

THE HOLY QUR'AN

Considering the facts, about the heavenly scriptures, as stated above, it becomes crystal clear that if any divine revelation is found intact on the surface of the earth in its original and actual form it is only the Holy Quran. Now if anybody wants divine guidance he has to refer to the Holy Quran. If he wants to find out what is the will of our Creator, what He has ordered us to do, what He has prohibited us to desist from then the only source of this guidance is the Holy Quran. If mankind desires equity and justice in the society, rule of right, the evolution of the individual and the management of the society on the basis of truth, peace and security throughout the world, and eternal success and bliss in the life hereafter then the only recourse and resource is the same Holy Quran. On the nature and purpose of this book Allah has proclaimed:

﴿قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ نُورٌ وَكِتَابٌ مُبِينٌ ﴿١٥﴾ يَهْدِي بِهِ اللَّهُ مَنِ اتَّبَعَ رِضْوَانَهُ
سُبُلَ السَّلَامِ وَيُخْرِجُهُم مِّنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ بِإِذْنِهِ وَيَهْدِيهِمْ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ
مُّسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿١٦﴾﴾ المائدة: ١٥ - ١٦

(Translation of meaning) [*Verily, there has arrived to you from Allah light and an enlightening Book. With it Allah leads those who seek his pleasure to the pathways of peace and takes them by his permission out of darkness and towards light and guides them towards the straight path*] (Al-Maedah: 15-16)].

Another significant fact, about the other heavenly scriptures is that they were revealed to particular nations and for particular eras. Thus, they were addressed to particular people and we may say that they were meant for particular regions. But when we look at the facts surrounding the Holy Quran we find that it is a universal message addressed to all the peoples, tribes and nations. Moreover, it is not limited to any particular era but shall remain in force till the Last Day. Meanwhile, no other book shall be revealed to the mankind.

﴿وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا كَافَّةً لِّلنَّاسِ بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٨﴾﴾ سبأ: ٢٨

(Translation of meaning) *And We have not sent thee (O Muhammad) save as a bringer of good tidings and a warner unto all mankind; but most of mankind know not.* (Saba :28)

Because of this final status of the Quran, all those basic teachings which were included in the previous divine scriptures but were amended by the people have been consolidated in it. Not only the basic teachings but also some of the commandments of the ancient age have also been retained intact. For instance, the Quran laid down:

﴿وَكُنِبْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ فِيهَا أَنْ النَّفْسَ بِالنَّفْسِ وَالْعَيْنَ بِالْعَيْنِ وَالْأَنْفَ بِالْأَنْفِ وَالْأُذُنَ بِالْأُذُنِ
وَاللِّسْنَ بِاللِّسَنِ وَالْجُرُوحَ قِصَاصٌ ۚ﴾ المائدة: ٤٥

(Translation of meaning) [*“And We had ordained for them in it [Torah] that a life for a life and an eye for eye and a nose for a nose and an ear for an ear and a tooth for a tooth and there is revenge for other injuries” (Al-Maedah: 45)*].

A necessary corollary of the Holy Quran being the Last Testament is that all previous laws are abrogated and the final law comprehending all of them is promulgated forever. Thus Allah has proclaimed:

﴿وَأَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ بِالْحَقِّ مُصَدِّقًا لِمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ الْكِتَابِ وَمُهَيِّمًا عَلَيْهِ فَاحْكُم بَيْنَهُمْ بِمَا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ وَلَا تَتَّبِعْ أَهْوَاءَهُمْ عَمَّا جَاءَكَ مِنَ الْحَقِّ لِكُلِّ جَعَلْنَا مِنْكُمْ شِرْعَةً وَمِنْهَاجًا ۚ﴾ المائدة: ٤٨
(Translation of meaning) [*“And We have revealed to you the Book with the truth affirming the Books preceding it and acting as a watchdog over them. Then judge for them by what Allah has revealed to you and do not follow their whims deflecting from the truth revealed to you. For each one of you We have prescribed a set a law and a way” (Al-Maedah: 48)*].

Another essential corollary of the Quran, being the Last Testament is that it should be preserved for all time to come and safeguarded against alterations and amendments. Thus Allah declares:

﴿وَلَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ لَكُنْتُ عَزِيزٌ ۝ لَا يَأْتِيهِ الْبُطْلُ مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَلَا مِنْ خَلْفِهِ تَنْزِيلٌ مِّنْ حَكِيمٍ حَمِيدٍ ۝﴾ فصلت: ٤١ - ٤٢

(Translation of meaning) [*“Verily, it is a solid Book. No falsehood can enter it from its front or from its behind. It is a revelation from the Most Wise, Most Praiseworthy” (Fussilat: 41-42)*].

The same is reiterated in another place:

﴿إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ ۝﴾ الحجر: ٩

(Translation of meaning) [*“Verily, We have revealed this Memorial and We are its guards” (Al-Hajr: 9)*].

Now this is a historical fact that the Quran has survived in the form in which it was originally revealed to the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) . Not a single word has been added to it nor a single word subtracted from it. Its diacritical marks are fixed for ever and are shown obligatorily in all prints throughout the world. This is an invincible safeguard against alteration or misinterpretation of the meanings of words, phrases and verses. In this form it is destined to remain till the Last Day. This is a pledge from Allah and whose pledge can be truer than Allah’s?

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