

Judging from this report, it is obvious that these leading Arab scholars are hopelessly stuck on the very first item of God's undeniable mathematical miracle. As shown in the photocopy from IMPACT, they decided that Bism Allah Al-Rahman Al-Raheem, which is the first verse of Qur'an, "contains neither just nineteen letters nor four words."

Now, they are even trying to remove the Basmalah from Qur'an altogether!!! Apparently the idiots think that if Basmalah is removed, the whole miracle will collapse. This is the first proof that they are utterly forbidden from seeing the miracle. In my translation of Qur'an, Footnote 1:1 stated that Basmalah is "the foundation upon which a great miracle is built." The great Arab scholars figured that if they destroy the "foundation", then the whole structure will come down!

First the committee thanked Dr Khalifah for what appeared to be his interest in supporting the miraculous nature of the Qur'an by making use of modern technology and pointing out to new factors which have hitherto been unknown to the Muslims.

Afterwards it went on to record the Arabic translation of his booklet and lectures and put forward its findings and recommendations.

Basically the learned Doctor has founded his theory on number 19 and its multiple. According to him the first Qur'anic verse, Bismillaahirrahmaanirrahim, or 'al-basmalah', - meaning 'In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful' - consists of nineteen Arabic letters!

From linguistic point of view it is clear that 'al-basmalah' contains neither just nineteen letters nor four words. Besides, it is not the first Qur'anic verse as Dr Khalifah has claimed.

In fact there is no unanimous agreement among the Qur'anic scholars as to consider whether 'al-basmalah' is a part of the first Surah and of the subsequent Surahs, or whether it is an independent verse by which we start reciting the Qur'an, or whether it is meant as an indicator of the end of a Surah and the beginning of a new one. All these aspects are discussed extensively by these Muslim Qur'anic scholars themselves.

Once there is no consensus achieved on all these points - except Surah 27 (al-Naml) where 'al-basmalah' mentioned in verse 30, is a part of it - a solid foundation cannot thus be laid down for a theory which claims the 'miraculous nature' of the Qur'an. This means that many points claimed to rest upon the figure 19, and hence the whole theory, will crumble.

IMPACT INTERNATIONAL
8 - 21 AUGUST 1986

A terrible dilemma for the great Arab scholars is that any grade school student who looks at the Basmalah at the top of Sheikh Ben Baz's own stationary and count the words, he or she will see four words and 19 letters. How would they convince that student that the Basmalah "contains neither just nineteen letters nor four words"?

It is noteworthy that the great Arab scholars did not tell us exactly how many letters and/or words are in the Basmalah. Lisa Spray of Masjid Tucson quipped, "They must be still counting the letters and words of Basmalah!!!"

Naturally, the great Arab scholars did not say a thing about the fact the letter Qaf is mentioned 57 times (19x3) in each of the Qaf-initialed suras (42 & 50). They said nothing about the physical fact that the SSaad-initialed suras (7, 19, & 38) contain 152 SSaads (19x8). They said nothing about the profound physical fact that the HHA MEEM-initialed suras contain 2147 HHA & MEEM (19x113). They said nothing about the established and easy to confirm fact that Sura YA SEEN contains precisely 285 YA & SEEN (19x15); and so on and on.

IS THIS NOT POSITIVE PROOF THAT GOD HAS TAKEN AWAY THEIR HEARING, THEIR EYESIGHT AND SEALED THEIR MINDS?"
(Sura 6, Verse 46)

Now let us see how confused these scholars are.

Shown below is a photocopy of two letters from Dr. Muhammad Abdul Rauf, Rector of the International Islamic University, Malaysia. Dr. Abdul Rauf is an internationally recognized Muslim scholar. In his letter dated December 18, 1985, he stated that Basmalah is either 17 letters, or 20 letters (he doesn't know). However, in a letter dated September 16, 1986, he counts 19 letters in Basmalah and adds up their numerical value, the famous number 786. (Continued on Page 4)

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Thus, al-Basmalah consists of 20 letters, counting each duplicated consonant as two, or of 17 letters if each is counted as one.*

Dr. M. A. Rauf's letter dated Dec 18, 85

Yet, this figure is the total of the values of the letters contained in the full Basmalah; that is, بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ. The values of these letters are as follows:

Dr. M. A. Rauf's letter dated Sep 16, 86 and showing that Basmalah has 19 letters.

$$2 + 60 + 40 + 1 + 30 + 30 + 5 + 1 + 30 + 200 + 8 + 40 + 50 + 1 + 30 + 200 + 8 + 10 + 40 = 786$$

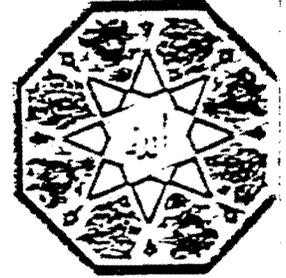
M. A. Rauf

(PROF. DR. MUHAMMAD ABDUL RAUF)
Rector

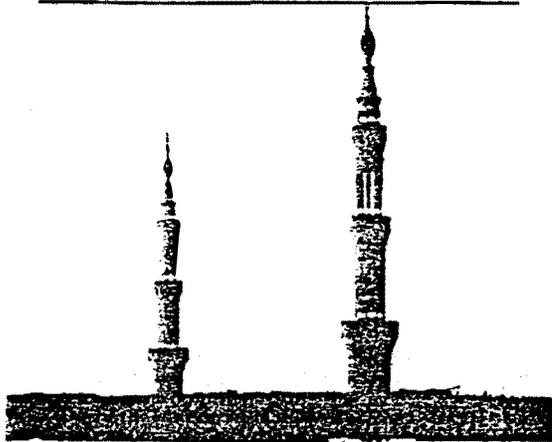


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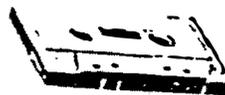


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book sponsored by the Saudi Rabitat Al-'Alam -Islamy was authored a few years ago by other Dr. Ahmad Sakr under the title "LAMIC ORATIONS." Dr. Sakr is the former rector of the Rabitat office in New York.

Page 299 (19x11) of his book, the subject "EVEN EIGHTY SIX (786)" begins. The number 6 is famous throughout the Muslim world. Millions of Muslims write it at the top of their letters or notes, etc as a substitute for Basmalah. As shown from Dr. Abdul Rauf's letter on Page 2, the number 786 represents the total numerical value of the Basmalah's 30 Arabic letters. The chapter entitled "Seventy Eighty Six" in Dr. Sakr's book deals with the numerical value of Basmalah. On Page 214, Dr. Sakr states: "Remember, dear Muslims, that if you read بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ which is composed of 19 letters, you will be rewarded by Allah 190 times or 380 times accordingly." Please note that, in addition to Dr. Sakr's statement that Basmalah "consists of 19 letters," the numbers of rewards that he lists (190 & 380) are multiples of 19.

But there is no greater sign of confusion on the part of the great Arab scholars than the fact that they thanked me at the beginning of their report (see the photocopy on Page 2), then called me kafir, accusing me of disbelief and apostasy towards the end of the report!!!!

Did they, all of a sudden, discover that I was kafir while writing the final report on their lengthy meeting? Did they thank me before discovering that I was a kafir?!!

It is no surprise to the readers of MUSLIM PERSPECTIVE that the enemies of Islam around the world, be them orientalist or evangelists, etc. have gladly decided to leave the fight against Qur'an to the Arab scholars. Although they recognize the truthfulness and awesome power of the Qur'an's mathematical miracle, they no longer need to oppose it; our Muslim scholars are doing a better job at keeping the people away from it.

I have to quote here Brother Abdul Aziz Kassim of Singapore: "A lot of people (including the learned) reject the miracle of 19 even though they know it is the truth. Do they ever think that the miracle can help mankind and the Muslims in the cause of God? To the non-Muslims, we can invite them, those of weak faith, we can help them, the Jews and the Christians we can invite them and those who have gone astray we have the opportunity to bring them back. Have they (the scholars) ever considered these benefits? What is wrong with them?"

P.S.: AMONG THE MILLIONS OF BELIEVERS
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