Quick Notes for Quran Study 8 - Study Information

- **Study Leaders:**
  - Lori (Reads the verses)
  - Dr. Rashad Khalifa (Provides extensive commentary, theological explanations, and answers questions).
- **Date of Recording:** 04/07/1989
- **Special Announcement:** Dr. Khalifa announces that next week they will use the New Translation (the "Pure Quran" without the two false verses), which will be published in hardcover (blue with gold stamp) in the upcoming Ramadan.

Quran Verses Discussed

- Sura 65 (Divorce): Verses 10–12
- Sura 66 (Prohibition): Verses 1–12
- Reference Verses:
  - Sura 65:8 (Rebelling against God's law)
  - Sura 10:11 (God guides believers)
  - Sura 4:132 (Family Prayer)
  - Sura 3:47 (Mary's chastity)
  - Sura 20:132 (Exhorting family to pray)

Detailed Summary of Discussion

1. Sura 65:10–12 (Divorce) – Evolution & The Seven Earths

- Reminder: God sends messengers as a reminder to believers to keep them on the straight path.
- Divorce & Provision:
  - Discussion on providing for a divorced wife, especially if she is pregnant or nursing.
  - Dr. Khalifa clarifies that a nursing mother can refuse to nurse, and the father must then hire a wet nurse. If he demands she not remarry while pregnant, he must "put his money where his mouth is" and support her.
- Evolution & The Seven Earths (Verse 12):
  - Scientific Fact: Dr. Khalifa asserts that evolution is a divinely guided process, not random. He mentions the complexity of the fly's eye (4,000 lenses) remaining constant for millions of years, proving species are created independently, though micro-evolution occurs (e.g., navel oranges).

    - The Seven Earths: Verse 12 mentions seven earths. Dr. Khalifa explains God created six other planets identical to Earth but lifeless. On Judgment Day, atheists/evolutionists will see these lifeless planets to prove that life did not randomly evolve just because the conditions (water, atmosphere) were right. Life exists on Earth only because it is Satan's dominion for the test.

2. Sura 66:1–5 (Prohibition) – Prophet's Fallibility

- The Prophet's Mistake:
    - Verse 1 reprimands the Prophet Muhammad for prohibiting something lawful to please his wives.
    - Theological Point: This proves Muhammad was a fallible human being, not infallible. God highlights his errors to prevent people from worshipping him.
- Gossip & Secrecy:
    - The Prophet entrusted a secret to one of his wives, who spread it. God informed him of this betrayal.
    - Lesson: We must not gossip or break trust. You cannot hide anything from God.
- Divorce: God warns the wives that if the Prophet divorces them, God can replace them with better wives (submitters, believers).

3. Sura 66:6–9 (Family & Repentance)

- Protecting Family from Hell:
    - Believers must protect themselves and their families from Hellfire.
    - Parental Duty: Dr. Khalifa emphasizes the duty to ensure children pray. He cites Sura 20:132 ("Exhort your family to pray and persist").
    - Discussion: Hamid questions how far one should push children. Dr. Khalifa insists that if a parent consistently follows God's command from the start, the children will naturally follow without resistance. He cites his own children (Sam and Beth) as examples.
    - Beth's Clarification: Beth clarifies that while they prayed out of guilt/duty when young, they later chose it for themselves. Dr. Khalifa agrees, noting he never punished them, but persisted in reminding them.
- Repentance: Verse 8 calls for "sincere repentance" (Tawbatan Nasuha). It is a chance to wipe the slate clean.
- Striving Against Disbelievers: Verse 9 commands the Prophet to strive against disbelievers/hypocrites. Dr. Khalifa notes this is done through truth

and sometimes harshness (like the Muslim Perspective newsletter) to wake them up before it's too late.

4. Sura 66:10–12 (Intercession Myths)

- The Myth of Intercession:
  - Wife of Noah & Lot: Both were married to prophets but disbelieved and went to Hell. Their husbands could not save them.
  - Wife of Pharaoh: Married to the worst tyrant but was a believer and went to Heaven. Her husband's evil did not damn her.
  - Mary: Cited as an example of chastity and obedience.
  - Conclusion: There is no intercession. Everyone is responsible for their own soul. A prophet cannot save his own wife, nor can a tyrant damn his believing wife.

Administrative & Personal Notes

- Correction: Poopak found a typing error in the draft translation (missing the word "God" in Sura 65:8). It will be fixed.
- Al-Fatihah: The group recites Al-Fatihah for:
  - Farhad Moini's Birthday (Thursday).
  - Soad & Ahmad Rayan (Both passed their exams).
  - Frank (Taking his state exam).
- Next Week: Gatut will teach Sura 67.