(Al-Ma'rûf) which Allâh has ordained, and abstain from all kinds of sins and evil deeds (Al-Munkar) which Allâh has forbidden], and recommend one another to patience (for the sufferings, harms, and injuries which one may encounter in Allâh's Cause during preaching His religion of Islâmic Monotheism or Jihâd).



In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

- 1. Woe to every slanderer and backbiter. [1]
- 2. Who has gathered wealth and counted it.
- 3. He thinks that his wealth will make him last forever!
- 4. Nay! Verily, he will be thrown into the crushing Fire.
- 5. And what will make you know what the crushing Fire is?
- 6. The fire of Allâh kindled,
- 7. Which leaps up over the hearts,
- 8. Verily, it shall be closed upon them,
- 9. In pillars stretched forth (i.e. they will be punished in the Fire with pillars).



In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

- 1. Have you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) not seen how your Lord dealt with the owners of the Elephant? [The Elephant army which came from Yemen under the command of Abrahah Al-Ashram intending to destroy the Ka'bah at Makkah].
 - 2. Did He not make their plot go astray?
 - 3. And He sent against them birds, in flocks,
 - 4. Striking them with stones of Sijjîl (baked clay).
 - 5. And Hemade them like(an empty field of) stalks (of which

^{[1] (}V.104:1) See the footnotes A, B, C, of (V.49:12).

the corn has been eaten up by cattle). [1]



In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

- (It is a great Grace from Allâh) for the Protection of the Quraish,
- 2. (And with all those Allâh's Grace and Protections, We cause) the (Quraish) caravans to set forth safe in winter(to the south) and in summer (to the north without any fear),

[1] (V.105:5) The story of the army of the Elephants. This incident happened during the period of the birth-year of Prophet Muhammad مسلَّى الله عليه وسلم Abrahah Al-Ashram was the governor of Yemen on behalf of the king of Ethiopia (as Yemen was a part of the Ethiopian kingdom). He (Abrahah) thought to build a house (like the Ka'bah at Makkah) in San'a (the capital of Yemen) and call the Arabs to perform the pilgrimage there in San'a instead of the Ka'bah (Al-Bait Al-Harâm) in Makkah, with the intention of diverting the trade and benefits from Makkah to Yemen. He presented his idea to the king of Ethiopia who agreed to his idea. So the house (church) was built and he named it Al-Qullais; there was no church of its like at that time. Then a man from the Quraish tribe of Makkah came there and was infuriated by it, so he relieved his nature (stools and urine) in it, soiled its walls and went away. When Abrahah Al-Ashram saw that, he could not control his anger and raised an army to invade Makkah and demolish the Ka'bah. He had in that army thirteen elephants and amongst them was an elephant called Mahmûd which was the biggest of them. So that army proceeded and none amongst the Arab tribes that faced them (fought against them) but was killed and defeated, till it approached near Makkah. Then there took place negotiations between Abrahah Al-Ashram and the chief of Makkah (Abdul Muttalib bin Hashim, the grandfather of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم), and it was concluded that Abrahah would restore the camels of Abdul Muttalib which he had taken away, and then he (Abrahah Al-Ashram) would decide himself as regards the Ka'bah. Abdul Muttalib ordered the men of Makkah to evacuate the city and go to the top of the mountains along with their wives and children in case some harm should come to them from the invading oppressors. Then that army moved towards Makkah till they reached valley Muhassir. While the army was marching towards Makkah, in the middle of the valley, suddenly it was overtaken by flocks of birds, flocks after flocks, air-raiding that army with small stones slightly bigger than a lentil seed. There never fell a stone on a soldier except it dissolved his flesh and burst it into pieces. So they perished with a total destruction. Abrahah Al-Ashram fled away while his flesh was bursting into pieces till he died on the way (back to Yemen). Such was the victory bestowed by Allâh, (the All-Majestic, All-Powerful) to the people of Makkah and such was the protection provided by Him for His House (Ka'bah in Makkah). (See Tafsîr Ibn Kathir, Sûrat Al-Fîl).