

Author's Foreword

قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم:

إني تارك فيكم الثقلين: كتاب الله وعترتي أهل بيتي، وإنهما لن يفترقا حتى يردا علي الحوض.

I leave behind amongst you two weighty things: The Book of Allah and my Progeny – The Purified Household, and never shall these two ever separate till they return to me by the Pool (of Paradise).

The Prophet of Allah (S)

The Prophet (S) has stated in narrations that are agreed upon by both major schools of thought, in multiple ways and at multiple times, that he leaves with us two significant and invaluable resources, which are inseparable. In another similar narration, he states that we shall never go astray if we hold fast on to these two weighty things.

This undisputed tradition, and others like it, cement in place the importance of both the Holy Qur'an and the etiquettes and teachings of The Purified Household (as).

That we cannot separate one from the other, nor can we hold on fast to one, but not the other. It is a confirmation that if we wish to climb the spiritual journey in pursuit of perfection, our prescribed goal, we must adhere to both weighty things. And to neglect one ultimately leads to neglecting both!

A bird, after all, can only fly with two wings.

In Surah Ibrahim, the Holy Qur'an states:

كِتَابٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ لِتُخْرِجَ النَّاسَ مِنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ

A Book We have sent down to thee that thou mayest bring forth mankind from the shadows to

the light by the leave of their Lord, to the path of the All-mighty, the All-laudable. (Ibrahim 14: 1)

No doubt, the Holy Qur'an is the key to ascension from the darkness of the bottomless pit of the lowly world to the spiritual heights that can be reached by every human being.

Familiarity with the Holy Qur'an is one of the most important and significant requirements of every Muslim. It is a guide, protector and answers all the necessary questions to reach the perfection for which mankind was created for.

Of course, reciting the Holy Qur'an once twice a year is not going to find any form of the intimate familiarity and in-depth understanding being sought, but only a cold, distant, and perhaps even mundane glimpse at shallow words.

Reciting it and understanding the terminology is only a first step, and an ever so important one... but further steps are needed to help find intimacy.

One of the best ways in which one can be familiar with the Holy Qur'an is its memorisation. This requires effort, dedication, time, and motivation. Like anything of great value and worth, it takes years and a constant review of one's own reasons and methods for memorising the Holy Qur'an, renewing and realigning intentions to suit the best and most perfect of intention – the intention of seeking nearness to Allah .

Familiarity is gained because to memorise, one needs to constantly review and repeat the verses until they become engrained in the heart. Like your mother language, or your own name, it will be an unforgettable and everlasting part of your flesh and blood and the heart will beat to the tunes of the Holy Qur'an with every pulse, eyes with every blink, and lungs with every breath.

In the Islamic world, the need for those who carry the Holy Qur'an in their heart is growing ever so strongly as the influence of materialism and capitalism strains our relationship with the Creator, and our love for the deceptive glitz and glamour of the world grows. To distance the faithful from their religious scriptures, those with differing world views have, and are, sparing no effort and no cost to detach people from the only source of true perfection and completeness that humans can reach, the Holy Qur'an.

It is with this view that we present a small contribution presenting the importance, significance, benefits, and proven method for memorising the Holy Qur'an, while dispelling some of the myths surrounding this important subject.

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