

## REASONS FOR THE REVELATION OF THE HOLY QUR'AN IN STAGES

1. Firstly, Allah wanted to strengthen the prophet PBUH during the difficult and challenging moments as per **Q (25:32)**. He could use the received verses to win the confidence of the people depending on the circumstances of the time.
2. The interval between the different revelations gave chance to the believers to witness the fulfillment of the prophecies contained in the already revealed verses. Thus, fortifying their faith.
3. It was intended to give the prophet PBUH answers to the questions raised by the disbelievers on different issues. For example, when he was asked to describe the nature of his God, chapter 112 was sent to him.
4. The holy Qur'an was revealed in stages to counter some of the methods employed by the disbelievers to deter the prophet PBUH from spreading Islam. A case in point is when they tricked him to worship their idols first so that they worship Allah in turn. **Chapter 109** was then revealed disregarding the mixture of truth with falsehood.
5. It was revealed in portions to meet the demands of the time among the Muslims and enable the prophet PBUH solve a dilemma he was facing. For example, he did not know how to deal with the accusation against his wife Aisha and Allah revealed **Q (24:11)** that enabled him to deal with the accusers.
6. The holy Qur'an was revealed in piecemeal to give the believers enough time to grasp what they had learnt from the prophet PBUH. It would be difficult for them to understand the divine message if it had been revealed to them all at once.
7. There was need to refute the assumption by the disbelievers that the Prophet PBUH had got the holy Qur'an prepared by somebody else or himself if it had come as a complete book.
8. Allah wanted to give the Quraish Meccans enough time to discard the Jahiliyya practices. This is because evils such as zina, infanticide, obscenity, alcoholism e.t.c had strongly entrenched among the Jahiliyya Arabs such that it would be hard for them to discard them in short while.
9. Furthermore, the holy Qur'an was revealed in stages to enable the Muslims commit it to memory. It would be hard for them to memorize 114 chapters all at once.
10. Allah wanted to expose the hypocrites. This is because every time the verses of the holy Qur'an were revealed, the hypocrites would buckle under pressure and they could not keep up with the commandments of Allah.
11. Allah wanted to challenge the non-believers. Thus Allah says in **Q(2:23)**;

*“And if you are in doubt concerning that which We have sent down to our slave, then produce a chapter of the like thereof and call your witnesses besides Allah, if you are truthful.”*

12. It was revealed in stages to inform the Muslims about the behaviours that hurt the holy Prophet PBUH. For example Allah revealed **Q (33:53)** to prevent the prophet's companions from entering his house anyhow.

*“O you who believe! Do not enter the prophet's houses until leave is given to you ... that shall be an enormity in Allah's sight!”*

13. There was need by Allah to tip-off the Prophet PBUH about an imminent scenario. For example

**Q (48:11)** was revealed to inform the Prophet PBUH what the hypocrites were planning to say to him when he returned to Medina after refusing to march with him to Hudaibiyyah while in **Q (48:15)** Allah wanted to inform the Prophet PBUH that he was going to conquer Khybar.

14. The holy Qur'an was revealed in stages to eradicate superstitions that had cropped up among the believers. There was a superstition among the Jews that if you impregnate the wife while in doggy style, the baby will be born with a squinted eyes. **Q (2:223)** was revealed to tell the Muslims that they can make love to their wives in any position except sodomy.

15. It was revealed in stages because some verses were intended to abrogate others while later verses could confirm or throw more light on earlier revealed messages. For example, **Q (2:240)** and **Q (2:234)** which specify the time a widow stays in her deceased's property.

16. In conclusion, the revelation of the holy Qur'an in stages was due to Allah's will as He states in

**Q (36:82)** that when He intends a thing, He just says be and it is.