

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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THE BOOK
OF
SAFAR

Six Discourses
given between
July 5th 2008
and October 17th 2008
at the Jumu'a Mosque of Cape Town

SHAYKH DR. 'ABDALQADIR AS-SUFI

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Text of Qur'an: taken from
the Algerian State Edition of Imam Warsh.

DISCOURSE 1

JULY 5TH 2008

Allah the Exalted says in Surat al-Qadr (97:1-5):

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ ① وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ ②
لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ③ تَنْزِيلُ الْمَلَكِ وَالرُّوحِ
فِيهَا يُأْذَنُ رَبَّهُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ ④ سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ ⑤

In the name of Allah, All-Merciful, Most Merciful

Truly We sent it down on the Night of Power.
And what will convey to you what the Night of Power is?

We find in this Surat that Allah honours the Quraysh for their caravans of the summer and the winter. Allah indicates by this that the winter and the summer caravan have to be linked to the worship of the Lord of the House. Then this has to be connected to a knowledge that Allah has preserved them from hunger and secured them from fear. Therefore, by the process of the caravan, they have knowledge of Allah's power and compassion towards them. The significance and importance of the journey is that it is the means by which the people get to know of this tremendous mercy and compassion of Allah, subhanahu wa ta'ala.

Now we go to Surat at-Tariq (86:11-14):

وَالسَّمَاءِ ذَاتِ الرَّجَمِ ﴿١١﴾ وَالْأَرْضِ ذَاتِ الصَّدْعِ ﴿١٢﴾
 إِنَّهُ لَقَوْلُ فَصْلٍ ﴿١٣﴾ وَمَاهُو بِالْمَزِيلِ ﴿١٤﴾

By Heaven with its cyclical systems
 and the earth with its splitting seeds,
 it is truly a Decisive Word.
 It is no joke.

Allah, subhanahu wa ta'ala, tells us that the heavens are designed on a movement, on a journey, that is circular – the heavens are moving in this circular motion as the foundational reality of existence. “And the earth with its splitting seeds.” So you go from the stars and the cosmos to the seeds which are also moving, they are moving and breaking open to give life to the earth. The whole cosmic system is journeying, is on Safar. And Allah, subhanahu wa ta'ala, says that this is no joke. It is not something poetic and pretty, but