



Quranic and Prophetic Nurturing Program

Surah An Naml – Class 13

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Introduction

Dua: عن أنسٍ، أَنَّهُ كَانَ مَعَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ جَالِسًا وَرَجُلٌ يُصَلِّي ثُمَّ دَعَا اللَّهَمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ بِأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ دَعَاكُمْ لِأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ (الْمُنَثَّ بِدِيْعِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ يَا ذَا الْجَلَلِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ يَا حَنِّيْا قَيْوُمْ . فَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ "لَقَدْ دَعَا اللَّهُ بِاسْمِهِ الْعَظِيمِ الَّذِي . . . " (إِذَا دُعَى بِهِ أَجَابَ وَإِذَا سُئِلَ بِهِ أَعْطَى . . .) (Narrated Anas ibn Malik (may Allah be pleased with him): I was sitting with the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) and a man was offering prayer. He then made supplication: "O Allah, none has the right to be worshipped but Allah, You are the One Who gives blessings, Originator of the heavens and the earth, Possessor of glory and generosity (Allāhumma lā ilāha illā ant, al-Mannān, Bādī' us-samāwāti wal-ard, Dhal-Jalāli wal Ikrām)." So the Prophet (ﷺ) said: "Do you know what he has supplicated Allah with? He has supplicated to Allah by His Greatest Name, the one which if He is called upon by it, He responds, and when He is asked by it, He gives.".)¹

- When we see what is beautiful in the duniya, it is to connect us to the akhira because there is no real life except the life of the hereafter.

19.

مَرَجَ الْبَحْرَيْنِ يَلْتَقِيَانِ

He has let loose the two seas (the salt and fresh water) meeting together.

20.

بَيْنَهُمَا بَرْزَخٌ لَا يَنْعِيَانِ

Between them is a barrier which none of them can transgress.

21.

فَبِأَيِّ الْأَاءِ رَبُّكُمَا تُعَذِّبَانِ

¹ Sunan Abi Dawud 1495, Authenticated by Al Albani as Sahih



Then which of the Blessings of your Lord will you both (jinn and men) deny?

22.

يُخْرِجُ مِنْهُمَا اللُّؤْلُؤُ وَالْمَرْجَانُ

Out of them both come out pearl and coral.²

- Surah An Naml shows us how two different civilization, two mentalities, two experiences who clash, yet there is no transgression and no rigidness. It is not just a speech, meeting or conversation but an honored letter.
- Two seas merge together yet there is a barrier and the result are “pearls and corals”. These are found deep in the ocean thus with struggle the best will come out.

Pearls

- Pearls are precious in this life because they are pure and preserved. And in the hereafter those who serve the dwellers of paradise are like pearls.

وَيَطُوفُ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَدَنْ مُخَدَّنُونَ إِذَا رَأَيْتَهُمْ حَسِينُهُمْ لُؤْلُؤًا مَّنْثُرًا

And round about them will (serve) boys of everlasting youth. If you see them, you would think them scattered pearls.³

- Coral is a pinkish, orange color, and when it is cut, it will grow.

كَانَهُنَّ أَيْاقُوتٌ وَالْمَرْجَانُ

(In beauty) they are like rubies and coral.⁴

- The women in paradise are like rubies and are of a coral color.
- The highlight of Surah Ar Rahman is Blessed is the Name of Your Lord Owner of Honor and Majesty – Dhul Jalali wal Ikraam.

² Surah Ar Rahman 19 to 22

³ Surah Al Insan 19

⁴ Surah Ar Rahman 58



Ayah 28

أَذْهَبْ بِكِتَابِي هَذَا فَلَأَقْهِلْ إِلَيْهِمْ ثُمَّ تَوَلَّ عَنْهُمْ فَانظُرْ مَاذَا يَرْجِعُونَ

"Go you with this letter of mine, and deliver it to them, then draw back from them, and see what (answer) they return."

From this ayah we find:

- Proper instructions
- The task is a “complete circle” of what to do and to return back, instead of delegating it to someone else.
- Immediate action was taken; time is important.
- Suleiman (as) has the power to invade but he took steps and saw their reaction.
- He was clear in his instructions and did not assume the other party would know; everything is mentioned.

Homework:

Who is Sa'ad bin Mu'adh (ra)?

- From the Islam of Sa'ad bin Mu'adh (ra) to his death was a period of six years. The Throne of Allah (swt) shook when he died. His tribe accepted Islam. He was courageous. He is known to be a big man but the angels carried him.

Trustworthy (الأمانة)

- Balqees was very honest in praising the letter though it was against her. She was trustworthy in telling the chiefs and not hide it away from them; she was transparent. She was honest in telling the facts without mixing it her desires. She asked for their opinion as well, and they gave theirs but said everything goes back to her. They too were honest and transparent in knowing their position and not trying to influence her.
- When a person is honest and knows what to say without fear, and knows his boundary and gives the other party his position, then it gives much goodness. Unlike when a person is forcing, influencing or is disrespecting the other party.
- The best will not come out from us when we are not honest, when we interfere, when we are not trustworthy, and when we do not give others their position.



- The one who is trustworthy is the Prophet (pbuh), Jibreel (as), Yusuf (as) who is strong and trustworthy, the ifreet who said he will be trustworthy and strong.
- The amanah will save the person on the Sirat. The opposite of trustworthiness is betrayal and one of the signs of the Day of Judgement is widespread betrayal.
- Our mind, bodies, knowledge, children, religion, home, eyes, health, and all that Allah (swt) has given us is an ammanah. And the responsibilities we have are an ammanah.

Ayah 29

قَالَتْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْمَلَأُ إِنِّي أُلْقَيَ إِلَيَّ كِتَابٌ كَرِيمٌ

She said: "O chiefs! Verily! Here is delivered to me a noble letter,

Word	Meaning
قَالَتْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْمَلَأُ	She said: "O chiefs
إِنِّي أُلْقَيَ إِلَيَّ كِتَابٌ كَرِيمٌ	verily it has been cast upon me an honorable letter

- Ayat 28 to 31: Letter from Suleiman (as)
- Ayat 32 to 33: Chiefs
- Ayat 34 to 35: Balqees Decision
- Ayat 36 to 37: Suleiman's reaction
- When clear instructions are given then it shows the professionalism of handling. When instructions are clear then there is no disruption checking what to do; the job is complete efficiently.

How are letters given?

- Giving letters can be by post, or even sending a paper airplane, or as a scroll.
- Using fancy stationary
- Using the best words
- To deliver personally.
- To show a message on a plane, to put a bottle in the sea, inside a treasure box.
- It can be perfumed.



- What's needed in a letter:
 1. Words
 2. Font
 3. Picture
 4. Stationary
 5. Presentation
 6. How it will be delivered
- Imagine if a bird comes to you and it throws a letter at you, how would you feel? Subhan Allah.
- **قالت يَا أَئِمَّهَا الْمَلَأُ** (She said: "O chiefs!): Balqees received the letter and addressed her **الْمَلَأُ** – chiefs.
- The word **الْمَلَأُ** means full and chiefs of the people, which fill the eyes of the people with their greatness and beauty (أَشْرَافُ الْقَوْمِ وَعَلَيْهِمُ الَّذِينَ يَمْلأُونَ الْعَيْنَ أَبْهَةً). They also fill the hearts and chests of the people.
- In the Qur'an, there is **الْمَلَأُ** of the disbelieving people such as the chiefs of Firaoun. And there is the **الْمَلَأُ الْأَعْلَى** which are the angels.
- Balqees appreciated the letter despite its contents. This teaches us to appreciate all that comes to us. Sometimes we do not appreciate what comes to us because we have a problem.
- **إِنَّمَا أَنْتَ مَلَكٌ مُّبِينٌ** (Verily! Here is delivered to me a noble letter,): notice she said, "it was sent to me" and she did not say, "they sent me". She gave herself position. Also **كتاب** (كتاب) shows it is written, it is professional to deliver a message by writing and not only by speech. Also the style of the letter represents the sender **كَرِيمٌ**, thus they care how they represent themselves to other civilizations.
- It shows respect towards the sender when it is presented in a nice manner. People think Islam needs to look "lowly and poor", subhan Allah. Rather one is spending in order to exalt the Name of Allah (swt) and to make the people not attracted to what they see outside.

Ayah 30

إِنَّهُ مِنْ سُلَيْمَانَ وَإِنَّهُ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

"Verily it is from Sulaiman (Solomon), and verily, it (reads): In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful:

Word	Meaning
إِنَّهُ مِنْ سُلَيْمَانَ	verily it is from Suleiman (as)
وَإِنَّهُ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ	and it is in the Name of Allah
الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ	The Most Merciful, The Especially Merciful

- (إِنَّهُ مِنْ سُلَيْمَانَ) ("Verily it is from Sulaiman (Solomon),): Balqees identified the sender. Suleiman (as) is a great king of the world. She was in his dominion, but he did not know about her. He was quick to act because it is his responsibility. There is no king like him before and no one after him. It is important to identify who is the sender, similar to when giving a gift.
- (وَإِنَّهُ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ) (and verily, it (reads): In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful): she did not skip the part of (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ). Sometimes we skip (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ) assuming it is something already there by default, or we do not bother to include it. This teaches us to start a letter with (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ).
- What made them a great civilization? To not skip (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ), subhan Allah. What will happen? Allah (swt) will open, bless and make it an honored letter. Islam teaches us to be proper and present everything in best way, and not to show-off but to exalt the Name of Allah (swt). When people go to a function of the duniya, they dress properly, but what about for Islam? Why not show the best? In the harem, the rugs are customized, the chandeliers, the covering of the Ka'aba, even the perfume and scents are customized because it represents Islam and to show the best when exalting the Name of Allah (swt).



- Suleiman (as) is the first to begin letters with (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ). Then the Prophet (pbuh) began to write letters with (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ) when this ayah was revealed.

Ayah 31

أَلَا تَعْلُوْا عَلَيَّ وَأَنْوَنِي مُسْلِمِيْنَ

"Be you not exalted against me, but come to me as Muslims (true believers who submit to Allah with full submission).'"

Word	Meaning
أَلَا تَعْلُوْا عَلَيَّ	do not exalt above me
وَأَنْوَنِي مُسْلِمِيْنَ	and come to me as Muslims

- The message is clear and to the point. It is not crowded with other matters that the message becomes faded.
- (أَلَا تَعْلُوْا عَلَيَّ وَأَنْوَنِي مُسْلِمِيْنَ) ("Be you not exalted against me, but come to me as Muslims (true believers who submit to Allah with full submission).'"'): to be continued in sha'a Allah.

How can we change ourselves for the better?

- Start letters with بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
- Identify yourself when sending a message or gift
- Appreciate letters given to you and make the best effort to present good letters.
- Present Islam in the best way to exalt the Name of Allah (swt)

May Allah (ﷻ) help us apply what we learned. Ameen.