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## How to Use These Books

The Mini Tafseer Book Series is designed to teach children the Tafseer (exegesis) of all the suwaar (chapters) in the 30th Part of the Qur'aan. Each book in this 38 book series covers a different surah. The books feature:

- Special facts about the surah
- Arabic text of the surah
- English transliteration (to assist non-Arabic speakers)
- English translation
- Simplified Tafseer
- Illustrations/Coloring pages (no animals/humans)
- Highlighted Arabic vocabulary
- Sahih Ahadith
- One sentence summary of what the surah is about
- Review section
- Notes on the text (additional facts and information)

### Teaching Tips:

If your younger child has trouble going through the whole book in one sitting, or does not retain all of the information taught, then just focus on the Tafseer pages first (i.e. those that explain the verses of the surah) and save the additional information contained in the Quick Facts, What's Special, Asbaab An-Noozool, and Vocabulary sections\* for later when your child has mastered the Tafseer.

For older or advanced students who need more of a challenge, you can take time to go through all sections and discuss the lesson notes for that section (located at the end of the text). This will make lessons more challenging and provide a deeper understanding of the Tafseer, and Allah knows best.

*\*Some books may not contain all of these sections.*

Preview

Mini Tafseer Book Series  
**Suratul-Kowthar**

**Quick Facts About  
Suratul-Kowthar...**

**Okay!**

We are ready to go now! You know your **new words** and you've said the **Isti'aathah** and **Basmallah...**

**Now it is time to learn what  
Suratul-Kowthar says...**

## A sad story... with a happy ending!

Many of the ayaat (verses) in the Qur'aan have a story behind them that tells why they were revealed. These stories are called...

# Asbaab An-Noozool

The story behind the revelation of Suratul-Kowthar is **very sad**... but it has a happy ending! <sup>8</sup>

## The sad part...

Some of the disbelieving men in Makkah hated Islaam and hated Rasulallah ﷺ, too. They did not want anything good to happen to him. They were only happy when something difficult or sad happened to Rasulallah ﷺ.

They also thought they were **better than Rasulallah ﷺ**.

They thought that because they had **many sons** and **a lot of money**, that Allah loved them and not Rasulallah ﷺ.

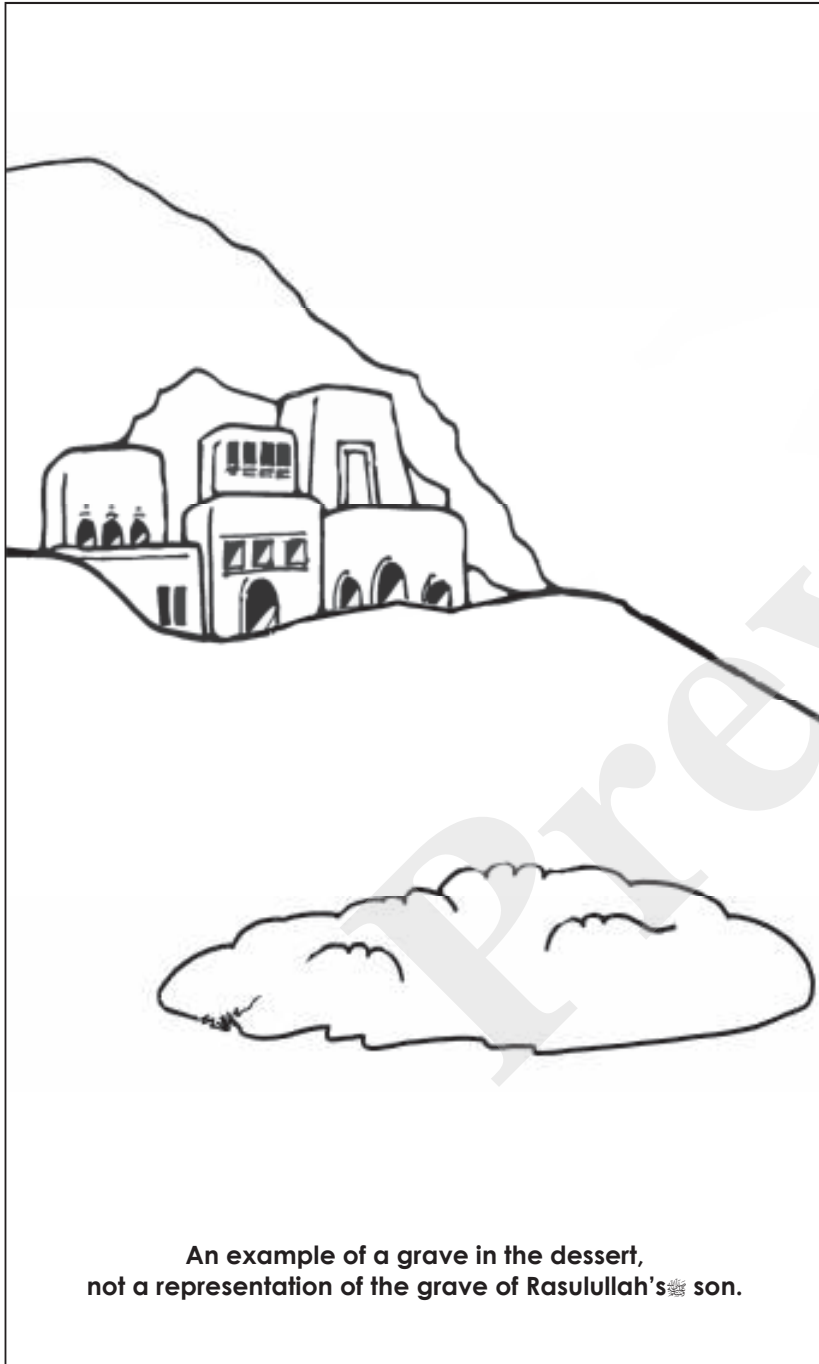
You see Rasulallah ﷺ was not very wealthy, and although he had children, this surah was revealed after the **death of his infant son Abdullah**, who was his only son at that time. <sup>11</sup>

In Makkah, if a man had no sons the other men would make fun of him by saying he was “**ab-tar**” (i.e. cut-off, without male children).

The other men in Makkah should have felt sad that Rasulallah's ﷺ son had died, but instead **they were happy**.

The men were happy at Rasulallah's ﷺ loss because they hoped that the death of his son meant the death of Islaam, too. (i.e. no one to remember Rasulallah ﷺ or to keep teaching his message after his death.)

**Allah did not like  
what the men were saying...**



An example of a grave in the desert,  
not a representation of the grave of Rasulullah's ﷺ son.

## Does having money and children mean Allah loves us? <sup>10</sup>

Can you think of some people mentioned in  
the Qur'aan who had a lot of wealth, but  
Allah did not love them at all?

Here's a hint: Two powerful Egyptians.

PHIR\_\_\_\_\_N and his friend

QAAR\_\_\_\_\_N

Can you think of some people  
mentioned in the Qur'aan, who did not  
have wealth or many children, that Allah  
loved very much?

Here's a hint: Two prophets.

IBRA\_\_\_\_\_M

ZAKA\_\_\_\_\_H

See the note 10 at the end of the text for answers.

## The happy part!

So, Allah decided to show those men how much he **loved Rasulallah** ﷺ and how they were the ones who were really “ab-tar”.

This is how it happened...

One day Rasulallah ﷺ was sleeping and he woke up **smiling**.<sup>12</sup>

The Sahaaba (i.e. his friends) asked why he was so happy, and he told them about the **new surah** Allah had sent to him.

The surah was called **Al-Kowthar**, and in it Allah told Rasulallah ﷺ about a **wonderful river** that was just for him.

Allah had given this river to Rasulallah ﷺ because Rasulallah ﷺ was good, and Allah loved him.

Allah wanted to show the disbelievers that Rasulallah ﷺ was not cut-off just because his sons had died. Rasulallah ﷺ would be **remembered and loved** long after those disbelievers were dead and forgotten!

They only had their children to remember them, but **Allah remembered Rasulallah** ﷺ, and Allah would make sure he was never forgotten!

Al-Kowthar means “abundant good”.<sup>13</sup> Not only is it the name of Rasulallah’s river, it also means that Rasulallah ﷺ had many other good things as well that Allah had blessed him with.

The Quraysh had said that Rasulallah ﷺ had nothing good now that his son was gone, but Allah said Rasulallah ﷺ has a lot of good, **more good than any of them**.

What started out as a sad story turned to a happy one, just because of one little surah...Al-Kowthar!

**Now let's learn what  
Suratul-Kowthar says...**

“Indeed, We have granted you (Muhammad), Al-Kowthar.”

(In-naa a'-tay-naa-kal-kow-thar)

إِنَّا  
أَعْطَيْنَاكَ



الْكَوْثَرَ



## Allah told Rasulullahﷺ...

**“I have given you Al-Kowthar!”**

Rasulullahﷺ told the Sahaaba that Al-Kowthar is a river that Allah has given to him.

Al-Kowthar is **very beautiful**.<sup>14</sup> Here are some of the things we know about it...

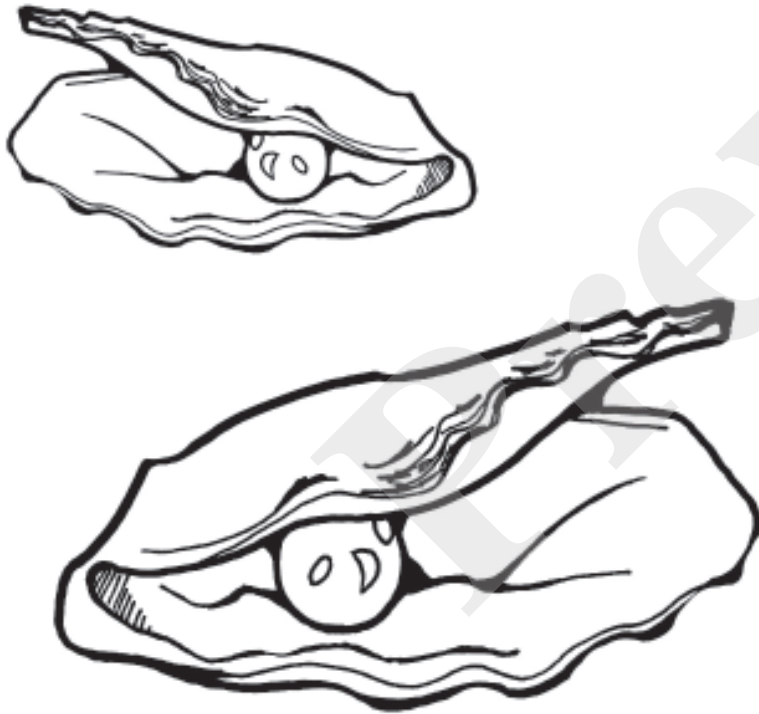
Al-Kowthar smells like the most expensive **perfume** (musk)!

So much more fragrant than the scent of these flowers from this life!



Al-Kowthar has tents made out of hollow **pearls** on its banks!

Its pearls are larger, and much more beautiful than these tiny pearls from this life!



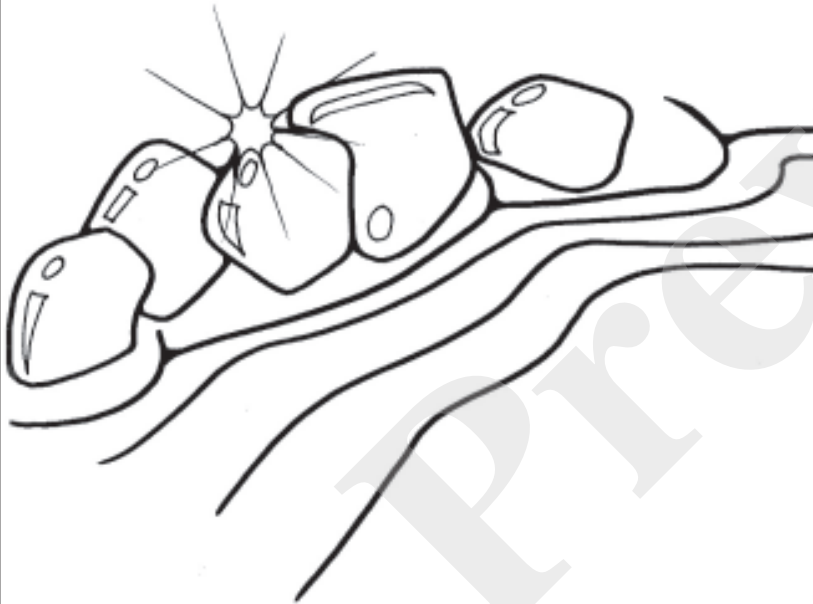
Al-Kowthar has **cups** along its banks to drink from, much more beautiful than these!

And there are so many cups, that they number more than the stars in the sky!



Al-Kowthar has **gold** along its edges, too!

Its gold is more precious and glittering  
than this gold from this life!



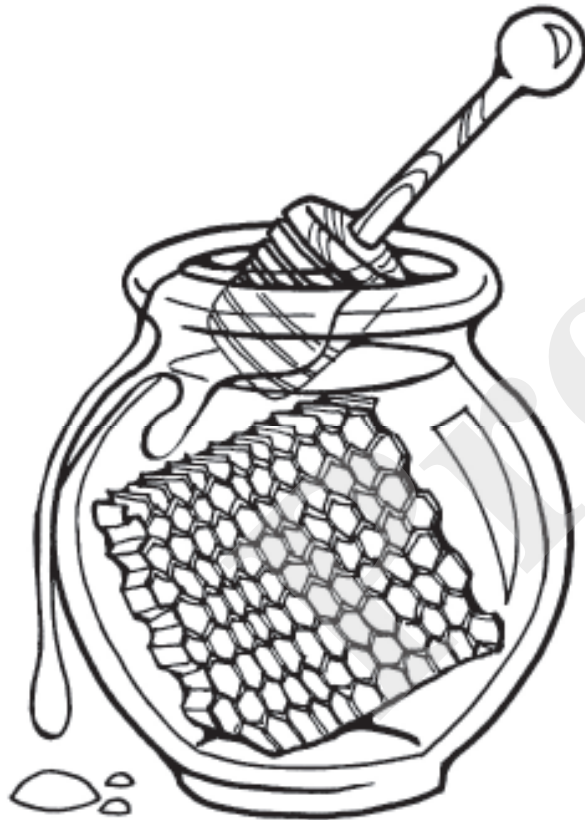
Al-Kowthar's water is  
**whiter than milk!**

So much more pure and white than the  
milk we drink in this life!



Al-Kowthar's water tastes  
**sweeter than honey!**

So much more sweet and delicious than  
the honey we taste in this life!



Allah loved Rasulullah ﷺ so much that he  
gave him **Al-Kowthar** as a gift in Jannah...

Allah told Rasulullah ﷺ about  
Al-Kowthar in Suratul-Kowthar.

Allah also told Rasulullah ﷺ something  
else in Suratul-Kowthar...

# Suratul-Kowthar Review



**What is Suratul-Kowthar about?**

It is about how Allah gave Rasulullah ﷺ so many good things, including a wonderful river in Jannah.



**How many verses does Suratul-Kowthar have?**

Three



**How many words are in Suratul-Kowthar?**

Eleven



**What is the first thing that is so special about Suratul-Kowthar?**

Suratul-Kowthar is the smallest surah in the Qur'aan.



**What is the second thing that is so special about Suratul-Kowthar?**

Suratul-Kowthar tells us about a very special gift that Allah has given to Rasulullah ﷺ and the Muslims who follow him, Al-Kowthar.



**What is the Asbaab An-Noozool for Suratul-Kowthar?**

Some men in Makkah started saying Rasulullah ﷺ was cut-off because his sons had died. Allah wanted to prove to them that He loved Rasulullah ﷺ and that Rasulullah ﷺ would not be cut-off, rather they would be cut-off.



**Why did the men of Makkah think Allah loved them and not Rasulullah ﷺ?**

They had many sons and lots of money, so they thought that Allah loved them and not Rasulullah ﷺ.



**What did Suratul-Kowthar tell Rasulullah ﷺ?**

It told him about a special gift, Al-Kowthar.



**What is Al-Kowthar?**

It is all the goodness Allah has given Rasulullah ﷺ, including a river in Jannah.



### What is Al-Kowthar like?

- Its water smells like perfume (musk)
- It has pearl tents on its banks
- It has as many cups to drink from as there are stars in the sky
- It has golden edges
- It is whiter than milk and sweeter than honey



### What else did Allah tell Rasulullah ﷺ in Suratul-Kowthar?

Allah told Rasulullah ﷺ to pray every day and sacrifice in the name of Allah, to show how grateful he was for all of Allah's blessings.



### Was there any other message in Suratul-Kowthar?

Yes



### Who was the message for?

The disbelieving men of Makkah who hated Rasulullah ﷺ.



### Why did they hate Rasulullah ﷺ?

They hated him because he was teaching people about Islaam. They did not want Islaam to be successful, so they thought if Rasulullah ﷺ had no sons, there would be no one to help him, remember him, or to support him in teaching people about Islaam.



### What did the men say about Rasulullah ﷺ?

They said Rasulullah ﷺ was "ab-tar", cut-off. They said he had no one to remember him.



### Did Allah like what they said?

No!



### What was the message?

Allah told them that they were the ones who were cut-off; they would be forgotten.



## Notes to the text

<sup>1</sup> Some of the commentators of the Qur'aan say that Kowthar was revealed in Madinah not Makkah. However, it is clear from the topic of the surah, regarding the death of Rasulallah ﷺ son (which happened in the early years of the prophethood) that this surah must have been revealed in Makkah before the Hijrah to Madinah.

The Hijrah is the migration of the Muslims from Makkah, to Yathrib (later called Madinah) in the northeast. The Hijrah took place after Rasulallah ﷺ taught in Makkah for approximately 12-13 years. Rasulallah ﷺ lived and taught in Madinah for 10 years after the Hijrah until his death.

<sup>2</sup> There may be some confusion as to what is Al-Kowthar and what is the "Howd" or cistern of Rasulallah ﷺ, which is sometimes referred to by the same name (i.e. Al-Kowthar).

To clarify there is a river in Jannah that Allah has given to Rasulallah ﷺ and its name is, Al-Kowthar. The cistern which the Muslims will drink from on the Day of Judgment is called the "Howd" (i.e. tank, or cistern) of Rasulallah ﷺ as well as Al-Kowthar, because it is fed from the waters of Al-Kowthar, as is evidenced by the following hadith...

Narrated Thawbaan رضي الله عنه that the Prophet ﷺ was asked about its (i.e. the cistern's) drink and he ﷺ

said, "It is whiter than milk and sweeter than honey. Two pipes feed into it from Paradise, one of gold and the other of silver."  
(Sahih Muslim)

Thus, the river and the cistern are in two different places, but they share the same water. The river (source of the water) is located inside Jannah, and the cistern (container to distribute the water) is located outside of Jannah (before the Siraat, or bridge, that passes over Jahannam and leads to Jannah). Some ahadith pinpoint the location of the cistern to Masjid An-Nabawi in Madinah...

Narrated Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه, "The Prophet ﷺ said, "Between my house and my pulpit there is a garden of the gardens of Paradise, and my pulpit is on my fountain tank (i.e. cistern of Al-Kowthar)."  
(Sahih Al-Bukhari)

We also know that the cistern is outside of Jannah because the Muslims will meet Rasulallah ﷺ at the cistern, and some of the Muslims who come will be turned away due to the changes they made to Islaam after Rasulallah's ﷺ death (see note #3 for more details).

Thus, the cistern, although fed from the waters of Al-Kowthar, is not itself located in Jannah (because if it was in Jannah, only those who have already passed over the Siraat and entered Jannah would be able to approach/see it), and Allah knows best.