

THE GLORIOUS QUR'AN

From Revelation To Recitation & Beyond

POPULAR COMMENTARIES OF THE QUR'AN

Published By:



DARUL IHSAN
HUMANITARIAN CENTRE
GUIDANCE • UBUNTU • EMPOWERMENT

CLASSIFICATION OF VERSES AND POPULAR COMMENTARIES OF THE QUR'AN

CLASSIFICATION OF VERSES

1. Those which teach man through the remembrance of the gifts of Allah. For example: Water, air, sun, moon, day, night, heavens, earth, children, vegetation, animals etc. which point out the existence of Allah and Oneness of Allah.
2. Those which teach mankind through the remembrance of various happenings, incidents and stories. How Allah helped His Prophets for example Ibraheem, Ismail, Harun, Isa and Muhammad ﷺ, and how He punished the wrongdoers for example Fir'aun, Namrud, Qarun, Abu Lahab, and the communities of Aad and Thamud.
3. Those which teach man through the remembrance of death and eschatology. The events mentioned are: Questioning of the grave, Barzakh- the intermediate state after death till the day of Resurrection, Resurrection, The Day of Judgement, Rewards and Punishments, Heaven and Hell.
4. Those which teach mankind the injunctions. Many verses contain commandments for governing the conduct of every Muslim from birth to death. Imam Suyuti mentions there are 500 such verses.

POPULAR COMMENTARIES OF THE QUR'AN

Countless commentaries of the Quran have been written since the blessed period of prophethood. Nobody can claim to fulfilled the due right of the Quran, but it is also an undeniable fact that the lovers of Islam have worked hard and with love and devotion in service of the Quran. Neither have so many exegeses of any book been written, nor so many translations made. Today it has become easy to benefit from the Quran in light of these services. Whoever wants to know the exegesis of any verse of the Quran, libraries are available to him. However, we will mention some of the sources:

TAFSEER IBN KATHIR

The author of this commentary is Hafiz Imad al-din Abu al-Fida Isma'il ibn kathir al-Dimishqi al-Shafi'i (700-774 Hijrah), a distinguished research scholar of the eighth century. It has been published in four volumes. Here emphasis has been laid on explanatory narrations. A special feature is his criticism as a Hadith expert on different narrations, and from this point of view, this book holds a distinct place among all books of Tafseer. He also explains the verse in simple language, so that the reader may understand the intent of the verse. It is a useful work for a student of knowledge.

TAFSEER AL-QURTUBI

Its full name is Al-Jami li-Ahkam al-Qur'an. It was written by the famous learned writer and research scholar of Andalusia (Spain), Abu 'Abdullah Muhammed ibn Ahmad Abi Bakr ibn Farah al-Qurtubi (died 671 Hijrah). He was an adherent of the Maliki school of fiqh and was known all over for his 'ibadah and piety. The fact is that the basic objective of this book was to deduce juristic injunctions and rulings from the Qur'an yet, while doing so, he has also provided the explanation of verses, research into difficult words, discussion of diacritical marks and elegance of style and composition, and related Traditions and Reports in his Tafsir, and quite ably so. This book is in twelve volumes and has been published widely.

TAFSEER AL-KABEER

This is the work of Imam Fakhrud Deen ar-Razi (died 680 Hijrah) Its real name is Mafatih al-Ghayb, but is popularly known as 'Tafsir Kabir'. Imam Razi; is an imam of the theology of Islam, therefore, great emphasis has been laid in his Tafsir on rational and scholastic debates and on the refutation of false sects. But the truth is that this Tafsir is, in its own way, a unique key to the Qur'an as well. Furthermore, the pleasing way in which the meanings of the Qur'an have been clarified and the mutual link of the Qur'anic verses established, is all too praise-worthy. Most likely, Imam Razi himself wrote down his Tafsir as far as Surah al-Fath. Onwards from there, he could not complete. So, the remaining part of the Tafsir, from Surah al-Fath to the end, was completed by Qadhi Shihab al-Din ibn Khalil al-Khawli al-Dimashqi (died 639 Hijrah) or Shaykh Najm al-Din Ahmad ibn Muhammed al-Qamuli (died 777 Hijrah). (Kashaf al-zunun v 2, p 477)

Imam Razi has particularly emphasised scholastic debates and the refutation of false sects in accordance with the dictates of his time.

The prominent features of this book are:

1. The grammatical composition and background of revelation, and the narrations relating to them with clarity and detail.
2. He has described the grandeur and majesty of the Quran in detail.
3. The legal injunctions relating to a verse have been explained in detail.
4. Quranic injunctions and their mysteries have been beautifully highlighted.

TAFSEER ABI AS-SAUD

It is written by Qadhi Abu Saud Muhammed bin Muhammed Al-Imadi Al-Hanafi (died 951 AH). It is indeed a masterpiece work, exhibiting his depth of knowledge, insight and understanding of the Qur'an. It has five volumes and is a magnificent exegesis of the Qur'an in a concise manner. The most prominent feature of this exegesis is that one finds some highly refined and subtle points about the Qur'an, relation of its verse and its eloquence. It allows for an easy understanding of the Quran and the excellence of its miraculous style.

TAFSIR AL-BAHR AL-MUHIT

This was written by 'Allamah Abu Hayyan al-Gharnati al-Andalusi (died 754 Hijrah) who was a master of syntax and rhetoric in addition to other Islamic fields of learning. As a result of this, his own Tafseer is soaked in syntax and rhetoric. He places special stress on investigating into the words of every verse, the difference in structures and on points of eloquence.

AHKAM AL-QUR'AN BY AL-JASSAS

This was written by Imam Abii Bakr al-Jasas al-Razi (died 370 Hijrah) who occupies a distinguished place among Hanafi jurists. The deduction of juristic injunctions and rulings from the noble Qur'an is

the subject of this book. Instead of explaining verses in serial continuity, he has taken up the juristic details as called for by verses which consist of juristic injunctions. Several other books have also been written on this subject, but this book enjoys a prominent place among those.

TAFSEER AL-DURR AL-MANTHUR

This was written by 'Allamah Jalal al-Din al-Suyuti (died 910 Hijrah). Its full name is 'al-Durr al-Manthur fit Tafseer bi AI-Ma'thur. Here 'Allamah al-Suyuti has tried to collect all narrations about the tafseer of Qur'an he was able to find. Several hadith scholars such as Hafiz ibn Jarir, Imam Baghawi, Ibn Marduwayh, Ibn Hibban and Ibn Majah and others had already worked in this area on their own.

'Allamah al-Suyuti has assembled narrations presented by all of them in this book. But rather than refer to complete chain of authorities along with narrations, he has found it sufficient to simply name the particular author who has presented that narration under his authority so that, if needed, one could go back to the work and investigate into the ultimate authority. Since his purpose was to put together a mass of narrations, as a result of which, all sorts of narrations, sound and weak, have found their way into his book.

Hence, every narration allowed entry by him cannot be considered reliable without investigation into its authority. There are occasions when 'Allamah al-Suyuti does indicate with each narration the degree of its authority as well. But as he is known to be fairly easy-going in respect of hadith critique, it is still difficult to fully rely on that too.

AL-TAFSEER AL-MAZHARI

This was written by Qadi Thanhullah Panipati (died 1225 Hijrah). He has named this Tafseer as Al-Tafseer Al-Mazhari after the name of his spiritual master, Mirza Mazhar Jan-e-Janan Dehlavy. This Tafseer of his is very simple and clear, and extremely useful to locate brief explanations of Qur'anic verses. Along with the elucidation of Qur'anic words, he has also taken up related narrations in ample details, and in doing so, he has made an effort to accept narrations after much more scrutiny as compared with other commentaries.

TAFSEER RUH AL-MA'ANI

The full name of this Tafseer- is 'Ruh al-Ma'ani fi Tafseer al-Quran al-'Azim wa al-Sab' al-Mathani' and it was written by 'Allamah Mahmud al-Alusi (died 1270 Hijrah), the famous scholar of the last period of Baghdad, and comprises of thirty volumes. He has made his best possible effort to make this Tafseer comprehensive. There are exhaustive discussions on language, syntax, letters, style, and on jurisprudence, articles of faith, scholastics, philosophy, astronomy, mysticism and related narratives of traditions. He has made an attempt to leave no intellectual aspect pertaining to a verse unexplained. In the case of Hadith narratives as well, the author of this work has been more cautious as compared to other commentators. From this angle, this is a very comprehensive commentary, and no future venture in connection with the Tafsir of the Qur'an can now afford to ignore its help.

Source: Ma'ariful Qur'an- Mufti Muhammed Shafi (Rahimahullah)

In more recent times, many Ulama have compiled commentaries of the Qur'an with the idea to make it easy for students and public alike to benefit from the deep meanings and message of the Qur'an. The list is exhaustive, however some titles that are popular are:

1. Tafseer Uthmani – Mufti Mahmoodul Hasan and Allamah Shabbeer Ahmed Uthmani
2. Bayanul Qur'an – Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi
3. Safwatut Tafaseer – Allamah Sabuni
4. Tafseer Majidi – Moulana Abdul Majeed Daryabadi
5. Ma'ariful Qur'an – Mufti Muhammad Shafi Uthmani
6. Ma'ariful Qur'an – Moulana Idrees Khandelwi
7. Anwaarul Bayan – Ashiq Ilahi Bulandshari
8. Tauzeeh Al-Qur'an – Mufti Taqi Usmani

May Allah Ta'ala reward all the scholars of Qur'an for their services and have mercy upon them.



CONTACT US

031 577 7868

www.darulihсан.com

disc@darulihсан.com

@discdbn

/darulihسانcentre

70 Joyce Road,
Sea Cow Lake,
Durban

DARUL IHSAN APP

Secure Easy Donations

Ask Your Fatwa

Spiritual Guidance

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

AL IHSAN Book & Gift STORE

www.alihsanbookshop.co.za

bookshop@darulihسان.com

084 401 1527

031 577 7868

FATWA DEPARTMENT

For your Business Queries, Zakah Calculations, Estate Planning - Contact our Fatwa Department

fatwa@darulihسان.com

084 786 2224

031 577 7868

AL IHSAN SKILLS ACADEMY
UPSKILLING THE NATION

Computer Literacy Course

Fashion & Design Course

Cook & Bake Course

Caregiver Course

GUIDELINE
COUNSEL • COMPASSION • COHERENCE

A FREE COUNSELLING SERVICE for our sisters

QUICK CONTACT