the glorious QUR'ĀN

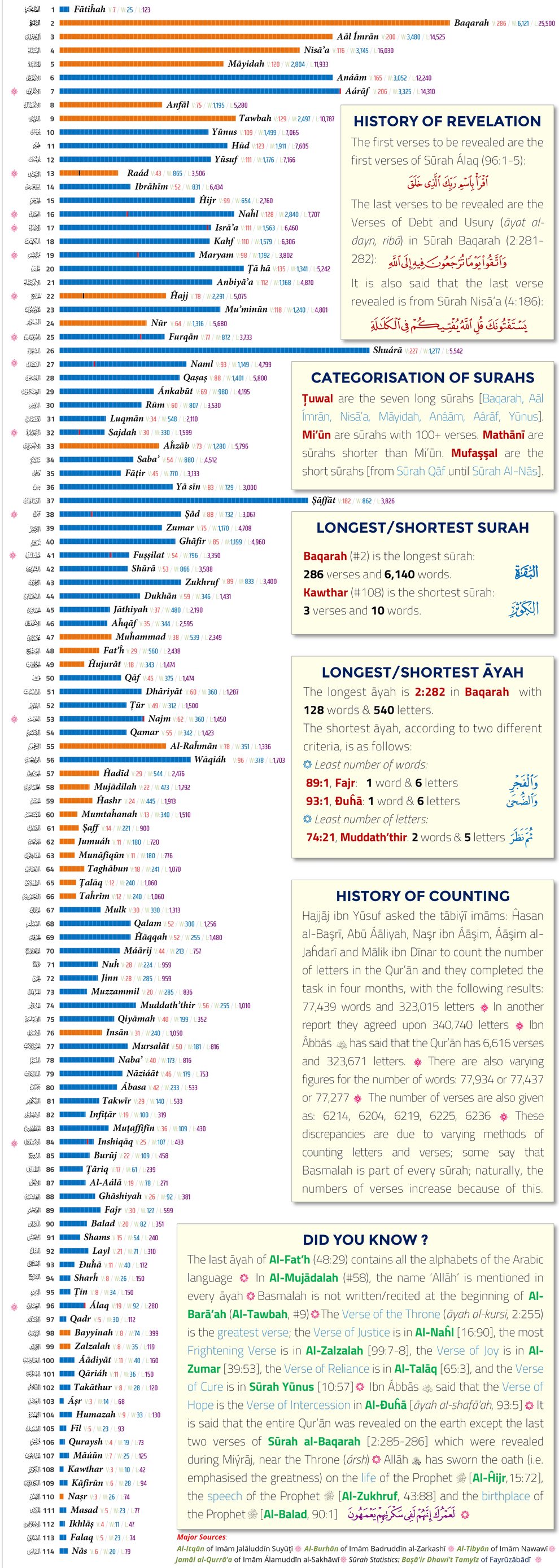
30 parts ❁ **114** chapters ❁ **6,236** verses ❁ **304,740** letters ❁ **77,934** words ❁

From Minhāl ibn Ámr via Ábdullāh ibn Masúud ﷺ

The Qur'ān is Divine Speech and the uncreated Word of Allāh. Muslims believe that many books and shorter epistles were revealed to Prophets, four of which are prominent: **Tawrāt** [Torah] given to Sayyidunā Mūsā ﷺ, **Zabūr** [Psalms] given to Sayyidunā Dāwūd ﷺ, **Injīl** [New Testament] given to Sayyidunā Ýīsā ﷺ and the **Qur'ān** given to Sayyidunā Muĥammad ﷺ. Books and epistles given to previous nations were altered by their scholars and are not found in their original form today. The Qur'ān is protected by Allāh ﷻ and will remain unaltered and uncorrupted forever. It is disbelief [kufr] to doubt, dispute or reject even a single word of this book. There are some words and verses which we cannot fully comprehend – or the literal meaning of which may appear problematic. Such verses are interpreted as best as we can and Only Allāh knows their true meaning. It is not permitted to interpret the Qur'ān merely on the basis of knowing Arabic. Even if one masters Arabic, they will still have to gain expertise in áqīdah, fiqh, ĥadīth and associated sciences to be able to interpret the Qur'ān. The Qur'ān refers to the Pre-eternal, Uncreated, Divine Speech of Allāh, and is transcendent from sounds and letters; in common usage, it also refers to the letters and words in Arabic that are used (*kalām lafzi*) to convey this information (*kalām nafsi*).

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ ❁ قُل لَّئِنِ اجْتَمَعَتِ الْإِنسُ وَالْجِنُّ عَلَىٰ أَن يَأْتُوا بِمِثْلِ هَٰذَا الْقُرْآنِ لَا يَأْتُونَ بِمِثْلِهِ وَلَوْ كَانَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ ظَهِيرًا

Sūrah Statistics: Each box represents 3 verses; number of verses (V) number of words (W) and number of letters (L) in that chapter are also mentioned. *Al-Kawthar* is the shortest sūrah with 3 verses, and is taken as the base unit. Narrow red/black boxes indicate verse of sajdah.



HISTORY OF REVELATION

The first verses to be revealed are the first verses of Sūrah Álaq (96:1-5):

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ

The last verses to be revealed are the Verses of Debt and Usury (*āyat al-dayn, ribā*) in Sūrah Baqarah (2:281-282):

وَاتَّقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى اللَّهِ

It is also said that the last verse revealed is from Sūrah Nisā'a (4:186):

يَسْتَفْتُونَكَ قُلِ اللَّهُ يُفْتِيكُمْ فِي الْكَلَالَةِ

CATEGORISATION OF SURAHS

Ţuwal are the seven long sūrahs [Baqarah, Āal Ímrān, Nisā'a, Māyidah, Anáām, Aárāf, Yūnus]. **Mi'ūn** are sūrahs with 100+ verses. **Mathānī** are sūrahs shorter than Mi'ūn. **Mufaşşal** are the short sūrahs [from Sūrah Qāf until Sūrah Al-Nās].

LONGEST/SHORTEST SURAH

Baqarah (#2) is the longest sūrah: **286** verses and **6,140** words.

الْبَقَرَة

Kawthar (#108) is the shortest sūrah: **3** verses and **10** words.

الْكَوْثَر

LONGEST/SHORTEST ĀYAH

The longest āyah is **2:282** in **Baqarah** with **128** words & **540** letters.

The shortest āyah, according to two different criteria, is as follows:

❁ *Least number of words:*

89:1, **Fajr**: **1** word & **6** letters — وَالْفَجْرِ

93:1, **Đuĥā**: **1** word & **6** letters — وَالضُّحَىٰ

❁ *Least number of letters:*

74:21, **Muddath'thir**: **2** words & **5** letters — ثُمَّ نَظَرَ

HISTORY OF COUNTING

Hajjāj ibn Yūsuf asked the tābiýī imāms: Ĥasan al-Başrī, Abū Áāliyah, Naşr ibn Áāşim, Áāşim al-Jaĥdarī and Mālik ibn Dīnar to count the number of letters in the Qur'ān and they completed the task in four months, with the following results: 77,439 words and 323,015 letters ❁ In another report they agreed upon 340,740 letters ❁ Ibn Ábbās ﷺ has said that the Qur'ān has 6,616 verses and 323,671 letters. ❁ There are also varying figures for the number of words: 77,934 or 77,437 or 77,277 ❁ The number of verses are also given as: 6214, 6204, 6219, 6225, 6236 ❁ These discrepancies are due to varying methods of counting letters and verses; some say that Basmalah is part of every sūrah; naturally, the numbers of verses increase because of this.

DID YOU KNOW ?

The last āyah of **Al-Fat'h** (48:29) contains all the alphabets of the Arabic language ❁ In **Al-Mujādalah** (#58), the name 'Allāh' is mentioned in every āyah ❁ Basmalah is not written/recited at the beginning of **Al-Barā'ah** (**Al-Tawbah**, #9) ❁ The Verse of the Throne (*āyah al-kursi*, 2:255) is the greatest verse; the Verse of Justice is in **Al-Naĥl** [16:90], the most Frightening Verse is in **Al-Zalzalah** [99:7-8], the Verse of Joy is in **Al-Zumar** [39:53], the Verse of Reliance is in **Al-Talāq** [65:3], and the Verse of Cure is in **Sūrah Yūnus** [10:57] ❁ Ibn Ábbās ﷺ said that the Verse of Hope is the Verse of Intercession in **Al-Đuĥā** [*āyah al-shafā'ah*, 93:5] ❁ It is said that the entire Qur'ān was revealed on the earth except the last two verses of **Sūrah al-Baqarah** [2:285-286] which were revealed during Miýrāj, near the Throne (*ársh*) ❁ Allāh ﷻ has sworn the oath (i.e. emphasised the greatness) on the life of the Prophet ﷺ [**Al-Ĥijr**, 15:72], the speech of the Prophet ﷺ [**Al-Zukhruf**, 43:88] and the birthplace of the Prophet ﷺ [**Al-Balad**, 90:1] لَعَمْرُكَ ❁

Major Sources:
Al-Itqān of Imām Jalāluddīn Suyūţī ❁ *Al-Burhān* of Imām Badruddīn al-Zarkashī ❁ *Al-Tibyān* of Imām Nawawī ❁ *Jamāl al-Qurrā'a* of Imām Álamuddīn al-Sakhāwī ❁ *Sūrah Statistics: Başā'ir Dhawi't Tamyīz* of Fayrūzābādī ❁

MIRACLE OF THE QUR'AN

The Qur'ān is an unceasing miracle that will remain for eternity. Its wonders are revealed in every age, such as validation of information in it and its timeless eloquence.

MEMORISING THE QUR'AN

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِن مُّدَّكِرٍ

Allāh ﷻ has made the Qur'ān easy to remember [54:17]. The Qur'ān is the world's most memorised book. Every practising Muslim memorises a few chapters. **Millions of Muslims,** even young children have memorised all the 600+ pages (77,934 words, 14,871 unique words), though less than 20% Muslims know Arabic. Billions of Muslims (in 15 centuries) have memorised eloquent passages from a linguistic masterpiece, including those who cannot speak or understand the language!

23 YEARS



The Qur'ān was revealed over a period of twenty-three years. The first verse was revealed in the cave of Ĥirā'a and the Prophet ﷺ was 40 years old at that time. The last verse was revealed 81 days (vide Ibn Ábbās ﷺ) or 9 nights (vide Saýīd ibn Jubayr ﷺ) before his ﷺ passing away.

3 PHASES ~ COMPILING THE QUR'AN

The Qur'ān was compiled in three phases. **FIRST:** In the presence of RasūlAllāh ﷺ the verses (āyāt) were ordered within chapters (sūrahs) but not written down in a book. **SECOND:** After the Battle of Yamāmah, in which many memorisers of the Qur'ān were martyred, Sayyidunā Úmar ﷺ exhorted Sayyidunā Abū Bakr al-Şiddīq ﷺ to have the Qur'ān written in a book. Sayyidunā Abū Bakr ﷺ assigned this task to Sayyidunā Zayd ibn Thabit ﷺ, who began the arduous task of verifying each verse by requiring at least two Companions to bear testimony for it. The early drafts were with Abū Bakr ﷺ and after his demise passed on to Úmar ﷺ; after his martyrdom, they passed on to his daughter Sayyidah Ĥafşah ﷺ **THIRD:** Sayyidunā Úthmān ﷺ took the codices from Sayyidah Ĥafşah ﷺ and completed the compilation of the Qur'ān. He had all other codices and individual fragments incinerated to avoid potential confusion and strife. This copy of the standardised script has been handed down by successive generations and is the same Qur'ān we read today.

4 CODICES OF UTHMAN



Sayyidunā Úthmān ibn Áffān ﷺ had four copies of the standardised *Muş'ĥaf* made. Three of these were sent to **Başrah**, **Kūfah** and **Syria**; the fourth was retained in **Madīnah**. These are known as the Úthmān Codices. It is also said that the codices prepared were seven, and the additional three were sent to Makkah, Yemen and Baĥrain. Some of these codices survive to this day.

14 SUJUD

وَلِلَّهِ يَسْجُدُ مَن فِي السَّمَٰوَٰتِ وَالْأَرْضِ طَوْعًا وَكَرْهًا وَظِلَالُهُم بِالْغُدُوِّ وَالْآصَالِ

It is obligatory (wājib) to prostrate, when one recites or hears the recitation of the following fourteen verses :

1. Aárāf (7:206)
2. Raád (13:15)
3. Naĥl (16:50)
4. Isrā'a (17:109)
5. Maryam (19:58)
6. Ĥajj (22:18)
7. Furqān (25:60)
8. Naml (27:26)
9. Sajdah (32:15)
10. Şād (38:24)
11. Fuşşilat (41:38)
12. Najm (53:62)
13. Inshiqāq (84:21)
14. Álaq (96:19).

According to Imām Shāfiýī, the fourteenth sajdah is the second instance in sūrah Ĥajj (22:77) instead of sūrah Şād (in the list above). Differing opinions concerning the number of sujūd are: eleven (Imām Mālik) and fifteen (Imām Aĥmad).

5 TIMES



The name of RasūlAllāh ﷺ is mentioned five times in the Noble Qur'ān. **Four** times as Muĥammad ﷺ in the following sūrahs: Āal Ímrān, 3:144; Al-Aĥzāb, 33:40; Muĥammad, 47:2; Al-Fat'ĥ, 48:29 and **once** as Aĥmad ﷺ in sūrah Al-Şaff 61:6. He is also mentioned by other names, that describe his attributes, such as: Raĥmatun li'l Áālamīn, Ra'ūf, Raĥīm, Bashīr, Nadhīr, Muzzammil, Muddath'thir, Tāhā, YāSīn, Sirāj, Munīr, Ábd, Rasūl, Nabīyy, Dāýī ilā Allāh.

25 NAMES OF PROPHETS

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا رُسُلًا مِّن قَبْلِكَ مِنْهُم مَّن قَصَصْنَا عَلَيْكَ وَمِنْهُم مَّن لَّمْ نَقْصُصْ عَلَيْكَ

Twenty-five prophets are named in the Qur'ān: Our Masters Ādam [Adam 25], Nūĥ [Noah 43], Ibrāhīm [Abraham 69], Ismāýīl [Ishmael 12], Is'ĥāq [Isaac 17], Yáqūb [Jacob 16], Yūsuf [Joseph 27], Mūsā [Moses 136], Hārūn [Aaron 20], Shuáyb [11], Lūţ [Lot 27], Hūd [7], Dāwūd [David 16], Sulaymān [Solomon 17], Ayyūb [Job 4], Ilyās [Elijah 2], Zakariyyah [Zechariah 7], Yaĥyā [John 5], Ýīsā [Jesus 25], Yasá [Isaiah 2] Yūnus [Jonas 4] Idrīs [Enoch 2], Dhu'l Kifl [Ezekiel 2], Şāliĥ [9] عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَام *and our master* Muĥammad ﷺ There is no consensus concerning the prophethood of Úzayr ﷺ. Dhu'l Qarnayn and Luqmān are not known to be prophets. The numbers in parantheses indicate the number of times, the names of each prophet is mentioned in the Qur'ān.

7 RIGOROUSLY VALIDATED READINGS

RasūlAllāh ﷺ has said: "The Qur'ān was revealed in seven letters". While the true meaning of 'seven letters' is not known, some scholars opine that it refers to variant readings of the Qur'ān: Seven of which are rigorously-authenticated (*mutawātir*); and additional three are lone-narrator (*áĥād*); in all, these ten are known as the well-known (*mash'hūr*) variants. This does not mean that every word or verse has a variant reading. Extensive literature on this topic and elucidating upon these differences is available, such as, Imām Shāţibī's (d.590 AH) didactic poem, **Ĥirz al-Amānī** and Imām Ibn al-Jazirī's (d.833 AH) **Al-Nashr fi'l Qirā'āt al-Áshar**. There is no contradiction in meanings due to variant readings. For example, ***māliki yawmi'd dīn***, with elongation on mīm is also recited as ***maliki yawmi'd dīn*** as a variant and they mean the same. Variant readings (*qirā'āt*) are identified by their narrators. Each of these ten readings is further transmitted by two narrators. The *qirā'ah* of **Áāşim via Ĥafş** and **Nāfiý via Warsh** are the two widespread recitations in the world today.

3 SINGULAR READINGS

10 FAMOUS READINGS

86 MAKKI

28 MADANI

According to Qur'ān scholars there are three definitions for a sūrah or an āyah to be classified as Makkī or Madanī: **1.**Verses that were revealed in Makkah are Makkī and those revealed in Madīnah are Madanī. ❁ **2.** Verses that were revealed before the Emigration (Hijrah) are Makkī and those after are Madanī. ❁ **3.** Verses which address the people of Makkah are Makkī, and those which address the people of Madīnah are Madanī. ❁

NAMES OF THE BOOK: **qur'ān** THE QUR'AN **furqān** THE DIFFERENTIATOR **kitāb** THE BOOK **dhikr** THE REMEMBRANCE **waĥy** THE REVELATION **tanzīl** THE [REVELATION] DESCENDED **qaşaş** THE LORE **rūĥ** THE SOUL **mathānīy** THE TWICE REVEALED **hudā** THE GUIDANCE **bayān** THE DESCRIPTION **tibyān** ELUCIDATOR **mawýiżah** THE COUNSEL **raĥmah** MERCY **bashīr** GIVER OF GLAD TIDINGS **nadhīr** WARNER OF PUNISHMENT **ázīz** THE RESPECTED **ĥakīm** THE WISE **muhaymin** THE BLESSED **balāgh** DELIVERED MESSAGE **shifā'a** THE CURE **majīd** THE GLORIOUS **nūr** THE LIGHT **kalām** DIVINE SPEECH **karīm** NOBLE **álīy** EXALTED **ĥikmah** WISDOM **mubārak** MUNIFICENT **ĥabl** THE ROPE **şirāţ al-mustaqīm** THE STRAIGHT PATH **qayyim** THE TENACIOUS **faşl** THE UNRAVELER **naba'un ażīm** THE GREAT NEWS **aĥsanu'l ĥadīth** BEAUTIFUL SPEECH **árabī** UNCREATED WORD **qawl** SAYING **başāyir** INSIGHTS **ílm** KNOWLEDGE **ĥaqq** THE TRUTH **hādī** THE GUIDE **ájab** MARVELLOUS **tadhkirah** REMINDER **úrwah al-wuthqā** THE FIRM HOLD **mutashābih** RESEMBLING [OTHER DIVINE BOOKS] **şidq** THE TRUTH **ádl** THE JUST **ĩymān** FAITH **ámr** THE COMMANDMENT **bushrā** GOOD NEWS **zabūr** INSCRIPTION **mubīn** THE MANIFEST BOOK

NAMES MENTIONED IN THE QUR'AN: ANGELS **Jibrīl** (Gabriel) the archangel, **Mikāýīl** (Michael), **Hārūt**-**Mārūt** who were put to trial, **Raád**-**Barq** ferocious angels, **Mālik** the guardian angel of Hell, **Sijil**, **Qaýīd**, **Kirāman-Kātibīn**, **Ĥafażah**, **Raqīb-Átīd**, **Zabāniyah** COMPANIONS Only **Zayd** ibn al-Ĥārithah. NON-PROPHETS **Ímrān** father of Maryam **Hārūn** brother of Maryam **Úzayr** also believed to be a prophet **Tubbá** a pious man; also said to be a prophet **Luqmān** the wise man; he was an Ethiopian slave. **Taqiyy** cousin of Maryam, or a pious man in her time **Ţālūt** good king WOMEN Sayyidah **Maryam** is the only woman named in the Qur'ān. DISBELIEVERS **Qārūn** the rich cousin of Sayyidunā Mūsā ﷺ **Jālūt** Goliath **Hāmān** Firawn's wicked vizier **Bushrā** person in the caravan that took Sayyidunā Yūsuf ﷺ **Aāzar** uncle or (step?)father of Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm ﷺ **Nasīy** JINN **Iblīs** his name was Ázāzīl before he fell. TRIBES/NATIONS **Yajūj-Ma'jūj**, **Áād**, **Thamūd**, **Madyan**, **Quraysh**, **Rūm** (Romans). Also: **People of Madīnah, People of Nūĥ**, **People of Lot**, **People of Tubbá**, **People of Ibrāhīm**, **People of Aykah**, **People of Rass, People of Yūnus, People of Ukhdūd**. IDOLS **Wadd**, **Suwāá**, **Yaghūth**, **Yaúūq**, **Nasr**, **Lāt**, **Uzzā**, **Manāt**, **Rujz**, **Jibt-Ţāghūt**, **Rashād**, **Āzar**, **Baál**. PLACES **Bakkah-Makkah**, **Madīnah** (also mentioned as Yathrib), **Árafāt**, **Şafā-Marwah**, **Majmaá al-Baĥrayn**, **Masjid al-Aqşā**, **Kaábah, Masjid al-Ĥarām**, **Maqām Ibrāhīm**, **Badr**, **Uĥud**, **Ĥunayn**, **Jamá** Muzdalifah, **Mashári'l Ĥarām** (the hill) **Masjid Đirār**, **Naq'a** place between Árafat and Muzdalifah **Mişr** Egypt, **Babil** Babylon **Aykah**/**Laykah** is where Sayyidunā Shuayb ﷺ lived **Ĥijr** the lands of Thamūd close to Syria, near Wadī al-Qurā **Aĥqāf** a sand hill near Oman and Hadramawt **Tūr Sinā'a** Mount Sinai; the mountain where Sayyidunā Mūsā ﷺ was summoned **Jūdīy** the mountain on which the ark of Sayyidunā Nūĥ ﷺ landed after the flood subsided **Tuwā** a valley in Palestine **Kahf** the cave where the seven sleepers lie **Raqīm** a valley in that mountain, or the dog of the Sleepers (*aş'ĥāb kahf*) **Árim** a valley **Jard** a township **Şarīm** a place in Yemen **Qāf** a mountain **Juruz** a town **Ţāghiyah** the place were Thamūd were punished **Saba'**. PLACES IN THE HEREAFTER **Firdaws**: the highest place in Paradise **Ílliyyūn** lofty place in Paradise; place where good deeds are recorded **Kawthar** stream in Paradise; Pond of the Prophet ﷺ **Salsabīl-Tasnīm** springs in Paradise, **Aárāf**, **Sijjīn** the place were souls of disbelievers are imprisoned **Şaúūd** a mountain in Hell **Mawbiq**, **Ghayy**, **Athām**, **Wayl**, **Saýīr**, **Sāyil**, **Suĥq** valleys in Hell **Falaq** a pit in Hell **Yaĥmūm** dark smoke in Hell APPELLATIONS **Ummī** people of Umm al-Qurā (i.e. Makkah), **Ábqariy** dwelling of the Jinn **Samiriyy** from Sāmirūn or Sāmirah **Árabīy** CELESTIAL OBJECTS **Sun**, **Moon**, **Tāriq**, **Sirius** (Shiýrā) ANIMALS/ BIRDS/INSECTS **Salwā**, **Gnat**, **Fly**, **Bee**, **Spider**, **Locust**, **Hoopoe**, **Crow**, **Abābīl** (small birds), **Ants, Goat**, **Sheep**, **Cattle**, **Frog**, **Elephant**, **Monkeys/Apes**, **Lion**, **Lice**, **Dog**, **Mule**, **Cow**, **Calf**, **Serpents**, **Donkey**, **Swine**, **Whale**, **Horse**, **Wolf**, **Moth/Butterfly**, **Termites, Fish, Camel, She-Camel**. TITLES **Abū Lahab** kafir and uncle of RasūlAllāh ﷺ **Isrāýīl** title of Sayyidunā Yáqūb ﷺ **Masīĥ** the Messiah (Sayyidunā Ýīsā ﷺ) **Ilyās** (*prophet*) but also said to be the title of Sayyidunā Idrīs ﷺ **Nūĥ** ﷺ said to be the title of the prophet; and his name was Ábdu'l Ghaffār ﷺ. **Dhu'l Kifl** title of Ilyās or Yasaá or Yūshaá or Zakariyyah ﷺ **Dhu'l Qarnayn** Alexander; but he is not the polytheist Macedonian king in the time of Aristotle **Firáwn** pharoah, whose name was Walīd **Tubbá** Kings of Yemen.

TAJWID: RULES OF QUR'AN RECITATION

It is obligatory to recite the Qur'ān in Arabic and according to the rules of recitation. This means to learn to pronounce every letter properly and fulfilling the conditions and matching the attributes of the letter. To learn where to stop and start; to know the rules concerning the attributes of each letter such as, assimilation, elision and elongation, etc.

MERITS OF RECITING THE QUR'AN

RasūlAllāh ﷺ has said: The best among you are those who learn the Qur'ān and teach it. Those who recite it proficiently will be with angels and those who recite it with difficulty will get double the reward. Luminious crowns will be placed on the heads of those who recite the Qur'ān diligently, and upon the heads of their parents. On Judgement Day, the Qur'ān will intercede for those who recite it.

RIDAWI رضا PRESS