

Sura 93: Al-Duha (The Morning Light)

In the name of God, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy

Verses 1 to 11:

1. *By the morning light,*
2. *And by the night when it settles,*
3. *Your Lord has not forsaken you, nor He is displeased.*
4. *And verily the Hereafter will be better for you than the First.*
5. *And your Lord will give you and you will be well-pleased.*
6. *Did He not find you an orphan and gave you shelter?*
7. *And He found you wandering, and He gave guidance?*
8. *And He found you in need, and made you rich?*
9. *Therefore, do not oppress the orphan,*
10. *Nor repulse the petitioner;*
11. *And proclaim the Blessing of your Lord.*

The Sura has been revealed in Mecca. It offers a touch of kindness, a breath of mercy, and a message of love. It is like a gentle hand that removes the pain and pours security and certainty. It addressed the Prophet (PBUH) to comfort him and to wipe out his troubles. It has been narrated that the revelation stopped for a period of time and the idolaters said that Muhammad (PBUH) has been abandoned by his Lord. This Sura was then revealed.

“By the morning light, and by the night when it settles, your Lord has not forsaken you, nor He is displeased. And verily the Hereafter will be better for you than the First. And your Lord will give you and you will be well-pleased.” God makes an oath using these two signs to establish a connection between the cosmic phenomena and the emotions of the soul. This encourages the human heart to find harmony with the cosmic phenomena and to deepen the feeling of friendliness with the universe. The objective of the Sura is to surround the Prophet (PBUH) with an atmosphere of friendliness, gentleness, and companionship. To make him feel that he was not abandoned. Your God did not abandon you, nor is He displeased with you. God addresses the Prophet (PBUH) saying, *“your Lord,”* to emphasize this connection between the Prophet (PBUH) and God. He is your Lord who looks after you and will take care of you. What He has kept for you in the Hereafter is better than what you were given in this life. You will be well-pleased.

“Did He not find you an orphan and gave you shelter? And He found you wandering, and He gave guidance? And He found you in need, and made you rich?” These verses send a reassuring message to the Prophet (PBUH); God cares about you and He will protect you in the future as He has done in the past. The bounties of God which He blessed His Messenger (PBUH) are enumerated. You were born orphan, so He gave you shelter under His care. You were poor, so He enriched you with contentment and made you self-sufficient. You grew up in a bad environment, among people who are ignorant and misguided; so He guided you.

The Prophet (PBUH) and the believers were commanded to be kind and generous, “*Therefore, do not oppress the orphan, nor repulse the petitioner; and proclaim the Blessing of your Lord.*” These commands were very much needed to change the bad and unfair practices that were prevalent in the Arab society before Islam.