



Qur'anic
Reflection Series

A DEEP DIVE INTO SURAH WAQI'AH

Surah Waqi'ah : A Deep Dive Through Imam Rāzī's Lens
By **Mufti Maaz Haaroon**

Additions : Modern Reflection, Lessons for Gen Z,
Rational Proofs Against Atheism And Teachings Analogy.

Dedicated To: MUSLIM UMMAH || Written By: MUFTI MAAZ HAROON

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Table of Contents

Introduction And Preface	3,
Chapter 1 – The Inevitability of the Event	4,
Chapter 2 – The Three Categories of People	6,
Chapter 3 – Portraits of the Afterlife	8,
Chapter 4 – Proofs of Resurrection Through the Signs in Nature	10,
Chapter 5 – The Qur'an's Status and Inimitability	12,
Chapter 6 – The Cosmic Oath and the Closing Wake-Up	14,
About the Author – Mufti Maaz Haroon	16,

Introduction

PAGE 3

Brief introduction of Surah
Waqi'ah and Preface

Introduction & Preface

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, and peace and blessings be upon His final Messenger, Muhammad ﷺ, his family, and his companions.

Surah Al-Waqi'ah is a chapter that shakes the heart awake. It speaks of the inevitable Event, the sorting of humanity, the vivid realities of the Hereafter, and the signs in creation that point to our return. Through the centuries, scholars have unpacked its meanings, and among the most profound voices is that of Imam Fakhr al-Din al-Razi (رحمه الله) in his monumental Tafsir al-Kabir.

This work is my humble attempt to bring Imam Razi's deep insights into conversation with the modern mind — especially the youth navigating a world of distractions, doubts, and digital noise. Each chapter blends classical tafsir with contemporary reflections, practical lessons, and rational arguments that speak to believers and seekers alike.

My prayer is that this book not only informs but transforms — that it becomes a companion for those who wish to live with the certainty of the Hereafter, to strive for excellence, and to see the signs of Allah in every corner of creation.

May Allah accept this effort, forgive its shortcomings, and make it a means of guidance for all who read it.

— Mufti Maaz Haroon

Chapter 1 –

PAGE 4

The Inevitability of the Event

Chapter 1 – The Inevitability of the Event

The Qur'an begins Surah Al-Waqi'ah with a striking certainty. Imam Rāzī draws our attentions that The surah begins by calling the Resurrection "the Event" in past tense to signal absolute certainty. It's not "if" but "when." The point is to break false confidence in any system that feels permanent and to shift the heart toward what never fails:

The surah's opening shatters the illusion of permanence in worldly systems and redirects the heart toward the only permanence that matters: standing before Allah.

- **Living with Certainty:** The Day of Judgment is more guaranteed than tomorrow's sunrise. The Qur'an speaks as if it already happened in Allah's decree. So the believer is called to live with that awareness, making each choice as though it will be read aloud in the final assembly.

Modern reflection

We insure our phones and careers, but the only “certainty policy” is preparing for the Event. Treat every choice like a recorded page in your real CV—the one you’ll present to Allah.

Lesson for Gen Z

Don’t live like life is an endless scroll. Every “story” ends — and the only one that matters is the one Allah records. Build a feed of deeds you’ll be proud to see replayed forever.

Rational Argument Against Atheism

If the universe had a beginning as the Big Bang theory affirms — it will have an end. Physics confirms entropy — everything runs down. If an end is inevitable, then the question isn’t “if” but “Who” set the start and controls the end?

Teachings Analogy

“Scheduled update” you can’t postpone—your soul’s operating system will reboot to the Hereafter.

Chapter 2 –

PAGE 6

The Three Categories of People

Chapter 2 – The Three Categories of People

Imam Razi explains that Humanity will be divided into three groups: The Foremost (as-sābiqūn), the People of the Right (ashāb al-yamīn), and the People of the Left (ashāb al-shimāl).

The Foremost come first to spark aspiration, not complacency. “Right-hand” signals acceptance and honor; “left-hand” signals rejection. Classical and contemporary summaries of the surah emphasize these three stations as the organizing core of the message.

- **Excellence Beyond Passing:** Islam isn’t just about “passing.” It invites you to excellence: sincerity, speed toward good, and consistency beyond the bare minimum.

Modern reflection

In an era of “do just enough,” the surah asks: “Are you building a right-hand record—or a foremost legacy?”

Lesson for Gen Z

Don’t settle for “bare minimum Muslim mode.” Be the one who starts good trends, not just follows them. In a world chasing clout, chase the kind of legacy angels write down.

recorded page in your real CV—the one you’ll present to Allah.

Rational Argument Against Atheism

Moral categories exist across cultures — “good,” “evil,” “exemplary.” If morality were just evolution, why do humans admire self-sacrifice that offers no survival benefit? This points to a moral lawgiver beyond biology.

Teachings Analogy

Role models map: Foremost = those who initiate good; Right = steady doers; Left = talents wasted by denial.

- Challenge: “Design a one-week ‘Foremost plan’—one hidden deed, one public benefit, one habit upgrade.”

Chapter 3 –

PAGE 8

Portraits of the Afterlife

Chapter 3 – Portraits of the Afterlife

The Qur'an paints vivid portraits of reward and punishment. Imam Rāzī highlights the purpose behind vivid imagery: reward scenes train the heart to love what Allah loves, and punishment scenes train the conscience to avoid what Allah hates.

It's moral formation, not fantasy: gardens, ease, honored companionship vs. heat, thirst, and isolation—all tailored to fit who we became.

- **Curriculum for Desire:** These pictures are not escapism. They are a curriculum for desire—teaching your heart what to seek and what to fear.

Modern reflection

If entertainment shapes our taste, Qur'anic imagery is “moral VR” that reprograms our longings toward the eternal.

Lesson for Gen Z

Your imagination is already shaped by what you binge. Let Qur'anic imagery be your “moral VR” — so your heart craves gardens, not garbage.

recorded page in your real CV—the one you'll present to Allah.

Rational Argument Against Atheism

Justice demands ultimate accountability. History shows many tyrants die unpunished. Without an afterlife, injustice wins. A just Creator ensures no deed escapes final judgment.

Teachings Analogy

“Swap the playlist”—pair each Jannah scene with one daily habit that nurtures it; pair each warning with one habit to drop. Ask yourself: “What do I binge that makes Hell's warnings feel distant—and how do I reverse that?”

Chapter 4 –

PAGE 10

Proofs of Resurrection Through the Signs in Nature

Chapter 4 – Proofs of Resurrection Through the Signs in Nature

The surah walks us through seeds, rain, fire, and our own creation. Imam Rāzī emphasizes if He originates with such precision, why doubt re-creation? These are empirical, everyday proofs: the world is a living classroom pointing back to the Maker and to accountability. Many tafsir summaries of the surah foreground these four core life-signs to press the case for resurrection.

- **The Logic of Re-Creation:** Allah's re-creation of humans for eternal life serves two core purposes: divine justice and the fulfillment of humanity's true purpose. This life is viewed as a temporary test, and re-creation is necessary for a final, ultimate reckoning that could not be fully achieved in the physical world.

Modern Reflection

If you believe in cloud backups, you can believe in resurrection. The same Creator who coded your DNA can restore you — pixel-perfect — for the final review: From DNA code to water cycles, every system screams design. Resurrection isn't a stretch—it's the consistent sequel to creation.

Lesson for Gen Z

Your phone can be restored from a backup; your soul can be restored by the One who made it, So that means eternal life is certain you should prepare yourself for it.

recorded page in your real CV—the one you'll present to Allah.

Rational Argument Against Atheism

Every cell has a complete DNA blueprint. If humans can clone from a cell, why doubt that the One who designed DNA can recreate you entirely?

Teachings Analogy

Find three “resurrection signs” this week — photograph them and caption how each points to meeting Allah. Map the cycles: seed → crop, cloud → rain, spark → fire, drop → life. Label each: “Origin → Return.”

Chapter 5 –

PAGE 12

The Qur'an's Status and Inimitability

Chapter 5 – The Qur'an's Status and Inimitability

The Qur'an is deliberate revelation (tanzīl), not poetry or soothsaying. Imam Razi situates its verses within broader arguments for divine authorship: its coherence, precision, and truth-claims form an ongoing challenge in his Tafsir al-Kabīr (Mafātīḥ al-Ghayb).

- **Self-Proving Revelation:** This Book is not merely words; it is a self-proving text. Its linguistic miracle is a challenge no one has ever met. Morally, it offers a complete, timeless guide for humanity. Its prophetic accuracy confirms its divine source. The Book's beauty, ethics, and predictions are its proof. It doesn't just speak; it continually proves itself.

Modern Reflection

In a world of AI text and deepfakes, the Qur'an's challenge is still unanswered. It reads us while we read it.

Lesson for Gen Z

In a world of AI-generated everything, the Qur'an is the only text no one can fake. Let it be your "verified source" in a sea of misinformation.

recorded page in your real CV—the one you'll present to Allah.

Rational Argument Against Atheism

In 1400+ years, no one has matched its style, depth, and predictive accuracy — despite open challenge. If it were human-made, history should have produced at least one equal.

Teachings Analogy

Exercise: Pick a short passage; list three layers: sound/rhythm, meaning, and transformation (how it changes behaviour).
"One ayah, one change"—pair a verse with a practical micro-habit and track it for 7 days.

Chapter 6 –

PAGE 14

The Cosmic Oath and the Closing Wake-Up

Chapter 6 – The Cosmic Oath and the Closing Wake-Up

The surah closes with an oath “by the positions of the stars” imam Razi explains that the oath pulls our gaze to the cosmos. Oaths in the Qur’an aren’t decoration; they’re highlighters. If star-paths are precisely ordered, so is revelation—and so is judgment.

- **The Signature in the Sky:** The sky’s order is a signature under the message. The same Hand that tuned galaxies authored your guidance.

The order in the sky proves the message is true.

The galaxies are perfectly set in their places.

The same power that put them there wrote down your guidance.

It is like a signature in the heavens, confirming the book's truth.

The universe's harmony shows the wisdom behind your path.

The grand design of the cosmos and your moral code share the same source.

So, the stars above are proof that this message is real.

Modern Reflection



The more we learn about space, the louder this oath sounds. Wonder should lead to worship, not just curiosity.

Lesson for Gen Z



Every time you see a night-sky photo on your feed, remember: the One who designed that beauty also designed your path to Jannah. Don't ignore the map.

recorded page in your real CV—the one you'll present to Allah.

Rational Argument Against Atheism



The universe operates on precise constants (gravity, speed of light, etc.). Even a tiny change would make life impossible. Fine-tuning suggests intentional design, not random accident.

Teachings Analogy



Under the stars, recite the closing verses and ask: what would change tomorrow if I lived as if this oath is personal? Create a poster: "Cosmos → Qur'an → Character" with one image and one action for each.

THE END



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About author

Mufti Maaz Haroon is a distinguished Pakistani Islamic scholar, author, Qur'an reciter, and motivational speaker. Renowned for his engaging tafsir sessions and spiritual reflections, he has inspired countless individuals to connect with Allah and embrace His Deen.