Bismi Allabi alrrahmani alrraheemi

In the name of God, the Mercy-giving, the Merciful!

1. Alif-lam-ra

1. A.L.R.

tilka ayatu alkitabi almubeenu

These are verses from the Clear Book.

2. Inna anzalnahu qur-anan AAarabiyyan laAAallakum taAAAgiloona

2. We have sent it down as an Arabic reading so that you may reason.

3. Nahnu naqussu AAalayka ahsana alqasasi

bima awbhayna ilayka batha alqur-ana wa-in kunta min qablihi lamina alghafileena

3. We relate the best stories to you, since We have revealed this Reading to you.

You were someone quite unaware previously.

The first three verses of Surah 12 (يوسوف) introduces the story of Joseph in the context of the Koran as a revelation of God's message to mankind through his prophet Muhammad. The words that immediately follow the title, the Basmalah (بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيْم), are used to introduce all of the Surat of the Koran, with the exception of Surah 9 (which some believe was originally a continuation of Surah 8). For the Muslim Muhammad is the last of a long line of prophets who were sent by God. The Hadith (early Muslim traditions) suggest a total of 124,000 prophets had been sent as messengers from God to emphasize that apostles had been sent to every people (وَلَكْلَ آمَّةٍ رَسُوْلٌ Surah 10:47a). Muhammad, like all of the prophets sent before him, spoke "in the name of God." In a similar way in Hebrew Scripture, "Now the prophets, Haggai and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem, in the name of the God of Israel who was over them." (וְהִתְנַבִּי חַגַּי נְבִיאָה וּזְכַרְיָה בַר־עִדּוֹא נְבִיאַיָּא עַל־יְהוּדָיֵא דִּי בִיהוּד וּבִירוּשְׁלֶם בְּשַׁם אֱלָהָּיָא יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲלֵי־־הֽוֹן׃ Ez 5:1). For Muhammad the message of all of the prophets were the same. "... and that given to Moses and Jesus and that given to (all) the prophets from their Lord; We make no differences between them: And we bow to God (in Islam)." (وَ مَآ اُوْتِ مُوْسَ وَ عِيسَ وَ مَآ اُوْتِيالنَّبِيُّوْنَ مِنْ رَّبِّهِمْ لَ نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أحَدٍ مِّنْهُمْ وَ نَحْنُ لَهُ مُسْلِمُوْنَ Surah 2:136b).
الـ(A,L,R). No explanation is given in the text of the Koran for these three mysterious letters at the beginning of this Surah. There are 29 Surat which begin with unexplained letters like this and they have been the subject of much speculation. The three letters الـ(ALR) appear before Surat 11 through 15, with the exception of Surah 13 which inserts the letter م(M), making four letters: الـمر(AMLR).

These six adjacent surat are all said to have been revealed toward the end of the time that Muhammad was still in Mecca before he lead his followers to Medinah. It was a time when Muhammad and his followers were being persecuted for their new faith. The story of Joseph fits this setting well, since the young Joseph suffered mistreatment by his brothers, being sold into slavery and only through his intelligence and virtue and God's providence was able to become a leader and a savior for his people. Beyond this observation of historical setting and content, the inclusion of these unexplained letters before so many surat give testimony to the faithfulness of the scribes who copied the mss. through the centuries, committed to not alter any detail of a text believed to be the record of the very words of God.

Laqad kana fi yusaam wa hujjeh Ayat lilsailee 7-12

The first five verses of Surah 96 are designated as the first revelation to Muhammad on mount Jabal al-Nour (The Mountain of Light”) near Mecca in 610 CE.

Surah 96. Iqraa

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

1 - Proclaim in the name of your Lord who created,

2 - created man out of a clot of blood.

3 - Proclaim and your Lord is most bountiful.

4 - He who taught the pen,

5 - taught man what he did not know.

Surah 96, Iqraa

Bismillah alrahman arrehim

1 - Aqraasamur biirk azir aladzi halqee

2 - Halqee alansaan min ulqee

3 - Aqraa warbiik alakrumeen

4 - Azir alummar balqilmar

5 - Ulmrulansaan malmar yulmar