



Fitra Foundation and Sayyida Nafisa Seminary present the first installment of the
“This is our Tradition” series entitled, “The True Recitation”.

In these lessons, we’ll feature the exegesis of 40 verses of the Quran that shape the fundamental
spiritual attitudes with which we are to approach the Divine Speech.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ
وَأَفْضَلُ الصَّلَاةِ وَأَتَمُّ التَّسْلِيمِ
عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ
وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ

اللهم صل على سيدنا محمد نور الأنوار وسر الأسرار وترياق الأغيار ومفتاح باب اليسار
سيدنا محمد المختار وآله الأطهار، وأصحابه الأخيار عدد نعم الله وفضاله

1.1 The True Recitation : Introduction

On the first Friday of this blessed month of Ramadan 1443, by the enabling grace of God, Fitra Foundation was launched. Today, on this second Friday of Ramadan, it is with great gratitude that we release our first lesson.

In alignment with this auspicious spiritual season, we have chosen to feature key verses of the Qur’ān that shape the fundamental spiritual attitudes we are to assume when approaching the Divine Speech.

Fitra Foundation, in conjunction with the department of Quranic Studies at Sayyida Nafīsa Seminary, present this first installment of the “This is our Tradition” series, entitled “The True Recitation”, inspired by Allah’s Words —

الَّذِينَ آتَيْنَاهُمُ الْكِتَابَ يَتْلُونَهُ حَقَّ تِلَاوَتِهِ أُولَئِكَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِهِ ۖ وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِهِ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ))

Those to whom We have given the Scripture, who observe its recitation as is due to it, they are the ones who truly believe in it. Those who deny its truth are the losers.” Qur’ān 2:121

In the seminal works of Hadīth, we find the likes of Bukhāri, Muslim and others beginning their collections with key prophetic reports representing a Muslim’s faith ethos. Several classical scholars, in commentary on these works, distill Islamic teachings to four or five central reports upon which the entirety of the Sunna is to be understood and practiced. In upcoming lessons, we’ll feature these reports along with their connection to Quranic understanding.

Traditional Islamic Scholarship, of past and present, has always drawn upon this established intellectual and spiritual ethos, thereby teaching us that sacred knowledge is not mere information, but a fortress of principles that safeguard the heart and mind from deviance even before filling it with illuminating guidance. This is the meaning of “adab before ‘ilm”.

In following in their footsteps, even deficiently so, along the pattern of the great scholars of the past who compiled 40 Hadīth collections, we humbly present this work featuring the exegesis of 40 verses of the Qur’ān, representing the foundational ethos through which we are to achieve a true recitation.

May Allah accept it, put great blessings in it, and render it – through His Enabling Grace – a service to the Umma of our Master Muhammad ﷺ

A distinct feature of these lessons is that they will be rendered in both Arabic and English, welcoming native speakers of both languages, assisting non-native Arabic learners, and in keeping with the divine principle upheld by all the great scholars of the past of using language as the bridge to deep understanding.

Indeed, in imitation of the noble ones is felicity.

فتشبهوا إن لم تكونوا مثلهم إن التشبه بالكرام فلاح

With that, by Allah, we begin.

May Allah’s infinite peace & blessings be upon Rasūlullāh, his pure progeny & folk, along with his gleaming companions, illuminated inheritors and all loyal followers until the Last Day.