

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

Sûrat Quraish (Quraish) CVI

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

1. (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 صلى 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 Hâshim, 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 Kathîr, Sûrat Al-Fîl*).

3. So let them worship (Allâh) the Lord of this House (the *Ka'bah* in Makkah),

4. (He) Who has fed them against hunger, and has made them safe from fear.

Sûrat Al-Mâ'ûn
(The Small Kindnesses) CVII

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

1. Have you seen him who denies the Recompense?
2. That is he who repulses the orphan (harshly),^[1]
3. And urges not on the feeding of *Al-Miskîn* (the needy),^[2]
4. So woe to those performers of *Salât* (prayers) (hypocrites),
5. Those who delay their *Salât* (prayers from their stated fixed times).^[3]
6. Those who do good deeds only to be seen (of men),
7. And withhold *Al-Mâ'ûn* (small kindnesses like salt, sugar, water).

Sûrat Al-Kauthar
(A River in Paradise) CVIII

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

1. Verily, We have granted you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) *Al-Kauthar* (a river in Paradise).^[4]

^[1] (V.107:2) Narrated Sahl bin Sa'd رضي الله عنهما : The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "I and the person who looks after an orphan and provides for him, will be in Paradise like this," putting his index and middle fingers together. (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol.8, *Hadîth* No.34).

^[2] (V.107:3) Narrated Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه : The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "The one who looks after a widow or a poor person is like a *Mujâhid* (fighter) who fights for Allâh's Cause, or like him who performs prayers all the night and fasts all the day." (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol.7, *Hadîth* No.265).

^[3] (V.107:5) See the footnote of (V.2:238)

^[4] (V.108:1) Narrated Anas رضي الله عنه : When the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم was made to ascend to the heavens. He صلى الله عليه وسلم said (after his return), "I came upon a river (in Paradise) the banks of which were made of tents of hollow pearls. I asked Jibrîl (Gabriel), 'What is this (river)?' He replied, 'This is *Al-Kauthar*.'" (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol.6, *Hadîth* No. 488).