

SURAH AN NOOR (سورة النور)

- Surah An Noor is a Medani surah with 64 ayat.

NAME OF THE SURAH (أسماء السورة)

- An Noor (النور):** meaning the light because the Divine rules from Allah are a source of light for the society (قوانين النور الالهي). Without rules society would be in darkness.

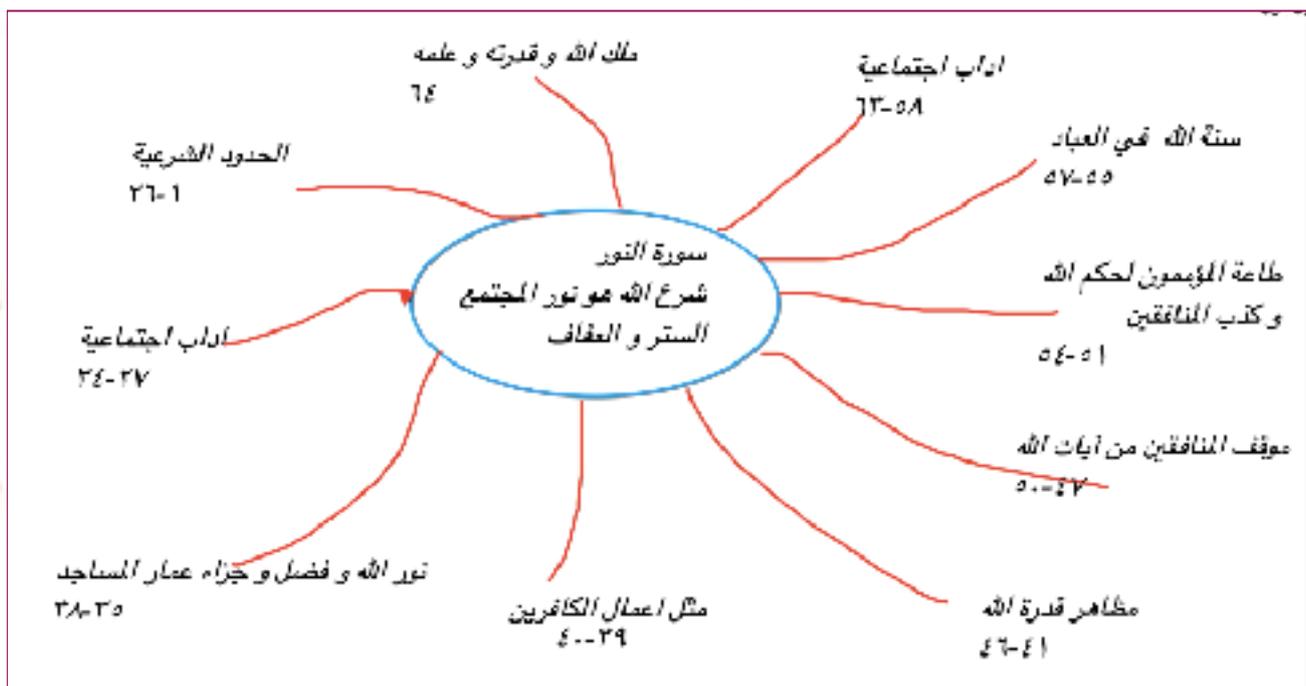
These rules are regarding:

- Principles (بالقيم)
- Dealing with people (التعامل)
- Manners (الاخلاق)

MAIN THEME OF THE SURAH (المحور الرئيسي للسورة)

- The main theme of Surah An Noor is that the legislation of Allah is a light for the society (شرع الله هو نور المجتمع). It is also about modesty and chastity (الستر والعفاف). Modesty is a branch from the branches of faith.

TOPICS OF THE SURAH



- Ayah 1-26: Legislative penalties (الحدود الشرعية). These are very strong penalties for those who violate the rules. This shows that the rules should not be taken lightly. If the rules are not strictly followed then there will be darkness. Penalties for zina (adultery), slander of wife, slandering of Aisha and recompense of slander in the akhirah.
- Ayah 27-34: Social manners (آداب اجتماعية). Society needs rules for its enlightenment and protection. This section includes rules for entering people's home because without this rule anybody can enter another person's house at anytime. This is an important rule to cover and to guard. The next rule is to guard the chastity by lowering the gaze. Both men and women need to lower their gaze and protect themselves by covering their beauty. This applies more to the women because they are the source of the beauty. Another rule that protects the society from immorality is marriage. Ayah 32-34 is about the marriage.
- Ayah 35-38: The Light of Allah and the virtue and reward for building the masjid (نور الله وفضل وجزاء عمار المساجد). The light of Allah is found in His masjid- the places for the remembrance of Allah. This section also includes the description of the people in the masjid.
- Ayah 39,40: Parable for the deeds of the disbelievers (مثل اعمال الكافرين): there are two parables; one about a mirage and other one about darkness inside the water. It is all about deception- they do good deeds but they are deceiving themselves.
- Ayah 41-46: Ability of Allah (مظاهر قدرة الله).
- Ayah 47-50: Stance of the hypocrites with the signs of Allah (موقف المنافقين من آيات الله): This surah focuses about dealing with people. A source of darkness in the societies are the hypocrites.
- Ayah 51-54 :Believer obey the rules of Allah while the hypocrites belie them (طاعة المؤمنون لحكم الله وكذب المنافقين). Allah sent rules and manners to be followed. The believers are the ones who follow the rules of Allah. The hypocrites claim that they follow the rules but they are liars as they are betraying the rules of Allah.
- Ayah 55- 57: The way of Allah with His slaves (سنة الله في العباد).
- Ayah 58-63 Social manners (آداب اجتماعية): about the houses and how to deal with the Prophet (ﷺ). Covering, modesty and protecting the chastity is a central theme in the surah.
- Ayah 64: Dominion of Allah and His Ability (ملك الله وقدرته). Allah is the One Who put all the rules, He is able to do everything and encompasses everything by His knowledge.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SURAH

- Through this surah Allah freed Aisha (رضى الله عنها) from the incident of her slander.
- Sources of light in the society include:
 - Abstaining from spreading rumors.
 - Lowering the gaze.
 - Women covering and guarding her beauty except to her maharim.
 - Encouraging boys and girls for marriage.
 - Taking permission to enter homes.
 - Protecting yourself from following the steps of shaithan.
 - Hospitality.
- Reforming of the society starts at an individual level in the masjid through the prayer. Prayer is a light for the person and also for the society.

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْ فِي قَلْبِي نُورًا وَفِي لِسَانِي نُورًا وَاجْعَلْ فِي سَمْعِي نُورًا
 وَاجْعَلْ فِي بَصَرِي نُورًا وَاجْعَلْ مِنْ تَحْتِي نُورًا وَاجْعَلْ مِنْ فَوْقِي نُورًا وَعَنْ
 يَمِينِي نُورًا وَعَنْ يَسَارِي نُورًا وَاجْعَلْ أَمَامِي نُورًا وَاجْعَلْ خَلْفِي نُورًا
 وَاجْعَلْ فِي نَفْسِي نُورًا وَاعْظِمْ لِي نُورًا

Allaahummaj'al fee qalbee nooraa wa fee lisaanee nooraa waj'al fee sam'ee nooraa waj'al fee
 baSaree nooraa waj'al min taHtee nooraa waj'al min fawqee nooraa wa 'an yameenee nooraa
 wa 'an yasaaree nooraa waj'al amaamee nooraa waj'al khalfee nooraa waj'al fee nafsee
 nooraa wa a'DHim lee nooraa.

"O Allah, make light in my heart and light on my tongue, and make light in my hearing, and
 make light in my sight, and make light below me, and make light above me, light on my
 right, light on my left, make light in front of me, make light behind me; place light in my
 soul and make light abundant for me." (An-Nasaa'i, 1121)