

Nur



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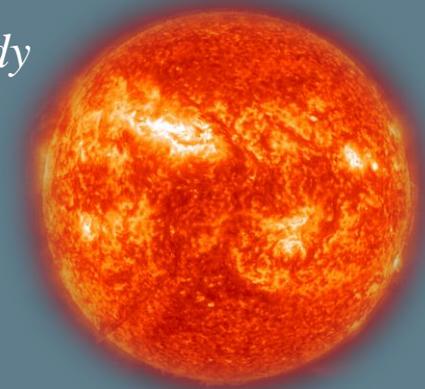
Physical Light

*What is the best example of physical **Light**?*

*The **light** of the Sun is what enables life to exist on Earth that is: plants, animals and finally humans.*

It is the source of all physical nourishment in this world.

Do human beings need spiritual nourishment because they are both body and soul?



Spiritual Light Part 1

In 5:15 the Qur'an says:

“Indeed there has come to you from Allah, a light and a Luminous book.”

In 33:45-46 it is mentioned in the Qur'an:

“O Prophet Muhammad! Verily we have sent you as witness, and a bearer of glad tidings and a warner and as one who invites to Allah by His leave and as a lamp spreading light”

*What is this **Light** which God has sent?*

*Why is the Prophet referred to as a “lamp spreading **light**”?*

*Here Allah is referring to the Prophet as a “lamp spreading **light**” which implies that for his time, he was the **Light** and the source of spiritual nourishment for humankind.*



Spiritual Light Part 2

In 9:32 the Qur'an says

“They want to extinguish Allah’s Light with their mouths, but Allah will not allow except that His Light should be perfected even though the infidels hate.”

What is the meaning of this ayat?

This Ayat categorically states that Allah’s Light cannot be extinguished. It has to be always present in every time.

*These two verses show that we need spiritual **Light** just as we need physical **Light**. In the same way combining the wisdom from this ayat with the last we can understand that the **Light** of the Prophet is inextinguishable and recognised.*

Spiritual Light Part 3



In 24:35 the Qur'an says "Light upon Light!"

Such a short and simple phrase, what wisdom does it contain?

*This means that the **Light** continues through his successors namely the unbroken chain of the **Light** of Imamat.*

*Meaning that the **Light** of the **Prophet** continues to another personality.*

- *This is like how a candle can be lit from the flame of another candle.*
- *This personality is **Hazrat Ali** (a.s), the first manifest **Imam**.*
- ***Hazrat Ali's Light** (a.s) passed into the line of Imams down to **Mawlana Shah Karim Al-Husayni**, the **Imam** of the time.*

Spiritual Light Part 4

In 24:35 the Qur'an says "**Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth.** The example of His light is like a niche within which is a lamp, the lamp is within glass, the glass as if it were a pearly [white] star lit from [the oil of] a blessed olive tree, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil would almost glow even if untouched by fire. Light upon light. Allah guides to His light whom He wills. And Allah presents examples for the people, and Allah is Knowing of all things."

The first sentence tells us that Allah is the **Light** of the heavens and the earth. In other words, there is nothing in creation which is devoid of this **Light**. This is called abstract **Light** which in arabic is called **Nur-i Mujarrad**.

Spiritual Light Part 4

In 24:35 the Qur'an says "Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth. **The example of His light is like a niche within which is a lamp, the lamp is within glass, the glass as if it were a pearly [white] star lit from [the oil of] a blessed olive tree, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil would almost glow even if untouched by fire.** Light upon light. Allah guides to His light whom He wills. And Allah presents examples for the people, and Allah is Knowing of all things."

Why did Allah use a simple lamp as this similitude?

The Sun is far away, anything going near it would be burnt. But a lamp is in every house no matter how humble AND you can light one lamp from another.

Light is also in a body i.e. lamp/misbah (See also slide 3)

The embodied Light is called Nur-i mujassam in Arabic. It is always present in the personalities of the Prophets and Imams.

Spiritual Light Part 4

*In 24:35 the Qur'an says "Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth. The example of His light is like a niche within which is a lamp, the lamp is within glass, the glass as if it were a pearly [white] star lit from [the oil of] a blessed olive tree, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil would almost glow even if untouched by fire. **Light upon light.** Allah guides to His light whom He wills. And Allah presents examples for the people, and Allah is Knowing of all things."*

*Can we use this phrase for Allah's **Light**?*

NO!

*This phrase can only be used for one Imam after another, that is, one body or **jism** after another.*

Spiritual Light Part 4

In 24:35 the Qur'an says "Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth. The example of His light is like a niche within which is a lamp, the lamp is within glass, the glass as if it were a pearly [white] star lit from [the oil of] a blessed olive tree, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil would almost glow even if untouched by fire. Light upon light. Allah guides to His light whom He wills. And Allah presents examples for the people, and Allah is Knowing of all things."

How do we understand this sentence?

*We have the **Light** of Imamat therefore we are the blessed ones whom Allah has guided to this **Light**.*

Light of the Imam

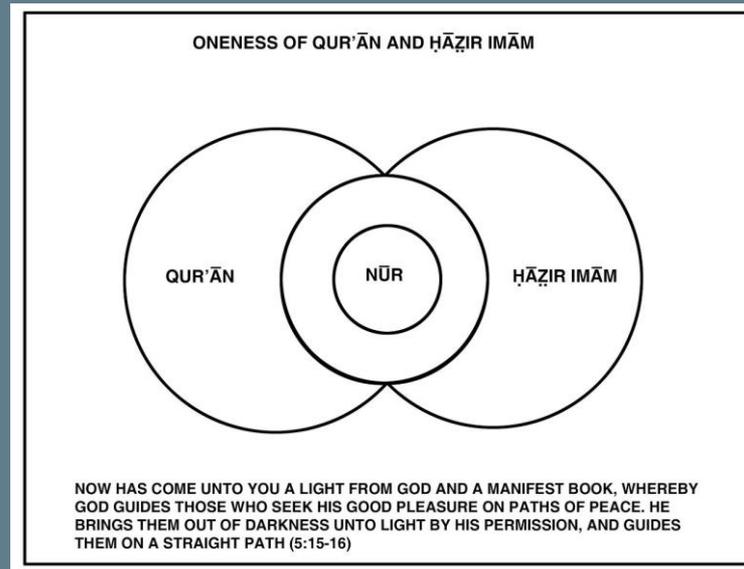
In 5:15 the Qur'an says:

"Indeed there has come to you from Allah, a light and a Luminous book."

How can we understand this with respect to our Imam?

*In our current time, this and the diagram to the right from Diagrams of Wisdom by Allamah Nasir Al-Din "Nasir" Hunzai, show that the **Light** of the Imam and the **Light** of the Qur'an are one.*

A good example of how this is possible is by thinking of a man. He can be a teacher, brother, son and husband all at once.



What does this mean for us?

In 57:12, the Qur'an says: "On the Day, you shall see the believing men and the believing women - their light running forward before them and on their right hands. Glad tidings for you this Day! Gardens under which rivers flow to dwell therein forever. Truly this is a great success!"

From this and from all of the ayats analysed in the previous slides we can understand that mu'mins can merge with this perfect and inextinguishable light.