

## The verses of Mawaddah

### *Learning Objectives*

- To become familiar with the verses of Mawaddah in the Qur'an
- To memorise verse 42:23 of the Qur'an

### Surat al-Shura (42:23):

ذَلِكَ الَّذِي يُبَشِّرُ اللَّهُ عِبَادُهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ ۝ قُلْ لَا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ أَجْرًا إِلَّا الْمَوَدَّةُ فِي الْقُرْبَىٰ ۝ وَمَنْ يَقْتَرِفْ حَسَنَةً نَزِدُ لَهُ فِيهَا حُسْنًا ۝  
إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ شَكُورٌ

*Such is the good news that Allah gives to His servants who have faith and do righteous deeds! Say, 'I do not ask you any reward for it except the love of [my] relatives.' Whoever performs a good deed, We shall enhance its goodness for him. Indeed Allah is all-forgiving, all-appreciative.*

When our holy Prophet (SAW) migrated to Madina and Islam's foundation was established, some of the Helpers (Ansar) went to the holy Prophet (SAW) and told him: "You may make use of all our wealth and properties without any condition for the cause."

In answer to them, the Prophet (SAW) was instructed by inspiration to say: "I do not ask you for any reward for it, except love to my close relatives."

This verse commands the Muslims to love the Ahlul Bayt (AS) if they want to repay the holy Prophet (SAW) for his toils of Prophethood:

1. They should follow the Ahlul Bayt (AS) in word and deed.
2. Because they have been thoroughly purified by Allah Himself.
3. Because they are the truthful ones
4. Because they the custodians of the word of Allah.
5. Because they alone know the true interpretation of the guidance sent for all mankind.

A large number of narratives reported by the most reliable authorities of the Islamic History prove that this verse was revealed in Madina after the birth of Imam Hassan (AS) and Imam Husayn (AS).

### Surat Saba (34:47):

قُلْ مَا سَأَلْتُكُمْ مِنْ أَجْرٍ فَهُوَ لَكُمْ ۝ إِنَّ أَجْرِيَ إِلَّا عَلَى اللَّهِ ۝ وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ

*Say: Whatever reward I have asked of you, it is for yourselves; my reward is only with Allah; and He is witness over all things."*

The Divine leaders have to announce to the people that they expect nothing from them; because if a spiritual leader expects material benefit from people, the society may not accept him. In this holy verse, the words are about the lack of asking any reward from people for the messengership.

The verse says: "Say 'Whatever reward I have asked of you, it is for yourselves...'"

"...my reward is only with Allah..."

This matter points to the fact that whatever a wise person does must naturally have a motive. When my perfect intellect is proved to you and you see that I have no material motive, you should know the Divine and Spiritual motive has made me do it.

In other words, I invited you to ponder. Now think and ask your own conscience what has caused me to warn you against the intense punishment of Allah? What benefit do I get from this, and what kind of material profit does it have for me? In addition, if your excuse for turning away from truth is because you have to pay a dear price for it, principally, I have not asked for any compensation or reward from you.

Secondly if you see that in some of my words that I have brought from my Lord, I have told you "...No reward do I ask of you for this except the love of my close relatives..." The profit of this also returns to you, because the concept of the sentence: "The love of my close relatives returns to 'Wilayah' which is the continuation of messengership which is also necessary for the continuation of your guidance.

#### **Surat al-Furqan (25:57):**

**فُلُونَ مَا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ مِنْ أَجْرٍ إِلَّا مَنْ شَاءَ أَنْ يَتَّخِذَ إِلَى رَبِّهِ سَبِيلًا**

"Say: 'I do not ask any recompense of you for this (my preaching) except from him who wishes to choose a way unto his Lord'."

A successful leader is one who declares to people that he does not expect anything. Man gets the rank of sincerity when he does not want or demand any physical and verbal reward.

Thus Allah (SWT) commands the holy Prophet (SAW) to tell the people that he does not ask of them any reward for this Qur'an and conveying this heavenly religion, except that people may choose a way unto their Lord.

It implies that the only reward and compensation of the holy Prophet (SAW) is people's guidance that has happened intentionally and wilfully in them and not reluctantly compulsorily. This is an interesting phrase that shows maximum kindness and benevolence of the holy Prophet (SAW) towards his followers, for he counts their happiness and bliss as his reward.

It is clear that guidance of the nation (*Umma*) has got an extraordinary spiritual reward for the holy Prophet (SAW) because whoever leads people to a good deed is like the one who does this deed.

This testifies to the truthfulness of Prophet's call and purification of his thought and program, for false claimers do this certainly for the sake of some direct or indirect reward.