



In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

# Submitters Perspective

Monthly Bulletin of International  
Community of Submitters

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## Triumph

In the last sura revealed through prophet Muhammad, we read:

*[110:1] When triumph comes from GOD, and victory.*

*[110:2] You will see the people embracing GOD's religion in throngs.*

*[110:3] You shall glorify and praise your Lord, and implore Him for forgiveness. He is the Redeemer.*

This is wonderful news for the Submitters and Believers, and naturally, we are eager to see it happen in our lifetime. We may wonder how it will come to be and look for signs that might point to its imminent arrival. Some may even think that our actions will impact the timing of it and urge us to alter some of our ways. Here, I share some thoughts for your consideration on this matter.

God says: *[21:37] The human being is impatient by nature. I will inevitably show you My signs; do not be in such a hurry.*

We live in an age of the "Microwave Mentality". We sometimes fall into the

trap of wanting everything as fast as our meals heat up in the microwave oven.

Let's examine this topic further with this way of thinking in mind:

1. We are clueless as to how a prophecy is going to come about. Our thinking is limited to our own knowledge and frame of reference while God knows everything everyone knows and does. He has the master plan and knows who will play what role in the execution of the "Triumph". There are infinite possibilities as to how this will come about and may include roles for people who currently have faulty traditional religious beliefs or none at all but are destined to be redeemed. For instance, a population belonging to a particular faith/church may collectively come to see the light. Rather than thinking that our actions may hasten the arrival of "Triumph", we ought to pray that God will assign us a role in His plan thereby giving us the opportunity to serve in His cause and earn points for our post-retirement account. God does not need any of us to execute any of His plans but we would be honored to be assigned a part.

2. God tells us to do our part so that we can achieve our own greatest triumph, by His leave:

*[5:105] O you who believe, you should worry only about your own necks. If the others go astray, they cannot hurt you, as long as you are guided. To GOD is your ultimate destiny, all of you, then He will inform you of everything you had done.*

*[35:32] We passed the scripture from generation to generation, and we allowed whomever we chose from among our servants to receive it. Subsequently, some of them wronged their souls, others upheld it only part of the time, while others were eager to work righteousness in accordance with GOD's will; this is the greatest triumph.*

The focus of our life should be to work to redeem ourselves by correcting our ways and doing our very best to follow all of God's commands.

3. We should follow God's commands as precisely as we possibly can and

*(Continued on page 2)*

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without compromising on any of the core principles as decreed by Him:

[49:1] *O you who believe, do not place your opinion above that of GOD and His messenger. You shall reverence GOD. GOD is Hearer, Omniscient.*

Working hard to remedy our own shortcomings, seeking to have God forgive our sins, and leading a righteous life, as defined by God, are the truly worthy objectives we should follow. By working hard on ourselves, in-shaa-Allah God will let us impact those around us and set a good example for the future generations:

[26:83] *"My Lord, grant me wisdom, and include me with the righteous.*

[26:84] *"Let the example I set for the future generations be a good one.*

[26:85] *"Make me one of the inheritors of the blissful Paradise.*

It is noteworthy that the above verses are prayers of Abraham, one whom GOD has chosen as a beloved friend, as we read in [4:125]. These are prayers from the one whom God says, was never an idol worshiper. Abraham does not presume that he deserves Paradise, rather he is praying that God grant him the gift of such. We ought to ponder how much work we have ahead of ourselves and quit worrying about anything else.

The last verse of sura 110 has great advice for us: [110:3] *You shall glorify and praise your Lord, and implore Him for forgiveness. He is the Redeemer.*

By internalizing the view that God Is Running Everything (GIRE) and demonstrating it through our words and our deeds, in-shaa-Allah we will be redeemed and make it to the highest possible rank in the Hereafter.

## Reverence during Contact Prayers

[23:1-2] *Successful indeed are the believers; who are reverent during their Contact Prayers (Salat).*

Submitters often express concern over not being reverent and occasionally making mistakes during their Contact Prayers. Some tips may help us do better, God willing.

1. *Remember God*: Always keep in mind that that the remembrance of God *through* Salat is the most important objective of the prayer. God controls everything so there is no reason for us to be worrying or thinking about anything else other than Him. Thinking of something else exposes what is more important to us, defeating the original objective of the prayer (29:45).

2. *Appreciate*: Salat is the prime source of nourishment for our souls combining all elements of worship—praise, supplication, humble posture etc. It is the most effective two minute power pack of worship invoking soul development, help, protection from harm, evil and vice, all in one. Let us make the most of it (5:12, 29:45, 74:43).

3. *Correctness*: Errors can be made without realization, so take care that you are doing the mathematically coded format of the prayer *exactly* as specified by God. For example, we avoid: (a) Reciting too softly (almost whispering) instead of using a moderate tone (17:110) (b) Skipping or mismatching words or steps. The lips should touch 19 times in the Al-Fātehah. This means we should separate our lips after the second "arrahmaanir raheem" (1:3) before saying "maaliki yawmiddeen" (1:4). In a hurry, believers sometimes say "arrahmanirraheemmaliki-yawmiddeen" without a break, resulting in the lips touching 18 times, not 19. To reconfirm the steps, pronunciations, etc. please see the video from: <http://www.masjidtucson.org/salat/>

BK 4. *Awareness of "Contact"*: When you open the prayer, be aware that you are

now in *direct contact* with your Creator, Most Great. Just like you may take special care to see that all worldly meetings go off well, prepare yourself mentally and physically for this extraordinary audience with God, from ablution to planning your time for prayer, and so on.

5. *Reverence*: Instead of mechanical recitation, *concentrate* on every word so you mean them and are not heedless of what you are saying (107:4-5).

God has made the Contact Prayers short and easy for us to accomplish. It is our duty to show our appreciation to God for this tremendous gift and remain *reverent* during it (23:1-2).

Kais

\* \* \* \* \*

The Contact Prayers are a gift from God, a blessing for us. How we think about them can affect our reverence. You can remind yourself, "I have to do my noon prayer." That's a correct statement. Or you can say, "I get to do my noon prayer." A subtle difference in choice of words, but a big difference in attitude. Now we're acknowledging that the Prayer is for our benefit and truly a blessing, a gift. Praise God.

\* \* \* \* \*

[23:1-2] *Successful indeed are the believers; who are reverent during their Contact Prayers (Salat).*

[2:153] *O you who believe, seek help through steadfastness and the Contact Prayers (Salat). GOD is with those who steadfastly persevere.*

[6:162] *Say, "My Contact Prayers (Salat), my worship practices, my life and my death, are all devoted absolutely to GOD alone, the Lord of the universe.*

[87:14-5] *Successful indeed is the one who redeems his soul. By remembering the name of his Lord, and observing the contact prayers (Salat).*

## Towards Universal Unity

Many people will say that they believe in the existence of a supernatural force or a god. If we take two such people and ask them to describe or define the god of their belief, we may get two different answers. If we direct the same question to a third person who also says he believes in God, we may get yet another description of God. Furthermore, when these people realize they have different gods, they may not feel comfortable with each other. What causes people to think that their god is not one and the same? If our god is the same god who created all of us and everything around us, why can't people accept Him as the same for all of us?

### Our Creator is the Same

God has always been the same God, the same Creator since the beginning. It is people who make a god for themselves in place of the one true God, due to conjecture and wishful thinking, to justify their way of life.

One of the major reasons why people do not take time to seek the truth about God is that they either have doubts or wrong ideas about life after death and their accountability. This is even though most will say that they believe in the Hereafter.

### This Life is Temporary.

#### Next Life is Eternal

God teaches us in the Quran that this first life is a temporary illusion. What is important is the Hereafter, which is the eternal abode (40:39). Can you imagine living in a place for eternity, especially if this is a place that you would not want to live in for a second? Do we ever think we might end up in Hell?

The majority of people do not want to even think about the possibility that they could be in Hell forever. Some even joke around by saying that they prefer Hell because the most entertaining people will be there. That may very well be true, but in what conditions? There is not a single scripture that mentions Hell in desirable terms. It is not a place anyone would like to stay for eternity. Yet, some people do not seem to be worried at all about what Hell is going to be like. They think of the Hereafter as being so far away in time that, even if it turns out to be true, they are surely clever enough to figure out how to avoid Hell then (18:36).

### Actions Better Than Words

When people say they believe in the Hereafter, do they really mean it or is it just lip service? A person who really believes in the Hereafter and worries about the consequences of his actions will not disregard God's message. He (or she) will always seek the truth and the path to God. He will research and make sure that the religious beliefs he has been brought up with are divine, and not man-made. After all, it will be his own neck on the line.

Unfortunately, many people who do research carefully before getting their houses, jobs, cars, and so on, are not very inquisitive about the correctness of the religious beliefs they are brought up with. When it comes to religion, people's common sense and intellect seem to operate in a completely different level. "Faith" is a common answer to avoid questions and to justify, "I'm happy with what I'm doing, don't rock that boat". Therefore, most people turn away from the true message when it comes to them without studying it, even though this message is essential to their success in the eternal life. These are the people who prefer this life at the expense of the Hereafter (2:86). Thus, they trade away the covenant they made with God, and

their obligations, for a cheap price. Consequently, they receive no share in the Hereafter (3:77).

### Time For Universal Unity

It is time for the people of all religions who really believe in the Hereafter to leave their worldly differences and come together under the One God, the same God of us all, the Creator. As He has promised, we can enjoy this life without losing our share in the Hereafter. Therefore, let us value God, as he should be valued, and devote ourselves totally to Him alone. After all, we will be all returned to Him—for certain.

*Only those who repent, reform, hold fast to God, and devote their religion absolutely to God alone, will be counted with the believers. God will bless the believers with a great recompense. [4:146]*

*Say, "I have been commanded to worship God, devoting the religion absolutely to Him alone.*

*"And I was commanded to be the utmost submitter."*

*Say, "I fear, if I disobeyed my Lord, the retribution of a great day."*

*Say, "God is the only One I worship, devoting my religion absolutely to Him alone. [39:11-14]*

Abdullah Arik

*(Reprinted from:  
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*Unity of All Submitters  
[2:62] Surely, those who believe, those who are Jewish, the Christians, and the converts; anyone who (1) believes in GOD, and (2) believes in the Last Day, and (3) leads a righteous life, will receive their recompense from their Lord. They have nothing to fear, nor will they grieve.*

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## Be included in our email list for weekly reminders

We have been sending weekly reminders to submitters in our email list and it is a great success, praise God. The weekly reminder email is not very long. It usually consists of the topic of the week, and the corresponding link or links to get the information from. The reminder is sent every Thursday, God willing.

*[51:55] And remind, for the reminder benefits the believers.*

We would like every submitter, whether receiving our newsletters or not, to be included in the list. God willing you can join the list by sending an email to [info@masjiduntucson.org](mailto:info@masjiduntucson.org) and saying that you want to be in the weekly reminder list. If you want to make it a really short email, just write "weekly reminder" in the subject line and send it.

If you also include in the email the city and state that you live in, God willing we can compile this information and use it for the submitters without a community who are asking to communicate with other submitters in their area.

Please help us to help you and other submitters by joining the list and by being proactive, God willing.

*[3:200] O you who believe, you shall be steadfast, you shall persevere, you shall be united, you shall observe GOD, that you may succeed.*

*[87:9] Therefore, you shall remind; perhaps the reminder will benefit.*

*Note: Your comments are also welcome and appreciated.*