Surah 96 Surah Alaq

THE CLOT

THE LINK BETWEEN SURAH ALAQ AND THE PRECEDING SURAHS

After the consolation, warnings and glad tidings mentioned in the previous Surahs, Surah Alaq urges Muslims to constantly recite the Qur’aan and to remain steadfast in their belief in Towheed.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

Surah Alaq may be summarised as follows:

* In verses 1 to 5, Allaah advises Rasulullaah not to be perturbed by his opponents and to continue reciting the Qur’aan and propagating Islaam taking Allaah’s name.
* Verses 6 and 7 highlight man’s insolence, while verse 8 warns people that they will have to return to Allaah.
* In verses 9 to 14 the rebellious and insubordinate are rebuked.
* Verses 15 to 18 warn about the Aakhirah.
* Verse 19 addresses Rasulullaah and once again urges steadfastness.
1. (O Rasuullullah ﷺ) **Read** (whatever Qur’aan has been revealed to you) **in the name of your Rabb Who created** (everything)...

2. ...Who created man from a clot of blood (which forms at conception and then develops into the child).

3. **Read and your Rabb is most Magnanimous**...

4. ...Who taught (the literate ones) **by the pen** (through books).

5. (However, even without any means like pens and books.) **He** (also directly) **taught man what he did not know.** (All man’s knowledge comes from Allaah because Allaah gave man the means of acquiring knowledge as well.)

6. (However,) **It is a fact that man** (the Kaafir) **is rebellious** (even exceeding the bounds of humanity)...

7. ...because he considers himself to be independent. (This belief is foolish since man is dependant on the creation and is always dependent on Allaah.)
8. Verily the return (of every person on the Day of Qiyaamah) shall be to your Rabb.

9. (Referring to Abu Jahal who was the arch-enemy of Rasulullaah ﷺ, Allaah says,) Tell Me about the one who prevents...

10. …a servant (of Allaah, namely Rasulullaah ﷺ) when he performs salaah.

11. Tell Me, what if the servant (of Allaah) is upon guidance…

12. …or enjoins Taqwa? (Ordinarily preventing anyone from worship is a terrible act, it is even worse when the one being prevented is a good person and the one preventing him is a sinful Kaafir.)

13. Tell Me, what if he (Abu Jahal) rejects (the truth of Islam) and turns away (from even listening to it)? (What will then become of him?)

14. Does he not know that Allaah is watching (everything he does and will punish him for his evil)?

15. Never! (He should not be doing this!) If (after being cautioned,) he does not desist (but chooses to continue opposing Islam and the Muslims), We shall definitely drag him (to Jahannam) by the forelocks...

16. …(by) his lying, sinning forelocks.
17. Then let him call his assembly (of friends and associates to assist him).

18. We shall call those who (forcefully) push (people into Jahannam, referring to the angels of punishment stationed in Jahannam, each of whom is more powerful than all of mankind).

19. Never! (His acts cannot be condoned.) You (O Rasulullaah ﷺ) should never obey him (in the future just as you had never done in the past)! Continue prostrating (performing salah without being intimidated by anyone) and (continue) drawing closer (to Allaah). (One who recites or hears this verse being recited should perform Sajdah).