



Preview Version

ALKAUTHAR  
INSTITUTE

WORKSHOP

SHEIKH BILAL ISMAIL

THE  
DIVINE  
LIGHT

REFLECTIONS & LESSONS FROM SURAH NOOR



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**Context**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verse 35 is called the Verse of Light</li> <li>• Noor or its derivatives appears 7 times in this chapter</li> </ul>
<p><b>h ence and ber of es</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juzz 18</li> <li>• Surah Number 24</li> <li>• 64 verses</li> </ul>
<p><b>ē of lation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Madinah</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verses related to the slander were definitely revealed after the Banu Mustaliq expedition but there is debate with regards to this expedition, whether it occurred in 4/5 AH before the Battle of the Trench or in 6 AH after it. Majority state it occurred in 6 AH.</li> <li>• Verse 62 was revealed during the digging of the trench in 6 AH.</li> </ul>
	<p>Muslims residing in Madinah gained an advantage over the Makkans, prompting the latter to resort to strategies aimed at undermining the unity of the Muslim community. Their efforts involved discrediting the Messenger ﷺ, questioning his integrity and status. They raised doubts concerning his marriage to Zaynab (may Allah be pleased with her) and attempted to incite conflicts between the Ansar (Helpers) and the Muhajirun (Emigrants). Additionally, for a month, they propagated accusations of adultery and scandal against Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her).</p>
<p><b>words</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chastity, Accusations, Slander, Scandals, Zina, Hudud, Liaan, Modesty, Marriage, Etiquettes, Gaze, Adornment, Hypocrites, Forgiveness, Greetings, Hijab, Niqab</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Themes</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Light and Darkness:</i> The theme of light and darkness is central to Surah Noor, symbolizing guidance, truth, righteousness, and knowledge juxtaposed with ignorance, falsehood, hypocrisy, and moral corruption.</li> <li>2. <i>Modesty and Chastity:</i> Surah Noor addresses the importance of modesty and chastity in personal conduct, relationships, and societal interactions, emphasizing the significance of preserving dignity and purity.</li> <li>3. <i>Ethics and Moral Conduct:</i> The chapter highlights ethical principles and moral values, including honesty, integrity, justice, trustworthiness, and accountability, shaping individuals' behaviour, and fostering a righteous society.</li> <li>4. <i>Social Relations and Etiquette:</i> Surah Noor provides guidelines for social relations, emphasizing good manners, respect, cooperation, and harmonious interactions within families, communities, and society at large.</li> <li>5. <i>Consequences of False Accusations:</i> Surah Noor highlights the severe consequences of false accusations and the importance of verifying information and seeking evidence before passing judgment or making accusations.</li> <li>6. <i>Gender Relations:</i> The chapter touches upon issues related to gender interaction, modesty &amp; discussions of illicit relations.</li> <li>7. <i>Community Life and Responsibility:</i> Surah Noor emphasizes the importance of community life, encouraging cooperation, unity, social responsibility, and the establishment of a righteous and caring community.</li> <li>8. <i>Accountability and Divine Justice:</i> Surah Noor reminds individuals of their accountability to Allah, underscoring the concept of divine justice and the eventual consequences of one's actions in this life and the hereafter.</li> <li>9. <i>Spirituality and Personal Development:</i> The chapter encourages spiritual growth, introspection, self-discipline, self-improvement, purification of the heart, and seeking closeness to Allah.</li> </ol>
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	<p>10. <i>Guidance and Illumination</i>: Surah Noor is a source of divine guidance, offering enlightenment, clarity, and direction in navigating life's challenges, dilemmas, and moral choices.</p> <p><b>This Surah covers one of the 5 Maqasid of the Shariah.</b> The Maqasid al-Shariah, or the Objectives of Islamic Law, are broad principles that serve as guiding principles for the interpretation and application of Shariah. The five commonly recognized Maqasid al-Shariah are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Preservation of Religion (Hifz al-Din)</i>: This objective aims to protect and preserve the fundamental principles and practices of Islam, ensuring the freedom of belief, worship, and the ability to practice one's religion without undue obstacles or threats.</li> <li>2. <i>Preservation of Life (Hifz al-Nafs)</i>: This objective emphasizes the protection and preservation of human life. It encompasses the prohibition of murder, suicide, and any actions that endanger or harm human life. It also includes the promotion of public health and well-being.</li> <li>3. <i>Preservation of Intellect (Hifz al-Aql)</i>: This objective seeks to safeguard the human intellect and promote intellectual growth and development. It includes the pursuit of knowledge, critical thinking, and the prohibition of actions that may lead to intellectual harm, such as spreading false information or engaging in harmful practices.</li> <li>4. <i>Preservation of Lineage (Hifz al-Nasl)</i>: <b>This objective focuses on maintaining and preserving the family structure and social order. It encompasses the protection of marriage, parent-child relationships, and the prohibition of actions that may undermine the stability and integrity of the family unit.</b></li> <li>5. <i>Preservation of Property (Hifz al-Mal)</i>: This objective aims to safeguard private property rights and promote economic well-being. It includes the prohibition of theft, fraud, and exploitation, as well as the promotion of fair trade, charity, and economic justice.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>Unique Features</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This surah makes mention of 9 body parts.</li> <li>• Umar (rd) stated “Teach the women Surah Noor” [Musannaf Abdur Razaq].</li> <li>• Ibn Abbas taught this surah during Hajj [al-Hakim].</li> <li>• It begins with the mention of the punishment for those who disobey Allah with regards to Zina &amp; it ends by mentioning those who disobey the Messenger ﷺ.</li> <li>• The Verse of Light [35] is one of the most commented upon verse in the Quran.</li> <li>• All its verses are muhkam and no rulings are abrogated.</li> </ul>
<p><b>General Breakdown of the Surah</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Verses 1 to 2:</i> Discuss the punishment for adultery (Zina) for non-Muhsan persons.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 3 to 5:</i> Discuss marrying an adulterous spouse and the gravity of falsely accusing someone of Zina.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 6 to 10:</i> Discuss the case of a husband accusing the wife of Zina without the required number of witnesses.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 11 to 26:</i> Discuss the slander against Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her), the wife of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 27 to 29:</i> Provide guidelines regarding entering homes and seeking permission.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 30 to 34:</i> Discuss the importance of modesty, lowering the gaze, and the principles of adornment and marriage.</li> <li>• <i>Verse 35:</i> The Verse of Light.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 36 to 40:</i> Contrast the behaviour and attitudes of believers and disbelievers.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 41 to 46:</i> Reflect on the signs and creation of Allah, emphasizing His power and knowledge.</li> <li>• <i>Verses 47 to 57:</i> Address the hypocrites, their characteristics &amp; the promise of Allah to the believers.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Verses 58 to 64:</i> Provide guidelines for appropriate etiquettes when entering private spaces &amp; emphasis on the high station of the Prophet ﷺ.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fiqh Rulings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penalty for Zina [2]</li> <li>• Penalty for false accusation of Zina [4, 5]</li> <li>• Not to marry adulterous spouses [3]</li> <li>• Liaan [6-10]</li> <li>• Mukataba of the slave [33]</li> <li>• Encouragement to marry [32-33]</li> <li>• Order to lower the gaze [30-31]</li> <li>• Etiquettes of visiting &amp; seeking permission [27-29, 60]</li> <li>• Covering the woman’s head [31]</li> <li>• Covering the woman’s face [31]</li> <li>• Adornment [60]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Difference between <i>Tafsir</i> and <i>Tadabbur</i></b></p>	<p>Tafsir and Tadabbur are two terms related to the study and interpretation of the Quran. While they share some similarities, there are notable differences between them:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Tafsir:</i> Tafsir refers to the scholarly and systematic interpretation of the Quranic text. It involves delving into the linguistic, historical, and contextual aspects of the verses to uncover their meanings and understand their intended messages. Tafsir is often conducted by qualified scholars who possess deep knowledge of the Arabic language, Islamic jurisprudence, and Quranic sciences. Tafsir aims to provide insights into the various dimensions of the Quran, including its legal, moral, spiritual, and social teachings.</li> <li>2. <i>Tadabbur:</i> Tadabbur, on the other hand, is an Arabic term that can be translated as "reflection," "contemplation," or "pondering." It refers to a personal and reflective engagement with the Quranic verses. Tadabbur encourages individuals to deeply ponder over the meanings of the Quran, to contemplate its wisdom, and to derive personal lessons and guidance from its teachings. Tadabbur can be seen as a more introspective and spiritual practice, focusing on an individual's personal connection with the Quran.</li> </ol>

	<p>In summary, tafsir involves scholarly interpretation of the Quran using various tools and methodologies, while tadabbur emphasizes personal reflection and contemplation of the Quranic verses for individual spiritual growth and understanding.</p>
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