

Surah Quraysh [106] - Miracle Dream Tafseer

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There are several things which connect this surah [Quraysh], and the previous surah Feel.

Especially the last ayah [ayah 4] of this surah; **الَّذِي أَطْعَمَهُم مِّنْ جُوعٍ وَآمَنَهُم مِّنْ خَوْفٍ** - *(He) Who has fed them against hunger, and has made them safe from fear.*

This is the central Theme in this surah.

Safety against fear (min khawf) - this is proven through surah Feel.

Umar would recite this surah in Maghrib prayer, and in the first raka'ak he would recite surah at-Teen.

In the second he would recite Feel and Quraysh without placing the basmallah between them. This is what Abdullah ibn Mas'ud would do too. They knew they were 2 separate surahs' - but they did it to show the close connection between these 2 surahs'.

Imam al Fakhr said; The gift of Allah is of 2 types:

- To remove harm. I.e. He gets rid of your problems. This is the gift Allah gave in surah Feel.

- To give benefit. I.e. He provides you food and safety and benefit.

This is the case in surah Quraysh.

When you recognise Allah's favours - you have to be His slave to show appreciation.

Fal ya'budu Rabba al hadhal bayt.

The sequencing of the surahs is;

- Due to the Ijma' (consensus of the sahaba/companions)

- It was revelation.

ash-Shawkani says it is not Divine sequencing. This surah is however is connected to the previous surah (while quoting al Farra'.) this is because how Allah dealt with the Ethiopians who attacked.

This is because Allah said at the beginning of surah Quraysh; **Li eelaafi Quraysh** (For the convenience of Quraysh). The **Li** (For) implies that Allah destroyed the army of Abraha - **Li** (For - the convenience of

the Quraysh).

So we see there is a connection.

The Arabs would head to Yemen to trade - and if Abraha had destroyed them and been successful - they would not be able to trade there;

1 - due to their trading business center (Makkah) being destroyed.

2 - Abraha would return to Yemen and would not allow them to enter Yemen because of his hatred against them.

There would never be an ambush against the Quraysh because all the tribes feared Divine punishment if they were harmed.

Prophet Ibraheem prayed for this city of Makkah;

baqarah - Make this - a peaceful city.

rabbij'al hadhal balada aaminan - my Lord, make this city peaceful.

..at-thamaraat, man aamana billahi wal yawmil aakhiri - provide them with fruits - only for those who believe in Allah and the Last Day.

Peace and Prosperity.

Ayah 1:

لِإِيلَافِ قُرَيْشٍ

Li-eelafi quraysh

(It is a great Grace and Protection from Allah), For the taming of the Quraish,

Li - for

Eelaaf - Ulf - to have a soft heart and make feelings of affection towards someone. Alafa.

Al-lafa (mentioned in surah aal Imran) - cause love to happen between

two people.

Eelaaf - to make love happen immediately.

Ta/leef - to make love happen gradually. (this is mentioned in surah Aal Imran).

Allah has - for sudden affection (Eelaaf) from the Quraysh -

He has given them many favours, even destroying the army of Abraha.

In surah Feel; As-haab al Eelaaf (the companions of the Heart Softeners i.e. Hashim and his brothers) were mentioned - because they softened up the hearts of other nations to do business with them.

Li - for.

Basri and Kufan grammarian schools had differences in opinion:

Basri school: We did this (the destruction of Abraha's army - the people of the Elephant) as a favour from us towards those who live around the Sacred house. (they hold that what mentioned in the previous Surah Feel is connected to this Li [for]).

Kufa School: Allah is making His Messenger amazed.
Li can be used to show amazement. This Lam by itself can imply that; how amazing it is that Allah can soften the heart of Quraysh, even though they are so drowned in their sinful ways of polytheism/shirk and major sins (i.e. killing their daughters etc.)

What an amazing extension of Mercy Allah is showing upon them.

Abu Zayd: the entire surah al Feel - everyone of the aayaat are connected to the first ayah of this surah.

Every part of the ayah should soften the hearts of the Quraysh to the truth.

Lam of Ta'ajjub (amazement).

How shocking is it that Allah wants to soften the hearts of these people by defending the house for them, which Ibraheem built - yet they still remain firm on their polytheism and disbelief without being thankful to Allah.

Amazement with these people.

Despite the fact that He provides them at times of hunger and gives them safety against fear.

- Others say this Lam is separate from the previous surah, and what is in this surah.

the only purpose We gave the Quraysh is so they are grateful to Allah.

Ibraheem prayed to Allah that the people have a softened heart towards this Sacred House and its people (tahwee ilayhim - surah Ibrahim).

Those who look after the House should have the softest of hearts. So Allah makes their life so easy - that they can concentrate on worshipping Allah alone without having to worry about business dealings.

Yet they are still keeping themselves busy in worldly affairs? When Allah has provided them so they can worship him?

Brother Nouman mentions a Muslim Doctor/Physician who works Part time, and earns \$100,000 per year. The people ask him why he doesn't work fulltime to earn \$500,000 per year? He tells them that Allah has provided him enough, and that he can spend his other time memorizing Qur'an and remembering Allah etc.

So the fact that the Quraysh have enough money - they shouldn't waste more time on worldly matters - they should spend the time they have now on softening their heart and getting closer to Allah.

Lam al 'uqooba (of consequence) - because Allah softened their hearts - they should worship the Lord of this House. This should be enough to soften your heart.

Lam at-Ta'ajjub - Amazement - described above.

Or it is connected with the previous surah - that due to the destruction of Abraha's army - they should be thankful and worship the Lord of this Sacred House in Makkah.

Quraysh - taqarrush - to gather people from many distances.

They were a gathering of many dispersed people by the man al Muj'im (described in tafseer surah Feel).

2nd: Qarsh - A massive beast in the ocean. A whale or octopus that can destroy ships. And it cannot be overpowered except by fire (and it cannot be destroyed by fire because it is in the water).

QuraYsh is a tasgheer/smaller version of this big powerful beast.
I.e. They are big and powerful, but they are smaller than it. (i.e.
Hasan is a name to mean beautiful. A small person called Hasan is
HusaYn, or Umar and UmaYr (little Umar, 'Abd and UbaYd (little slave),
Qarsh and QuraYsh etc.

This tasgheer/making small can also magnify them.
i.e. We might jokingly call a tall person - short, or a thin person - fat.

So QuraYsh in tasgheer form can actually imply they are powerful and
big. Even though tasgheer/smallness is used in language.

Ibn Abbas was asked why are they called Quraysh? Because the beast in
the ocean eats - but it is not eaten. It overpowers, but it cannot be
overpowered. And this is the case with Quraysh.

poem:

Wa qurayshun hiyya alatee taskunu. Al bahra bi ma summiyat qurayshun
qurayshan - the Quraysh is the one who lives in the ocean and because
of it Quraysh is called Quraysh.

Qarsh - to earn (qasb) - they're called that because of their constant
trading and travelling in the land.

The Abraha army being destroyed allows the Quraysh to remain the
strong economic power, and it also keeps their high status to remain
firm - that Allah is protecting them and their city from any harm from
enemies.

If Someone who was skeptic - then the event of Abraha was mentioned to
'prove' their sacredness.

The people around had a new respect.

The Quraysh themselves heart should soften to Allah.

Allah only gave them honour so they would facilitate Allah's worship
for other people at Allah's Sacred House in Makkah.

Allah spoke about them in this surah in 3rd person.
The last surah was 2nd person to Allah's Messenger, and this surah is
talking 3rd person about them - to Allah's Messenger.

3rd person is used when you are not happy with them. But you are

talking to the one you like about their mistakes and what they should be doing instead.

The second Eelaaf -

To emphatically declare with emphasis - a strong emphasis. (i.e. Did you hear what I said, Did you hear?!))

Repetition is done in classical arabic to emphasise what Allah said. I.e. For their Elaaf (soften their heart, did you hear - to soften your hearts!)

Allah;
destroyed Abraha's army for them
He gave them the house of worship
- they are descendants of Ibraheem
- that Allah sent His final Messenger Muhammad (sal Allah alayhi wasalam) to them.

The first Elaaf was general, the second was specific.

If all those things mentioned before did not soften you up, then the second one should.

Ayah 2:

إِيْلَافِهِمْ رِحْلَةَ الشِّتَاءِ وَالصَّيْفِ

Eelafihim rihlata ashshita-i wassayf

(And with all those Allah's Grace and Protections for their taming, We cause) **the (Quraish) caravans to set forth safe in winter** (to the south) , **and in summer** (to the north without any fear),

The caravans of the summer.

It is in the Nasab state, the convenience is given - so they can have the caravans of the Summer and the winter.

Why did Allah mention Rihla?

Safar - to travel far away
Saaha (siyahah) - to go somewhere for luxury and pleasant.
Ta'ana - to travel from one spot to another - tourism on the move.
(i.e. Yawma ta'nikum - quran)
- Nafara - travel to fight somewhere.

Rahla - rihi - merchandise. merchandise / baggage - journey where you carry a lot of bags - i.e. They sell so they pack a lot of bags.

So when you travel with camels - people will see all their products loads of bags of merchandise for trade - yet none robs them. and whenever they wanted to - they could stop their trade for holidays.

Other people had to travel because they could die if they never had food and trade.
the Quraysh were so rich in their trade - they could stop whenever they wanted to.

Ikrimah: The Quraysh went to Busra and Yemen. They would switch with going to one in summer and the other in winter simultaneously.

Some say Allah criticized them for that, and that they should have stayed in Makkah since the wealth was coming to them anyway.

They were business people and Allah exposed how they liked going to Syria (Sham), and they made a lot of poetry about that. In the winter they would go to Yemen because it is extremely hot there, even in Summer, and they would go to Syria in summer because it is cooler there.

Allah mentioned winter first, and summer second.

Winter is associated with lack of produce, and summer is related to produce growing.

Allah mentions winter first because it is miraculous that they even get produce and food for the winter - a special favour of Allah to them.

at-Tabari and Qurtubi: the winter is associated with lack of food, and the warm climate was when the thief tribes would steal from caravans (they would stay inside in the winters because it was really cold then.)

So Allah mentions the economical problem first, and then the safety problem last. Because the main theme in this surah is the economics.

Rihla is singular - the travelling of the Quraysh were really two journeys per year. The reason why Allah might mention it as one Rihla (as opposed to Rihlatayn/taan) for this is because the travellings from one location to the other was like one continuous trade.

The Quraysh would travel and trade at one place, come back to Makkah and trade abit, then go directly to their other location for buying and selling.

I.e. Yemen to Makkah to Syria and back - throughout the year. Just like one continuous journey.

Why is Rihla is nasab form ? Because it is alluding to a location.

Allah mentions Elaaf (for the affection of the Quraysh) first - then He mentions that - due to that - they should worship and enslave themselves to the Master of this House of Worship in Makkah - Masjid al Haraam.

Ayah 3:

فَلْيَعْبُدُوا رَبَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ

FalyaAAbudoo rabba hatha albayt

So let them worship (Allah) the Lord of this House (the Ka'bah in Makkah).

The favours of Allah cannot be counted, and if they cannot - then atleast worship Him for this one big favour through which Allah has given you an easy lifestyle.

That is the manifest favour of Allah upon them that their economy can survive.

It is also connected because Allah protected this house from Abraha's army.

Those 2 favours are enough for them to worship Allah.

- (Li) For the convenience of the Quraysh.

Allah is connecting the Li from the first ayah to this ayah.

So that their heart should be soft - they should be worship the Lord of this House.

or switched:

They should worship the Lord of this House - so their hearts become soft.

Lazim and malzoom.

Why did Allah mention 'that house' (hadhal bayt)? Because Ibraheem built it - that's what gives them this status in the sight of the Arabs - so they are not attacked in trade.

This is the house which boosted and increased their economy - because they told the other nations that all the Arabs unite their.

It is that house which Allah protected against Abraha.

And it was that house - when Ibraheem built it - he said Allah make it a house of security and provide it with foods.

Allah could have said let them thank the Master of this house. He told us to enslave ourselves to Him though. This means that the only way you can truly thank Allah is by enslaving yourself to Him.

There is no other way.

Ayah 4:

الَّذِي أَطْعَمَهُمْ مِّنْ جُوعٍ وَآمَنَهُمْ مِّنْ خَوْفٍ

Alladhee atAAamahum min jooAAin wa aamanahum min khawf

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

Ibn Abbas: referring to Quraysh who were provided with food - based on the du'a of Ibraheem (min ath-thamaraat.. - quran)

azZamakhshari: the tanween (nakira) on Joo'iN and khawfiN implies that Allah protected them from the worst types of fear and worst types of hunger (shadeed).

Because before the caravans - they would be in extreme hunger.

And Allah protected them from the fear of being destroyed (ie. The army of Abraha - the elephant). Or the fear of being snatched and kidnapped when they travel.

awa lam yaraw anna ja'alna haram aaminan (quran)
while people all around them would be kidnapped, he would prepare to be kidnapped and stolen from. They would then leave a bit of money for him so he could travel back and they could rob him again in the future.

Min joo' - provides meaning; despite hunger, He gave them food, when there is no land fertile land for fruit, crops etc.

And there is no real security there either - except because Allah has given it. Because Makkah is in the middle of the desert - it should really be open to attack. But despite that - Allah has given them security..

waadin dhee ghayrin zarr'in (surah ibrahim)

not 'ala joo' (against hunger)

min - tab'eed - Allah put hunger and fear FAR away from them because they have full confidence Allah will protect this city.

surah Baqarah - wa la nablunawanakum min khawfi wal joo'

We will test you with fear and hunger.

In this surah - He mentioned hunger first and then joo'.

Allah mentioned the battle of Badr in surah baqarah.
One of the consequences of battle is economic loss, but fear is more dangerous.

In this surah - the economic situation is more important - so Joo' (hunger) is mentioned first and then fear.

wa daraba allahu mathalan.. Ta'tee rizquhu min kuli makaan - a town which was peaceful and Allah provided

baasal al joo'i wal khawf - Allah made them taste hunger, and then fear.

Economical conditions are mentioned first in this surah Nahl, and then fear.

The amazing sequencing of the words in the Qur'an - placing words in the right sequence in context.

The winter season was associated with hunger. The summer was associated with fear in this surah.

shittaa and sa'if
joo' and khawf.

Joo' - literally means Hunger. Jaw'aan - extremely hungry person.

Ibraheem did not say give them alot of money. The opposite of ghaniy is miskeen.

Allah did not say fakr [poorness], He said joo' (associated with food). Ibraheem said mentioned that provide them with fruit. So Allah mentioned joo' - hunger, not fakr (poorness).

2 favours of Allah:
removing harm
gives you benefit

Then the prayer of Ibraheem - peace and prosperity.

How these surahs soften the heart of Quraysh - destroy Abraha's army, and this surah is based on prosperity - travel back and forth through summer and winter with all sorts of foods.

Now Allah has perfected His favors upon them - the stage has been set - it is expected of them to become Allah's slaves. But did they become enslaved to Allah in thankfulness to Him?

Surah Ma'un - the next surah - will show how how they react to Allah's favours.

