Ramadan Daily Quran Study, by Dr Zahid Aziz, 2023

Adapted and edited from *The Religion of Islam* by Maulana Muhammad Ali Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam Lahore (UK)

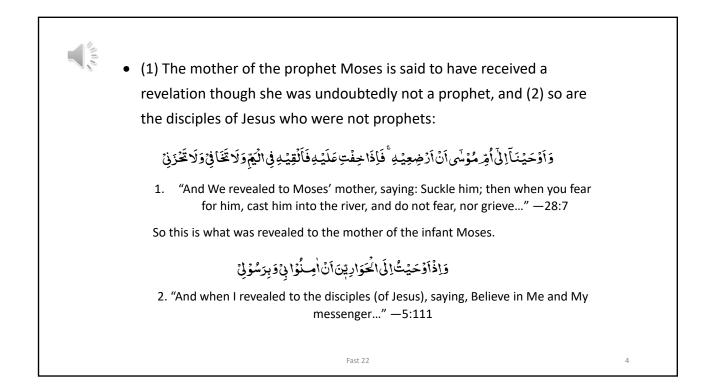
## Fast 22: Revealed Books — What is revelation and the need for it?

The word *kitāb* (كتاب), meaning 'book', has been used in the Holy Quran to mean a revealed book. It has been used in the Holy Quran: (1) for the Quran itself, (2) for its chapters, (3) for any previous revelation, (4) for all previous revelations taken together, and (5) for all revealed books including the Holy Quran.

Fast 22

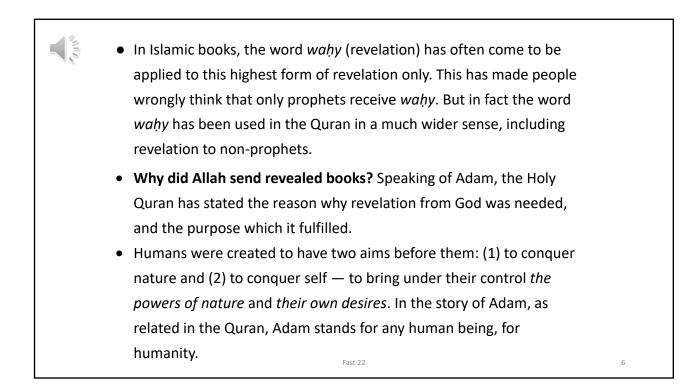
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ۅؘٲۅؙڂؽڐڹؖ۠ڬٳڶٙ٥ڶڵؖڂؙڶؚٳؘڹٳؾ<u>ؖ</u>ؖۼ۫ڶؚؽ۫ڡؚڹؘٵڮؚ۫ڹؘٵڶؚؠؙؿؙۅ۫ؾؖٵۊٞڡؚڹؘٳڶۺۧٞڿڕؚۊڡۣٵٙؾۼ۫ۺؙۏ۫ڹ۞ ثُوَكُلى مِنْ كُلّ الشَّتَرَتِ فَاسْلُحِي سُبُلَ دَبِّكِ ذُلُلًا ... "And your Lord revealed to the bee: Make hives in the mountains and in the trees and in what they build, then eat of all the fruits and walk in the ways of your Lord submissively. ..." - 16:68-69 • This is really an example of the Divine revelation being granted also to the lower creation, so that what they do by instinct is said to have been taught by revelation from God. • As regards revelation to human beings, on several occasions the Holy Quran speaks of wahy having been granted to those righteous servants of God who were not prophets, men as well as women. Fast 22



- The highest form of revelation was granted to prophets only, brought to them by the angel Gabriel in the form of words. This is the surest and clearest form of revelation, and such was the revelation of the Quran to the Holy Prophet. This is called *revelation that is recited in words* (*waḥy matluww*). It is the highest and most developed form, and it was in this manner that revelation was granted to all the prophets of God in every nation.
- What the Quran calls as revealed books of God are this highest type of revelation. The ten commandments revealed to Moses, and other laws, and the Lord's Prayer of Jesus are examples of this revelation.





- The Quran tells us that Adam was given the knowledge of things, meaning that humans were endowed with the capacity to obtain knowledge of all things; they were also gifted with the power to conquer nature, because the angels (who are the controlling powers of nature) were made to submit to him, as the Quran says. However, *Iblis* or the devil (the inciter of lower desires) did not submit, and men and women fell victim to his evil suggestions (2:31, 2:34, 2:36).
- Humans were powerful against all, but weak against their own selves. Their greater conquest lay in the conquest of one's inner self. This conquest could only be brought about by a closer connection with God. It was to make this possible for mankind that revelation was needed.

Fast 22

