

## Suratul Kafiroom

### Introduction

This Surah was revealed in Makka, in answer to a proposal put forward by the leaders of the Quraish (The Kuffar).

The Quraish approached the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) and said that they had thought of a compromise. They proposed that (the Kuffar) and the Muslims should both agree to worship each other's God.

They said that for one year the Muslims should worship what they (the Kuffar) worshipped and then the next year they (the Kuffar) would worship the God of the Muslims and then the pattern to be repeated.

The proposal by the Kuffar was a clever one to try to win over the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) and to wreck his mission. The reply given to them in this Surah was firm and without compromise.

Our 6th Imam, Imam Ja'far As-Sadiq (a.s.) was once asked why the same verse (Ayat 3 and 5) was repeated twice.

He replied that the repetition in the Surah was in response to the repetition in the proposal of the Kuffar. i.e. The Kuffar had asked the Holy Prophet (s.a.w.) to worship their Gods for one year and they would worship His God the next year and alternate thereafter.

The last Ayat of the Surah tells us that there can never be a compromise between right and wrong and also there is no force to become a Muslim.

### Text and Translation

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent the Merciful.*

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ

*Say (O Muhammad), "O you who disbelieve!*

لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ

*I do not worship what you worship!*

وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ

*Nor do you worship Whom I worship!*

وَلَا أَنَا عَابِدٌ مَا عَبَدْتُمْ

*Nor shall I worship whom you worship,*

وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ

*Nor will you worship Who I worship.*

لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ

*Unto you be your religion and unto me my religion."*

#### Merits of Recitation of Suratul Ikhlas

1. Imam Ja'far As-Sadiq (a.s.) has said that whoever recites this Surah and Suratul Ikhlas in their daily prayers will be forgiven and so will their parents.
2. The Messenger of Allah (S) is quoted saying that one who recites this Sura will be regarded as though he has read one quarter of the Holy Qur'an

#### References

Holy Qur'an, Tafsir by S V Mir Ahmed Ali  
Ramadhan, Ahkam and Philosophy, Yasin T. al Jibouri