THE MAGNIFICENCE OF THE QUR'AAN

By
Abdu'l-Qadîr Al-'Arna'ût
Translated by
Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Shabbîr Usmani

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In the name of Allah the Most Merciful the Most Gracious

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The significance of Quraan’s student and its teacher

1: Allah’s Messenger ‘May peace upon him’ stated:

(خيركم من تعلم القرآن وعلمه) (بخارى)

“The best among you is he who learns the Quraan and teaches it” (Narrated by Bukhaari)

2: He also said:

(إلا يبعثوا أحدكم إلى المسجد فلم يغفر أربعين من كتاب الله عزوجل خبرله من نافين وثلاث خبرله من ثلاث وأربع خبرله من أربع وحين أغاده من المثل) (مسلم)

“Does not one of you go out in the morning to the mosque and learn or recite two verses from the Book of Allah, the full of Majesty and Glorious? That is better for him than two she-camels, and three verses are better (than three she-camels) and four verses are better for him than four (she-camels), and so on their number in camels. (Recounted by Muslim)

3: The Prophet ﷺ said,

(لأحسن فقه في إلينين رجل آتاه الله القرآن فهو يفقه آتاه القرآن ورقلم آتاه الله فالله مالا فهو ينفه آتاه الله) (مسلم)

“Do not wish to be like anyone except two. (The first is) The one, whom Allah has given the Holy Quraan and he recites it during the night and the day. (The second is) A person, whom Allah has granted wealth and he spends it during the night and the day; (Related by Bukhaari and Muslim)
The virtue of reciting the Quraan

1: Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said:

(من قرأ حرفًا من كتاب الله فله حسنة، والحسنة بعشر أمثالها: لا أقول (عثم) حرف، ولكن العثم حروف
ولا م حروف، وميم حروف (ترمذي و دارمي)

“Who reads a letter from Allah’s Book will get a good deed because of it, and that goodness will be increased ten folds. I do not say that Alif, Laam and Meem are one letter as reward, but Alif is a letter, Laam is one letter and Meem is a letter.”

(Narrated by Tirmazi, Darmi)

2: And also said:

(الماهي بالقرآن مع السفر بالكرام الب障碍، والذى يقرأ القرآن ويستمع فيه و هو عليه
شاق، له أجراً (بخاري)

“The skilful person in reading the Quraan will be with the exposed, honourable and pious. And who reads it stuttering, the reading of Quraan is difficult for him, he will get double reward.” (Reported by Bukhaari)

3: He ﷺ stated:

(إن الالذي ليس في جوهر شيء من القرآن كاليثبت الخرب (ترمذي)

“Indeed, who does not have anything from the Quraan in his heart, his example is like a destroyed house.”
Quraan’s intercession for its reciter

1: Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said:

(إقرأ القرآن فإنه يأتي يوم القيامة شفيعًا لأصحابه) (مسلم)

“Read the Quraan. Because, verily it will come on the Day of Judgement as an intercessor for its partner- reciter.” (Muslim)

2: He ﷺ said another time:

(يُؤتى يوم القيامة بالقرآن وأهله الذين كأنوا يعملون به تقدمه سورة البقرة والعمروان، يُحاجان عن صاحبهما) (رواة مسلم).

“The Quraan and its people, who acted upon it, will be brought froth on the last Day, Surah Baqarah and Al-Imran will lead him, they will argue on behalf of their reader.” (Related by Muslim)

3: The Prophet ﷺ said:

(القرآن شافع مشقع ومامحل مصدق من جعله إمامه قادة إلى الجنّة) و من جعلته خلقه ساقطة إلى النار) (ابن حبان، بيهقي وطبراني).

“The Quraan is an intercessor and its intercession will be accepted, and an opponent which is true. Who selects it as his leader, then it will guide him to the Paradise. And who ignores it then it will guide him to the Hell.” (Ibn Hibbaan, Bayhaqee in Shubul Imaan, and Tabraani. Clarified as Saheeh)

4: The Prophet ﷺ said:

(الصلاة والقرآن يشفعان للعبّد يوم القيامة يقول الصائم: أي رب منعته أطعام) وشّهوا فشفعمنيء فيه و يقول القرآن: منعته النوم بالليل فشفعمنيء فيه قال فشفعان)
"Fasting and Quraan will intercede for the servant on the Last Day. Fasting will say: 'O my Lord! I stopped him from eating and desires, so accept my intercession about him.' And the Quraan will say, 'I stopped him from sleeping throughout the night, so accept my intercession for him.' He saw stated: "so their intercession will be accepted." (Ahmad, Tabraani and Haakim. Saheeh)

Repeating the Quraan to maintain it

1: Allah’s Messenger ﷺ stated:

(تَفَاعَلَوْا الْقُرْآنَ، فَوَأَلَّذِي نَفَسُ مُحْمَّدُ بِيَدِهَا، لَعَّلَهُ أَشْتَدْ تَفَاقُلًا مِنَ الْإِبَالِ فِي عَقْلِهَا) (Bukhari and Muslim)

"Keep on reciting the Qur’an, for, by Him in Whose Hand Mohammed’s life is, Quran runs away (is forgotten) faster than camels that are released from their tying ropes." (Narrated by Bukharaari & Muslim)

2: He ﷺ said:

(إِنَّمَا مَثَلُ صَاحِبِ الْقُرْآنِ كَمَثَلِ الإِبَالِ المُسَكُّتَةِ، إِنْ عَادَةً عَلَيْهَا أَمسَكَهَا وَإِنْ أَطْلَقُهَا دُفِّعَتْ) (Bukhari and Muslim)

"The example of the person who holds the Qur’an by heart, is like the owner of tied camels. If he keeps them tied, he will keep them under control, but if he leaves them, they will run away." (Reported by Bukharaari and Muslim)

3: The Prophet ﷺ also said:

(إِنْتَدَكُوْا الْقُرْآنَ، فَإِنَّهُ أَشْتَدْ تَفَاقُلًا مِنْ صَدْوَرِ الرِّجَالِ مِنْ النَّعُومِ بِعَقْلِهَا) (At-Tirmidhi)

"Learn Quraan repeatedly, for verily it runs away from the hearts of men faster than camels from their ropes." (Bukharaari and Muslim)
Evaluating the situation of the Muslims by acting upon the Quraan

Allah’s Messenger stated:

(إن الله يرفع بهذَا الكِتَابُ أفْؤَامًا وَيَضْعِفُ بِهَا أَخْوَانَ) (مسلم)

“Verily Allah evaluates the nations by this book and devalues others by it.”

The significance of the reader of Quraan

The Messenger of Allah said

(مثل المؤمن الذي يقرأ القرآن مثل الأزْرَقْة، تَعْمِمْهَا طَيْبَةَ وَرُيِّحُها طَيْبَةَ. وَمثل المؤمن الذي لا يقرأ القرآن مثل النَّمْرُودَة، تَعْمِمْهَا طَيْبَةَ وَرُيِّحُها طَيْبَةَ. وَمثل المنافق الذي يقرأ القرآن مثل الريحانة، تَعْمِمْهَا طَيْبَةَ وَرُيِّحُها طَيْبَةَ. وَمثل المنافق الذي لا يقرأ القرآن كمثل الحنطة تَعْمِمْهَا مُرْهَبًا وَلا يَرِيحُ لَهَا) (بخارى ومسلم)

“The example of a believer who recites the Qur’ān, is like a citron which tastes nice and smells nice. And the example of a believer who does not recite the Qur’ān, is like a date its taste is good but has no smell. And the example of a hypocrite who recites the Qur’ān is like a Raihana (sweet basil) Which smells nice but tastes bitter. And the example of a hypocrite who does not recite the Quran is like a colocynth (Very bitter fruit) which tastes bitter and has a bad smell.”

(Bukhaari and Muslim)

The grace of reciter of the Quraan by heart who enforces it in practically life

He said:

(يُطَال لصاحب القرآن، إِفْرَأَ وَازْرَقَ وَرَأْنَ كَمَا كَتَبْ تُرَكُّلُ فِي الدُّنْيَا. فإنَّ مِنْ طَلَّكَ عَندَ الْآخِرَةِ تَغْرُرُوهَا) (أبو داود و ترمذي)
“It will be said to the Qaree of the Quraan: ‘read, ascend, and recite slowly and nicely as you used to read in the world, and verily, your destination will be at the last verse, you read.” (Abu Dawood, Tirmazi narrated Abdullah bin Umar)

Descending the peacefulness for the Quraanic recitation

Baraa bin Aazib reported:

(كان رجُلًا نَفَذَتْهُ سُورَةُ الكُفُرانِ، ونَفَذَتْهُ سُورَةُ الْمُمَيْدِ، فَجَعَلَتْ تَنْذُرَهُ وَتَفَكَّرَهُ، وَجَعَلَ فَرْسًةُ "بِني مَالِكَةٍ نَفَذْتِكَ لِبِنِي مَالِكَةٍ" مَسْقَطَ عَلِيهِ)

There was a man, who was reciting Surah Al-Kahf and his horse was tied with two ropes near him. A cloud spread over that man, and it kept on coming nearer and nearer to him till his horse started jumping (as if afraid of something). When it was morning, the man came to the Prophet, and told him. The Prophet said, “That was As-Sakina (tranquillity) which descended because of the Qur’an.” (Agreed upon it)

Asking some one to recite the Quraan for the sake of Allah and not to use it for Worldly benefits and to eat with it

1: The Prophet ﷺ said:

(إِفْرُكُوا الْقُرآنَ، وَاعْلَمُوا بِهِ، وَلا تَجْعَلُوا عَنْهُ يَدًا، وَلا تَفْلُؤُوا فِيهِ، وَلا تَأْكُلُوا بِهِ، وَلا تَسْتَكْبِرُوا بِهِ) (Ahmad and Tabraani)

“Read Quraan, act upon it, do not ignore it, do not exceed its limits, do not eat (do not earn living with it) with it and do not get wealth by it.” (Ahmad and Tabraani. Saheeh)
2: He said:

(إِفْرَزُوا الْقُرْآنَ، وَأْتِمُوْا بِهِ وَجْهَ الْلَّهِ تَعَالَى، مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ قُوْمٌ يُقَيْسُوْهُ إِفْاْمَةُ الْقَدْحِ، يَتَعَلَّجُوْنَهُ وَلاِيَتَعَلَّجُوْنَهُ) (أحمد و أبو داود)

"Read the Quraan and with it seek the pleasure of Allah, the Almighty, before another nation comes which implements it like an arrow. They will read it fast and they will not read it nicely." (Ahmad and Abu Dawood. As Saheeh)

Beautifying one’s voice when he reads Quraan

1: Allah’s Messenger said:

(رَيْبُوْا الْقُرْآنَ بِأَصْوَأْ بَيْتٍ، فَإِنَّ الصُّوْتَ الْحَسْنَ يَرَيْدُ الْقُرْآنَ حَسْنًا) (حاكيم بإسناد صحيح)

"Make the Quraan beautiful with your voices, for indeed, the sound of beauty increases the beautification of the Quraan.” (Haakim as Saheeh Hadith)

2: He said:

(إِنَّ مِنْ أَحْسَنِ الْعَبْدِ صَوْتُ الْتأَمِيْذِ إِذَا سَمَعَتْهُ بَيْتُ أَحْسَبُهُ مَيْلًا لِهِ يَخْشَى الله) (دارمي حديث صحيح)

"Of course, the best among the people in voice, is he whom you listen to, and you find him fearing Allah when he recites.” (Darmi. Saheeh Hadith)

The significance of Surah Al- Fatihah

Abu Saeed bin Mu, allaa recounted that Allah’s Messenger said to me:

(أَلَّا أُعْلَمُ أَنَّ عُظْمَ سُورَةَ فِي الْقُرْآنِ قَالَ أَنْ نُخْرُجُ مِنَ الْمُسْجِدِ فَأَخْذُ بِيْدِي، فَلَمْ أَرْدَنَا أَنْ نُخْرُجُ فِلَتْ: يَأَرْسُولُ اللَّهِ إِنَّكَ فِلَتْ لَأُعْلَمُ أَنَّ عُظْمَ سُورَةَ فِي الْقُرْآنِ قَالَ: (الْحَمْدُ لَهُ رَبُّ الْعَالَمِينَ) هَيَّ السُّبْحَانُ الْعَزِيزُ وَالْقُرْآنُ المُظْهِرُ الْأَلْدِيُّ أَوْلَيْهِ) (بخاري)
“Shall I not teach you a Surah which is the greatest Surah in the Qur’ān, before you leave the Mosque?” Then he caught my hand, and when we intended to leave (the Mosque), I said, ‘O Allah’s Messenger, you said, ‘I will teach you a Surah which is the greatest Surah in the Quran?’  He said, “Al-Hamdu-Lillah Rabbi-l-Alamin (i.e. Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the worlds) which is Al-Sab’a Al-Mathani (i.e. seven repeatedly recited Verses) and the Grand Qur’an which has been given to me.” (Bukhaari and Muaslim)

The virtue of Surah Al Baqarah

1: Allah’s Messenger said:

(لا اتطلعوا ليوكلم مقابر إن الشيطان ينفر من البيت الذي تقرأ فيه سورة البقرة) (مسلم)

“Do not make your houses graveyards. Indeed, the Satan runs away from a house in which Surah Al Baqarah is read.”

(Narrated by Muslim)

2: And also said:

(إقرأوا سورة البقرة فإن أخذها بركة وتركتها حسرة ولا تستطيعها البطلة) (مسلم)

“Recite Al-Baqarah, for indeed seizing it is a blessing, leaving it is a deterrent and a magician cannot make it ineffective.” (Reported by Muslim)

The grace of Ayah tul Kursi

Ubay bin Ka,ab narrated Allah’s messenger ﷺ said:

(يا آبائنا آدم وآبراهيم ويسوع عليه السلام إنك ملك أعظم وقائلاً فلئت: الله ورسوله أعلم قال: يا آبائنا آدم وى إبراهيم ويسوع عليه السلام إنك ملك أعظم وقائلاً فلئت: الله لا إله إلا هُوّ الحي القيوم قال: قَضَرِبَ في صدري وقائلاً واتبت إلى خِيل) (مسلم)

O AbulMundhir! Do you know the verse from the Book of Allah, which
is the greatest?, according to you, I said: Allah and His Messenger (peace be upon him) know best. He again said: AbulMundhir, do you know the verse from the Book of Allah which, according to you, is the greatest? I said: “Allahu laa ilaaha illa huwal hayyul qayyum” ‘Allah, there is no god but He, the Living, the Eternal’. Thereupon he struck me on my chest and said: May Allah makes knowledge pleasant for you, O AbulMundhir! (Narrated by Muslim)

Excellency of the two last verses of Surah Al Baqarah

The Prophet ﷺ said:

(من قرأ بالأتين من آخر سورة البقرة في ليلة كفنه) (منافق عليه)

“Whoever reads the last two verses of Surah Al Baqarah, in the night, they will be sufficient for him.” (Narrated by Bukhaari and Muslim)

The virtue of Surah Al Fatihah and the end of Surah Al Baqarah

Ibn Abbaas (RZ) said:

بيتنهما جبريل قاعد علی اليمين وسكنهما في كهف اليمين وتراهما فقوه رأسه فقال هذا باب من السماوات فصيح اليوم. لم يفصح فظًا إلا اليوم. فنزل منه ملل فقال: هذا ملل نزل إلى الأراضي لم ينزل فظًا إلا اليوم. فسله وقوله: أبشر بمؤمنين أو تباههما لم ينفوهما لأي شئ. فاتبعت الكتاب وحواويم سورة البقرة. لم تأفره بحروف منهما إلا أعطينه (مسلم)

“While Gabriel was sitting with the prophet saw (peace be upon him) he heard a harsh voice above him. He lifted his head and said: This is a gate opened in heaven today, which had never been opened before. Then, when an angel descended through it, he said: This is
an angel who came down to the earth who had never come down before. He greeted and said: Rejoice in two lights bestowed upon you which have not been given to any prophet before you: Fatihat al-Kitaab and the end of Surah al-Baqarah. You will never recite a letter from them for which you will not be given (a reward).” (Related by Muslim)

The grace of Surah Al-kahf

Allah’s Messenger ﷺ stated:

(من حقفْط عَشْرَ آيَاتٍ مِّن أَوْلِ سُورَةَ الكُهْف عَصْمَ مِّنَ الْدُّجَالِ) (مسلم)

“Whoever learns by heart ten verses from the beginning of Surah Al Kahf, will be saved from Dajjaal.” (Related by Muslim)

The magnificence of Surah Al- Fath

Ibn Umar (RZ) said:

(جَعَلَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ فَسَلَّمَ عَلَيْهِ ﷺ ﻓَقالَ ﻓَأَنْزَلْتُ عَلَيْكَ لَيْلاً ﺑِهِ آخِبَ إِلَيْ مِنْ نَافِعٍ فَسَجَدَ عَلَيْهِ شَمَسَ) (بخاري)

“I went to the prophet saw and I greeted him, then he said, ‘Indeed a Surah has been sent down on me during the night, which is more beloved in my sight than one upon whom the sun has risen.’ Then He saw read, ‘Indeed, we have endowed upon you a manifest victory.’ Because, there is indication of forgiveness and victory in it.” (Bukhaari)

The Excellence of Surah Tabarak

The Prophet ﷺ stated:

(إِنْ سُورَةٌ فِي الْقُرآنِ ثَلَاثَانِ آيَةٍ. شَفِّعَتْ لِصَاحِبِهِا حَتَّى عَفِيرَ لِنَبِيّ الْلَّهِ يَدْعُو الْمَلَكَ) (ترمذي وابوداود)
"Indeed, there is a Surah in the Quraan, which consists of thirty verses, it will intercede for its beholder until he will be forgiven, and it ‘Tabaara kalladhi biyadi hil mulku’ (He is blessed in whose hand is Dominion.” (Abu Dawood, Tirmazi and others. Saheeh hadith)

**The excellence of Surah Al-Kaafiroon**

1: He said:  
(Qul yaa ayyu hal kaafiroon) ‘Say (o Muhammad) O disbelievers.’ Is equal to one quarter of the Quraan.” (Narrated Abdullah bin Umar by Tabraaani, declared Saheeh)

2: He said another time:

("(Qul yaa ayyu hal kaafiroon) ‘Read ‘ Qul yaa ayyu hal Kaafiroon’ (say (O Muhammad) O disbelievers) at bedtime, for indeed it is an immunity from polytheism.” (Narrated Anas bin Maalik, Shuab ul Imaan by Bayhaqee. Clarified as Saheeh)

**The excellence of Surah Al Ikhlaas:**

1: Abu bin Kaab said that the prophet saw stated about Surah, ‘Qul Hu Wallahu Ahd’ (say, Allah, He is One)

("(Qul Hu Wallahu Ahd) ‘By whom, in whose hand is my soul, verily it is equal to the one third of the Quraan,” (Bukhaari)

2: Abu Hurayrah also reported that Allah’s messenger saw said:

("Qul Huwallahu Ahd (Say! Allah he is only one) is equal to the one third of the Quraan.” (Muslim)
The significance of Quraan’s two last Surah (Mu, awwidha tayn)

1: Uqbah bin Aamir narrated that Allah’s messenger saw said:


“Did you not see what have been sent down to me tonight, which no body has seen like them at all? These are, (Qul audhu Birabbil Falaq, ‘Say! I seek refuge with the Lord of the Dawn’) and (Qul audhu Birabbin Naas, ‘Say! I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind’).” (Muslim)

2: Uqbah bin Aamir also related:


“While I was travelling with the messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) between al-Juhfah and al-Abwa’, suddenly, a wind and intense darkness covered us, whereupon Allah’s messenger (peace be upon him) began to seek refuge with Allah, reciting:

(Qul Audhu Brabbil Falaq) “I seek refuge in the Lord of the dawn,” and (Qul Audhu Birabbin Naas) “I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind.” He then said: Uqbah, use them when seeking refuge with Allah, for no one can use anything to compare with them for the purpose. (Abu Dawood)

Loving someone reciting the Quraan

1: Abdullah bin Masud reported:


فَأَرَأَيْتَ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٌ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ لَيْلَةٍ لَأْتِيَتْ أَنْ L15
“Allah’s messenger asked me, “read the Qur’an for me,” I said, “Shall I read it to you although it had been revealed to you?” He saw said, “I like to hear from others.” So I recited Surat-an-Nisa’ till I reached: “How (will it be) then when We bring from each nation a witness, and We bring you (O Muhammad) as a witness against these people?” (4.41) Then he said, “Stop!” I looked at him, “behold, his eyes were overflowing with tears.” (Bukhaari)

2: Allah’s Messenger ﷺ asked Ubay bin Kaab:

(إن الله أمرني أن أقرأ عليك. قال: الله سماي لك؟ قال: الله سماي لك. قال: فجعل أبي يبكي.) (مسلم)

“Allah has ordered me to read upon you: ‘Those who disbelieve’ (Surat-al-Bayina 98).” Ubay said, “Has He mentioned my name?” He ﷺ replied, “Yes.” On hearing this, Ubaib began crying.” (Muslim)

**Reward of reading the Quraan:**

He ﷺ said

(وَمَا اجْتَمَعَ قُوْمٌ فِي بَيْتٍ مِنْ يُؤُوْدِي الْلَّهَ يَتَّلِونَ كِتَابَ اللَّهِ وَيَتَذَاذَّبُونَ بِبَيْنِهِمْ إِلَّا نُرِئَتْ عَلَيْهِمْ السَّكِينَةُ وَ غَشِيَّتِهِمْ الرَّحْمَةُ وَ حَفْظُهُمْ المَلَائِكَةُ وَ ذَكَرُ هُمْ اللَّهَ فِي مَيْنِ عَدْنَا وَ مَنْ بَطَّاَبَ عَمَلَهُ لَا يُسَرِّعِ بِرَبِّهِ مَرَضِيَتَهُ) (مسلم)

“There is not a folk who has gathered in one of Allah’s houses, reciting the Book of Allah and studying it among themselves, but the tranquillity will descend upon them, mercy will cover them, the angels will encircle them, and Allah will remember them among those who are with Him (angels); and whose action is not according to his knowledge, his generation will not be useful for him.” (Muslim, narrated by Abu Hurayrah)