

The Glorious Qur'ān

It's Preservation & Rights

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Our deen stems mainly from two things; the word of Allāh and word of Nabi ﷺ, otherwise known as the Qur'ān and Hadith. Allāh Ta'ālā has preserved this deen in many forms. He has preserved the knowledge of the Ahādeeth through the Muhadditheen, the knowledge of Fiqh through the Fuqahā, the knowledge & commentary of the Qur'ān through the Mufasssireen and the wordings & pronunciations of the Qur'ān through the Qurrā.

The Preservation of the Qur'ān

The Qur'ān is a great blessing bestowed upon this Ummah. Over the span of 23 years, Allāh Ta'ālā sent down the Qur'ān through Hadhrat Jibra'eel ؑ to our beloved Nabi Muhammad ﷺ. Through the fadhil (grace) of Allāh Ta'ālā, it was passed down generation after generation in the exact form it was revealed. The Qurrā, who we see and enjoy listening to today, have all been taught by their teachers and they in turn have been taught by theirs, all supported by a chain of narration leading directly to our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, who links to Hadhrat Jibra'eel ؑ, who connects to Allāh Ta'ālā. No other book has received such preservation. We should consider ourselves lucky to be part of such an accomplishment and we should honour it to its fullest by fulfilling our part.

The Duty of a Believer

The question is; 'How do we honour this great favour? What is our duty in all of this?' It goes without saying that none of us would be able to complete this task in its totality. But it will be a great injustice on our behalf if we do not even try. There are three main duties we must adopt when attempting to accomplish this task:

1) Read the Qur'ān

First and foremost, we must regularly read the Qur'ān. And just like in everything else we do, where we look at quantity and quality, we must adopt the same concept for the recitation of the Qur'ān.

Quantity: We should aim to recite a fixed portion of the Qur'ān daily. Even if it be one verse a day, we must aim to meet this goal without fail. My beloved father, Hadhrat Mawlānā Ismail Sāhib hafizahullāh advises to set a daily target. Non-huffāz (those who

have not memorised the Qur'ān) should set a target of at least a quarter juz daily. And the huffāz should set a daily goal of at least one juz.

My honourable Shaykh, Hadhrat Mawlānā Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullāh mentions that nowadays people are either too busy or too lazy. Whichever we are, if we feel we cannot recite much daily then we should start off with one verse daily. But we must ensure that this bare minimum is completed every single day and insha'Allāh this will bring further progress.

Quality: We never aim to do anything without quality. Why treat the Qur'ān any differently? In fact, the Qur'ān deserves the highest level of quality. To bring about this, we must work on two things: a) reciting with Tajweed, b) reciting in a melodious tune.

If one is not able to read the Qur'ān with these two traits, then nothing is lost yet. There are many institutes (including Madrasah Baytul Ilm) who offer Tajweed classes for adults in various times throughout the day and week. Brothers and sisters should enrol on these flexible courses with the intention of improving their recitation of the Qur'ān.

2) Understand the Qur'ān

The easiest method to understand the beautiful teachings of the Qur'ān is to choose a trustworthy and god-fearing ālim and attend his duroos (lessons) of Qur'ān. Most masājid have such programmes on a weekly or monthly basis. One should enquire about this and attend such programmes with punctuality.

3) Practice on the Qur'ān

After adopting step number 2, we must practice on whatever we learn from the teachings of the Qur'ān.

Let us strive to bring the importance of this glorious book into our lives and let us strive to fulfil these duties upon us as this Qur'ān may very well be our saviour on the Day of Judgement. Nabi ﷺ has said, "Read the Qur'ān, for it will come as an intercessor for its reader on the Day of Judgement." (Muslim)