Surah 65 Surah Talaaq

DIVORCE

THE LINK BETWEEN SURAH TALAAQ AND SURAH TAGHAABUN

Surah Talaaq finds its link in the concluding verses of Surah Taghaabun, in which certain injunctions to reform conditions are mentioned. When the Muslims are able to reform their mutual relationship, only then will they be united to fight the Kuffaar. Surah Talaaq promotes personal reform within Muslims so that domestic problems do not lead to enmity and disputes, thereby weakening the Muslims when they need to fight against the Kuffaar.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

This Surah makes mention of the following:

* Certain laws pertaining to divorce (Talaaq).
* Laws regarding maintenance and accommodation of the divorced woman.
* Warnings of punishment in this world.
* Glad tidings.
* A logical proof to substantiate belief in Towheed.
In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

1. O Nabi (and all Muslim husbands)! When you wish to divorce your wives, then divorce them before their Iddah (before their menstruation, that is during a period of purity) and (meticulously) count (calculate the period of) the Iddah (so that its expiry is known). Fear Allaah your Rabb. Do not turn them (divorced women) Out of their homes (the husband is obliged to provide a home for her for the period of her Iddah) and neither should they leave by themselves unless they commit open indecency (such as adultery or theft, in which case the woman will be removed from her home to receive the penalty). These are the limits set by Allaah. Whoever transgresses (trespasses) Allaah's limits has certainly oppressed his soul (because he is subjecting himself to punishment). (The injunctions of the Shari'ah should be observed during divorce proceedings because) You do not know whether Allaah may later bring something new to pass (after the divorce, such as reconciliation. In such a case, transgressing the laws of the Shari'ah will sour relations after reconciliation).

2. So when they (divorced women) have reached close to completing their Iddah, then either keep them (as your wives) in good faith (without the intention of harming her or divorcing her again so that she has to pass another Iddah) or separate from them in good faith (without causing her any difficulty). (It is best to) Make two reliable persons witness (when you either take her back or separate from her) and (the witnesses should) establish the testimony for (the pleasure of) Allaah (without demanding payment). It is with this (advice) that the one who believes in Allaah and the Last Day is advised. Allaah shall create an escape (from difficulties) for the one who fears (disobeying) Allaah (one who has Taqwa...)

3. ...and shall provide for him (what he requires) from sources from which he never
expected (to receive provisions.) Allaah is Sufficient (to solve all problems) for the one who trusts in Him (who is convinced that only Allaah can assist him). (Allaah can certainly solve any problem a person has because) Allaah certainly brings (all) His affairs to completion (as He wills) and Allaah has set a measure for everything. (Therefore, things happen when He wills them. A person who trusts in Allaah knows that Allaah will solve his problems when Allaah decides that the time is right.)

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4. If you are in doubt about (the duration of the Iddah of) those women who have lost hope of menstruating (who have passed menopause), then their Iddah and the Iddah of those women who do not menstruate at all shall be three (lunar) months. The duration (of the Iddah) of pregnant women shall be (expire) when they deliver. Allaah shall create ease in the affair (in all the duties and concerns of this world and the Aakhirah) of the one who fears Him (the one who has Taqwa).

5. This (all that has passed) is Allaah's command that He has revealed to you. For the one who fears Allaah, Allaah shall cancel (forgive) his sins and grant him an immense reward.

6. According to your means, house them (your ex-wives during the Iddah) where you house yourselves and do not harm them (in any way) with intent to pressurise them (into leaving the house. Of course, the couple cannot live together if the divorce is not Raj'ee). If they (your wives) are expecting, then (you are obliged to) provide for them (maintain and house them) until they deliver. If (after the child is born) they (your ex-wives are prepared to) suckle (the child) for you, then pay them their dues (a fair wage) and consult with each other (concerning the wage) in a befitting manner (so that the amount is neither too much for the father nor too little for the mother). (However,) If each one (father and mother) makes matters difficult for the other, then another woman may suckle the child.

7. The wealthy person (man) should spend (pay maintenance for his ex-wife during her Iddah and for his child) according to his means. As for the one whose means are restricted, he should spend from what Allaah has given him (as much as he can afford). Allaah does not burden a
soul with more than He has given it. (No one is required to spend beyond his means.) Allaah shall soon create ease after difficulty. (When a person spends in good causes, he should never fear that his wealth will diminish.)

8. Many were the towns that rebelled (arrogantly) against the commands of their Rabb and of His Rusul, so We severely took them to task and meted out (inflicted) an admonishing punishment to them.

9. (Thus) They tasted the consequences of their doings (actions) and the end result of their actions was a total loss.

10. Allaah prepared a severe punishment for them. So fear Allaah O intelligent (wise) ones who have Imaan. Allaah has certainly revealed a Reminder (the Qur’aan) to you (so that you guard yourselves from making the same mistakes that the previous nations made).

11. And (Allaah has also sent to you) a Rasool (verse) who recites Allaah’s clear Aayaat (verses of the Qur’aan) to you to remove the Mu’mineen who do good deeds from darkness (sin, ignorance, kufr) and to bring them into light (obedience, knowledge, Imaan). Whoever believes in Allaah and does good deeds, Allaah shall enter him into Jannat beneath which rivers flow. There they shall live forever. Allaah has appointed a most excellent provision for him.

12. It is Allaah Who created the seven heavens and the earth in a like manner (in seven layers). He sends commands between them (between the heavens and the earth) so that you may know that Allaah has power over all things and that Allaah’s knowledge encompasses everything.