Surah 81 Surah Takweer

THE FOLDING

THE LINK BETWEEN SURAH TAKWEER AND SURAH ABAS

Surah Abas highlights the terror of the Day of Qiyaamah when people will flee from their close relatives and will be engrossed in their own affairs. Moving further into Aakhirah, Surah Takweer mentions how people will be dispatched to their respective abodes in Jannah or Jahannam after reckoning.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

The first thirteen verses summarise the twelve occurrences on the Day of Qiyaamah, six of which will occur in this world, while the other six will take place in the Aakhirah. People are further warned about their destination to the Aakhirah in verses 13 to 18, which include many oaths taken by Allaah.

Verses 19 to 25 declare that the exalted Qur'aan was revealed by the Most Glorious Allaah through the agency of a powerful, trustworthy angel who is extremely close to Allaah, viz. Jibra'eel. Allaah says that the Qur'aan is not the speech of any Shaytaan (Allaah forbid!) nor is Rasulullaah @Si an insane person (Allaah forbid!).

“So (instead of embracing the Qur'aan,) where are you (Kuffaar) heading?... until the words...You cannot will anything without the will of Allaah the Rabb of the universe” [verses 26 to 29]. In these concluding verses, Allaah questions people why do they go astray when the Qur'aan is there for their guidance. The person who desires to be rightly guided should follow the Qur'aan and find his way.
In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

1. (Do not forget the Day of Qiyaamah) When the sun is folded (will lose its light).

2. When the stars fall down (and cease to exist).

3. When the mountains are made to fly about (like flakes of wool after being flung into the air by violent earthquakes).

4. When pregnant camels are abandoned (by their owners). (Although pregnant camels are highly prized and valuable, people will have no interest in them or in any other valuables when the fear of Qiyaamah overwhelms them.)

5. When (even) wild animals are gathered (together on the Plains of Reckoning so that oppressed animals are given the opportunity to take revenge from the aggressors).

6. When the oceans are set alight (to boil). (The waters of the ocean will be heated so intensely that, all the water will evaporate and fire will then take its place.)

7. When souls are joined. (After the Kuffaar are separated from the Mu'mineen, the members of each group)
8. When the girl buried alive will be asked...

9. ...for what sin she was killed. (These two verses refer to the practice of some Arab Mushrikeen during the period of ignorance who used to bury their infant daughters alive merely because they disliked having daughters.)

10. When the records of actions (of every person) will be opened (for scrutiny and for judgement to be passed).

11. When the sky will be opened (for the angels to pass through).

12. When Jannah will be fuelled (prepared to receive the Kuffaar and sinners).

13. When Jannah will be brought close (to the pious Mu'mineen so that they look forward to it).

14. On that day every soul will know what (actions) it had presented (committed and which is now revealed for judgment).

15. I swear by the planets that recede (which set on the horizon as the stars do)...

16. ...that travel (through space) and hide (disappear from sight as the night fades).
17. And (I swear by) the night when it departs (at dawn)...

18. ...and by the morning when it takes a breath (arrives at dawn).

19. Undoubtedly this (Qur’aan) is a word brought (from Allaah to Rasulullaah ﷺ) by an honoured (noble) messenger (Jibra’iel ﷺ)...

20. ...who is powerful and of high rank (status) in the sight of the Owner of the Throne.

21. He is also obeyed (by the angels in the heavens) and is trustworthy (and will therefore never corrupt any message Allaah sends with him).

22. Verily your companion (Rasulullaah ﷺ) is not insane (mad).

23. He (Rasulullaah ﷺ) certainly saw him (Jibra’iel ﷺ in his original form) on the clear (eastern) horizon. (See verses 5-9 of Surah 53.)

24. He is also not miserly with the knowledge of the unseen. (Rasulullaah ﷺ conveyed to the people whatever knowledge of the unseen Allaah taught him without demanding a fee as fortune-tellers do.)

25. The Qur’aan is (definitely not) the word of any accursed Shaytaan.
26. So (instead of embracing the Qur’aan,) where are you (Kuffaar) heading (going astray)?

27. It (the Qur’aan) is but a great advice to the (people of the) universe...

28. …for those of you who wish to walk the straight path.

29. (However,) You cannot will anything (wish for salvation) without the will of Allaah the Rabb of the universe. (Therefore, a person can tread the straight path only when Allaah permits him, and this occurs only when he sincerely expresses the desire to do so.)