

SUMMER IMMERSION

TAFSIR OF SURAH AL-TUR



Mufti Abdul Wahab Waheed

SESSIONS
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Introduction to Surah Tur

- Meccan surah revealed early to offer consolation and encouragement to the Prophet ﷺ.
 - Meccan: Poetic, rhythmic, foundational (Allah, Hereafter, Prophethood).
 - Madani: Legislative, detailed rulings.
- The surah ends with the command to be patient.
- Divided into four major themes:
 - The Day of Judgment
 - Reasons for belief
 - Reasons for disbelief
 - Arguments for and against belief
- Known to move listeners emotionally. A man converted to Islam simply from hearing it.
- Recited by the Prophet ﷺ during Maghrib/Tahajjud and by Umar رضي الله عنه during Fajr.
- Umar would sometimes cry so much he couldn't continue beyond a certain verse.

Ayah 1-6

- Allah uses oaths (qasam) to capture attention and elevate the seriousness of a message.
- Over 90 oaths appear in the Qur'an, varying in number and style (e.g., single: "Wal-Asr"; multiple: seven in Surah al-Shams).
- Allah can swear by any of His creations; humans can only swear by Allah.
 - The most honored oath is by the life of the Prophet ﷺ.
- Opening oaths in Surah al-Tur:
 - By the Mount (الطُّور) – Mountain where Musa عليه السلام received revelation.
 - By the inscribed Book (كتاب مسطور) – Divine books, clearly written and preserved.
 - By parchment unrolled (في رق منشوري) – Clear, accessible scripture.
 - By the frequented house (البيت المعمور) – Ka'bah in the seventh heaven, where 700,000 angels visit daily.
 - By the raised roof (السقف المزفوع) – The sky; a flawless ceiling without pillars.
 - By the sea filled or ablaze (البحر المسجور) – Interpreted as the primordial sea under the Throne, or the burning sea on Judgment Day.
- These oaths refer to both dunya and akhirah.
- Symbolism links back to other surahs:
 - Surah Qaf: the Qaf mountain
 - Surah Dhariyat: wind
 - Surah Najm: star
 - Surah Qamar: moon
 - Surah Rahman: references all of these

- Kitab Mastur: Organized, clear, and structured; points to the divine nature of qadr and revelation.
 - Every person's deeds and destiny are recorded accurately.
 - The angels on the right and left (Kiraman Katibin) record every action. The angel on the left delays writing sins in case of tawbah.
 - Backbiting (ghibah) and gossip (nrimonah) can erase rewards.
 - Prophet ﷺ called such a person "muflis" (bankrupt) on the Day of Judgment.
 - All major life events are recorded (marriage, job, death).
 - Dua can change some parts of qadr, but not fixed elements like death.
 - Dua is accepted in one of three ways:
 - Given as requested
 - Harm removed or replaced with better
 - Stored as reward in the Hereafter
 - Prophet ﷺ warned against being a "mustajil" – someone who complains Allah is taking too long to answer.
- Fi Raq Manshur: Delicate parchment, open and accessible. Every word of the Qur'an is deliberate.
- Bayt al-Ma'mur:
 - Frequently visited house in the seventh heaven.
 - 700,000 angels perform tawaf daily, never repeating.
 - Parallels the Ka'bah for angels.
- Saqaf al-Marfu' (Raised Roof):
 - Refers to the sky or the roof of Al-Firdaus (highest level of Jannah).
 - Serves as the base of the Throne of Allah.
 - Described in hadith as made of rubies and gold.

- Bahr al-Masjur:
 - Can mean gushing sea or sea set ablaze.
 - Some say it refers to the first creation under Allah's Throne.
 - Others interpret it as polluted or oil-filled waters burning (seen in oil spill fires).
 - Souls are washed in it to cleanse them before entering Jannah.
- Four mountains in Jannah:
 - Judi – Nuh's Ark rested here.
 - Lubnan – Coastal mountain in Sham.
 - Tur – Site of Musa's revelation.
 - Uhud – Loved by and loves the believers.