

Quick Notes for Quran Study 5 - Study Information

- **Study Leaders:**
 - Lisa: Leads the reading and commentary on Suras 56 and 57.
 - Dr. Rashad Khalifa: Provides extensive commentary, theological interpretations, and presents the mathematical miracle data.
- **Date of Recording:** 02/17/1989

Quran Verses Discussed

- Sura 56 (The Inevitable): Verses 75–96
- Sura 57 (Iron): Verses 1–5
- Reference Verses:
 - Sura 12:24 (Joseph diverted from sin)
 - Sura 46:15 (Age of 40/Maturity)
 - Sura 41:44 (Understanding the Quran)
 - Psalm 8:3-4 (Biblical reference regarding the heavens)

Detailed Summary of Discussion

1. Sura 56:75–96 (The Inevitable) – Astronomy & Preservation

- The Oath of the Stars (56:75-76):
 - God swears by the "positions of the stars," calling it an awesome oath.
 - Scientific Context: Lisa and Rashad read scientific data to contextualize the "awesomeness" of this oath.
 - The Milky Way is 100,000 light-years across.
 - The nearest galaxy is 2 million light-years away.
 - There are billions of galaxies.
 - Biblical Reference: Lisa quotes Psalm 8, asking "What is man that You should be mindful of him?" given the vastness of the heavens.
- Preservation & "Touching" the Quran (56:77-80):
 - "None can touch it": The group discusses the traditional misconception that this verse means one must perform ablution (wudu) to physically touch the book.
 - Correct Interpretation: It refers to intellectual access. Only the sincere/righteous can understand the deep meanings and the mathematical code. The insincere are blocked by God from "touching" the truth of it.
 - Names of the Quran: Rashad notes the Quran is described with God's own attributes: Karim (Honorable), Azim (Great), and Majid (Glorious).

- The Mathematical Miracle Presentation:
 - Dr. Khalifa circulates a document summarizing the Code 19 miracle to prove the Quran's preservation.
 - Simple Facts: 114 Suras (19x6), First Verse is 19 letters.
 - The "Circle" Discovery: Rashad explains a complex mathematical discovery (the "Longest Number").
 - It involves writing the verse numbers of a Sura followed by the total number of verses in that Sura, for all 114 Suras (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 7).
 - This creates a number with 12,696 digits which is a multiple of 19.
 - Abdullah's Addition: Abdullah discovered that inserting the Sura Number at the beginning, middle, or end of the sequence still results in a number divisible by 19.
 - Constraint: This calculation only works if Sura 9 is counted as 127 verses (rejecting the two false verses).
- The Three Groups & The "First Generation" (56:88-96):
 - The verses describe the destinies of three groups: Those closest to God (High Heaven), Those on the Right (Lower Heaven), and the Rejectors (Hell).
 - The High Heaven (First Generation): Rashad explains that the "First Generation" refers to the pioneers who stand with a messenger during persecution (e.g., those with Abraham, those with Muhammad in Mecca, and the current group with Rashad). Those who "jump on the wagon" later when it is easy do not get the same credit.
 - The Lower Heaven (Age 40): Rashad discusses why some people die young (e.g., Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X).
 - Theory: God takes them before they reach the age of 40 (the age of full responsibility) to save them. Had they lived longer, they might have been "swept by the crowd" into idolatry (e.g., worshipping Jesus). By taking them early, God mercies them into the Lower Heaven.

2. Sura 57:1-5 (Iron) – God's Omnipotence

- Glorification: Everything in the universe glorifies God physically (atoms, cells). Humans are the only creatures who must choose to glorify Him mentally.
- Absolute Control:
 - God controls life, death, and every atom.

- Practical Application: Lisa emphasizes that while we take medicine or vitamins, we must realize God is the one controlling the outcome. God controls bosses, spouses, and neighbors.
- Righteousness is a Gift:
 - Referencing Sura 12:24, Rashad notes that Joseph did not refrain from sin solely by his own willpower; God diverted sin from him because he was a devoted servant. Similarly, Abraham was granted understanding. Righteousness is a gift from God to those who choose Him.

3. Closing Activity

- Children's Song: The session concludes with a group performance of a children's song titled "Remember God."
 - Lyrics: "When you see a flower, say Ma Sha Allah... To plan something tomorrow, say In Sha Allah... Before you start anything, say Bismillah... In everything you try to think, say Alhamdulillah."