

**DARUL ULOOM TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
A CONCISE COMMENTARY COURSE OF
THE HOLY QURAAAN (2001-2020)**

21. "But if you believe me not, then keep away from me and leave me alone."

Here, Moosa (A.S) advised Pharoah by saying that if he does not believe in him then he should leave him alone to deliver his message, and refrain from causing harm to him. He told Pharoah that he should not block his way and his preaching, but should entrust the matter between them to Allah who will decide the case. In this way, Moosa (A.S) continued to preach to the people and establish the evidences of Allah and the truth to the people. He invited to the way of Allah and showed many miracles to them. Yet, Pharoah and his people responded with nothing except enmity and disbelief (kufr).

Pharaoh increased his harshness to the Bani Isra'il and persecuted them mercilessly. Along with this, he continued to challenge Moosa (A.S) and blocked him in every manner from delivering his message to the people. When the situation became unbearable to Moosa (A.S) and his followers, he supplicated Allah for His help and said:

22. So he [Musa] called upon his Lord (saying): "These are indeed the people who are *Mujrimun* (disbelievers, polytheists, sinners, criminals, etc.)."

In this supplication, Moosa (A.S) complained to Allah about Pharoah and his people, saying that they were sinners and disbelievers who denied Him (Allah) as their Creator and also refused to release the Bani Isra'il from slavery.

Surah Ad Dukhan continues in verse 23 and states:

23. (Allah said): "Depart you with My slaves by night. Surely, you will be pursued."

This came as a response to the supplication of Moosa (A.S). It was a revelation sent to Moosa (A.S) in which Allah instructed him to take out the Bani Isra'il during the period of the night from Egypt and travel with them towards the sea. Allah also informed him (Moosa A.S) that they would be followed by Pharoah and his army, however, this will be the cause of their destruction.

Based on the above instruction from Allah, Moosa (A.S) left with the Bani Isra'il one night and travelled towards the sea (as ordered by Allah). When Pharoah found out that Moosa (A.S) had departed with the Bani Isra'il, he immediately prepared an army and went after them. He travelled swiftly to stop them from departing, but Moosa (A.S) had already reached the sea. At that time, Allah instructed Moosa (A.S) to strike the sea with his staff. With this, Allah caused the waters of the ocean to become still, and made several dry paths for them to cross the sea in order to reach the other side of the shore.

The Holy Quran mentions about this in another verse and states: "***And indeed We inspired Musa (Moses) (saying): "Travel by night with My servants and strike a dry path for them in the sea, fearing neither to be overtaken [by Fir'aun] nor being afraid (of drowning in the sea)." (Sura Taha Verse 77)***

When the oceans were opened into pathways, Moosa (A.S) along with the Bani Isra'il calmly crossed through the paths and eventually reached the other side of the seashore. Pharoah saw this and followed them, and so, he and his army entered into the dry paths that were made in the sea. When Moosa (A.S) reached the other side of the sea, he wanted to strike his staff in the sea in order to close the pathways so that Pharoah will not be able to enter. However, Allah instructed him in the following words:

24. "And leave the sea as it is (quiet and divided). Verily, They are a host to be drowned."

In this verse, Allah instructed him (Moosa A.S) to leave the sea as it was, quiet and divided into pathways. He should not touch it with his staff to close it, because Allah wanted Pharoah and his troops to enter it so that He can drown them in the sea. And so, Pharoah, being totally unmindful of the destruction that stood ahead for him, entered into the divided paths of the

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sea with his troops, and pursued Moosa (A.S) and his followers with force and might, hoping to capture and persecute them mercilessly for slipping away from his control. But Allah had already decreed his destruction in the sea, and so, He ordered Moosa (A.S), after he crossed the ocean, to leave the sea quiet and calm as it was. Allah also assured Moosa (A.S) and the Bani Isra'il beforehand, that while crossing the ocean, they would not drown, nor would Pharoah catch up with them. It is for this reason, He revealed to Moosa (A.S) saying, '***Do not fear to be overtaken (by Pharoah) and do not fear (drowning in the sea).***'

When Pharoah saw that the sea did not close up and the pathways were still open, he rushed into the dry paths of the sea with his troops and moved towards Moosa (A.S) and his followers. When they were all inside the ocean, Allah commanded the sea to close-up on them and return to its original shape, and so, they were all covered up with the waters of the ocean which caused all of them to be destroyed in front of the Bani Isra'il.

Allah mentions about this in verse 78 of SuraTaha and states: "***Then Fir'aun (Pharaoh) pursued them with his hosts, but the sea-water completely overwhelmed them and covered them up***".(Surah Taha Verse 78)

(Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 489 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013)

Verses 25, 26 and 27 of Surah Dukhan state:

25. How many of gardens and springs do they [Fir'aun's people] left.

26. And green crops (fields etc.) and goodly places,

27. And comforts of life wherein they used to take delight!

In these verses, Allah mentions the great favours and riches which Pharoah possessed, however, when he disobeyed Allah and rejected the message of truth, he lost everything. Allah mentions that many were the beautiful gardens of fruits and lovely springs, wells and rivers they possessed. They possessed countless fields of varying crops, and built for themselves lofty palaces and houses which they lived in. They had countless bounties and favours with them which they delighted in and enjoyed, and became proud and boastful of their worldly goods. They continued to enjoy their lives, eating what they wanted and wearing what they liked. They lived with wealth, glory and power in the land. But all of a sudden, everything was seized from them, and they departed from this world with their destination fixed as the Hellfire. (Tafseer Ibn Katheer)

Verse 28 (of Surah Dukhan) goes further to mention about their wealth and belongings and state:

28. Thus (it was)! And We made other people inherit them (i.e. We made the Children of Israel to inherit the kingdom of Egypt).

In this verse, Allah states that He made the Bani Isra'il inherit the land and houses in Egypt, which were owned by Pharoah and the Copts. Allah destroyed them on account of their wickedness, and granted their lands, valuables and properties to the Bani Isra'il whom they had enslaved and oppressed.

Regarding this, Allah said: "***And We made the people who were considered weak to inherit the eastern parts of the land and the western parts thereof which We have blessed. And the fair Word of your Lord was fulfilled for the Children of Israel, because of their endurance. And We destroyed completely all the great works and buildings which Fir'aun (Pharaoh) and his people erected***". (Surah A'raf Verse 137)

Verse 29 of Surah Dukhan states: