

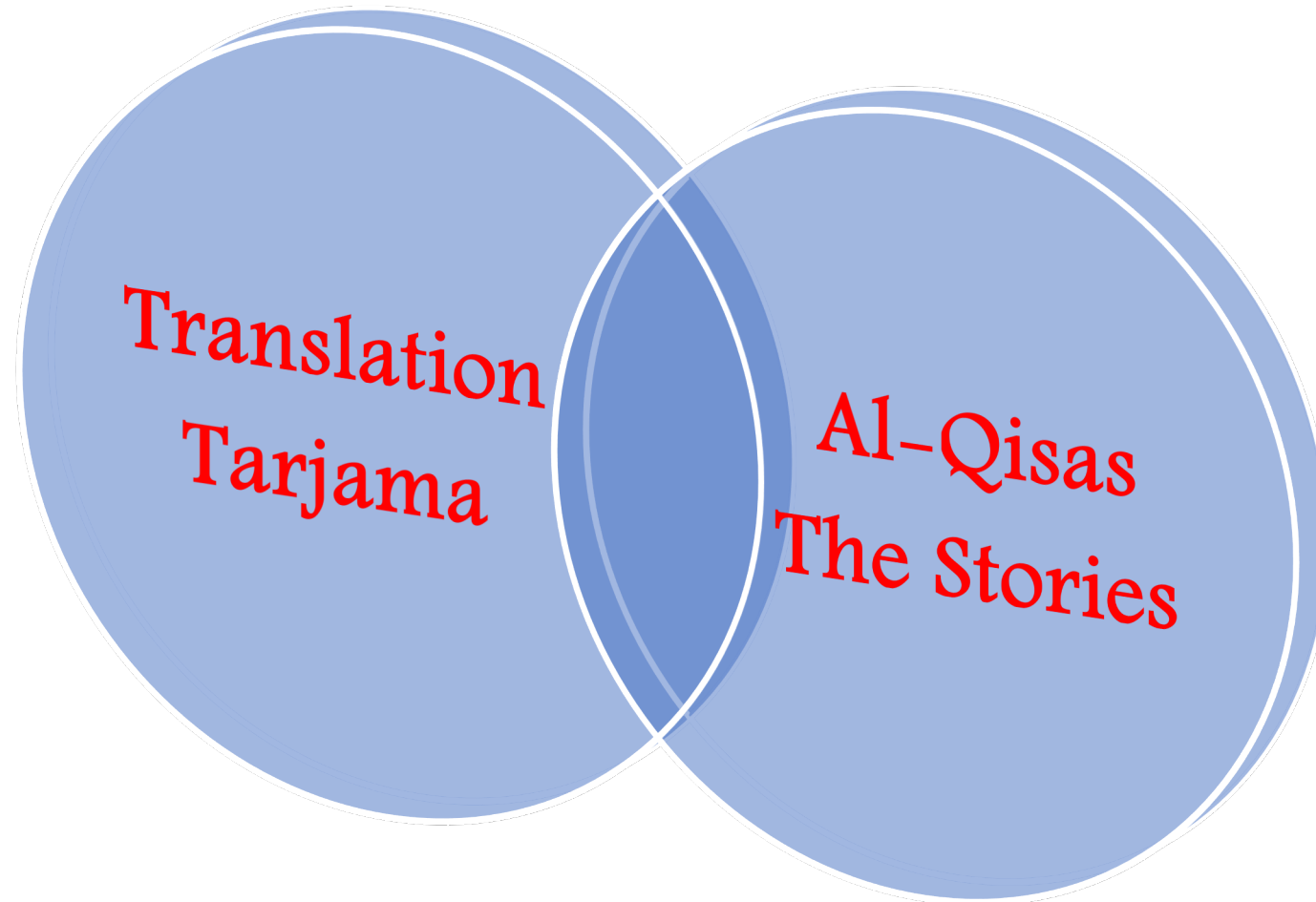


A 111 Uloom Al- Quran– Lecture No. 10

ULOOM AL-QURAN SCIENCES OF THE QURAN

UST. HALA AMERAH

Lecture 10



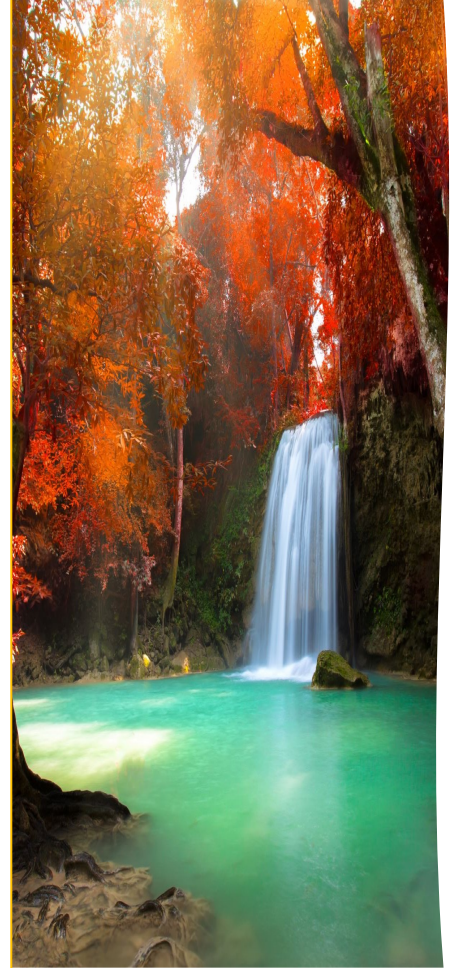
Al-Qisass, Stories, Narratives



- The words 'qissa, qass, qisas' literally mean to scout or narrate.
- In the Quranic sciences, these words are used to describe traced news.
- ❑ In the story of Umm Musa and her son, Umm Musa told her sister Qussih to **"Keep track of him!"** (Al-Qasas, 28:11), **وَقَالَتْ لِأُخْتِهِ قُصِّيهِ** to follow his trail, to see who took him? the Quran mentions stories to convey genuine and trustworthy news.
- ❑ Allah says, **"Certainly, this is the true narrative, and there is no god 'worthy of worship' except Allah. And indeed, Allah alone is the Almighty, All-Wise."** (3:62).
- ❑ **إِنَّ هَذَا لَهُوَ الْقَصَصُ الْحَقُّ**
- ❑ The stories in the Quran offer valuable insights into the past, prophecies, and current events. They are an essential tool for learning.
- ❑ Authentic storytelling in Arabic literature conveys crucial messages, they are vital for understanding the past, present, and future.
- ❑ The purpose of recounting historical events is to prevent humanity from repeating the same mistakes made by previous generations. The existence of these stories is a testament to God's love for believers, as He desires to guide them towards the truth and help them in their journey

The Stories mentioned in the Quran

- The stories mentioned in the Quran can be divided into three groups
- **The first group** includes stories about the Messengers, their followers, the deniers or unbelievers, and events related to them.
- **The second group** comprises stories of unusual events that happened to people, such as the story of Maryam, Luqman, the companions of the cave, and Zulqarneyn. These stories also provide lessons and examples. i.e. In surah al-kahf, youths retreat to the cave and ask for guidance from Allah.
- "We relate to you 'O Prophet' their story in truth. They were youths who truly believed in their Lord, and We increased them in guidance. نَحْنُ نَقُصُّ عَلَيْكَ نَبَأَهُم بِالْحَقِّ إِنَّهُمْ فِتْيَةٌ ءَامَنُوا بِرَبِّهِمْ وَزِدْنَاهُمْ هُدًى.
- So, Allah put them to sleep and then awakened them to show which group was most accurate in calculating how long they had been in the cave.
- **The third group** of stories relates to events that occurred during the time of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), such as the battles of Badr and Uhud in Surah Al-Imran and the battle of Hunain and Tabook in the surah of Tawba and the Trench in Surah Al-Ahzab, and the immigration etc.



The purpose of the stories in the Quran

- Stories play a crucial role in learning and comprehending the past, present, and future. They provide us with essential insights and understanding of different aspects of life.

"We relate to you 'O, Prophet' the best of stories through Our revelation of this Quran, though before this you were totally unaware of them". (Yusuf, 12:3)

• **"نَحْنُ نَقُصُّ عَلَيْكَ أَحْسَنَ الْقَصَصِ بِمَا أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ وَإِنْ كُنْتَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ لَمِنَ الْغَافِلِينَ". (يوسف:3).**

- It contains many facts about the history of nations, including countries and homes, and it traces the lives of each people. This provides a clear picture of what they were like and serves as a lesson for people who seek to understand. In conclusion, stories are essential for learning and understanding the past, present and future

The Benefits of Quran's Stories



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1. Quranic stories clarify the foundations of calling to God and explain the principles of the laws with which every prophet was sent.

"We never sent a messenger before you 'O Prophet' without revealing to him: "There is no god 'worthy of worship' except Me, so worship Me 'alone' (Al-Anbya, 21:25).

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ مِنْ رَسُولٍ إِلَّا نُوحِيَ إِلَيْهِ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنَا فَاعْبُدُونِ" (الأنبياء: 25)

2. strengthen the heart of the Messenger of God and his followers, keeping them steadfast in faith and on the right path of God's religion, maintaining their faith in Allah's victory and support for the truth, adhering to the right path, abandoning falsehood, and its supporters.

"And We relate to you 'O Prophet' the stories of the messengers to reassure your heart. And there has come to you in this 'sûrah' the truth, a warning 'to the disbelievers', and a reminder to the believers" (Hud11:120).

• وَكُلًّا نَقُصُّ عَلَيْكَ مِنْ أَنْبَاءِ الرُّسُلِ مَا نُثَبِّتُ بِهِ فُؤَادَكَ ۚ وَجَاءَكَ فِي هَذِهِ الْحَقُّ ۚ وَمَوْعِظَةٌ وَذِكْرَىٰ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ" (هود: 120)

The Benefits of Quran Stories

3. Qisas in the Quran encourages belief in previous prophets, commemorating and continuing their legacies.
4. Demonstrating the sincerity and truthfulness of Muhammad in his call throughout history.
5. To challenge the people of the book with what they concealed and what was in their books before distortion. **“All food was lawful for the children of Israel, except what Israel made unlawful for himself before the Torah was revealed. Say, ‘O Prophet,’ ‘Bring the Torah and read it if your claims are true.” (3: 93)**

كُلُّ الطَّعَامِ كَانَ حَلَالًا لِّبَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ إِلَّا مَا حَرَّمَ إِسْرَائِيلُ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ تُنَزَّلَ التَّوْرَةُ قُلْ فَأْتُوا بِالتَّوْرَةِ فَاتْلُوهَا إِنَّ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ" (آل عمران:93)

6. Stories are a form of literature that is meant to be heard and whose lessons dig deep into the soul. **“In their stories there is truly a lesson for people of reason. This message cannot be a fabrication, rather ‘it is’ a confirmation of previous revelation, a detailed explanation of all things, a guide, and a mercy for people of faith” (Yusuf: 111).**

لَقَدْ كَانَ فِي قَصصِهِمْ عِبْرَةٌ لِأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ ۗ مَا كَانَ حَدِيثًا يُفْتَرَىٰ وَلَٰكِن تَصْدِيقَ الَّذِي بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ وَتَفْصِيلَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةً لِّقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ" (يوسف:111).

The Wisdoms Behind the Stories of the Quran

The stories contain universal wisdom and provide valuable lessons to humanity.

1. God Himself revealed the wisdom in these stories to bring attention to them.

“The Hour has drawn near, and the moon was split ‘in two, Yet, whenever they see a sign, they turn away,¹ saying, “Same old magic! They rejected ‘the truth’ and followed their own desires—and every matter will be settled even though the stories ‘of destroyed nations’ that have already come to them are a sufficient deterrent, ‘This Quran is’ profound ‘in’ wisdom, but warnings are of no benefit ‘to them.’” (Al-Qamar, 54: 6)

أَفْتَرَبَتِ السَّاعَةَ وَانْتَشَقَّ الْقَمَرُ وَإِنْ يَرَوْا آيَةً يُعْرِضُوا وَيَقُولُوا سِحْرٌ مُّسْتَمِرٌّ وَكَذَّبُوا وَاتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ ۚ وَكُلُّ أَمْرٍ مُّسْتَقَرٌّ

2. God shows humans His mercy by bestowing favours upon believers.

“We unleashed upon them a storm of stones. As for ‘the believers of’ Lot’s family, We delivered them before dawn as a blessing from Us. This is how We reward whoever gives **thanks**. (Al-Qamar, 54: 34-35)

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ حَاصِبًا إِلَّا عَالَ لُوطٌ نَّجَّيْنَاهُمْ بِسَحَرٍ، نِعْمَةٌ مِّنْ عِنْدِنَا ۚ كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي مَنْ شَكَرَ

The Wisdoms Behind the Stories of the Quran

3. The stories also console Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) by mentioning previous Messengers.

“If they deny you, so did those before them. Their messengers came to them with clear proofs, divine Books, and enlightening Scriptures. Then I seized those who persisted in disbelief. How severe was My response!” (Fatir, 35: 25-26)

وَإِنْ يُكَذِّبُوكَ فَقَدْ كَذَّبَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ جَاءَتْهُمْ رُسُلُهُمْ بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ وَبِالزُّبُرِ وَبِالْكِتَابِ الْمُنِيرِ

4. They encourage believers to remain patient and steadfast in their faith by mentioning past nations and their believers.” So We answered his prayer and rescued him from anguish. And so do We save the ‘true’ believers. (Al-Anbya, 21:88).

. فَاسْتَجَبْنَا لَهُ وَنَجَّيْنَاهُ مِنَ الْغَمِّ وَكَذَلِكَ نُنْجِي الْمُؤْمِنِينَ" (الأنبياء: 88)

The Wisdoms Behind the Stories of the Quran

5. Through stories, God demonstrates His justice by providing examples from human history that warn us and explain why wrongdoers are punished.

- “We did not wrong them, rather they wronged themselves. The gods they invoked beside Allah were of no help at all when the command of your Lord came, and only contributed to their ruin. Such is the ‘crushing’ grip of your Lord when He seizes the societies entrenched in wrongdoing. Indeed, His grip is ‘terribly’ painful and severe” (Hud, 11:101-102).

وَمَا ظَلَمْنَاهُمْ وَلَكِنْ ظَلَمُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ فَمَا أَغْنَتْ عَنْهُمْ آلِهَتُهُمُ الَّتِي يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ مِنْ شَيْءٍ لَمَّا جَاءَ أَمْرُ رَبِّكَ وَمَا
زَادُوهُمْ غَيْرَ تَتْبِيبٍ، كَذَلِكَ أَخْذُ رَبِّكَ إِذَا أَخَذَ الْقُرَىٰ وَهِيَ ظَالِمَةٌ إِنَّ أَخْذَهُ أَلِيمٌ شَدِيدٌ

The Wisdoms Behind the Stories of the Quran

6. The stories also serve as a reminder that God destroyed past nations because of their disbelief, providing a lesson for today's unbelievers.

“Have they not travelled throughout the land to see what was the end of those before them? Allah annihilated them.” (Muhammad, 10)

أَفَلَمْ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَيَنْظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِمْ ۖ دَمَّرَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ ۖ وَلِلْكَافِرِينَ أَمْثَلُهَا

7. The stories prove Muhammad's (pbuh) Messenger-ship. God informed him about past nations.

“This is one of the stories of the unseen, which we reveal to you ‘O Prophet’. Neither you nor your people knew it before this. So be patient! Surely the ultimate outcome belongs ‘only’ to the righteous.” (Hud, 11:49)

تِلْكَ مِنْ أَنْبَاءِ الْغَيْبِ نُوحِيهَا إِلَيْكَ ۖ مَا كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُهَا أَنْتَ وَلَا قَوْمُكَ مِن قَبْلِ هَذَا ۖ فَاصْبِرْ ۗ إِنَّ الْعَاقِبَةَ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ (هود: 49)

Also, “Indeed, this Quran clarifies for the Children of Israel most of what they differ over”. (An-Naml, 27:76)

إِنَّ هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ يَقُصُّ عَلَىٰ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ أَكْثَرَ الَّذِي هُمْ فِيهِ يَخْتَلِفُونَ. (النمل: 76)

The Repetitions of Quranic Narratives

- The Quran contains stories that are only mentioned once, like Luqman and the companions of the cave.
- Some stories are repeated for a reason. These repetitions provide a fresh perspective and new information while presenting the events differently.
- The repeated stories differ in length, narration style, and approach.
- It is essential to explain information clearly and concisely in a way that is easy to understand. Using familiar language and avoiding acronyms and legal jargon helps ensure the text is accessible to all.

The wisdom behind the repetition of stories

The Quran repeats important stories to teach valuable lessons and remind us of God's messages. The stories are presented in styles that suit their audience and context, revealing God's eloquence and wisdom



The Quran repeatedly repeats specific stories to emphasise their significance and importance for believers. These stories are intended to teach valuable lessons and embed them firmly in readers' hearts. This repetition serves as a reminder of God's messages.



The stories in the Quran are presented in a way that is suitable for their intended audience. The stories in Mecca are short, elegant, and written in an intense style, while those in Medina are pretty different.



God explains the same stories in different tones that are appropriate to the events, time, and audience, which illustrates the eloquence of the Quran.



This demonstrates that the Quran is indeed the speech of God, who sees and knows all things and can offer multiple perspectives to explain a single story.

The Impact of Quranic Narratives on Education and Moral Development.

The stories from the Quran are a valuable tool for educating and improving individuals. These stories are more effective than repetitive lessons because they are explicitly crafted to connect with the human soul and make it easy to understand their teachings. Children enjoy stories, so religious educators should use these stories to teach important lessons about education and moral guidance.

The Quranic stories offer a wealth of resources for educators. They consist of the biographies of prophets, accounts of the past, and lessons from the Sunnah of God in His creations. To teach effectively, educators should use appropriate language for their learners. Collections of religious stories by Sayyid Qutb, Al-Sahhar, and Al-Jarim offer valuable lessons and excellent writing with deep analysis.



TARJAMA

The Translation of The Quran

The relationship between a preacher and their community is essential for a thriving sermon.

A local preacher can better identify and correct misguided beliefs. Effective communication between the preacher and the congregation symbolises social harmony. This is what God Almighty has said, "And We have not sent any messenger except with the tongue of his people, that he may clarify to them." (Ibrahim, 4)

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ رَّسُولٍ إِلَّا بِلِسَانٍ قَوْمِهِ لِيُبَيِّنَ لَهُمْ فَيُضِلَّ اللَّهُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ ۗ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

The Quran was revealed in Arabic to the Messenger for the success of Islam. Arabic is now essential for communication in conveying its call to all humanity. The Qur'an declared this in multiple places: "Say, 'O Prophet, ' "O humanity! I am Allah's Messenger to you all. To Him 'alone' belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth." (Al'Araf,7:158)

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعًا الَّذِي لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۖ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ يُحْيِي ۖ وَيُمِيتُ ۖ فَآمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ النَّبِيِّ

الْأُمِّيِّ الَّذِي يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَكَلِمَاتِهِ ۖ وَاتَّبِعُوهُ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ

THE TARJAMA OF THE QURAN

- “And We have sent you ‘O Prophet’ only as a deliverer of good news and a warner to all of humanity, but most people do not know.” (Saba,34:28)

□ وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا كَافَّةً لِّلنَّاسِ بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ (سبأ: 28)

- It is essential to understand Arabic to comprehend the Quran, which is the basis of Islam and has its roots in the Arabian Peninsula, where the Arabic language and culture were well-preserved. As the Islamic State expanded through conquests, several local languages were assimilated into Arabic. For Muslims, learning Arabic is mandatory, as the Quran was initially available in both native languages and Arabic for the faithful.
- “This is certainly a revelation from the Lord of all worlds, which the trustworthy spirit ‘Gabriel’ brought down, into your heart ‘O Prophet’—so that you may be one of the warners, in a clear Arabic tongue.”(as-shu’raa:192)

وَإِنَّهُ لَتَنْزِيلُ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ, نَزَلَ بِهِ الرُّوحُ الْأَمِينُ, عَلَى قَلْبِكَ لِتَكُونَ مِنَ الْمُنذِرِينَ, بِلِسَانٍ عَرَبِيٍّ مُّبِينٍ (الشعراء:192)

The meaning of Translation/ Tarjama

Tarjama is translating or interpreting words, phrases, writings, or speeches from one language to another while preserving their original meaning.

To achieve accurate translation, one must possess clear expression, proofreading skills, summarising and explaining abilities, precise and eloquent phrasing, and knowledge of art.

Translating the Quran into different languages is necessary for more people to benefit from its teachings.

For instance, Ibn' Abbas was called 'Tarjuman al-Qur'aan' due to his expertise in interpreting the Quran

The Types of Translation

Two ways to translate a text
word-for-word translation
or translation by meaning.

1) Literal Translation

This method translates each word of a text into its equivalent in the other language without changing the word order.

Multilingual people know that translating word for word only sometimes conveys the true meaning of a text.

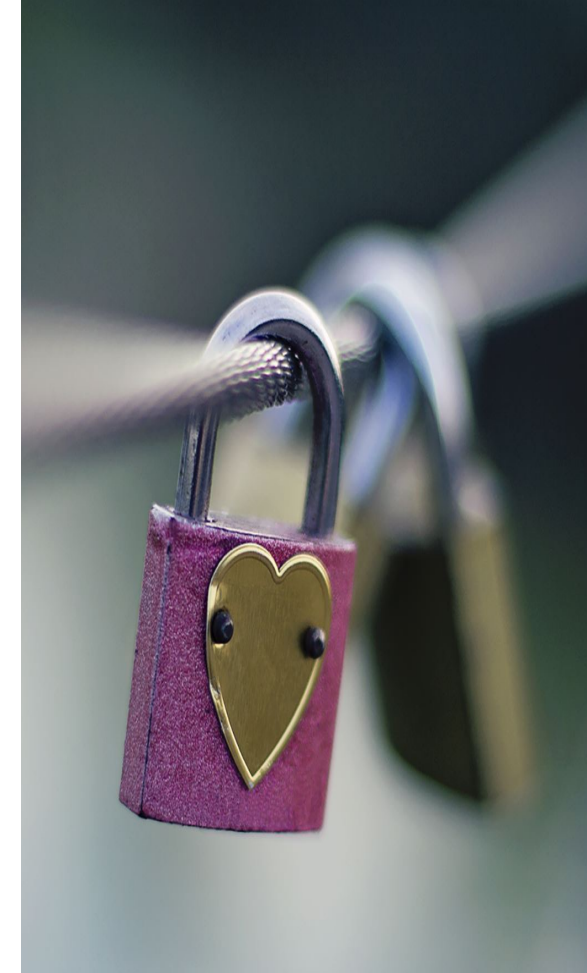
2) Translation by Meaning

This method translates the intent or meaning of a text into a different language.

Because each language has its unique grammar, syntax and way of speaking, and some words don't have an equivalent in other languages.

TAFSIR / TARJAMA

- To differentiate Tafsir from Tarjama, knowing their dictionary definitions is imperative.
- Tarjama translates messages from one language to another, including titles, biographies, and explanations of words. It's a direct translation.
- For a translator to translate, he must understand that language reflects a nation's culture, history, and religion.
- Arabic is highly grammatical, making translation hard.
- Therefore, it is impossible to translate the Quran into another language entirely and accurately without losing some of its essential meaning.



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TAFSIR (EXEGESIS)/ TARJAMA (TRANSLATION)

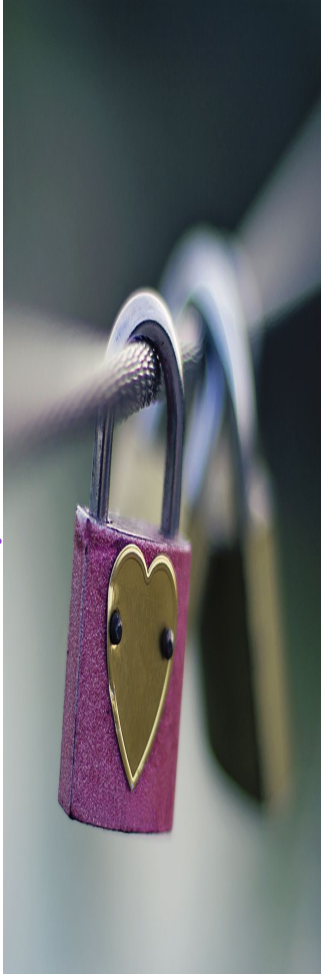
□ Zarqani differentiated between tafsir (exegesis) and tarjama (translation) in four ways.

1. While Tarjama directly replaces the original text, Tafsir provides additional explanations to clarify the original text.

2. Tafsir must always be related to the original text, and adding extra words is permissible. On the other hand, in Tarjama, the translation and the original text must be similar in words, structure and phrasing. Commentaries of the Quran (tafsir) cover many areas of knowledge, such as literature, grammar, Islamic jurisprudence, theology, and more. Scholars warn readers when they add extra information that is not directly related to the original text.

3 Translations aim to translate the exact meaning of the text into another language without adding to or changing the original meaning. In contrast, tafsir focuses specifically on explaining the text and may cover one or all aspects of the text briefly or in detail.

4. Interpreting the Quran is not exact. A Mufassir presents all possible interpretations when there is not enough evidence. A direct translation of the Quran is impossible, but it can be explained using parallel meanings to the original text. However, this approach can sometimes result in omitting or adding information.



THE RULING ON TRANSLATIONS OF THE QURAN



- **LITERAL TRANSLATION** No doubt, translating the Quran word for word is prohibited. The Quran is the word of God that was revealed to His Messenger in Arabic and is considered miraculous in its words and meanings. It is worshipped through recitation in Arabic, so a translated word from the Quran cannot be considered the word of God. The miracle of the Quran is specific to its original Arabic language, and it cannot be achieved through translation. A literal translation of the Quran, no matter how familiar the translator is with the languages, their styles, and their structures, deviates from the essence of the Quran and will not provide any additional benefits.
- **TRANSLATIONS OF THE MEANING**, on the other hand, are allowed and are considered fard kifayah for the ummah, as they must spread the message of Islam. There has been no known difference of opinion on this issue. Without translations, non-Arabs would not be able to access the message of the Quran. While it is true that no translation can truly capture the beauty and eloquence of the original text, a translation can still provide a glimpse of its brilliance. It may spark an interest in readers that could lead them closer to the truth.

Ruling of reciting the Tarjama during the prayer

- ❑ Scholars have different opinions regarding the permissibility of reciting the Quran in a language other than Arabic during prayer.
- ❑ The first school of thought allows non-Arabic languages. Abu Yusuf and Muhammad bin Al-Hassan supported this view, stating that if a person is incapable of reciting the Quran in Arabic, they could at least read the meaning of the Quran in their language. However, Abu Hanifa, who initially held this view, later retracted it, stating that the Quran is a miraculous system, and translating it would lose its miraculous nature.
- ❑ On the other hand, the majority, including the Malikis, Shafi'is, and Hanbalis, believe that reading the Quran with a translation during prayer is not acceptable, regardless of whether the person can recite it in Arabic or not. They argue that the translation is not the Quran nor the word of God. As per Judge Abu Bakr bin Al-Arabi, a Maliki jurist, this view is supported by his interpretation of the Quran.
- ❑ In conclusion, two schools of thought regarding translating the Quran during prayer exist. The first allows it for individuals incapable of understanding the original language, while the second prohibits it for everyone.
- ❑ The strength of the Islamic nation lies in adhering to the path of Islam and maintaining the integrity of the Quran's language. A literal translation of the Quran is not permitted as it can lead to misinterpretation and corruption. Therefore, it is imperative to interpret the Quran accurately to convey its message.

**Exegesis
Tafsir of
Quran**

**Lecture
11**