

7. He taught man the use of pen and imparted him the knowledge which he could never attain to without the benevolence of God.

As a matter of fact man cannot gain the true knowledge without God's grace. Although man has been granted a very scanty knowledge, even then it is the gracious conferment of Allknowing and All-Wise Allah who brought man out of the darkness of sheer ignorance into the luminosity of knowledge.

LESSONS FROM HADEETH

**Some Important Exhortation of the Prophet sallallahu
alayhi wasallam**

By

Maulana Manzoor Nu'maanni

It is related by Abdullah Ibne Amr (R.A) that the Apostle of Allah (P.B.U.H) said: "Four things and habits are such that if you possess them then there is no harm if the world [and its blessings] are lost or do not come to [your] hand. [These are]:

- (1) safe-keeping of trust; (2) truthfulness in speech;
- (3) good manners; and (4) caution and abstinence in food"

Musnad-i-Ahmad and Bayhaqi

Commentary

The word 'trust' is used in a very wide sense in the terminology of Islam. It includes the fulfilment of the rights of Allah and of men as well as the carrying out of covenants and promises. Thus, a person who is trust worthy, i.e., who fulfils the rights of Allah as well as of men honestly and is truthful when he speaks and possess good manners and noble qualities of mind and character and exercises self-restraint in food and drink and does not over eat or partake of things that are forbidden or of a doubtful nature is, positively a very fine specimen of humanity. He is not only a perfect man in this world but in the neverending life of the hereafter, too. Such exceptional favours will be conferred upon him that each one of them will be more valuable than all the blessings of the world put together. If a man like him remains poor in the earthly existence, he should not grieve for what he has is far superior to all that the world has to offer.

account of the subject : (22 : 5 : 23,23 : 13,32 : 8 & 9,75 : 27 and 28, and 70 : 1 & 2.

Biologically speaking, as a result of sexual intercourse the male sperm (Nutfa) makes way to the ovum, rests for a time in it, fertilizes it and then remains safe in the womb. Thus the zygote grows and is changed into a clot of thickly coagulated blood (a'laqa). At a latter stage the mass grows into a lump which is called foetus (mudhghah) Then it is clad with bones and flesh and remains in the womb of the mother , animated with God's spirit. (10:29) for the pre-natal period till delivery.(23:13) The Holy Quran reminds man at the very outset that marvellous dexterity of the Creator works through various phases of human life from inorganic matter, Turab (22:5) to organic matter protoplasm. Passing through many biological stages he is raised above the animal life to the highest degree of nurtured, cultured and disciplined life of man who is well-behaved, God fearing and subservient to the will of Allah.

The verse reminds us of some veritable deduction.

- (a) The Creator Who is able to create human being from almost nothingness and endows him it higher qualities of head and heart has the full power to resurrect him.
- (b) Man who has been created from an abominable origin has no justification of being proud of his high-handedness, racial superiority or selfelevation.

5. Once again the READING is stressed upon due to its paramount importance. The Lord Who raised man from a despicable state to the culmination of an enviable life, superior to all animals, in surely Bounteous and Generous. He must be held in esteem and adoration.

6. Here the word PEN denotes much significance.

Reading and writing are the basic exercises for attaining to the heights of a civilised life. Three Rs. "reading, writing and and reckoning" have always played a pivotal role in the uplift of societies. It has been the mark of distinction for the Muslim Ummah through centuries under the inspiration of Revelational guidance. Seeds of glory were sown through learnings and bumper crop of luminous civilization was reaped. Same can be achieved by following the footprints of the Prophet (Peace ad blessings of Allah be upon him) and acting upon his holy message

Through Scientific and technological learn-ings alongwith social studies and Quranic guidance Muslims have set up landmarks of civilization in the history of mankind. There is a delicate implication to the fact that the Quran was to be safe and secure from every corruption, distortion and alteration till the Day of Judgement because it was put in black and white, the moment it was revealed. The meticulous scribes rendered meritorious services in deeping its originality intact and unimpaired.

angel as Zuhri points out. (Al-Itqan) That is why his answer was, "I cannot read."

96. Ala'laq, revealed at Makkah.
verses 19, section (1)

(١٩) سورة العلق مكيه

١ يا لها (١٩) ركوعها (١)

In the name of Allah the Most
Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

1. Read in the name of
your Lord, Who created (all things).
2. Created man from a clot
(of congealed blood)
3. Read and your lord is
the Most Gracious.
4. Who taught by the pen.
5. Taught man that which
he did not know.

١- اقرا باسم ربك الذي خلق

٢- خلق الانسان من علق

٣- اقرا وربك الاكرم

٤- الذي علم بالقلم

٥- علم الانسان ما لم يعلم

1. Strange though it may sound that a person who never got education at any Al-Ma Ma-ter was being asked to read, the fact is that the very first word released to the unlettered (in the traditional sense of the word) prophet showed the depth of his deep knowledge unacquired through worldly media. Moreover, it provides an ample evidence of advancement of human civilization through Islamic pursuance for learning. Arabs formed a society in which the lettered persons could be counted at fingers' tips. In those circumstances the very inception of the revelation with the word READ was no less than a heavy stone in the stagnant water. This word would have really shaken the infrastructure of his contemporary society soaked in ignorance.

2. It shows that the onerous responsibility of revelation was to be shouldered by the Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) with the assistance of Almighty Allah. It has also been inferred from the verse that TASMIA is Recommended religious precept while reciting the Holy Quran.

3. The very first verse revealed to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gives two attributes of almighty Allah, The Sustainer and the Creator. It shows that it is He and He only who created all things and provided them with sustenance. Unlike Indian mythology in which Brahma, the creator and Shiva, the sustainer have separate charges. Islam proclaims the sole control with One True God.

4. A'laq is the plural form of A'laqah which means, a clot of congealed blood. The word opens new vistas to many a thought-provoking ideas. Besides its inspirational affectuation it awakens mental faculties of man through biological evidence.

The implication of man's genetic origin in this early chapter was to be elucidated at a latter stage. For an instance the perusal of the following verses of the Holy Quran may give a comprehensive

First Revelation

Prof. Ghulam Rasul Adeem

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

SURA AL-A'LAQ (THE CLOT) INTRODUCTION

It is the earliest chapter revealed at Makkah. The title of the chapter is derived from verse 2. Although it is the 96th chapter of the Holy Quran according to its transmitted order but a formidable number of notable scholars accept its first five verses as the first revelation. Authorities like Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidhi, Nasai, Ahmad b. Hanbel, Baihiqi and Tabarani are of the same opinion in this regard. (See Al-Itqan by Suyuti) Imam Bukari has given a very comprehensive account of the inception of revelation in the third tradition of the introductory chapter of his collection Sahih Bukhari

كيف بدء الوحي الى رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم

The tradition has been narrated on the authority of Ayesha---the mother of believers and has been accepted as the most authenticated one by all authorities except a few of them who give chronological priority to Muddasir or Al-Fatiha to Al-A'laq. However they have been retaliated by cogent arguments.

It was the month of Ramadhan thirteen years before the Hira when God began showering His bounties upon the Holy Prophet (Peace and blessing of Allah be upon him) He was forty and fully prepared for the intake of the revelational inspiration.

At that stage of his life, according to the tradition narrated on the authority of Ayesha, "He dreamt true dreams. He dreamt anything visible to him like the dawn of the day. The solitude became dear unto him. He used to withdraw in to seclusion in a cave of Mount Hira at a small distance from Makkah. He applied himself to acts of devotion consisting of worship for numeral nights before returning to his family. He supplied provisions for it. Then he returned to Khadijah and repeated the same routine till the truth of Revelation flashed to him. He was in the cave of Hira when one night the angel of Revelation suddenly appeared to him and said, "Read" (the prophet) said, "My answer was, I cannot read". Then he seized me and pressed me to himself until all strength went out of me.

Then he released me and said, "Read", I said, "I cannot read". So he seized me and pressed me a second time so much so that all strength went out of me. Then he said, "Read". My reply was, "I cannot read". so he pressed me a third time, then he released me and said, "Read in the name of your Lord.....)" This citation is the most authenticated version concerning the very beginning of the Holy Quran. It seems that some write-up was presented to him by the