

# The Quran and its Message

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سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكُمْ

Salamun Alaikum (Peace be upon you)

## THE BEST HADITH

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### FABRICATION & IDLE HADITH WERE EVEN A PROBLEM AT THE TIME OF THE PROPHET

If we examine the Quran (As advised 4:82; 47:24), it becomes clear that fabrication of stories, events and narratives was a problem even at the time of the Prophet. It is no coincidence therefore that the Quran refers to itself as the '**Best Hadith**' indicating a preference over all other thoughts and narratives that were in circulation.

There will always be people that will prefer idle / divertive tales (**Lahwal Hadith**) to the true realities of life. This has been powerfully addressed in the following verse and it is these people that are being rebuked in this verse. Life indeed has an important purpose and those that understand the issues that rest on them take life seriously. This is as true for industry, politics, world affairs as it is for Divine guidance.

#### 031:006

"But there are, among men, those who purchase idle (Arabic: Lahwal) tales (Arabic: Hadith), without knowledge, to mislead from the path of God and throw ridicule (on the path): for such there will be a humiliating penalty"

Lahwal

وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَشْتَرِي لَهْوَ الْحَدِيثِ لِيُضِلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِ

Hadith

[Illustration - Joseph Islam](#)

## WHAT IS LAHWA? ROOT - L-H-W

لهو

1. لَهِيَ عَنْهُ، (S, Mṣb, K) and لَهَا عَنْهُ، (Mṣb, K),

He became diverted from it, so as to forget it.

لهو Diversion; pastime; sport; play: or especially, such as is vain, or frivolous; idle sport: (from various explanations :) what occu-

[Source: Edward Lanes Lexicon](#) [1]

In the above context therefore it is the divertive, frivolous, idle **hadith** which is being referred to that leads **man astray** from the path of God without knowledge. These are fanciful discourses, narratives and literature which have no real substance and only serve to lead mankind far away from the path of truth and can only work counterproductive to true guidance.

The above verse is clear evidence that idle tales were even being disseminated and purchased at the Prophet's time during his Prophethood. One obvious question then arises. If this was a problem extant at the Prophet's time, then how much worse did the problem potentially manifest after his death?

If God's truth in the form of His revelations are recited to such a one, they turn away in arrogance. This can be seen clearly in the very next verse.

031:007



### 018.022

“(Some) say they were three, the dog being the fourth among them; (others) say they were five, the dog being the sixth,- doubtfully guessing at the unknown; (yet others) say they were seven, the dog being the eighth. Say thou: "My Lord knows best their number; It is but few that know their (real case)." **Enter not, therefore, into controversies concerning them, except on a matter that is clear, nor consult any of them about (the affair of) the Sleepers”**

### STARK WARNING AGAINST FALSIFYING

051:008 Lo! ye, surely, are of various opinions (concerning the truth).

051:009 Through which are deluded (away from the Truth) such as would be deluded.

051:010 Accursed (Literally - may he be killed (Qutila)) be the falsifiers

051:011 Who are careless in an abyss

### WHY DID GOD ALLOW SUCH FABRICATIONS TO TAKE PLACE? - COULD HE NOT HAVE STOPPED THEM?

#### 006:112

“Likewise did We make for every Messenger an enemy, evil ones among men and jinns, inspiring each other with **flowery discourses by way of deception**. If thy Lord had so planned, they would not have done it: so leave them and their inventions alone”

#### 006:113

“**To such (deceit) let the hearts of those incline**, who have no faith in the hereafter: let them delight in it, and let them earn from it what they may”

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### FINAL THOUGHTS

The problem of fabrication and dissemination of frivolous Hadith was even extant at the time of the Prophet which begs the question, how enhanced the problem would have become after the Prophet had passed away?

The Quran refers to itself as the **best hadith** (Hasan Hadith).

#### 039:023

"God has revealed the **best statement (Arabic: ahasana l-Hadithi)** in the form of a Book, consistent with itself, (yet) repeating (its teaching in various aspects): the skins of those who fear their Lord tremble at it; then their skins and their hearts do soften to the celebration of God's praises. Such is

the guidance of God: He guides with it whom He pleases, but such as God leaves to stray, can have none to guide"



[Illustration - Joseph Islam](#)

## REFERENCES

[1] LANE. E.W, Edward Lanes Lexicon, Williams and Norgate 1863; Librairie du Liban Beirut-Lebanon 1968, Volume 8, Supplement, Page 3014

Highlights marked in red on the lexicon excerpt are my own insertions. They have no bearing on the original text other than they emphasise relevance to the topic at hand. These are merely illustrations and have solely been utilised for educational and explanatory purposes.

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