

SOO-RA-TUL-BALAD

Chapter 90
Revealed at Mak-ka, 20 Verses

In the Name of Allaah, the All-Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

1. ***Laa uq-si-mubi-haa-zal ba-lad*** – No, I swear by this city (Mak-ka),

(The word “*Laa*” in the Arabic script generally means “No”. It is also used to negate the standing concepts of those originally addressed, as in the above case. The city of Mak-ka encircles the first house of Allaah – where people offer their prayers and it is centrally located on the globe. (Please see the world map on the title page of Yaqeen to confirm this.) This city also had the privilege of the birth and dawning of the last Messenger of Allaah.

2. ***Wa an-ta hil-lum bi-haa-zal ba-lad*** – **and you** (O Prophet!) **shall be free** (for a holy war) **in this city** –

This Verse, revealed in Mak-ka, prior to the ‘*Hijrat*’ was a prophecy to console the Kind Prophet that a time will come when he shall triumphantly enter the city to preach and give the Message of Allaah to all openly and freely, and if necessary to wage a holy war. This was an exception for the Kind Prophet, as since the creation of the World, warfare in this city of peace was never before permitted in order to observe its sanctity. This prophecy came true in the 10th year of the *Hijrat*, when the city fell open to the last Messenger of *Allaah*.

3. ***Wa waa-li diwn wa-maa wa-lad*** – **and by the father and the begotten** i.e., Adam and his offsprings,
4. ***La-qad-kh-laq-nal in-saa-na fee ka-bad*** – **Indeed, we created Man into toil and struggle.**

The struggle and hardships have been destined from the cradle to the grave, and no human being is exempted from this.

5. *A-yah-sa-bu al-layn yaq-di-ra 'a-lai-hi a-had* – Does he think that none has power over him?
6. *Ya-goo-lu ah-lak-tu maa-lal lu-ba-daa*. – He says: “I have wasted wealth in plenty”;
7. *A yah-sa-bu al-lam ya-raa-hoo a-had*– does he think that none observes him;
8. *Al-lam naj-'al la-hoo 'ai-nain*– have We not provided him two eyes;
9. *Wa li-saa-nawn wa sha-fa-tain* – and a tongue and two lips;
10. *Wa-ha-dai-naa-hun-naj-dain* – and guided him to the two mount-paths (of good and evil).
11. *Fa-laq ta-ha-mal 'a-qa-bah* – Yet, he could not attempt the steep road,
12. *Wa-maa ad-raa-ka mal 'a-qa-bah* – and what shall make you understand what that ‘steep’ road is?
13. *Fak-ku ra-qa-bah* – (It is) to free a captive,
14. *Aw it-'aa-mun fee yau-min zee mas-gha-bah*– or, to feed on a day of starvation,
15. *Ya-tee-man-zaa maq-ra-bah* – an orphan, related,
16. *Aw mis-kee-nan zaa mat-ra-bah*– or a needy lying in the dust (in misery and distress), (and),
17. *Sum-ma kaa-na mi-nal la-zee-na aa-ma-noo wa-ta-wa-sau bis-sab-ri wa-ta-wa-saubil-mar-ha-mah* – then to be of those who believe and counsel one another for patience and counsel one another for compassion –

The meanings of “*Sabr*” or patience are not so simple as one would think; it conveys lots of meanings. Patience is regarded as a combination of good conduct, character and a fountain of virtue. The Kind Prophet has said: “*The patience is half the Faith.*” Patience covers the worldly and celestial aspirations and conduct of mankind; it is mentioned in more than 30 places in the Eminent Qur’aan. Even the Benevolent Messenger was asked to have patience like other great Messengers. Patience is the father and mother of our faith, our deeds, virtues; helps us to abstain from the forbidden and bad deeds, persuades us to be steadfast in the way of Allaah, the Glorious. Compassion or Mercy is an important deed and qualification for all Muslims; it is Divine attribute of the Almighty. Mercy is the source of many of the praised manners and conducts. The Kind Prophet has said: “*The merciful get Mercy from the All-Compassionate; be kind to all who are on this earth (so that) mercy and kindness be bestowed by Him Who is in the Heavens.*”

18. **Oo-laa-‘i-ka as-haa-bul mal-ma-nah** – **those are the fellows of right** – i.e. these blessed persons who shall receive their books of deeds in their right hands and enter Paradise.
19. **Wal-lazi-na ka-fa-roo bi-aa-yaa-ti-naa hum as-haa-bul mash-‘a-mah** – **And those who reject our Signs, they are fellows of the left** (the wretched, who will be given their deed books in the left hand, and enter Hell);
20. **‘A-lal-him na-rum mu’-sa-dah**– **for them shall be Fire, vaulted over.**