

Jumah Lecture 9th April 2011

Topic: Uloom Ul Quran; Revelation (Wahi)

Venue: Al-Mustafa Islamic Cultural Centre Blanchardstown

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Uloom Ul Quran Definition:

The branch of knowledge, called 'Uloom al-Quran', denotes studies concerned with the book of revelations sent down upon the Last Prophet Muhammad (SAW), namely:

- Its Revelation
- Its Collection
- Its order and management
- Its writing down
- Information about the reasons and occasions of revelation
- About what was revealed in Makkah and what in Madinah
- About the abrogating and abrogated verses
- About the clear and the unclear
- Explanations of verses and passages by the Prophet (SAW) himself, His Companions, their followers and the later commentators of the Holy Quran
- The methods of explanation
- The scholars of Tafsir and their books

The Descent of the Quran:

According to Imam Suyuti (r.a.) on the basis of three reports from Abdullah Ibn Abbas (in Hakim, Bahaiqi and Nasai) the Quran descended in 2 stages:

1. **Inzaal:** From the Lauh al Mahfuz (well preserved tablet) to all the lowest of the heavens (bait ul izza) of the world all together in the Night of Qadr (Laylat ul Qadr)
2. **Tanzeel:** From the heavens to earth **in stages** throughout the twenty three years revealed towards the Holy Prophet (SAW)

Reasons why the Quran was sent down in Stages:

- To strengthen the heart of the Beloved Prophet (SAW) by addressing him continuously and whenever the need for guidance arose
- Out of consideration for the Prophet (SAW) since the revelation was a very difficult experience for him.
- To gradually implement the laws of Allah.
- To make understanding, application and memorization of the revelation easier for the believers.

Means of Revelation :

Wahy in the sense of revelation is guidance from Allah for His creation, brought by the Prophets, who received the word from Allah through one of the means mentioned in the following Quranic verse:

And every man has not (this) faculty that Allah should speak to him (directly) except that **by Revelation** (He bestows upon some the holy status of Prophethood) or (should talk) from **behind a veil** (as He spoke to Musa [Moses] on Mount Tur of Sinai) or by sending some angel as a messenger to reveal with His permission what Allah may will. (In any case, the medium and mediation of communication of Allah's Word for mankind is none but the Prophet and the Messenger.) Surely He is Most High, Most Wise (Al-Quran 42;51)

1. **Inspiration** (Wahi Al-Qalbi) e.g in a dream (Syedna Ibrahim a.s. receives guidance in a vision, while asleep, to sacrifice his Son)
2. **Speech Hidden Away** (Kalaam e Ilahi) Allah spoke to Syedna Moses a.s. behind the veil
3. **Words sent through an angel** (Wahi Malaki) Allah sent Angel Jibraeel a.s. to the Beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW) to reveal His message.

Various Methods of Revelation:

Syeda Aishah (r.a.), mother of the Believers, narrates that once Harith bin Hishaam (r.a.) asked the Beloved Prophet (SAW) how he receives the Revelation.

The Prophet (SAW) replied: 'Sometimes it is revealed like the ringing of the bell, this form of inspiration is the hardest of all and this state passes off after I have grasped what is inspired. Sometimes the Angel comes in the form of a man and talks to me and I grasp what he says' (Bukhari Page 2 Volume 1)

1. **Silsalatul Jaras** : The form of a ringing bell. This used to be the hardest and most difficult method of revelation.

Syeda Aishah (ra) says: I have seen in extreme cold nights the Prophet (SAW) receiving the revelation and His forehead was full of sweat. During the revelation the face of the Prophet (SAW) would become red and breathing would almost stop.

2. **Tamassal Al Malak**: Angel in the form of a human being. Angel Jibraee a.s. would sometimes come in the form of the companion Dahya Kalbi r.a.)
Allama Aini r.a. says that the choice of Dahya Kalbi r.a. was because of the handsomeness and beauty of Dahya Kalbi r.a. But Angel used to come also in the form of Umar Ibn Al Khattab (ra) and some others.
3. **Angel in its real form** : Syedna Jibraeel (a.s.) used to come sometimes in its real form. The Prophet (SAW) has said I have seen Jibraeel in his real form and he has 700 wings. If one wings spreads it will cover the whole world.
4. **Royaa Sadiqa**: Dreams that would occur
5. **Direct KAlaam** with Almighty Allah
6. **Nafas Fir Ru**: To put something in the heart of the Prophet SAW without appearing.

To be continued next Jumah insha Allah.....