

Glorious Qur'an

English Translation by Abdullah Yusuf Ali

Abdullah Yusuf Ali, (1872 –1953) was an Islamic scholar who translated the Qur'an into English. His translation of the Qur'an is one of the most widely-known and used in the English-speaking world. In his childhood, Ali received a religious education and could recite the entire Qur'an from memory. He spoke both Arabic and English fluently. He studied English literature and studied at several European universities. Yusuf Ali's best-known work is his book

The Holy Qur'an: Text, Translation and Commentary,

Surah Saba'

(Sheba)



1

الْحَمْدُ لِللهِ اللَّذِي لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَ اتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ

Praise be to Allah, to Whom belong all things in the heavens and on earth:

to Him be Praise in the Hereafter:

and He is Full of Wisdom, acquainted with all things.

2

He knows all that goes into the earth, and all that comes out thereof; all that comes down from the sky and all that ascends thereto:

and He is the Most Merciful, the Oft-Forgiving.

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُو الْإِتَأْتِينَا السَّاعَةُّ 3 The Unbelievers say, "Never to us will come the hour": قُلْ بَلِي وَرَبِي لِتَأْتِيَةً كُمْ عَالِمِ الْعَيْبِ say, "Nay! but most surely, by my Lord, it will come upon you -- by Him Who knows the unseen --لايعُزُبُ عَنْهُ مِثُقَالُ ذَرَّةٍ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَلا فِي الْأَرْضِ from Whom is not hidden the least little atom in the Heavens or on earth: وَلا أَصْغَرُ مِن ذَلِكَ وَلا أَكْبَرُ إِلَّا فِي كِتَابِمُبِين nor is there anything less than that, or greater, but is in the Record Perspicuous: لِيَجْزِيَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِخَاتِ 4 That He may reward those who believe and work deeds of righteousness: أُولِئِكَ لَهُمُ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَمِرْقٌ كَرِيمٌ for such is Forgiveness and a Sustenance Most Generous." وَالَّذِينَسَعُوا فِي آيَاتِنَامُعَاجِزِينَ أُولِئِكَ لَهُمْ عَنَابٌمِنُ بِجُزِ أَلِيمٌ 5 But those who strive against Our Signs, to frustrate them -- for such will be a Penalty -- a Punishment most humiliating. وَيَرَى الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ الَّذِي أُنْزِلَ إِلَيْكَ مِنْ مَبِّكَ هُوَ الْحُقَّ 6 And those to whom knowledge has come see that the (Revelation) sent down to thee from thy Lord -- that is the Truth, وَيَهُدِي إِلَى صِرَاطِ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ

and that it guides to the Path of the Exalted (in Might), Worthy of all praise.

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُواهَلُ نَكُلُّكُمْ عَلَى رَجُلِ يُنَبِّئُكُمْ 7 The Unbelievers say (in ridicule): "Shall we point out to you a man that will tell you, إِذَامُرِّ قُتُمُ كُلَّ مُمَرَّقِ إِنَّكُمُ لَفِي خَلْقِ جَدِيدٍ when ye are all scattered to pieces in disintegration, that ye shall (then be raised) in a New Creation? ٲؙڡٛ۬ڗؘٮؽڡٙڶؽٳڵڷۅػڹؚؖٵٲؘؙؙؙؙؙؙؙؙؙؙؙؗؗؗؗۮؠڡؚڿڹۜؖڠؖٛ 8 "Has he invented a falsehood against Allah, or has a spirit (seized) him?" --بَلِ الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ فِي الْعَذَابِ وَالضَّلَالِ الْبَعِيدِ Nay, it is those who believe not in the Hereafter, that are in (real) Penalty, and in farthest Error. أَفَكَمْ يَرَوْا إِلَى مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ 9 See they not what is before them and behind them, of the sky and the earth? إِنْ نَشَأَ نَعُسِفُ بِهِمُ الْأَرْضَ أَوْنُسْقِطُ عَلَيْهِمْ كِسَفًا مِنَ السَّمَاءِ If We wished, We could cause the earth to swallow them up, or cause a piece of the sky to fall upon them. ٳؾۧڣۣۮٙڸڰٙڷٙٳؽڐؖڸػ۠ڸۨٙۘٚٙٙۼؠ۫ڕٟۿڹؚۑڹ Verily in this is a Sign for every devotee that turns to Allah (in repentance). وَلَقَلُ آتَيْنَا دَاوُودَمِنَّا فَضُلًّا 10 We bestowed Grace aforetime on David from Ourselves:



"O ye Mountains! sing ye back the Praises of Allah with him! and ye birds (also)!

وَأَلْنًا لَهُ الْحُكِيدَ

and We made the iron soft for Him --

11

(Commanding),

"Make thou coats of mail, balancing well the rings of chain armor,

and work ye righteousness;

for be sure I see (clearly) all that ye do."

12

And to Solomon (We made) the Wind (obedient): its early morning (stride) was a month's (journey), and its evening (stride) was a month's (journey);

and We made a Font of molten brass to flow for him;

and there were Jinns that worked in front of him, by the leave of his Lord,

and if any of them turned aside from Our command, We made Him taste of the Penalty of the Blazing Fire. يَعْمَلُونَ لَكُمَا يَشَاءُمِنُ كَابِيبَوَ ثَمَا ثِيلَ وَجِفَانٍ كَالْجُوَابِ وَقُدُو يِهَاسِيَاتٍ

They worked for him as he desired, (making) Arches, Images, Basins as large as Reservoirs, and (cooking) Cauldrons fixed (in their places):

؞ اعْمَلُوا آلَدَاوُودَشُكُرًا

"Work ye, sons of David, with thanks!

وَقَلِيلٌ مِنْ عِبَادِي الشَّكُومُ

But few of My servants are grateful!"

فَلَمَّا قَضَيْنَا عَلَيْهِ الْمَوْتَ مَا دَهُّمْ عَلَى مَوْتِهِ إِلَّا دَاتَّةُ الْأَرْضِ تَأْكُلُ مِنْسَأَتَهُ

Then, when We decreed (Solomon's) death, nothing showed them his death except a little worm of the earth, which kept (slowly) gnawing away at his staff:

فَلَمَّا خَرَّ تَبِيَّنَتِ الْجِنُّ

so when he fell down, the Jinns saw plainly

أَنْ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ الْغَيْبَ مَالَبِثُوا فِي الْعَذَابِ الْمُهِينِ

that if they had known the unseen, they would not have tarried in the humiliating Penalty (of their Task).

15

لقَّدُ كَانَ لِسَبَإِ فِي مَسْكَنِهِمُ آيَةٌ

There was, for Saba', aforetime, a Sign in their homeland --

جَنَّتَانِ عَنْ يَمِينٍ وَشِمَالٍ

two Gardens to the right and to the left.

 كُلُوامِنْ بِرْزُقِ رَبِّكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوالَهُ

Eat of the Sustenance (provided) by your Lord, and be grateful to Him:

بَلْنَةٌ طَيِّبَةٌ وَرَبُّ غَفُورٌ

a territory fair and happy, and a Lord Oft-Forgiving!

16

But they turned away (from Allah), and We sent against them the flood (released) from the Dams,

and We converted their two Garden (rows) into "gardens" producing bitter fruit, and tamarisks, and some few (stunted) Lote trees.

17

That was the Requital We gave them because they ungratefully rejected Faith:

and never do We give (such) requital except to such as are ungrateful rejecters.

18

Between them and the Cities on which We had poured Our blessings, We had placed Cities in prominent positions,

and between them We had appointed stages of journey in due proportion:

"Travel therein, secure, by night and by day."

فَقَالُو الرَّبِّنَا بَاعِلُ بَيْنَ أَسْفَالِنَا 19 But they said: "Our Lord! place longer distances between our journeystages." وَظَلَمُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ فَجَعَلْنَاهُمْ أَحَادِيثَ وَمَزَّقْنَاهُمُ كُلَّ ثُمَزَّق But they wronged themselves (therein). At length We made them as a tale (that is told), and We dispersed them all in scattered fragments. ٳڹؖڣۣڎؘڸڰٙڷٙؽٳؾؚڵؚڴڸٞڝۜؗۜٵؠۺؘػ۠ۅؠ Verily in this are Signs for every (soul that is) patiently constant and grateful. وَلَقَلُ صَدَّقَ عَلَيْهِمُ إِبْلِيسُ ظَنَّهُ فَاتَّبَعُوهُ إِلَّا فَرِيقًا مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ 20 And on them did Satan prove true his idea, and they followed him, all but a Party that believed. وَمَا كَانَ لَهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنْ سُلَطَانِ إِلَّا لِنَعْلَمَ مَنْ يُؤْمِنْ بِالَّاخِرَةِ لِمَّنْ هُوَمِنْهَا في شَلِّ 21 But he had no authority over them -- except that We might test the man who believes in the Hereafter from him who is in doubt concerning it: وَرَبُّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيءٍ حَفِيظً and thy Lord doth watch over all things. قُلِ ادْعُوا الَّذِينَ زَعَمْتُمْ مِنُ دُونِ اللَّهِ 22 Say: "Call upon other (gods) whom ye fancy, besides Allah: لا يَمُلِكُونَ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ فِي السَّمَا وَاتِ وَلا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَمَا لَهُمُ فِيهِمَا مِنْ شِرُكٍ they have no power -- not the weight of an atom -- in the heavens or on earth; no (sort of) share have they therein,

		وَمَا لَهُ مِنْ هُمْ مِنْ ظَهِيرٍ
		nor is any of them a helper to Allah.
	23	وَلاَتَنْفَعُ الشَّفَاعَةُ عِنْدَهُ إِلَّالِمِنَ أَذِنَ لَهُ وَلاَتَنْفَعُ الشَّفَاعَةُ عِنْدَهُ إِلَّالِمِنَ أَذِنَ لَهُ
		"No intercession can avail in His Presence except for those for whom He
		has granted permission.
l		

حَتَّى إِذَا فُرِّعَ عَنُ قُلُوبِهِمْ قَالُو امَاذَا قَالَ رَبُّكُمُ

So far (is this the case) that, when terror is removed from their hearts (at the Day of Judgement, then) will they say,

'What is it that your Lord commanded?'

قَالُوا الْحُقُّ وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْكَبِيرُ

They will say,

'That which is true and just; and He is the Most High, Most Great."

24

Say: "Who gives you sustenance, from the heavens and the earth?"

Say: "It is Allah,

and certain it is that either we or ye are on right guidance or in manifest error!"

25

Say: "Ye shall not be questioned as to our sins, nor shall we be questioned as to what ye do."

26	قُلْ يَجْمَعُ بَيْنَا مَ بُّنَا ثُمَّ يَفْتَحُ بَيْنَا بِالْحُقِّ
	Say:
	"Our Lord will gather us together and will in the end decide the matter
	between us (and you) in truth and justice:
	وَهُوَ الْفَتَّاحُ الْعَلِيمُ
	and He is the One to decide, the One Who knows all."
	ا مط
27	قُلُ أَمُونِيَ الَّذِينَ أَلِحُقُتُمْ بِهِ شُرَكَاءَ
	Say:
	"Show me those whom ye have joined with Him as partners:
	7:
)
	by no means (can ye).
	by no means (earr ye).
	بَلْهُواللَّهُ الْعَزيزُ الْحَكِيمُ
	Nay, He is Allah, the Exalted in Power, the Wise."
	rtay, the let man, the Example in the tribe.
28	وَمَا أَنْ سَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا كَانَّةً لِلنَّاسِ بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لا يَعْلَمُونَ
	We have not sent thee but as a universal (Messenger) to men, giving them
	glad tidings, and warning them (against sin), but most men understand not.
29	وَيَقُولُونَ مَتَى هَنَا الْوَعُنُ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ
	They say: "When will this promise (come to pass) if ye are telling the truth?"
	They say: Their tim and profites (some to pass) if ye are terming the training
30	قُلُ لَكُمْ مِيعَادُيَوْمِ لِاتَّسْتَأْخِرُونَ عَنْهُ سَاعَةً وَلَاتَسْتَقُدِمُونَ
	Say: "The appointment to you is for a day, which ye cannot put back for an
	hour nor put forward."
	9

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُو النَّ نُؤُمِنَ بِهَذَا الْقُرْ آن وَلَا بِالَّذِي بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ 31 The Unbelievers say: "We shall neither believe in this scripture nor in (any) that (came) before it." وَلَوْتَرَى إِذِ الظَّالِمُونَ مَوْقُوفُونَ عِنْكَ رَبِّهِمْ يَرْجِعُ بَعُضْهُمْ إِلَى بَعْضِ الْقَوْلَ Couldst thou but see when the wrongdoers will be made to stand before their Lord, throwing back the word (of blame) on one another! يَقُولُ الَّذِينَ اسْتُضْعِفُو الِلَّذِينَ اسْتَكُبَرُوا Those who had been despised will say to the arrogant ones: لَوْلِا أَنْتُمْ لَكُنَّا مُؤْمِنِينَ "Had it not been for you, we should certainly have been believers!" قَالَ الَّذِينَ اسْتَكُبُوو الِلَّذِينَ اسْتُضْعِفُوا 32 The arrogant ones will say to those who had been despised: أَنْحُنُ صَلَدُنَا كُمْ عَنِ الْمُنْكَى بَعُلَ إِذْ جَاءَكُمْ "Was it we who kept you back from Guidance after it reached you? بَلُ كُنْتُمْ لِجُرمِينَ Nay, rather, it was ye who transgressed." وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ اسْتُضْعِفُو الِلَّذِينَ اسْتَكُبُووا 33 Those who had been despised will say to the arrogant ones: بَلُمَكُرُ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَابِ "Nay! it was a plot (of yours) by day and by night. إِذْتَأَمُّرُونَنَا أَنْ نَكُفُّرَ بِاللَّهِ وَنَجُعَلَ لَهُ أَنْدَادًا

equals to Him!"

Behold! ye (constantly) ordered us to be ungrateful to Allah and to attribute

	وَأُسَرُّوا النَّنَ امَةَ لَمَّا يَأُوُا الْعَنَ ابَ وَجَعَلْنَا الْأَغْلَالَ فِي أَعْنَاقِ النَّذِينَ كَفَرُواْ They will declare (their) repentance when they see the Penalty: We shall put yokes on the necks of the Unbelievers:
	هَلْ يُجْزَوْنَ إِلَّامًا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ
	it would only be a requital for their (ill) deeds.
34	وَمَا أَرُسَلْنَا فِي قَرُيَةٍ مِنُ نَذِيدٍ إِلَّاقَالَ مُثَرَّفُوهَا
	Never did We send a Warner to a population, but the wealthy ones among them said:
	إِنَّا مِمَا أُمْ سِلْتُمْ بِهِ كَافِرُونَ
	"We believe not in the (message) with which ye have been sent."
35	وَقَالُوانَحُنُ أَكْثَرُ أَمُوَ الَّاوَأَوْلَادًا وَمَانَحُنُ بِمُعَذَّبِينَ
	They said: "We have more in wealth and in sons, and we cannot be punished."
36	قُلُ إِنَّى مَتِي يَبُسُطُ الرِّرْزُقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَقُدِمُ
	Say:
	"Verily my Lord enlarges and restricts the provision to whom He pleases,
	وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ
	but most men understand not."
37	وَمَا أَمُوَ الْكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ بِالَّتِي تُقَرِّبُكُمْ عِنْدَنَا رُلْفَى
	It is not your wealth nor your sons, that will bring you nearer to Us in
	degree:
	11

	إِلَّامَنُ آمَنَ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا but only those who believe and work Righteousness
	فَأُولِيَكَ لَمُونَ الْفُونَاتِ آمِنُونَ these are the ones for whom there is a multiplied Reward for their deeds, while secure they (reside) in the dwellings on high!
38	وَالَّذِينَ يَسْعَوْنَ فِي آيَاتِنَا مُعَاجِزِينَ أُولِئِكَ فِي الْعَنَابِ مُحْضَرُونَ Those who strive against Our Signs, to frustrate them, will be given over into Punishment.
39	قُلُ إِنَّ بَرِيِّ يَبُسُطُ الرِّرْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِةِ وَيَقُلِ بُ لُكُ Say: "Verily my Lord enlarges and restricts the Sustenance to such of His servants as He pleases:
	وَمَا أَنْفَقُتُمْ مِنْ شَيْءٍ فِهُوَ يُخُلِفُكُ and nothing do ye spend in the least (in his cause) but He replaces it:
	وَهُوَ خَيْرُ الرَّ ازِقِينَ for He is the Best of those Who grant Sustenance.
40	وَيَوْمَ يَخْشُرُهُمُ جَمِيعًا ثُمَّ يَقُولُ لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ One day He will gather them all together, and say to the angels,
	أَهَوُّ لَاءِ إِيَّاكُمُ كَانُوا يَعُبُكُونَ "Was it you that these men used to worship?"
41	قَالُواسُبُحَانَكَ ٱنۡتَوَلِيُّنَامِنُ دُوهِمُ مُ They will say, "Glory to thee! Our (tie) is with thee as Protector not with them.
	12

	بَلْ كَانُوا يَعُبُنُونَ الْجُرِبِّ أَكْثَرُهُمُ بِهِمُ مُؤْمِنُونَ Nay, but they worshipped the Jinns: most of them believed in them."
.42	فَالْيَوْمَ لَا يَمُلِكُ بَعُضْكُمْ لِبَعْضِ نَفْعًا وَلا ضَرًّا
	So on that day no power shall they have over each other, for profit or harm:
	وَنَقُولُ لِلَّذِينَ ظَلَمُو ازُوقُوا عَنَ ابَ النَّامِ الَّتِي كُنْتُمُ بِهَا تُكَذِّبُونَ and We shall say to the wrongdoers, "Taste ye the penalty of the Fire the which ye were wont to deny!"
43	وَإِذَا تُتُلَى عَلَيْهِمُ آيَاتُنَا بَيِّنَاتٍ قَالُوا When Our Clear Signs are rehearsed to them, they say,
	مَاهَنَا إِلَّا يَجُلُّ يُرِينُ أَنْ يَصُنَّ كُمُ عَمَّا كَانَ يَعُبُنُ آبَاؤُكُمُ "This is only a man who wishes to hinder you from the (worship) which your fathers practiced." وَقَالُوا مَا هَنَا إِلَّا إِفْكُ مُفْتَرَى كَا اللّهُ اللّهِ اللّهُ اللّهِ اللّهُ اللللّهُ الللّهُ اللللللّهُ الللللّهُ الللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ الللّهُ
	وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُو اللِّحَقِّ لَمُّا جَاءَهُمُ إِنْ هَٰذَا إِلَّا سِحُرٌ مُبِينٌ And the Unbelievers say of the Truth when it comes to them, "This is nothing but evident magic!"
44	وَمَا آتَيْنَاهُمُ مِنَ كُتُبٍ يَكُ مُسُونَا أَمُسَلَنَا إِلْيَهِمُ قَبَلَكَ مِنْ نَزِيرٍ But We had not given them Books which they could study, nor sent messengers to them before thee as Warners.
45	وَكَنَّبَ الَّذِينَ مِنُ قَبُلِهِمُ And their produces are rejected (the Truth):
	And their predecessors rejected (the Truth);
	13

وَمَا بَلَغُو امِعْشَا مَمَا آتَيْنَاهُمْ فَكَنَّ بُوامُ سُلِّي

these have not received a tenth of what We had granted to those: yet when they rejected My messengers,

فَكَيْفَ كَانَ نَكِيرِ

how (terrible) was My rejection (of them)!

46

قُلُ إِنَّمَا أَعِظُكُمْ بِوَاحِدَةٍ

Say:

"I do admonish you on one point:

ؘ ٲؘؽؗؾؘڠؙۅۿۅٳڸؾؖۅؚڡؘؿؗ۬ؽؘۅؘڣۢڒٳؽؽڷ۠۫ۜ؏ۜؾۘؾؘڣؘػؖۯۅٳ

that ye do stand up before Allah -- (it may be) in pairs, or (it may be) singly and reflect (within yourselves):

؞ ڡٙٵۑؚڝٙٵڿؠؚػ۠ۄؙڡؚڹڿؾۜۊٟ

your Companion is not possessed:

إِنْهُوَ إِلَّا نَانِيرٌ لَكُمْ بَيْنَ يَلَيُ عَذَابٍ شَدِيدٍ

he is no less than a Warner to you, in face of a terrible Penalty."

47

قُلُمَا سَأَ لَتُكُمُ مِنَ أَجْرٍ فَهُوَ لَكُمُ

Say:

"No reward do I ask of you: it is (all) in your interest:

إِنْ أَجُرِيَ إِلَّا عَلَى اللَّهِ

my reward is only due from Allah:

وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيكٌ

and He is Witness to all things."

48	قُلُ إِنَّ مَ بِي يَقُذِتُ بِالْحُقِّ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ
	Say: "Verily my Lord doth cast the (mantle of) Truth (over His servants)
	He that has full knowledge of (all) that is hidden."
49	قُلْ جَاءَ الْحُقُّ وَمَا يُبْدِئُ الْبَاطِلُ وَمَا يُعِيدُ
	Say:
	"The Truth has arrived, and Falsehood neither creates anything new, nor restores anything."
50	قُل إِنْ ضَلَلْتُ فَإِنَّمَا أَضِلٌ عَلَى نَفُسِي
	Say:
	"If I am astray, I only stray to the loss of my own soul:
	E
	وَإِنِ اهْتَكَيْثُ فَيِمَا يُوحِي إِلَيَّ مَ بِّي
	but if I receive guidance, it is because of the inspiration of my Lord to me:
	ٳۣڬۜٞڞڝؗڡؚڽڠؙۊٙڔؚۑڽؚ
	it is He Who hears all things, and is (ever) near."
51	وَلَوْتَرَى إِذْ فَرِعُوا فَلَا فَوْتَ وَأُخِذُوا مِنْ مَكَانِ قَرِيبٍ
	If thou couldst but see when they will quake with terror: but then there will
	be no escape (for them), and they will be seized from a position (quite)
	near.
52	وَقَالُوا آمَنَّابِهِ
	And they will say, "We do believe (now) in the (truth)":
	وَأَنَّى لَهُمُ التَّنَاوُشُ مِنْ مَكَانٍ بَعِيدٍ
	but how could they receive (faith) from a position (so) far off
	15



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