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All Creatures – Great and Small

Lydia Kelley

There is not a creature on earth whose provision is not guaranteed by God. And He knows its course and its final destiny. All are recorded in a profound record. [11:6]

All the creatures on earth are under God's control, no matter how big or how small. It is clear in the Quran that the animals live their lives in submission to God. *Do you not realize that to God prostrates everyone in the heavens and the earth, and the sun, and the moon, and the stars, and the mountains, and the trees, and the animals, and many people?...* [22:18] Each submitting animal, from the tiny mosquito to the elephant, is here on earth as lessons, signs and tests for the humans. *The heavens and the earth are full of proofs for the believers. Also in your creation and the creation of all the animals, there are proofs for people who are certain.* [45:3-4]

If we take the time to study the ways of all of God's creatures, we will marvel at their worlds. Look at the small animals, such as insects, who have survived since the beginning of time, largely without help or provision from man. In fact, for most of human history, man has tried to wipe them out as pests. This has not succeeded because God takes care of all of his creatures. *Many a creature that does not carry its provision, God provides for it as well as for you. He is the Hearer, the Omniscient.* [29:60] Under God's absolute control,

their worlds are ordered, well established, and very prosperous. The scientists refer to it as instinct – how they know exactly what to do to survive, how they're born with the skills needed, how they manage to do it all so well. In my opinion, this "instinct" is their submission to and glorification of God, each in its own way. *Glorifying Him are the seven universes, the earth, and everyone in them. There is nothing that does not glorify Him, but you do not understand their glorification. He is Clement, Forgiver.* [17:44]

God tells us that we don't understand their glorification. There are so many "mysteries" within the animal world, and if we study them, we may get a glimpse of some of the marvelous ways animals sing praises to their Lord. Throughout the Quran, animals are mentioned as examples, for us to learn from. Several suras are named for animals – such as the bee, the ant and the spider. In future issues, I would like to explore some of the wonders of the various animals God shares with us in the Quran. The more we learn about God's creations, the more we glorify God.

All the creatures on earth, and all the birds that fly with wings, are communities like you. We did not leave anything out of this book. To their Lord, all these creatures will be summoned. [6:38]

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In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Submitters Perspective

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H. M. The revelation of this scripture is from God, The Almighty, Most Wise. (45:1,2)

Miracle of the Quran
 continues to overwhelm the disbelievers

One of the Great Miracles [74:35]

"The Quran is characterized by a unique phenomenon never found in any human authored book. Every element of the Quran is mathematically composed – the suras, the verses, the words, the number of certain letters, the number of words from the same root, the number and variety of divine names, the unique spelling of certain words, the absence or deliberate alteration of certain letters within certain words, and many other elements of the Quran besides its content..."

The above quote is taken from Appendix 1 of the English translation of the Quran by Dr. Rashad Khalifa (1992 Edition). As is well known by those who have been exposed to this miraculous feature of the Quran, the number 19 is the common denominator of the Quran's mathematical system. One of the earliest discoveries of this system was about the total number of occurrences of the initialed letters in their respective chapters (suras). The mathematical system in the Quran has

expanded to such extent with the additional discoveries that it is now extremely vast, intricate, and totally comprehensive. Furthermore, the Quran's mathematical system is perpetual. The discoveries will continue in accordance with God's will as prophesied in Verse 41:53: **We will show them our proofs in the horizons, and within themselves, until they realize that this is the truth...**

One of the latest discoveries about the mathematical miracle of the Quran came from brother Milan Sulc, Switzerland. The following summarizes his findings:

H.M. Suras: An Updated Outlook

This updates and summarizes our current knowledge about the Chapters (Suras) 40 through 46 with respect to the Quran's mathematical composition.

Seven suras, 40 through 46, are initialed with H.M. (Haa, Meem). The number of H's and M's in each sura is not by itself divisible by 19. However, as shown in

Table 1 below, by adding up the total number of H's and M's in these seven suras we get 2147, which equals 19 x 113. (See also Table 3 of Appendix 1 in Dr. Khalifa's translation of the Quran, 1992).

TABLE 1

| Sura | H.'s | M.'s | Total |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 40 | 64 | 380 | 444 |
| 41 | 48 | 276 | 324 |
| 42 | 53 | 300 | 353 |
| 43 | 44 | 324 | 368 |
| 44 | 16 | 150 | 166 |
| 45 | 31 | 200 | 231 |
| 46 | 36 | 225 | 261 |
| Total | 292 | 1855 | 2147 |

2147 = 19 x 113

Furthermore, as shown in the expanded Table 2 below, the sum of the digits of the individual numbers of H's and M's in these seven suras is exactly 113.

TABLE 2

| Sura | H.'s | M.'s | Total | Sum of the Digits | Total |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 40 | 64 | 380 | 444 | 6 + 4 + 3 + 8 + 0 | 21 |
| 41 | 48 | 276 | 324 | 4 + 8 + 2 + 7 + 6 | 27 |
| 42 | 53 | 300 | 353 | 5 + 3 + 3 + 0 + 0 | 11 |
| 43 | 44 | 324 | 368 | 4 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 4 | 17 |
| 44 | 16 | 150 | 166 | 1 + 6 + 1 + 5 + 0 | 13 |
| 45 | 31 | 200 | 231 | 3 + 1 + 2 + 0 + 0 | 6 |
| 46 | 36 | 225 | 261 | 3 + 6 + 2 + 2 + 5 | 18 |
| Total | 292 | 1855 | 2147 | 26 + 32 + 16 + 24 + 15 | 113 |

continued

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Among all the suras in the Quran, there is only one sura that has two sets of initials. This sura is Sura 42, which starts with H.M. (verse 1), 'A.S.Q. (verse 2). Based on this exceptional characteristics, Sura 42 forms a natural divider and we can consequently sub-divide the above group of seven suras into four distinct sub-groups. These sub-groups are not arbitrary but form part of the Quran's mathematical miracle. This can be seen from the fact that the totals of H's and M's in each sub-group are multiples of 19, as seen below:

Sub-group a) Suras 40, 41, and 42. This sub-group has a total of 1121 (19 x 59) H's and M's.

Sub-group b) Suras 43, 44, 45, and 46. This sub-group has a total of 1026 (19 x 54) H's and M's.

Sub-group c) Suras 41, 42, and 43. Note that this sub-group includes the special Sura 42, and the suras immediately surrounding this sura. This sub-group has a total of 1045 (19 x 55) H's and M's.

Sub-group d) Suras 40, 44, 45, and 46. This sub-group includes the rest of the

seven suras outside the sub-group c). The total of H's and M's in this sub-group is 1102 (19 x 58).

While it is already amazing that the total of the letters H and M is divisible by 19 in the overall group as well as in each of the sub-groups, it is absolutely incredible that the digits of the individual occurrences of these letters in these suras always add up exactly to the coefficient (factor) of the number 19 in the total group as well as in each sub-group, as shown in Tables 3 through 6 below:

TABLE 3 - Sub-group a)

| Sura | H.'s | M.'s | Total | Sum of the Digits | Total |
|-------|------|------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| 40 | 64 | 380 | 444 | 6 + 4 + 3 + 8 + 0 | 21 |
| 41 | 48 | 276 | 324 | 4 + 8 + 2 + 7 + 6 | 27 |
| 42 | 53 | 300 | 353 | 5 + 3 + 3 + 0 + 0 | 11 |
| Total | 165 | 956 | 1121 | 15 + 15 + 8 + 15 + 6 | 59 |

$$1121 = 19 \times 59$$

TABLE 4 - Sub-group b) (dependent on sub-group a)

| Sura | H.'s | M.'s | Total | Sum of the Digits | Total |
|-------|------|------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| 43 | 44 | 324 | 368 | 4 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 4 | 17 |
| 44 | 16 | 150 | 166 | 1 + 6 + 1 + 5 + 0 | 13 |
| 45 | 31 | 200 | 231 | 3 + 1 + 2 + 0 + 0 | 6 |
| 46 | 36 | 225 | 261 | 3 + 6 + 2 + 2 + 5 | 18 |
| Total | 127 | 899 | 1026 | 11 + 17 + 8 + 9 + 9 | 54 |

$$1026 = 19 \times 54$$

TABLE 5 - Sub-group c)

| Sura | H.'s | M.'s | Total | Sum of the Digits | Total |
|-------|------|------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| 41 | 48 | 276 | 324 | 4 + 8 + 2 + 7 + 6 | 27 |
| 42 | 53 | 300 | 353 | 5 + 3 + 3 + 0 + 0 | 11 |
| 43 | 44 | 324 | 368 | 4 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 4 | 17 |
| Total | 145 | 900 | 1045 | 13 + 15 + 8 + 9 + 10 | 55 |

$$1045 = 19 \times 55$$

TABLE 6 - Sub-group d) (depends on sub-group c)

| Sura | H.'s | M.'s | Total | Sum of the Digits | Total |
|-------|------|------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| 40 | 64 | 380 | 444 | 6 + 4 + 3 + 8 + 0 | 21 |
| 44 | 16 | 150 | 166 | 1 + 6 + 1 + 5 + 0 | 13 |
| 45 | 31 | 200 | 231 | 3 + 1 + 2 + 0 + 0 | 6 |
| 46 | 36 | 225 | 261 | 3 + 6 + 2 + 2 + 5 | 18 |
| Total | 147 | 955 | 1102 | 13 + 17 + 8 + 15 + 5 | 58 |

$$1102 = 19 \times 58$$

O you who believe,

you shall bow and prostrate ... (22:77)

The Contact Prayers (Salat) are the meals for our souls. The Quran tells us that they strengthen our souls and their observance is characteristic of believers. "Your real allies are God and His messenger, and the believers who observe the Contact Prayers (Salat), and give the obligatory charity (Zakat), and they bow down." (5:55)

You can also look up the 28 different verses listed in Dr. Khalifa's (1992) translation of the Quran under "Contact Prayer (Salat), characteristic of believers." Abraham was the original source of the Islamic method of making contact with our Creator (see 8:35, 9:54, 16:123, 21:73), as well as the other practices of Islam (Submission to God alone). All of these duties are ways to energize our souls in preparation for God's presence on the Last Day. They cannot be fudged. In Chapter (Sura) 23, entitled "The Believers," we see in the first two verses that we must be reverent during Salat. Diligent athletes who are preparing for a marathon will work to increase their bodies' stamina so that they can endure the strenuous test of the marathon. They would not even consider doing a few token jumping jacks and situps while others around them are working out, and then think they will do well in the end. They exercise their bodies even when they are alone. What you do to strengthen your soul now, publicly and privately, will determine how well you finish on the Last Day (7:55, 67:12). It is not important what appears to be practiced; it is the actual practice that energizes and nourishes.

We have 24 hours a day, every day of our lives to prepare. What an opportunity! God tells us that there are absolutely no times during our lives on earth that we cannot try to redeem our souls by being righteous. We can do it while we are with others or alone (7:55, 20:5), during the day or at night. The Quran tells us that we can meditate during the night for extra credit (17:79). Righteousness can be maintained

at all times. But out of all the ways to obtain and maintain righteousness, including Salat, Zakat, Fasting, and Hajj, the one that is our privilege five times a day, everyday of every month of every year, is Salat. We have an appointment to keep with the Most Gracious five times a day. It is plainly stated throughout the Quran how important the Salat is. If you miss your appointment, you are breaking a covenant between you and your Creator, and you must apologize and try with your very soul to keep the next ones.

Strangely enough, there are still some questions, some doubts, concerning whether or not the Contact Prayers (Salat) are intact. Do we observe the Salat of Abraham? We have the mathematical proof that the first sura "The Key" is what we recite (see Appendix 15 of the 1992 translation). In the same appendix, the confirmation of the number of bowings (ruku), prostrations (sujood), and tashah-hud is presented. But someone mentioned to me that the Quran tells us to prostrate (Sura 32 is called "Prostration"), but there is no mention of bowing, no chapter called "Ruku." At first I thought this was really silly. I was sure I had read "bow down" in the Quran, so I decided to find out. The word "bow" occurs in the Quran 15 times: twice in 2:43, 3:43 and 77:48 and once each in 2:125, 5:55, 9:112, 22:26, 22:77, 26:4, 32:12, 38:24, and 48:29.

Verse 2:43 is very straightforward as a command, directed towards the Jews: "You shall observe the Contact Prayers (Salat) and give the obligatory charity (Zakat) and bow down with those who bow down." Verse 3:43 is directed to Mary. Please note the exact repetition of words in both verses. "O Mary, you shall submit to your Lord, and prostrate and bow down with those who bow down." Verse 77:48 has similar wording as well: "When they are told, 'bow down,' they do not bow down. Woe on that day to the rejectors." Therefore, bowing down is extremely important.

Two passages, 2:125 and 22:26, tell us that the Ka'aba was established for "those who bow and prostrate." Verse 38:24 explains how David implored God's forgiveness as he "bowed down and repented." Verse 48:29 recounts how Muhammad and those with him could be seen "bowing and prostrating, as they [sought] God's blessings and approval."

So far we have Abraham, Ismail, the Jews, Mary, David, Muhammad and those with him all associated with bowing. For our most vivid messages concerning bowing today, see the quote of 5:55 at the beginning of this article. Our real allies are God, and those who, among other righteous acts, bow down. Verse 9:112 tells us to "give good news to such believers who are the repenters, the worshippers, the praisers, the meditators, the bowing and prostrating, the advocates of righteousness ..."

Verse 22:77 says: "O you who believe, you shall bow, prostrate, worship your Lord, and work righteousness, that you may succeed." Please note that the Quran doesn't say either you can bow down or prostrate or worship. It is all there and it is a command from the Most Merciful. We hear and we obey, inshallah. I also find it instructive that when prostrating is mentioned with bowing, bowing almost always comes first, just like during the Salat.

So what about the rejectors in 77:48 who do not bow down when told to? Woe to them: "If we will, we can send from the sky a sign that forces their necks to bow." (26:4) When those who will not bow down stand before our Lord on the Last Day, they will bow down and ask to be sent back for another chance, but we know that they will never attain certainty (32:12, 6:27-28).

Bowing is certainly prevalent throughout the Quran, even though it does not have a whole sura devoted to it by name.

Janet Kuhl-Kalantari

Did you notice ...

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