## 9. Súratu'l-'Amá ~ Súrah of the Divine Cloud, comprising forty-two Verses In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Behold, they said, "Joseph and his brother are dearer unto our father than we are, but we are indeed a strong alliance. Our father is clearly lost." Alif Lám Mím Nún. 4 God hath indeed sent down the Book, wherein lieth an Explanation of all things, as a Mercy and Glad Tidings unto Our devoted servants who, in very truth, attain insight through the knowledge of the Book, in accordance with the Most Exalted Remembrance of God. 5 When the Letters There is none other God except God were spoken, they signified that Joseph is dearer unto our father than we are, in keeping with the foreknowledge of God, which is as a mysterious Letter enfolded in mystery, veiled by the abstract parallel within the Concealed Mystery-held high beyond Our reach and the reach of all the worlds. 6 And as for, We are, in very truth, a strong alliance, God hath willed to align the circumstances of Joseph with those of the Arabian Prophet Muhammad through the concealed parallel. 7 Yea, verily, God hath graced Our Father with the Grace of Himself, for God hath ordained the Mystery of the Concealed One from the Mystery of His Command, in accordance with that which is within reach of all the worlds, through the manifest unveiling-from the mystery of the Bá-laying bare the misguidance of the people of the Fire. 8 The Most Gracious hath ascended unto the Throne, for He, God, is ever Powerful over all things! 9 Verily, God hath created all things through His Power, in accordance with the truth, of corporeal composition. 10 For He is indeed the One Who hath devised the heavens and the earth, and whatsoever lieth between them, through His Command, as befitteth the truth, through the wondrous creative force around the Fire. 11 Perchance the people might come to know that the Command of God hath ever been within the Mother Book, in accordance with the truth, sustained around the Fire. 12 For He, God, hath by His power, ever been Observant of all things. 13 For He, God, ever Encompasseth all things. 14 And He, God, hath indeed conceived a sublime interpretation—within the Concealed Mystery, in accordance with the mystery of the parallel, from the Point of the Bá, 15 He is indeed the One Who hath appointed the Elect from the Gate to be a Testament unto the People of the Heights, in accordance with the truth. 16 O devoted servants of the Most Gracious! Bestir yourselves unto the Stump of the Date-Palm-this, by the leave of God, your One True Lord-He Whom God hath appointed, by the very essence of the truth, within the Mother Book, from the Truth, as 'Alí. 17 For He is the One Who bringeth nigh unto your very selves the fresh dates, in accordance with the truth, from His Own Self. 18 Yea, verily, We have described His Remembrance within the Mother Book from times immemorial, within the Presence of the Most Gracious. 19 And lo, on that Day, ye were neither neglected within the Mother Book, nor abandoned amidst of the Fire. 20 Therefore, say not, How can He speak on behalf of God when He is, in very truth, but twenty-five years of age?! 21 Hearken unto Me, for I swear by the Lord of heaven and earth! I am indeed the Servant of God. He hath bestowed upon Me the Revelations of the long-awaited Remnant of God-your Imám. This is My Book, inscribed in the Presence of God Himself within the Mother Book, in accordance with the very essence of the truth. 22 God hath caused me to be blessed wheresoever I may be, and hath enjoined upon me the offering of obligatory prayer and the exercise of patience for the duration of my life amongst you upon the earth. 23 Verily, those who relate certain traditions without the sanction of God regarding the Cause of the Báb, intending thereby to oppose the Báb, are without even a smidgeon of truth. 24 Are they capable of producing the like of this Book as a Testament from the One True God, in accordance with the very essence of its truth? 25 The very Truth itself declareth, There is none other God except God! He is alone without a rival unto Him, for there is none like unto Him to suffice, nor even compare. He is God, Who eternally abideth, by the very essence of the truth, from time Immemorial. 26 Even should all the people and jinn combine their efforts, they would be incapable producing the like of this Book, in very truth, even were all the inhabitants of the earth, and others like them, to unite in support of one another. 27 Therefore, I swear by Thy One True Lord! They are incapable of comprehending even a single Letter thereof, nor can they grasp the interpretation of the slightest trace of its Mystery. 28 For God hath indeed revealed it by His Own creative force, and the people are utterly powerless to produce even a single Letter thereof like unto it, nor to reproduce its likeness without deviation. 29 These are the Tidings of the Unseen which We relate unto Thee, for verily, Thou art, in the estimation of God, the Most Praiseworthy-One worthy of praise even amidst the Fire. 30 Erelong shall Thy Lord bestow upon Thee, from His Own Self, during the Day of Resurrection, the most honorable judgment, in very truth, to be rendered upon all, in accordance with the truth. 31 Admit whomsoever Thou willest into the mercy of God, and turn aside from the adversaries gathered around the infernal Fire, leaving them therein, as befitteth the truth, kneeling in abasement. 32 Do ye believe in some part of the Book but reject another? Is this what hath been permitted unto you, or do ye falsely ascribe lies unto God, being amongst those deceived by the craftiness of Satan, which is utterly devoid of truth? 33 Yea, verily, We have revealed the Remembrance, and God, together with His Angels, in very truth, stand guard over Thee. 34 Be truly mindful, O devoted servants of God, and bear sincere and faithful witness unto the true Faith of God, as befitteth the truth. 35 Verily, those who humble themselves before their Lord in private devotion are, in the sight of the Most Gracious and His loved ones, arrayed in purity within the vicinity of the Gate, in accordance with the truth. 36 Erelong shall God disclose unto them His precepts according to their necessities for the common good, drawing them ever nearer unto the truth from the truth. 37 Yea, God hath

indeed inspired *Me*— 38 If ye love God, then follow Me in this sacred creed, which is, in very truth, *the true path of devotion* unto the Creator of all. 39 Yea, verily, the Lord your God hath declared, in very truth, that I am to be *exceedingly merciful* unto the faithful devoted servants amongst the people of the Gate, in accordance with the truth. 40 God is truly exalted above that which the wrongdoers *arrogantly and boastfully assert* concerning the Verses of the Gate. 41 Say: the Command of God hath come, be not hasty concerning it. Yea, verily, the Command of God is, in accordance with the truth, *near at hand*. 42 Yea, verily, the Promise of God hath been *fulfilled*, in very truth.

## 10. Súratu'l-'Ammá, Surah of the Divine Cloud (2) comprising forty-two Verses In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Execute Joseph or exile him to some distant land, that perhaps the eminence of your father may be wholly yours, and ye shall be a righteous people after him. Alif Lám Mím Ghain. 3 The Most Great Remembrance of God is consummated through the praiseworthy mention of Our Most Exalted Servant. 4 Glorified be He Who hath revealed His Verses through that Book, in accordance with whatsoever He hath willed, for He, God, is ever *Powerful* over all things. 5 Thy will is naught but what We Will, for God is ever a Witness of all things. 6 Yea, verily, have We bestowed Our blessing upon Joseph and His brethren through these clear Verses, from the magnificent Mystery of that Most Mighty Gate. 7 Wherefore they said, Conceal the Sign of Joseph, Whom God hath placed amongst you, that ye may be, as befitteth the truth, a dutiful contingent throughout the earth, or Exile him unto a respective land, that perhaps the eminence of your father may be wholly yours, and that perchance ye might become, after him, a righteous people throughout the realm, upheld by the Concealed Mystery. 8 Verily, He is the One Who hath appeared as one of you within your midst, though We have indeed fashioned him, as befitteth the truth, into a benevolent man. 9 Yea, verily, We have produced the heavens and the earth as Signs for Our devoted servants, for God hath ever been a Witness of all things. 10 Erelong shall God disclose unto you His mighty Verses, through the Seat of Confirmation, in accordance with the truth, from Our very Presence. 11 Yea, verily, We have revealed the Verses found within all the Sacred Scriptures, for God is, in accordance with the truth, ever Knowledgeable of His Verses and of the Remembrance. 12 Yea, verily, We have shown you the Verses of God, throughout the horizons and within your own selves, that ye may bear witness that He is indeed the True One, and that God hath established the Pathway for those who are, in the estimation of their Lord, accountable at the Gate, in very truth. 13 Yea, verily, God hath revealed this Book unto Our Devoted Servant, that He might serve by Our leave, in accordance with the truth, as a Witness over all the worlds. 14 Yea, verily, We have gathered together and enumerated within this Book all that God hath revealed unto the Prophets and Righteous Ones within every Tablet, in accordance with the truth. 15 Yea, verily, We have cast Our judgment against you, for ye have cast off a single Letter from the Book of God regarding the mysteriously Veiled Mystery. 16 Indeed, the people have distorted the truth of what hath preceded Us in a certain way through their reverence unto the Most Gracious, though God hath ever been a Witness, as befitteth the truth, of all things. 17 Erelong shall We present Our Devoted Servant, veiled within a cloud of Light, unto you who await the True Remembrance of God, morning and evening. 18 These are whom God hath rendered discerning within His Pure Faith and steadfast upon the Most Upright Path. 19 Amongst the people are those who say, We believe in God and in His Most Great Remembrance, yet God is ever Aware of His devoted servants. 20 Indeed, they have renounced God with their tongues after having been certain within themselves. Yet God hath well known what is within their own souls, Ye have renounced God, the Most Exalted, once more. 21 Erelong shall the Fire surround them, and We shall incinerate them nearby in the Valley of Infernal Hell-Fire, by the leave of God, the Most Exalted. 22 Verily, this is your recompense from God, for ye have been hypocritical concerning the Most Upright Faith of God, and God hath ever been a Witness of that which ye do. 23 O people! Have not the tidings of those who came before you reached you? Were ye not forewarned about the severe retribution of the Most Gracious, in accordance with the truth? 24 Did God not promise you a Garden, vast as the expanse of heaven and earth? A promise for any of Our devoted servants who remain faithful unto the Most Exalted Remembrance of God. 25 And who, by the very essence the truth, seek to be virtuous. 26 For within it ye shall have whatsoever ye will for your selves, by Our leave, in accordance with the truth, and limitless prosperity from the divine Favor. 27 Glorified be God—He besides Whom there is none other God except Him—He is the Lord, and there is nothing like unto Him, for God is, by the very essence of the truth, One worthy of true devotion. 28 Yea, verily, We have forewarned you, by the leave of God, concerning a Remembrance of which ye unfairly deprive yourselves. 29 O people! Turn with sincere devotion unto the True Remembrance of God, as a humble supplicant before the Gate, fervently turning unto the One True God. 30 I swear by the Lord of heaven! God hath allocated your provision, by the very essence of the truth, through this visible, celestial empyrean. 31 What is the matter with you that ye do not withdraw from your passions, after this most magnificent truth hath come unto you from God, the Most Exalted? 32 He Who hath indeed rendered the sun to be a luminous blaze and the moon an emanating light, that perchance ye may seek through His Grace the chattels of true enjoyment in life, in accordance with the truth. 33 Yet God hath reserved the Home in the time to come for those who yearn after God and His

Devoted Servant, who remain upon the upraised, illuminated Path, *extended* around the Threshold of the Fire. 34 Know, O devoted servants of God, that the Lord your God hath indeed delivered His Proof unto you, as if ye were *observant* of God and His Verses. 35 These are the faithful ones, those who do yearn for no *endearment* for themselves, save from the Most Gracious and His Remembrance, in accordance with the truth. 36 Verily, the Mystery of Glory hath *wondrously* appeared unto you from God, both publicly and privily, solely for the eminence of the Cause. 37 Erelong shall God instruct you, through His Command, that which none from before, in accordance with the truth, hath ever been made *aware*. 38 He is indeed the One Who hath sent down *Sacred Water* from heaven- 39 To be upon the earth as *a cleansing force*. 40 And He is indeed the One Who created *a mortal* from that Water— 41 Then He established *lineal descent*. 42 And, in accordance with the truth, *enjoined patience*.

## 11. Súratu'l -Musațțar ~ Súrah of the Parallel, comprising forty-two Verses In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

An orator amongst them said, "Do not execute Joseph, but cast him into a deep chasm, that perchance some travellers shall find him. If ye must take action." Tá Há 'Ain. 3 All praise belongeth unto God, Who hath created the heavens and the earth, in accordance with the truth, in perfect harmony. 4 That perchance humanity may know that their Lord, the Most Gracious, is indeed the True One. For He, God, is ever Powerful over all things, 5 He is the One Who hath created you from dust, then formed you into a drop of fluid, then a clinging clot, then fashioned you into another form. So blessed be God, the Most Auspicious and Astute of designers, 6 He is indeed the One Who hath safeguarded you within three shades of darkness and withdrew you from the womb of your mothers, yet ye possess naught, not even a smidgeon, of the Knowledge of the Book. 7 Therefore, turn ye unto your Creator and sacrifice yourselves in the Path of the One True God, wholly resigned unto God, the Most Exalted. For He, God, is ever Mighty, One worthy of praise. 8 He is indeed the One Who hath revealed unto you these Verses from Himself, in very truth, as Glad Tidings unto the multitude of the faithful. 9 He, God, is the One worthy of devotion, in very truth—there is none other God except Him—and He, God, is ever Knowledgeable of all things. 10 He is the One Who bringeth unto you of the Glad Tidings of the Name of His Devoted Servant, in accordance with the truth, for He is indeed, within the Mother Book in the Presence of God, Sublime—and, as befitteth the truth, full of Wisdom. 11 He is the One for Whom God hath never, by the mystery of His Name, appointed one to bear that Name before Him, in accordance with the truth. 12 For God hath indeed sent serenity upon Him during the day of His birth, the day of His being called forth, and the day of His gathering upon the land of the inner heart, amidst the Fire, as a consecration, by the very essence of the truth. 13 That is the Mystery of mysteries presented from the Originator-He besides Whom there is none other God except Him, the Most Exalted-for God is ever Powerful over all things. 14 Yea, verily, God hath declared the Command through the Gate by His Own Power, for the Decree within the Mother Book hath been fulfilled around the Fire. 15 Yea, verily, We have appointed Thee as the Sign of Supreme Majesty by the leave of the One True God, for God is ever a Witness over all things. 16 Verily, Thou art, in very truth, a Testament unto the Grand Announcement before the Fire. 17 Yea, verily, We have impeded you from the Remembrance of the Gate by the leave of your Lord, the One True God, for the sighing that ye have unjustly caused. 18 The Day in which the heavens shall be enclosed within Our grasp, the Cause shall be concluded, in very truth, and the Fire set ablaze by the leave of the One True God, for God is ever *Powerful* over all things. 19 Then shall ye recognize Our Cause and realize that ye were helplessly far removed from it. 20 The Day that the faithful shall rejoice, by the leave of God, the Most Exalted, is swiftly approaching. 21 Erelong shall the faithful rejoice amongst the company of the Báb through the spirit which God hath granted unto them, for the spirit is truly delightful within the Mother Book, encircling the Threshold of the Fire. 22 Yea, verily, God hath suspended the Bridge for you this Day across the land, spanning the embankment of the Fire, at the Appointed Time. 23 When it was said, an orator amongst the brethren of Joseph, it referred unto Hasan, son of 'Alí, Who is, within the Mother Book, profoundly influential by virtue of the Primordial Flame around the Fire. 24 Do not kill Joseph, but throw Him into a deep chasm, forsaken, secluded away, within the vicinity of the Fire. 25 God hath intended by the 'Chasm' the Cloud of Concealment in the atmosphere of the Concealed Mystery, enshrouding the Mystery within the Mother Book, delineated through the inscribed parallel. 26 The people do not grasp what the brothers of Joseph have done for the sake of God, the Most Exalted, but Joseph remaineth, as befitteth the truth, a Witness unto the Truth. 27 Yea, verily, God hath provided a vessel for Joseph to sojourn from Gate to Gate, in accordance with the enigmatic Precept of the Book, around the Fire. 28 Yea, verily, God hath appointed the visitors of Husayn to be that vessel journeying unto the Sacred Sanctuary, by the leave of God, the Most Exalted, for God is, and hath ever been, Mighty, Wise. 29 Verily, those who travel through the Gate unto God, secluded within the Chasm, are, in accordance with the truth, united as one around the Gate. 30 These have discovered Husayn as the Letter concealed by the One True God, a Testament found within the obscurity of the Chasm. 31 These are they who have been referred to as the wayfarers of the Mystery within the Mother Book, by the Remembrance, inscribed in the midst of the Fire, by the very essence of the truth. 32 Yea, verily, God fashioned Joseph and His brethren within the realms of holiness, through a sprinkle upon a Name, from the essence of creativity, derived from that life-generating Water. 33 As We discerned the affection from within Joseph for the Most Great Remembrance, We did clothe Him, by the leave of God, with the mantle of Prophethood, from the great fortune that hath been ordained for Him within the Mother Book, in the midst the Fire 34 Yea, verily, We are not, in very truth, far removed from all the worlds. 35 Yea, verily, We relate unto the devoted servants a Cause which the people, in very truth, have forsaken. 36 God hath indeed conceived this Most Great Word for your Day. 37 This, by the very essence of the truth, is the Most Unique Narrator from God. 38 But because the people have not sincere faith in God and in His Verses, We preserved Him, concealed within the obscurity of the Chasm, secluded away from the vicinity of the Fire. 39 God hath ordained that some from amongst your cavalcade shall retain Him. 40 Those who are within the Mother Book, in accordance with the truth, first to respond and utter praises at the Gate, nigh unto the Water. 41 That is the Decree from God, in very truth, upon all of creation, and it is the unalterable

by the very essence of the t	ruth, remain <i>patient</i> at that G	ate.		
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## 12. Súratu'l-'Áshúrá ~ Súrah of Atonement, comprising forty-two Verses In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

They said, "O our father, what aileth thee that thou trustest us not with Joseph, while verily We desire naught but his good!" Kaf Sín Nún. 3 The Most Exalted Remembrance of God, Who hath been inscribed within the Mother Book, is, in very truth, speaking forth a Testimony in the midst of the Fire. 4 God hath indeed revealed unto Me, I am the One True God-there is none other God besides Me-I have decreed that the Grace of the Remembrance be as My Grace upon all the worlds. 5 Yea, verily, We have prepared many gardens for those that have faith, by the leave of God, from amongst the myriads of gardens within the land of Ridván, surrounding the Sacred House within the realm of the hereafter. 6 And verily, We have indeed prepared Hellfire for those that reject faith through the Decree of the Book, in accordance with the comprehensive Decree of the Book. 7 I swear by your One True Lord, We have transformed the bodies of the unfaithful into other forms, a transformation deep within the Ark, at the very depths of the Fire, by the leave of God, the Ancient. 8 A recompense for what their hands have earned, as they have been unfaithful towards God, the Most Exalted, and His Verses, in the presence of the Gate. 9 Have ye had faith in aught beside the return of yourselves unto the Divine Self of God, the Most Exalted, by the very essence of the truth? 10 Yea, verily, God hath clarified His Verses for the dwellers of the earth and the heavens alike, as befitteth the truth, through all who are gathered in the presence of the Báb. 11 None have true faith in God or His Verses, save a remnant from the foremost of the faithful amongst the people of the Báb. 12 Most of the people were amongst the rebellious toward their True Lord, in accordance with the irrevocable Statute of the Book, by the leave of God. 13 None have true, sincere faith in God or His Remembrance, save a small remnant of the former contingent. 14 Yea, verily, We have appointed Thee to be a mighty support for the devoted servants and a secure barrier for the town, in accordance with the truth, by the leave of God, the Ancient. 15 I swear by the One True God! Not a single man or woman from amongst the faithful shall follow Thee, save whoso is bound—in sanctity and with due reverence—by the Covenant of God, and Our Covenant, in very truth, concerning the Most Pure Faith, as befitteth the truth. 16 God—He besides Whom there is none other God except Him-entrust Thy willpower unto God, for He is indeed the True One, and He is ever Powerful over all things. 17 Verily, He is the True One—there is none other God except Him—the almighty Possessor of Grandeur and August Might. 18 Yea, verily, God presented Our Guardianship unto the heavens, the earth, and the mountains, but they refused to bear the burden of it and were apprehensive of it. Yet humanity bore its burden-the Most Great Remembrance of God, this 'Ali. 19 Thus was He inscribed within the Preserved Book of God, bearing the all-encompassing Name, the Oppressed. 20 Amongst the people, there are those who, not knowing one Statue of the Book from another, deem Him ignorant. 21 Yea, verily, God hath clarified His Mystery between the parallel lines, within the Point of the Fire, and none may recall it save whoso came unto God, the Praiseworthy, yearning for the divine Remembrance at the Threshold the Gate, for God hath ever been a Witness over all things. 22 He is the One Who hath originated Thy True Self as the manifestation of Our Grandeur, in accordance with the Knowledge of the Book, through the irrevocable Decree of the Book. 23 Yea, verlily, We have appointed Thee within the Mother Book in the Presence of God, the Most Exalted, as One full of Wisdom. 24 Yea, verily, God hath appointed Thee to be the manifestation of Our Likeness, as befitteth the truth, without any indication or limitation, for God is ever Powerful over all things. 25 Yea, verily, God hath concealed the Mystery of His Devoted Servant within the Fulcrum of the Fire of this Book, in accordance with what God hath foreordained by the Knowledge of the Unseen concerning His Concealed Mystery, inscribed through the parallel encircling the Veil. 26 Erelong the Most Gracious shall reward you for concealing Our Cause, in accordance with the truth, with a magnificent reward. 27 Wherefore, the brothers of Joseph spoke unto their Father concerning the Most Great Testimony, What aileth thee, that thou dost not instruct us about the knowledge of Joseph? Verily, We are Witnesses of God, the Self-Subsisting, for God is a Witness of all things. 28 Yea, verily, God hath appointed Us Witness over Husayn, through the Mystery of Divine Oneness, concealed around the Fire. 29 Yea, verily, God hath expressed the Most Exalted Decree within that Verse and informed His progeny about the Decree of Divine Oneness, veiled within the Clouds of the Divine Identity, concealed within the Mystery of the Eternal Throne, illuminating from the Lights of Eternity above the Decree of 'a Time without beginning or end, inscribed in parallel to the Water. 30 The people did indeed reject faith in God following the arrival of Husayn in the land of Taff, as He conveyed the Message of God, the Ancient, from the station of absolute abstraction from His Own Self, for God is ever Knowledgeable of all things. 31

They did indeed turn the people away from the reward of the Twain Gardens from God, cursed be the apostacy of Satan. 32 The king of the devils followed their incredulity without justification, denouncing the One True God, while God is ever Mighty, Praiseworthy. 33 God—He besides Whom there is none other God except Him—He is the Authenticator of Prophetic Narrations, confirmed by the grateful Tongue of the Báb, by the very essence of the truth. 34 Erelong We will, in very truth, torment such as waged war against Husayn, in the Land of the Euphrates, with the most afflictive torment, and the direct and most exemplary punishment. 35 What aileth you, O soldiers of Satan? Did not the True One approach you, majestically upon His steed on the Day of Ashúrá, after valiantly conveying unto you, in accordance with the truth, the Most Great Cause of God, from His very own Self? 36 Did He not seek water for Himself, as befitteth the truth, and His youngest infant child, in very truth, humbled upon the earth, dutifully submissive unto the Magnificent Cause of God? 37 O people of duplicity! Is there not amongst you any soul who feareth God for their own sake, who seeketh for even a drop of water, on the verge of exhaustion, in accordance with the truth, for the sake of the One True God, for even the smallest amount? 38 God knoweth the heart of Ḥusayn, and He quenched His burning thirst for the sake of His diligence towards God, the Ancient One, for God is indeed, in very truth, a Witness unto Him. 39 By the One True God! We discovered His heart burning hotter that day than a piece of iron heated by the Ancient Fire, and God Himself beareth no testimony for His Own Self, except as the Testimony of His Own Self. Therefore, be prepared, for God, the Most Exalted, hath indeed taken firm hold of the Truth, in very truth, in the land of the Blazing Fire. 40 God hath annihilated the people who executed Him with extreme pain, proportionate to the degree of their injustice. What then awaiteth these indulgent ones and ourselves? 41 Erelong shall We show them, in the Land of Ingathering, the Most Great Power of God within Us, in very truth, for We have decreed against them the Most Great Fire of Truth—persistent, enduring, and everlasting. 42 The True One hath spoken, in very truth, I shall indeed fill Infernal Hell with them, as a recompense for what they have earned, according to the measure of the One True God. Never we shall We lift the decree of punishment from them, not even for the slightest manner—it shall endure for all eternity, a truth uttered by the One True God—not even for a matter as insignificant as a tiny speck.

A Provisional Translation by Brad Crawford

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Quoted (PDC - Shoghi Effendi)