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The Holy Quran - Verbatim: An Innovative Translation By Dr. Mary Saad Assel

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THE HOLY QURAN — VERBATIM



An Innovative Translation

DR. MARY SAAD ASSEL

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Dr. Mary Assel's translation of the Arabic Quran that she has written in contemporary English subtracts nothing from the original revelations of the Archangel Gabriel to the Prophet Muhammad. She makes the Quran accessible to non-Arabic reading audiences from around the world. Every word and verse are written with specificity and clarity.

> -Imam Mohammad Mardini American Muslim Center, Dearborn, Michigan

The Holy Quran, the only Scripture considered to be the explicit word of God, offers Muslim readers the guidance they need to conduct their daily lives according to God's directives. Dr. Mary Assel's yields a translation that has made this Holy Book an impeccable reference to non-Arabic readers as she refrains from the use of archaic language. She helps to lighten the read and preserve the true meaning of the Holy Quran simultaneously. Her translation is written with impeccable style and eloquence.

> -Imam Mohammed Ali Elahi Islamic House of Wisdom, Dearborn, Michigan

Mary Saad Assel earned her doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction with a specialty in brain science, from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. She is a retired professor and former administrator of the English Language Institute at Henry Ford College in Dearborn, Michigan, as well as a retired adjunct instructor of Bilingual Linguistic Studies at Wayne State University. A certified Arabic-to-English translator, Dr. Assel possesses advanced expertise in translating the grammar and syntax of both languages. Her deep understanding of cultural differences between Arabic and English-speaking communities is essential for preventing misinterpretations. Skilled in various techniques like adaptation, transliteration, and terminology management, she ensures her translations are accurate and culturally relevant. With meticulous attention to detail, she checks grammar, spelling, and meaning to maintain the integrity of her work. Her native-like fluency in both languages enables her to convey complex ideas, idiomatic expressions, and grammatical nuances with precision.

Mary's extensive experience, cultural insight, and technical proficiency make her a reliable and skilled translator. Her ability to adapt content to different audiences ensures clarity and preserves the essence of the original Quranic message. As editor of hundreds of articles for *Al-Iman Magazine* and translator of *Structures and Visions: Readings from the Poetry of Ali Abdullah Khalifah,* she has demonstrated her dedication to excellence. Additionally, she has authored numerous articles on Islamic beliefs, culture, and religion, along with three books: *A Sprinkle of Dust* (her memoir), *25 Icons of Peace in the Quran,* and *Building America: Immigrant Stories of Hope and Hardship,* co-edited with Glenn O'Kray. Mary's work continues to enrich cross-cultural understanding and communication.

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Surah 14

ABRAHAM

Ibrāhīm

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Alif. Lãm. Rã. A Book We have sent down to you to bring people out of darkness and draw them into light – by the leave of their Lord, to the path of the Mighty and the Praised. 2. It is God to Whom belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth. Woe unto the disbelievers for a severe punishment. 3. Those who prefer the life of this world over the Hereafter and who deter men from the way of God and seek to make it crooked, it is they who are far astray. 4. We have not sent a messenger who does not speak the tongue of his people, so that he may make matters clear unto them. Then God leads astray whomever He wills and guides whomever He wills. He is the Mighty and the Wise. 5. Indeed, We sent Moses with Our signs, "Take your people from darkness into light, and remind them of the Days of God. Truly in that are signs for every patient and grateful person." 6. Remember when Moses said to his people, "Remember God's Blessing upon you when He saved you from the House of Pharoah, who inflicted terrible punishment upon you, slaying your sons and sparing your women. In that was a great trial from your Lord. 7. Remember your Lord proclaimed, 'If you show gratitude, I will surely grant you increase, but if you are ungrateful, truly, My punishment is severe." 8. Moses said, "If you disbelieve, you and whoever is on the earth all together, God is definitely Self-Sufficient and Praiseworthy." 9. Have you not received the story of those before you - the people of Noah, the Ãd, the Thamud, and those who came after them? No one knows them but God. Their messengers brought them clear signs, but they turned their hands into their mouths and said, "Truly we disbelieve in what you have been sent, and we are in serious doubt about what you call us to." **10**. Their messengers said, "Is there any doubt concerning God, the Originator of the heavens and the earth? He invites you that He may forgive some of your sins

and grant you reprieve until an appointed term?" They said, "You are but human beings like us. You wish to turn us away from what our forefathers worshipped. So bring us a clear authority." 11. Their messengers said to them, "We are but human beings like yourselves, but God is gracious to whomever He wills among His servants. It is not for us to bring you an authority, except by God's Leave. Therefore, in God, let the believers trust. 12. Why should we not trust in God when He has guided us in our ways? We will surely endure patiently despite the infliction you have caused us. Let those who trust, trust in God." 13. Those who disbelieved said to their messengers, "We will definitely expel you from our land, or you should revert to our creed." So their Lord revealed to them, "We will abolish the wrongdoers. 14. We will indeed allow you to reside in the land after them. This is for those who fear My Position and fear My Warning." 15. They sought victory, but every obstinate tyrant fails. 16. Before him lies Hell and he will be given oozing purulence to drink 17. which he will sip but can barely swallow. Death will come upon him from every direction, yet he will not die. Before him lies severe punishment. 18. The simile of those who disbelieve in their Lord is that their deeds are like ashes in which the winds blow furiously on a stormy day. They have no power over anything they have earned. That is utmost error. **19**. Have you not observed that God created the heavens and the earth in truth? If He wills, He can remove you and deliver a different creation. 20. That is no great matter for God. 21. They will appear before God all together, and the weak will say to those who displayed arrogance, "Truly we were your followers, so can you benefit us in any way against the Punishment of God?" They will say, "Had God guided us, we would have guided you. It is the same for us whether we are anxious or patient. There is no way out for us." 22. Satan will say when the matter has been decreed, "God has indeed promised you the Promise of truth. I promised you, but I failed you. I had no authority over you, except that I called upon you and you responded to me. So do not blame me but blame yourselves. I cannot respond to your cries for help, nor can you respond to my cries for help. I surely disbelieved in your past claim of associating me as a partner. Truly the wrongdoers will be subjected to a painful punishment." 23. By the leave of their Lord, those who believe and perform righteous deeds will be admitted to Gardens with rivers running beneath to abide there forever. Their greeting within will be "Peace!" 24. Have you not observed how God sets forth an equivalence? A good word is like a good tree. Its roots firm, and its branches in the sky. 25. By the leave of its Lord, it produces fruit in every season. God sets forth parables for people that perhaps they may remember. 26. The simile of a bad word is like a bad tree – uprooted from the face of the earth, it has no solidity. 27. God holds firm those who believe in well-founded

speech in the life of this world and in the Hereafter. God leads the wrongdoers astray and God does whatever He wills. 28. Have you not observed those who exchanged the Blessing of God for ingratitude and caused their people to occupy the House of Perdition? 29. They will reach Hell, an evil abode! 30. They set up equals unto God, in order to lead others astray. Say, "Enjoy yourselves! Truly your destination is unto the Fire!" **31**. Tell My servants who believe to perform prayer and to give of what We have provided them, secretly and openly, before the day comes where there will be neither bargaining, nor befriending. 32. It is God Who created the heavens and the earth and sent water down from the sky, then with it produced fruits for your sustenance. He has made the ships subservient to you that they may sail upon the sea by His Command. He has made rivers subservient to you, 33. and made the sun and the moon constant and subservient to you. He made night and day subservient to you. 34. He gives you something of everything you ask for and were you to number the Blessings of God, you would not be able to count them. Mankind is, indeed, wrongdoing and ungrateful. 35. Remember when Abraham said, "My Lord! Make this land safe and spare me and my children from worshipping idols? 36. My Lord! They have indeed led astray many among people, so whoever follows me, he is of me; whoever disobeys me, You are certainly Forgiving and Merciful. 37. Our Lord! Truly, I have settled some of my progeny in an uncultivated valley near Your Sacred House, our Lord, that they might perform prayer. So motivate the hearts of some people to lean toward them and provide them with fruits that perhaps they may show gratitude. 38. Our Lord! Truly You know what we conceal and what we disclose. Nothing is hidden from God on earth or in Heaven. 39. Praise be to God Who granted me Ishmael and Isaac in my old age. Truly my Lord is the Hearer of supplications. 40. My Lord! Make me one who performs prayer along with my progeny. Our Lord! Accept my supplication. 41. Our Lord! Forgive me and my parents and the believers on the Day the Reckoning arrives." 42. Do not assume that God is oblivious to the deeds of the wrongdoers. He only grants them respite until the Day when their eyes stare, transfixed. 43. Running with necks outstretched and heads uplifted, their gaze unblinking and hearts empty. 44. Warn people of the Day when the punishment will come upon them. For those who did wrong will say, "Our Lord! Grant us respite for a short while so we may respond to Your Call and follow the messengers." "Did you not swear earlier that there will be no end for you? 45. You settled in the homes of those who had wronged themselves though it was made clear to you how We dealt with them, and we outlined parables for you." 46. They devised their scheme, but their scheme lies with God, though their scheming could move mountains. 47. So do not assume that He would fail to keep His Promise to His messengers. God is indeed

Abraham

Mighty and the Possessor of Retribution. **48**. On that Day, the earth will be changed into other than earth as will the heavens. They will appear before God, the One, the Dominant. **49**. On that Day you will see the guilty bound together in fetters, **50**. their garments made of tar and their faces covered with Fire, **51**. that God may compensate each soul for what it had earned. Truly God is swift in reckoning. **52**. This is a proclamation unto people that they may be warned and that they may know that He is the One God. Let those endowed with insight take heed.





Surah 19

Mary

Maryam

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Kãf. Hã. Yã. 'Ayn. Sãd. 2. A reminder of the Mercy of your Lord unto His servant Zachariah. 3. Remember when he called out to his Lord in a secret plea. **4**. He said, "My Lord! Truly my bones have grown feeble, and my head glistens with grayish hair. I have never been distressed in calling upon You, my Lord. 5. My wife is barren, and I truly fear for my relatives after me. So grant me from Your Presence an heir 6. who will inherit from me and inherit from the House of Jacob-and my Lord, make him well-pleasing." 7. "O Zachariah! Truly We bring you good news of a boy whose name is John [Yehya], a name We have not given previously to any before him." 8. He said, "How will I have a boy when my wife is barren, and I have grown quite decrepit from old age?" 9. He said, "Thus it will be. Your Lord says, "It is easy for Me! I had created you before when you were nothing!" 10. He said, "My Lord! Designate a sign for me." He said, "Your sign will be that you should not speak with anyone for three nights – though you can speak." 11. Subsequently, he came out of the sanctuary unto his people and signaled to them that they should glorify morning and evening. 12. "O John! Take hold of the Book with might!" We gave him judgment as a child, **13**. and sympathy from Our Presence. He was reverent, 14. dutiful to his parents, and he was not insolent or domineering. 15. Peace be upon him the day he was born, the day he dies, and the day he comes forth to life. **16**. Remember Mary in the Book when she withdrew from her family to an eastward location, 17. and she secluded herself from them. Then We sent Our Spirit to her in the likeness of a respectful man. 18. She said, "I seek refuge in my Lord from you, if you truly fear God!" 19. He said, "I am only a messenger from your Lord to bestow upon

MARY

you a pure boy." 20. She said, "How will I have a boy when no man has touched me, nor have I been unchaste?" 21. He said, "Thus will it be. Your Lord says, 'Itis easy for Me.'" We will make him a sign unto people as a mercy from Us. It is a decreed manner. 22. So she conceived him and withdrew with him to a distant location. 23. The violent pangs of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a date palm. She said, "Ah! I wish I had died before this, so I could have been forgotten and disremembered." 24. He called out to her from below her, "Do not grieve! Your Lord has placed a rivulet beneath you. 25. Shake the trunk of the date palm toward you, and fresh, ripe dates will fall upon you. 26. So eat, drink, and freshen your eye. If you see any human say, 'Truly I have vowed a fast unto the Compassionate, so I will not speak this day to any man.'" 27. Then she went to her people carrying him. They said, "O Mary! You have brought an appalling thing! 28. O sister of Aaron! Your father was not an evil man nor was your mother unchaste." 29. Then she pointed at him. They said, "How can we speak to one who is an infant in the cradle?" 30. He said, "Truly I am a servant of God. He has given me the Book and made me a prophet. 31. He has blessed me wherever I may be and bided me with prayer and almsgiving for as long as I live. **32**. He bid me to be compliant toward my mother. He has not made me overbearing and despicable. 33. Peace be upon me the day I was born, the day I die, and the day I am raised alive!" 34. That is Jesus, the son of Mary, a statement of truth that they doubt. **35**. It is not for God to take a child. Glory be to Him! When He decrees a thing, He only says to it, "Be!" and it is. **36**. "Truly God is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him. This is a straight path." 37. Yet the parties differed among themselves. Woe unto those who disbelieve from the witnessing of a tremendous day! 38. How well will they hear and how well will they see on the Day they come unto Us? But today, the wrongdoers will be in obvious error. 39. Warn them of the Day of Regret, when the matter will have been decreed, while they were unmindful and did not believe. 40. Indeed, We will inherit the earth and whatever is on it. Unto Us, they will be returned. 41. Remember Abraham in the Book. He was indeed truthful, and a prophet **42**. when he said to his father, "O my father! Why do you worship what does not hear or see, nor benefit you in any way? 43. O my father! Truly knowledge has come to me that has not come to you. Therefore, follow me and I will guide you toward a straight path. 44. O my father! Do not worship Satan. Satan is indeed disobedient toward the Compassionate. 45. O my father! Truly I fear that a punishment from the Compassionate will adjoin you such that you will become a friend of Satan." 46. He said, "Do you reject my gods, O Abraham? If you do not stop, I will certainly stone you. Go away from me for a long period of time!" 47. He said, "Peace be upon you! I will seek forgiveness for you from my Lord. Truly

He has been gracious to me. 48. I will remove myself from you and what you call upon besides God. I will call upon my Lord. Perhaps if I call upon my Lord, I will not be desolate." 49. So when he had withdrawn from them and what they called upon besides God, We granted him Isaac and Jacob, and We made a prophet of each. 50. We bestowed some of Our mercy upon them and ordained for them a sublime lingua of truth. 51. Remember Moses in the Book. He was indeed devoted, a messenger and a prophet. 52. We called out to him from the right side of the Mount and drew him near in private discourse. 53. We bestowed upon him from Our Mercy, his brother Aaron, a prophet. 54. Remember Ismael in the Book. He was indeed true to the promise. He was messenger and a prophet. 55. He used to bid his people to prayer and almsgiving, and he was pleasing to his Lord. 56. Remember Idrīs in the Book. He was indeed truthful and a prophet. 57. We raised him to a sublime station. 58. Those are whom God has blessed among the prophets of the progeny of Adam, and of those whom We carried with Noah and the progeny of Abraham and Israel, and of those whom We had chosen and guided. When the signs of the Compassionate were recited to them, they would drop in prostration, weeping. 59. They were then succeeded by a generation who ignored their prayer and followed their desires. As such, they will embrace evil, 60. except those who repent, believe, and perform righteousness. It is they who will enter the Garden and they will not be wronged in the least. 61. Gardens of Eden, those which the Compassionate promised His servants in the Unseen. His Promise will indeed come to pass. 62. They will only hear "Peace" and no vain talk there. There, they will have their sustenance in the morning and evening. 63. This is the Garden We will bequeath unto those among Our Servants who were reverent. 64. "We will not descend except by the Command of your Lord. Unto Him belongs what is before us and what is behind us and what lies in between. Your Lord is not forgetful -65. the Lord of the heavens and the earth and whatever is between them, worship Him and be persistent in His worship. Do you know of any who carries His name?" 66. A human says, "When I am dead, will I be brought forth alive?" 67. Does man not remember that We created him before, when he was nothing? 68. By your Lord! We will certainly gather them and the demons. We will certainly bring them around Hell on their knees. 69. Then We will indeed yank from every group whoever among them was most insolent toward the Compassionate. 70. We will then assuredly know those who mostly deserve to burn therein. **71**. There is not one of you, but that he will approach it. It is a decree determined by Your Lord. 72. We will then save those who are reverent and leave the wrongdoers there on their knees. 73. When Our signs are recited unto them as clear proof, those who disbelieve say to those who believe, "Which of the two groups is better in position

MARY

or greater in influence?" 74. How many a generation have We destroyed before them who were finer in possessions and outer appearance. 75. Say, "Whoever is in error, the Compassionate will extend his term until they see what they have been promised, be it the punishment or the Hour, they will know whose position is worse, and whose forces are weaker." 76. God increases in guidance those who are rightly guided. Enduring good deeds are better in reward with your Lord, and better in return. 77. Have you not observed the one who disbelieves in Our signs, and says, "I will be given wealth and children." 78. Has he penetrated the Unseen or made an agreement with the Compassionate? 79. No, but instead, We will record what he says, and We will prolong his punishment. 80. We will inherit from him what he claims, and he will come to Us alone. 81. They have taken gods besides God to be their idols. 82. But instead, they will disavow what they worshipped and become adversaries unto them. 83. Have you not observed how We unleash the demons on the disbelievers to provoke them cleverly? 84. So do not rush against them. We are indeed counting the number of days out to them. 85. On the Day We gather the reverent to the Compassionate as an honored delegation, 86. We drive the guilty into Hell as a thirsty herd. 87. They will have no power of intercession except for the one who has made an agreement with the Compassionate. 88. They say, "The Compassionate has taken a child." 89. You have indeed alleged a terrible thing. 90. The heavens are ready to burst and the earth to split apart and the mountains to fall in ruins, **91**. that they should claim the Compassionate has a child! **92**. It is not fitting for the Compassionate to take on a child. 93. There is none in the heavens and on the earth but that it comes to the Compassionate as a servant. 94. He has taken account of them and has precisely numbered them. 95. Each of them will approach him alone on the Day of Resurrection. **96**. Indeed, those who believe and perform good deeds will be granted love by the Compassionate. 97. We have only made this easy on your tongue that you may give good news to the reverent and warn a contentious people. 98. How many a generation before them have We destroyed? Do you see even one of them or hear so much as a whisper from them?

S)



Surah 71

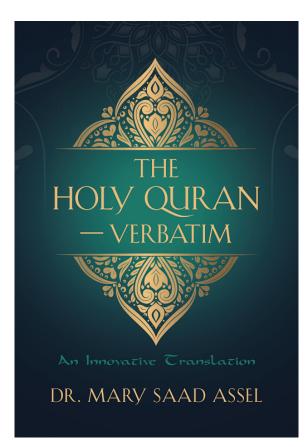
NOAH

Nūh

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

1. Indeed, We sent Noah to his people – "Warn your people before a painful punishment comes upon them." 2. He said, "O my people! I am a clear warner to you 3. that you may worship God, revere Him, and obey me, 4. that He may forgive you for some of your sins and grant you reprieve until a term appointed. For indeed, when God's term approaches, it will not be delayed, if you only knew." 5. He said, "My Lord! I have called on my people day and night, 6. but my calling has only caused them to distance themselves even more. 7. Indeed whenever I call them so that You may forgive them, they plug their ears, cover themselves with their garments, persist in their denial, and become increasingly arrogant. 8. Then I called upon them openly. 9. I revealed it to them and confided to them in secret." 10. I said, "Seek forgiveness of your Lord! Truly He is Forgiving. 11. He will send the sky upon you with abundant rains, 12. increase you in wealth and sons, and make gardens and rivers for you. 13. What is it with you that you do not hope for God with dignity 14. seeing that He has created you in stages? 15. Have you not seen how God created the seven heavens, one above the other, **16.** and placed the moon as a light within them and the sun as a radiant lamp **17**. God brought you forth from the earth like plants, **18**. and He will return you to it, then withdraw you from it withdrawingly. 19. God made the earth an open expanse for you 20. that you may travel the spacious paths therein." **21**. Noah said, "My Lord! They disobeyed me and followed those whose wealth and children will accumulate to nothing but loss." 22. They devised a mighty plot, **23**. saying "Do not leave your gods. Do not leave *Wadd* or *Suwā*, *Yagūth*, *Ya'ūq*, or Nasr." 24. They have indeed led many astray. It increases the wrongdoers in nothing but deviation. 25. They were drowned because of their sins, then made to enter a Fire. They then, found no helpers for themselves besides God. **26**. Noah said, "Do not leave a single disbeliever to dwell on the earth. **27**. For indeed if you leave them, they will mislead Your servants and will beget nothing but disbelieving insurgents. **28**. My Lord, forgive me, my parents, anyone who enters my house as a believer, and all believing men and women. Do not grant the wrongdoers anything but further destruction."





A verbatim yet readable English translation of the Quran, designed for clarity, neutrality, and spiritual depth. Ideal for American readers seeking a faithful rendering of God's words, free of bias, commentary, or sectarian interpretation.

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