

Introduction to Qur'an and Revelation



Meaning of Revelation/*wahi*

- Meaning of Revelation or “*wahi*”

- The literal meaning of “WAHI” is a secret and swift notification.
- In the Arabic language, *Wahi* is interpreted as “a **quick or divine indication**,” “**to give or convey a message**” or “**gentle speech**” and Divine inspiration
- **In Islamic terminology**, *wahi* can be precisely defined as God’s divine message conveyed to Allah’s chosen persons (Prophets/Messengers).
- “Wahi as that knowledge regarding the Shariah that Allah conveys to His Prophets in the form of a book, through Angels or through dreams.”
- This message can be conveyed openly or in a hidden manner, imparting wisdom and knowledge that is beyond the material and physical realities of man.

Categories of Revelation

Kinds of Wahi

1) **Scriptural Wahi**

It comprises the verses of the divine scripture, since the Scriptures are to be recited ,therefore this Wahi is also called recitable Wahi.

1) **Non-Scriptural Wahi**

It's the revelation of injunctions and other information which are not mention in the scriptures .Its also called non-recitable Wahi.

MODES OF REVAELATION

(1) INSPIRATION

The soul of Prophet is subjugated and drown out from his material body towards the sacred sphere, and the words of Allah are impressed on it at all once.

The words get permanently impressed on his soul, this mode requires no intermediary of an angel or any perception.

MODES OF REVAELATION

(2) From behind a veil

This mode too is without the intermediary of an angel. The divine eternal speech is associated with the prophet form of words selected by Allah and conveyed through the medium of air. Moses a.s heard with his ears.

MODES OF REVAELATION

(3) Via a messenger

- **Revelation Brought by an Angel in the Form of a Man**

One of the most common ways of receiving revelation was through Angel Gibraeel (AS). Angel Gibraeel (AS) would sometimes come to the Holy Prophet (SAW) in the form of a companion Hazrat Dahiya Qalbi

- **Revelation Through an Angel in his True Form**

Angel Gibraeel also came to the Holy Prophet (saw) in his actual angelic form.

Difference between Wahi and

WAHI	KASHF, ILHAM
specific for the Prophets.	Relates to other pious followers.
Source is known	Source is uncertain
wahi' is obligatory and part of religion.	Kashf and ilhaam can be obeyed if and only if it is verified by Quran and Sunnah

Forms of Revelation to Prophet SAW

Four empty trapezoidal boxes arranged horizontally, intended for notes or examples related to the forms of revelation to the Prophet SAW.

Importance of *Wahi*

- *Wahi* is the authentic Source of Knowledge From Highest Authority
- Allah's Communication with Humans
- Guidance from Allah Almighty for His Creation
- Compulsory to follow the divine orders
- Honorable and doubtless character personalities received revelation/*wahi*
- Difference between nabi/messenger and Rasool/Prophe

Revelation of Qur'an

- Age of Prophet SAW was almost 40 years
- 28 July 610 CE Monday / 27th Ramazan (*Laila tul Qadar*)
- Surah 96, *Alaq* (1st five verses)
- *Fatra tul Wahi* (Temporary cession of Wahi/ Gap between first and second revelation – almost 2.5 years)
- **Second Revelation** - First verses of ***Sura Mudassir*** – Allah commanded Holy Prophet SAW to preach people.
- Revelations continued 23 years till 632 CE

Earlier Scriptures/ Divine Books

Early Scriptures as we are informed about from Qur'an

- **The Sheets of Ibrahim and Musa** (*Suhuf*)
- **The Torah (*taurat*) of Musa** (Sheets/ Alwaah/ 10 Commandments) - **6th Ramazan**
- **The Psalms (*zabur*) of Dawud** (Prayers / Munajaat) – **18th Ramazan**
- **The Gospel(Injil) of Jesus** (Revision of previous teachings/ Good news of forth coming prophet) **13th ramazan**

Main Themes of the Suras

- **Makkan period (86 Suras) 12 years 5 months, 13 days – Suras revealed before *Hijrah***
 - 1 Social justice
 - 2 conversion
 - 3 final judgment
 - 4 monotheism (*Tawhid*)
- **Madinan Period (28 Suras) 9 years, 9 months, 9 days – Suras revealed after *Hijrah***
 - Relationships within Muslim Community
 - Relationships with Jews and Christians

Material used to scribe the Qur'an

- Parchment , bones of camel etc, leaves, tablets, flat end of date palm fronds
- **Order of recitation**
 - Chronological order (order in which *suras* were revealed)
 - Present Arrangement (*Tauqeefi*)

The Qur'anic order

- Tauqeefi
- Nuzooli
- The Holy Qura'n was recorded only according to *Tarteef-e- Tauqeefi* not *Nuzooli*. Because the compilation is according to *lawh-e-Mahfooz* while the revelation is according to the circumstances

Philosophy behind the gradual Revelation

Difficult experience of revelation.

To console the prophet SAW again and again.

To be according to the natural process.

Answers, predictions and incidents.

To simplify memorization and understanding and prove the truthfulness of the Prophet

To prove the miraculous nature of the Quran and to reveal the laws according to the need of time

Manners of Reciting Qur'an

Prayers and supplications from the Qur'an are often
in the form of a supplication.

Cont.

Read the verses with short pauses in between.

Read the Quran attentively, calmly, and sincerely.

Listen quietly and attentively, when the Quran is being read.

Begin reading with a clear intention of seeking only Allah (swt)'s pleasure, not any other worldly gain.

not to recite it out aloud over another's reciting of it, so as to spoil it for him or make him resent what he hears, making it as if it were some kind of competition;

to recite it calmly and without haste, pronouncing each letter clearly; for each letter counts as ten good deeds