

## **Extracts from Speech (TAZKEER BIL QURAN)**

### **The Sixty-First Surah (61<sup>st</sup>); As-Saff (The Battle Array / The Rank)**

**A recap of the previous verses, especially explanation of verses 8 and 9, along with an elaborate elucidation of verses 10 through 13**

**Delivered by: Ameer-e-Tanzeem-e-Islami, Hafiz Aakif Saeed, on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014.**

Ameer-e-Tanzeem, Hafiz Aakif Saeed, continued the sermon entitled, "TAZKEER BIL QURAN" regarding the sixty-first (61<sup>st</sup>) Surah of the Qur'an, Al-Saff ('The Battle Array', which is also referred to as '*The Ranks*' in certain translations).

After recapping thoroughly the discourse of the previous Jumma speeches regarding the Surah in which he had expounded on its title which, according to almost all exegetes of the Qur'an, has been derived from the expression 'saffan' ("in solid ranks") occurring in verse 4 thus cementing the relationship of the Surah with battle, the Ameer continued with the exposition of the circumstances in which these verses were revealed unto the Messenger of Allah (SAW), connected their relationship with participating in Qitaal for the sake of Allah (SWT), paying special emphasis on the recap of verses 8 and 9 which outline the universality of Muhammad's (SAW) Messenger-ship and the unwavering vow of Allah (SWT) that He will make Islam as 'the' Deen (Complete System of Individual, Communal and Collective life) with no global rival, in time to come – verses that were explained in the Khitab-e-Jumma of 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2014.

He also outlined the manner in which the Surah as a whole is relevant to a Muslim living in Today's world engulfed by the Zionist 'New World Order'. The Ameer then expanded details related to verses 8 and 9 of the Surah and related it to the events occurring at the time of revelation coupled with references to the end of the contemporary oppressive regimes around the world and the revival of the Islamic World Order based on Justice and Equality as espoused in the aforementioned two verses. In today's Khitab-e-Jumma, the Ameer explained the next four verses which tie in with the previous ones and offer Muslims a trade that would free them from the Hellfire for good.

The four verses, from 10 through 13, are in fact addressing the same subject – forgiveness and an eternal bliss cum glorious rewards for those Muslims who have firm belief in Allah (SWT), His Messenger (SAW) and who make their life's motto to participate in perpetual Jihad in Allah's (SWT) way with their possessions and their lives at stake, thus tying these verses in a solid bond those previously studied in the Surah. The Ameer focused the entire discourse on these four verses which have a unique philosophical and epistemological standing in understanding the crux of the Surah, while serving as a platform for developing Islamic eschatology in the Modern age.

### **I seek refuge of Allah (SWT) from the accursed Satan**

### **In The Name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful**

#### **Verse 61:10**

**“O You who have attained faith! Shall I (Allah SWT) offer (and direct you) to a bargain that will save you from grievous suffering [in this world and in the life to come]?”**

A bargain is something in which a person employs his wealth, time, labor and talent in order to earn a profit. In the same sense the faith and jihad in the cause of Allah have been called a bargain, as if to say: If you exert all your powers and spend all your resources in the way of Allah, you will get the profits that are being mentioned in the following verses. This same theme has been expressed in Surah At-Taubah in another way in verse 110 of that Surah.

#### **Verse 61:11**

**“You are to believe in Allah (SWT) and His Messenger (SWT), and to strive hard in Allah's (SWT) cause with your possessions and your lives: this is for your own good - if you but knew it!”**

When the believers are asked to believe, it automatically gives the meaning that they should become sincere Muslims: they should not rest content with oral expression of the faith but should be ready and willing to make every sacrifice in the cause of their faith in Allah (SWT) and His Messenger (SAW).

That is, this bargain is far superior for them compared to every worldly bargain.

### **Verse 61:12**

**“[If you do so,] He (SWT) will forgive you your sins, and [in the life to come] will admit you into gardens through which running waters flow, and into goodly mansions in [those] gardens of perpetual bliss: that [will be] the triumph supreme!”**

The real profits of the bargain that they will attain in the eternal life of the Hereafter are:

- (1)** Immunity from the punishment of Allah.
- (2)** Forgiveness of sins.
- (3)** Entry into the Paradise the blissful blessings and pleasures of which are eternal and everlasting.

### **Verse 61:13**

**“And [withal, He (SWT) will grant you] yet another thing that you dearly love: succor from Allah (SWT) [in this world], and a victory soon to come: and [thereof, O Prophet (SAW),] give thou a glad tiding to all who believe.”**

Although victory and success in the world is a great blessing of Allah (SWT), yet for the believer the thing of real importance is not this but the success of the Hereafter. That is why the gains in this worldly life have been mentioned as secondary while the result accruing in the Hereafter comes first.

***On this note, the Ameer concluded the elucidation of the verses 10 through 13 of the 61<sup>st</sup> Surah of the Qur’an, As-Saff, and Supplicated to Allah (SWT) to bestow on us the understanding of the Qur’an and make it easy for us to follow His (SWT) commandments and lead a righteous life. He coupled the supplication with Aameen!***