

## Surah al-Ikhlās(112)

## سورة الإخلاص

### 'The Purity'

This surah was named and is called al-Tawhīd, meaning to posit oneness, and is also named al-Ikhlās meaning to purify or cleanse, for it negates the idea of God having a partner or an associate. It is called al-Tawhīd as it contains a reference to the Divine oneness, in the words '...Allah, One.' There are differing views as to whether the surah sent down at Makkah or at Madinah. In either case it is composed of matters of faith. Whereas the previous surah was related to the Prophet (*al-rasūl*), this surah is related to Him who sent him (*al-mursal*).

**By the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**By the name of Allah** ... Beginning by the name of the Allah whose is whatsoever is in the skies and the earth. He is the One, of all existence singular in Divinity.

... **the Compassionate, the Merciful**, who bestows mercy and grace upon the servants.

It is recorded that Jews came to the Prophet of Allah and asked him to explain his Lord's attributes. So Allah, glory be to Him, sent this surah.

**Say: He is Allah, One, (1)**

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ﴿١﴾

Say, O Messenger, that your Lord, whom you call on, is One, having no partner and no division into parts.

**Allah the Overlord; (2)**

اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ﴿٢﴾

'Overlord' is given for *shamad*, meaning the ultimate chief or lord whose authority is such that no affair can take place without his permission. The meaning of the verse is that He is the Absolute Lord in whose hand are all things, so that nothing can take place in the world of being without His permission and without it being part of His affair.

**He fathers not, and was born not, (3)**

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ﴿٣﴾

He has not fathered anyone; the angels are not His daughters, as the disbelieving Arabs imagined, nor are the Messiah (Jesus), 'Uzayr, the Jews and the Christians His sons, as imagined by the Book-folk. Nor was He Himself born of any father or mother.

**And there is not a one His equal. (4)**

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ﴿٤﴾

No one is like Him, similar to Him or equal to Him. He is the Unique, who has none to parallel Him and none comparable to Him.