

***Discussions on Equity and Justice***  
***Part One***



**Prepared for**

**Quran Study Group**  
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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*Assalaamu alaikum wa rahmatullah.*

### ***Tasbeeh***

***Surely all praise is due to Allah Lord of all created worlds, The One Who sent down The Book with Haqq; in it is guidance for those with spiritual consciousness. We seek forgiveness from Him, we seek help and support from Him, we turn to Him in repentance and seek guidance from Him. May prayers and peace be on His Messenger, Muhammad (saw), the unlettered Prophet and on his family, his companions, his wives, his children and all his descendants.***

### **About the Quran**

يَتَأْتِيهَا النَّاسُ قَدْ جَاءَتْكُمْ مَوْعِظَةٌ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَشِفَاءٌ لِّمَا فِي الصُّدُورِ  
وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةٌ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿٥٧﴾

10:57. Ya ayyuha alnnasu qad jaatkum mawAAithatun min rabbikum washifaon lima fee alssudoori wahudan warahmatun lilmu/mineena

10:57. O mankind! there hath come to you a direction from your Lord and a healing for the (diseases) in your hearts,- and for those who believe, a guidance and a Mercy.

***“Oh you human ones, surely there has come to you an advice from your Lord and a healer for what is in the chests and a guidance and mercy for those who believe.”*** (translation of Quran Surah 10: 57)

We are returning to this ayah that was included with the references for May to attempt to make some connections and bring a clearer vision. This ayah (verse) is understood to be referring to Quran and gives 4 names of or attributes of the Quran.

1. ***mau'izatun*** – an advice, exhortation or something providing direction. The important thing about this is that it is from Allah, which means it is more deserving of our ears and our hearts and of being carefully followed (tilaawah)

2. ***shifaa'u*** – healer; something that restores health. There is a specific recipient of the healing stated in this ayah, which is what is in the chests. It is only natural then for a question or questions to arise in the reader. What is the sadr? What is there to receive this shifaa'u?

a. Heart and lungs are there in an inseparable physical connection and in deep interdependence.

b. The 'aqil is centered there (Surah 22: 46)

أَفَلَمْ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَتَكُون لَهُمْ قُلُوبٌ يَعْقِلُونَ  
بِهَا أَوْ آذَانٌ يَسْمَعُونَ بِهَا فَإِنَّهَا لَا تَعْمَى الْأَبْصَارُ  
وَلَكِن تَعْمَى الْقُلُوبُ الَّتِي فِي الصُّدُورِ ﴿٤٦﴾

22:46. Afalam yaseeroo fee al-ardi fatakoona lahum quloobun yaAAqiloona biha aw athanun yasmaAAoona biha fa-innaha la taAAMA al-absaru walakin taAAMA alquloobu allatee fee alssudoori

22:46. Do they not travel through the land, so that their hearts (and minds) may thus learn wisdom and their ears may thus learn to hear? Truly it is not their eyes that are blind, but their hearts which are in their breasts.

c. The feelings and emotions are centered there. (Surah 67: 23 and 23: 78)

قُلْ هُوَ الَّذِي أَنْشَأَكُمْ وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَرَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ قَلِيلًا مَّا تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾

67:23. Qul huwa allathee anshaakum wajaAAala lakumu alssamAAa waal-absara waal-af-idata qaleelan ma tashkuroona

67:23. Say: "It is He Who has created you (and made you grow), and made for you the faculties of hearing, seeing, feeling and understanding: little thanks it is ye give.

وَهُوَ الَّذِي أَنْشَأَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَرَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ قَلِيلًا مَّا تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٧٨﴾

23:78. Wahuwa allathee anshaa lakumu alssamAAa waal-absara waal-af-idata qaleelan ma tashkuroona

23:78. It is He Who has created for you (the faculties of) hearing, sight, feeling and understanding: little thanks it is ye give!

d. From the Sahih Hadith we know that the heart is the “*mudghrat*” that is capable of correcting the entire body.

So this *shifaa*’ (healer) is of a wholistic nature.

3. *Hudaan* -and- 4. *Rahmatun* - are both comprehensive benefits limited to the believers.

#### *Quran Study – October2009*

**Yusuf Ali’s commentary:** “*Those who do wrong have a disease in their hearts which will cause their spiritual death.*” Allah then sends the cure. “*If they accept faith, the remedy acts.*”

So, consider this with the three aspects of Haqq and know what is *true* about the Quran, what is the *obligation* of the Quran, and what is the *right* of the Quran. Then apply these same three questions to yourself: What is true about me in this context? What is my obligation? What is my right?

#### **Discussions of Equity and Justice**

إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْقَانِتِينَ وَالْقَانِتَاتِ  
وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالصَّادِقَاتِ وَالصَّابِرِينَ وَالصَّابِرَاتِ وَالْخَاشِعِينَ  
وَالْخَاشِعَاتِ وَالْمُتَصَدِّقِينَ وَالْمُتَصَدِّقَاتِ وَالصَّامِتِينَ وَالصَّامِتَاتِ  
وَالْحَافِظِينَ فُرُوجَهُمْ وَالْحَافِظَاتِ وَالذَّاكِرِينَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا وَالذَّاكِرَاتِ  
أَعَدَّ اللَّهُ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا ﴿٣٥﴾

33:35. Inna almuslimeena waalmuslimati waalmu/mineena waalmu/minati  
waalqaniteena waalqanitati waalssadiqeena waalssadiqati waalssabireena  
waalssabirati waalkhashiAAeena waalkhashiAAati waalmutasaddiqeena  
waalmutasaddiqati waalssa-imeena waalssa-imati waalhafitheena furoojahum

waalhafithati waalththakireena Allaha katheeran waalththakirati aAAadda Allahu lahum maghfiratan waajran AAatheeman

33:35. For Muslim men and women,- for believing men and women, for devout men and women, for true men and women, for men and women who are patient and constant, for men and women who humble themselves, for men and women who give in Charity, for men and women who fast (and deny themselves), for men and women who guard their chastity, and for men and women who engage much in Allah.s praise,- for them has Allah prepared forgiveness and great reward.

***“Surely the Muslim men and Muslim women, the believing men and believing women, the devoted men and the devoted women, the truthful men and truthful women, the patient men and patient women, the humble men and the humble women, men who give in charity and women who give in charity, men who fast and women who fast, men who guard their chastity and women who guard their chastity, men who remember Allah often and women who remember Allah often, Allah has prepared for them Forgiveness and a great reward.” (translation of Quran Surah 33:35)***

There are a number of character traits mentioned in this ayah:

1. submission
2. faith
3. devotion
4. truthfulness
5. patience
6. humility
8. abstemiousness
9. sexual purity
10. frequent spiritual remembrance

However the emphasis here is on the fact that these are virtues to be cultivated in both men and women. That is, the spiritual, moral and communal responsibilities expected of them are equal. Then also, the ultimate reward will be given equally.

We can look at these in clusters:

1. Spirituality – the first 3 can be directed to Allah
2. Righteousness or husnu khuluq needed in the affairs of this world 4 – 9.
3. Communal Effects can be seen in 3 – 9 with emphasis on:
  - #3 Devoted service
  - #4 Truthfulness / honesty in dealings
  - #5 Patience in public settings and with the varying levels and behavior of individuals
  - #6 Humility – humble service
  - #7 Charitable giving of talents and possession to benefit the whole

Note how Allah (swt) brings things full circle. Observe the beginning of this ayah and the end.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reference – Surah 3: 190 – 195**

إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ  
لَآيَاتٍ لِّأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ ﴿١٩٠﴾

3:190. Inna fee khalqi alssamawati waal-ardi waikhtilafi allayli waalnnahari  
laayatun li-olee al-albabi

3:190. Behold! in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the alternation of  
night and day,- there are indeed Signs for men of understanding,-

الَّذِينَ يَذْكُرُونَ اللَّهَ قِيَمًا وَقُعُودًا وَعَلَىٰ جُنُوبِهِمْ وَيَتَفَكَّرُونَ فِي خَلْقِ  
السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ رَبَّنَا مَا خَلَقْتَ هَذَا بَطْلًا سُبْحَانَكَ فَقِنَا عَذَابَ  
النَّارِ ﴿١٩١﴾

3:191. Allatheena yathkuroona Allaha qiyaman waquAAoodan waAAala  
junoobihim wayatafakkaroon fee khalqi alssamawati waal-ardi rabbana ma  
khalaqta hatha batilan subhanaka faqina AAathaba alnnari

3:191. Men who celebrate the praises of Allah, standing, sitting, and lying down  
on their sides, and contemplate the (wonders of) creation in the heavens and the  
earth, (With the thought): "Our Lord! not for naught Hast Thou created (all) this!  
Glory to Thee! Give us salvation from the penalty of the Fire.

رَبَّنَا إِنَّكَ مَن تُدْخِلِ النَّارَ فَقَدْ أَخْزَيْتَهُ وَمَا لِلظَّالِمِينَ  
مِنْ أَنْصَارٍ ﴿١٩٢﴾

3:192. Rabbana innaka man tudkhili alnnara faqad akhzyatuhu wama  
lilththalimeena min ansarin

3:192. "Our Lord! any whom Thou dost admit to the Fire, Truly Thou coverest  
with shame, and never will wrong-doers Find any helpers!

رَبَّنَا إِنَّا سَمِعْنَا مُنَادِيًا يُنَادِي لِلْإِيمَانِ أَنْ ءَامِنُوا بِرَبِّكُمْ فَآمَنَّا  
 رَبَّنَا فَاغْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَكَفِّرْ عَنَّا سَيِّئَاتِنَا وَتَوَقَّنَا مَعَ الْأَبْرَارِ ﴿١٩٣﴾

3:193. Rabbana innana samiAAna munadiyan yunadee lil-eemani an aminoo  
 birabbikum faamanna rabbana faighfir lana thunoobana wakaffir AAanna  
 sayyi-atina watawaffana maAAa al-abrari

3:193. "Our Lord! we have heard the call of one calling (Us) to Faith, 'Believe ye  
 in the Lord,' and we have believed. Our Lord! Forgive us our sins, blot out from  
 us our iniquities, and take to Thyself our souls in the company of the righteous.

رَبَّنَا وَعَاتِنَا مَا وَعَدْتَنَا عَلَىٰ رُسُلِكَ وَلَا تُخْزِنَا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّكَ لَا تُخْلِفُ  
 الْمِيعَادَ ﴿١٩٤﴾

3:194. Rabbana waatina ma waAAadtana AAala rusulika wala tukhzina yawma  
 alqiyamati innaka la tukhlifu almeeAAada

3:194. "Our Lord! Grant us what Thou didst promise unto us through Thine apostles,  
 and save us from shame on the Day of Judgment: For Thou never breakest Thy  
 promise."

فَأَسْتَجَابَ لَهُمْ رَبُّهُمْ أَنِّي لَا أُضِيعُ عَمَلَ عَمِلٍ مِّنْكُمْ مِّنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ  
 أَنشَىٰ بَعْضُكُمْ مِّنْ بَعْضٍ ۖ فَالَّذِينَ هَاجَرُوا وَأُخْرِجُوا مِنْ دِيَارِهِمْ  
 وَأُودُوا فِي سَبِيلِي وَقَاتَلُوا وَقُتِلُوا لَأُكَفِّرَنَّ عَنْهُمْ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ  
 وَلَأُدْخِلَنَّهُمْ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ ثَوَابًا مِّنْ عِنْدِ  
 اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ حُسْنُ الثَّوَابِ ﴿١٩٥﴾

3:195. Faistajaba lahum rabbuhum annee la odeeAAu AAamala AAamilin minkum min thakarim aw ontha baAAadukum min baAAadin faallatheena hajaroo waokhrijoo min diyarihim waoothoo fee sabeelee waqataloo waqutiloo laokaffiranna AAanhum sayyi-atihim walaodkhilannahum jannatin tajree min tahtihā al-anharu thawaban min AAindi Allāhi waAllāhu AAindahū husnu alththawabi

3:195. And their Lord hath accepted of them, and answered them: "Never will I suffer to be lost the work of any of you, be he male or female: Ye are members, one of another: Those who have left their homes, or been driven out therefrom, or suffered harm in My Cause, or fought or been slain,- verily, I will blot out from them their iniquities, and admit them into Gardens with rivers flowing beneath;- A reward from the presence of Allah, and from His presence is the best of rewards."

Examine how the word “alladheena” that begins ayah 191 is translated and consider the effect of that. Note that the emphasis in these ayah is on a group. See that the duah are made collectively using the pronoun “nahnu” (we) and that the promise mentioned in ayah 194 was made to “us”.

The final ayah (195) will be studied very closely because it is key to our discussion, so try to give it some time.

### **Natural Development – A Skill to Cultivate**

As you are reading these ayaat other ayaat should come to mind due to a particular vocabulary word or a topic. Here are a few:

Surah 99: 6 – 8

يَوْمَئِذٍ يَصُدُّرُ النَّاسُ أَشْتَاتًا لِيُرَوَّأَ أَعْمَالَهُمْ ﴿٦﴾

99:6. Yawma-ithin yasduru alnnasu ashtatan liyuraw aAAmalahum

99:6. On that Day will men proceed in companies sorted out, to be shown the deeds that they (had done).

فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ ﴿٧﴾

99:7. Faman yaAamal mithqala tharratin khayran yarahu

99:7. Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good, see it!



وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ شَرًّا يَرَهُ ﴿٨﴾

99:8. Waman yaAAamal mithqala tharratin sharran yarahu

99:8. And anyone who has done an atom's weight of evil, shall see it.

Surah 18: 20

إِنَّهُمْ إِنْ يَظْهَرُوا عَلَيْكُمْ يَرْجُمُوكُمْ أَوْ يُعِيدُوكُمْ فِي مِلَّتِهِمْ وَلَنْ تُفْلِحُوا إِذًا أَبَدًا ﴿٢٠﴾

18:20. Innahum in yat<sup>h</sup>haroo AAalaykum yarjumookum aw yuAAeetookum fee millatihim walan tuflihoo ithan abadan

18:20. "For if they should come upon you, they would stone you or force you to return to their cult, and in that case ye would never attain prosperity."

Identify the words that are similar and know their meanings.

#### **'Ilmun Yaqeen – Certain Knowledge**

From the absolute, clear truth of the Quran, we know that there is a certainty of equal treatment with Allah. As for others who cannot get their hearts centered, nor their vision clear, we can refer back to last months notes and "pardon and overlook"

(2: 109;

وَدَّ كَثِيرٌ مِّنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ لَوْ يَرُدُّونَكُمْ مِن بَعْدِ إِيمَانِكُمْ كُفَّارًا حَسَدًا  
مِّنْ عِنْدِ أَنفُسِهِمْ مِّنْ بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الْحَقُّ فَاعْفُوا وَاصْفَحُوا حَتَّىٰ  
يَأْتِيَ اللَّهُ بِأَمْرِهِ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿١٠٩﴾

2:109. Wadda katheerun min ahli alkitabī law yaruddoonakum min baAAadi eemanikum kuffaran hasadan min AAindi anfusihim min baAAadi ma tabayyana lahumu alhaqu faAAafu waisfahoo hatta ya/tiya Allahu bi-amrihi inna Allaha AAala kulli shay-in qadeerun

2:109. Quite a number of the People of the Book wish they could Turn you (people) back to infidelity after ye have believed, from selfish envy, after the

Truth hath become Manifest unto them: But forgive and overlook, Till God accomplish His purpose; for God Hath power over all things.

5: 13 etc.)

فِيمَا نَقَضُوا مِيثَاقَهُمْ لَعَنَّاهُمْ وَجَعَلْنَا قُلُوبَهُمْ قَاسِيَةً يُحَرِّفُونَ  
الْكَلِمَ عَنْ مَوَاضِعِهِ وَنَسُوا حَظًّا مِمَّا ذُكِّرُوا بِهِ وَلَا تَزَالُ تَطَّلِعُ  
عَلَى خَائِنَةٍ مِّنْهُمْ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِّنْهُمْ فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَأَصْفَحْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ  
يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٣﴾

5:13. Fabimā naqḍihim meethaqahum laAAannahum wajaAAalna quloobahum qasiyatan yuharrifoona alkalima AAan mawāḍiAAihi wanasoo *haththan* mimma thukkiroo bihi walā tazālu tattaliAAu AAalā kha-inatin minhum illā qaleelan minhum faoAAfu AAanhum waiṣfaḥ inna Allāha yuḥibbu almuḥsineena

5:13. But because of their breach of their covenant, We cursed them, and made their hearts grow hard; they change the words from their (right) places and forget a good part of the message that was sent them, nor wilt thou cease to find them-barring a few - ever bent on (new) deceits: but forgive them, and overlook (their misdeeds): for God loveth those who are kind.

and follow the advice given in the last ayah of Surah tul ‘Alaq (96).

كَلَّا لَا تَطِيعُهُ وَاسْجُدْ وَاقْتَرِبْ ﴿١٩﴾

96:19. Kalla la tuṭiAAhu waosjud waiqtarib

96:19. Nay, heed him not: But bow down in adoration, and bring thyself the closer (to Allah)!

Rabbana hablanaa hikman wa alhiknaa bi saaliheen.