

## Chapter 53: an-Najm - النجم

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Bismi Allahi alrrahmani alrraheemi

With the name of The God, The Almighty Source, The Merciful Sustainer

Begin with the Glorious Name of The God who is the Source and the Sustainer of All Might and Mercy.

وَالنَّجْمِ إِذَا هَوَىٰ

Waalnnajmi itha hawa

By the star when it stretches/descends/hollows/deepens

By the star when it collapses into a void, and becomes a chaotic symbol of endless darkness!

مَا ضَلَّ صَاحِبُكُمْ وَمَا غَوَىٰ

Ma dalla sahibukum wama ghawa

Your companion is not lost/mistaken, and is not in the dark.

Neither is your companion mistaken, nor is he being misled!

وَمَا يَنْطِقُ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ

Wama yantiq AAani alhawa

And neither harmonized/speaks with the chaos/desire.

And neither does his self align itself with confusion in any way so as to become the instrument of chaos!

إِنَّ هُوَ إِلَّا وَحْيٌ يُوحَىٰ

In huwa illa wahyun yooha

It is nothing but a revelation, inspired!

This is a Revelation Inspired to him, and is not his invention!

عَلَّمَهُ شَدِيدُ الْقُوَىٰ

AAallamahu shadeedu alquwa

Instructed/taught him the extremely/intensely powerful/strong!

His knowledge comes from The Powerful Almighty Entity,

ذُو مِرَّةٍ فَاسْتَوَىٰ

Thoo mirratin faistawa

Owner of Authority exalted then,

Who has exalted this man as His final messenger to humanity,

وَهُوَ بِالْأُفُقِ الْأَعْلَىٰ

Wahuwa bial-ofuqi al-aAAla

For he was at/with the horizon, the highest/loftiest/utmost one;

For his intellect reached the peak of human capabilities,

ثُمَّ دَنَا فَتَدَلَّىٰ

Thumma dana fatadalla

While/then drawing near, hence approaching limits/boundaries;

While surpassing all man-made notions about God;

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فَكَانَ قَابَ قَوْسَيْنِ أَوْ أَدْنَىٰ

Fakana qaba qawsayni aw adna

Till was closer/less than two arms' length/distance:

Till he touched the Truth almost by himself!

فَأُوْحِيَٰ إِلَىٰ عَبْدِهِ مَا أُوْحِيَٰ

Faawha ila AAabdihi ma awha

Then was revealed to His servant what was revealed!

It was that state of his mind where he was presented with the challenge of Revelation,

مَا كَذَّبَ الْفُؤَادُ مَا رَأَىٰ

Ma kathaba alfu-adu ma raa

Opposed/averted/falsified not the intellect what was seen!

For his intellect was now ready for such an undertaking!

أَفْتُمِرُونَ عَلَىٰ مَا يُرَىٰ

Afatumaroonahu AAala ma yara

What then you contend with him over what was visualized/envisioned/observed?

Can you contend with him over what he has been able to comprehend?

وَلَقَدْ رَآهُ نَزْلَةً أُخْرَىٰ

Walaqad raahu nazlatan okhra

For indeed he saw it descend/condense/precipitate finally/ultimately!

Since it was he who could envision the outcome of following this Message,

عِنْدَ سِدْرَةِ الْمُنْتَهَىٰ

AAinda sidrati almuntaha

At/with the ultimate/final dazzle/shade/tree/astonishment;

All the way to the final frontier, where the human mind can do nothing but be astounded;

عِنْدَهَا جَنَّةُ الْمَأْوَىٰ

AAindaha jannatu alma/wa

With it a hidden/emanating garden, the one of abode/sanctity/refuge.

Since that is where one can see a glimpse of paradise!

إِذْ يَغْشَىٰ السِّدْرَةَ مَا يَغْشَىٰ

Ith yaghsha alssidrata ma yaghsha

Though/when veils the shade/dazzle/tree what it veils,

Even though it is hidden from the naked eye thus far,

مَا زَاغَ الْبَصَرُ وَمَا طَغَىٰ

Ma zagha albasaru wama tagha

Fell short not the sight and transgressed not!

This man was able to envision it as it actually ought to be!

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لَقَدْ رَأَى مِنْ آيَاتِ رَبِّهِ الْكُبْرَى

Laqad raa min ayati rabbihi alkubra

Certainly saw from signs of his Lord, the greatest one!

Beyond doubt he has gained the greatest insight about the Absolute Truth!

أَفَرَأَيْتُمُ اللَّاتَ وَالْعُزَّىٰ

Afaraaytumu allata waalAuza

Do you see the goddess, and the strong one;

On the other hand, behold your own twisted understanding! Do you not consider Divinity to be the goddess of fertility that grants you life? And the strong one who you think gives you strength?

وَمَنْوَةَ الثَّالِثَةِ الْآخِرَىٰ

Wamanata alththalithata al-okhra

And destiny, the third, the final one?

And destiny, with which you believe you are bound to meet upon death?

أَلَكُمُ الذَّكَرُ وَلَهُ الْأُنثَىٰ

Alakumu alththakaru walahu al-ontha

Why for you the male and for Him the female?

So why do you not contemplate that your society is gender biased in favour of the male, while you worship female deities, calling them your source, protector and destination?

تِلْكَ إِذًا قِسْمَةٌ ضِيزَىٰ

Tilka ithan qismatun deeza

That is, then, a division/distribution/assignment/classification most unfair/strange!

Do you not see how perverted your own understanding is?

إِنْ هِيَ إِلَّا أَسْمَاءٌ سَمَّيْتُمُوهَا أَنْتُمْ وَآبَاؤُكُمْ

In hiya illa asmaon sammaytumooaha antum waabaokum

These are indeed nothing but names/designations; you have named/devised/invented them, you and your fathers,

Indeed, all you believe and practice is a fabrication of you and your patriarchs:

مَا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ بِهَا مِنْ سُلْطَانٍ

ma anzala Allahu biha min sultanin

The God has not extended/revealed/descended any authority/permission/consent/sanction for this.

For The God has never sanctioned such perverseness!

إِنْ يَتَّبِعُونَ إِلَّا الظَّنَّ وَمَا تَهْوَى الْأَنْفُسُ

in yattabiAaona illa alththanna wama tahwa al-anfusu

Certainly they follow but the assumption/speculation/conjuncture and what the soul is enticed/allured to!

Certainly such people assume what their carnal psyche rationalizes, and appeals to, is what God has ordained!

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وَلَقَدْ جَاءَهُمْ مِنْ رَبِّهِمُ الْهُدَىٰ

walaqad jaahum min rabbihimu alhuda

Although The Guidance has come to them from their Lord!

Even when their intellect is there as guidance to what has actually come to them from their Lord!