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The Qur'an and duʿāʾ.

God speaks to us through the Qur'an, and we speak to God through prayer. Together they make faith a living conversation.

The Word of God

What is the Qur'an?

Muslims believe the Qur'an is God's own speech, revealed to Prophet Muhammad through the angel Gabriel. Its name means "the recitation": it was first heard, memorised and recited before it was written down.

114	6,236	23	1
chapters (sūras)	verses (āyāt)	years of revelation	unchanged text

A book that invites reflection

Signs in the universe

Look up

"In the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the alternation of night and day, are signs for people of understanding" (3:190).

Look around

"We made from water every living thing" (21:30). The Qur'an repeatedly asks its readers to think, observe and reason.

Look within

"We will show them Our signs in the horizons and within themselves until it becomes clear to them that it is the truth" (41:53).

Talking to God

Duʿāʾ: personal prayer

ٱدْعُونِيٓ أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ

"Call on Me and I will answer you" (40:60).

Formal prayer has set times and words. Duʿāʾ can happen anywhere, in any language, about anything. "I am near. I answer the call of the caller when they call Me" (2:186).

How to make duʿāʾ

1. Begin by praising God and sending blessings on the Prophet and his family.
2. Speak honestly: thank Him, ask forgiveness, share what worries you.
3. Ask for others too. Praying for someone in their absence is especially loved.
4. Trust God's answer: now, later, or something better than you asked.

A treasured prayer

Duʿāʾ Kumayl

Taught by Imam ʿAlī to his companion Kumayl, and recited by many Muslims on Thursday nights. It is a moving conversation about sin, hope and God's endless mercy.

The Psalms of Islam

al-Ṣaḥīfa al-Sajjādiyya

A collection of prayers by Imam Zayn al-ʿĀbidīn, the Prophet's great-grandson, covering parents, children, neighbours, illness and more.