that is proof that Allah is the truth and that He quickens the dead and that He is Able to do all things ;and that the Hour will come ,there is no doubt about it ;and that Allah will raise those who are in the graves.

The second example is from chapter 23 called al Mu' minoon (Believers) where we read:

Verily We created man from a product of wet earth; then We placed him as a drop of seed in a fortified lodging; then We fashioned the drop into a hanging clot; then fashioned the clot into a little lump; then We fashioned the little lump into bones; then We clothed the bones with flesh and then We initiated it into a new creation .So blessed be Allah the best of creators.

Then after that you surely will die; then on the Day of Resurrection you will be raised again. Verses 12-16

One unique style of the Quran is that it joins together two universes or globes namely the universe we all see around us and the written universe of the Quantity makes one an indicator to the other. Here are some salient examples: In chapter 30 called al Room (the Romans) we read:

So glory be to Allah when you witness the night and when you witness the day; and unto Him be praise in the heavens and the earth and both in the evening and when you witness the noon.

He brings forth the living from the dead, and He brings forth the dead from the living; and He revives the earth after its death; and thus you will be brought back (to life). Verses 17-19

The second example is from chapter 3 called al Imran (the family of Imran) where we read:

Lo! In the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alteration of the night and the day are portents for men of understanding; those who remember Allah standing, sitting and reclining and they contemplate in the creation of the heavens and the earth and say :Our Lord ! You have not created this in vain. Glory be to you. Protect us from the doom of Hell fire.

Our Lord! You do indeed scandalize those whom you judge to enter Hell fire and evil doers will have helpers;

Our Lord! We heard a caller announcing the invitation to faith “believe you in your Lord” so we believed; Our Lord! Forgive us then our sins and remit us from our evil deeds and make us die with the righteous; Our Lord! Grant us that which you have promised us by your messengers; scandalize us not on the Day of Judgment; for you don not break your promise at all.

Their Lord responded to them saying: I shall not suffer the work of any worker, male or female, to be lost. You proceed one from another so those who emigrated and were expelled from their homes and were hurt for my cause, and fought and were killed, surely I shall remit their evil deeds from them and I shall cause them to enter Gardens underneath which rivers flow. This is a reward from Allah; for with Allah is the fairest of rewards. Verses 190-195

One other reason why the Quran has been revealed is to re-establish the right link and connection with God Almighty. This is clear from the very first chapter of the Quran called the Opening chapter about which Allah says in one sacred tradition:

I have divided prayer between my self and my devotee; and for my devotee will be granted what he asks for. When my worshipper says: praise be to God Lord of the worlds, I would say: my

worshipper has praised Me; when he says: the Beneficent, the Merciful, I say my worshipper has honored Me and when he says: Master of the Day of Reckoning .You alone we worship; You alone we ask fore help, I would say: my worshipper has honored Me and for him will be granted what he asks for.

Thus the rest of the chapter is granted as it is recited in prayer by the worshipper.

So indeed the Quran represents the link between a creature and His Lord. It is as though one opens the Divine internet and he is on line with God; and this was only possible through the Quran.

On the other hand, the Quran teaches us how to control our urges and discipline them. Man is by nature selfish, greedy and lusty. The Quran makes him share what he has with others and sacrifice for his future life in Paradise. The Quran teaches us to fulfill our love for lust and sex by getting married. It considers marriage a blessing and a miracle from God Al mighty and not a sin. It does not require us to observe celibacy and abstain from sex but appreciates our natural urges and fulfills them in a pure manner. Thus the Quran upgrades our instincts and urges. I was once asked by a new revert to Islam: Why do you have five prayers every day? Is that not too much? I said: you are excused as an outsider to wonder about this; but it is not the case with devoted worshippers. Let us come closer .What happens in prayer?

First of all a Muslim has to perform the ritual of ablution which is ceremonial washing of the exposed organs of his body before he goes to prayer.

Then he faces the Qibla, namely the unified direction to prayer. He raises his hands parallel to his ears and says: Allahu Akbar meaning God is supreme. As a matter of fact this gesture of raising hands indicates two things :one is that it is a signal of throwing all the affairs of this world behind the back of the worshipper ;secondly while raising his hands that way ,a worshipper is like a prisoner of war surrendering not to his enemy but to his Lord God Almighty.

He then recites the Opening chapter referred to above. He, in fact feels that he talks to God without a barrier or intercessor. Not only this when he recited a few verses after reciting the Opening chapter, which is recommended, he is in fact listening to God talking to him.

He then bows and glorifies God and then prostrates himself falling to his face in all humbleness to God. In this way he feels having an encounter with God Almighty. No wonder then that whenever the Prophet of Islam faced any crisis, he would call for comfort through prayer. In our tradition of his the Prophet says: From all your world I love three things most which are: perfumes, women and the pleasure of my eye is in prayer.

Thus prayer in Islam is not something done automatically, but it is an act of body, mind and soul. No wonder then that a committed worshipper should enjoy his prayer. It is a source of comfort, peace and solace.

Five prayers a day are thus not much of a burden on a believer. On the contrary, he feels that he needs it most and loves to practice it as much as he can. That is why when a believer wakes up early in the morning he says: praise be to Allah Who brought me back to live after he caused me to die in sleep and unto Him is the Resurrection.

He then rushes to the washroom and performs his ablution and morning prayer; at noon he takes a break for a few minutes and prays ;in the after noon prays, after sunset he prays and at night, before going to bed he prays. So he enjoys those sessions of communion with God if you like.

As a matter of fact we are taught in Islam that Allah does not need us; on the contrary, we need Him most. In this respect, the Quran says: O Mankind you are poor in relation to Allah and Allah is the Independent, the Praiseworthy.

Also prayers are the eliminators of sins. In one tradition of the Prophet we learn: the daily prayers, Friday to Friday prayers, and

Ramadan to Ramadan are eliminators of the sins between them if major sins are avoided.

In another tradition the Prophet says: Imagine a river flowing near the doorstep of your house and he washes himself in it five times a day, will there remain any of his dirt on his body? Those present said: no .None of his dirt will stay on his body. So the Prophet said: this is the example of the daily prayers; for Allah eliminates by them all sins. Muslims believe in all previous scriptures and not only in their Holy book is the Quantity, in fact, one article of faith in Islam to believe in all the books or scriptures of Allah. Thus they have to believe in the Holy Books revealed to Abraham, David, Moses, Jesus Christ and Muhammad.

But as the previous message have been either lost or changed, that is why Muslims believe that Allah sent the Quran to restore the Divine message to its original purity; by adding what has been omitted and omitting what has been added.

To highlight this more let me give some examples .Allah sent many messengers to convey one message namely that God is our Lord so we have to worship Him alone and leave all other gods. Man, however, changed this message by the pass of time. in the case of the message of Moses .for instance, it has been changed to the claim that God is the Lord of the children of Israel; all other names have been looked down on and are considered less than human .The Quran came to declare that all nations and tribes are one in the sight of Allah .The best among them are the most pious.

Again followers of Jesus Christ today claim that he was son of God or God incarnate while Jews accuse him of being the product of adultery, now the Quran declared it in full force that Jesus Christ was a word from God, a spirit from Him which He delivered to Virgin Mary. He said to him be and he was. So the Quran declared the innocence of both Jesus Christ and his mother Mary. So it was necessary that the Quran should be revealed to re-establish this fact.

## Jesus Christ in the Quran

In the Quran and the traditions of the Prophet, Jesus Christ was neither killed nor crucified but was raised to God alive; and God will send him down before the Day of Judgment to give his testimony and kill the anti Christ and follow Islam ,get married, have children and then die a natural death. Such facts were missing before the Quran and so it was essential to put facts in the right perspective.

Let us now narrate what the Quran has to tell the world about these crucial issues. In chapter 3 called al Imran (Family of Imran) the Quran says:

“When the angels said: O Mar Allah has chosen you, purified you and chosen you above all women of the worlds. O Mary be humble to you Lord, prostrate yourself and bow down with those who bow (Verses 42-43)

“When the angels said: O Mary. Allah gives you glad tidings of a word from Him whose name is Christ Jesus son of Mary who will be illustrious in the world and the Hereafter and one of those who are close (to Allah).He will speak unto mankind in the cradle and in his manhood and will be one of the righteous. (Verses 44-46)

Mary was taken by surprise. So she exclaimed:

“My Lord! How can I have a child when no mortal has touched me? He said: so it will be. Allah creates what He will. If He decrees any thing, He says unto it only be and it is.

And He will teach him the Scripture and wisdom and the Torah and the Gospel. He will make him a messenger unto the children of Israel (declaring) I come to you with a sign from your Lord that I fashion for you out of clay the likeness of a bird and I breathe into it and it becomes a bird by Allah’s leave; I heal him who is blind by birth as well as the leper, and I raise the dead, by Allah’s leave; and I tell you what you eat and what you store up in your houses.

Herein, surely, is a portent for you from your Lord, if you are believers.

And I come confirming that which preceded me of the Torah and to make lawful some of that which was forbidden unto you. I come to you with a sign from your Lord, so be conscious of Allah and obey me. Allah is my Lord and your Lord so worship Him. That is a Straight Path. (Verses 47-51)

Now instead of supporting Jesus Christ and believing in him, his contemporaries rejected his message and tried to kill him. The Quran describes this in the following words:

“And they schemed and Allah schemed and Allah is the best of schemers. When Allah said: O Jesus I am gathering you and raising you unto Me and cleansing you of those who disbelieved and I am setting those who follow you above those who would disbelieve until the Day of Judgment. Then unto Me is your return and I shall judge between you concerning that you used to differ upon.(verses 54 -55)

Commenting on this truth account that has been omitted from the present Scriptures the Quran says:

“This that We recite unto you is part of the (Divine) revelations and the Wise Reminder. The likeness of Jesus with Allah is as the likeness of Adam; He created him of dust and then said to him Be and he is. (This is) the truth from your Lord so be not of those who waver. Verses 58-60

We have more interesting details in the Quran about the circumstances attending the miraculous pregnancy and birth of Jesus Christ.

In chapter 19 called “Maryam” (Mary) we read the following: “And mention Mary in the Scripture, when she had withdrawn from her people to a place towards the east; she secluded herself from them behind a barrier. Then We sent her Our Spirit who assumed to her the likeness of a perfect man.

She said: I seek refuge in the Beneficent One from you, if you are God fearing. He said: I am only a messenger from your Lord so that I may bestow on you a faultless son.

She said: how can I have a son when no mortal has ever touched me, neither have I been unchaste!

He said: so it will be. Your Lord says: it is easy for Me and that We may make of him a miracle for mankind and a mercy from Us. Thus was something ordained and fulfilled.

She thus conceived him, and she withdrew with him to a distant place. The pangs of childbirth drove her to the trunk of the palm tree. She said: Oh! Would that I had died before this and had become a thing forgotten and out of sight.

He then cried unto her from underneath her saying: Grieve not! Your Lord has placed a stream beneath you; and shakes the trunk of the palm tree toward you; it will cause ripe dates to fall upon you. So eat and drink and be consoled and contented; and if you see any of the humans say: I have vowed a fast unto the Beneficent, so I shall not speak this day to any mortal.

Then she brought him to her own folk, carrying him.

They said: O Mary! You have committed something unacceptable. O sister of Aaron! Your father was not an evil man nor was your mother a prostitute.

She then pointed to him. They said: How can we talk to one who is in the cradle, a little child?

He said: I am indeed the slave of Allah. He has given me the Scripture and has made me a Prophet. He made me blessed wheresoever I may be; and has enjoined upon me prayer and almsgiving as long as I live; He made me dutiful to my mother, and has not made me arrogant or unblessed. Peace be on me the day I was born, the day I die, and the day I shall be raised alive.”

Commenting on this most miraculous story the Quran says:  
“Such was Jesus son of Mary; a statement of the truth concerning which they doubt .It befits not Allah that He should take upon Himself a son! Glory be to Him. When He decrees a thing, He says

unto it Be and It is. Allah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him. This is a straight path. Verses 34 -36

Warning those who differ about Jesus the Quran continues:  
“But the sects among them differed; so woe unto the disbelievers from attending an awful Day. How much they will see and hear on the Day they come to Us. Yet evildoers are today in error manifest. Verses 37-38

This is the real story of Jesus Christ as stated in the Quran to correct all previous images about him. There remains, however, to clarify the creed in Jesus Christ and his mother Mary. This is stated mainly in chapters four and five, quotations of which we shall mention soon.

In chapter four called ALL Nisaa (Women) we read the following:  
O people of the Book! Do not exceed limits in your religion; nor say any thing about Allah except the Truth. The Messiah, Jesus Christ son of Mary, was only the Messenger of Allah, and His word that He delivered unto Mary, and a spirit from Him .So believe in Allah and His Messengers; and say not “Three”. Desist .It is better for you; for Allah is only One God .Glory be to Him far transcendent than He should have a son. His is all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth .And Allah is sufficient as the Patron. The Quran then continues:

“The Messiah will not disdain to be a slave of Allah nor will the close angels ;for whoever disdains to worship Him and is arrogant ,then He will gather all of them unto Himself; then as for those who believed and did good works, unto them He will pay their wages in full ,and increase them out of His bounty; and as for those who were disdainful and arrogant, then He will punish them with a painful doom. Then they will not find for themselves against Allah, any protecting friend or helper. Verses 171-174

Then again in the same chapter (4) we read the following:

“Then as a result of their breaking their covenant and their disbelieving in the revelations of Allah ,and their slaying of the Prophets without right; and their saying : Our hearts are covered ,nay but Allah has set a stamp upon them due to their disbelief, so that they believe not save a few;

“And because of their disbelief and their saying against Mary a tremendous calumny; and due to their saying: we slew the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, Allah’s Messenger;

“They slew him not, nor crucified him, but it so appeared unto them ;and those who disagree concerning him are in doubt about him; they have no knowledge about him except by pursuing conjecture; they certainly killed him not ;but took him up unto Himself; for Allah is ever Almighty, Wise.

“And there is not a single one of the People of the Book but will believe in him before his death, and on the Day of Judgment will be a witness against them .Verses 155-159

In chapter five called AL Maida (the Table spread) we read the decisive verses about Jesus Christ in the sight of Islam as in the following verses:

They, indeed, have disbelieved who say Allah is the Messiah, son of Mary. Say, who, then, can do any thing against Allah if He had willed to destroy the Messiah, son of Mary, as well as his mother and all those on earth? Allah’s is the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth and all that is between them. He creates what He will; and Allah is Able to do all things. Verse 17.

In Verse 72 same chapters we read:

They do disbelieve who say Allah is the Messiah, son of Mary, This is although the Messiah said: O children of Israel! Worship Allah my Lord and your Lord; for whoever ascribes partners to Allah, Allah will make Paradise prohibited for him, his abode is the Fire; and for evildoers there will be no helpers.

This is confirmed in the following verse that says:

They do disbelieve who say Allah is the third of three and there is no god except One God; and if they do not desist from what they are saying, a painful doom will touch those of them who disbelieve.

Will they not repent to Allah and seek His forgiveness for Allah is Forgiving, Merciful;

The Messiah, son of Mary was nothing but a messenger before whom messengers passed; and his mother was a chaste Woman; they both used to eat food .Look how We clarify to them the portents and then look how they are perverted. Verses 73-75

To conclude this, Allah says in the Quran:

Say: Do you worship apart from Allah those who possess for you neither harm nor benefit, and Allah is the All Seer, the knowledgeable .Verse 76

We come now to a closely related issue to that of Jesus Christ peace be upon him. This is another reason why the Holy Quran has been revealed. Before the Quran was revealed all followers of revealed religions believed in what they called the original sin esp. Christians. They twisted the story of Adam and Eve and came to perverted conclusions from it which the Quran came to correct. Let us see what was prevailing and how the Quran restored it to its original image.

In the book of Genesis we read that Adam and Eve were warned not to eat from a certain tree in Paradise; however, under the instigation of a snake (what snake?) and the encouragement of Eve who ate first from the tree, Adam disobeyed God and ate also from the tree. Thus the blame goes to Eve after the snake. Then God banished Adam and Eve from Heaven and cursed them. For thousands of years, He was reluctant what to do: Should He establish His justice and continue punishing Adam and Eve or should His mercy prevail? Until He came to a conclusion to send His only begotten son to be killed on a cross so that all those who

would believe in his blood would have salvation and would be acquitted from the original sin committed by their father and mother Adam and Eve.

The original sin was that sin committed by Adam and Eve due to eating from the tree; and it thus was transferred to their offspring generation after generation until the crucifixion of Jesus Christ! So every new born baby is born in sin according to this theory.

The Quran came to restore the original story that befits God Almighty. Here is how the Quran speaks about it:

“When your Lord said unto the angels: I am about to place a vicegerent in the earth; they said: will You place therein one who will commit mischief therein and will shed blood; while we hymn Your praise and sanctify You? He said: I know that which you know not. Chapter 2 V 30

“And He taught Adam all the names, then He offered them to the angels saying: inform Me of the names of these, if you are truthful. “They said: Be glorified. We have no knowledge except that which You have taught us .You, only You, are the Knower, the Wise. He said: O Adam! Inform them of their names; and when he had informed them of their names, He said: Did I not tell you that I know the secret of the heavens and the earth? And I know that which you disclose and that which you used to hide.

“And when We said unto the angels: Prostrate yourselves before Adam, they fell prostrate, except Iblis, he refused and was arrogant and so he became one of the disbelievers.

“And We said: O Adam .Dwell and your wife in the Garden and eat you freely thereof where you will, but come not near this tree lest you become of the wrongdoers.

“But the Devil caused them to slip therefrom and expelled them from the happy state they were in; and We said: Fall down, some of your a foe to the other; and you will have on earth a habitation and an enjoyment until an appointed time.

“Then Adam received from His Lord words; thus He relented toward him. Indeed! He is the Relenting, the Merciful  
“We said: Go, then, all of you from hence; and when there comes unto you from Me a guidance, then whoso follows My guidance, there shall no fear upon them, neither shall they grieve; But those who disbelieve, and deny Our revelations, such are rightful owners of the Fire; they will abide therein forever. (Verses 30-39)

We have more details about this in chapter seven called AL Araaf (the Heights) where we read:

“And We created you, then fashioned you then said to the angels: Fall you prostrate before Adam. So they fell prostrate, all save Iblis; he was not of those who fell prostrate.

He said: What hindered you that you did not fall prostrate when I bade you? He said: I am better than him; You created me of fire while him You did create from mud. He said: Then go down hence; it is not for you be arrogant in it; so go forth; you are of those degraded.

He said: Reprieve me till the day when they are raised (from the dead). He said: you are of those reprieved. He said: Because You have dissuaded me, surely I shall lurk in ambush for them on Your Right Path. Then I shall come upon them from before them and from behind them, from their right hands and from their left hands; and You will not find most of them thankful.

He said: Go forth from hence degraded, banished. As for such of them who follow you, surely I will fill Hell with all of you.

And O Adam! Dwell you and your wife in the Garden and eat from where so ever you will, but approach not this tree lest you become wrongdoers.

The Devil, then, whispered to them in order to manifest to them what was hidden from them of their shame; and he said: Your Lord forbade you from this tree only lest you should become angels or become of the immortals. And he swore unto them saying: I am a sincere adviser unto you.

Thus did he lead them on with guile? So when they ate from the tree, their shame became apparent to them; and they began to hide (by knitting together) upon themselves some of the leaves of the Garden.

Their Lord then called them: Did I not forbid you from that tree and tell you that the Devil is an open enemy to you?

They said: Our Lord! We have wronged ourselves. And if You forgive us not nor have mercy upon us we will be Among the losers

He said: Go down from hence; one of you a foe unto the other. There will be for you on earth a habitation and a provision for a while. He said: There shall you live and there shall you die, and thence shall you be brought for. Verses 11-25.

So the Quran asserts a number of new things:

1-That Adam and Eve and by analogy the human race were created for the earth; and so their descending to it is not a curse nor a banishment but they were destined here for a test so that those who obey will qualify to go to Heaven ;while those who disobey will rightfully go to Hell.

2- The cursed creature in the Quran is the Devil and not Adam and Eve. And the blame of eating from the tree is not on Eve but on both of them

3-Yes Adam and Eve ate from the tree, but they discovered their mistake and repented and they were accepted and forgiven

4-Thus there was no need for the “original sin “theory

5-Accordingly man is born sinless and not sinful; this is simply because no one should bear the sins of others; and this is the justice and mercy becoming of God Allah who is never reluctant or undecided.

6- There is no mention in the Bible to the Devil in the story instead a snake has been imposed which removes the enmity and challenge between man and the Devil ;as if he has been intentionally removed; so the Quran came to restore the story to its original image and to give it its right meaning.

7- Thus finally there was no need to send any one whether begotten or none begotten to be killed on the cross and other stuff. This is one reason why the Quran has been revealed .It is the final corrector and restorer of the truth about God and the cardinal issues of our existence.

In fact before the Quran, the perspective of the Day of Judgment and life after death were either scarcely unknown or extremely obscure. If you go through the whole Bible, you rarely find any mention or description of the Day of Judgment. Read the Quran and discover the wealth of information about it; as a matter of fact the reader of the Quran has such a clear image of that Day so that as if he sees it with his own eyes. We will give below some examples. I, for one, counted 29 names for the Day of Judgment in the Quran. Of course there are more. These are only names or titles; the details are really astonishing as we shall see.

To begin with there is more than one chapter in the Quran that has the title of the Day of Judgment. Examples are the following: chapter 56 called “AL Waaqiaah”; chapter 69 called “AL aaqah”; and chapter 75 called “AL Qiyaamah” name only a few.

Let us come closer and go through the last one, namely “AL Qiyaamah , meaning the Resurrection (chapter 75)

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful Nay, I swear by the Day of Resurrection; nay, I swear by the blaming self; does man think that We shall not be able to assemble his bones? On the contrary, We are Able to restore and straighten his finger prints; but man would deny what is before him. He asks: When at all will be the Day of Resurrection?

But when eyesight is confounded; and the moon is eclipsed; and the sun and the moon are gathered. On that day man will cry: where to flee! Alas, no refuge. Unto Your Lord is the recourse that Day. On that Day man will be told about all that he sent before and left behind. Oh! But man is a telling witness against himself; even if you would tender his excuses.

Stir not (O Muhammad ) your tongue herewith to hasten it (the Quran); Upon Us rests the putting together thereon and its reading;

so when We read it ,follow you its reading ;then upon Us rests its explanation. But you (man) do love the immediate moment, and you leave in absolute neglect the Hereafter; some faces that Day will be resplendent; unto their Lord are they gazing; while other faces that Day will be despondent; they suspect that some great disaster is about to fall upon them.

Nay, but the soul reaches to the throat almost; and it is said: Who is a recite of some prayers to stop it?

And he (the dying person) would think that it is the departure; and agony is heaped on agony; unto your Lord that Day will be the driving. For he neither believed nor yet prayed; but he denied and flouted; then he went back to his folk with conceit .Nearer unto you is (the punishment) and nearer unto you it is; then nearer unto you is the doom and nearer unto you it is; does man think that he will be left in vain? Was he not a drop of fluid which gushed forth as semen? Then he became a hanging clot; then He (Allah) created and fashioned and made of him a pair: the male and the female? Is not He Who does this, Able to restore the dead back to life?

We come now to chapter 56 called AL Waaqiah (the Inevitable Event) which gives more details about the Day of Judgment as in the following:

When the Inevitable Event takes place; there is no denying that it will happen; abasing (some) while exalting (others);when the earth is shaken with a powerful shock; and mountains are ground to powder; so that they become scattered dust; and you will be three types: those of the right hand, what of those of the right hand ;and those on the left hand; what of those on the left hand ;and the foremost in the race ,the foremost in the race. Those are they who will be brought near; in Gardens of delight; a multitude of those of old, and a few of those of later time. Verses 1-14

We shall now share a few chapters which make the reader as if he sees the Day of Judgment with his own eyes.

In chapter 70 called Al Maarij (the ascending lifts) we read:

“A questioner asked about the punishment that is about to happen to disbelievers, which none can repel, from Allah, Lord of the ascending lifts. Angels and the Spirit ascend unto Him on a Day the span of which is fifty thousand years. So observe a fair patience. They behold it far off while We see it near. The day when the sky will become like a molten copper and the mountains will be like flakes of wool; and no bosom friend will ask any thing from his bosom friend. They will be given sight of one another; the criminal will long to be able to ransom himself from the punishment of that day at the cost of his own children, his spouse and his brother and his kin that protected him; and all that are in the earth ,if then this might deliver him

“Nay, it is the fire of Hell, plucking out his skull’s skin; it calls him who used to flee and turn his back while he was busy hoarding wealth gathering it in big containers.

“Indeed, man is created greedy; when evil befalls him, he is fretful and hopeless; and withholding and miserly when good touches him, save those who establish prayers; who are constant at their prayer; in whose wealth there a well known right for the beggar and the destitute; they are those who believe in the Day of Judgment and those who are afraid of the punishment of their Lord; for the punishment of their Lord is unavoidable. They are those who preserve their chastity save with their spouses or those whom their right hands possess; for thus they are not blameworthy.

“But those who seeks beyond that, those are they who are transgressors. And those who keep their pledges and their covenant, and those who stand by their testimonies, and those who are punctual in their prayers. These will dwell honored in Gardens  
“What ails those who disbelieve that they keep running after you in hatred, on the right and the left in groups? Does every man among them anticipate to enter the Garden of Delight? Nay, We have created them from what they know .But nay, I swear by the Lord of the easts and the wests that We are Able to replace them by others better than them; and We are not to be outrun.

“So let them gossip and play until they will meet with their day

which they are promised ;the day when they will emerge from the graves in haste as if racing to a goal ,with their eyes aghast ,abasement stupefying them. Such is the Day which they are promised .Verses 1-44

In chapter 81 called AL Takweer (the Folding up) we read how the Day of Judgment will take place:

“When the sun ,with its spacious light, is folded up; and the stars lose their luster; when mountains are moved from their places; when the pregnant she camels are left unattended; when wild beasts are herded together ;when seas burst with fires; when souls are sorted out when female infants buried alive are questioned for what guilt was she killed ;when the scrolls are laid open; when the sky is scraped ;when Hell Fire is kindled to fierce heat; and when Paradise is brought near; then shall every soul know what it has brought along with it.” Verses 1-14

Then again in chapter 82 called AL Infitaar (the cleaving asunder) we still read more about the Day of Judgment:

“When the sky is cleft asunder, when stars are burst out of their orbits ;when seas are suffered to burst forth; and when graves are scattered; then shall every soul know what it has sent forward and what it has withheld,

“O man! What has seduced you from your Lord the Gracious; Him Who has created you, fashioned you in due proportion and made you well balanced. In whatever form He wills he can assemble you.

“Nay, but you do reject the Reckoning although over you are angels to keep record and protect you; they are honorable while recording you deeds. They know all that you do.

“The good ones will surely be in bliss; while the wicked will be in Hell fire, which they will enter on the Day of Judgment; and they

will not be absent from it. And what will explain to you what the Day of Reckoning is; then again what will explain to you what the Day of Reckoning is? It is the day when no soul shall have thing to do for another soul; and the command that Day will be wholly with Allah. Verses 1-19.

Finally let us review chapter 84 called AL Inshiqaaq (the Rending asunder):

“When the sky is cracked and divided and would surrender to the command of its Lord and it must needs do so;

When the earth is flattened out and would cast forth all that is within it would abandon every thing; thus it would hearken to the command of its Lord and it must needs do so.

“O you man! You are destined to toil on toward you Lord, painfully toiling until you meet with Him. Then he, who is given his record in his right hand, soon will his account be taken by an easy reckoning; and he will return to his family rejoicing;

“But as for him who receives his record behind his back, soon will he cry for perdition, and he will enter a blazing fire. For he used to loiter among his people rejoicing; he thought that he would not be raised back to life.

“No, his Lord was ever watchful of him.

Nay, I swear by the dusk; and by the night and all that it embraces; and by the moon when it is full, you shall move from one state of affairs to another.

“What is the matter with them that they believe not; and when the Quran is recited to them they do not fall prostrate. Nay, but disbelievers reject the truth; and Allah has full knowledge of what they harbor in their breasts. So give them the tidings of a severe penalty; except those who believe and work righteous deeds, for them is a reward that will never fail. Verses 1-25

Having said all this about why the Quran has been revealed it remains to point out that this Book of Allah is the last Divine

revelation to man until the end of time. That is why it reviews the stories of numerous messengers of God with their various peoples in order to clarify two things: One that all messengers brought one and the same message from Allah i.e. that He is Allah and so they have to worship Him. Two that most people rejected the message and thus Muhammad was not an exception. Always very few people believed. That is why Describing the stories of the Quran, Allah says:”these are the true stories and there is god except Allah, and Allah is the AL mighty, the Wise. (Chapter 3 Verse 62)

In fact twenty five messengers are mentioned by name in the Quran starting from Adam and ending with Muhammad, may Allah’s blessings and peace be with them all.

Thus the Quran narrates the attitude of the people of Noah toward him; how they rejected his message and were sarcastic of him until they all drowned and very few were saved with him in the Ark.

We also have the interesting story of Abraham and the numerous hardships he faced from his people; how they tried to burn him alive but Allah saved him and said to that huge fire be cool and peaceful unto Abraham.

In chapter 21 called AL Anbiyaa (the Prophets) we read:

Before that, We bestowed on Abraham his rectitude of conduct and We were well aware of him; he said to his father and his people:

What are these statues you are so fervently attached to? They said:

We found our fathers worshipping them. He said: Indeed, both you and your fathers have been in manifest error. They said in

challenge: have you brought the truth or are you one of the jesters?

He said: Nay, your Lord is the Lord of the heavens and the earth

Who created them, and I am, to this, one of the witnesses.

Returning their challenge Abraham said: “And by Allah I have a plan for your idols after you go away and turn your backs. So he smashed them to pieces except a big one among them so that they might return to it. “They said: Who has done this to our Gods! He must indeed be one of the wrong doers. They said: We heard a youth mentioning them called Ibrahim. They said: Then bring him before the eyes of the people so that they may bear witness.

“They said: Is it you who did this to our Gods on Ibrahim? He said: Nay, it was done by this biggest one of them! Ask them, if they can speak intelligently? So they turned back to themselves and said: Surely you are the ones in the wrong.

“Then they were confounded back with shame and said: But you knew full well that these do not speak. He said: Do you then worship apart from Allah, what can neither do any good nor harm you in any thing? “Fie upon you and upon what you worship besides Allah. Have you sense? They said: Burn him up and support your Gods, if you are doing any thing at all. We said: O fire: Be cool and a means of safety for Ibrahim. Thus they sought a plot against him, but We made them the ones who lost most. Verses 51-70.

The Quran narrates how every prophet of God conveyed the same message and how his people plotted against him and very few people believed in his message. The majority, however, did not leave it at that but plotted to kill their messenger and his followers, so Allah punished them and saved the believers.

In the case of Muhammad, he also faced many hardships from his people and they wanted to kill him and gave him hard time; but when the angel of mountains came to him and offered to crush them, Muhammad said: No, I pray to Allah to bring among their offspring those who would worship Allah. That is why Muhammad deserved the title of being “the mercy to the worlds”

This is why the Quran has been revealed, but the question is: Will people appreciate the message of the Quran. This depends on the followers of the Quran to be steadfast, to learn it and convey its message to the worlds.

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