

## Interpretation of the Quran- Surat Al-Ghashia (88) - Lesson (2)- verses (17-20): Man is enjoined to reflect on the universe

Praise be to Allah, the Lord of Creations, and Peace and blessings be upon our prophet Muhammad, the faithful and the honest.

Oh, Allah, we know nothing but what You teach us. You are the All-Knowing, the Wise. Oh Allah, teach us what is good for us, and benefit us from what You taught us, and increase our knowledge. Show us the righteous things as righteous and help us to do them, and show us the bad things as bad and help us to keep away from them.

O Allah our Lord, lead us out from the depths of darkness and illusion, unto the lights of erudition and knowledge, and from the muddy shallows of lusts unto the heavens of Your Vicinity.

### The Harmony in the Ayat of every Surat:

Dear brothers,  
Allah says:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)? And at the heaven, how it is raised? And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah)

What is the link between these Ayat and His Saying:

**“Has there come to you the narration of the overwhelming (i.e. the Day of the Resurrection)? Some faces, that Day will be humiliated. Labouring (hard in the worldly life by worshipping others besides Allah), weary (in the Hereafter with humility and disgrace). They will enter the hot blazing Fire. They will be given to drink from a boiling spring, No food will there be for them but a poisonous thorny plant, Which will neither nourish nor avail against hunger. (Other) faces that Day will be joyful, Glad with their endeavour (for their good deeds and true Faith). In a lofty Paradise. Where they shall neither hear harmful speech nor falsehood. Therein will be a running spring. Therein will be thrones raised high. And cups set at hand.”**

(Al-Ghashiyah)

Allah the Exalted and Glorious said:

**“Alif-Lam-Ra. (This is) a Book, the ayat whereof are perfected (in every sphere of knowledge), and then explained in detail from One (Allah) Who is All-Wise Well-Acquainted (with all things) “**

(Hud,1)

What is the meaning of: “the ayat whereof are perfected”? It means they are related to each other, and there is a connection between all the ayat in the same Surah

### The solid relation between the ayat of the following Surah:

So, what is the link between these universal ayat in His Saying:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)? And at the heaven, how it is raised? And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah 17-20)

And between the humiliated faces and the joyful ones?!

In fact, Allah describes people of Paradise then people of Hell, or vice versa, yet this can't be useful unless He shows us the path to the Hell and the way to Paradise. After He described the torment of people of Hell and the Bliss of people of Paradise, He clarified how to escape from Hell, and how to win Paradise; How? Belief is the base of the straightness, sincerity, and good deeds.

Once the Prophet (p.b.u.h) was asked: what will save a person on Doomsday? He said:

**“Believing in Allah and performing good deeds”**

Belief is the basis of honesty, sincerity, good deeds, and worship.

Belief is the fundament of everything in the world of the religion, but how can we believe? Allah the Exalted and Glorious is unseen by the mere human's eye, therefore, in order to know him we must reflect on His Signs; if we do so, we certainly will believe in Him, and when we know Him, we straighten up on His Order and obey Him and worship Him sincerely, so there is a strong connection between the first and second part of this Surah and the last one of it; the first part is a description of the state of people of Hell, the second part is a description of people of Paradise, and the third mentions the way of escaping from Hell and the way of winning Paradise.

**This ayah calls us to reflect on creatures:**

Our Lord said:

**“ Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? “**

(Al-Ghashiyah, 17)

The word "look at" in fact, doesn't mean, here, the ability to see by the eye, rather than reflecting on that creature.

We see the camel to avoid it, as all animals are able to see.

If you put your hand in the way of an ant, it stops then changes its route, this means that it can see, and the evidence is that it changes its route. Therefore, the Looking that is demanded in this Ayah is not that by our eyes, but that of our minds.

An ewe doesn't need to look to find the grass (the food it likes) you are feeding it, unlike a human being who should cogitate on the Greatness of Allah when he/she eats an apple for example.

One should reflect on everything he/she lays an eye on, like the water he/she is drinking, the son who was a mere sperm, the mountains, the plain, the sea, the tree and the flowers.

This look should lead us to think:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created.”**

In fact, the blind-hearted person, only, reads these ayat but does not see (the Greatness of) Allah the Great and Almighty through them, Allah says:

**“And how many a sign in the heavens and the earth they pass by, while they aAyah therefrom.”**

(Yusuf, 105)

One might ask: Why did Allah choose the camel amongst thousands of animals and millions of creations?

The answer to that is because Allah the Great and Almighty descends the Quran on the Arabs, the habitants of the desert, and the camel occupies the first rank in the desert and is the subject of their interest, didn't the Prophet (p.b.u.h) say:

**"Indeed if Allah guide one man through you, is better (for you) than the red cattle (the camels)"**

(Narrated by Abu Ya'la)

What does this Hadith mean? It means that the red cattle is a precious thing

### The wisdom behind choosing the camel in the Ayah:

The Arabian man considers the camel as the most valuable thing in the desert  
Therefore, our Lord the Great and Almighty said:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? “**

(Al-Ghashiyah,17)

### Camel's proper size:

If the size of the camel is smaller, it would not be proper to the sands of the desert, the sand dunes, and the long distances that it should cover deep in the desert.

It can bear the thirst because of its size, and as you know, the nature in the desert is cruel, it is barren, and no water and plant in it, so, this animal, that Allah created to help man, must bear the thirst, which the camel does, as it drinks every ten days, and in ordinary circumstances, it drinks one time at four days, because Allah provided it with water "stores" in its body, in order to consume it slowly, Allah says:

**“ Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, ho they are rooted (and fixed firm)?”**

### Camel is the suitable transportation in the desert:

The Bedouins call the camel "Ata Allah" (Allah's gift), and you know that the barren areas form one sixth of the land, and the land forms one fifth of the earth, and the camel is the only mean of carrying the equipments and supplies, till present time, and some armies still use it because it is the helpful, safe and effective mean in the desert.

### The camel's lips:

Some scientists said: every thing in the camel is perfect; in order to bear the cruel nature of the desert, which indicates that there is a Great God Who created this creature.

They said: its lips are elastic but hard, they can deal with (devour) the thorn that can penetrate the sole of the shoe! This thorny plant has thorns like steel needles, so what kind of lips the camel has to be able to eat that?

The camel gathers food without losing any of the mouth's moisture, and that is because water is rare in the desert.

Hence, all the systems of the camel are created to avoid consuming the body's moisture, therefore, the elastic and separate lips work while the mouth is closed; to keep the moisture

Creation of camel indicates Allah's Greatness:

The camel eats plants that no animal can eat, as it eats whatever that is thorny, pointed and dry, because it lives in the desert, and many thorny plants grow in the desert. In the tropical areas plants have big leaves because of the high humidity which is very rare in the desert, and that is the reason behind the thorny plants in it, as it is formed that way to keep the moisture of the plant within (when there is no big leaves then there will be no evaporation of moisture).

### The stomach of the camel:

The camel's stomach is divided into four chambers, and it is considered as a ruminant animal, as it digests the food it has eaten earlier, when it doesn't find food for a long time.

Allah created a food store on its hump, which helps it to remain ten days without food, and sometimes one month, because it travels for long distances, without water and food, in the desert, as I have previously mentioned, and it can do without water for four days in the normal circumstances, and ten days in difficult ones.

For this reason, our master Khalid ibn Al-Walid (may Allah be pleased with him) used them (camels) during Al-Yarmook Battle, to carry the army from Iraq to Ash-Sham (Syria now) for 10 days nonstop without they drink a drop of water.

### Its urine and dung:

If you study the camel's systems; you will find that its urine is very thick, because it does not consume water, and also its dung is very little, for the same reason.

### Its perspiration system:

The camel does not sweat, in order not to lose water from its body, so, instead of sweating (like the case in mankind), it keeps its body in steady temperature by reflecting the heat from its hair. Therefore, the camel never sweats, in order to keep the water in its body.

### Its speed and load capacity:

The camel is faster than the horse, and it can withstand heavy loads and long distances, as I said before, it is prepared for the desert, it can carry two hundred kilos for forty kilometers during three days or traveling without food, water, or rest.

### Its standing and sitting:

Another thing, Allah drew our attention to the corny areas in its skin; they are existed on its legs and belly, in

order to sit on them.

The camel sits in a way that lets its owner load it easily with cargo, unlike the horse and the cow, and if not for that sitting position of the camel, its owner has to use a ladder to load it with cargo which might be dangerous for him.

Therefore, Allah earmarked it for this unique posture of sitting, but that raises a question that is: how can it stand having those long legs? If it starts with its hind legs, the load will fall to the front, and if it stands firstly on its front legs, the load will fall behind it, but Allah made its big head and long neck a mean to balance its sitting and standing.

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created?”.**

Reflecting on Allah’s creation is a way to faith:

### **Its eyelashes:**

The camel is able to see the road while it closes its eyelashes lest the sand hits its eyes. It is provided with tiny and interlaced lashes that enable it to see in the dust without penetrating its eyes.

### **Its nose and ears:**

The camel is able to close its nose and ears in a dusty strong storm.

### **Its hoof:**

The camel is supplied with a hoof that facilitates the walking on the sand, go to the sea shore, and walk on the sands, then remember the difficulty of walking on the sand! But this animal is supplied with an elastic (flexible) hoof and nail that removes the stones when it walks on the sand.

**“How they are created“**

Another thing we should pay attention to, how these camels are created with these special qualities? Isn't it created out of a sperm? Isn't it created inside its mother's womb? Who did form this creation? Who did create four digestive chambers in it? Who did make water stores inside its belly? Who did make its hump? Who did design its long neck? Who did create the corny areas on its skin? Who did create its long legs? Who did design these properties? Who did create the rubbery lip that can catch the hardest thorny plants? Why does not the camel sweat? Why doesn't it close its eyelashes? How can it close its nose and ears?

**”Didn't they look at the camels, How they are created?”**

Allah shows us in this Surah the path of Faith, which is through reflecting on the ayat of Allah.

If you cogitate on His ayat, you will know Him, and if you know Him, you will certainly obey Him, and if you obey Him, you will give in to Him, then you will acquire perfection because you become a righteous good person, then you will be happy for ever with His closeness:

**“didn't they look at the camels, how they are created?”**

## The inimitability of the universe:

One more thing to mention is that the balance between the camel's neck and its head, and the standing and the sitting position, all are based on kinetics and gravity law. Therefore, the Great God created that balance based on science and wisdom, hence, you are able to know the All-Knowing, the Almighty, the All-Aware through the camel, and you are able to know some of the meanings of the Glorified Names of Allah through His Creatures.

**“didn't they look at the camels, how they are created?”**

There are still too many details in regard of the camel, but there isn't enough time for that now.  
The second Ayah:

**“And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah,18)

First of all, as we previously mentioned about His Saying:

**“By the heaven, and At-Tariq (the night-comer, i.e. the bright star); “**

(At-Tariq,1)

The heaven is space and planets, and it is unlimited space; did we reflect on it? Allah says:

**“So I swear by the setting of the stars.”**

(Al-Waqi'ah,75)

Can we comprehend what "eighteen billion light years" means? Another thirteen billion light years is the distance of another galaxy. The length of our galaxy is one hundred and fifty thousand light years, and its width is fifteen thousand light years.

The maximum length in the solar system is thirteen light hours.

The sun is eight light minutes far from us, while the moon is just a light second far from us. If I say to you that traveling to the moon cost twenty four billion dollars, and man landed on it with a spacecraft that its speed is forty thousand kilometers per hour after three days, just imagine how much the eight light seconds will cost?!

The distance of the sun, that is 8 light minutes away, is one hundred and fifty six million kilometers, so what is the distance in kilometers of the thirteen light hours that it takes to cross the solar system? And how much time does it need to cover the width of our galaxy that is fifteen thousand light years? How about its length that is one hundred and fifty thousand light years? How much time does it take to reach the North Star (Polaris) that is just four thousand light years away?

## Galaxies and stars indicate Allah's Greatness:

Once I did a simple calculation, I said: if the light's speed is nearly three hundred thousand kilometers per second, I multiplied this number by sixty (to convert to minutes), and I multiplied the result by sixty (to convert to hours), then by twenty four (to convert to days), then by three hundred and sixty five (to convert to year); then the final result is divided by one hundred (which is the speed of a car in kilometers per one hour), then divide this by twenty four billion (the distance to the Polaris in kilometers), then by three hundred and sixty five (the speed of light); the result is twenty seven million years, which is the time that one needs to reach the Polaris by

a car. The Polaris is four thousand light years away from us, now how about the time that you need to reach a distant galaxy that is eighteen billion light years away.

The scientists said: What we see of that far galaxy is false, this sight is the shape of this galaxy eighteen billion light years ago, now it is in other place or shape, our Lord said:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah17-18)

Who did design the system of the gravity? The plants gravitate to each other according to its mass and the square of the distance between them, Allah says:

**“Is not He (better than your gods) Who has made the earth as a fixed abode, and has placed rivers in its midst, and has placed firm mountains therein, and has set a barrier between the two seas? Is there any ilah (god) with Allah? Nay, but most of them know not!”**

(An-Naml,61)

### The law of gravity:

Because of gravity law, every thing falls on the ground, why does it fall? Because it is attached to the earth by this gravity, but if this thing is in the outer space, it would be weightless and would not return to the earth.

The astronauts swim in the outer space and did not fall, who did create this system? So, if there is gravity force in the universe, why did not it become one mass by this system? As long as the bigger mass gravitates the smaller one, according to this system, why does not the sun gravitates Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Mars and become one mass, and this huge mass gets gravitated to the biggest star in the galaxy; and the entire galaxy becomes one mass, and then, all galaxies gravitate to each other and the whole universe becomes one mass.

The secret is in movement and rotating that is considered as a blessing, as movement creates a centrifugal force equals the gravity force, Allah says:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah,17-18)

How can stability exist with the movement and gravitation? Nothing is hardest than having stability with movement.

Consider this example, if you bring two magnets, put one on the ground and hang the other with a thread, and put a nail in the exact middle point between them, now try to keep the nail hanged in the air considering the equalization between gravitation of the two magnets, and by considering the weight of the nail and earth gravity value, well, this is mission impossible, so, can you imagine that, thinking about the earth, which has an orbit that it doesn't leave at all.

Consider the regular time of the pray Al-Fajr (dawn time), this means that the earth revolves around the sun steadily, there is gravitational relation between them, the earth attracts the moon and vice versa, and the same goes with the sun and the earth.

If not for the movement, the universe would have been one mass, who is the designer of this system? He is Allah the Exalted and Glorious, our Lord said:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)?”**

This spherical shape of planets is very wonderful, its lines are limitless despite the limited size of the planet, the sun is a sphere also the earth and all the planets as well.

### Inertia law:

Imagine that the planets are cubic, Allah says:

**“He has created the heavens and the earth with truth. He makes the night to go in the day and makes the day go in the night. And He has subjected the sun and the moon. Each running (on a fixed course) for an appointed time. Verily, He is the All-Mighty, the Oft –Forgiving.”**

(Az-Zumar,5)

The difference will be clear if they have a cubic shape, everything will be different.

So consider the width of the universe, the planets, the galaxies, gravity law, the movement system where the movement of the planets varies, for example, the earth revolves around itself at a speed of one thousand and six hundred kilometers at the equator, whereas its speed around the sun is thirty kilometers per hour, and the sun rotates around the galaxy's center, and it takes it more than two hundred million years to complete one circle.

So we have different speeds, some galaxies have speed approaches the light's speed (that is two hundred and forty thousand kilometers per second), the comets have its speed too, and so forth.

### “how it is raised?”

Did you think about it? This is the path to Faith, and the knowledge of Allah

If the universe is motionless, it won't move. To understand that, you should know that wherever a satellite is sent to outer space, it is given an elementary motion for eight or nine years, it doesn't need an engine; just put a satellite in outer space, where no gravity, and give it a specific speed; this speed, theoretically, must continue (keep) forever, this is called the inertia law.

Therefore, in the outer space, the moving object won't stop, whereas the motionless object won't move.

Consider the following example, if you ride a car, in a standing position, you will fall down if it suddenly stops; why? because you can't stop while the car can (you still have the speed of the car and you have no breaks while the car has breaks so it stops but you keep on the same speed and this is the reason behind your fall), on the other hand, if one sits on the back seat of the car then it moves, he feels that the seat pushes him forward; that is because he "rejects" the motion and there is an opposition in the directions (this is the opposite case of the first one, in this case the car is moving but the person in it is motionless)

These laws are created by Allah.

### Day, night, the Sun, The moon indicate Allah's Greatness:

It is very difficult to define light, very tiny starlets that are released from an object and that is light.

They said: if the body moves in light speed, it will turn into light, what does light mean? It means that it is of unlimited size, and its mass is zero. The sun's rays cannot be weighed, and as long as there is a universe that expands; the light expands as well endlessly.

What is the essence of the light? Only Allah knows, who did create the light? Who did create the sun and the moon? Who did create the day and the night? He said:



## **“And at the heaven, how it is raised?”**

These planets have a body, some of them are gaseous such like the sun, which has serial reactions that don't stop.

Saturn is gaseous as well, whereas Mars and the Earth are solid, planets. Hence, every planet has a specific density.

They said, there are some planets in which one cubic centimeter weighs one billion tons! The earth's density is one and some planets are more and some are less, the sun, for example, is bigger than the earth by one million and three hundred times, yet its weight is more than the earth's weight by only three thousand and three hundred times, therefore, we have variety in sizes, in densities and in composition among planets; Allah says:

**”The Work of Allah, Who perfected all things, verily, He is Well-Acquainted with all what you do.”**

(An-Naml,88)

Some subjects are almost philosophical, such like time, for instance, what is it exactly? They said: the time is the kinetic (dynamic) dimension of things! Therefore, any thing has length, width, height and the forth dimension, that is time!

## **Mountains indicate Allah's Greatness:**

Our Lord the Great and Almighty said:

**“And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah,18)

There is a book about mountains and earth, and it was mentioned in the preface that there is an invisible and great power that created all sights on the earth, such as seas, mountains, hills, lakes, glacial blocks, green plains, marshes, and deserts, there is a system that no one can imagine its range or accuracy! Allah says:

**“Have We not made the earth as a bed, And the mountains as pegs?”**

(An-Naba',6-7)

By now, it is known that the earth's surface has many layers; rocks, soil, sands, ice, plants, if they are removed, we would see that the continents have bodies, these continents are based on a rocky substance called the Basalt, and underneath it there is another layer, it is the base of the earth, the crust is solid, and the rocky surfaces moves from one to two centimeters per year causing cracks through which the liquid substance (lava) bursts out to form the mountains (Prodecia mountain is formed that way).

The displacement of the solid layer of the earth comes firstly, then secondly the liquid substance bursts out, and thirdly it rained back to turn into solid again forming mountains.

There is a range of mountains in the Atlantic that is formed in the same way; it stretches from the north to the Antarctic Ocean, with heights that are close to one thousand and five hundred meters, not to mention a range of mountains inside the sea:

**“And the mountains as pegs?”**

The mountains, which are formed from the liquid substance (lava), are called volcanoes.

In the year 1967, the volcanoes formed a whole island.

Therefore, the continental plates separate from each other, which form the volcanic mountains this is one way of forming mountains, and there is another way which happens when two plates crush into each other,

causing one of them pushing the other from beneath and curving it and forming a mountain in the process.

Therefore, volcanic mountains are formed because of the separation between the plates, while curved mountains are formed because of the closeness (crushing) between plates.

There is a third way of forming mountains, that is through pushing continents upwards by the pressure from under ground.

These are theories, yet, only Allah knows how the mountains were formed, and there is wisdom behind the designing of mountains!

Sometimes, you notice ranges of mountains spread along shores, and their function is to be barriers that prevent depressions from spreading in the continents.

Needless to say, that the difference in temperatures between the foots of the mountains and its summit produces currents of air (drafts), and the mountains' topic is long detailed one

### The mountains cause earth stability:

And our Lord said:

**”-Have We not made the earth as a bed, And the mountains as pegs ? “**

(An-Naba'6-7)

The peg means that some of it appears on the surface of the earth, and the other part is inserted inside it, and the scientists believe that the inside part equals two thirds of the outside (external) part! Exactly like the tooth, so, these two thirds inside the ground attach the layers to each other, if an interior disturbance happens inside the earth, these layers are braced by this peg (mountain), our Lord the Great and Almighty said:

**“Have We not made the earth as a bed, And the mountains as pegs ?”**

(An-Naba'6-7)

And He said also:

**“And the mountains He has fixed firmly”**

(An-Nazi'at,32)

The earth revolves fast, and if not for the balanced distribution of weight and masses on the earth, there will be imbalance! Allah says:

**“Is not He (better than your gods) Who has made the earth as a fixed abode, and has placed rivers in its midst, and has placed firm mountains therein, and has set a barrier between the two seas? Is there any ilah (god) with Allah? Nay, but most of them know not!”**

(An-Naml,61)

The building will be collapsed if the earth moves just one centimeter, the stability of buildings are caused by the stability of earth, and the latter is an outcome of the distribution of the mountains on the earth's surface

### The relation between earth's stability and pegs:

Allah says:

**“And has set on the earth firm mountains lest it should shake with you. And He has scattered therein moving (living) creatures of all kinds. And We send down water(rain) from the sky, and We cause(plants) of every goodly kind to grow therein.”**

(Luqman,10)

To explain the meaning of “lest it should shake with you”, consider the following example, if there is a revolving wheel that works by an engine, it will be revolving steadily as it is well designed, but if you put a small piece of metal on any side of it, there will be an imbalance in the wheel’s movement, same goes with the earth, as it is rotating steadily because the mountains are distributed wisely on its surface, and any move to any mountain from place to place will affect the earth’s stability.

Allah says:

**“And in the earth are neighbouring tracts, and gardens of vines, and green crops (fields), and date-palms, growing into two or three from a single stem root, or otherwise (one stem root for every palm), watered with the same water; yet some of them We make more excellent than others to eat,. Verily, in these things there are Ayat( proofs, signs, lessons, evidences) for the people who understand.”**

(Ar-Ra’d,3)

“Mountains and rivers” means that the mountains are the storage areas of water, from which the springs burst out to form running rivers, and there is another Ayah:

**“And the earth We have spread out, and have placed therein firm mountains, and caused to grow therein all kinds of things in due proportion.”**

(Al-Hijr,19)

Its shape is spherical, and because of that, its lines are endless, while the lines of any other shape end on its edges, Allah says:

**“Is not He(better than your gods) Who has made the earth as a fixed abode, and has placed rivers in its midst, and has placed firm mountains therein, and has set a barrier between the two seas? Is there any ilah (god) with Allah? Nay, but most of them know not!”**

(An-Naml,61)

The relationship between stability and mountains, Allah says too:

**“And(We) have placed therein firm, and tall mountains, and have given you to drink sweet water ?”**

(Al-Mursalat,27)

The wisdom behind mentioning the pure drinkable water with the High Mountains is to make clear that the mountain is a store of water, and Allah says in other ayat:

**“And it is not you who are the owners of its stores [i.e. to give water to whom you like or to withhold it from whom you like]”**

[Al Hijr, 22]

**The earth with its elevations indicates Allah’s Greatness:**

Now , Allah says:

### **“And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah,20)

The earth, as you know , includes mountains, hills, plains, plateaus, deserts, shores, seas, gulfs, big and small islands, and continents from all directions, but some scientists found out that every point on the land is opposed by water (sea or ocean) on the other side of earth on the point exactly opposed to that point, and this is a bewildering design.

Is it possible that the earth was a piece separated from the sun and cooled to be in its present state? How amazing this system and law are? Another thing, the continents are, as some books say, great rocky plateaus raise from eight to ten kilometers – almost the maximum height- and the ranges of the mountains that Allah created and placed above of the surface of the earth, and the other ones in the depths of the seas, and there are maps for these mountains, you can find ranges of mountains, hills and valleys in the depths of the seas, the depth of the Mariana Trench, in the Pacific Ocean is like the height of the summit of Mount Everest which is the highest point in the world.

Every continent has a wharf which extends one hundred and sixty kilometers in the sea, for example, if you imagine that the sea recedes around Asia's continent, it would be larger by one hundred and sixty kilometers from all directions, who did design this wharf?! You can see fossils of shells, animals, and plants on top of mountains, the question here is where does that come from? The answer is because the earth was entirely covered with water once (and Qasyoon Mountain that surrounded Damascus has some of these fossils).

How old is the earth? How much time it took to be suitable place for human, therefore, Allah says:

### **“And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

**We get to know Allah through reflecting on His creations:**

Can you imagine the earth without soil! How can you live? We and the animals will die of hunger! But who did crumble the soil and give water the ability to expand when it freezes, while the entire elements contract when they freeze except for the water, by this law , the water share in the process of crumbling the soil to be suitable for farming, and who did put the organisms inside the soil?

When the atomic bombs were thrown on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan, the land became sterile because all the organisms within were killed.

Who did create all these innumerable organisms?

### **“And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

Who did create the mountains? Cities were built beside the mountains because they supply us with water (rivers) and the ice on top of them feeds the storage areas of water within when it melts.

The foot of the mountain is hot, but it is cold in the summit, and the difference in the temperatures between the two areas creates drafts (air currents), so even if the temperature is high in the city, you feel the breeze comes from the mountain.

The coastal mountains have a function that is different from the interior ones, the coasts have "openings" –the gaps between the mountains- these openings allow the depressions to pass to interior cities, who did design this?

**“ Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)? And at the heaven, how it is raised? And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah,17-20)

By the way, I did not mean to deluge you with all these information, but I wanted this information to be examples. Man is unable to know Allah except after he/she thinks about His Creatures and creations.

The connection between the three parts (of this Surah) is very accurate, the way of escaping from the Hell and the way of winning Paradise is His Saying:

**“Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)? And at the heaven, how it is raised? And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah)

### Allah's signs indicate His Greatness:

The Europeans reached amazing facts about the galaxies, yet they don't know Allah the Great and Almighty, why? If man stays in the universe and does not "move" to Allah, then what does he profit from this science? A scientist said: "He is a living dead, who does not see that there is a power in the universe beyond any power, knowledgeable power beyond any knowledge, and Merciful power beyond any mercy.

A geologist, an astronomer, or a botanist might see things that we haven't seen yet, but when his/her purpose is fame, money and glory, he/she won't benefit from all that knowledge, they saw these facts, yet they didn't look at them (reflect on them), unlike the believer who when sees them, he/she immediately moves towards Allah.

Again, these continents are blocks of rocks, such like the Asian continent that is blocks of rocks based on a rocky surface, and this is based on another surface, and if there is a reversed variation in density, they (continents) would have sunk to the core of the earth.

The density of the lower layer is bigger than that of the upper layer, as if you put a piece of cork on the water, it floats, because its density is lesser than that of water, who did plan this design so that the bases of the continents are greater in density? In the depths, there is igneous liquid (lava) flows from deep volcanoes, sometimes as deep as one hundred and sixty kilometers down.

The depths of the oil-fields reach eight kilometers, how heavy are these rocky blocks?

The precious stones, such like marble are very expensive stuff as the price of one square meter of a sort of marble is five thousand pounds, its origin is a lime, and the sand is the origin of quartz, while the origin of diamond is coal, Allah says:

**“To Him belongs all that is in the heavens and all that on the earth, and all that is between them, and all that is under the soil.”**

(Taha,6)

This means that there are great resources under the soil (inside the earth); oil, natural gas, coal, minerals, iron, aluminum, uranium, copper...etc, who did design all of this? The answer is: Allah the Almighty. All what I meant from all these examples is to show the Greatness of Allah, and how hard it is to escape from Allah's Torment and to win Paradise if we didn't give time to reflect on the ayat (signs in the universe and creations) of Allah, After Allah the Almighty told us about the bliss of Paradise and the torture of the Hell, He said:

**“ Do not they look at the camels, how they are created? And at the mountains, how they are rooted (and fixed firm)? And at the heaven, how it is raised? And at the earth, how it is outspread?”**

(Al-Ghashiyah)

### Summary: Man should reflect on creatures to know Allah:

Let us consider the fish, you can notice that there is a line on the fish, this line is a barometer, through which it knows the depth it is in, and some fishes float on the sea surface by air bags and they know exactly where is the surface, so when one of us eats fish and does not see it but a fish (to be eaten), without reflecting on it as an amazing creature, then he/she is missing the point!! They said: the water would have disappeared if the big fish stop eating the small ones (because of the immense numbers of them)!!

You should always think about these signs.

The aim of these ayat is to reflect on what they indicate, and to reflect on creations, such like camels, heaven, mountains, earth, and all that surrounds us, there is an Ayah speaks about mountains, Allah says:

**“ And Allah has made for you out of that which He has created shades, and has made for you places of refuge in the mountains, and has made for you garments to protect you from the heat (and cold), and coats of mail to protect you from your (mutual) violence. Thus does He perfect His Favour unto you, that you may submit yourselves to His Will (in Islam).”**

(An-Nahl,81)

If a city locates behind a mountain, you find its weather is warm, why is Mecca a hot country? Because it is surrounded by mountains which barricade the winds, and there is an Ayah that is relevant to our subject, His Saying:

**“Or do you think that most of them hear or understand? They are only like cattle --- nay, they are even farther astray from the Path(i.e. even worse than cattle).”**

(Al-Furqan,44)

If the man does not reflect on these Ayat, he is really like the cattle and even worse! Why? Because the cattle is not charged with Al-Amanah (the trust) or ordered to know Allah, yet, they are assigned to serve mankind, and they do, but man is ordered to know Allah the Great and Almighty.

The summary of this lesson is that man is ordered to know Allah through the universe, Allah says:

**“Then in what statement after this (the Qur'an) will they believe?”**

(Al-Mursalat,50)

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