

A CURE FOR THE HEART

EPISODE 2: THE WONDERS OF
DIVINE ENGINEERING



AYAHAH IN FOCUS

ءَاتُونِي زُبَرَ الْحَدِيدِ ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا سَاوَىٰ بَيْنَ
الصَّدَفَيْنِ قَالَ أَنفُخُوا ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَعَلَهُ نَارًا قَالَ
ءَاتُونِي أُفْرِغْ عَلَيْهِ قِطْرًا

Bring me bars of iron" - until, when he had leveled [them] between the two mountain walls, he said, "Blow [with bellows], " until when he had made it [like] fire, he said, "Bring me, that I may pour over it molten copper." (Surah Al-Kahf 18:96)

- During Kak Natasha's recent trip to Mecca, it was while she was performing her Tawaf that a strong inspiration struck her to reflect on this Ayah.
- Though she had wished to write about it, she struggled to find the right place for it within the existing books she worked on. It wasn't until Aida reached out to collaborate on recording Quranic verses that Kak Natasha recognised this was her calling to share. SubhanAllah!

THE BACKSTORY

Then he followed a way. Until, when he reached [a pass] between two mountains, he found beside them a people who could hardly understand [his] speech. They said, "O Dhul-Qarnayn, indeed Gog and Magog are [great] corrupters in the land. So may we assign for you an expenditure that you might make between us and them a barrier?" He responded, "What my Lord has provided for me is far better. But assist me with resources, and I will build a barrier between you and them. (Surah Al-Kahf 18:92-95)

- In the tale of Prophet Zulqarnain AS, he embarked on a journey to three locations, with the third being a valley where he encountered a community who were being victimized by Gog and Magog, who relentlessly ravaged their lands.
- The people sought Prophet Zulqarnain AS for his help in constructing a barrier, offering payment in return. However, Zulqarnain AS declined any recompense, instead choosing to impart his knowledge and guide the community in constructing the dam together.



BUILDING A POOL

- We've seen how the Quran speaks about economics, biology, and geography but here, the Quran also speaks of Engineering! SubhanAllah!
- Kak Natasha recalls observing the construction of a swimming pool, marvelling at the unconventional method of using liquid concrete rather than traditional brick-laying and cement plastering.
- The pool's form was first shaped, after which liquid concrete was sprayed all over, it will then dry up as a one-piece structure with no joints. This is to ensure the pool can withstand the weight of the water without succumbing to cracks as joints are the weakest point in any structure.



- In this Ayah, Allah SWT is teaching us from the story of Prophet Zulqarnain AS, that to build a structure, we need to use iron which will provide strength to the structure. But, if we place sheets of iron together, these sheets will have joints. And, iron, being ferrous, is prone to rust and degradation over time.
- However, unlike iron, copper is non-ferrous, it is resistant to corrosion and rust. By pouring liquid copper onto iron, **two significant benefits are achieved:**
 - **First:** The surface exposed to the copper becomes non-ferrous, thus protecting against oxidation and rust.
 - **Second:** As the liquid copper dries, the structure turns into a unified, solid structure, devoid of any joints.
- **Look at the type of knowledge Allah SWT gave the Ummah!** SubhanAllah. With numerous gems like these in the Quran, the Ummah should pick these valuable resources and rush to study and explore the engineering aspect contained within it. **The wealth of knowledge would position us Muslims at the forefront.**

KNOWLEDGE OF DAWUD

وَلَقَدْ ءَاتَيْنَا دَاوُدَ مِنَّا فَضْلًا ۖ يٰجِبَالُ اُوتِيْٓ بِمَعَهُ
وَالطّٰٓيْرُ ۗ وَالنّٰٓلِ لَهُ الْحَدِيْدُ

Indeed, We granted David a 'great' privilege from Us, 'commanding: ' "O mountains! Echo his hymns! And the birds as well." We made iron mouldable for him,

اِنَّ اَعْمَلَ سَبِغَتْ وَقَدَّرَ فِى السَّرْدِ ۗ وَاَعْمَلُوْا صٰلِحًا اِنِّى
بِمَا تَعْمَلُوْنَ بَصِيْرٌ

instructing: "Make full-length armour, 'perfectly' balancing the links. And work righteousness 'O family of David!'. Indeed, I am All-Seeing of what you do."

(Surah Saba 34:10-11)

- Allah SWT granted Prophet Dawud AS the skill to mould iron. He SWT instructed him AS to **calculate precise chains** to make chainmail armour - this is a groundbreaking military technology!
- At a time when no one had armour, the ability to wear lightweight protective was revolutionary. Allah SWT granting Dawud AS this inspiration gave the Muslims a military advantage.

Our purpose
as Khalifa
extends
beyond just
our prayers!





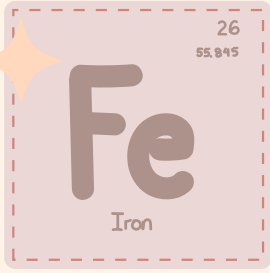
KNOWLEDGE-HOARDING

- Our purpose as Khalifa extends beyond just our prayers. We are entrusted with the responsibility of establishing the laws of the Quran in how the world is conducted. We tend to leave the matters of politics, government, defence, economics and finance in the hands of people who do not understand the Quran. :(
- As we become more enlightened and knowledgeable, our purpose should not be to work less, but rather to redefine our purpose and intentions. Instead of seeking fame, wealth, or promotion, **our work should be driven by the hope that we can contribute to establishing Allah's SWT laws in any sphere we are in** and ensure knowledge is used ethically.
- **It would be selfish of us if we paid Zakat on our wealth but did not pay Zakat on our knowledge.** Just as we are obligated to share our wealth, we must also share and spread the knowledge we acquire, use it for greater good and not hoard it.

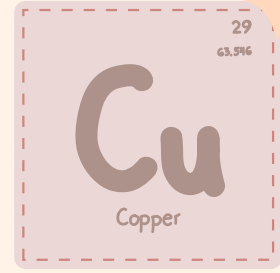
Point of Reflection:

Are we
hoarding
or sharing
knowledge?





IRON AND COPPER



وَلِسُلَيْمَانَ الرِّيحَ غُدُوُّهَا شَهْرٌ وَرَوَاحُهَا شَهْرٌ وَأَسَلْنَا لَهُ
عَيْنَ الْقِطْرِ وَمِنَ الْجِنَّ مَنْ يَمْعَلُ بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِ
وَمَنْ يَزِغْ مِنْهُمْ عَنْ أَمْرِنَا نُذِقْهُ مِنْ عَذَابِ السَّعِيرِ

And to Solomon 'We subjected' the wind: its morning stride was a month's journey and so was its evening stride. And We caused a stream of molten copper to flow for him, and 'We subjected' some of the jinn to work under him by his Lord's Will. And whoever of them deviated from Our command, We made them taste the torment of the blaze. (Surah Saba 34:12)

- Prophet Dawud AS was given Iron, while his son Prophet Sulayman AS was given copper.
- The Quran references both copper and iron twice in Surah Al-Kahf and Surah Saba'. While we marvel at these scientific insights, it's crucial to recognise that our contemplation shouldn't merely end in "Wow! This Quran is from Allah" when we already know the Quran is indeed from Allah!

ALL-ROUNDER

- It is important for everyone to pursue their interests, as Allah SWT has created each of us uniquely and for specific purposes.
- When we examine the lives of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and the first four Khalifahs, we find that they encompassed diverse roles. They were not only callers to Islam but also military generals, political strategists, and businessmen as they were traders.
- **This exemplifies the Sunnah of being well-rounded.** Rasulullah ﷺ wasn't merely a theorist or academic; rather, he ﷺ had experience as a trader, a political leader, and a military commander. Thus, Islam advocates for us to embrace various aspects beyond academia.

Food for thought:

Numerous aspects of Islam require practical implementation in our daily lives. In essence, we need active participation from everyone in the sphere of knowledge that we understand.



WORK AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

أَنْ أَعْمَلَ سَبِيْعَتٍ وَقَدَّرُ فِي السَّرِّ وَأَعْمَلُوا صَالِحًا
إِنِّي بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ

instructing: "Make full-length armour, 'perfectly' balancing the links. And work righteousness 'O family of David!'. Indeed, I am All-Seeing of what you do."
(Surah Saba 34:11)

- After Allah SWT instructed Prophet Dawud AS to craft the armour and impart military knowledge, Allah SWT emphasised the importance of using it for righteousness.
- Otherwise, it could fall into the wrong hands and be utilised for unrighteous purposes.



LEADERSHIP LESSONS

ءَاتُونِي زُبَرَ الْحَدِيدِ ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا سَاوَىٰ بَيْنَ الصَّدَفَيْنِ قَالَ
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 (Surah Al-Kahf 18:96)*

- When Prophet Zulqarnain AS was invited to construct the barrier, he declined any payment, seeking only Allah's reward. He AS didn't demand them to make him their leader. The notion that authority or power is necessary to effect change is deceptive; **we don't need authority or power to contribute.**
- He AS could have built the barrier himself with his entourage, but instead, he chose to involve the community in the process. This teaches us that **the best way to help people is to empower them.** He AS engaged them as active participants, imparting new skills and teaching them the technology of using steel and molten copper. In modern terms, this is known as technology transfer.

Leadership 101:

Empower
people, teach
them skills and
involve them in
solving their
problems.





A GREAT LEADERSHIP

قَالَ هَذَا رَحْمَةٌ مِّن رَّبِّيٰ ۖ فَإِذَا جَاءَ وَعْدُ رَبِّيٰ
جَعَلَهُ دَكَّآءَ ۖ وَكَانَ وَعْدُ رَبِّيٰ حَقًّا

He declared, "This is a mercy from my Lord. But when the promise of my Lord comes to pass, He will level it to the ground. And my Lord's promise is ever true." (Surah Al-Kahf 18:98)

- When the project is completed, Prophet Zulqarnain AS reminded his community that the work can only be completed by the mercy of Allah. A true leader does not attribute the success of his work to himself!
- This is a reminder that we must always attribute our success back to Allah SWT!



When
encountering
gems in the
Quran, we need
to dig deeper
and get curious.





aa plus

THE QURAN ON IRON

لَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا رُسُلَنَا بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ وَأَنْزَلْنَا مَعَهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْمِيزَانَ لِيَقُومَ
النَّاسُ بِالْقِسْطِ وَأَنْزَلْنَا الْحَدِيدَ فِيهِ بَأْسٌ شَدِيدٌ وَمَنْفَعٌ لِلنَّاسِ
وَلِيَعْلَمَ اللَّهُ مَنْ يَنْصُرُهُ وَرُسُلَهُ بِالْغَيْبِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ قَوِيٌّ عَزِيزٌ

Indeed, We sent Our messengers with clear proofs, and with them We sent down the Scripture and the balance 'of justice' so that people may administer justice. And We sent down iron with its great might, benefits for humanity, and means for Allah to prove who 'is willing to' stand up for Him and His messengers without seeing Him. Surely Allah is All-Powerful, Almighty. (Surah Al-Hadid 57:25)

- We tend to gloss away details like these, but scholars have noted in Tafsirs that iron was sent down to earth in the form of meteorites, as iron is not originally available on earth!
- Thus, it's essential to be curious and delve into the details when reading the Quran. We should reflect on why Allah SWT is conveying this information to us, as **every word and choice of word in the Quran serves a purpose.**



THE MIRACLES OF QURAN

- Despite studying the Quran for thousands of years since its revelation, we continue to uncover profound gems within its verses. As we delve deeper into its layers, we'd realise that the Quran is undoubtedly not a creation of any human.
- Unlike any other written work, the Quran was revealed over a span of 23 years, yet it maintains a seamless flow throughout. No human writer can achieve such coherence over such a prolonged period without the need for deletions or corrections.
- This unique aspect of the Quran has led disbelievers to attempt to disprove its authenticity. However, Allah SWT presents them with a simpler challenge: to produce a Surah like it. Yet, no one can!



HEART WORK

ACTION:

Research into the significance of iron and copper from the Quran!

REFLECTION:

Taking inspiration from the work ethics of Prophet Dawud AS, how have you been performing work? Do you have Ihsan or do you perform the bare minimum? What can you do better?

CONTRIBUTION:

Don't gate-keep your knowledge! Share with others any knowledge from the Quran that they might not know.