

**NAHJ AL-BALAGHAH**  
for  
**Children**





**the creation**



He made **the creation**

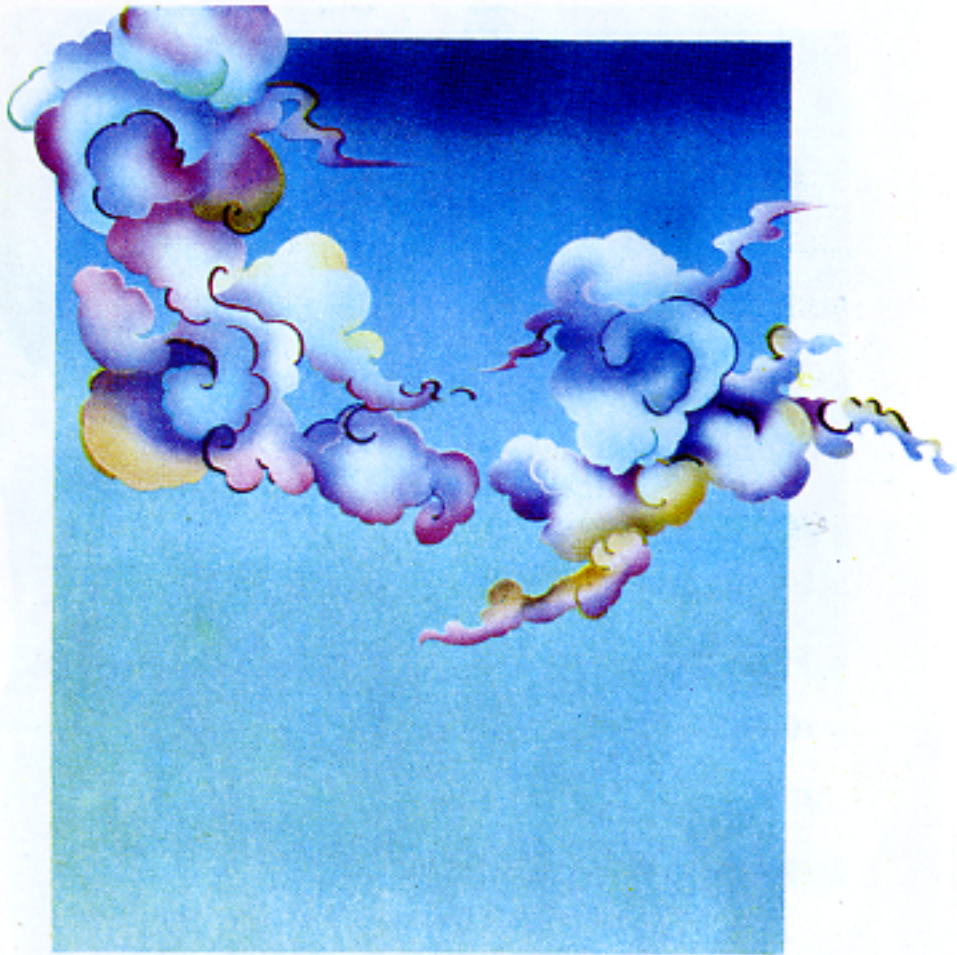
Without any example and without the  
advice of a counsel  
or the assistance of a helper.



**the earth**



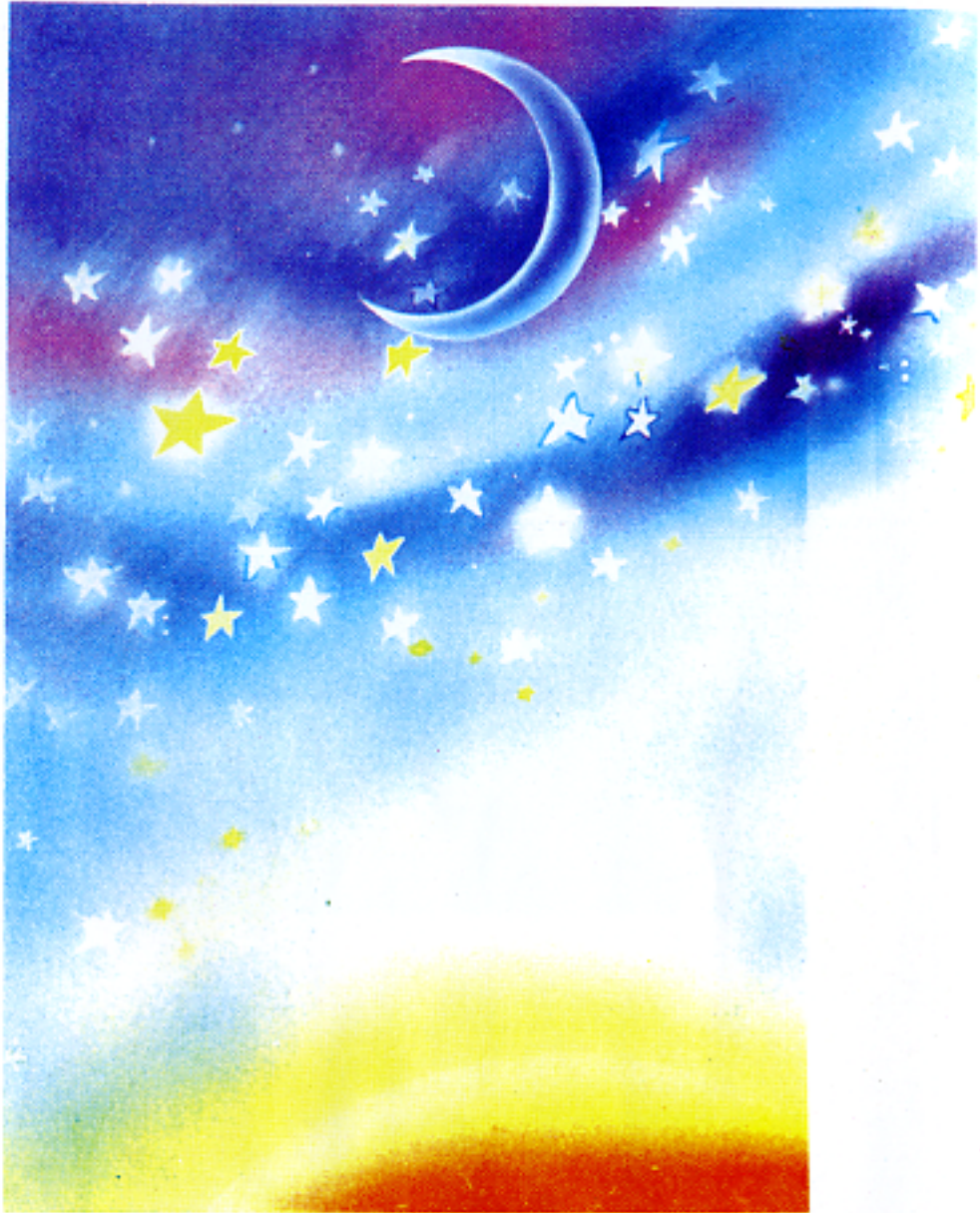
He created **the earth** and  
suspended it,  
retained it without support,  
made it stand without legs,  
and raised it without pillars.



**the winds**



He brought out the creation  
by his power  
and made **the winds** blow  
with His compassion.



**the moon**

Then He decorated the heavens  
with the stars and the light of the  
meteors and set the shining sun and the  
bright **moon** in an orbit that rolls around



Sermon 1



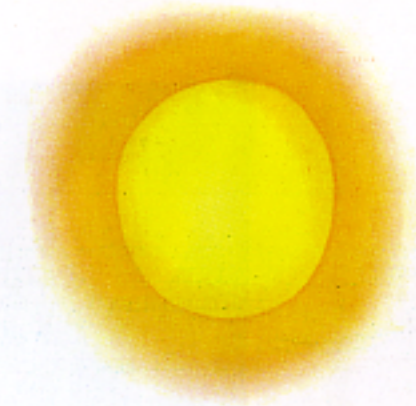
**the night**



Praise be to Allah  
when **the night** falls  
and darkens,  
and praise be to Allah  
when the stars shine and set.



**the sun**



Look at  
**the sun** and the moon,  
the plants and the trees,  
the water and the stones,  
at the **alternation** of day and night,  
the gush of the oceans,  
the great number of the mountains  
and the height of their peaks,  
at the **difference** of languages  
and the **variety** of tongues.

Sermon 185

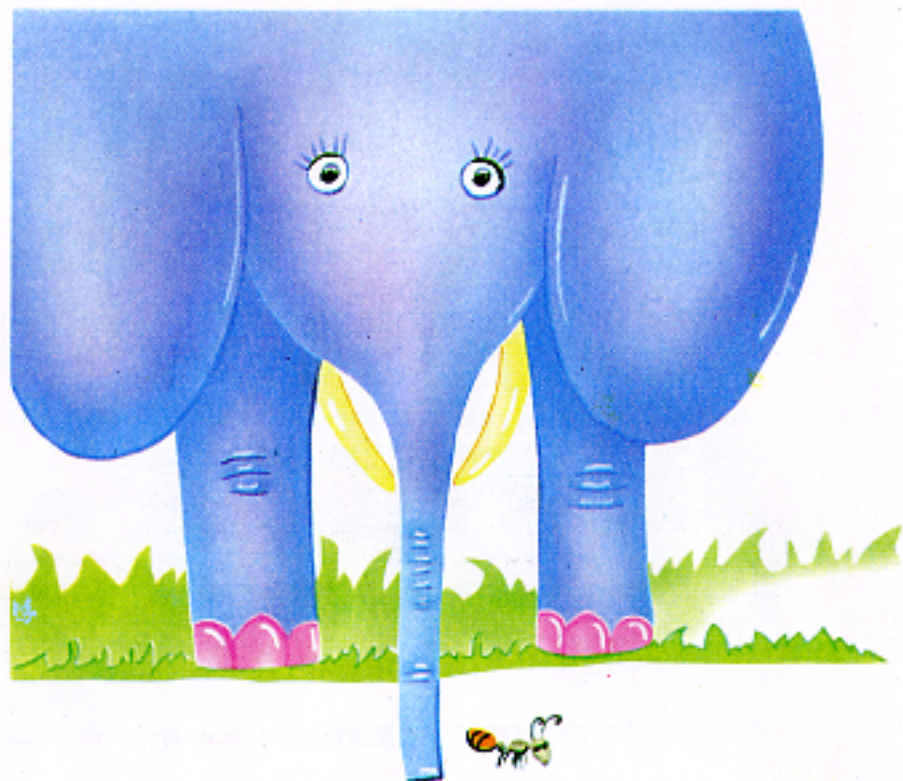




**the ant**



Look at **the ant**  
with its small body  
and delicate form.  
See how it crawls on the earth  
and leaps at its livelihood.  
It carries the grain to its hole  
and stores it in its storage.  
It collects during the summer for the  
winter,  
and during strength for the period of its  
weakness



**the feet**



Glorified is Allah  
who has given **feet**  
to the ant and the gnat,  
and created those bigger than them,  
the fishes and the elephants.



## the locust



If you wish,  
I will tell you about **the locust**.  
Allah gave it two red eyes,  
with pupils like two moons,  
made its small ears,  
opened for it a suitable mouth,  
and gave it a keen sense.  
He gave it two front teeth to cut with  
and two sickle - like feet  
to grip with.



**the birds**

**The birds** are subject to His commands.

He knows the number of their feathers and the count of their breaths.

He has made their feet stand on water and on land.

He knows all their species.

There is the crow,  
and the eagle,  
the pigeon,  
and the ostrich.





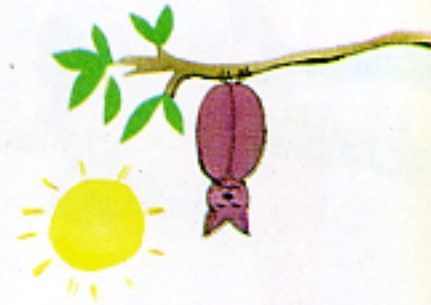
**the peacock**



The most amazing among them is **the peacock** in its creation, which Allah has created in the finest harmony and arranged its hues in the best composition, with wings well tacked together and a long trailing tail.



## the bat



An example of his delicate product,  
a marvel of His creation,  
and a sample of His profound wisdom,  
is what we see in **the bat**,  
which shrinks from the daylight,  
although daylight moves everything else  
to action,  
and is active in the night,  
although the night stops the activity of  
every other living being.  
living thing.



## the fishes

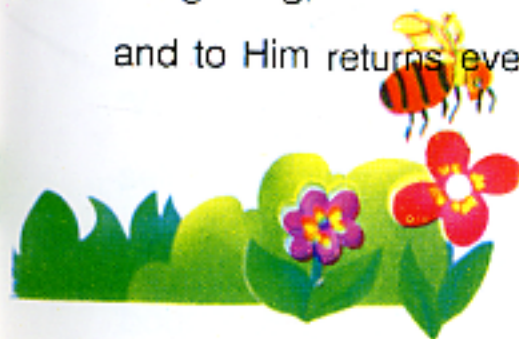


God is aware of the cries  
of the beasts in the forests,  
of the sins of the people in private,  
of the movements of **the fishes**  
in deep oceans,  
and the uproar of the waters  
by strong winds

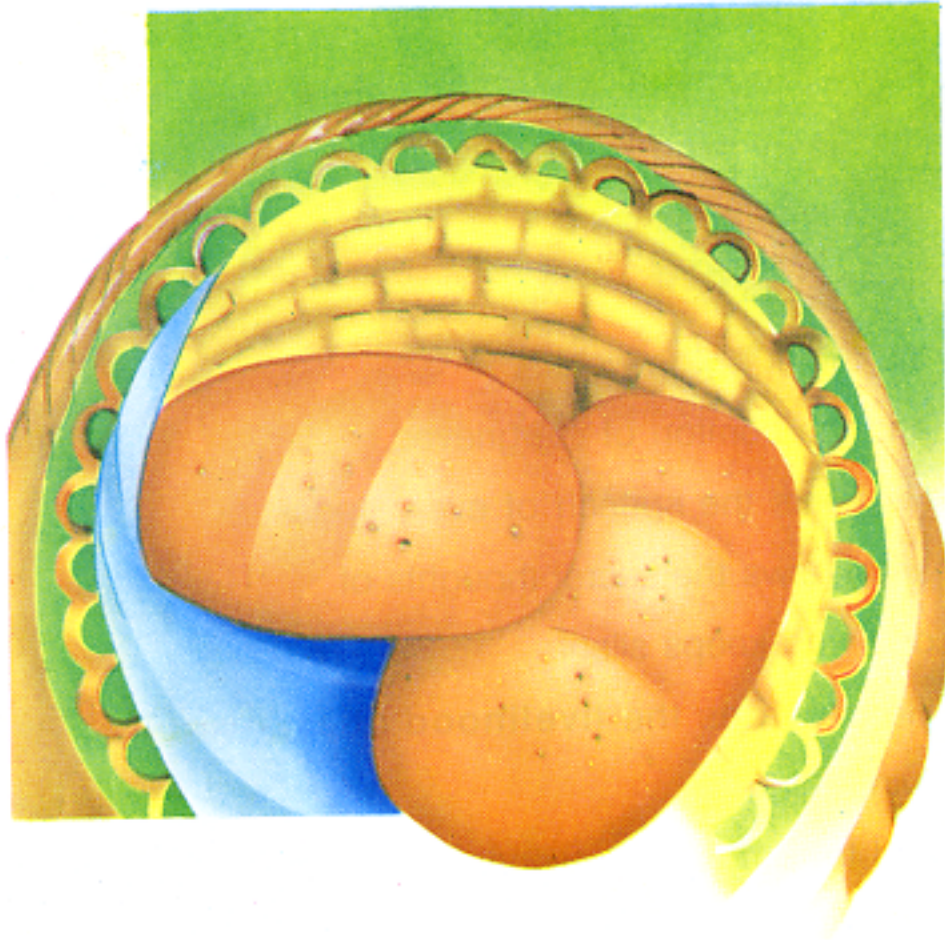


**livelihood**

Every thing submits to Him,  
and every thing exists by Him.  
He is the recourse of every poor,  
the honour of the lowly,  
the might of the weak,  
and the comfort of the grieved.  
He hears the speech of every speaker,  
and knows the secret thoughts of  
one who keeps silent.  
He provides the **livelihood** of every  
living thing,  
and to Him returns everything that dies.







## David



## David

the author of the Psalms  
and the reciter of the dwellers of  
paradise, used to make  
baskets of palm leaves  
with his own hands,  
and he would say to his companions,  
"Which of you will help me  
sell them?"

He ate bread made of barley  
bought with that money.



**herbs**



Moses said:

"O my lord, surely I have need of  
whatever good you may send  
down upon me."

And, by God,  
he asked Him only for bread to eat,  
because he used to eat **herbs**  
of the earth  
and the greenness of the herbs  
could be seen  
under the skin of his belly  
due to his leanness!

Sermon 160



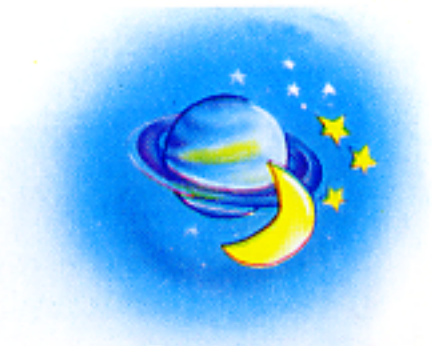
## the winter



I will tell you about Jesus,  
son of Mary,  
He had a stone for his pillow,  
wore coarse dress,  
and ate rough food.  
His Lamp at night was the moon,  
and the earth's vast expanse east and  
west, his roof during the **winter**.  
His desert and relish were  
what grows from the earth for the cattle.  
His feet were his means of transport  
and his two hands his servant.



**good tidings**



Then Allah sent Muhammad, may God  
bless him and his Household,  
as a witness,  
a bearer of **good tidings**,  
and a warner,  
the best of the creation as a child,  
and the most chaste amongst them  
as a grown-up,  
the purest of the pure in conduct,  
and the most generous of those  
who are approached for their  
generosity.



## the people of Arabia

Allah sent Muhammad, may Allah bless him and his Household, as a warner for all the worlds,  
and as the trustee of His revelation,  
while you, **the people of Arabia**,  
followed the worst of creeds  
and were the most ill-placed.  
You lived amongst harsh rocks  
and venomous serpents.  
You drank muddy water  
and ate coarse food.  
You shed each other's blood  
and broke the ties of kinship.  
Idols stood amongst your midst  
and sins held you in their bondage.



## idols



Allah sent Muhammad (S.A.W.)  
with truth  
so that He may take out His people  
from the worship of **idols**  
towards His worship  
and from obeying satan  
towards obeying Him.



## the Prophet



Follow your **Prophet**, the best of the good and the purest of the pure, may God bless him and his Household.

He is the example for one to follow, and comfort for one who seeks happiness.

The most beloved of servants to God is one who follows His Prophet and walks in his footsteps.

He, may God bless him and his Household,

would sit on the ground when eating food,

and he would sit like a slave.

He would mend his shoes with his own hands

and patched his clothes himself.



## the Revelation



When **the Revelation** descended on the Prophet, may God bless him and his Household, I heard a wailing cry.

I said: "O Messenger of Allah, what is this wailing?"

He replied,

"That is Satan, who has lost all hope of being worshipped.

O Ali, you see what I see,

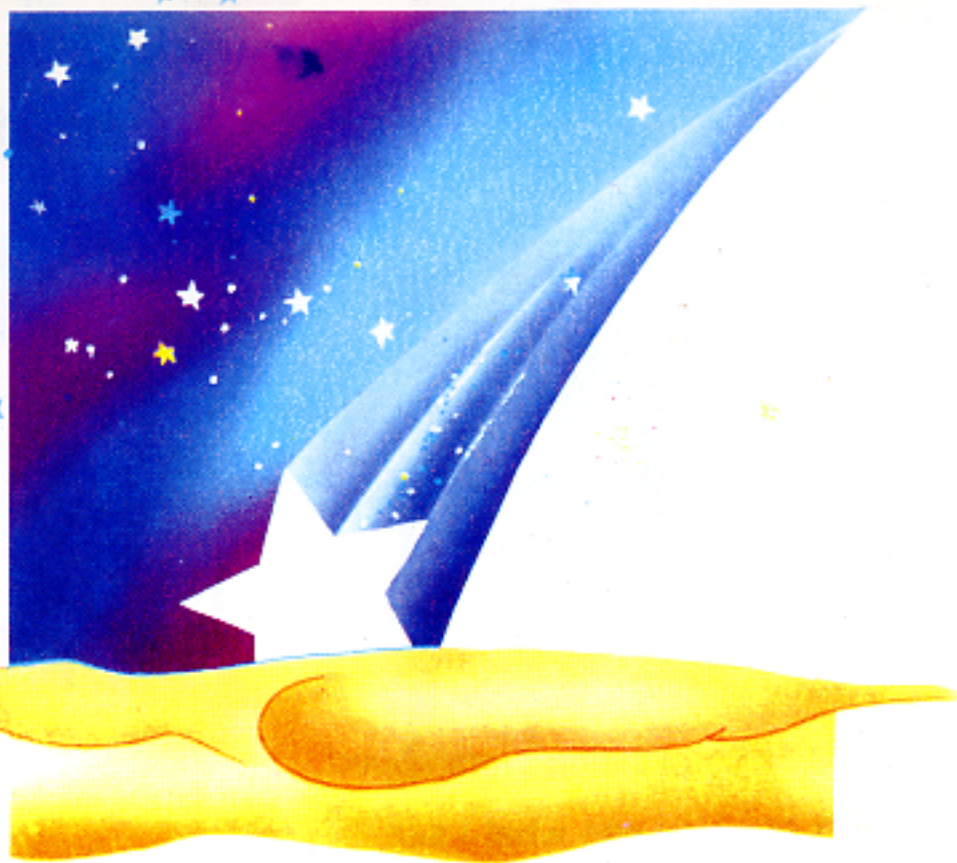
and you hear what I hear,

only that you are not a prophet.

But you are a minister

and 'on the path of virtue"





**the stars**



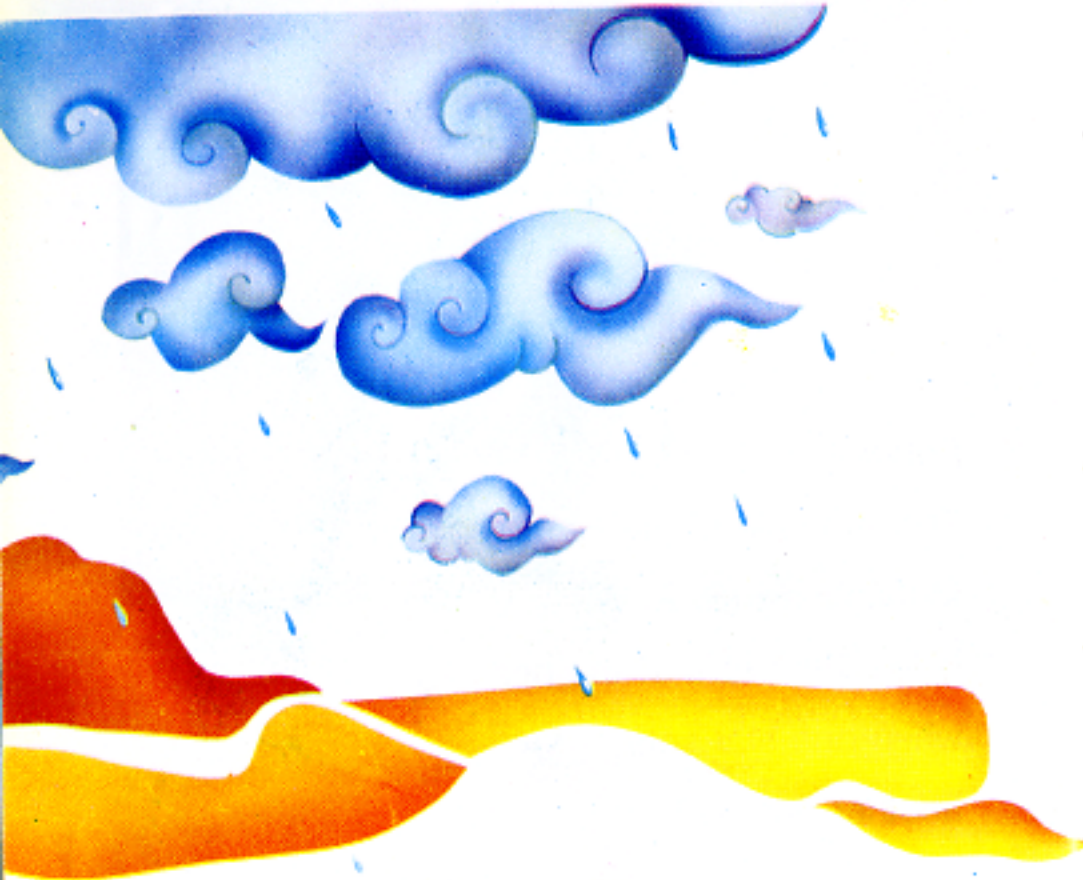
Behold!

The example of the Household of  
Muhammad (S. A. W.)

is like **the stars** of the heaven:

when one star sets

another one rises.



**the rain**



The riser has risen,  
the sparkler has sparkled,  
the appearer has appeared.  
Allah has replaced  
one people with another  
We awaited these changes  
as the famine-stricken await **the rain**.  
Certainly the Imams are  
the vicegerents of Allah  
over His creatures,  
and they make people know Allah.  
no one will enter Paradise,  
except he knows them.  
and they know him,...

Sermon 150



# القرآن

the Qur'an



Certainly, **the Qur'an**  
is wonderful in its outward form,  
and its inner meanings  
are profound.



## the leader

To them (the Household of the Prophet) pertain the noblest of human virtues described in the Qur'an, and they are the treasures of the Beneficent Allah.

When they speak, they speak the truth, but when they keep quiet, no one can outstrip them.

The **leader** should speak truthfully to his people,

and put all his intelligence to work.

He should be one of those who work for the next world,

because he has come from there and would return to it.

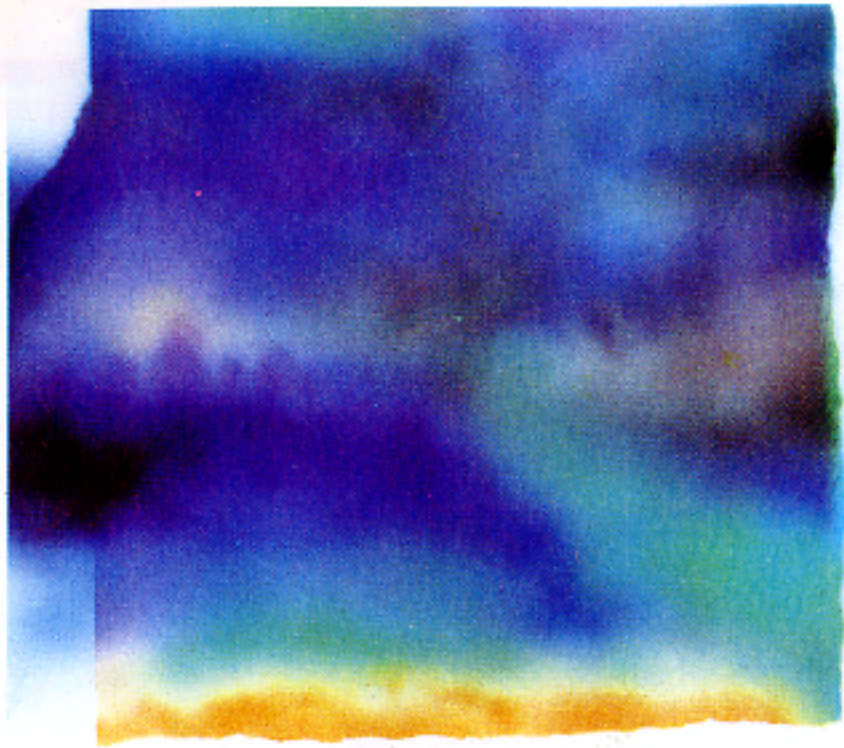


We are the **tree of prophethood**,  
the place of descent  
of Divine revelation,  
the place of frequenting  
of the angels,  
and the mainsprings of knowledgs.  
those who help us and love us  
await (God's) mercy,  
and those who regard us  
with enmity and hatred  
await to be subdued  
(by the Almighty's power  
and punishment).

Sermon 109



**the tree of prophethood**



**a lamp in the darkness**



Amongst you, I am  
like a **lamp in the darkness.**  
Everyone making his way  
through the darkness  
have to get light from it.



a grain of barley



By God,  
were I given all the seven heavens  
with all that they contain  
in order that  
I may disobey God  
by depriving an ant  
from the husk of **a grain of barley**,  
I would not do it.



## Two loaves of bread



You should know that  
your Imam has settled for  
two worn pieces of clothing  
out of the (comforts of the) world,  
and **two loaves of bread** for his meal.





## the mosquito

The annihilation of the world  
after bringing it into being  
is no stranger than its  
origination and creation.

How can it be so?

For **even if** all its living beings,  
birds and beasts,  
the animals of the stable and the  
pasture,  
all the genera and species of beings,  
the dull and the intelligent of the world's  
nations  
—were all of them together try  
to create a **mosquito**,  
they will be incapable  
of bringing it into being,  
and will not know  
how it has been created.





## Paradise



Today is the day of preparation  
and Tomorrow is the day of the contest.  
The finishing point is **Paradise**,  
and those who fail to reach it will  
land in hellfire.



**the earth's produce**



Certainly, Allah makes His creatures suffer when they do evil works, by diminishing **the earth's produce**, by holding back the blessings, and by blocking the sources of benefit, so that those who wish to repent may repent....

Sermon 143




**water**



You should know  
that every action is the fruit of a tree.  
A tree cannot go without **water**,  
and water is of various kinds.  
A tree that receives good water,  
is healthy  
and its fruit is sweet.  
A tree that grows on bad water  
is vicious,  
and its fruit is bitter.



**with insight**



One who sees with his heart,  
and acts **with insight**,  
considers before doing anything  
whether his action would  
be to his benefit or harm.  
If it is beneficial for him,  
he performs it,  
but if it is harmful,  
he refrains from it.

Sermon 154



**off the road**



One who acts without knowledge  
is like one who walks **off the road**.  
Then his deviating from the clear path  
takes him farther and farther away from  
his destination.  
But one who acts with knowledge  
is like one who walks on the clear path.  
Therefore, one should see  
whether he is moving forward  
towards his goal or going backwards.



## the spring of the hearts

80



Learn the Qur'an,  
for it is the most splendid of all speech;  
and become learned in it,  
for it is **the spring of the hearts**.  
Cure yourselves with its light,  
for it is a remedy for sick hearts.  
Recite it in the best manner,  
for it is **the fairest of accounts**.

Sermon 110

81



**prayer**



Commit yourselves to **prayer**  
and be watchful over it.  
Pray as much as you can  
and seek nearness to God through it.





the sacred house

Allah has made obligatory upon you  
the pilgrimage (Hajj)  
to His **sacred house**,  
which is the qiblah  
for mankind.





## Jihad



## Jihad

is one of the gateways of Paradise which Allah has opened for the elect amongst His friends.



**the strongest**



Remember that wood of the tree  
which grows in the desert  
has **the strongest** of fibers,  
while the luxuriant greenery  
has the softest of barks.  
The bushes of the desert  
make an enduring fuel,  
whose fire is slow in dying off.



**life**



O God, send out for us Your rains,  
Your bounty,  
Your provision, and Your mercy,  
and give us water in a measure  
that would benefit us, satiates our thirst,  
and makes the land green with grass,  
wherewith all that has withered may  
grow,  
and come to **life** all that has died,  
a rain which brings abundance,  
produces plenty of fruits,  
watering the plains,  
flooding the vaileys,  
dressing the trees with foliage,  
and bringing the prices down.  
Surely You are able to do whatever  
You will.

Seremon 143