



61. Surah As-Saff | The Ranks

[Recitation by Mishary Alafasy](#)

Surah As-Saff Arabic

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English Translation of Surah As-Saff

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

1. Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the Praises and Glory of Allah: for He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.
2. O ye who believe! Why say ye that which ye do not?
3. Grievously odious is it in the sight of Allah that ye say that which ye do not.
4. Truly Allah loves those who fight in His Cause in battle array, as if they were a solid cemented structure.
5. And remember, Moses said to his people: "O my people! why do ye vex and insult me, though ye know that I am the messenger of Allah (sent) to you?" Then when they went wrong, Allah let their hearts go wrong. For Allah guides not those who are rebellious transgressors.
6. And remember, Jesus, the son of Mary, said: "O Children of Israel! I am the messenger of Allah (sent) to you, confirming the Law (which came) before me, and giving Glad Tidings of a Messenger to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmad." But when he came to them with Clear Signs, they said, "this is evident sorcery!"
7. Who doth greater wrong than one who invents falsehood against Allah, even as he is being invited to Islam? And Allah guides not those who do wrong.

8. Their intention is to extinguish Allah's Light (by blowing) with their mouths: But Allah will complete (the revelation of) His Light, even though the Unbelievers may detest (it).
 9. It is He Who has sent His Messenger with Guidance and the Religion of Truth, that he may proclaim it over all religion, even though the Pagans may detest (it).
 10. O ye who believe! Shall I lead you to a bargain that will save you from a grievous Penalty?-
 11. That ye believe in Allah and His Messenger, and that ye strive (your utmost) in the Cause of Allah, with your property and your persons: That will be best for you, if ye but knew!
 12. He will forgive you your sins, and admit you to Gardens beneath which Rivers flow, and to beautiful mansions in Gardens of Eternity: that is indeed the Supreme Achievement.
 13. And another (favour will He bestow,) which ye do love,- help from Allah and a speedy victory. So give the Glad Tidings to the Believers.
 14. O ye who believe! Be ye helpers of Allah: As said Jesus the son of Mary to the Disciples, "Who will be my helpers to (the work of) Allah?" Said the disciples, "We are Allah's helpers!" then a portion of the Children of Israel believed, and a portion disbelieved: But We gave power to those who believed, against their enemies, and they became the ones that prevailed.
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Transliteration of Surah As-Saff

Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem ?

1. Sabbaha lillaahi maa fisamaawaati wa maa fil ardi wa huwal 'Azeezul Hakeem
 2. Yaa ayyuhal lazeena aamanoo lima taqooloona maa laa taf'aloona
 3. Kabura maqtan 'indal laahi an taqooloo maa laa taf'aloona
 4. Innal laaha yuhibbul lazeena yuqaatiloona fee sabeelihee saffan ka annahum bunyaanum marsoos
 5. Wa iz qaala Moosa liqawmihee yaa qawmi lima tu'zoonanee wa qat ta'lamoona annee Rasoolul laahi ilaikum falammaa zaaghoo azaaghal laahu quloobahum; wallaahu laa yahdil qawmal faasiqeen
 6. Wa iz qaala 'Eesab-nu-Maryama yaa Banee Israaa'eela innee Rasoolul laahi ilaikum musaddiqal limaa baina yadayya minat Tawraati wa mubashshiram bi Rasooliny yaatee mim ba'dis muhoo Ahmad; falammaa jaaa'ahum bil baiyinaati qaaloo haazaa sihrum mubeen
 7. Wa man azlamu mimma nif taraa 'alal laahil kaziba wa huwa yad'aaa ilal Islaam; wallaahu laa yahdil qawmaz zaalimeen
 8. Yureedoona liyutfi'oo nooral laahi bi afwaahihim wallaahu mutimmu noorihee wa law karihal kaafiroon
 9. Huwal lazee arsala Rasoolahoo bilhuda wa deenil haqqi liyuzhirahoo 'alad deeni kullihee wa law karihal mushrikoon
 10. Yaaa ayyuhal lazeena aamanoo hal adullukum 'alaa tijaaratun tunjeekum min 'azaabin aleem
 11. Tu'minoona billaahi wa Rasoolihee wa tujaahidoona fee sabeelil laahi bi amwaalikum wa anfusikum; zaalikum khairul lakum in kuntum ta'lamoona
 12. Yaghfir lakum zunoobakum wa yudkhilkum Jannaatin tajree min tahtihal anhaaru wa masaakina taiyibatan fee Jannaati 'Adn; zaalikal fawzul 'Azeem
 13. Wa ukhrra tuhibboonahaa nasrum minal laahi wa fat hun qareeb; wa bashshiril mu 'mineen
 14. Yaaa ayyuhal lazeena aamanoo koonoo ansaaral laahi kamaa qaala 'Eesab-nu-Maryama lil Hawaariyyeena man ansaaree ilal laah; qaalal Hawaariyyoona nahnu ansaa rul laahi fa amanat taaa'ifatun mim Banee Israaa'eela wa kafarat taaa'ifatun fa ayyadnal lazeena aamanoo 'alaa 'aduwihim fa asbahoo zaahireen
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The Surah derives its name from the sentence *yuqatiluna fi sabil-i- hlsaff-an* of verse 4; thereby implying that it is a Surah in which the word *saff* occurred.

Period of Revelation

It could not be known from any reliable tradition, but a study of its subject-matter shows that this Surah probably was sent down in the period closely following the Battle of Uhud, for by reading between the lines perceives a clear description of the conditions that prevailed in that period.

Theme and Subject Matter

Its theme is to exhort the Muslims to adopt sincerity in Faith and to struggle with their lives in the cause of Allah. It is addressed to the Muslims with weak faith as well as those who had entered Islam with a false profession of the Faith and also those who were sincere in their profession. Some verses are addressed to the first two groups, some only to the hypocrites, and some only to the sincere Muslims. The style itself shows where one particular group has been addressed and where the other.

At the outset the believers have been warned to the effect; "Allah indeed hates those people who say one thing and do another, and He indeed loves. those who fight in the cause of the Truth, standing like a solid structure, against the enemies of Allah."

In vv. 5-7 the people of the Holy Prophet's community have been warned that their attitude towards their Messenger and their Religion should not be like the attitude that the Israelites had adopted towards the Prophets Moses and Jesus (peace be upon them). In spite of acknowledging the Prophet Moses as a Messenger of God they continued to malign him as long as he lived, and in spite of witnessing clear signs from the Prophet Jesus they denied him without any hesitation. Consequently, the Israelites became perverse, incapable of benefiting from divine guidance. This is certainly not an enviable state which another nation should imitate.

Then, in vv. 8-9 a proclamation has been made with the challenge: "The Jews and the Christians, and the hypocrites, who are conspiring with them, may try however hard they may to extinguish this Light of Allah, it will shine forth and spread in the world in all its fullness, and the Religion brought by the true Messenger of Allah shall prevail over every other religion however hateful it may be to the pagans and polytheists.

In vv. 10-13, the believers have been told that the way to success both here and in the Hereafter is only one: that they should believe in Allah and His Messenger sincerely and should exert their utmost in Allah's Way with their selves and their wealth. As a reward for this they will earn immunity from Allah's punishment, forgiveness of their sins and the eternal Paradise in the Hereafter, and will be blessed with Allah's good pleasure, succor and victory in the world.

In conclusion, the believers have been exhorted to the effect that just as the disciples of the Prophet Jesus had helped him in the cause of Allah, so should they also become "helpers of Allah", so that they too are blessed with the same kind of

good pleasure and approval of Allah as had been the believers before them against the disbelievers.

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