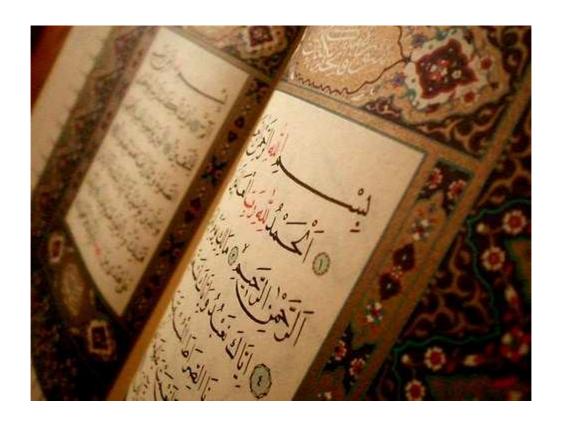
Free Book

Innovative Way to

Memorize the Quran



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Part (1)

There are questions that you have to answer before you start memorizing the Quran, so that your project is fruitful if Allah will. Everyone has his own projects in life, but the best work will be memorizing the Book of Allah Almighty.....

A Project for this World and the Hereafter

At the beginning, you have to plan well for this project that will change your life totally as it did to those who memorized the Quran before you. Perfect planning requires you to study it well, study its benefits and results, and study the shortest way to execute it. Without that, the project will be unproductive, and this is the reason that many of those who try to memorize the Quran fail.

Why do I memorize the Quran?

This is a question you should ask yourself, and you should have a clear answer to it in your mind, why should one memorize the Quran? Whenever the benefits of this work are more, your determination will be higher and you will achieve your goal easily. What are the benefits of memorizing the Quran?

Benefits of memorizing the Quran

- 1. Since the Quran is the word of Allah Almighty, when you memorize it, this will be the best you ever done! Memorizing the Quran will open all the doors of good for you.
- 2. Memorizing the Quran means that you will obtain ten good deeds for each letter! If you know, for example that the number of letters in the shortest Surah in the Quran, which is Surah Al-Kawthar, is 42 letters. This Surah can be read in seconds, which means that whenever you read it, your account at Allah Almighty will increase to 420 good deeds, each one of these good deeds is much better than this World and what is in it!! Consider how many good deeds you will gain when you read the whole Quran which includes more than three hundred thousand letters!!
- 3. The Quran includes all the sciences of this World and the Hereafter, the stories of ancestors and successors. It includes many of the scientific, cosmic, legislative and medical facts, and it includes also provisions, laws and legislation that regulate the life of a believer and make him much happier. This means that when you memorize the Quran, you memorize the largest encyclopedia.

4. This Quran, which you memorize and keep today, will be your companion at the dying moment!! It will be your defender and your intercessor at the time you are abandoned by the nearest people. The Prophet (pbuh) says, "Read the Quran, it will be the intercessor of its companions on the Day of Resurrection" Will there be a best moment other than the one when meeting on the Day of Resurrection with Allah Almighty and you have memorized His words.

- 5. When you memorize the Quran, your expressing ability will be stronger because of the classic Arabic you acquire from the Quran. You will have more ability for dealing, endurance and patience, because memorizing the Quran is not only like memorizing a poem, a story, or a song. However, when you memorize the Quran, in fact you are changing your attitude towards everything around you, and thus your behavior will be following what you have memorized
- 6. Our Lady Aysha (May Allah be pleased with her) was asked about the ethics of the Prophet and she said, "His ethics was the Quran"!! If you would like your ethics be like the Prophet's (pbuh), you have to memorize the Quran.
- 7. The Quran is a healing for physical and psychological diseases. If reading Al-Fatiha (The Opening) cures a patient if Allah permits, what about who memorize the whole Quran? You will get rid of devilish whispers; your body immunity will increase due to the great change you experience while you are memorizing the Quran. This is not only a theoretical speech but a real experience that is witnessed by those who memorized the Quran or parts of it.
- 8. When you decide to memorize the Quran, you won't have extra time, boredom, nor a feeling of concern, stress and fear. The Quran will remove concerns, grief and the accumulations of the past, you will be reborned. Nonetheless, what prevent us from memorizing the Quran in our hearts? Why do many people try to memorize the Book of Allah Almighty but they cannot? The reason according what I think is a big problem that we have to overcome, what is it?

What is the biggest problem you face in the project?

The biggest problem that many may not be aware of is that the Quran has a unique style that is not found in any other book, and this means you take more time to familiarize yourself with this style, until every cell in your body can interact with the Speech of Allah Almighty. Almighty says, "Allah has revealed (from time to time) the most beautiful Message in the form of a Book, consistent with itself, (yet) repeating (its teaching in various aspects): the skins of those who fear their Lord tremble thereat; then their skins and their hearts do soften to the celebration of Allah's praises. Such is the guidance of Allah. He guides therewith whom He

pleases, but such as Allah leaves to stray, can have none to guide" [Az-Zumar: The Troops: 23]

Passing this stage in the project of memorizing the Quran is the most important. Most of those who start memorizing the Quran, then stop later and do not continue, the reason will be that they are not familiar with the Quran style. Therefore, you find them feel difficulty in memorizing, feel upset and heaviness and they do not know the cause.

My brother reader, if you know how information is stored in the brain, this process will be easy. At the beginning, a month may pass to memorize one page, but after six month, you can memorize this page in two hours!! This is scientific, because storing information in the cells of the brain is done according to an accelerated accumulation system, the first page needs more time, and the second needs lesser time and so on until we reach a stage where memorizing will be a more enjoyable and very easy process. Almighty says, "And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember: then is there any that will receive admonition?" [Al-Qamar: The Moon: 17]

Advantages of this way

My brother believer! The way you are going to learn has several advantages:

- 1. The way is practical and very easy, and does not require a Sheikh, a teacher or a reciter, but depends on self learning. I have tried it and it has success.
- 2. Memorizing the Quran in this way does not mean only memorizing but it expands your information horizon and assists you in deducting some of the Quran wonders.
- 3. This way does not require a specific time or system, but you can do at any time and in any how to be.

How can I start memorizing?

The first step on the road to memorize the Quran thoroughly is to believe that this project is the most important project in your life, and this project will not take part of your time!!! Allah will bless your time and you will find that the rest of your work will not stop, but it will flourish and become much easier than before.

Do not feel that memorizing the Quran will need any time. Whatever time you spent in reading, considering and memorizing that will not impact your time but your time will increase. I will give an example to illustrate that:

If you have time allotted for studying to succeed in the exam, and you took some of it for memorizing the Quran, what is the result? Memorizing the Quran will develop your grasp ability, expand your thinking range and equip you with a great ability for memorizing, understanding and comprehension. When you memorize some Surahs, you will notice that you can understand your studies in time less than used to be, and this is what I have gone through. Your performance on the test will greatly be enhanced because memorizing the Quran gives you psychological and mental stability and gives you the trust that Allah is the one who decides your exam result and not your effort or work. This stability and trust is half success.

Let us start the project

Please dear reader start with listening to recited Quran for the longest possible period, but why is this step? The aforementioned barrier which prevents you from memorizing the Quran is due to your brain not responding to memorizing the Quran because of its unique style which you are not familiar to.

You may listen to the Quran from a computer, a TV or a recorder which all are given by Allah to us to make use of and benefit from listening to the Quran through them. You may concentrate at the beginning on short Surahs at the end of the Book and listen to them so many times a day, especially after awakening and directly before going to bed.

If you can sleep while the Quran is being recited, this has a great impact on storing the Quran in your subconscious! This leads to a permanent memorization of the Quran verses, in other words, your subconscious retains these verses which you can retrieve any time you wish.

You have to repeat listening to the same Surah many times, so that you are familiar to. As for words you hear them for the first time and you do not understand, you will find yourself got familiar and near to and about to understand when you repeat listening to the Surah.

You may wonder my beloved brother if I tell you that after memorizing the Quran, the best thing to me is listening to recorded Quran recited by a sweet voice, and you may wonder more if you know that I was spending most of my time listening to songs, besides, I was playing some musical instruments. Notwithstanding, when I have started listening to the Quran for long periods, nothing else will amuse me other than the words of Almighty.

There is a prophetical saying you have to learn, it is Our Beloved Apostle saying, "Who abandons anything for the sake of Allah, Allah compensates him with a better one than it". After I heard this saying, I have decided to desert all entertaining means that shun mentioning Allah, and Allah has compensated me with the Quran. Will you quit what diverts from mentioning Allah and ask Allah to give you in turn something better?

What is next?

If you want to memorize the Quran in addition to enjoy that, follow us in this project which I introduce it as a gift for whoever loves the Quran. You may register in the email list by

entering your email address so that you will be informed of what is new and you can follow the memorization process easily if Allah permits.

We will learn in the coming lesson how to memorize the Quran efficiently and we will talk about some secrets of the memorizing process and remembering from a scientific view. We ask Allah Almighty for facilitation and acceptance.

Finally,

I can tell you that the Quran has changed my life totally, why do not you change your life and decide at this moment to join this profitable project, and start the first step in memorizing the Quran by taking a decision on that?

Part (1)

There are some questions that we have received after the first lesson from this educational series, and we should answer them before showing the second lesson in memorizing the Quran....

From these questions: How can the recited Quran be listened to? Should we listen to a whole Surah several times a day? And what are the suitable times for listening to the Quran?

How can the recited Quran be listened to?

You should know my brother believers that all times are suitable for listening to the Quran. The believer mentions Allah in all times, standing, sitting, lying down on his side, before going to bed, at awakening, when at work, when walking on the street and when are among friends and family. The believer mentions Allah in all times and so listening to the Quran does not have a specific time. However, those who want to memorize should listen to recited Quran whenever it is possible. Almighty says, "Men who celebrate the praises of Allah, standing, sitting, and lying down on their sides" [Al- 'Imran: The Family of 'Imran: 191]

Should we listen to a whole Surah several times a day?

I prefer to repeat listening to the same Surah several times every day until its words become familiar to the listener. For example, if you want to memorize An-Naml (The Ant) Surah, you have to listen to this Surah in a voice of one of those who recite it for several times in a period of several days. Then, the memorization process will be very easy after that. I have followed

that and it was fruitful. I have memorized the Quran without exerting any great effort because I was listening to the Quran.

What is the perfect time to memorize the whole Quran?

We should know that the Great Apostle (pbuh) memorized the Quran in 23 years!!! The period the Quran was revealed. From the Prophet sayings, there is no specific time for memorization, but my brother reader, you can memorize what may Allah avails for you from His Book and you determine firmly to complete memorization.

Do not feel disinterested if suitable circumstances were not available. You only need to ask Allah Almighty to furnish you the suitable circumstances and He may answer your supplication. You may be able to memorize in a month and it may take years, but I think the right period for who likes to set a time table is one year or two years.

Finally, the left question is around my experience in memorizing the Quran and how much time did it take me to keep by heart the Book of Allah Almighty? In fact, I did not think at all during my memorization process of time or how much I memorized. However, my concern was pleasing Allah Almighty, and I was always saying I need the big rewards and proximity to Allah Almighty. I used to know that a believer may memorize "Say: He is Allah, the One and Only" Surah and he will be at the top in front of Allah because of his devotion and sincerity with Allah. This is what makes the believer the best memorizer of Allah's Book because Allah will assist him to memorize.

But, whoever memorizes the Quran to boast and gain a certificate to show to people, his rewards will be little even if he memorized the whole Quran. Maybe, all of us know about the man who will be used to fuel Hell on the Day of Resurrection, a man who kept the Quran by heart and read it to be called a reader, a man who takes pride in memorizing in front of people and not for the sake of Allah. This person got his rewards in this World and does have anything in the Hereafter.

Therefore, I always say dear brother and sister: Little memorization with sincerity is much better than much without devotion.

How should I memorize a Surah from the Quran?

The new way depends on three stages:

- 1. Listening to recited Quran stage
- 2. Stage of understanding, managing and deep-thinking of the speech we heard
- 3. Stage of establishing memorization from the Book

Listening to recited Quran stage

We have mentioned in the first lesson of this educational series the importance of listening to the Quran. It has a great impact in long-period memorization. This way is not new or innovative, but it was the way if our Master, the Prophet (pbuh).

The Great Apostle (pbuh) was memorizing the Quran by listening to Gabriel (pbuh); therefore, the first stage is listening and repeating this process.

Stage of understanding, managing and deep-thinking of the speech we heard

The second stage is very important in easing the memorization process and making it enjoyable and interesting. When you consider the verses you have heard and understand them carefully, that will consolidate these verses in your memory for a longer period and you will discover new things in the indications of the verses.

Stage of establishing memorization from the Book

The third stage is establishing memorization from the Book. After, we have listened to the Surah many times, it has become familiar to us, and we have understood its words from availed explanations or asking scholars. Let us now read this as follows:

- 1. Reading this Surah as whole three or four times.
- 2. Divide this Surah into portions and each portion includes several verses according the linguistic meaning and the connections between the portions with each other.
- 3. Read the first portion several times until you complete memorizing it, next, read also the second portion several times until you memorize, then, read the third and repeat it many times until you feel that you have memorized it.
- 4. Now, you have to connect these portions, you read the first and the second portions several times until you memorize them. Then, read the third and the fourth portions till you memorize them.
- 5. Then, you read the four portions together, memorize and establish them.
- 6. Finally, we move to the fifth portion and so on until we complete memorizing the Surah.

A practical example from Surah An-Naml (The Ant)

1. First stage: As aforementioned, we have to listen to Surah An-Naml every day several times.

- 2. Second stage: We try to understand every word in this Surah.
- 3. Third stage: We establish memorization from the Book.

Now, we will live in the introduction of Surah An-Naml. This Surah was named the Ant because it was the only Surah in the Quran in which the ants were mentioned. Before you know how to memorize this Surah you need to know the story of our Master Solomon (pbuh) in this Surah in an easy manner.

The story of Solomon (pbuh)

There was among Solomon's soldiers a bird named "The Hoopoe". This bird disappeared by traveling far away. Solomon (pbuh) came to ask about it and he did not find it. He said: he will punish it severely because it went without his permission unless it comes back with news or true important information.

Soon, the Hoopoe came back and showed in front of Solomon (pbuh) and said: I knew new things you do not know O' King. King Solomon said: What is this new information which I do not know?

The Hoopoe said: I went to Sheba, and I found there people who prostrate to the sun and do not believe in Allah. They have a queen with a great throne decorated with gold, silver, and jewels. The Hoopoe continued saying that those infidels do not prostrate to Allah Almighty who knows the secrets of skies, the earth and everything.

Solomon (pbuh) said: we will consider what you have said, but you have to go back with a letter to them. In this letter, I will call them to believe in Allah Almighty and quit worshipping the sun.

The Hoopoe went to Sheba carrying King Solomon's (pbuh) letter. When it arrived to the queen palace, it dropped the letter near it. A soldier came, took the message and handed to the queen. The queen summoned her ministers and told them: I received a letter from King Solomon, a noble letter starting with, "In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful." And required us to submit to the true religion and quit worshiping our god, the sun. What shall I do?

The ministers said: We are strong and King Solomon cannot conquer us. The queen replied: This king is very strong and he can conquer us. When kings enter a country, they destroy it and humiliate its people. Therefore, I think we send him a gift because it may convince him and stop attacking us.

The queen sent a gift of jewels, gold and very precious things. But the Hoopoe had heard the queen's words, went back to Solomon, and told him that: The queen is sending you a gift.

When the gift arrived to Solomon, he did not accept it and said: Do you give me money? Allah has given me things much better than what you have. You rejoice the gift while I do not rejoice other than the gift of Allah, His generosity and mercy.

Then, he said: Go back to them. We will bring them an army that they will not be able to meet. We will dispel them in disgrace. The soldiers went back with the gift to their queen and told her with what happened. They said: That King Solomon will send us soldiers to dispel us from our country. What do you order us to do? And how to behave in this situation?

This queen was wise and very smart. She realized that this king was not like other kings. He did not covet money, but he called for faith in Allah free of charge and without pay. Therefore he had to be sincere; I would go and talk to him.

The queen went with some of her soldiers to King Solomon (pbuh). Then, Solomon (pbuh) had met with his ministers and men. The counsel included some sprite of jinn whom Allah had made them subservient and that was a grant which Allah gave it to Solomon and no one after him.

Solomon told them: I want from you to bring me the throne of this queen, because they will come in submission to the true religion. Who can bring this throne before they come? A sprite of jinn said: I can bring you this throne before you leave this counsel? I am strong, reliable and obedient to you O King.

Then, one of the believers who had been given knowledge from Him and who used to read the Psalms, Solomon and David's Book that was revealed by Allah and from which he learned a lot said: I can bring you this throne within the twinkling of an eye!!! Then, this good man brought the throne from Sheba. No sooner had Solomon (pbuh) close his eyes when he saw the throne in front of him. He hurried to thank Allah Almighty for all of the blessings given by. This is the true believer whenever is blessed, he hastened to thank Allah Almighty for this grace.

After that, Solomon (pbuh) said to his soldiers: Take this throne and transform some things in it so that the Queen of Sheba when she comes, she cannot recognize. We want to be assured whether she can recognize her throne or not. They transformed the throne. This shows that Allah always tests the believer to see if that has a negative impact on his faith or his faith will increase.

When Balqis, Queen of Sheba came into Solomon Kingdom and met King Solomon (pbuh), he took her and showed her the throne which was her. He asked her: Is this your throne? Sheba Queen said: I do not know, but it looks like the throne I posses and it resembles it a lot.

Balqis was astonished by this scene and asked a lot about the secret of the existence of this throne. However, she was impressed by King Solomon and how he brought her throne from Sheba or how he could make one alike!!!

Despite that, she tried to declare her submission to the true religion, but she hesitated because she was a disbeliever and was prostrating to the sun and this what had stopped her from believing in Allah Almighty. Our Master Solomon (pbuh) realized that.

Thus, King Solomon (pbuh) took her to a lofty building with a great arena made of glass. She said this is a lake of water! But Solomon (pbuh) told her that this is a palace paved smooth by transparent glass. Allah has made subservient who can make for him this antiques and wonders.

Here and in this situation, Balqis, the Queen, stood convinced and declared embracing Islam in front of Solomon (pbuh) who was glad for this happy ending for a woman who was a disbeliever!!

Practical Example

Now let us write the first portion of this Surah (from verse 1 to 44) and we divide into portions as follows:

The first portion: Introduction of Surah and a talk about the Quran

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. These are verses of the Qur'an,-a book that makes (things) clear; 2. A guide: and glad tidings for the believers,- 3. Those who establish regular prayers and give in regular charity, and also have (full) assurance of the hereafter. 4. As to those who believe not in the Hereafter, We have made their deeds pleasing in their eyes; and so they wander about in distraction. 5. Such are they for whom a grievous Penalty is (waiting); and in the Hereafter theirs will be the greatest loss. 6. As to thee, the Qur'an is bestowed upon thee from the presence of one who is wise and all-knowing.

The second portion: Story of Moses (pbuh)

7. Behold! Moses said to his family: "I perceive a fire; soon will I bring you from there some information, or I will bring you a burning brand to light our fuel, that ye may warn yourselves. 8. But when he came to the (fire), a voice was heard: "Blessed are those in the fire and those around: and glory to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. 9. "O Moses! verily, I am Allah, the exalted in might, the wise!.... 10. "Now do thou throw thy rod!" But when he saw it moving (of its own accord)as if it had been a snake, he turned back in retreat, and retraced not his steps: "O Moses!" (it was said), "Fear not: truly, in My presence, those called as apostles have no fear,- 11. "But if any have done wrong and have thereafter substituted good

to take the place of evil, truly, I am Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful. 12. "Now put thy hand into thy bosom, and it will come forth white without stain (or harm): (these are) among the nine Signs (thou wilt take) to Pharaoh and his people: for they are a people rebellious in transgression." 13. But when Our Signs came to them, that should have opened their eyes, they said: "This is sorcery manifest!" 14. And they rejected those Signs in iniquity and arrogance, though their souls were convinced thereof: so see what was the end of those who acted corruptly!

The third portion: Story of Solomon (pbuh) and the ants

15. We gave (in the past) knowledge to David and Solomon: And they both said: "Praise be to Allah, Who has favoured us above many of his servants who believe!" 16. And Solomon was David's heir. He said: "O ye people! We have been taught the speech of birds, and on us has been bestowed (a little) of all things: this is indeed Grace manifest (from Allah.)" 17. And before Solomon were marshalled his hosts,- of Jinns and men and birds, and they were all kept in order and ranks. 18. At length, when they came to a (lowly) valley of ants, one of the ants said: "O ye ants, get into your habitations, lest Solomon and his hosts crush you (under foot) without knowing it." 19. So he smiled, amused at her speech; and he said: "O my Lord! so order me that I may be grateful for Thy favours, which thou hast bestowed on me and on my parents, and that I may work the righteousness that will please Thee: And admit me, by Thy Grace, to the ranks of Thy righteous Servants."

The fourth portion: Solomon (pbuh) and birds

20. And he took a muster of the Birds; and he said: "Why is it I see not the Hoopoe? Or is he among the absentees? 21. "I will certainly punish him with a severe penalty, or execute him, unless he bring me a clear reason (for absence)." 22. But the Hoopoe tarried not far: he (came up and) said: "I have compassed (territory) which thou hast not compassed, and I have come to thee from Saba with tidings true. 23. "I found (there) a woman ruling over them and provided with every requisite; and she has a magnificent throne. 24. "I found her and her people worshipping the sun besides Allah. Satan has made their deeds seem pleasing in their eyes, and has kept them away from the Path,- so they receive no uidance,- 25. "(Kept them away from the Path), that they should not worship Allah, Who brings to light what is hidden in the heavens and the earth, and knows what ye hide and what ye reveal. 26. "(Allah)!- there is no god but He!- Lord of the Throne Supreme!" 27. (Solomon) said: "Soon shall we see whether thou hast told the truth or lied! 28. "Go thou, with this letter of mine, and deliver it to them: then draw back from them, and (wait to) see what answer they return"...

The fifth portion: Solomon (pbuh) and Queen Balqis

29. (The queen) said: "Ye chiefs! here is delivered to me - a letter worthy of respect. 30. "It is from Solomon, and is (as follows): 'In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful: 31.

"Be ye not arrogant against me, but come to me in submission (to the true Religion)." 32. She said: "Ye chiefs! advise me in (this) my affair: no affair have I decided except in your presence." 33. They said: "We are endued with strength, and given to vehement war: but the command is with thee; so consider what thou wilt command." 34. She said: "Kings, when they enter a country, despoil it, and make the noblest of its people its meanest thus do they behave. 35. "But I am going to send him a present, and (wait) to see with what (answer) return (my) ambassadors."

The sixth portion: Solomon (pbuh) and the throne

36. Now when (the embassy) came to Solomon, he said: "Will ye give me abundance in wealth? But that which Allah has given me is better than that which He has given you! Nay it is ye who rejoice in your gift! 37. "Go back to them, and be sure we shall come to them with such hosts as they will never be able to meet: We shall expel them from there in disgrace, and they will feel humbled (indeed)." 38. He said (to his own men): "Ye chiefs! which of you can bring me her throne before they come to me in submission?" 39. Said an 'Ifrit, of the Jinns: "I will bring it to thee before thou rise from thy council: indeed I have full strength for the purpose, and may be trusted." 40. Said one who had knowledge of the Book: "I will bring it to thee within the twinkling of an eye!" Then when (Solomon) saw it placed firmly before him, he said: "This is by the Grace of my Lord!- to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! and if any is grateful, truly his gratitude is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is Free of all Needs, Supreme in Honour!" 41. He said: "Transform her throne out of all recognition by her: let us see whether she is guided (to the truth) or is one of those who receive no guidance."

The seventh portion: The end of the Story

42. So when she arrived, she was asked, "Is this thy throne?" She said, "It was just like this; and knowledge was bestowed on us in advance of this, and we have submitted to Allah (in Islam)." 43. And he diverted her from the worship of others besides Allah. for she was (sprung) of a people that had no faith. 44. She was asked to enter the lofty Palace: but when she saw it, she thought it was a lake of water, and she (tucked up her skirts), uncovering her legs. He said: "This is but a palace paved smooth with slabs of glass." She said: "O my Lord! I have indeed wronged my soul: I do (now) submit (in Islam), with Solomon, to the Lord of the Worlds."

The reader may follow the above steps to memorize the portions one after another, then joining and memorizing every two portions, and so on we treat the rest of the Surahs.

Golden advices

1. Choose your best times to memorize the Quran; do not put this project on the margin of your life. The Quran won't give anything unless you give it everything.

- 2. You should know that the biggest mission of the Noble Prophet (pbuh) was memorizing the Quran and spread it to his people. The best thing you can do is memorizing the Quran. Therefore, the Prophet (pbuh) said: (The best of you is the one who learned the Quran and taught it). You should intend to memorize the Quran and teach it to others.
- 3. Try to read any study or article related to the Quran such as the studies of the miracles of the Quran. This process will strengthen your relations with the Quran,
- 4. Try always to search the meaning of any word you hear and you do not understand its meaning from an explanation, an Internet site or asking a scholar. Because this process will increase your information account greatly with time.

Part (3)

We receive several queries about memorizing the Holy Quran and the difficulties that many suffer from when they start memorizing the Book of Allah. Thus, we find them quitting memorizing after a while....

questions, and assure that the perfect way for memorizing is to rely on Allah with a truthful heart and good faith and Allah will choose the suitable way for you.

Is this way considered the perfect?

For every man, there is a way that he is used to. I have asked one of those who had memorized the Quran about how he did that and he promptly told me if he does not have someone reading in front of him, he cannot memorize anything. There is someone else who memorizes by picturing the verses in his memory by opening the Quran and staring at for a long time. There is also a third person who is used to memorize the Quran by repeating. He repeats the verse hundred times until he memorizes it... and so each has a way he used to, but what is the perfect way?

You must not think there is only one way or your way is the best because you are used to. You need to try the other ways and benefit from them. I am introducing through these lessons to my brother readers audio- memorizing way through listening to recorded recited Quran. This way has advantages that we have mentioned some of them. The important one is that it does not require a teacher, a place or time, but an open way.

At the beginning, some readers may not be familiar to this way; nonetheless, after some time they will feel great pleasure and sweetness. In fact, they will interact with listening to the Quran until they find themselves weeping from Allah-fearing whenever they listened to the Quran.

Does memorizing the Quran way need a teacher or a sheikh?

I can tell you beloved brother about my experience in memorizing which was without a teacher. I was depending on listening to the Quran only and that made the memorizing process easy. By doing so, I was not bound by a definite date or place for memorizing, but all times and places were open. This helped me to utilize every minute of my time.

However, there is a belief among many or all scholars emphasizing the necessity of the presence of a teacher for memorizing, and you cannot memorize anything without a teacher. Besides, you cannot master the rules of recital if there is not someone to listen to you and correct them for you.

I say this is half correct. It is correct that a believer is in need of a good example and someone to correct his mistakes. It is not correct that I make all my dependence on the teacher. If it is easy to find a teacher who keeps by heart the Book of Allah Almighty that will be a good thing, but if the circumstances of the one who wants to memorize the Quran are not suitable to follow Quran classes, should he quit the Quran and forget?

Thus, you can depend on yourself and Allah first in memorizing and trying imitating what you listen to on cassettes and even trying to record your voice while reciting the Quran. Then, you listen to it and try find out your mistakes by yourself.

Then, whenever you avail a suitable chance to meet a memorizing teacher, you may show him what you have memorized and ask him to correct your recital mistakes. However, language mistakes must not happen, because when you listen to a reciter from a cassette, you are listening to a correct reciting.

You should listen very carefully and pick every sound vibration and try to echo it. Here forth, we realize the meaning of Almighty saying,

"When the Qur'an is read, listen to it with attention, and hold your peace: that ye may receive Mercy." [Al-A'raf: The Heights: 204]

You must check and think of every letter the reader pronounce. It is preferable to utilize all your feelings and interact with the Quran and its concepts.

How can Neuro Linguistic Programming help in memorizing the Quran?

We may make use of the sciences of this age and utilize what has western scholars have discovered to serve the Book of Allah Almighty. They use concentration and self control to succeed in collecting money and fame, and we use the concentration power in understanding, memorizing the Quran, success in pleasing Allah almighty and collecting good deeds!

Neuro Linguistic Programming experts confirm the importance of insistence on achieving the goal which should be part of your life and give all your time to get it. You beloved brother, you can make the Quran your goal in this World and the Hereafter.

Imagine yourself that you have memorized the Quran; you will live your life with the Book of Allah Almighty. It is the healing, medicine, reassurance and power. Imagine that you will meet with Allah Almighty and you keep His Words, isn't it that a great thing.... And thus you can program your brain and life for memorizing the Book of Allah Almighty.

What are the books that are useful in memorizing the Quran?

The books that are available now are ways and experiences suggested by its owners for easing memorization. However, there is no book that makes you memorize, but it is your will and sincerity which are more important than any book.

Advice

- 1. Try to memorize every day even if it is little of the Quran but do not desert the Quran
- 2. Read what you have memorized in prayer, and repeat that and you will find joy when your prayer is longer
- 3. Try to think of the memorized verses meanings before you go to bed, and when you get up, because the subconscious at these two times is connected to the brain. Your dreams while sleeping will transform into beautiful dreams and you will see yourself reciting the Quran, is there anything more wonderful than that?!
- 4. Believe strongly that you can memorize the Quran, and you will keep it by heart if Allah permits.

Part (4)

Who does not wish to memorize the whole Book of Allah Almighty? Who does not dream that the Quran be his companion in this world? Who does not accept that the Quran be a light for him in his grave?

Is there a believer who does not accept to meet with Allah Almighty and he has memorized the Words of Allah?....Wishes are many but achieving them is not easy as some readers believe. All have experienced trying memorizing the Quran but soon they forgot what they had memorized. However, there are persons when they read the Quran; they barely understand anything of it.

Notwithstanding, I assure all that those ideas are not true. From my personal experience, I have found that the easiest work a person can perform is to memorize verses from the Book of Allah Almighty. This is not only my experience but everyone who has memorized the Book of Allah and perfected reciting with its rules will tell you the same truth.

However, if memorization of the Quran is that easy why many believers suffer from the difficulty of memorization? And we find others complaining from rapid forgetting, what is the solution?

Before anything else, we must remember Allah's Almighty saying about the Quran, "And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember: then is there any that will receive admonition?" [Al Qamar: The Moon: 17] This verse confirms that the Quran is easy to who likes to remember. Easiness of the Quran includes reciting, memorizing, understanding, considering and its wonders...

So, the divine truth that we should realize first is that Allah Almighty will make memorization easy for who intended good faith on that. He will avail to him suitable circumstances for memorizing the Quran if he determines to memorize it, to go to Allah with a sound heart and to ask Allah assistance.

We will start with an important paragraph about the mechanism of the memory so that we will be able through this piece of information to control our memory and make it subject to the will. This way will end oblivion forever.

How does human memory work?

Maybe, the most complex part in the human body is the brain which is responsible for remembering and retrieving information. This is a grace from Allah Almighty that we should appreciate and take care of. You may consider the brain as a computer that needs caring for, maintenance, and required feed.

There is an important issue namely we take into account the method of information storage, so that it can be easily retrieved. If storage is associated with understanding, it will be more effective during retrieving. Therefore, we have to understand what we have memorized from available explanations.

Also, considering the verses during memorization increases the effectiveness of storing and retrieving. And if we know that the memory memorizes by linking information together, we need to link the verses by considering and broadening the understanding and our imagination.

For example, when I want to memorize Surah Joseph (pbuh), I must prepare myself. I need to know this story first and try to identify the wisdom of its presence in the Quran. Why Allah had revealed it to His beloved Mohammed (pbuh). What lessons that we can deduce from this story. We have thus prepared the brain to work and store well just as we prepare a computer to be ready to work.

What is the correct way of reviewing what had been memorized before, how can we retrieve things we think we have forgotten?

We should know that the subconscious mind of man is a major boon bestowed by Allah on us. However, provided that we use it in doing good and pleasing Allah Almighty. We should know that all things we have memorized will be copied in this subconscious, and they will stay for very long periods.

So, we can conclude that caring and training of the subconscious mind continuously lead to take advantage of its memorization abilities, because the apparent mind is quickly oblivious. We can take advantage of the subconscious mind when trained how to contact it. The best times for that are at night before going to bed. So, Allah Almighty mentioned night after mentioning the "heavy message" denoting the Quran. He said, "Soon shall We send down to thee a weighty Message. 6. Truly the rising by night is most potent for governing (the soul), and most suitable for (framing) the Word (of Prayer and Praise). [Al- Muzzammil: The Enshrouded One, Bundled Up: 5-6] Night is the perfect time for reflecting upon, thinking and establishing memorization.

Therefore, you should wake up even for an hour or half an hour at night and review what you have memorized from the Quran. The result will be impressive and I can tell you dear reader

that I have memorized Surahs and reviewed them in this way. Years or months may have passed because of my preoccupation of miracle sciences. Then, I recalled these Surahs, I remembered them as if I memorized them yesterday!

There is a question about the endings of verses where they mix with other endings for many brothers who want to memorize the Quran. What is the way to ensure not to confuse between these endings, namely, how can we identify an ending from the others?

The meaning of the verse ending should be joined to the meaning of the same verse. For example, in Allah's Almighty saying, "As to the thief, Male or female, cut off his or her hands: a punishment by way of example, from Allah, for their crime: and Allah is Exalted in power.

39. But if the thief repents after his crime, and amends his conduct, Allah turneth to him in forgiveness; for Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. 40. Knowest thou not that to Allah (alone) belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth? He punisheth whom He pleaseth, and He forgiveth whom He pleaseth: and Allah hath power over all things. [Al-Ma'ida: The Table: 38-40]

This is a holy text comprising of 3 verses, each verse has an ending different form the other, how can we assure that our memorization is correct and we do not err? We should consider this holy text and consider each verse, what it means and we ask why the first verse ended with Allah saying, "and Allah is Exalted in power" and the second "for Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful" and the third "and Allah hath power over all things" and how to differentiate between them?

- 1. The first verse is talking about punishment of a thief "As to the thief, Male or female, cut off his or her hands" and so it is normal to end with the expression that denotes that Allah is exalted in power and greatness. Allah is capable of punishing whoever disobeys His command. He is wise and does not oppress anyone. Wisdom necessitates cutting off the thief's hand, and not what Islam's enemies claim that our religion is a religion of violence. So, because this verse was talking about theft and its punishment, it was necessary to end by Allah's Almighty saying "and Allah is Exalted in power"
- 2. The second verse talks about repentance from these sins "But if the thief repents after his crime, and amends his conduct, Allah turneth to him in forgiveness;" Whoever repents from theft and reconditions, Allah will forgive and bless him. So, the verse ended with Allah's almighty saying "for Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful" Consider with me the wording of the verse that validated Allah's mercy and forgiveness.
- 3. In the third verse, we find a speech about Allah sovereignty and capability of torturing "Knowest thou not that to Allah (alone) belongeth the dominion of the heavens and

the earth? He punisheth whom He pleaseth, and He forgiveth whom He pleaseth:" So, it was necessary to end this verse with the saying "and Allah hath power over all things".

4. So, I can tell you brother reader that little consideration saves you a lot of time and you will gain impressive results regarding memorization the Book of Allah Almighty.

How can one learn, practice and master the rules of reciting without a need for a teacher?

Listening to the Quran is the best means for mastering reciting rules. Hearing is not enough; one must listen and listen attentively. So, Allah did not say "listen to it" only, but He said, "When the Qur'an is read, listen to it with attention, and hold your peace: that ye may receive Mercy." [Al-A'raf:The Heights: 204]. Listening attentively is a kind of consideration in the way of pronouncing words as we hear them. We try to imitate what we hear. We repeat the verses with the one who recites on a recorder, a computer or a TV.

This does not prevent us, whenever the circumstances allow, to resort to one of the memorizers who master the rules of reciting. We have him listen to what we recite so that he corrects what we have read. We should know that we cannot abandon our teachers and scholars, but we should go to them every now and then.

What is the perfect way to review what has been memorized from Surahs and parts?

The perfect way for reviewing is to read what you have memorized in your prayers. I still remember those nights when I was standing in front of Allah Almighty and reading in one kneeling a relatively long Surah such as Surah Isra (The Night Journey), Joseph, or Al-Kahf(The Cave). I used to find much pleasure in this long prayer.

Therefore, I advice every young man and girl to taste the pleasure of long prayer and read a whole Surah from the long memorized Surahs in one or two kneeling. Maybe, things are difficult at the beginning but after that prayer at night will be the best moments that a believer may have.

Here, we remember the words of Allah Almighty ordering His beloved Apostle Mohammed (pbuh) to pray at night and prolong in kneeling, "And pray in the small watches of the morning: (it would be) an additional prayer (or spiritual profit) for thee: soon will thy Lord raise thee to a Station of Praise and Glory!" [Al-Isra: The Night Journey: 79].

Part (5)

Allah Almighty says in His Book: "There is, in their stories, instruction for men endued with understanding. It is not a tale invented, but a confirmation of what went before it....

Allah Almighty says in His Book: "There is, in their stories, instruction for men endued with understanding. It is not a tale invented, but a confirmation of what went before it,- a detailed exposition of all things, and a guide and a mercy to any such as believe." [Yousif: Joseph: 111] Thus, if you want to memorize any story from the Quranic stories, you have to understand it and deduce from it lessons and sermons. Then, you start memorizing and you will find memorizing the story very easy.

Joseph Surah is a truly a masterpiece of the Quranic stories... I remember how this Surah was my start in the journey of memorizing the Almighty's Book. One of the important things to find real enjoyment in memorizing is to start by what you love and what interests you without sticking to a certain ranking. Your objective will be is to please Allah Almighty and perfecting memorizing the Quran or part of the Quran. The objective is not to memorize the Quran according to its ranking. But if you memorize one Surah thoroughly in sake of Allah, it is much better for you than memorizing the whole Quran only for the sake of memorizing or to have people say that you have memorized the Quran!

Therefore, that was my systematic way of memorization. The result was that what I had memorized stayed long though I did not revise it! I used to leave everything, sit to memorize the Book of Allah Almighty, find great pleasure in reciting the Quran and enjoy its meanings which capture hearts.

We will try now memorizing Surah Joseph (pbuh). But before we start this job, we need to divide this Surah into portions according to the events of this story. Then, we memorize each portion alone, next, we connect the portions to each other. We will find ourselves memorizing this Surah without much effort.

I will leave this Surah for you, dear reader to divide it into portions that suit your ability to memorize. The portions may be large or small. I will give you an idea about the story and the lessons it includes, so that you feel with me the events and the situation which were hints from this great Surah.

The best stories

The stories of the prophets in the Holy Quran come within the Surah verses, nonetheless, the Quran considered this story in a whole Surah because of its importance, many lessons, sermons and the benefits which the story had introduced to us. Therefore, we find Allah Almighty talk to His beloved Mohammed (pbuh) said to him: "We do relate unto thee the most beautiful of stories, in that We reveal to thee this (portion of the) Qur'an: before this, thou too was among those who knew it not."[Yousif: Joseph: 3]

Joseph dreamed and told his father, "Behold! Joseph said to his father: "O my father! I did see eleven stars and the sun and the moon: I saw them prostrate themselves to me!" 5. Said (the father): "My (dear) little son! relate not thy vision to thy brothers, lest they concoct a plot against thee: for Satan is to man an avowed enemy! "[Yousif: Joseph: 4-5]. The father knows his sons and he knows that Joseph was the best of his brothers who hate him. Therefore, the father asked Joseph not to tell his brothers, because he was afraid that they may hurt Joseph.

Joseph's brothers

Joseph had a number of brothers who envy him for being their father's favorite. They wanted to separate him from their father and so they tried always to concoct plots for Joseph because their father loves him more. One day, they met and decided to take Joseph and throw him in the well to get rid of him and gain Jacob's, their father, affection. Therefore, they came, swindled their father and said, "They said: "O our father! why dost thou not trust us with Joseph,- seeing we are indeed his sincere well-wishers? 12. "Send him with us tomorrow to enjoy himself and play, and we shall take every care of him." 13. (Jacob) said: "Really it saddens me that ye should take him away: I fear lest the wolf should devour him while ye attend not to him." 14. They said: "If the wolf were to devour him while we are (so large) a party, then should we indeed (first) have perished ourselves!" ."[Yousif: Joseph: 11-14] Of course, they were lying to their father, and therefore, their lying would be uncovered after a while.

They took Joseph

Jacob, the father, (pbuh) agreed to send Joseph with his brothers who took him to a place far away where there was the well. They swindled Joseph and then threw him in the well before they hurried home! But before that they had taken Joseph's shirt, dipped it in blood, came back to their father weeping, and said, "Then they came to their father in the early part of the night, weeping. 17. They said: "O our father! We went racing with one another, and left Joseph with our things; and the wolf devoured him.... But thou wilt never believe us even though we tell the truth." 18. They stained his shirt with false blood. He said: "Nay, but your minds have made up a tale (that may pass) with you, (for me) patience is most fitting: Against that which ye assert, it is Allah (alone) Whose help can be sought". . . "[Yousif: Joseph: 16-18]

Here, we see how Jacob, the father, (pbuh) had faced this calamity with patience and surrendered the whole issue to Allah... and so we must be patient on all calamities and let Allah manages. We must not rely in all our issues and life on anyone other than Allah.

What was the fate of Joseph?

Allah was with Joseph and He did not leave him at all because Joseph was a believer child who fears Allah and does not disobey Him. He used to love Allah who loves him. Allah had arranged for Joseph a place in the well that he did not feel afraid. Allah protected him from any harm. Joseph sat in the well waiting for who may come and save him until a caravan who sent their servant to bring them water from the well. When he put down the bucket into the well, Joseph held it and climbed up with it. The servant saw Joseph, hurried back and said: I have found a child!! Hence, one of the merchants took him to Egypt and availed him for selling. One of the princes, Al-Aziz came and bought him for a miserable price, only few dirhams. "The (Brethren) sold him for a miserable price, for a few dirhams counted out: in such low estimation did they hold him! 21. The man in Egypt who bought him, said to his wife: "Make his stay (among us) honourable: maybe he will bring us much good, or we shall adopt him as a son."[Yousif: Joseph: 20-21]

A new journey starts

The Aziz took Joseph, the child, and brought him up in a good manner. He always used to tell his wife to dignify this kid because he was good. Josef was getting gradually older and increasingly beautiful, knowledge and wisdom. Here, Allah describes this stage of Prophet Joseph's (pbuh) life and says, "When Joseph attained His full manhood, We gave him power and knowledge: thus do We reward those who do right." [Yousif: Joseph: 22]

But this journey included some troubles that Allah had prescribed for Joseph (pbuh). Aziz's wife was fond of Joseph and she tried to sleep with him but he was always refusing. He was saying: My master Aziz has dignified me a lot and I fear Allah Almighty, how come that I make things that make Allah angry? Therefore, every believer who loves Allah Almighty should stop committing sin that makes Allah Almighty angry. He should be in the state of permanent fear of Allah. Allah sees us wherever we are. Therefore, Joseph said, "He said: "(Allah) forbid! truly (thy husband) is my lord! he made my sojourn agreeable! truly to no good come those who do wrong!" [Yousif: Joseph: 23] At the time, a master or a chief was called lord.

Joseph goes to prison

Aziz's wife was furious of Joseph, tried to approach him forcibly and to compel him to sleep with her but he refused and escaped. While he was running away from her, she tore his shirt from behind. Suddenly, Aziz appeared in front of them. His wife hurried to tell him: Joseph

had attacked her!! Joseph defended himself saying: she was trying me to commit adultery but I ran away from her and she tore my shirt from behind.

A wise relative to Aziz's wife came to judge between them. He said: if Joseph's shirt was torn from behind, it meant he was running away and she was chasing and attacking him and thus his shirt was torn from behind.

Therefore, Aziz checked Joseph's shirt to find that it was torn from behind. This proved that Joseph was innocent of his wife's accusations and was sincere in each word he had said. Aziz reprimanded his wife for what wrong she had done to Joseph and asked to repent from this wrong deed. But the word was spread in the city and ladies started to talk about Aziz's wife, her love to Joseph and she was wrong. But Aziz's wife summoned the city ladies and gave each one a knife and then asked Joseph to get out. When they saw Joseph, they were crazy of his beauty to the extent that they cut their fingers with the knives unknowingly! The ladies were saying: This was a nonhuman, but a kind angel. Then, Aziz's wife said to the ladies: This is Joseph whom you blamed me of. I will send him to prison if he does not carry out what I ask him to do.

Joseph interprets dreams

Therefore, Aziz thought that if he put Joseph in prison, the issue and the city ladies talk would end. We may wonder if we knew that Joseph (pbuh) had preferred jail to committing a sin... therefore, He said: "O my Lord! the prison is more to my liking than that to which they invite me: Unless Thou turn away their snare from me, I should (in my youthful folly) feel inclined towards them and join the ranks of the ignorant." 34. So his Lord hearkened to him (in his prayer), and turned away from him their snare: Verily He heareth and knoweth (all things)." [Yousif: Joseph: 33-34]

Joseph went to prison and Allah had arranged for him to meet two other guys in prison. One of them said: I saw a dream that I would like to ask about its interpretation. I saw myself squeezing grapes to make wine. Joseph said: the interpretation of this dream was that you will carry wine and give your lord to drink. This is what will happen to you but you live and therefore please tell your lord my story and that I can interpret dreams.

The second guy said: I saw a dream that I would like to ask about its interpretation. I saw myself standing and bread was on my head. Birds came and ate from this bread. Joseph said: the interpretation of this dream is you will be crucified on wood till you pass away and then birds will come and eat from your head!

The two guys left the prison and as Joseph told, the second guy made a mistake, thus was crucified, died and birds came to eat from his head. While the first guy took wine and gave his lord to drink but he forgot to tell him about Joseph's story.

The king sees a dream

The king of Egypt saw a dream while he was sleeping. He summoned his ministers the next day and asked for an interpretation for this dream. He said: I had seen seven fat cows i.e. fleshy and heavy weight. The king continued telling his dream and said: I saw also seven lean cows i.e. emaciated and skinny. I saw also seven green ears of corn and seven dry ones.

The king was asking an interpretation to his dream and asked them to bring whoever could interpret that dream. They said: we do not know dream interpretation but we look for someone who could do that. "The king (of Egypt) said: "I do see (in a vision) seven fat kine, whom seven lean ones devour, and seven green ears of corn, and seven (others) withered. O ye chiefs! Expound to me my vision if it be that ye can interpret visions." [Yousif: Joseph: 43]

Then, that guy who was with Joseph in prison came and remembered that Joseph could interpret this dream. But Joseph was in prison what to do? The guy went to the king's palace and told them that there is a man who can interpret this dream and his name is Joseph but he is in prison. They went to Joseph, told him the dream and asked for interpreting the king's dream.

Joseph interprets the dream

Joseph said to them: the interpretation of this dream that the seven fat cows denote that seven years of good will come, and the crop of wheat will be in abundance. The other seven skinny cows denote that seven years of drought and very little crop will follow. However, a year will follow these years of drought when it will rain, the plants grow again and the famine ends. Allah Almighty says about this, "(Joseph) said: "For seven years shall ye diligently sow as is your wont: and the harvests that ye reap, ye shall leave them in the ear,- except a little, of which ye shall eat. 48. "Then will come after that (period) seven dreadful (years), which will devour what ye shall have laid by in advance for them,- (all) except a little which ye shall have (specially) guarded. 49. "Then will come after that (period) a year in which the people will have abundant water, and in which they will press (wine and oil)." [Yousif: Joseph: 47-49]

The king was pleased with this interpretation, worked on utilizing the good years, stored corn in storage areas and also prepared for the years of drought that will follow.

The truth shows

Therefore, the king ordered to bring Joseph in front of him but Joseph refused until he was declared innocent of the accusations that led him to prison, and that Aziz's wife was the one who enticed him and that he would not be the attacker but she was the one who assaulted him. At this moment, Aziz's wife came and said: Now I tell the truth, Joseph was innocent of

the accusation that took him to prison, I was the one who tried to entice him but he refused and he did not do anything that makes Allah angry.

The Holly Quran tells us in rhetoric and wonderful style about the innocence of our Prophet Joseph (pbuh) and this is Aziz's wife or as the Quran called her the woman of Aziz, "Said the 'Aziz's wife: "Now is the truth manifest (to all): it was I who sought to seduce him from his (true) self: He is indeed of those who are (ever) true (and virtuous). 52. "This (say I), in order that He may know that I have never been false to him in his absence, and that Allah will never guide the snare of the false ones." [Yousif: Joseph: 51-52]

This was how the truth appeared and Aziz's wife admitted it. She was the one who tried to commit adultery that makes Allah Almighty angry. Innocence of Joseph had come and the king knew that this youth was sincere, pure and a believer. Therefore, he sent someone to bring Joseph to him. When Joseph came and appeared in front of the king, the king said to him: Today you have become strong and we will give you what you want and I shall depend on you.

Joseph replied: I have knowledge in managing money and accounts, please assign me this position. I will handle all accounts in a perfect manner. The king gave the position to Joseph. Egypt flourished during the time of Joseph and became richer and stronger. Allah Almighty says, "Thus did We give established power to Joseph in the land, to take possession therein as, when, or where he pleased. We bestow of our Mercy on whom We please, and We suffer not, to be lost, the reward of those who do good." [Yousif: Joseph: 56]

The seven year famine

The famine occurred. The seven good years ended and were replaced by the seven years of drought. People resorted on Egypt King to give them corn for their feeding. The king assigned that responsibility to Joseph (pbuh) who was responsible for distribution of corn to the people from different countries. The famine reached the village of Jacob (pbuh), father of Joseph, who sent his sons, the brothers of Joseph, to Egypt to bring some corn.

They went to Egypt to bring corn from our Prophet Joseph and they did not know that he was Joseph. They believed that he was being taken by some people and became their servant. They did not imagine at all that Joseph was the honorable of Egypt distributing corn and controlling the money and the treasure of the whole country. Allah Almighty says about this stage of Joseph's life, "Thus did We give established power to Joseph in the land, to take possession therein as, when, or where he pleased. We bestow of our Mercy on whom We please, and We suffer not, to be lost, the reward of those who do good. 57. But verily the reward of the Hereafter is the best, for those who believe, and are constant in righteousness." [Yousif: Joseph: 56:57] This was how Allah had made our Prophet Joseph

stronger holding what he wanted, went to and fro freely. This was by the grace of Allah Almighty to our Prophet Joseph because he endured too much the harm of his brothers.

Joseph's brothers come

Joseph's brother came to him but they did not recognize him; nonetheless, he recognized them!! He asked them: How much corn do you need? They said: We need an amount that will satisfy us, our father and our younger brother who remained with his father. He said: Why didn't you bring your younger brother with you?? They said: Our father is much related to him and he won't let him at all. Joseph said to them: I will give you what you need of corn on condition that you bring me your younger brother whom you left with your father. Almighty says, "And when he had furnished them forth with provisions (suitable) for them, he said: "Bring unto me a brother ye have, of the same father as yourselves, (but a different mother): see ye not that I pay out full measure, and that I do provide the best hospitality? 60. "Now if ye bring him not to me, ye shall have no measure (of corn) from me, nor shall ye (even) come near me." 61. They said: "We shall certainly seek to get our wish about him from his father: Indeed we shall do it." [Yousif: Joseph: 59-61]

Allah is the best to take care

They returned to their father and said to him: O father can we take our brother with us because Egypt governor stopped us from taking our corn share. He wanted us to bring our younger brother. Their father said: do you want me to send him with you to do what you have done to Joseph?? "But Allah is the best to take care (of him), and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!" [Yousif: Joseph: 64]!!!

They replied: O father, we will bring him back to you and do no harm to him. We will take him with us to get the corn and come back. Father said: I won't send with you until you swear to Allah Almighty that you will bring him back to me and till you give me a solemn oath to Allah that you bring him back to me unless Allah estimate something out of your will.

So, Joseph's brothers promised their father not to hurt their younger brother and they will bring him back to their father as soon as they get corn from Egypt. Almighty says, "Further he said: "O my sons! enter not all by one gate: enter ye by different gates. Not that I can profit you aught against Allah (with my advice): None can command except Allah. On Him do I put my trust: and let all that trust put their trust on Him." [Yousif: Joseph: 67]

They went back again

Joseph's brothers targeted Egypt accompanied by their younger brother. They surrounded him with all the care and diligence till they have arrived Joseph. They came to Joseph with their younger brother who was good-hearted and did not want to hurt anyone. He was different from his brothers and this was why he had this proximity to his father after Joseph

had gone. Joseph (pbuh) did not want to tell them he was Joseph and left them unaware. However, he called his younger brother and told him not to fear. That was me your brother Joseph and the younger brother was very pleased. Joseph told him not to tell his brothers. I would make a simple trick to keep you with me without they were aware of that. Here, the Quran tells us about that in saying of Almighty, "Now when they came into Joseph's presence, he received his (full) brother to stay with him. He said (to him): "Behold! I am thy (own) brother; so grieve not at aught of their doings." [Yousif: Joseph: 69] He kept his brother beside him and took into the palace without they noted that. He told him not to be sad about what was happening. Joseph (pbuh) wanted to make a simple trick to take his younger brother.

The beaker of the king

Joseph ordered his guys to put the king's beaker which was used to weigh corn in his brother's luggage. Then, he ordered them to declare it stolen and look for it! They started the search for the king's beaker in Joseph's brothers 'luggage. Suddenly, they got the beaker from the younger brother's luggage. Here, Joseph's guys declared that the younger brother was the thief of the beaker and he had to go to prison!

Joseph's brothers said: We did not come here to steal, but this young kid was a thief, nonetheless, we had to take him back to his father because he would be very sad. Joseph told them: Who stole would be sent to prison and I would not let him go with you. They said: O Aziz our brother has an old father and we cannot go back without him. Then, they begged Aziz a lot, but he refused to send his younger brother with them. He had him stay in the palace with him and he was very generous to him. He started to talk with him about their father Jacob. Almighty says, "They said: "O exalted one! Behold! he has a father, aged and venerable, (who will grieve for him); so take one of us in his place; for we see that thou art (gracious) in doing good." 79 He said: "(Allah) forbid that we take other than him with whom we found our property: indeed (if we did so), we should be acting wrongfully." [Yousif: Joseph: 78-79]

Joseph's brothers in confusion

Joseph's brothers were increasingly dithered in this situation, and they did not know what to do after they had given their father a promise and testament to bring his younger son. Therefore, the elder brother said to them: Go back to your father and tell him what happened and say that your younger son stole and we are sincere. Here, the Book of Allah Almighty describes this difficult situation, Allah Almighty says, "Now when they saw no hope of his (yielding), they held a conference in private. The leader among them said: "Know ye not that your father did take an oath from you in Allah's name, and how, before this, ye did fail in your duty with Joseph? Therefore will I not leave this land until my father permits me, or Allah commands me; and He is the best to command. 81. "Turn ye back to your father, and say, 'O

our father! behold! thy son committed theft! we bear witness only to what we know, and we could not well guard against the unseen! " [Yousif: Joseph: 80-81]

They went back to their father

Thus, Joseph's brothers went back to their father, Jacob, (pbuh), told him what happened with them and their younger brother had stolen and gone to prison! Here, this father's sadness increased and told them: You must have done him harm. I will be patient until Allah returns him and also Joseph with him. "Jacob said: "Nay, but ye have yourselves contrived a story (good enough) for you. So patience is most fitting (for me). Maybe Allah will bring them (back) all to me (in the end). For He is indeed full of knowledge and wisdom" [Yousif: Joseph: 83] Jacob was sad of his sons and he did not find in front of him anything but resorted to Allah Almighty in this difficult circumstances and distanced himself from them saying, " and said: "How great is my grief for Joseph!" [Yousif: Joseph: 84] He repeats this statement and felt sorry for Joseph and his brother and how he had sent him with them.

Jacob loses his sight

Jacob became blind from great sadness. He lost sight because he was very sad for the loss of his sons. His sons were trying to reduce his sadness but it increased with grief and pain for his sons were the most precious thing in his life.

They came again and told their father: Do not remember Joseph because this affects your health a lot. However, he complained his sadness to Allah almighty. The Quran tells us about Jacob's speech, his talk to Allah "He said: "I only complain of my distraction and anguish to Allah, and I know from Allah that which ye know not..." [Yousif: Joseph: 86] Anguish is extreme sadness. Consider with me this wonderful speech when Jacob was on the climax of sadness but he did not lose hope in Allah, "and I know from Allah that which ye know not..." but I am sure that Allah will return them to me soon!!! This is the patience of prophets. Where are we from this patience?!

Do we have the ability for such patience? When we encounter any calamity, do we remember the story of Joseph and Jacob's sadness for his sons, how he lost his sight but he did not lose hope in Allah Almighty. How to lose hope in Allah, and Allah is the most merciful?

Then, our Prophet Jacob started a practical example for this trust in Allah, and he said to his sons: go and look for Joseph and his brother, and do not give up of Allah mercy!! Let us read this in the Holly Quran's words. "O my sons! go ye and enquire about Joseph and his brother, and never give up hope of Allah's Soothing Mercy: truly no one despairs of Allah's Soothing Mercy, except those who have no faith." [Yousif: Joseph: 87] Thus our Prophet Jacob (pbuh) asked his sons to search and look in every place, not in a hurry but quietly and not to despair of the mercy of Allah Almighty.

The brothers went back again

Joseph's brothers have suffered a lot on their father. They went back to Egypt to see Aziz (Joseph) who they did not know that he was Joseph, their brother. They arrived at Joseph and said to him: We have suffered a lot, our father has lost his sight, and we do not have anything left. We beg you to send our younger brother with us. Maybe, when we return him to his father, he regains his sight.

Joseph said: Now you become begging, do you know what you had done to your brother Joseph before?? Do you remember when you threw him in the well?? They promptly screamed: Are you Joseph!!!? He said: Yes and this is my younger brother. We were patient a lot and therefore Allah had blessed us and saved us from you. "They said: "Art thou indeed Joseph?" He said, "I am Joseph, and this is my brother: Allah has indeed been gracious to us (all): behold, he that is righteous and patient,- never will Allah suffer the reward to be lost, of those who do right." 91. They said: "By Allah. indeed has Allah preferred thee above us, and we certainly have been guilty of sin!" 92. He said: "This day let no reproach be (cast) on you: Allah will forgive you, and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!" [Yousif: Joseph: 90-92]

Jacob regains his sight

Joseph (pbuh) said to them: But now take my shirt to your father. Put this shirt on his face, and his sight will be back. I request that you bring with you all your family to the palace. When they returned to their father carrying the shirt and before they reached their house, Jacob, the father, (pbuh) smelt Joseph's sweat. Immediately, he said: I smell my son, Joseph. Those who around him said: Do you still remember Joseph who was eaten by a wolf?

Joseph's brothers arrived and put the shirt on their father's face. His sight was back as it had been before!! Jacob said to them: I have told you that I knew things from Allah you do not know. Here, Joseph's brothers felt their mistake and guilt, thus they sought pardon and forgiveness and they said to their father: "They said: "O our father! ask for us forgiveness for our sins, for we were truly at fault." 98. He said: "Soon will I ask my Lord for forgiveness for you: for he is indeed Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful." [Yousif: Joseph: 97-98] They admitted their mistake. That was a good thing. Jacob (pbuh) promised them to ask Allah for forgiveness and repentance to their sins.

The dream comes true

Jacob praised Allah a lot after he rejoiced that his son Joseph was still alive and became king of Egypt, besides regaining his sight. He took his sons, headed to Egypt and entered the palace of the king, Joseph. The custom was that anyone who appeared in front of the king

had to prostrate and kneel in front of him. When Joseph's father and his mother came into the palace, Joseph raised them on the throne in respect and tribute to them.

Then, his eleven brothers came in and prostrated to him. By doing this, Joseph's dream came true when he said, "Behold! Joseph said to his father: "O my father! I did see eleven stars and the sun and the moon: I saw them prostrate themselves to me!" [Yousif: Joseph: 4] .What is meant by eleven stars was that his brothers were eleven and the sun and the moon denoted to his father and mother. Thus, the dream that he had seen when he was young came true. In this scene, Joseph stayed in modesty in front of his parents and modesty to Allah Almighty. He remembered Allah grace and never forgot it. He addressed his father saying, "And he raised his parents high on the throne (of dignity), and they fell down in prostration, (all) before him. He said: "O my father! this is the fulfilment of my vision of old! Allah hath made it come true!" [Yousif: Joseph: 100]

Our Prophet Joseph's (pbuh) supplication

Our Prophet Joseph had made a great supplication in this situation in which he expressed his thanks to Allah Almighty. He remembered the greatness of the Creator Almighty and admitted that he is Allah's slave no matter how much dominance he had obtained. He asked Allah Almighty to breathe his last on faith and Islam. He asked Allah to make him one of the good people and unite with them on the Day of Resurrection. Let us read the wonderful style of the Quran in illustrating our Prophet Joseph (pbuh), "O my Lord! Thou hast indeed bestowed on me some power, and taught me something of the interpretation of dreams and events,- O Thou Creator of the heavens and the earth! Thou art my Protector in this world and in the Hereafter. Take Thou my soul (at death) as one submitting to Thy will (as a Muslim), and unite me with the righteous." [Yousif: Joseph: 101]

Finally, Allah Almighty sealed this beautiful story by addressing our beloved Apostle Mohammed (pbuh) saying, "Such is one of the stories of what happened unseen, which We reveal by inspiration unto thee; nor wast thou (present) with them then when they concerted their plans together in the process of weaving their plots." [Yousif: Joseph: 102] This story is about unseen news which only Allah Almighty knows. You O Allah's Apostle, you did not have knowledge of this story and the deception that Joseph's brothers made unless Allah was who told you that.

Sermons and lessons from Joseph's story

1. Allah had saved Joseph when he was in the well, because he was a believer in Allah and confident of Allah's Almighty grace. He was obedient to his parents. Here, we learn that whoever obeys Allah, his Apostle, and his parents, Allah will bless his soul and save him from the perils. If you want Allah to be on your side in difficult times, be with Allah in your regular times. When our Prophet Joseph (pbuh) was exposed to

Aziz's wife assault, he refused to disobey Allah because he feared Allah and therefore Allah saved him.

- 2. Even in difficult times when he went to prison, we find him to be patient and preferred prison to sin and he said, "He said: "Before any food comes (in due course) to feed either of you, I will surely reveal to you the truth and meaning of this ere it befall you: that is part of the (duty) which my Lord hath taught me. I have (I assure you) abandoned the ways of a people that believe not in Allah and that (even) deny the Hereafter. 38. "And I follow the ways of my fathers,- Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and never could we attribute any partners whatever to Allah. that (comes) of the grace of Allah to us and to mankind: yet most men are not grateful." [Yousif: Joseph: 37-38]
- 3. This story teaches us patience in all its kinds. Patience of the father on his sons, the brother on his brothers and the believer when he encounters difficult situations where he resorts on Allah Almighty. It teaches us that lying does not last long. Joseph's brothers lied to their father and said that the wolf had eaten Joseph. But this lie did not continue, and what they are was revealed. Then, they felt their error, remorse and grief. We also learn that Allah Almighty does not abandon patient believers. In spite of all the situations that Joseph experienced in his life, he always found Allah to his side and this is the true believer.
- 4. The believer must not be arrogant when Allah has bestowed on him grace, office and wealth. The believer who Allah loves is the one who becomes more modest whenever his wealth, knowledge and rank increase. Thus, Joseph said a great saying that reflects his strong faith in Allah: "They said: "Art thou indeed Joseph?" He said, "I am Joseph, and this is my brother: Allah has indeed been gracious to us (all): behold, he that is righteous and patient,- never will Allah suffer the reward to be lost, of those who do right." [Yousif: Joseph: 90]
- 5. So, piety and patience are the only way to charity which leads to paradise. Here, patience must be for the sake of Allah Almighty.
- 6. Our Prophet Jacob (pbuh) had a great position reflected in his absolute confidence in the mercy of Allah while he was highly distressed! Nonetheless, he ordered his sons not despair of the mercy and grace of Allah Almighty. So, he said, "He said: "I only complain of my distraction and anguish to Allah, and I know from Allah that which ye know not... 87. "O my sons! go ye and enquire about Joseph and his brother, and never give up hope of Allah's Soothing Mercy: truly no one despairs of Allah's Soothing Mercy, except those who have no faith." [Yousif: Joseph: 86-87] A disbeliever is the one who is despair of the generosity and grace of Allah while a believer whenever he encounters calamity, he will resort on Allah who he finds him near and responsive.

7. Our Prophet Joseph (pbuh) was on top of sovereignty in the greatest country of its time but he did not forget that he would die and go back to Allah and Allah would reward him on his deeds. So, he said, "Take Thou my soul (at death) as one submitting to Thy will (as a Muslim), and unite me with the righteous." [Yousif: Joseph: 101]

Now my beloved brother

You can memorize this story after you have understood it. That is you should select a number of verses that make an independent portion. The Surah portions may count to twenty for example. You memorize the first portion followed by the second one, and then you join the two and memorize them together.

After that, you start with the third portion followed by the fourth, and then you join them together and memorize them continuously. Next, you memorize the four portions before you take the rest. You start repeating the four portions as if they are one portion until you memorize them all. Then, you move to the fifth followed by the sixth and then you join between them... and so according to the chain of portions until you finish the whole Surah successfully if Allah Almighty wills.

Part (6)

This lesson will be different from the previous lessons. I have found a suitable way for memorizing and it is complementary during sleeping! So, I advice you brother reader to take advantage of sleeping time in memorizing the Holly Quran!....

Story with the Quran

I had some time listened to the Quran when I was sleeping. That was by listening to a recorder which I left it playing. I listened to a voice of one of the readers and slept. After some time I had noticed that the memorization process became much easier. Even after several years, I noticed that what I had memorized from the Quran had been established in my memory. Years may have passed without reviewing a specific Surah and I find myself memorizing it in spite of not reviewing it!!

I had found an explanation to this phenomenon. Memorizing during sleep leaves an impression and effect much greater than memorizing during vigilance. Therefore, Allah has made sleep one of His great signs. We have to take advantage of time because the Prophet (pbuh) had confirmed the importance of time to the believer.

Amazing scientific fact

If one sleeps for eight hours every day, this means that he spends third of his life in sleep. But, sleep is the one thing that we mostly spend our time in. However, does this mean that sleep is useless? Or it is one Allah's almighty signs. He said, "And among His Signs is the sleep that ye take by night and by day, and the quest that ye (make for livelihood) out of His Bounty: verily in that are signs for those who hearken." [Ar-Rum: The Roman: 23] So, sleep whether at night or day is a sign, but one of Allah's miracles which we should think about. Then, note how the verse was ended by the word "hear" as if there is a relationship between hearing sense and sleep. This what researchers have confirmed by live photos!

A researcher had observed some individuals during their sleep. He photographed the brain of each of them by the magnetic resonance scanning. He found that the brain was enlivened during sleep! Then, he read some information to these sleepers. The surprise was that he found a response from the brain to what he was reading. So the learning process had taken place though the man was sleeping. But what is the scientific explanation to this strange phenomenon?

However, new studies on the brain and sleep science showed that the brain does not rest even at sleep. But the brain establishes the information which has been learned during the day. It establishes that during sleep, glory to Allah!

I have found several benefits for listening to the Quran especially during sleep. I will reintroduce a part of one my articles titled: Healing by Listening to the Quran:

Some of those who are memorizing the Quran using this innovative way have questions that I have promised to answer. In this lesson, I will answer those questions:

How was your experience with close examination of rhetoric aspects of the Quran while your major was scientific?

There is no more beautiful than the moments where the believer enjoys the Quran memorization, consideration and studying. It is the greatness of the Quran that helps you to strengthen your Arabic as soon as you repeat and memorize, however, repetition of reading and listening to the Quran imparts a lot to man from linguistic and rhetoric aspects.

Nonetheless, when I encounter some difficult words I used to resort to easier explanations or language dictionaries which I find easy to reach. I used to carefully examine a verse from the Quran for an hour for example and try to think about it, its words and their implications. I earned new meanings as soon as I had considerd it. So, Allah Almighty says, "Do they not consider the Qur'an (with care)? Had it been from other Than Allah, they would surely have found therein Much discrepancy. [An-Nisa: Women: 82]

In the course of considering the legislative provisions, did you consult the books of Islamic jurisprudence (Fiqeh)?

Consulting references and books is necessary. Wisdom is the believer's pursuit wherever it is found he takes it. Any book you encounter talking about explanation, doctrine (fiqeh), language, or Quranic stories or any book related to the Quran and especially miracle sciences, all are necessary and useful. But on condition that we conclude the faith to Allah Almighty and your goal from memorization the Quran will be for Allah and not to be called as a memorizer of the Quran!

Always prayed Allah to bless us with His Book memorizing and good performance of what included in it, from your personal experience what are the things that assist in performing well what the Book had included?

There is an important thing that helps man to memorize the Quran and most people ignore it. That is to see the Quran as the most important thing in the universe. You can test yourself in that in a simple way: are you ready to leave a business that returns a lot of profit for the sake of memorizing the Quran? Are you ready to abandon your friends and those you love for the sake of memorizing the Quran and are you ready to avail the best time you have to memorize the Quran?

If you imagine that you can that has a very good effect in your success in memorizing the Quran. The Quran asks us to work, kinship and doing good deeds to others. But, where do you put the Quran in your life, in what stage, do wealth, work and friends come first or the Quran, this is what you should think of.

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