

Surah Al-Kahf, Chapter 18

Surah Al-Kahf (The Cave)

No. 18

110 verses in 12 sections

The Feature of the Surah

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful

This Surah contains one hundred and ten verses, all of which were revealed in Mecca, except verse 28. In this holy Surah, the story of the Companions of the Cave (Kahf), the story of Moses and Khidr (a.s), the story of Zulqarnayn, and some awakening materials about Origin and End have been discussed.

The pagans of Quraysh sent some persons from Mecca to Medina to ask the reality of the event of the advent of Hadrat Muhammad Mustaf a (S) and the signs of his truthfulness from the scholars of the Jews who were living there.

The Jewish scholars told those persons, who were sent by the pagans, that they would ask him (S) about three subjects. The Jewish scholars said if Muhammad (S) answered two subjects and restrained from answering the third one, he would be True. Those subjects were about: the Companions of the Cave, Zulqarnayn, and the Soul.

They said: *if Muhammad (S) could answer the questions of ‘the Companions of the Cave’ and ‘Zulqarnayn’, but he did not answer the question about the Soul, he was a Divine Prophet.* 1

The Virtue of the Recitation of This Surah

There are many traditions recorded upon the virtue of this Surah and the effects of its recitation. Among them is that: whoever recites this Surah by the night before Friday, it causes his sins to be forgiven, and he will be involved in Allah's Mercy.

Of course, as it has been repeatedly said, recitation of the holy verses of the Qur'an accompanied with understanding and fulfilling them accordingly, is the secret of obtaining the blessings of the Qur'an.

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1. Durr-ul-Manthر
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