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Ali Yunis Aldahesh

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QUR'ĀNIC SURAHS' NAMES: A STUDY ON THEIR ORIGIN AND MULTIPLICITY

Ali Yunis Aldahesh*

Abstract: The titles given to the 114 Qur'ānic surahs have sparked profound debate. There is no consensus among exegetes and translators regarding issues pertinent to this thorny topic. In particular, they vary in opinion as to the origin and multiplicity of surahs' names. This article investigates those opinions. The main objective is to identify significant insights that may help enhance understanding of this vital aspect of the Muslim scripture. The article highlights the term 'surah' is Qur'ān-specific, which may overlap, in a number of its features, the scholastic term 'chapter,' yet it should not necessarily be considered or translated as such. The article argues, traditionally speaking, most Qur'ānic surahs have multiple names. However, not all these names are *tawqifī* (indicated by the Prophet) nor *ijtihādī* (derived through reasoning). That is to say, at least one title given to a surah with multiple names is *tawqifī*, while the others are *ijtihādī*. The study ends with a comprehensive table showing the names allocated to the 114 Qur'ānic surahs along with notes on their origin.

Keywords: *Qur'ān, origin of surah names, multiplicity of surah names, tawqifī, ijtihādī, 'surah' etymology*

INTRODUCTION

The Qur'ān, from a Muslim's perspective, is the word of God revealed to Prophet Muhammad through angel Jabrā'īl or Jibrīl (Gabriel). It is, for them, the Prophetic miracle with which people throughout ages are challenged to imitate. For most non-Muslims, however, the Qur'ān is a linguistic masterpiece, which exhibits an exalted level of eloquence of the Arabic language.

Historically, the Qur'ānic verses were revealed to Prophet Muhammad progressively on different occasions over 23 years. On each occasion, the Prophet would ask his companions to write down the newly revealed Qur'ānic verses and allocate them to different Qur'ānic portions, known in Arabic as surahs, regardless of the chronological order of their revelation.¹

The Qur'ān comprises a corpus of 114 surahs, which vary in length from the shortest at three verses (*Sūrat al-Kawthar*, The Abundance)² to 286 verses (*Sūrat al-Baqarah*, The

* Dr Ali Yunis Aldahesh is a lecturer in Arabic language, literature and culture at the University of Sydney.

¹ Mūnīrah al-Dūsārī, *Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā* (Saudi Arabia: Dār Ibn al-Jawzī, 2005).

² Qur'ān, 108.

Cow)³. A Qur'ānic verse (*āyah*) may comprise several lines and a quantity of sentences, or it may be only one word. Qur'ānic verses typically end with a rhyme.⁴

Except for *Sūrat al-Tawbah* (The Repentance),⁵ each Qur'ānic surah begins with the verse *Bismillāhi al-Rahmāni al-Rahīm* (in the name of God, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy),⁶ which is usually referred to as *al-Basmalah*. *Al-Basmalah*, however, appears twice in *Sūrat al-Naml* (The Ants).⁷ The first is at the beginning of the surah and the second time is at verse 30.

Scholars have different views as to the first and last Qur'ānic surahs revealed to Prophet Muhammad. Some believe the first surah was *Sūrat al-'Alaq* (The Germ Cell).⁸ Others indicate it was *Sūrat al-Muddaththir* (The One Wrapped Up).⁹ Regarding the last surah revealed to Prophet Muhammad, there are up to 10 different opinions, the most popular of which states it was *Sūrat al-Naṣr* (The Succour).¹⁰

The names given to the 114 Qur'ānic surahs have sparked profound debate in the history of Muslim scholarship and with Orientalists. This article investigates those opinions as to the origin and multiplicity of surahs' names. The article highlights the term 'surah' is Qur'ān-specific, which may overlap, in a number of its features, with the scholastic term 'chapter,' yet it is not necessarily to be considered or translated as such. The article argues, traditionally speaking, most Qur'ānic surahs have multiple names. However, not all names are *tawqīfī* (indicated by the Prophet) nor *ijtihādī* (derived through reasoning). That is to say, at least one of the titles given to a surah with multiple names is *tawqīfī*, while the others are *ijtihādī*. The appendix of this study is a table showing the names allocated to the 114 Qur'ānic surahs along with notes on their origin.

THE TERM 'SURAH' AND ITS ETYMOLOGY

The Qur'ānic term *surah* has been defined by scholars in various distinct ways. One definition is that it is a piece of the Qur'ān consisting of at least three *āyāt* (verses) and comprising an opening and closing.¹¹ Other definitions include a portion of revelation given to Prophet Muhammad¹² or "a literary unit of undetermined length within the Qur'ān, often

³ Qur'ān, 2.

⁴ Muhammad Abdel Haleem, *The Qur'ān: English Translation and Parallel Arabic Text* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010).

⁵ Qur'ān, 9.

⁶ Abdel Haleem, *The Qur'ān*.

⁷ Qur'ān, 27.

⁸ Qur'ān, 96.

⁹ Qur'ān, 74.

¹⁰ Qur'ān, 110. Cf. Jārullāh Al-Zamakhsharī, *Al-Kashshāf 'an Haqā'iq Ghawāmiḍ al-Tanzīl wa 'Uyūn al-'Aqāwīl fī Wujūh al-T'wīl* (Riyadh: Maktabat Al-'Ubaykān, 1998); Hussien Abdul-Raof, *Qur'ān Translation: Discourse, Texture and Exegesis*. (UK: Curzon, 2001); Jalāluddīn Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūmi al-Qur'ān* (Beirut: Al-Maktabah Al-'Aṣriyah, 1997).

¹¹ Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūmi al-Qur'ān*.

¹² Arthur Jeffery, *The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur'ān* (Baroda: Oriental Institute, 1938); Neal Robinson, *Discovering the Qur'ān: A Contemporary Approach to a Veiled Text* (UK: SCM Press, 2003).

translated as ‘chapter.’”¹³ The Arabic term *surah* occurs in the Qur’ān ten times: nine in its singular form and once in its plural form, *sūwar*.¹⁴

Etymologically speaking, Muslim and non-Muslim scholars have different opinions as to the origin of the term *surah* and it is seen as “difficult to trace.”¹⁵ Some believe it is derived from the verb *sāra* meaning to climb a wall; therefore, it has something to do with the Arabic term *sūr* meaning a fence, town wall or enclosure.¹⁶ This leads to the meaning that each Qur’ānic *surah* is

made up of a number of [*āyāt*] ‘structures, or commonly known as verses’ where each [*āyah*] is like a brick that is part of the ‘wall’. It can also mean ‘fortification’ and ‘protection’ for Prophet Muhammad and the Qur’ān revealed to him for each *surah* is regarded as a ‘miracle’. Therefore. Each [*surah*] is like a ‘city wall’ for protection.¹⁷

Other scholars, however, maintain the term *surah* derives from the verb *sa`ira*, ‘to be left over’.¹⁸ For these scholars, *surahs* are pieces of the Qur’ān, which indicates “what is left when it is divided up.”¹⁹ Others, who favour of the former notion, differ regarding the core idea of whether the term is that of ‘surrounding’ or ‘elevation.’²⁰ Some of them understand a *surah* as “surrounding the varieties of knowledge which it contains rather like a wall enclosing a city.”²¹ Others focus on the “elevation of the reader, who is raised to one level of knowledge and dignity after another as he reads through the Qur’ān *surah* by *surah*.”²² Other scholars argue *surah* means *manzilah* (an astronomical *statio*).²³

With such diverse possibilities of meaning, one could conclude the origin of the term *surah* is still unresolved not only among Muslim lexicographers and Qur’ānic commentators, but also among non-Muslim Orientalists.

Some Orientalists consider non-Arabic origins and argue the most accepted view is the term *surah* derives from the Hebrew *shūrah*, which is used in the Mishnah to refer to ‘row,’

¹³ Angelika Neuwirth, “Sūra(s),” *Encyclopaedia of the Qur’ān* (Leiden-Boston: Brill, 2006), 166.

¹⁴ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*; Farid Esack, *The Qur’ān: A User’s Guide* (Oxford, UK: Oneworld, 2005).

¹⁵ Neuwirth, “Sūra(s),” 167.

¹⁶ Abu al-Qāsim al-Hasan Ibn Muḥammad Al-Aṣḥānī, *Al-Mufradāt fī Gharīb al-Qur’ān*. (Beirut: Dar al-Ma`rifah, n.d.; Muhammad Al-Ṭabarī, *Jāmi’ al-Bayān ‘An Ta`wīli ‘Āi al-Qur’ān* (Egypt: Dār Hajar, 2001); Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*; Jeffery, *The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur’ān*; Esack, *The Qur’ān*; Al-Dūsarī, *‘Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*; Kecia Ali and Oliver Leaman, *Islam: The Key Concepts* (London and New York: Routledge, 2008); Abdul-Raof, *Qur’ān Translation*.

¹⁷ Abdul-Raof, *Qur’ān Translation*, 65.

¹⁸ Al-Aṣḥānī, *Al-Mufradāt fī Gharīb al-Qur’ān*; Al-Ṭabarī, *Jāmi’ al-Bayān ‘An Ta`wīli ‘Āi al-Qur’ān*; Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*; Jeffery, *The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur’ān*; Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*.

¹⁹ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*, 256.

²⁰ Al-Aṣḥānī, *Al-Mufradāt fī Gharīb al-Qur’ān*; Al-Ṭabarī, *Jāmi’ al-Bayān ‘An Ta`wīli ‘Āi al-Qur’ān*; Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*; Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*.

²¹ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*, 256; cf. Al-Aṣḥānī, *Al-Mufradāt fī Gharīb al-Qur’ān*; al-Ṭabarī, 2001; Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*.

²² Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*, 256; cf. Al-Aṣḥānī, *Al-Mufradāt fī Gharīb al-Qur’ān*; Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*.

²³ Al-Dūsarī, *‘Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*.

‘rank,’ ‘line’ and ‘file.’²⁴ It is “from this the sense of a series of passages, or chapters, may perhaps be deduced, but it is rather forced. Besides, it hardly gives the sense in which the word is used in the Qur’ān itself.”²⁵ Others believe the term *surah* derives from the Syriac *sūrta*, which implies the sense of ‘writing,’ ‘text of scripture’ and even ‘the scriptures.’²⁶ Along these lines, Jeffery points out this Syriac term “occurs in a sense very like our English *lines*.”²⁷ Bell, however, suggests

The laws which govern the interchangeable of consonants in Arabic and Syriac are against that derivation, but in Syriac itself the spelling of the word varies to *sūrtha*, and even *sūtha*; and in any case, the words directly borrowed, these philological laws do not necessarily hold.²⁸

Neuwirth rightly concludes “None of these etymologies ... is totally convincing. In Arabic, the word makes its first appearance in the Qur’ān itself.”²⁹

This being said, it is often the case that contemporary scholars in the fields of Qur’ānic studies and translation deal with *surahs* as ‘chapters.’³⁰ Therefore, according to them, the names of the Qur’ānic *surahs* play the role of chapter headings and function as a guide to their content. This notion is rightly considered to be “a misconception among non-specialists”³¹ and “an unhelpful designation.”³² The word *surah* is a Qur’ān-specific word and translating it as ‘chapter’ is likely “to invite confusion.”³³ The same holds true even in such cases as *Sūrat al-Nisā’* (The Women),³⁴ where the name provides some indication of the *surah*’s content; thus, the name cannot be deemed as equivalent to a ‘chapter heading’ as the *surah* contains themes other than the main topic of legislation concerning women. Further, some significant legislation concerning women appears in other *surahs*, such as *Sūrat al-Baqarah* (The Cow)³⁵ and *Sūrat al-Nūr* (The Light)³⁶ without the word ‘women’ appearing in the name.

There are, however, some scholars who are more flexible in their application of the term *surah*. They hold it is used in the Qur’ān to denote the significance of ‘chapter’ and ‘a unit of

²⁴ Jeffery, *The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur’ān*; Bell, *Introduction to the Qur’ān*; Neuwirth, “Sūra(s).”

²⁵ Richard Bell, *Introduction to the Qur’ān* (UK: Edinburgh University Press, 1953), 51-52.

²⁶ Jeffery, *The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur’ān*; Bell, *Introduction to the Qur’ān*.

²⁷ Jeffery, *The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur’ān*, 182.

²⁸ Bell, *Introduction to the Qur’ān*, 52.

²⁹ Neuwirth, “Sūra(s),” 167.

³⁰ See for example: George Sale, *The Koran* (New York: Garland Publishing, 1984); Edward Henry Palmer, *The Qur’ān* (New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1970); Bell, *Introduction to the Qur’ān*; Hanna Kassis, *A Concordance of the Qur’ān* (Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press, 1983); Abdul-Raof, *Qur’ān Translation*; Esack, *The Qur’ān*; Laleh Bakhtiar, *Concordance of the Sublime Qur’ān* (Chicago: Library of Islam, 2011).

³¹ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*.

³² Muhammad Abdel Haleem, *Understanding the Qur’ān: Themes and Style* (London and New York: I.B. Tauris Publishers, 2002), 6.

³³ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*.

³⁴ Qur’ān, 4.

³⁵ Qur’ān, 2.

³⁶ Qur’ān, 24; cf. Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*.

revelation.³⁷ In *Sūrat al-Nūr* (The Light),³⁸ for instance, the term *surah* denotes a unit of revelation:

*Sūratun anzalnāhā wa farāḍnāhā wa anzalnā fī-hā āyātin byynātin la'allakum tadhakkārūn.*³⁹

(This is) a *Sūrah* which We have sent down, and which We have enjoined, (ordained its laws); and in it We have revealed manifest *Ayāt* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations – lawful and unlawful things, and set boundaries of Islamic Religion), that you may remember.⁴⁰

However, in *Sūrat Yūnus* (Jonah),⁴¹ the term *surah* denotes a complete chapter:

*Am yaqūlūna iftarāhu qul fa-'tu bi-sūratin mithlihi wa id'ū man istaṭa'tum min duni illāhi in kuntum ṣādiqīn.*⁴²

Or do they say: “He (Muhammad) has forged it?” Say: “Bring then a *Sūrah* (chapter) like unto it, and call upon whomsoever you can besides Allāh, if you are truthful!”⁴³

Importantly, most Qur'ān translators have mistakenly translated the term *surah* as chapter throughout their translations. See, for instance, the translations of Sale,⁴⁴ Palmer,⁴⁵ Zafrullah Khan,⁴⁶ Arberry,⁴⁷ Shakir,⁴⁸ and Bakhtiar.⁴⁹

The difference between the concepts of *surah* and chapter was made clear in the 18th century by Shāh Walī-Allāh of Delhi, who compared Qur'ānic *surahs* with epistles and indicated:

the Qur'ān should not be thought of as a book arranged in chapters and dealing with its subject systematically, but rather as a collection of epistles by a king, each written for his subjects according to the requirements of the situation.⁵⁰

Considering all these arguments, the term *surah* is Qur'ān-specific; therefore, the Arabic term *surah* should be retained when translating the Qur'ān into other languages.

³⁷ Esack, *The Qur'ān*.

³⁸ Qur'ān, 24.

³⁹ Qur'ān, 24:1.

⁴⁰ Muhammad Taqī-ul Dīn Al-Hilālī, and Muhammad Muhsin Khān, *Translation of the Meaning of the Noble Qur'ān in the English Language* (Madinah: King Fahd Complex for the Printing of the Holy Qur'ān, 1996, 466).

⁴¹ Qur'ān, 10.

⁴² Qur'ān, 10:38.

⁴³ Al-Hilālī and Khān, *Translation of the Meaning of the Noble Qur'ān*, 275-276; cf. Esack, *The Qur'ān*, 59.

⁴⁴ Sale, *The Koran*.

⁴⁵ Palmer, *The Qur'ān*.

⁴⁶ Muhammad Zafrullah Khan, *The Qur'ān: The Eternal Revelation Vouchsafed to Muhammad the Seal of the Prophets* (London and Dublin: Curzon Press, 1971).

⁴⁷ Arthur John Arberry, *The Koran Interpreted* (London: George Allan & Unwin Ltd., 1955).

⁴⁸ Muhammad Habib Shakir, *The Qur'ān: Translation* (Elmhurst: Tahrike Tarsile Qur'ān, Inc., 2011).

⁴⁹ Laleh Bakhtiar, *The Sublime Qur'ān: English Translation* (Chicago: Kazi Publications, 2012).

⁵⁰ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur'ān*.

THE NAMES OF THE QUR'ĀNIC SURAHS

Each Qur'ānic surah has a specific name allocated to it with which it is distinguished from other surahs. These names are sometimes referred to by researchers as 'headings'⁵¹ or 'titles.'⁵² It is common, however, for some Qur'ānic surahs to have more than one name. The main function of these names is "as convenient labels for identifying the surahs and for distinguishing them from one another."⁵³ Oriental scholars usually refer to the Qur'ānic surahs by these names; as opposed to the numbering system normally used by Western scholars.⁵⁴

A close look at these names and the Qur'ānic surahs for which they are allocated reveals no pattern underlining the process of naming the Qur'ānic surahs.⁵⁵ The surahs' names are by no means "abbreviations of the content but 'catchwords', taking up a particular lexeme from the text."⁵⁶

In their attempt to account for the issue of patterns underlining the process of naming the Qur'ānic surahs and elaborate on the relationship between the surahs and their given names, scholars have come up with different views.

The majority of the Qur'ānic surahs are named after a unique word that stands out at the beginning of each surah.⁵⁷ For example, *Sūrat al-Qamar* (The Moon)⁵⁸ is named after a keyword that occurs in the first *āyah*; *Sūrat al-Raḥmān* (The Beneficent)⁵⁹ is named after the first *āyah* in its entirety; and *Sūrat al-Balad* (The City)⁶⁰ is named after the last word of the first *āyah*.⁶¹

However, this is not always the case. *Sūrat al-Naḥl* (The Bees),⁶² for instance, is titled after a word that is not mentioned until *āyah* 68. However, this is only surah in which these insects are mentioned in the Qur'ān. Another example is *Sūrat al-Shu'arā'* (The Poets),⁶³ which is titled after a word that is not mentioned until *āyah* 224 at the end of that surah. Similarly, this is the only surah in which poets are mentioned in the entire Qur'ān.⁶⁴

A number of the Qur'ānic surahs are named after *al-ḥurūf al-muqatta'ah* – 'detached, mysterious letters' – that occur at the beginning of those surahs.⁶⁵ Examples of this kind

⁵¹ Bell, *Introduction to the Qur'ān*.

⁵² Abdel Haleem, *Understanding the Qur'ān: Themes and Style*.

⁵³ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur'ān: A Contemporary Approach to a Veiled Text*, p. 258.

⁵⁴ Bell, *Introduction to the Qur'ān*.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ Neuwirth, *Encyclopaedia of the Qur'ān*, p. 166.

⁵⁷ Bell, *Introduction to the Qur'ān*; Robinson, *Discovering the Qur'ān*; Esack, *The Qur'ān*; Neuwirth, "Sūra(s)"; Ali, and Leaman, *Islam*; Abdel Haleem, *The Qur'ān*.

⁵⁸ Qur'ān, 54.

⁵⁹ Qur'ān, 55.

⁶⁰ Qur'ān, 90.

⁶¹ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur'ān*.

⁶² Qur'ān, 16.

⁶³ Qur'ān, 26.

⁶⁴ Bell, *Introduction to the Qur'ān*.

⁶⁵ Esack, *The Qur'ān*; Neuwirth, "Sūra(s)"; Ali, and Leaman, *Islam*.

include *Sūrat Ṣād*⁶⁶ and *Sūrat Qāf*.⁶⁷ In other instances, the surahs are named after a word that is rare in the Qur'ān as a whole; for example, *Sūrat al-Baqara* (The Cow)⁶⁸ and *Sūrat 'Abasa* (He Frowned).⁶⁹

Qur'ānic surahs' names, in a few instances, are allocated based on the theme or important event covered. In other words, these names provide some indication of the surahs' content, for example *Sūrat al-Nisā'* (The Women)⁷⁰ and *Sūrat Yūsuf* (Joseph)⁷¹

Interestingly, in their book *Min Dilālāt 'Asmā' al-Sūwari Fī al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* (On Semantic Aspects of the Qur'ānic Surahs' Names), Wādī and Muhannā⁷² provide a thought-provoking table in which they categorise the Qur'ānic surahs' names thematically. They identify 25 themes and list surahs under each theme. Under the theme *Asmā' Allah al-Ḥusná* 'The Divine Names of Allah,' for instance, they list: *Sūrat Ghāfir*,⁷³ *Sūrat Fāṭir*,⁷⁴ *Sūrat al-Nūr*,⁷⁵ *Sūrat al-Raḥmān*⁷⁶ and *Sūrat al-A'lá*.⁷⁷ Under the theme *Qabā'il Wa 'Umam* 'Tribes and Nations,' they list: *Sūrat Saba'*,⁷⁸ *Sūrat Quraysh*⁷⁹ and *Sūrat al-Rūm*.⁸⁰

MULTIPLICITY OF THE QUR'ĀNIC SURAHS' NAMES

The minority of Qur'ānic surahs have only one name with which they are known, such as: *Sūrat al-Nisā'* (The Women),⁸¹ *Sūrat Hūd* (Hud),⁸² *Sūrat Nūḥ* (Noah),⁸³ *Sūrat al-Ḥadīd* (The Iron),⁸⁴ *Sūrat Yūsuf* (Joseph)⁸⁵ and *Sūrat al-Fūrqān* (The Criterion)⁸⁶ among others.⁸⁷

However, it is not unusual to see a Qur'ānic surah with two, three or even more than 20 names.⁸⁸ The majority of Qur'ānic surahs have multiple names assigned. In his book *al-*

⁶⁶ Qur'ān, 38.

⁶⁷ Qur'ān, 50.

⁶⁸ Qur'ān, 2.

⁶⁹ Qur'ān, 80. See: Robinson, *Discovering the Qur'ān*; Neuwirth, "Sūra(s)"; Abdel Haleem, *The Qur'ān*.

⁷⁰ Qur'ān, 4.

⁷¹ Qur'ān, 12. See: Abdel Haleem, *Understanding the Qur'ān*; Robinson, *Discovering the Qur'ān*; Neuwirth, "Sūra(s)"; Abdel Haleem, *The Qur'ān*.

⁷² 'Isā Wādī, and Mahmoud Muhannā, *Min Dilālāt 'Asmā' al-Sūwar fī al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* (Jordan: Radwan Publisher, 2012).

⁷³ Qur'ān, 40.

⁷⁴ Qur'ān, 35.

⁷⁵ Qur'ān, 24.

⁷⁶ Qur'ān, 55.

⁷⁷ Qur'ān, 87.

⁷⁸ Qur'ān, 34.

⁷⁹ Qur'ān, 106.

⁸⁰ Qur'ān, 30.

⁸¹ Qur'ān, 4.

⁸² Qur'ān, 11.

⁸³ Qur'ān, 71.

⁸⁴ Qur'ān, 57.

⁸⁵ Qur'ān, 12.

⁸⁶ Qur'ān, 25.

⁸⁷ Al-Dūsarī, *'Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā*.

⁸⁸ Badrudīn Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān* (Beirut: Al-Maktabah Al-'Aṣriyah, 1972); Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*; al-Dūsarī, *'Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā*.

Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān, al-Zarkashī elaborates on the surahs with multiple names. He lists the following surahs to illustrate those with two names:

- *Sūrat al-Baqara* 'The Cow'⁸⁹ is said to be known as: *fustāt al-Qur'ān* 'the Canopy of the Qur'ān' on account of its magnitude (*'uẓm*) and splendour (*bahā*).⁹⁰
- *Sūrat Āli 'Imrān* 'The Family of Imran'⁹¹ is also called *Tayyibah* 'Goodness,' which is its name in the Torah as narrated by al-Naqqāsh.⁹²
- *Sūrat al-Nahl* 'The Bees'⁹³ is also named the surah of *Ni'am* 'Blessings' on account of the numerous blessings God sent down upon his servants mentioned within it.⁹⁴
- *Sūrat Hā' Mīm 'Ayn Sīn Qāf*⁹⁵ is also named *Sūrat al-Shūrā* 'Consultation.'⁹⁶
- *Sūrat al-Jāthiyah* 'The Kneeling'⁹⁷ is also named *al-Sharī'ah* 'The Law.'⁹⁸
- *Sūrat Muḥammad*⁹⁹ is also named *al-Qitāl* 'The Fighting.'¹⁰⁰

To illustrate the Qur'ānic surahs that are called by three names, al-Zarkashī lists:

- *Sūrat al-Mā'idah* 'The Table Spread with Food,'¹⁰¹ which is also known as *al-'Uqūd* 'The Contracts' and *al-Munqidhah* 'The Saviour'. The latter is supported by a *ḥadīth* 'narration' transmitted by Ibn 'Aṭīyya in which the Prophet said: "*Sūrat al-Mā'idah* is called *Malakūt Allāh* 'The Saviour in the Kingdom of God'; it saves its *ṣāhib* 'owner, reciter' from the hands of the angels of punishment." This narration is also transmitted by al-Qurtubī in his *tafsīr*.¹⁰²
- *Sūrat Ghāfir* 'The Forgiver'¹⁰³, which is also known as *al-Ṭūr* 'The Mount' and *al-Mu'min* 'The Believer,' as one of its verses reads: *Wa qāla rajulun mu'minun min āli Fir'awn yaktumu imānahu*¹⁰⁴ – "And a believing man of Fir'awn's (Pharaoh) family, who hid his faith said."¹⁰⁵

For surahs with more than three names al-Zarkashī lists:

- *Sūrat Barā'ah* 'Disassociation'¹⁰⁶ is also known as *al-Tawbah* 'Repentance,' *al-Fāḍiḥa* 'Dishonourable' and *al-Ḥāfirah* 'The Digger' on account that it excavated the hypocrite's hearts. In addition, Ḥudhayfā indicates it is called *Sūrat al-'Adhāb* 'The

⁸⁹ Qur'ān, 2.

⁹⁰ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

⁹¹ Qur'ān, 3.

⁹² Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

⁹³ Qur'ān, 16.

⁹⁴ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

⁹⁵ Qur'ān, 42.

⁹⁶ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

⁹⁷ Qur'ān, 45.

⁹⁸ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

⁹⁹ Qur'ān, 47.

¹⁰⁰ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

¹⁰¹ Qur'ān, 5.

¹⁰² Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

¹⁰³ Qur'ān, 40.

¹⁰⁴ Qur'ān, 40:28.

¹⁰⁵ Al-Hilālī and Khān, *Translation of the Meaning of the Noble Qur'ān*, 634; see also: Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*, 1:269.

¹⁰⁶ Qur'ān, 9.

Torment.’ While Ibn ‘Umar points out it is called *al-Muqashqishah* ‘The Healer from Polytheism and Hypocrisy.’ al-Ḥārith ibn Yazīd says it is called *al-Muba‘thirah* ‘The Scatterer.’ Further, it is called *al-Musawwirah* ‘The Encloser’ and *al-Buḥūth* ‘The Digger.’¹⁰⁷

Similarly, more than 20 names have been given to *Sūrat al-Fātiḥah* ‘The Opening,’¹⁰⁸ among them: *Al-Fātiḥah* ‘The Opening,’ which is established in the Ṣaḥīḥayn (the books of al-Bukhārī and Muslim); *Umm al-Kitāb* ‘Mother of the Book’ and *Umm al-Qur’ān* ‘Mother of the Qur’ān,’ which are established in Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim; *al-Sab‘u al-Mathānī* ‘The Seven Repeated Verses’ and *al-Ṣalāh* ‘The Prayer,’ which are established in Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim; *al-Ḥamd* ‘The Praise,’ as narrated by al-Dāraquṭnī. It is also named *al-Mathānī* ‘The Repeated’ because it is recited twice in prayer or because it was revealed twice. The name *al-Wāfiyah* ‘The Complete/Perfect’ is due to the fact its division in prayer is not permissible. Because its meanings comprise the entire Qur’ān, it is named *al-Shāfiyah* ‘The Healer,’ *al-Shifā* ‘The Cure,’ *al-Kāfiyah* ‘The Sufficient’ and *al-Asās* ‘The Foundation.’¹⁰⁹

Furthermore, in his book *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*, al-Suyūṭī lists 25 names for *Sūrat al-Fātiḥah* and considers this as “a proof of its nobility.”¹¹⁰ In addition to the names listed by al-Zarkhashī, al-Suyūṭī lists another ten names for *Sūrat al-Fātiḥah*.¹¹¹

More examples of surahs that have multiple names are: *Sūrat al-Isrā’* ‘The Night Journey’¹¹² also called *Banī Isrā’īl* ‘The Children of Israel’; *Sūrat Fāṭir* ‘The Originator’¹¹³ also called *al-Malā’ikah* ‘Angels’; and *Sūrat Fuṣṣilat* ‘Explained in Detail’¹¹⁴ also called *al-Sajdah* ‘The Prostration’ and *al-Maṣābīḥ* ‘The Lamps.’ For more detail on surahs’ names, see the detailed table appended to this article.

This being said, different Qur’ānic surahs may have a single name according to *al-ḥurūf al-muqaṭṭa‘a* ‘the disconnected letters’ at the beginning of each surah, such as: *Alif Lām Mīm* or *Alif, Lām, Rā’*, according to the saying the openings of these surahs are their names¹¹⁵ or *Alif Lām al-Baqara*, *Alif Lām Āli Omrān*, and *Ḥā’ Mīm Fuṣṣilat*.¹¹⁶

¹⁰⁷ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*, 1:269.

¹⁰⁸ Qur’ān, 1.

¹⁰⁹ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*, 1:269-270.

¹¹⁰ Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*, 1:15.

¹¹¹ They are: *Fātiḥat al-Qur’ān* ‘The Opening of the Qur’ān’, *Al-Qur’ān al-‘Azīm* ‘The Glorious Qur’ān’, *al-Kanz* ‘The Treasure’, *al-Nūr* ‘The Light’, *al-Shukr* ‘The Surah of Gratitude’, *Sūrat al-Ḥamd al-Ūlá* ‘The First Surah of Praise’, *Sūrat al-Ḥamd al-Quṣrā* ‘The Short Surah of Praise’, *al-Ruqyah* ‘The Incantation’, *al-Du‘ā* ‘The Supplication’, *al-Su‘āl* ‘The Questioning’, *Ta’līm al-Mas’alah* ‘The Surah of Teaching the Issue’, *al-Munājāh* ‘The Surah of Conversing’, and *al-Tafwīd* ‘The Entrustment’. Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*, 151-155.

¹¹² Qur’ān, 17.

¹¹³ Qur’ān, 35.

¹¹⁴ Qur’ān, 41.

¹¹⁵ Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*.

¹¹⁶ Muhammad Shahbah, *Al-Madkhal lidirāsāt al-Qur’ān al-Karīm* [Introduction to Study the Glorious Qur’ān] (Saudi Arabia: Dār al-liwā’, 1987); Al-Dūsarī, *‘Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*.

Crucially, a group of surahs may be given a generic name.¹¹⁷ For example, *Sūrat al-Tawbah* ‘Repentance,’¹¹⁸ *Sūrat al-Kāfirūn* ‘The Disbelievers,’¹¹⁹ *Sūrat al-Falaq* ‘The Dawn’¹²⁰ and *Sūrat al-Nās* ‘The Mankind’¹²¹ are collectively known as *Muqashshah* ‘The Healer from Polytheism and Hypocrisy.’ Another example is *Sūrat al-Baqarah* ‘The Cow’¹²² and *Sūrat Āli ‘Imrān* ‘The Family of Imran’¹²³ are collectively called *al-Zahrāwān* ‘The Two Shining Surahs.’¹²⁴

ORIGIN OF THE QUR’ĀNIC SURAHS’ NAMES

It is more telling to know there has been growing debate among researchers about the origin of the Qur’ānic surahs’ names. Many Muslim scholars are of the opinion that these names are *tawqīfī*; that is, they are determined by God and revealed to Prophet Muhammad through angel Jabrā’īl or Jibrīl ‘Gabriel.’¹²⁵ Other scholars, however, believe the Qur’ānic surahs’ names are *ijtihādī*, derived through human reasoning. Al-Suyūṭī reports the names of the surahs were established from prophetic traditions and narrations.¹²⁶ Therefore, the notion of *tawqīfī* generally incorporates what is reported not only from the Prophet, but also from the companions who witnessed *al-wahy* ‘the revelation’ and its *tanzīl* ‘descent.’¹²⁷ The names used by the companions were approved by the Prophet or at the very least they were not disapproved by him.

Along these lines, al-Zarkashī, states research into the issue of the Qur’ānic surahs’ names’ multiplicity should consider whether it is *tawqīfī* by God through the Prophet or according to what becomes apparent *min al-munāsabāt* (from the events). The latter entails it is possible for an individual to infer several names for a single surah, which is unlikely.¹²⁸ What al-Zarkashī means though is, when the surahs were revealed and discussed by the companions, they may have given them names as an ordinary course of time and used these names when discussing and memorising them. They may have felt free to do so as there was no prohibition by the Prophet. Some of the multiple names may have originated this way.

Nevertheless, given the number of *aḥādīth* in which the Prophet refers to particular surahs by their names, it has been taken for granted that these names are *tawqīfī* due to Muslims’

¹¹⁷ Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*.

¹¹⁸ Qur’ān, 9.

¹¹⁹ Qur’ān, 109.

¹²⁰ Qur’ān, 113.

¹²¹ Qur’ān, 114.

¹²² Qur’ān, 2.

¹²³ Qur’ān, 3.

¹²⁴ Al-Dūsarī, ‘*Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*.

¹²⁵ Al-Ṭabarī, *Jāmi‘ al-Bayān ‘An Ta’wīli ‘Āi al-Qur’ān*; Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*; Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*; Bassam Jarrar, *Min ‘Asrār al-‘Asmā’ Fī al-Qur’ān al-Karīm* (Palestine: Noon Centre for Qur’ānic Studies, 2003); Shahbah, *Al-Madkhal lidirāsāt al-Qur’ān al-Karīm*; Al-Dūsarī, ‘*Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*; Wādī, and Muhannā, *Min Dilālāt ‘Asmā’ al-Sūwar Fī al-Qur’ān al-Karīm*.

¹²⁶ Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*, 1: 150.

¹²⁷ Shahbah, *Al-Madkhal lidirāsāt al-Qur’ān al-Karīm*, 325.

¹²⁸ Al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī ‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān*, 1:270.

belief that “Nor does he [the Prophet] speak of (his own) desire. It is only a Revelation revealed.”¹²⁹

In their endeavour to support their stance, scholars who have the opinion that the surahs’ names are *tawqīfī* heavily rely on a corpus of prophetic and other reports where a number of surahs are referred to by the Prophet and/or his companions with particular names. As the reports are numerous, I have mentioned only five:

In an authentic Hadith recorded by al-Tirmidhī, who graded it Sahih, Abu Hurayrah said that the Messenger of Allah said, ... (al-Hamdu li-Allāhi Rabbi al-‘Alāmīn is the Mother of the Qur’an, the Mother of the Book, and the seven repeated āyāt of the Glorious Qur’an).¹³⁰

Narrated Abū Umāmah al-Bāhilī: I heard the Prophet saying: Recite *al-Zahrāwayn* ‘The Two Shining Surahs’ *Sūrat al-Baqarah* and *Sūrat Āli ‘Imrān* ...”¹³¹

Narrated Abu al-Dardā’: The Prophet said: Whoever memorizes the first ten verses of *Sūrat al-Kahf* ‘The Cave’ will be safeguarded from *al-dajjāl* ‘the Antichrist.’”¹³²

Narrated Anas: The Prophet said: Everything has a heart and the heart of the Qur’ān is *Sūrat Yasīn* ...”¹³³

Narrated Ibn ‘Abbās: Abu Bakr said to the Prophet: You became a grey-haired? The Prophet said: *Sūrat Hūd* ‘Hud’, *Sūrat al-Wāqī‘ah* ‘The Inevitable’, *Sūrat al-Mursalāt* ‘Those Sent Forth’, *Sūrat ‘amma Yatasā’lūn* ‘What are they asking one another?’, and *Sūrat idhā al-Shamsu Kuwwirat* ‘When the Sun wound around’ have grey-haired me.¹³⁴

On the contrary, Ṣubḥī al-Ṣāliḥ (d. 1986) indicates there is no strong evidence to prove the names of the Qur’ānic surahs are *tawqīfī*.¹³⁵ By the same token, Robinson points out “Although they are hallowed by tradition and may have originated in the time of the Prophet, they are not actually part of the Qur’ān.”¹³⁶ To support the assumption that these names do not belong to the Qur’ān proper, but “have been introduced by later scholars and editors for convenience of reference,” Bell asserts “Sometimes the surah has two such titles, both being still in use; for example, [Qur’ān, 9, 40 and 41]; and we find reference in early Islamic literature to a few other titles in use at one time but later dropped.”¹³⁷

¹²⁹ Al-Hilālī and Khān, *Translation of the Meaning of the Noble Qur’ān*, 717; see also: Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān*; Esack, *The Qur’ān*.

¹³⁰ Ismail U. Ibn Kathir, *Tafsir Ibn Kathir*, abridged (Riyadh, Houston, New York, Lahore: Darussalam Publishers & Distributers, 2003), 1:41-43.

¹³¹ Recorded by Muslim, cited in Al-Dūsarī, ‘*Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*, 74, my translation.

¹³² Recorded by Muslim, cited in Al-Dūsarī, ‘*Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*, 74, my translation.

¹³³ Recorded by al-Tirmidhī, cited in Al-Dūsarī, ‘*Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*, 74-75, my translation.

¹³⁴ Recorded by al-Tirmidhī, cited in Al-Dūsarī, ‘*Asmā’ Sūwar al-Qur’ān Wa Faḍā’iluhā*, 75, my translation.

¹³⁵ Ṣubḥī Al-Ṣāliḥ, *Mabāḥith fī ‘Ulūmi al-Qur’ān* (Beirut: Dār al-‘Ilmi Lilmelāyīn, 1977), 97.

¹³⁶ Robinson, *Discovering the Qur’ān*, 257.

¹³⁷ Bell, *Introduction to the Qur’ān*, 52.

Like the researchers who strike balance between these two extremes,¹³⁸ it is plausible to believe each Qur'ānic surah has one *tawqīfī* name as a minimum. In other words, the Qur'ānic surahs with multiple names have one *tawqīfī* name allocated, while the others are *ijtihādī* names used by the companions or other early Muslims. The main reason behind assuming this stance is the fact the reports narrated in support of the names given to the Qur'ānic surahs are carefully examined to gain the status of authenticity.¹³⁹ This is substantiated by the various narratives indicating the angel Jabrā'īl would teach the Prophet the Qur'ān and specify the places of the surahs. The Prophet, in turn, would ask his companions to place those revealed verses in certain places of the Qur'ānic surahs, referring to those surahs by name.¹⁴⁰ It is highly unlikely any surah was neglected in this meticulous process.

Finally, the companions of the Prophet did not write the names of the Qur'ānic surahs when they compiled their copies of the Qur'ān. The names of the surahs were first added by *al-tābi'ūn* (the following generation) in early copies of the Qur'ān. In this respect, it is reported that Ḥudhayfah named *Sūrat al-Tawbah* (The Repentance) as *al-Fāḍiḥah* (Dishonourable) while Sufyan b. 'Uyaynah named *Sūrat al-Fātiḥah* (The Opening) as *al-Wāfiyah* (The Complete/Perfect) and Yaḥyá b. Abi Kathīr named it *al-Kāfiyah* (The Sufficient).¹⁴¹

CONCLUSION

The term 'surah' refers to a unit of the Qur'ān made of up at least three verses and as many as 286. Although the closest English equivalence of the term is the scholastic term 'chapter,' it differs from it in many distinctive characteristics that make surah stand out as a Qur'ān-specific term. Hence, the Arabic term surah was retained throughout this study and translators of the Qur'ān are recommended to do the same.

The Qur'ān comprises 114 surahs of different length, each of which has at least one name. In terms of the Qur'ānic surahs' names' multiplicity, the majority have more than one name. Some of these names are *tawqīfī* and others are *ijtihādī*. Yet, scholars have varying opinions as to which names are *tawqīfī* and which are *ijtihādī*. The study argued at least one of the titles allocated to a Qur'ānic surah with multiple names is *tawqīfī* and the others are *ijtihādī*.

¹³⁸ Al-Dūsarī, 'Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā; Wādī, and Muḥannā, *Min Dilālāt 'Asmā' al-Sūwar fī al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*.

¹³⁹ Al-Dūsarī, 'Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā; Wādī, and Muḥannā, *Min Dilālāt 'Asmā' al-Sūwar fī al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*.

¹⁴⁰ Al-Dūsarī, 'Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā; Wādī, and Muḥannā, *Min Dilālāt 'Asmā' al-Sūwar fī al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*.

¹⁴¹ See: Al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūmi al-Qur'ān*; Al-Dūsarī, 'Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā; Wādī, and Muḥannā, *Min Dilālāt 'Asmā' al-Sūwar fī al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*.

APPENDIX: NAMES ALLOCATED TO THE QUR'ĀNIC SURAHS WITH NOTES ON THEIR NAMING ORIGIN

This summary table is based on materials collected from various sources.¹⁴²

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
1	<i>Sūrat al-Fātiḥah</i> 'The Opening'; <i>Umm al-Kitāb</i> 'Mother of the Book'; <i>Umm al-Qur'ān</i> 'Mother of the Qur'ān'; <i>al-Sab' al-Mathānī</i> 'The Seven Repeated Verses'; <i>al-Ṣalāh</i> 'The Prayer'; <i>al-Ḥamd</i> 'The Praise'; <i>Mathānī</i> 'The Repeated'; <i>al-Wāfiyah</i> 'The Complete/Perfect'; <i>al-Shāfiyah</i> 'The Healing'; <i>al-Shifā'</i> 'The Cure'; <i>al-Kāfiyah</i> 'The Sufficient'; <i>al-Asās</i> 'The Foundation'; <i>Fātiḥat al-Qur'ān</i> 'The Opening of the Qur'ān'; <i>al-Qur'ān al-'Aẓīm</i> 'The Mighty Qur'ān'; <i>al-Kanz</i> 'The Treasure'; <i>al-Nūr</i> 'The Light'; <i>al-Shukr</i> 'The Surah of Gratitude'; <i>Sūrat al-Ḥamd al-Ūlā</i> 'The First Surah of Praise'; <i>Sūrat al-Ḥamd al-Quṣrā</i> 'The Short Surah of Praise'; <i>al-Ruqyah</i> 'The Incantation'; <i>al-Du'ā'</i> 'The Supplication'; <i>al-Su'āl</i> 'The Questioning'; <i>Ta'lim al-Mas'alah</i> 'The Surah of Teaching the Issue'; <i>al-Munājāh</i> 'The Surah of Conversing'; <i>al-Tafwīd</i> 'The Entrustment'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Fātiḥah</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
2	<i>Sūrat al-Baqara</i> 'The Cow'; <i>fusṭāṭ al-Qur'ān</i> 'The Canopy of the Qur'ān'; <i>sinām al-Qur'ān</i> 'The Hump of the Qur'ān'; <i>al-Zahrā'</i> 'The Shining'	<i>Sūrat al-Baqara</i> and <i>al-Zahrā'</i> are <i>tawqifī</i> names. The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
3	<i>Sūrat Āli 'Imrān</i> 'The Family of Imran'; <i>al-Kanz</i> 'The Treasure', <i>al-'Amān</i> 'The Security'; <i>Ṭayyiba</i> 'Goodness'; <i>al-Mujādalah</i> 'The Argument'; <i>al-'istighfār</i> 'Asking Forgiveness'; <i>al-mu'inah</i> 'The Assistant'; <i>al-Zahrā'</i> 'The Shining'	<i>Sūrat Āli 'Imrān</i> and <i>al-Zahrā'</i> are <i>tawqifī</i> names. The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
4	<i>Sūrat al-Nisā'</i> 'The Women'; <i>al-Ṭulā'</i> 'The Long'; <i>al-Kubrā'</i> 'The Biggest'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Nisā'</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
5	<i>Sūrat al-Mā'idah</i> 'The Table Spread'; <i>al-'Uqūd</i> 'The Contracts'; <i>al-Munqidhah</i> 'The Rescuer'; <i>al-'Aḥbār</i> 'The Rabbis'; <i>Malakūt Allāh</i> 'The Kingdom of God'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Mā'idah</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .

¹⁴² al-Zamakhsharī, *Al-Kashshāf 'an Haqā'iq Ghawāmiḍ al-Tanzīl wa 'Uyūn al-'Aqāwīl fī Wujūi al-T'wīl*; al-Zarkashī, *Al-Burhān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān*; al-Suyūṭī, *Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūmi al-Qur'ān*; al-Dūsarī, *'Asmā' Sūwar al-Qur'ān Wa Faḍā'iluhā*; Wādī and Muhannā, *Min Dilālāt 'Asmā' al-Sūwar fī al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*.

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
6	<i>Sūrat al-An‘ām</i> ‘The Livestock’	<i>Sūrat al-An‘ām</i> is the <i>tawqifī</i> name. There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
7	<i>Sūrat al-A‘rāf</i> ‘The Heights’	<i>Sūrat al-A‘rāf</i> is the <i>tawqifī</i> name. There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
8	<i>Sūrat al-Anfāl</i> ‘The Spoils of War’; <i>Badr</i> ‘The Battle of Badr’; <i>al-Jihād</i> ‘The Holy War’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Anfāl</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
9	<i>Sūrat al-Taubah</i> ‘The Repentance’; <i>Barā‘ah</i> ‘Disassociation’; <i>al-Fāḍiḥah</i> ‘Dishonourable’; <i>al-Ḥāfirah</i> ‘The Digger’; <i>al-‘Adhāb</i> ‘Torment’; <i>al-Muqashqishah</i> ‘The Healer from Polytheism and Hypocrisy’; <i>al-Muba‘thirah</i> ‘The Scatter’; <i>al-Musawwirah</i> ‘The One which Encloses’; <i>al-Munaqqirah</i> ‘The Digger’; <i>al-Muthīrah</i> ‘The Exciting’; <i>al-Munakkilah</i> ‘The Punisher’; <i>al-Musharriḍah</i> ‘The Startler’; <i>al-Mudamdimah</i> ‘The Murmurers’; <i>al-Baḥūth</i> ‘The Searcher’	<i>Sūrat al-Taubah</i> and <i>Barā‘ah</i> are the only <i>tawqifī</i> names. The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
10	<i>Sūrat Yunus</i> ‘Jonah’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
11	<i>Sūrat Hūd</i> ‘Hud’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
12	<i>Sūrat Yūsuf</i> ‘Joseph’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
13	<i>Sūrat al-Ra‘d</i> ‘The Thunder’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
14	<i>Sūrat Ibrāhīm</i> ‘Abraham’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
15	<i>Sūrat al-Hijr</i> ‘The Rock City’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
16	<i>Sūrat al-Naḥl</i> ‘The Bee’; <i>al-Ni‘am</i> ‘Blessings’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Naḥl</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
17	<i>Sūrat al-Isrā‘</i> ‘The Night Journey’; <i>Subḥān</i> ‘Glorified’; <i>Banī Isrā‘īl</i> ‘The Children of Israel’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Isrā‘</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
18	<i>Sūrat al-Kahf</i> ‘The Cave’; <i>Ashābu al-Kahf</i> ‘The People of the Cave’; <i>al-Ḥā‘ilah</i> ‘The Barrier’	<i>Sūrat al-Kahf</i> and <i>Ashābu al-Kahf</i> are both <i>tawqifī</i> names. The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
19	<i>Sūrat Maryam</i> ‘Mary’; <i>Kāf Hā‘ Yā‘</i> ‘Ayn Ṣād	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat</i>

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
		<i>Maryam</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
20	<i>Sūrat Ṭāhā</i> ‘Ta-Ha’; <i>al-Kalim</i> ‘The Interlocutor’; <i>Mūsá</i> ‘Moses’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Ṭāhā</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
21	<i>Sūrat al-Anbiyā</i> ‘The Prophets’; <i>Iqtaraba</i> ‘It Draws Near’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Anbiyā</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
22	<i>Sūrat al-Ḥaj</i> ‘The Pilgrimage’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
23	<i>Sūrat al-Mu‘minūn</i> ‘The Believers’; <i>Qad aflaḥa</i> ‘Successful Indeed’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Fāṭir</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
24	<i>Sūrat al-Nūr</i> ‘The Light’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
25	<i>Sūrat al-Furqān</i> ‘The Criterion’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
26	<i>Sūrat al-Shu‘arā</i> ‘The Poets’; <i>al-Jāmi‘ah</i> ‘The Comprehensive’; <i>Ṭā’ Sīn Mīm</i> ; <i>Ṭā’ Sīn Mīm al-Shu‘arā</i>	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Shu‘arā</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
27	<i>Sūrat al-Naml</i> ‘The Ants’; <i>Sulaiman</i> ‘Solomon’; <i>al-Hudhud</i> ‘The Hoopoe’; <i>Ṭā’ Sīn</i>	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Naml</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
28	<i>Sūrat al-Qaṣaṣ</i> ‘The Stories’; <i>Musa</i> ‘Moses’; <i>Ṭā’ Sīn Mīm</i>	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Qaṣaṣ</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
29	<i>Sūrat al-Ankabūt</i> ‘The Spider’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
30	<i>Sūrat al-Rūm</i> ‘The Romans’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
31	<i>Sūrat al-Lūqmān</i> ‘Luqman’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . there is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
32	<i>Sūrat al-Sajdah</i> ‘The Prostration’; <i>al-Maḍāji</i> ‘The Beds’; <i>al-Munjiyah</i> ‘The Rescuer’; <i>Sajdat Luqmān</i> ‘Luqman’s Prostration’; <i>Alif Lām Mīm Tanzil</i> ; <i>Alif Lām Mīm Tanzil al-Sajdah</i>	There are three <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah <i>Sūrat al-Sajdah</i> , <i>Alif Lām Mīm Tanzil</i> , and <i>Alif Lām Mīm Tanzil al-Sajdah</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
33	<i>Sūrat al-Aḥzāb</i> ‘The Coalition’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
34	<i>Sūrat Saba</i> ‘Sheba’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
35	<i>Sūrat Fāṭir</i> ‘The Originator’; <i>al-Malā’ikah</i> ‘The Angels’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Fāṭir</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
36	<i>Sūrat Yāsīn</i> ‘Ya-Seen’; <i>Qalb al-Qur’ān</i> ‘The Heart of the Qur’ān’; <i>al-Mu’immah</i> ‘The Generaliser’; <i>al-Mudāfi’ah</i> ‘The Defender’; <i>al-Qāḍiyah</i> ‘The Abolisher’; <i>al-‘Azimah ‘inda Allāh</i> ‘The Great for God’; <i>Ḥabīb al-Najjār</i> ‘Habib al-Najjar’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Yāsīn</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
37	<i>Sūrat al-Ṣāfāt</i> ‘Those Who Set the Ranks’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
38	<i>Sūrat Ṣād</i> ‘The Letter Sad’; <i>Dāwūd</i> ‘David’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Ṣād</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
39	<i>Sūrat al-Zumar</i> ‘The Troops’; <i>al-Ghuraf</i> ‘The Rooms’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Zumar</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
40	<i>Sūrat Ghāfir</i> ‘The Forgiver’; <i>al-Mu’min</i> ‘The Believer’; <i>al-Ṭawl</i> ‘The Power’; <i>Ḥā’ Mīm al-Mu’min</i> ‘Ḥā’ Mīm The Believer’; <i>Ḥā’ Mīm al-Ūlá</i> ‘Ḥā’ Mīm The First	There are three <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah: <i>Sūrat Ghāfir</i> , <i>al-Mu’min</i> , and <i>Ḥā’ Mīm al-Mu’min</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
41	<i>Sūrat Fuṣṣilat</i> ‘Explained in Detail’; <i>al-Sajdah</i> ‘The Prostration’; <i>al-Maṣābīḥ</i> ‘The Lamps’; <i>Ḥā’ Mīm Sajdah</i> ; <i>Sajdat al-Mu’min</i> ‘The Believer’s Prostration’; <i>al-Aqwāt</i> ‘The Sustenance’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Fuṣṣilat</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
42	<i>Sūrat Ḥā’ Mīm ‘Ayn Sīn Qāf</i> ‘The Letters Ḥā’ Mīm ‘Ayn Sīn Qāf’; <i>Sūrat al-Shūrā</i> ‘Consultation’	Both names are <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> name for this Surah.
43	<i>Sūrat al-Zukhruf</i> ‘The Ornaments of Gold’; <i>Ḥā’ Mīm al-Zukhruf</i>	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Zukhruf</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
44	<i>Sūrat al-Dukhān</i> ‘The Smoke’; <i>Ḥā’ Mīm al-Dukhān</i>	Both names are <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> name for this Surah.
45	<i>Sūrat al-Jāthiyah</i> ‘Kneeling’; <i>al-Sharī’ah</i> ‘The Law’; <i>Ḥā’ Mīm Jāthiyah</i> ; <i>al-Dahr</i> ‘The Time’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Jāthiyah</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
46	<i>Sūrat al-Aḥqāf</i> ‘The Wind-Curved’; <i>Ḥā’ Mīm al-Aḥqāf</i>	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Aḥqāf</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
47	<i>Sūrat Muḥammad</i> ‘Muhammad’; <i>al-Qitāl</i> ‘The Fighting’; <i>al-Lathīna Kafarū</i> ‘Those Who Disbelieve’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Muḥammad</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
48	<i>Sūrat al-Faḥ</i> ‘The Conquest’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
49	<i>Sūrat al-Ḥujurāt</i> ‘The Private Apartments’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
50	<i>Sūrat Qāf</i> ‘The Letter Qaf’; <i>Qāf wal-Qur’ān al-Majid</i> ‘The Letter Qaf, By the Glorious Qur’ān’; <i>al-Basiqāt</i> ‘The Tall Date-Palms’	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-Qāf</i> and <i>Qāf wal-Qur’ān al-Majid</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
51	<i>Sūrat al-Dhāriyāt</i> ‘The Winnowing Winds’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
52	<i>Sūrat al-Ṭūr</i> ‘The Mount’; <i>Ghāfir</i> ‘The Forgiver’; <i>al-Mu’min</i> ‘The Believer’.	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ṭūr</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
53	<i>Sūrat al-Najm</i> ‘The Star’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
54	<i>Sūrat al-Qamar</i> ‘The Moon’; <i>Iqtarabat al-Sā’ah</i> ‘The Hour Has Drawn Near’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Qamar</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
55	<i>Sūrat al-Raḥmān</i> ‘The Beneficent’; <i>Arūs al-Qur’ān</i> ‘The Bride of the Qur’ān’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Raḥmān</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
56	<i>Sūrat al-Wāqī’ah</i> ‘The Inevitable’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
57	<i>Sūrat al-Ḥadīd</i> ‘The Iron’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
58	<i>Sūrat al-Mujādilah</i> ‘She who Disputes’; <i>al-Zihār</i> ‘Making Wives Unlawful’; <i>Qad Sami’a</i> ‘Indeed Allah Has Heard’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Mujādilah</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
59	<i>Sūrat al-Ḥashr</i> ‘The Exile’; <i>Bani al-Nazīr</i> ‘The Jews of the Tribe of <i>Bani al-Nazīr</i> ’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ḥashr</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
60	<i>Sūrat al-Mumtaḥanah</i> ‘She who is to be Examined’; <i>al-Imtiḥān</i> ‘The Examination’; <i>al-Mawaddah</i> ‘The Affection’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Mumtaḥanah</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
61	<i>Sūrat al-Ṣaf</i> ‘The Battle Array’; <i>al-Ḥawāriyīn</i> ‘The Disciples’; <i>Isá</i> ‘Jesus’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ṣaf</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
62	<i>Sūrat al-Jum'ah</i> 'Friday'	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
63	<i>Sūrat al-Munāfiqūn</i> 'The Hypocrites'; <i>Idhā Jā'a al-Munāfiqūn</i> 'When the Hypocrites Come'	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Munāfiqūn</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
64	<i>Sūrat al-Taghābun</i> 'The Mutual Disillusion'	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
65	<i>Sūrat al-Ṭalāq</i> 'Divorce'; <i>al-Nisā' al-Qiṣwā (al-Sughrá)</i> 'The Concise of Surah Number Four'	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ṭalāq</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
66	<i>Sūrat al-Taḥrīm</i> 'The Prohibition'; <i>al-Mutaḥarrīm</i> 'The Banned'; <i>Lima Tuḥarrīm</i> 'Why Do You Ban'; <i>al-Nabī</i> 'The Prophet'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Taḥrīm</i> . The other three names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
67	<i>Sūrat al-Mulk</i> 'The Sovereignty'; <i>Tabārak</i> 'Blessed'; <i>Tabāraka al-ladhī bi-yadihi al-Mulk</i> 'Blessed is He in Whose Hand is the Dominion'; <i>al-Munjiyah</i> 'The Rescuer'; <i>Tabāraka al-Mulk</i> 'Blessed the Dominion'; <i>al-Māni'ah</i> 'The Protector'; <i>al-Mujādilah</i> 'The Disputer'; <i>al-Wāqiyah</i> 'The Preventer'	There are four <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah: <i>Sūrat al-Mulk</i> , <i>Tabārak</i> , <i>Tabāraka al-ladhī bi-yadihi al-Mulk</i> and <i>al-Munjiyah</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
68	<i>Sūrat al-Qalam</i> 'The Pen'; <i>Nūn</i> ; <i>Nūm wal-Qalam</i>	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Qalam</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
69	<i>Sūrat al-Ḥāqqah</i> 'The Reality'; <i>al-Silsilah</i> 'The Chain'; <i>al-Wā'iyah</i> 'The Consciousness'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ḥāqqah</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
70	<i>Sūrat al-Ma'ārij</i> 'The Ascending Stairways'; <i>Sa'ala Sa'il</i> 'A Questioner Asked'; <i>al-Waqi'</i> 'The Torment About to Befall'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ma'ārij</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
71	<i>Sūrat Nūḥ</i> 'Noah'; <i>Innā Arsalnā Nūḥan</i> 'We Sent Noah'	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat Nūḥ</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
72	<i>Sūrat al-Jinn</i> 'The Jinn'; <i>Qul Uḥiya</i> 'Say: It has been Revealed to Me'	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Jinn</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
73	<i>Sūrat al-Muzzammil</i> 'The Enshrouded One'	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
74	<i>Sūrat al-Muddaththir</i> 'The Cloaked One'	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
75	<i>Sūrat al-Qiyāmah</i> 'The Resurrection'; <i>La Uqsimu</i> 'I Swear'; <i>La Uqsimu bi-yawmi-l-Qiyāmah</i> 'I Swear by the Day of Resurrection'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Qiyāmah</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
76	<i>Sūrat al-Insān</i> 'The Man'; <i>Hal Atá</i> 'Has Not	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat</i>

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
	There Been'; <i>Hal Atá 'lá al-Insān</i> 'Has Not There Been Over Man'; <i>al-Dahr</i> 'The Time'; <i>al-Abrār</i> 'The Righteous'; <i>al-Amshāj</i> 'Mixed Semen'	<i>al-Insān</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
77	<i>Sūrat al-Mursalāt</i> 'Those Sent Forth'; <i>Wa- al-Mursalāt 'Urfā</i> 'By the Winds Sent Forth One After One'; <i>al-'Urf</i> 'One After One'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Mursalāt</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
78	<i>Sūrat al-Naba</i> 'The Tiding'; <i>'Ammā Yatasā 'alūn</i> 'About what do they ask one Another'; <i>al-Tasā 'ul</i> 'The Question'; <i>al-Mu 'sirāt</i> 'The Rainy Clouds'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Naba</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
79	<i>Sūrat al-Nazī 'āt</i> 'Those That Rise'; <i>al-Sāhirah</i> 'The Awake'; <i>al-Ṭāmmah</i> 'The Calamity'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Nazī 'āt</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
80	<i>Sūrat 'Abas</i> 'He Frowned'; <i>al-Safarah</i> 'The Angels'; <i>al-Ṣākhkhah</i> 'The Piercing Call'; <i>al-A 'mā</i> 'The Blind'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat 'Abas</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
81	<i>Sūrat al-Takwīr</i> 'The Overthrowing'; <i>Idhā al-Shamsu Kuwwirat</i> 'When the Sun is Shrouded in Darkness'; <i>Kuwwirat</i> 'Shrouded in Darkness'	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-Takwīr</i> and <i>Idhā al-Shamsu Kuwwirat</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
82	<i>Sūrat al-Infiṭār</i> 'The Cleaving'; <i>Idhā al-Samā 'u Infaṭarat</i> 'When the Heaven is Cleft Asunder'; <i>Infaṭarat</i> 'Cleft Asunder'	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-Infiṭār</i> and <i>Idhā al-Samā 'u Infaṭarat</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
83	<i>Sūrat al-Muṭaffifīn</i> 'Those Who Give Short Measure'; <i>Waylun lil-Muṭaffifīn</i> 'Woe to those who give Short Measure'; <i>al-Tatfif</i> 'The Defrauding'	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Muṭaffifīn</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
84	<i>Sūrat al-Inshqāq</i> 'The Splitting'; <i>Idhā al-Samā 'u Inshaqqat</i> 'When the Heaven is Split Asunder'; <i>Inshaqqat</i> 'The Splitting'	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-Inshqāq</i> and <i>Idhā al-Samā 'u Inshaqqat</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
85	<i>Sūrat al-Burūj</i> 'The Constellations'; <i>al-Samā 'u Dhāti al-Burūj</i> 'By the Heaven, Holding the Big Stars'	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Burūj</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
86	<i>Sūrat al-Ṭāriq</i> 'The Night Comer'; <i>al-Samā 'u wa-al-Ṭāriq</i> 'The Heaven and the Night Comer'	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ṭāriq</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
87	<i>Sūrat al-A 'lá</i> 'The All-Highest'; <i>Sabbih Isma Rabbika al-A 'lá</i> 'Glorify the Name of Your Lord, The All-Highest'; <i>Sabbih</i> 'Glorify'	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-A 'lá</i> and <i>Sabbih Isma Rabbika al-A 'lá</i> . The other name is

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
		<i>ijtihādī</i> .
88	<i>Sūrat al-Ghāshiyh</i> ‘The Overwhelming Event’; <i>Hal Atāka Ḥadīthu al-Ghāshiyh</i> ‘Has There Come to you the Tiding of the Overwhelming Event?’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Ghāshiyh</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
89	<i>Sūrat al-Fajr</i> ‘The Daybreak’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
90	<i>Sūrat al-Balad</i> ‘The City’; <i>Lā Uqsimu bi-Hādhā al-Balad</i> ‘I Swear by this City’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Balad</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
91	<i>Sūrat al-Shams</i> ‘The Sun’; <i>Wa-al-Shamsi Wa-Ḍuḥaha</i> ‘And by the Sun and its Brightness’	Both names are <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
92	<i>Sūrat al-Layl</i> ‘The Night’; <i>Wa-al-Layli Idhā yaghshā</i> ‘By the Night as it Envelops’	Both names are <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
93	<i>Sūrat al-Ḍuḥā</i> ‘The Morning Hours’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
94	<i>Sūrat al-Sharḥ</i> ‘The Relief’; <i>Alam Nashrah</i> ‘Have We Not Opened Up Your Heart?’; <i>al-Inshirāḥ</i> ‘The Opening-Up’	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Sharḥ</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
95	<i>Sūrat al-Tīn</i> ‘The Fig’; <i>Wa- al-Tīni wa-al-Zaytūni</i> ‘By the Fig and the Olive’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Tīn</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
96	<i>Sūrat al-‘Alaq</i> ‘The Clot’; <i>Iqra’ Bismi Rabbika</i> ‘Read in the Name of Your Lord’; <i>Iqra’</i> ‘Read’; <i>al-Qalam</i> ‘The Pen’	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-‘Alaq</i> and <i>Iqra’ Bismi Rabbika</i> . The other two names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
97	<i>Sūrat al-Qadr</i> ‘The Destiny’; <i>Innā Anzalnāhu Fī Laylati al-Qadr</i> ‘Verily We have Sent it Down in the Night of Destiny’	The <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Qadr</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
98	<i>Sūrat al-Bayyinah</i> ‘The Evidence’; <i>Lam Yakun al-ladhīna kafarū</i> ‘It is not that such as are Bent on Denying the Truth’; <i>Ahlu al-Kitāb</i> ‘People of the Scripture’; <i>al-Qayyimah</i> ‘The Ever-True’; <i>al-Barriyyah</i> ‘The Creatures’; <i>al-Munfakkīn</i> ‘The Abandoned’	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-Bayyinah</i> and <i>Lam Yakun al-ladhīna kafarū</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
99	<i>Sūrat al-Zalzalah</i> ‘The Earthquake’; <i>Idhā Zulzilat</i> ‘When the Earth Quakes’; <i>al-Zilzāl</i> ‘The Earthquake’; <i>Zulzilat</i> ‘It Was Shaken’	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-Zalzalah</i> and <i>Idhā Zulzilat</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
100	<i>Sūrat al-‘Ādiyāt</i> ‘The Chargers’	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
101	<i>Sūrat al-Qāri'ah</i> 'The Sudden Calamity'	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
102	<i>Sūrat al-Takāthur</i> 'The Rivalry in Word Increase'; <i>Alhākumu al-Takāthur</i> 'You are Obsessed by the Rivalry in Word Increase'; <i>al-Maqbarah</i> 'The Cemetery'.	The <i>tawqifī</i> names are <i>Sūrat al-Takāthur</i> and <i>Alhākumu al-Takāthur</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
103	<i>Sūrat al-'Aṣr</i> 'The Declining Day'	This name is <i>tawqifī</i> . There is no <i>ijtihādī</i> names for this Surah.
104	<i>Sūrat al-Humazah</i> 'The Slanderer'; <i>al-Huḥamah</i> 'The Crushing Fire'; <i>Waylun li-Kulli Humazah</i> 'Woe to Every Slanderer'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Humazah</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
105	<i>Sūrat al-Fīl</i> 'The Elephant'; <i>Alam Tara Kayfa</i> 'Have You Not Seen How'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Fīl</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
106	<i>Sūrat Quraysh</i> 'Quraysh'; <i>Li-Ilāfi Quraysh</i> 'For the Timing of Quraysh'; <i>al-Ilāf</i> 'The Timing'	There are two <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah: <i>Sūrat Quraysh</i> , and <i>Li-Ilāfi Quraysh</i> . The other name is <i>ijtihādī</i> .
107	<i>Sūrat al-Mā'ūn</i> 'The Assistance'; <i>al-Dīn</i> 'The Religion'; <i>al-Takdhīb</i> 'The Denying'; <i>al-Yatīm</i> 'The Orphan'; <i>Ara'ayta al-ladhī Yukadhdhibu</i> 'Have You Seen Him Who Denies the Recompense?'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Mā'ūn</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
108	<i>Sūrat al-Kawthar</i> 'The Abundance'; <i>al-Naḥr</i> 'The Sacrifice'; <i>Innā Aṭaynāka al-Kawthar</i> 'Verily We Have Granted you the Abundance'.	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Kawthar</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
109	<i>Sūrat al-Kāfirūn</i> 'The Disbelievers'; <i>Qul Yā Ayuhā al-Kāfirūn</i> 'Say O You Disbelieve'; <i>al-Muqashshah</i> 'The Healer from Polytheism and Hypocrisy'; <i>al-'ibādah</i> 'The Worship'; <i>al-Ikhlāṣ</i> 'The Sincerity'; <i>al-Munābadhah</i> 'The Breaking Up'; <i>al-Dīn</i> 'The Religion'	There are two <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah: <i>Sūrat al-Kāfirūn</i> , and <i>Qul Yā Ayuhā al-Kāfirūn</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
110	<i>Sūrat al-Naṣr</i> 'The Succour'; <i>al-Faṭḥ</i> 'The Conquest'; <i>al-Tawdī'</i> 'The Farewell'; <i>Idhā Jā'a Naṣru Allāhi wa- al-Faṭḥ</i> 'When Comes the Help of Allah and the Conquest'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Naṣr</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
111	<i>Sūrat al-Masad</i> 'The Palm Fibre'; <i>Tabbat</i> 'Perish'; <i>Abī Lahab</i> 'Abī Lahab'; <i>al-Lahab</i> 'Blazing'; <i>Tabbat Yadā Abī Lahab</i> 'Perish the two Hands of Abī Lahab'	The only <i>tawqifī</i> name is <i>Sūrat al-Masad</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
112	<i>Sūrat al-Ikhlāṣ</i> 'The Sincerity'; <i>Qul Huwa Allāhu Aḥad</i> 'Say He is the One God'; <i>al-Asās</i>	There are two <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah: <i>Sūrat al-Ikhlāṣ</i> , and

Surah number	Given names	Origin (<i>tawqifī</i> / <i>ijtihādī</i>)
	‘The Foundation’; <i>al-Tawhīd</i> ‘The Monotheism’; <i>al-Muqashqishah</i> ‘The Thunderous’; <i>al-Ṣamad</i> ‘The Eternal’.	<i>Qul Huwa Allāhu Aḥad</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
113	<i>Sūrat al-Falaq</i> ‘The Dawn’; <i>Qul A ‘ūdhu bi-Rabbi al-Falaq</i> ‘Say I Seek Refuge with the Lord of Dawn’; <i>al-Mu ‘awidhatayn (ma ‘a Sūrat al-Nās)</i> ‘The Two Surahs of Seeking Refuge with God (with <i>Sūrat al-Nās</i>)’; <i>al-Muqashqishatān (ma ‘a Sūrat al-Nās)</i> ‘The Two Healers from Polytheism and Hypocrisy (with <i>Sūrat al-Nās</i>)’	There are three <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah: <i>Sūrat al-Falaq</i> , <i>Qul A ‘ūdhu bi-Rabbi al-Falaq</i> and <i>al-Mu ‘awidhatayn (ma ‘a Sūrat al-Nās)</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .
114	<i>Sūrat al-Nās</i> ‘The Mankind’; <i>Qul A ‘ūdhu bi-Rabbi al-Nās</i> ‘Say I Seek Refuge with the Lord of Mankind’; <i>al-Mu ‘awidhatayn (ma ‘a Sūrat al-Falaq)</i> ‘The Two Surahs of Seeking Refuge with God (with <i>Sūrat al-Falaq</i>)’; <i>al-Muqashqishatān (ma ‘a Sūrat al-Falaq)</i> ‘The Two Healers from Polytheism and Hypocrisy’ (with <i>Sūrat al-Falaq</i>)’	There are three <i>tawqifī</i> names for this Surah: <i>Sūrat al-Nās</i> , <i>Qul A ‘ūdhu bi-Rabbi al-Nās</i> and <i>al-Mu ‘awidhatayn (ma ‘a Sūrat al-Falaq)</i> . The other names are <i>ijtihādī</i> .

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