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3rd Edition
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ISBN 978-1466205345

Printed in the United States of America

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-'Alaq

Quick Facts about Suratul-'Alaq

Suratul-'Alaq was revealed
in **Makkah**.

The **first five** ayaat of Suratul-'Alaq
were the **first ayaat** of the Qur'aan that
Allah revealed to Rasulullah ﷺ.¹

So what is Suratul-'Alaq all about?

Suratul-'Alaq is all about being
thankful to Allah for all of His blessings,
and the knowledge He has given us, by
listening to Him, even if other people
try to stop us.

SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!

Now let's learn what makes
Suratul-'Alaq so...

~~SPECIAL!~~
SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!
SPECIAL!

The first thing that is so special
about Suratul-'Alaq is...

The **first five** ayaat of this surah are the
first revelation that Rasulullah ﷺ
received from Allah!²

We will learn the whole story in
just a bit, insha-Allah.



The second thing that is so special about Suratul-'Alaq is...

This surah contains a **Soojood At-Tilaawah** (prostration of recitation); it occurs in the **final verse**.

There are 15 Soojoos At-Tilaawah³ in the Qur'aan and each is marked by a **line** over the word "soojood" in the text and/or a **arch-shaped** symbol at the end of the ayah as in the example below:



These prostrations occur after verses that mention prostration, or worshipping Allah and obeying His command.

When we come across these ayaat it is recommended to make sojood, as this was the Sunnah of Rasulullah ﷺ and the righteous companions that followed him.

It is important to note that the sojood is not 'waa-jib' (mandatory) as Rasulullah ﷺ observed it sometimes, but not all the time. Making this sojood is '**mus-ta-hab**' (highly recommended).

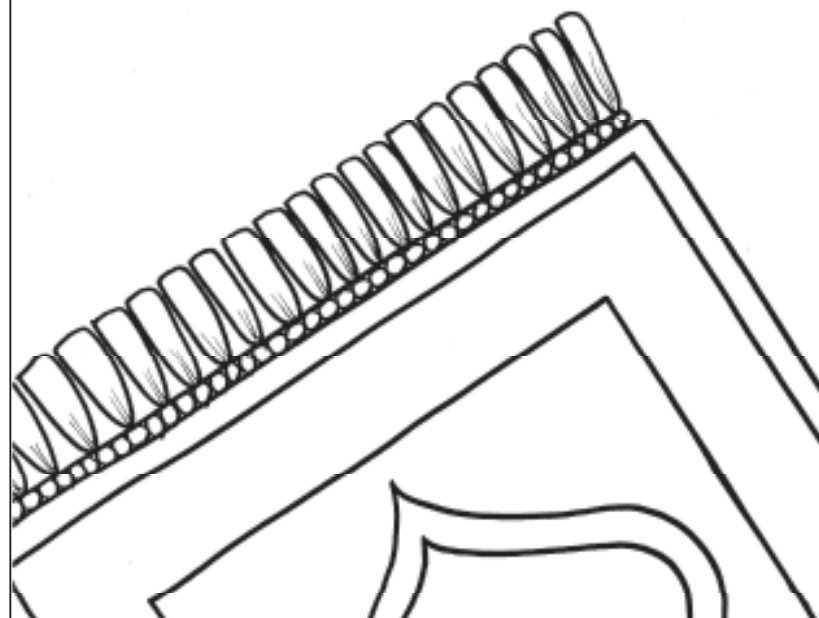
The soojood should be performed in the following way...

1. Stand facing the Kabah and say the **Takbeer** (Allahu Akbar). It is good, but not required to have wudu'.
2. Make **soojood** (place your forehead on the floor with nose, palms of hands, knees, and toes all touching the floor). This is done once, not twice like in the daily salaah.
3. Say, **Subhana-rabbi-al-a'laa** (Glory be to Allah the most high) three times as in the soojood of the regular daily salaah.
4. If you like you can add the **du'a of prostration** (see facing page).
5. You do not have to make Tasleem (i.e. say "asalamualaikum...") or say Takbeer after completing the soojood.

سَجَدَ وَجْهِي لِلَّذِي خَلَقَهُ وَ صَوَّرَهُ وَ
شَقَّ سَمْعَهُ وَبَصَرَهُ بِحَوْلِهِ وَ قُوَّتِهِ
(تَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَحْسَنُ الْخَالِقِينَ)

(Sa-ja-da waj-hee lil-la-thee kha-la-qa-hoo, wa saw-wa-ra-hoo, wa shaq-qa sam 'a-hoo, wa ba-sa-ra-hoo, bi-how-lee-hee wa qoow-wa-tee-hee (you can also add) ta-baa-ra-kal-laa-hoo ah-sa-nool-khaa-lee-qeen)

"My face prostrated to the One Who created it and fashioned it and made its ears and eyes with His strength and power (blessed is He who is the best of Creators)." 4



Now that we have learned what is so special about Suratul-'Alaq, let's get ready to learn what Suratul-'Alaq is all about!

We will start by learning **8 new words** from the Qur'aan.

The more words you know from the Qur'aan, the better you will understand each surah that you learn insha-Allah.

Understanding the Qur'aan is what Allah wants us to do!

So let's get started
right now!

8 NEW WORDS! *

Vocabulary List

Keep a look out for the following vocabulary words while you read! These words will help you remember the meaning of Suratul-'Alaq, insha-Allah!

read! or recite! أَقْرَأَ
(iq-ra)

mankind الْإِنْسَنَ
(al-in-saan)

clot
(i.e. clinging substance) عَلَقَ
(a-laq)

the pen
(i.e. the ability to read and write) الْقَلَمَ
(al-qa-lam)

have you seen/
he sees أَرَأَيْتَ / يَرَى
(a-ra-ay-ta / ya-raa)

fear of Allah
(i.e. reluctance to do what Allah dislikes) التَّقْوَى
(at-taq-waa)

Turn away تَوَلَّى
(ta-wal-laa)

Now that we are ready,
we need to start the right way...

There are **two things** we should say before
we start reading a surah from the Qur'aan,
can you remember what they are?



#1 We say the Isti'adha⁵...

I seek refuge with Allah from the cursed Shaytaan.

(A-'oo-thoo-bil-laa-he-me-nash-shay-taa-nir-ra-jeem)

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ
الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

We start reading Qur'aan by asking
Allah to protect us from Shaytaan
and...

#2 We say the Basmallah⁶...

In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful,
the Especially Merciful.

(Bis-mil-laa-hir-rah-maa-nir-ra-heem)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

We remember Allah and say how
great He is for giving us so many
wonderful blessings!

Okay!

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

Now let's see what
Suratul-'Alaq says...

Two Stories!

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

Suratul-'Alaq has **two** Asbaab An-Noozool. One for the first five ayaat and the other for the remainder of the surah.⁷

The first story of this surah starts long ago in Makkah during the month of **Ramadaan**.

At this time, Rasulullahﷺ was on a trip in the desert. He liked to go to the desert from time to time to think about Allah and pray.

Allah told **Angel Gibreel** to go to Rasulullahﷺ with a very important message...

Rasulullah ﷺ was staying in a small cave called "**Ghaar Hira**" at the top of "**Jabal An-Noor**" (a mountain in Makkah named, "Mountain of Light").

When Angel Gibreel came, he squeezed Rasulullah ﷺ very tight and said, "Read!" Rasulullah ﷺ responded he could not read.⁸ This happened again a second time, and then on the third time Rasulullah ﷺ responded, "What should I read?"

Then, Angel Gibreel taught Rasulullah ﷺ the **first five ayaat** of Suratul-'Alaq, let's learn what they were...



Jabal An-Noor

“Recite in the name of your Lord who created...”
(Iq-ra bis-mee rab-bee-kal-la-thee kha-laq)

أَقْرَأْ بِأَسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ

“Created man from a clinging substance.”
(Kha-laq-al-in-saa-na min ‘a-laq)

خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ

“Recite, and your Lord is the most Generous,”
(Iq-ra wa-rab-boo-kal-ak-ram)

أَقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ

“Who taught by the pen,”
(Al-la-thee ‘al-la-ma bil-qa-lam)

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ

“Taught man that which he knew not.”
(‘al-la-mal in-saa-na maa lam ya'-lam)

عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ

These are very important ayaat (verses) from the Qur'an. These **first five ayaat** are the **first revelation** that Rasulullah ﷺ received from Angel Gibreel.

These ayaat tell us **5 important things...**

1. Allah is the one who **created** us, so we have to listen to Him.
2. Allah created us from something very small, a **bit of blood** that grows and grows in our mommy's tummy until we are a full grown baby.
3. Allah is so **generous** that He has taught us things we need to know.
4. One of the most important things that Allah has taught us the use of the **pen** (i.e. how to read and write). This is something that we could not know if Allah did not teach us.
5. Allah has **honored** human beings above all creation (even angels) by granting us this knowledge.



"No! (But) indeed, man transgresses,"
(Kal-laa in-nal-in-saa-na la-yat-ghaa)

كَلَّا إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لِرَبِّهِ لَكَنَّا

"Because he sees himself self-sufficient."
(Ar-ra-aa-hoos-tagh-naa)

أَنْ رَّأَاهُ أَتَعْبَىٰ

"Indeed, to your Lord is the return."
(In-na ee-laa rab-bee-kar-roo-ja'aa)

إِنَّا إِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ أَلْجَاؤُا

The remaining ayaat of
Suratul-'Alaq were revealed at a
later time. In these ayaat Allah
tells us...

Even though He has created us, given
us so many blessings, taught us, and
honored us...still most people are
ungrateful.

Most people think they do not need
Allah; they think they can take care of
themselves. But all of the money, good
health, and knowledge that they have
are from Allah!

Allah also tells us...

We will all go back to Allah on
Yowmul-Qiyaamah (The Day of
Judgment). We will have to answer to
Allah if we did not listen to Him after He
had treated us so nicely and given us
so many good things.

“Have you seen the one who forbids...”
(A-ra-ay-tal-la-thee yan-haa)

أَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي يَنْهَى

“...a servant when he prays?”
(‘ab-dun ee-tha sul-laa)

عَبْدًا إِذَا صَلَّى

Now Allah gives us an **example** of person who will have to answer for being **ungrateful**.

These ayaat start the second story of Suratul-'Alaq. They were revealed about a man named...

Abu Jahl Ibn Hisham

Abu Jahl **hated** Muslims and Islaam. He was one of the wealthiest and most important men of Makkah. He and his friends wanted to get rid of Rasulallah ﷺ and Islaam.

For example, one time Abu Jahl told his friends that if Rasulallah ﷺ dared to pray at the Kabah he would...

stomp on Rasulallah's ﷺ neck! 9

So, one day when Rasulullah ﷺ came to pray at the Kabah while Abu Jahl was there, Abu Jahl's friends waited to see if he would do as he had promised.

When Abu Jahl went to attack Rasulullah ﷺ he suddenly stopped, turned, and **ran away in fear.**

When his friends asked what happened, Abu Jahl said he saw a **pit of fire and monsters and wings** between him and Rasulullah ﷺ!

Rasulullah ﷺ told the people that if Abu Jahl had touched him, the angels would have seized Abu Jahl right there and **torn him limb from limb!**



“Have you seen if he is upon guidance?”
(A-ra-iy-ta in kaa-na ‘a-lal-hoo-daa)

أَرَأَيْتَ إِنْ كَانَ عَلَىٰ الْهُدَىٰ

“Or enjoins righteousness?”
(Ow a-ma-ra bit-taq-waa)

أَوْ أَمَرَ بِالتَّقْوَىٰ

Allah asks Abu Jahl and those
people that think like him...

Do you even know if what Rasulallah ﷺ is
doing is right and good?

Allah wants these people to **think**
about why they are being so cruel.
Allah wants them to think about why
they hate Islaam so much.

Islaam only teaches people to listen to
Allah and to do **good things**, so
Abu Jahl, and the people who think like
him, should not fight the Muslims

“Have you seen if he denies and turns away,”
(A-ra-ay-ta in kath-tha-ba wa-ta-wal-laa)



“Does he not know that Allah sees?”
(A-lam ya-'lam bee-an-nal-laa-ha ya-ra)



Allah tells us...

Even after all of these warnings, people like **Abu Jahl still do not listen**. He turned away from Allah and would not become a Muslim, or even respect the Muslims.

So Allah asks, “Don’t you know that you will stand in front of Allah on **Yowmul-Qiyaamah?**”

Don’t you realize that Allah **sees** everything that you are doing?


But Abu Jahl, and the people who think like him, do not remember these things.

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