



THE DEAF & THE BLIND

By Aqib al-Qadri

Is it correct to believe that those buried in the graves can actually hear those who are visiting them or calling them from afar? Are they really deaf or do the verses of the Holy Qur'an refer to something else? A fair and descriptive article with proofs from verses of the Holy Qur'an and authentic traditions of the Holy Prophet, on this oft-debated issue.

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THE PREFACE

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

ALLAH – IN THE NAME OF – THE MOST BENEFICENT, THE MOST MERCIFUL

Infinite blessings & peace be upon Allah's beloved, the Holy Prophet Mohammed ﷺ, his family, all his companions, and all who rightfully follow him until the day of resurrection.

The issue of addressing persons who are buried is often a subject that evokes strong emotions and extremely conflicting opinions. It usually sparks a heated debate as to whether it is correct or otherwise to believe that those buried in the graves can actually hear those who are visiting them or calling them from afar. It is common to hear allegations of outright polytheism (Shirk) & blasphemy being hurled at each other. In this age of neo-Kharjism it became imperative for me to write about this matter that has become the topic of hot debate. More so because of the constant bombardment of objections and misinformation that makes several rounds through the internet and other media.

If the dead do hear, then is it correct to visit the graves or call upon them for help? However, that is not the subject matter of discussion in this article. This article will – with Allah's help – prove that those in the graves are alive, and can hear those who address them.

As for those who purposely cause dissent in the agreed meanings of this pure religion, the Holy Prophet ﷺ has himself called them the worst of creatures! May Allah protect us!

Narrated Abu Sa'id al-Khudri رضي الله عنه and Anas Ibn Malik رضي الله عنه: The Holy Prophet ﷺ said: Soon there will appear disagreement and dissension in my people; there will be people who will be good in speech and bad in work. They recite the Qur'an, but it does not pass their collar-bones. They will swerve from the religion as an arrow goes through the animal shot at. They will not return to it till the arrow comes back to its notch. They are the worst among the people and animals. Fortunate is the one who kills them and they kill him. They call to the book of Allah, but they have nothing to do with it. He who fights against them will be nearer to Allah than them. The people asked: What is their sign? He replied: They shave the head. **(Bukhari)**

Narrated Abu Said Al-Khudri : When 'Ali  was in Yemen, he sent some gold in its ore to the Holy Prophet . The Holy Prophet distributed it among Al-Aqra' bin Habis Al-Hanzali who belonged to Bani Mujashi, 'Uyaina bin Badr Al-Fazari, 'Alqama bin 'Ulatha Al-'Amiri, who belonged to the Bani Kilab tribe and Zaid Al-Khail At-Ta'i who belonged to Bani Nabhan. So the Quraish and the Ansar became angry and said, "He gives to the chiefs of Najd and leaves us!" The Prophet said, "I just wanted to attract and unite their hearts." Then there came a man with sunken eyes, bulging forehead, thick beard, fat raised cheeks, and clean-shaven head, and said, "O Muhammad! Be afraid of Allah! " The Prophet said, "Who would obey Allah if I disobeyed Him? He trusts me over the people of the earth, but you do not trust me?" A man from the people (present then), who, I think, was Khalid bin Al-Waleed, asked for permission to kill him, but the Prophet prevented him. When the man went away, the Prophet said, "Out of the offspring of this man, there will be people who will recite the Quran but it will not go beyond their throats, and they will go out of Islam as an arrow goes out through the game, **and they will kill the Muslims and leave the idolaters.** Should I live till they appear, I would kill them as the killing of the nation of 'Aad." (Bukhari)

Syedna Abdullah Ibn Umar  considered the Kharjis and the heretics as the worst beings in creation, and he said: **They went to verses which were revealed about the disbelievers and applied them to the Believers.** (Bukhari)

The examples given above are just a few of the numerous found in Bukhari and Muslim, that warn us against the traits of the Kharjis – and most importantly their deception of quoting from the Holy Qur'an, whilst grossly misinterpreting it.

The interpretations of the Holy Qur'an presented here are that of the greatest Islamic scholars acknowledged by all – including the companions (e.g. Syedna Abdullah Ibn Abbas, Syedna Ali, Abu Saeed Khudri), and latter day exegesis scholars (e.g. Fakhruddin Razi, Jalaluddeen Suyuti, Ibn Katheer).

For the sake of justice & fairness this article will also present & review the so called proofs presented by the opponents. I pray that this book & the effort be accepted in the sight of Allah, the Supreme. I dedicate the reward of this book (as much as Allah may wish to grant) to all the beloveds of Allah, and to my dear departed parents, all whom He has kept alive.

Aqib al-Qadri

11 Rabiul-Aakhir, 1432

Chapter 1: THE OBJECTION & DECEPTION

Those who oppose this fact present some verses of the Qur'an in support of their argument. They claim that these verses are regarding those Muslims who visit graves and address the saints or relatives buried there. We shall examine each, one by one.

First "claim" presented from Holy Qur'an

لَهُ دَعْوَةُ الْحَقِّ ۗ وَالَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِهِ لَا يَسْتَجِيبُونَ لَهُمْ بِشَيْءٍ إِلَّا كَبَاسِطٍ كَفَّيْهِ إِلَى الْمَاءِ لِيَبْلُغَ فَاهُ وَمَا هُوَ بِبَالِغِهِ ۗ وَمَا دُعَاءُ الْكَافِرِينَ إِلَّا فِي ضَلَالٍ

[Raad 13:14] *Only the prayer to Him is truthful; and whomever they pray to besides Him, do not hear them at all, but like one who has his hands outstretched towards water that it may come into his mouth, and it will never come; and every prayer of the disbelievers remains wandering.*

The above verse is obviously regarding the idolaters (or polytheists), who pray to idols or pictures in front of them, and who worship these instead of Allah the Supreme. Therefore the claim that it is regarding the buried & dead is obviously incorrect.

Second "claim" presented from Holy Qur'an

قَالَ هَلْ يَسْمَعُونَكُمْ إِذْ تَدْعُونَ

[Shua`ra 26:72] *He said, "Do they hear you when you call?"*

The opponents, claiming that the persons in the graves cannot hear, present the above verse. It is extremely unfortunate that they seek to deceive the Muslims by this ugly trick. For the verse is related to the preceding 2 verses in the Holy Qur'an which prove that this statement is that of Syedna Ibrahim who confronted the polytheists who used to worship the idols. The previous 2 verses are:-

إِذْ قَالَ لِأَبِيهِ وَقَوْمِهِ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ - قَالُوا نَعْبُدُ أَصْنَامًا فَنَظَلُّ لَهَا عَاكِفِينَ

[Shua`ra 26:70-71] *When he said to his father and his people, "What do you worship?" They said, "We worship idols, and we keep squatting in seclusion before them."*

May Allah guide them not to purposely hide the truth!

Third “claim” presented from Holy Qur’an

فَإِنَّكَ لَا تُسْمِعُ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَلَا تُسْمِعُ الصُّمَّ الدُّعَاءَ إِذَا وَلَّوْا مُدْبِرِينَ

[Ruom 30:52] *For you do not make the dead hear nor make the deaf hear the call when they flee, turning back.*

The opponents tout this verse as a “strong proof” that the dead cannot hear. But my dear fellow Muslims! Read the full verse and you will note that Allah – the Supreme – is referring to those “deaf” persons who are fleeing – that is, they do not want to listen to the Holy Prophet ﷺ when he calls them! So the disbelievers can actually “hear” the call – but they are called “deaf” by Allah! So the verse is regarding the living persons, not the dead! So one may ask - what is meant by the word “dead” in this verse? In the same manner as for the “deaf”, the “dead” here refers to the “dead at heart” – because the call of the Holy Prophet ﷺ was never meant for those who were buried! And once a person is buried, it is useless to preach Islam to him! We shall prove that on numerous occasions, including this one, Allah – the Supreme – has called the disbelievers as “dead” or “dead at heart”. Some famous Ahadeeth in fact make it clear that a person who does not remember his Lord is “dead” and a house whose inhabitants do not remember Allah is also “dead”!!

Narrated Abu Musa رضي الله عنه: The Holy Prophet ﷺ said, "The example of the one who celebrates the Praises of his Lord (Allah) in comparison to the one who does not celebrate the Praises of his Lord, is that of a living creature compared to a dead one." **(Bukhari)**

Reported Ibn 'Umar رضي الله عنه: Allah's Apostle ﷺ said: Observe some of your prayers in your houses and do not make them graves. **(Bukhari, Muslim)**

Reported Abu Musa رضي الله عنه: Allah's Apostle ﷺ said: The house in which remembrance of Allah is made and the house in which Allah is not remembered are like the living and the dead. **(Muslim)**

In fact, the very next verse of the Holy Qur’an makes it clear that the Holy Prophet’s ﷺ call is heard only by those who believe (in the Truth), so they have become Muslims!

وَمَا أَنْتَ بِهَادِ الْعُمْيِ عَنْ ضَلَالَتِهِمْ ۗ إِنَّ تُسْمِعُ إِلَّا مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا فَهُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

[Ruom 30:53] *Nor do you guide the blind out of their error; you only make those hear who believe in Our signs, so they have submitted.*

Here too, we have successfully exposed the deception of the opponents, in their trying to misguide the simple-minded Muslims.

Fourth “claim” presented from Holy Qur’an

إِنْ تَدْعُوهُمْ لَا يَسْمَعُوا دُعَاءَكُمْ وَلَوْ سَمِعُوا مَا اسْتَجَابُوا لَكُمْ ۗ وَيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ يَكْفُرُونَ
بِشِرْكِكُمْ ۗ وَلَا يُنَبِّئُكَ مِثْلُ خَبِيرٍ

[Fatir 35:14] *If you call them, they do not hear your call; and supposedly if they heard it, they cannot fulfil your needs; and on the Day of Resurrection they will deny your ascribed partnership; and none will inform you like Him Who informs.*

The above verse is also presented by the opponents claiming that the persons in the graves cannot hear. Here again, if the full verse it read, it is obvious that this statement is regarding the polytheists who used to worship the deities as partners to Allah – and not for the buried!

Fifth “claim” presented from Holy Qur’an

وَمَا أَنْتَ بِمُسْمِعٍ مَّن فِي الْقُبُورِ

[Fatir 35:22] ; *and you cannot make those who are in the graves listen.*

The above verse is also presented by the opponents claiming that it is not possible to make persons in the graves listen. Here the treachery of the claimants can be gauged from the fact that they hide the previous words of the same verse! The full verse is as follows:-

وَمَا يَسْتَوِي الْأَحْيَاءُ وَلَا الْأَمْوَاتُ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُسْمِعُ مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَمَا أَنْتَ بِمُسْمِعٍ مَّن فِي الْقُبُورِ

[Fatir 35:22] *And not equal are the living and the dead! Indeed Allah causes them to listen, whomever He wills; and you cannot make those who are in the graves listen.*

Here again, if the full verse it read, it is obvious that in Allah’s sight, the believers are “living” and the disbelievers are “dead” or “in graves”. If we consider that it refers to those who are buried, even then the explanation is clear: Allah makes anyone listen within the graves – and those who cannot hear inside the graves are those whose fate has been sealed since they died as disbelievers so you cannot make them listen to and follow the truth.

Several Ahadeeth also testify to the truth is that it is the disbelievers and the astray who are referred to as “blind” and “deaf” – some examples are:-

Narrated Syedna Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه: The Holy Prophet ﷺ said (regarding the advent of Doom):!, however, narrate some of its signs (and these are): when you see a slave (woman) giving birth to her master - that is one of the signs of (the Doom) ; when you see barefooted, naked, deaf and dumb (ignorant and foolish persons) as the rulers of the earth - that is one of the signs of the Doom. And when you see the shepherds of black camels exult in buildings - that is one of the signs of the Doom. **(Bukhari – part of a longer Hadeeth)**

Narrated Syedna Abu Hurairah : The Holy Prophet  said: There will be civil strife (fitnah) which will render people deaf, dumb and blind regarding what is right. Those who contemplate it will be drawn by it, and giving restraint to the tongue during it will be like smiting with the sword. **(Abu Dawood)**

Narrated Ata bin Yasar : I met `Abdullah bin `Amr bin Al-`As  and asked him, "Tell me about the description of Allah's Apostle  which is mentioned in Taurah. He replied, 'Yes. By Allah, he is described in Taurah with some of the qualities attributed to him in the Qur'an as follows:"O Prophet! We have sent you as a witness and a herald of glad tidings, and a warner, and guardian of the un-learned. You are My slave and My Apostle. I have named you "Al-Mutawakkil" (who depends upon Allah). You are neither discourteous, nor harsh nor a noisemaker in the markets - and you do not do evil to those who do evil to you, but you deal with them with forgiveness and kindness. Allah will not let him (the Prophet) die till he makes straight the crooked people by making them say: "None has the right to be worshipped but Allah," - with which will be opened blind eyes and deaf ears and enveloped hearts." **(Bukhari)**

It has been narrated on the authority of Ibn 'Abdullah al-Bajali  that the Allah's Apostle  said: One who is killed under the banner of a man who is blind (to justice), who raises the slogan of family or supports his own tribe, dies the death of one belonging to the days of ignorance (Jahiliyya). **(Muslim)**

We have amply proved the several ways of deceit resorted to by the neo-Kharjis, and shall further prove the Truth, in the following pages.

May Allah guide these groups not to purposely hide the truth for it is feared they could then deserve the punishment promised in the Holy Qur'an:-

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَكْتُمُونَ مَا أَنْزَلْنَا مِنَ الْبَيِّنَاتِ وَالْهُدَىٰ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا بَيَّنَّاهُ لِلنَّاسِ فِي الْكِتَابِ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ يَلْعَنُهُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَلْعَنُهُمُ اللَّاعِنُونَ ۗ إِلَّا الَّذِينَ تَابُوا وَأَصْلَحُوا وَبَيَّنُّوا فَأُولَٰئِكَ أَتُوبُ عَلَيْهِمْ ۗ وَأَنَا التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيمُ

[Baqarah 2:159-160] *"Indeed those who hide the clear proofs and the guidance which We sent down, after We made it clear to mankind in the Book - upon them is the curse of Allah and the curse of those who curse. Except those who repent and do reform and disclose (the truth) - so I will accept their repentance; and I only am the Most Acceptor of Repentance, the Most Merciful."*

Chapter 2: WHO ARE THE DEAF & BLIND?

IT IS THE DISBELIEVERS – NOT THOSE IN THE GRAVES!

صُمُّكُمْ بِكُمْ عُمِّي فَهُمْ لَا يَرْجِعُونَ

[Baqarah 2:18] Deaf, dumb and blind; and they are not to return.

وَمَثَلُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا كَمَثَلِ الَّذِي يَنْعِقُ بِمَا لَا يَسْمَعُ إِلَّا دُعَاءً وَنِدَاءً ۚ صُمُّكُمْ بِكُمْ عُمِّي فَهُمْ لَا يَعْقِلُونَ

[Baqarah 2:171] And the example of the disbelievers is similar to one who calls upon one that hears nothing except screaming and yelling; deaf, dumb, blind - so they do not have sense.

وَحَسِبُوا أَلَّا تَكُونَ فِتْنَةٌ فَعَمُوا وَصَمُوا ثُمَّ تَابَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ ثُمَّ عَمُوا وَصَمُوا كَثِيرٌ مِّنْهُمْ ۚ وَاللَّهُ بَصِيرٌ بِمَا يَعْمَلُونَ

[Maidah 5:71] And they assumed that there will be no punishment, so they turned blind and deaf - then Allah accepted their penance, then again many of them turned blind and deaf; and Allah is seeing their deeds.

وَالَّذِينَ كَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا صُمُّكُمْ فِي الظُّلُمَاتِ ۚ مَنْ يَشَاءِ اللَّهُ يُضِلَّهُ وَمَنْ يَشَاءِ يُجْعَلْهُ عَلَى صِرَاطٍ مُّسْتَقِيمٍ

[Ana'am 6:39] And those who deny Our signs are deaf and dumb in realms of darkness; Allah may send astray whomever He wills; and may place on the Straight Path whomever He wills.

أُولَئِكَ لَمْ يَكُونُوا مُعْجِزِينَ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَمَا كَانَ لَهُمْ مِّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ مِنْ أَوْلِيَاءَ ۚ يُضَاعَفُ لَهُمُ الْعَذَابُ ۚ مَا كَانُوا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ السَّمْعَ وَمَا كَانُوا يُبْصِرُونَ

[Hud 11:20] They will not be able to escape in the earth, nor do they have any protecting friends apart from Allah; they will have punishment upon punishment; they were unable to hear, nor used to see.

وَأَمَّا ثَمُودُ فَهَدَيْنَاهُمْ فَاسْتَحَبُّوا الْعَمَىٰ عَلَى الْهُدَىٰ فَأَخَذَتْهُمُ صَاعِقَةُ الْعَذَابِ الْهُونِ بِمَا كَانُوا
يَكْسِبُونَ

[HMSajdah 41:17] *And regarding the Thamud, We showed them the right path - so they chose to be blind above being guided, therefore the thunderbolt of the disgraceful punishment overcame them - the recompense of their deeds.*

وَلَوْ جَعَلْنَاهُ قُرْآنًا أَعْجَمِيًّا لَقَالُوا لَوْلَا فُصِّلَتْ آيَاتُهُ ۖ أَأَعْجَمِيٌّ وَعَرَبِيٌّ ۗ قُلْ هُوَ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا
هُدًى وَشِفَاءٌ ۗ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ فِي آذَانِهِمْ وَقْرٌ وَهُوَ عَلَيْهِمْ عَمًى ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ يُنَادَوْنَ مِنْ
مَّكَانٍ بَعِيدٍ

[HMSajdah 41:44] *And if We had made it as a Qur'an in a foreign language they would have certainly said, "Why were its verses not explained in detail?" What! The Book in a foreign language, and the Prophet an Arab?! Proclaim "It is guidance and a cure for the believers"; and there is deafness in the ears of those who do not believe, and it is blindness upon them; as if they are being called from a place far away!*

The above quotes 7 verses of the Holy Qur'an make it amply clear that Allah refers to the disbelievers as the "deaf" and the "blind".

THEIR HEARTS & EARS ARE SEALED

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا سَوَاءٌ عَلَيْهِمْ أُنذَرْتَهُمْ أَمْ لَمْ تُنذِرْهُمْ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ۗ خَتَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَعَلَىٰ سَمْعِهِمْ ۗ وَعَلَىٰ أَبْصَارِهِمْ غِشَاوَةٌ ۖ وَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ

[Baqarah 2:6-7] As for those whose fate is disbelief, whether you warn them or do not warn them - it is all one for them; they will not believe. Allah has sealed their hearts and their ears, and on their eyes is a covering; and for them is a terrible punishment.

وَقَالُوا قُلُوبُنَا فِي أَكِنَّةٍ مِّمَّا تَدْعُونَا إِلَيْهِ وَفِي آذَانِنَا وَقْرٌ وَمِن بَيْنِنَا وَبَيْنِكَ حِجَابٌ فَأَعْمَلْ إِنَّنَا عَامِلُونَ

[HMSajdah 41:5] And they say, "Our hearts are covered against the affair you call us to, and there is deafness in our ears, and there is a barrier between us and you - therefore mind your own business, we are minding ours."

وَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَسْتَمِعُ إِلَيْكَ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا خَرَجُوا مِنْ عِنْدِكَ قَالُوا لِلَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ مَاذَا قَالَ آنِفًا ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ طَبَعَ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَاتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ

[Mohammed 47:16] And among them are some who listen to what you say; until when they go away from you, they say to those who have been given knowledge, "What did he say now?"; they are those whose hearts Allah has sealed, and they follow their own desires.

The above quoted verses of the Holy Qur'an make it evident that the disbelievers' hearts and ears are sealed.

THE DISBELIEVERS CAN SEE AND LISTEN - YET THEY REJECT THE TRUTH!

وَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَسْتَمِعُونَ إِلَيْكَ ۗ أَفَأَنْتَ تُسْمِعُ الصُّمَّ وَلَوْ كَانُوا لَا يَعْقِلُونَ
وَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَنْظُرُ إِلَيْكَ ۗ أَفَأَنْتَ تَهْدِي الْعُمْيَ وَلَوْ كَانُوا لَا يُبْصِرُونَ

[Yunus 10:42-43] And among them are some who listen to you; so will you make the deaf hear even if they do not have any sense? And among them is one who gazes at you; so will you guide the blind even if they cannot perceive?

وَإِذَا تُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِ آيَاتُنَا وَرَأَىٰ مُمْسِكِيهَا كَأَن لَّمْ يَسْمَعْهَا كَأَنَّ فِي أُذُنَيْهِ وَقْرًا ۖ فَبَشِّرْهُ بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ

[Luqman 31:7] *And when Our verses are recited to him he haughtily turns away as if he did not hear them - as if there is deafness in his ears; so give him the glad tidings of a painful punishment.*

بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا فَأَعْرَضَ أَكْثَرُهُمْ فَهُمْ لَا يَسْمَعُونَ

[HMSajdah 41:4] *Giving glad tidings and heralding warning; so most of them turned away, therefore they cannot listen (to the truth).*

وَمَنْ لَا يُجِبْ دَاعِيَ اللَّهِ فَلَيْسَ بِمُعْجِزٍ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَيْسَ لَهُ مِنْ دُونِهِ أَوْلِيَاءُ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

[Ahqaf 46:32] *“And whoever does not listen to Allah’s caller cannot escape in the earth, and he has no supporters against Allah; they are in open error.”*

وَقَالُوا لَوْ كُنَّا نَسْمَعُ أَوْ نَعْقِلُ مَا كُنَّا فِي أَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ

[Mulk 67:10] *And they will say, “Had we listened or understood, we would not have been among the people of hell.”*

The above quoted verses (among many others) of the Holy Qur’an are proof that the disbelievers can see and listen – but they purposely turn deaf and blind to guidance!

THEY HAVE HEARTS AND YET THEY DO NOT WANT TO UNDERSTAND

إِنَّمَا يَسْتَجِيبُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ ۗ وَالْمَوْتَىٰ يَبْعَثُهُمُ اللَّهُ ثُمَّ إِلَيْهِ يُرْجَعُونَ

[Ana`am 6:36] *It is only those who hear (with sincere hearts) that accept faith; and Allah will raise these people dead of heart, then towards Him they will be herded.*

وَلَقَدْ ذَرَأْنَا لِجَهَنَّمَ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الْجِنِّ وَالإِنسِ ۗ لَهُمْ قُلُوبٌ لَّا يَفْقَهُونَ بِهَا وَلَهُمْ أَعْيُنٌ لَّا يُبْصِرُونَ
بِهَا وَلَهُمْ آذَانٌ لَّا يَسْمَعُونَ بِهَا ۗ أُولَئِكَ كَالْأَنْعَامِ بَلْ هُمْ أَضَلُّ ۗ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْغَافِلُونَ

[Aa`raf 7:179] And indeed We have created many jinns and men for hell; they have hearts in which there is no understanding; and the eyes they do not see with; and the ears they do not hear with; they are like cattle - in fact more astray; it is they who are the neglectful.

أَفَلَمْ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَتَكُونَ لَهُمْ قُلُوبٌ يَعْقِلُونَ بِهَا أَوْ آذَانٌ يَسْمَعُونَ بِهَا ۗ فَإِنَّهَا لَا تَعْمَى
الْأَبْصَارُ وَلَكِن تَعْمَى الْقُلُوبُ الَّتِي فِي الصُّدُورِ

[Hajj 22:46] So have they not travelled in the land, to have hearts with which to understand and ears to hear with? So it is not the eyes that are blind, but it is the hearts in the bosoms, that are blind.

وَقَالُوا لَوْ كُنَّا نَسْمَعُ أَوْ نَعْقِلُ مَا كُنَّا فِي أَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ

[Mulk 67:10] And they will say, "Had we listened or understood, we would not have been among the people of hell."

From the above it is amply clear that the disbelievers are blind and deaf not because they cannot see or hear – but because they do not use their hearts and minds to ponder, nor do they want to be guided.

YOU CANNOT MAKE THE DISBELIEVERS HEED ADVICE ALTHOUGH THEY SEE AND HEAR!

قَالَ يَا قَوْمِ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِن كُنتُ عَلَىٰ بَيِّنَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّي وَأَتَانِي رَحْمَةً مِّنْ عِنْدِهِ فَعُمِّيَتْ عَلَيْكُمْ
أُنزِلْكُمْ مَوْجًا مَّاتًا وَتُكْفَرُونَ

[Hud 11:28] He said, "O my people! What is your opinion - if I am on a clear proof from my Lord and He has bestowed mercy upon me from Him, so you remained blind towards it; shall we force it upon you although you dislike it?"

قُلْ إِنَّمَا أُنذِرُكُمْ بِالْوَحْيِ ۚ وَلَا يَسْمَعُ الصُّمُّ الدُّعَاءَ إِذَا مَا يُنذَرُونَ

[Ambiya 21:45] Proclaim “I warn you only with the divine revelation; and the deaf do not hear the call when warned.”

بَلِ ادَّارَكَ عِلْمُهُمْ فِي الْآخِرَةِ ۚ بَلْ هُمْ فِي شَكٍّ مِّنْهَا ۖ بَلْ هُمْ مِّنْهَا عَمُونَ

[Naml 27:66] Has their knowledge advanced so much as to know the Hereafter? On the contrary, they are in doubt concerning it; in fact they are blind towards it.

فَإِنَّكَ لَا تُسْمِعُ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَلَا تُسْمِعُ الصُّمَّ الدُّعَاءَ إِذَا وَلَّوْا مُدْبِرِينَ
وَمَا أَنْتَ بِهَادٍ الْعُمَىٰ عَنِ ضَلَالَتِهِمْ ۚ إِنَّ تُسْمِعُ إِلَّا مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا فَهُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

[Ruum 30:52-53] For you do not make the dead hear nor make the deaf hear the call when they flee, turning back. Nor do you guide the blind out of their error; you only make those hear who believe in Our signs, so they have submitted.

أَفَأَنْتَ تُسْمِعُ الصُّمَّ أَوْ تَهْدِي الْعُمَىٰ وَمَنْ كَانَ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

[Zukhruf 43:40] So will you make the deaf listen or show the path to the blind, and to those who are in open error?

Having proven in the previous section that the disbeliever purposely turn deaf and blind to guidance, Allah – the Supreme – says in these verses that you cannot guide them (these deaf & blind), because of their obstinacy!

THEY ARE WORSE THAN ANIMALS

وَلَقَدْ ذَرَأْنَا لِجَهَنَّمَ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الْجِنِّ وَالإِنسِ ۚ لَهُمْ قُلُوبٌ لَا يَفْقَهُونَ بِهَا وَهُمْ أَعْيُنٌ لَا يُبْصِرُونَ
بِهَا وَهُمْ آذَانٌ لَا يَسْمَعُونَ بِهَا ۚ أُولَئِكَ كَالْأَنْعَامِ بَلْ هُمْ أَضَلُّ ۚ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْعَافِلُونَ

[Aa`raf 7:179] And indeed We have created many jinns and men for hell; they have hearts in which there is no understanding; and the eyes they do not see with; and the ears they do not hear with; they are like cattle - in fact more astray; it is they who are the neglectful.

إِنَّ شَرَّ الدَّوَابِّ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الصُّمُّ الْبُكْمُ الَّذِينَ لَا يَعْقِلُونَ

[Anfal 8:22] *Indeed the worst beasts in the sight of Allah are those (people) who are deaf, dumb - who do not have any sense.*

Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه relates that the ‘worst beasts’ mentioned in this verse, is regarding some persons of the tribe of AbdAddar. **(Bukhari)**

أَمْ تَحْسَبُ أَنَّ أَكْثَرَهُمْ يَسْمَعُونَ أَوْ يَعْقِلُونَ ۚ إِنَّ هُمْ إِلَّا كَالْأَنْعَامِ ۗ بَلْ هُمْ أَضَلُّ سَبِيلًا

[Furqan 25:44] *Or do you think that most of them hear or understand something? They are not but like the cattle – in fact more astray from the path than them!*

The above evidences clarify that those who reject the truth – despite being sighted, hearing and having hearts – are actually worse than animals.

BLIND IN THIS WORLD AND BLIND IN THE HEREAFTER.

وَمَنْ كَانَ فِي هَذِهِ أَعْمَىٰ فَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ أَعْمَىٰ وَأَضَلُّ سَبِيلًا

[b/Israel 17:72] *Whoever is blind in this life will be blind in the Hereafter, and even more astray.*

وَمَنْ يَهْدِ اللَّهُ فَهُوَ الْمُهْتَدِ ۚ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّمْ فَلَنْ تَجِدَ لَهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءَ مِنْ دُونِهِ ۗ وَنَحْشُرُهُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ عَلَىٰ وُجُوهِهِمْ عُمِّيًّا وَبُكْمًا وَصُمًّا ۗ مَّا وَاهُمْ جَهَنَّمَ ۗ كُلَّمَا خَبَتْ زِدْنَاهُمْ سَعِيرًا

[b/Israel 17:97] *And only he whom Allah guides, is upon guidance; and whomever He sends astray - you will therefore not find for them any supporters besides Him; and We shall raise them by their faces on the Day of Resurrection - blind, dumb and deaf; their destination is hell; whenever it is about to extinguish, We will inflame it more for them.*

وَمَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَن ذِكْرِي فَإِنَّ لَهُ مَعِيشَةً ضَنْكًا وَنَحْشُرُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ أَعْمَىٰ
قَالَ رَبِّ لِمَ حَشَرْتَنِي أَعْمَىٰ وَقَدْ كُنْتُ بَصِيرًا

[Ta-Ha 20:124-125] *“And the one who turned away from My remembrance - for him is a confined existence, and We shall raise him blind on the Day of Resurrection.” He will say, “O my Lord, why have You raised me blind, whereas I was sighted?”*

Here again Allah – the Supreme – refers to the disbelievers as “blind” – and will also raise them blind (unable to see), as a punishment on the Day of Resurrection!

Chapter 3: RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF THE TRUTH

THE MUSLIMS HEAR & OBEY

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَقُولُوا رَاعِنَا وَقُولُوا انظُرْنَا وَاسْمَعُوا ۗ وَلِلْكَافِرِينَ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ

[Baqarah 2:104] O People who Believe, do not say (to the Prophet Mohammed- peace and blessings be upon him), “Raena (Be considerate towards us)” but say, “Unzurna (Look mercifully upon us)”, and listen attentively from the start; and for the disbelievers is a painful punishment.

وَإِذَا سَمِعُوا مَا أُنزِلَ إِلَى الرَّسُولِ تَرَىٰ أَعْيُنُهُمْ تَفِيضُ مِنَ الدَّمْعِ مِمَّا عَرَفُوا مِنَ الْحَقِّ ۗ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا آمَنَّا فَاكْتُبْنَا مَعَ الشَّاهِدِينَ

[Maidah 5:83] And when they listen to what has been sent down to the Noble Messenger, you observe their eyes overflowing with tears because they have recognised the truth; they say, “Our Lord, we have accepted faith - therefore record us among the witnesses of the truth.”

إِنَّمَا يَسْتَجِيبُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ ۗ وَالْمَوْتَىٰ يَبْعَثُهُمُ اللَّهُ ثُمَّ إِلَيْهِ يُرْجَعُونَ

[Ana`am 6:36] It is only those who hear (with sincere hearts) that accept faith; and Allah will raise these people dead of heart, then towards Him they will be herded.

قُلْ هَذِهِ سَبِيلِي أَدْعُو إِلَى اللَّهِ ۚ عَلَىٰ بَصِيرَةٍ أَنَا وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِي ۗ وَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ

[Yusuf 12:108] Proclaim, “This is my path - I call towards Allah; I, and whoever follows me, are upon perception; and Purity is to Allah - and I am not of the polytheists.”

وَاللَّهُ أَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَحْيَا بِهِ الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا ۗ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَةً لِّقَوْمٍ يَسْمَعُونَ

[Nahl 16:65] And Allah sent down water from the sky and with it revived the earth after its death; indeed in this is a sign for people who keep ears. (That listen to the truth.)

إِنَّمَا كَانَ قَوْلَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذَا دُعُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ لِيَحْكُمَ بَيْنَهُمْ أَنْ يَقُولُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا ۗ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

[Noor 24:51] *The saying of the Muslims when they are called towards Allah and His Noble Messenger in order that the Noble Messenger judge between them is that they submit, “We hear and we obey”; and it is they who have attained the goal.*

وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا ذُكِّرُوا بِآيَاتِ رَبِّهِمْ لَمْ يَخِرُّوا عَلَيْهَا صُمًّا وَعُمْيَانًا

[Furqan 25:73] *And those who, when they are reminded of the signs of their Lord, do not fall deaf and blind upon them.*

وَمَا أَنْتَ بِهَادِ الْعُمْيِ عَنْ ضَلَالَتِهِمْ ۗ إِنَّ تُسْمِعُ إِلَّا مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا فَهُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

[Ruum 30:53] *Nor do you guide the blind out of their error; you only make those hear who believe in Our signs, so they have submitted.*

تَبْصِيرَةً وَذِكْرَىٰ لِكُلِّ عَبْدٍ مُنِيبٍ

[Qaf 50:8] *A perception and an understanding, for every bondman who inclines.*

The above quoted verses make it amply clear that only those who accept faith have “listened” i.e. the believers “hear” the truth and they obey.

THE DISBELIEVERS HEAR AND DISOBEY

وَإِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِيثَاقَكُمْ وَرَفَعْنَا فَوْقَكُمُ الطُّورَ خُذُوا مَا آتَيْنَاكُمْ بِقُوَّةٍ وَاسْمِعُوا ۗ قَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَعَصَيْنَا وَأَشْرَبُوا فِي قُلُوبِهِمُ الْعِجْلَ بِكُفْرِهِمْ ۗ قُلْ بِئْسَمَا يَأْمُرُكُم بِهِ إِيمَانُكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ مُؤْمِنِينَ

[Baqarah 2:93] *And remember when We made a covenant with you and raised the Mount Tur (Sinai) above you; “Accept and hold fast to what We give you, and listen”; they said, “We hear and we disobey”; and the calf was still embedded in their hearts because of their disbelief; say, “What an evil command is what your faith orders you, if you are believers!”*

مِّنَ الَّذِينَ هَادُوا يُحَرِّفُونَ الْكَلِمَ عَن مَّوَاضِعِهِ وَيَقُولُونَ سَمِعْنَا وَعَصَيْنَا وَاسْمِعْ غَيْرَ مُسْمِعٍ وَرَاعِنَا لَيًّا
بِالْسِنَتِمْ وَطَعْنَا فِي الدِّينِ ۚ وَلَوْ أَنَّهُمْ قَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا وَاسْمِعْ وَاَنْظُرْنَا لَكَانَ خَيْرًا لَهُمْ وَأَقْوَمَ
وَلَكِن لَّعَنَهُمُ اللَّهُ بِكُفْرِهِمْ فَلَا يُؤْمِنُونَ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا

[Nisa 4:46] Some of the Jews interchange the words from their places and say, “We hear and disobey” - and they say “Hear- may you not be able to hear” - and they say “Raena (Be considerate towards us)” distorting it with their tongues and in order to slander religion; had they said, “We hear and we obey” and “Kindly listen to us, O dear Prophet,” and “Look mercifully upon us, O dear Prophet”, it would have been much better for them and more just - but Allah has cursed them for their disbelief; so they do not believe except a little.

مَا يَأْتِيهِمْ مِّن ذِكْرٍ مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ مُّحَدَّثٍ إِلَّا اسْتَمَعُوهُ وَهُمْ يَلْعَبُونَ
لَاهِيَةً قُلُوبُهُمْ ۗ وَأَسْرُوا النَّجْوَى الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا هَلْ هَذَا إِلَّا بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ ۗ أَفَتَأْتُونَ السَّحَرَ
وَأَنْتُمْ تُبْصِرُونَ

[Ambiya 21:2-3] Whenever a new advice comes to them from their Lord, they do not listen to it except while playing. Their hearts are involved in play; and the unjust secretly conferred, “What is he, except another a human like you?! So do you follow magic although you have perceived?”

يَا قَوْمَنَا أَجِيبُوا دَاعِيَ اللَّهِ وَآمِنُوا بِهِ يَغْفِرَ لَكُمْ مِّن ذُنُوبِكُمْ وَيُجِرْكُمْ مِّن عَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ

[Ahqaf 46:32] “And whoever does not listen to Allah’s caller cannot escape in the earth, and he has no supporters against Allah; they are in open error.”

وَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَسْتَمِعُ إِلَيْكَ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا خَرَجُوا مِنْ عِنْدِكَ قَالُوا لِلَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ مَاذَا قَالَ
آنِفًا ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ طَبَعَ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَاتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ

[Mohammed 47:16] And among them are some who listen to what you say; until when they go away from you, they say to those who have been given knowledge, “What did he say now?”; they are those whose hearts Allah has sealed, and they follow their own desires.

وَقَالُوا لَوْ كُنَّا نَسْمَعُ أَوْ نَعْقِلُ مَا كُنَّا فِي أَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ

[Mulk 67:10] *And they will say, "Had we listened or understood, we would not have been among the people of hell."*

The above quoted verses are proof that the disbelievers "hear" the truth and yet they disobey.

Chapter 4: IN THE SIGHT OF ALLAH!

MUSLIMS ARE SIGHTED & HEARING: DISBELIEVERS ARE BLIND & DEAF

قُلْ لَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ عِنْدِي خَزَائِنُ اللَّهِ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبَ وَلَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ إِنِّي مَلَكٌ ۗ إِنِّي أَتَّبِعُ إِلَّا مَا يُوحَىٰ إِلَيَّ ۗ قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الْأَعْمَىٰ وَالْبَصِيرُ ۗ أَفَلَا تَتَفَكَّرُونَ

[Ana`am 6:50] Say, "I do not say to you that I possess the treasures of Allah, nor do I say that I gain knowledge of the hidden on my own, nor do I say to you that I am an angel; I only follow what is divinely revealed to me"; say, "Will the blind and the sighted ever be equal? So do you not think?"

قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ بَصَائِرٌ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ ۗ فَمَنْ أَبْصَرَ فَلِنَفْسِهِ ۗ وَمَنْ عَمِيَ فَعَلَيْهَا ۗ وَمَا أَنَا عَلَيْكُمْ بِحَفِيظٍ

[Ana`am 6:104] "Enlightening proofs came to you from your Lord; so whoever observes, it is for his own good; and whoever is blind, it is for his own harm; and I am not a guardian over you."

فَكَذَّبُوهُ فَأَجْحَيْنَاهُ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ فِي الْفُلِكِ وَأَغْرَقْنَا الَّذِينَ كَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا ۗ إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا قَوْمًا عَمِينَ

[Aa`raf 7:64] In response they denied him, so We rescued him and those with him in the ship, and We drowned those who denied Our signs; indeed they were a blind group.

مَثَلُ الْفَرِيقَيْنِ كَالْأَعْمَىٰ وَالْأَصْمَىٰ وَالْبَصِيرِ وَالسَّمِيعِ ۗ هَلْ يَسْتَوِيَانِ مَثَلًا ۗ أَفَلَا تَذَكَّرُونَ

[Hud 11:24] The example of the two groups is like one being blind and deaf, and the other seeing and hearing; are they equal in condition? So do you not ponder?

قُلْ هَذِهِ سَبِيلِي أَدْعُو إِلَى اللَّهِ ۗ عَلَىٰ بَصِيرَةٍ أَنَا وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِي ۗ وَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ

[Yusuf 12:108] Proclaim, "This is my path - I call towards Allah; I, and whoever follows me, are upon perception; and Purity is to Allah - and I am not of the polytheists."

قُلْ مَنْ رَبُّ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ قُلِ اللَّهُ ۗ قُلْ أَفَاتَّخَذْتُمْ مِّنْ دُونِهِ أَوْلِيَاءَ لَا يَمْلِكُونَ لِأَنفُسِهِمْ نَفْعًا وَلَا ضَرًّا ۗ قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الْأَعْمَىٰ وَالْبَصِيرُ أَمْ هَلْ تَسْتَوِي الظُّلُمَاتُ وَالنُّورُ ۗ أَمْ جَعَلُوا لِلَّهِ شُرَكَاءَ خَلَقُوا كَخَلْقِهِ فَتَشَابَهَ الْخَلْقُ عَلَيْهِمْ ۗ قُلِ اللَّهُ خَالِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ الْوَاحِدُ الْقَهَّارُ

[Raad 13:16] Say, "Who is the Lord of the heavens and the earth?" Proclaim, "Allah"; Say, "So have you appointed such as supporters besides Him, who can neither benefit nor harm themselves?"; say, "Will the blind and the sighted ever be equal? Or will the realms of darkness and the light ever be equal?" Have they appointed such as partners to Allah who created something like Allah did? Therefore their creation and His creation seemed alike to them? Proclaim, "Allah is the Creator of all things, and He Alone is the Dominant over all."

أَفَمَنْ يَعْلَمُ أَنَّمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْكَ مِنْ رَبِّكَ الْحَقُّ كَمَنْ هُوَ أَعْمَىٰ ۗ إِنَّمَا يَتَذَكَّرُ أُولُو الْأَلْبَابِ

[Raad 13:19] So will he, who knows that what is sent down upon you from your Lord is the truth, ever be equal to him who is blind? Only the men of understanding heed advice.

إِنَّمَا كَانَ قَوْلَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذَا دُعُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ لِيَحْكُمَ بَيْنَهُمْ أَنْ يَقُولُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا ۗ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

[Noor 24:51] The saying of the Muslims when they are called towards Allah and His Noble Messenger in order that the Noble Messenger judge between them is that they submit, "We hear and we obey"; and it is they who have attained the goal.

إِنَّكَ لَا تَسْمَعُ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَلَا تَسْمَعُ الصُّمَّ الدُّعَاءَ إِذَا وَلَّوْا مُدْبِرِينَ
وَمَا أَنْتَ بِهَادِي الْعُمْيِ عَنْ ضَلَالَتِهِمْ ۗ إِنَّ تَسْمَعُ إِلَّا مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا فَهُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

[Naml 27:80-81] Indeed the dead do not listen to your call nor do the deaf listen to your call, when they flee turning back. And you will not guide the blind out of their error; and none listen to you except those who accept faith in Our signs, and they are Muslims.

وَمَا يَسْتَوِي الْأَعْمَىٰ وَالْبَصِيرُ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَلَا الْمُسِيءُ ۗ قَلِيلًا مَّا تَتَذَكَّرُونَ

[Momin 40:58] And the blind and the sighted are not equal - and neither are the believers who perform good deeds and the wicked equal; how very little do you ponder!

In these multiple verses Allah – the Supreme – has clearly defined whom He considers sighted & hearing, and whom He considers deaf & blind.

THE DISBELIEVERS ARE BLIND & DEAF FOR THEY DENY THE TRUTH

وَالَّذِينَ كَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا صُمُّ وَبُكْمٌ فِي الظُّلُمَاتِ ۗ مَن يَشَأِ اللَّهُ يُضِلَّهُ وَمَن يَشَأِ يُجْعَلْهُ عَلَىٰ صِرَاطٍ مُّسْتَقِيمٍ

[Ana`am 6:39] *And those who deny Our signs are deaf and dumb in realms of darkness; Allah may send astray whomever He wills; and may place on the Straight Path whomever He wills.*

وَلَوْ عَلِمَ اللَّهُ فِيهِمْ خَيْرًا لَّأَسْمَعَهُمْ ۗ وَلَوْ أَسْمَعَهُمْ لَتَوَلَّوْا وَهُمْ مُّعْرِضُونَ

[Anfal 8:23] *And had Allah found any goodness in them, He would have made them hear; and had He made them hear they would, in the end, have turned away and gone back.*

الَّذِينَ كَانَتْ أَعْيُنُهُمْ فِي غِطَاءٍ عَن ذِكْرِي وَكَانُوا لَا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ سَمْعًا

[Kahf 18:101] *The ones whose eyes were covered from My remembrance, and who could not bear to hear Truth.*

يَسْمَعُ آيَاتِ اللَّهِ تُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِ ثُمَّ يُصِرُّ مُسْتَكْبِرًا كَأَن لَّمْ يَسْمَعْهَا ۗ فَبَشِّرْهُ بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ

[Jasiya 45:8] *Who hears the verses of Allah which are recited to him, then remains stubborn, proud, as if he did not hear them; therefore give him the glad tidings of a painful punishment.*

In these verses Allah – the Supreme – has clearly defined why He considers the disbelievers as deaf & blind.

ALLAH MAKES THEM DEAF & BLIND

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا سَوَاءٌ عَلَيْهِمْ أُنذَرْتَهُمْ أَمْ لَمْ تُنذِرْهُمْ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ
خَتَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَعَلَىٰ سَمْعِهِمْ ۗ وَعَلَىٰ أَبْصَارِهِمْ غِشَاوَةٌ ۗ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ

[Baqarah 2:6-7] *As for those whose fate is disbelief, whether you warn them or do not warn them - it is all one for them; they will not believe. Allah has sealed their hearts and their ears, and on their eyes is a covering; and for them is a terrible punishment.*

وَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ يَسْتَمِعُ إِلَيْكَ ۗ وَجَعَلْنَا عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ أَكِنَّةً أَنْ يَفْقَهُوهُ وَفِي آذَانِهِمْ وَقْرًا ۗ وَإِنْ يَرَوْا
كُلَّ آيَةٍ لَا يُؤْمِنُوا بِهَا ۗ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءُوكَ يُجَادِلُونَكَ يَقُولُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِنْ هَذَا إِلَّا أَسَاطِيرُ
الْأَوَّلِينَ

[Ana`am 6:25] *And among them is one who listens to you; and We have put covers upon their hearts so they may not understand it, and deafness in their ears; and (even) if they see all the signs, they will not believe in them; to the extent that when they come to you to debate with you, the disbelievers say, "This is nothing but stories of former people."*

وَنُقَلِّبُ أَفْئِدَتَهُمْ وَأَبْصَارَهُمْ كَمَا لَمْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِهِ أَوَّلَ مَرَّةٍ وَنَذَرُهُمْ فِي طُغْيَانِهِمْ يَعْمَهُونَ

[Ana`am 6:110] *And We revert their hearts and their eyes - the way they had not believed the first time – and We leave them to keep wandering blindly in their rebellion.*

وَلَوْ عَلِمَ اللَّهُ فِيهِمْ خَيْرًا لَّأَسْمَعَهُمْ ۗ وَلَوْ أَسْمَعَهُمْ لَتَوَلَّوْا وَهُمْ مُّعْرِضُونَ

[Anfal 8:23] *And had Allah found any goodness in them, He would have made them hear; and had He made them hear they would, in the end, have turned away and gone back.*

وَجَعَلْنَا عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ أَكِنَّةً أَنْ يَفْقَهُوهُ وَفِي آذَانِهِمْ وَقْرًا ۗ وَإِذَا ذُكِرْتِ رَبِّكَ فِي الْقُرْآنِ وَحْدَهُ وَلَّوْا
عَلَىٰ أَدْبَارِهِمْ نُفُورًا

[b/Israel 17:46] *And We placed covers upon their hearts so they may not understand it, and deafness in their ears; and when you mention your Only Lord in the Qur'an, they flee turning their backs in hatred.*

وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ ذُكِّرَ بِآيَاتِ رَبِّهِ فَأَعْرَضَ عَنْهَا وَنَسِيَ مَا قَدَّمَتْ يَدَاؤُهُ ۗ إِنَّآ جَعَلْنَا عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ
أَكِنَّةً أَنْ يَفْقَهُوهُ وَفِي آذَانِهِمْ وَقْرًا ۗ وَإِنْ تَدْعُهُمْ إِلَى الْهُدَىٰ فَلَنْ يَهْتَدُوا إِذًا أَبَدًا

[Kahf 18:57] *And who is more unjust than one who, when reminded of the signs of his Lord, turns away from them and forgets what his hands have sent forward? We have put covers on their hearts so as not to understand the Qur'an, and deafness in their ears; and even if you call them to guidance, they will never attain the right path.*

أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ لَعَنَهُمُ اللَّهُ فَأَصَمَّهُمْ وَأَعَمَّى أَبْصَارَهُمْ

[Mohammed 47:23] *It is these whom Allah has cursed, so He made them deaf to the Truth and blinded their eyes.*

The disbelievers who constantly deny the truth & advance in their stubbornness are therefore destined never to be able to accept faith – so finally they have their hearts sealed, and are made deaf & blind! May Allah protect us!

Chapter 5: SO WHO CANNOT LISTEN AND WHO DOES?

IT IS THE STONE IDOLS THAT CANNOT LISTEN OR RESPOND!

أَلَهُمْ أَرْجُلٌ يَمْشُونَ بِهَا ۗ أَمْ لَهُمْ أَيْدٍ يَبْطِشُونَ بِهَا ۗ أَمْ لَهُمْ أَعْيُنٌ يُبْصِرُونَ بِهَا ۗ أَمْ لَهُمْ آذَانٌ
يَسْمَعُونَ بِهَا ۗ قُلِ ادْعُوا شُرَكَاءَكُمْ ثُمَّ كِيدُوا فَلَا تُنظِرُونَ

[Aa`raf 7:195] Do they have feet to walk with? Or have they hands to hold with? Or have they eyes to see with? Or have they ears to hear with? Say, "Call upon your ascribed partners and conspire against me, and do not give me respite."

لَهُ دَعْوَةُ الْحَقِّ ۗ وَالَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ مِن دُونِهِ لَا يَسْتَجِيبُونَ لَهُم بِشَيْءٍ إِلَّا كَبَاسِطٍ كَفَّيْهِ إِلَى الْمَاءِ
لِيَبْلُغَ فَاهُ وَمَا هُوَ بِبَالِغِهِ ۗ وَمَا دُعَاءُ الْكَافِرِينَ إِلَّا فِي ضَلَالٍ

[Raad 13:14] Only the prayer to Him is truthful; and whomever they pray to besides Him, do not hear them at all, but like one who has his hands outstretched towards water that it may come into his mouth, and it will never come; and every prayer of the disbelievers remains wandering.

قُلْ مَنْ رَبُّ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ قُلِ اللَّهُ ۗ قُلْ أَفَاتَّخَذْتُمْ مِّن دُونِهِ أَوْلِيَاءَ لَا يَمْلِكُونَ لِأَنفُسِهِمْ
نَفْعًا وَلَا ضَرًّا ۗ قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الْأَعْمَىٰ وَالْبَصِيرُ أَمْ هَلْ تَسْتَوِي الظُّلُمَاتُ وَالنُّورُ ۗ أَمْ جَعَلُوا
لِلَّهِ شُرَكَاءَ خَلَقُوا كَخَلْقِهِ فَتَشَابَهَ الْخَلْقُ عَلَيْهِمْ ۗ قُلِ اللَّهُ خَالِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ الْوَاحِدُ الْقَهَّارُ

[Raad 13:16] Say, "Who is the Lord of the heavens and the earth?" Proclaim, "Allah"; Say, "So have you appointed such as supporters besides Him, who can neither benefit nor harm themselves?"; say, "Will the blind and the sighted ever be equal? Or will the realms of darkness and the light ever be equal?" Have they appointed such as partners to Allah who created something like Allah did? Therefore their creation and His creation seemed alike to them? Proclaim, "Allah is the Creator of all things, and He Alone is the Dominant over all."

قَالُوا نَعْبُدُ أَصْنَامًا فَنَنْظِلُّ لَهَا عَاكِفِينَ
قَالَ هَلْ يَسْمَعُونَكُم إِذْ تَدْعُونَ

[Shua`ra 26:71-72] They said, "We worship idols, and we keep squatting in seclusion before them." He said, "Do they hear you when you call?"

THE DEAD DO LISTEN! – PROOFS FROM QUR’AN AND HADEETH!

Proofs from Quran

The Prophets عليه السلام, the Truthful, the Martyrs, the Virtuous & the obedient – they are all alive!

وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتٌ ۚ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ وَلَكِنَّ لَا تَشْعُرُونَ

[Baqarah 2:154] And do not utter regarding those who are slain in Allah's cause as “dead”; in fact they are alive, but it is you who are unaware.

وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتًا ۚ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ يُرْزَقُونَ
فَرِحِينَ بِمَا آتَاهُمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ وَيَسْتَبْشِرُونَ بِالَّذِينَ لَمْ يَلْحَقُوا بِهِمْ مِنْ خَلْفِهِمْ أَلَّا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ
وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

يَسْتَبْشِرُونَ بِنِعْمَةِ مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَفَضْلٍ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُضِيعُ أَجْرَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

[A/i'mran 3:169-171] And do not ever assume that those who are slain in Allah's cause are dead; in fact they are alive with their Lord, receiving sustenance. Happy over what Allah has bestowed upon them from His grace, and rejoicing for those who will succeed them, and have not yet joined them; for on them is no fear nor any grief. They rejoice because of the favours from Allah and (His) munificence, and because Allah does not waste the reward of the believers.

وَمَنْ يُطِعِ اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصِّدِّيقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ
وَالصَّالِحِينَ ۚ وَحَسُنَ أُولَٰئِكَ رَفِيقًا
ذَٰلِكَ الْفَضْلُ مِنَ اللَّهِ ۚ وَكَفَىٰ بِاللَّهِ عَلِيمًا

[Nisa 4:69-70] And whoever obeys Allah and His Noble Messenger, will be with those upon whom Allah has bestowed grace - that is, the Holy Prophets and the truthful and the martyrs and the virtuous; and what excellent companions they are! This is Allah's munificence; and Allah is Sufficient, the All Knowing.

The preceding 6 verses are solid proof of the post-isthmus life of the Prophets, the truthful, the martyrs and the virtuous – in fact for all who obey Allah and His Noble Messenger!

Disbelievers can listen in their graves – but they cannot answer as they are tortured.

فَتَوَلَّى عَنْهُمْ وَقَالَ يَا قَوْمِ لَقَدْ أَبْلَغْتُكُمْ رَسُولَ رَبِّي وَنَصَحْتُ لَكُمْ وَلَكِنْ لَا تُحِبُّونَ النَّاصِحِينَ

[Aa`raf 7:79] Saleh therefore turned away from them and said, "O my people! Indeed I did deliver my Lord's message to you and wished you good, but you do not want well-wishers."

فَتَوَلَّى عَنْهُمْ وَقَالَ يَا قَوْمِ لَقَدْ أَبْلَغْتُكُمْ رَسُولَاتِ رَبِّي وَنَصَحْتُ لَكُمْ فَكَيْفَ آسَىٰ عَلَىٰ قَوْمِ كَافِرِينَ

[Aa`raf 7:93] So Shoaib turned away from them saying, "O my people! Indeed I did deliver my Lord's message to you and gave you sound advice; so why should I grieve for the disbelievers?"

In the preceding 2 verses it is proven that the Prophets of their time addressed the disbelievers after they had died – as did our Holy Prophet whilst addressing the disbelievers slain in the battle of Badr.

Proofs from Hadeeth

The Prophets ﷺ & Sahaba رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ are alive, and can listen & see from their graves.

Narrated Abu al-Darda' رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ: The Holy Prophet ﷺ said, "Make abundant invocations of blessings upon me the day of Jum'a, for that day is witnessed by the angels. Verily, no one invokes blessings upon me except his invocation is shown to me until he finishes it." Abu al-Darda' رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ said: "Even after death?" The Holy Prophet ﷺ replied: "Even after death! Truly Allah Most High forbade the earth to consume the bodies of Prophets. Therefore the Holy Prophet ﷺ of Allah is alive and sustained!" (Ibn Majah)

Narrated Aws ibn Aws رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ: The Holy Prophet ﷺ said: Among the most excellent of your days is Friday; on it Adam عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was created, on it he died, on it the last trumpet will be blown, and on it the shout will be made, so invoke more blessings on me that day, for your blessings will be submitted to me. The people asked: Apostle of Allah ﷺ, how can it be that our blessings will be submitted to you while your body is decayed? He replied: Allah, the Exalted, has prohibited the earth from consuming the bodies of Prophets عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام (Abu Dawood)

Narrated Hazrat Ibn Umar رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ: The Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: "The one who after Hajj visits me, after my death (i.e. the holy Rawdhah) is like one who visited me while I was alive." (Baihaqi, Mishkaat)

Narrated Hazrat 'Aisha رضي الله عنها: "When I used to go into my room after my husband and father were buried there, I would take off my overcoat. I never took it off after Hazrat 'Umar was buried -because, he was not my near kin. I was restrained by my sense of modesty because he was there." **(Imam Ahmad and Hakim)**

The Prophets عليه السلام are alive, and perform prayers inside their graves!

"The Prophets عليه السلام are alive in their graves. They perform salaah." **(Baihaqi, Ibn 'Asakir, Ibn Hajar)**

Syedna Anas b. Malik رضي الله عنه reported Allah's Apostle صلى الله عليه وسلم as saying: I came to pass by Moses عليه السلام on the occasion of the Night journey near the red mound (and found him) saying his prayer in his grave. **(Muslim)**

Disbelievers are punished in the graves – but their cries cannot be heard by all.

Narrated Hazrat Abi Ayyub رضي الله عنه: Once the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم went out after sunset and heard a dreadful voice, and said, "The Jews are being punished in their graves." **(Bukhari)**

Narrated Syedah `Aisha رضي الله عنها: The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "They (*the disbelievers killed in the battle of Badr*) now realize that what I used to tell them was the truth." And Allah said, 'Indeed the dead do not listen to your call nor do the deaf listen to your call, when they flee turning back. (27:80) **(Bukhari)**

Narrated Hazrat Hisham's رضي الله عنه father: It was mentioned before Syedah `Aisha رضي الله عنها that Ibn `Umar رضي الله عنه attributed the following statement to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم "The dead person is punished in the grave because of the crying and lamentation of his family." On that, Syedah `Aisha رضي الله عنها said, "But Allah's Apostle صلى الله عليه وسلم said, 'The dead person is punished for his crimes and sins while his family cry over him then.'" She added, "And this is similar to the statement of Allah's Apostle صلى الله عليه وسلم when he stood by the (edge of the) well which contained the corpses of the pagans killed at Badr, 'They hear what I say.' She added, "But he said now they know very well what I used to tell them was the truth." `Aisha then recited: “[**Ruum 30:52**] For you do not make the dead hear nor make the deaf hear the call when they flee, turning back”. And “[**Fatir 35:22**] ...and you cannot make those who are in the graves listen”: that is, when they had taken their places in the (Hell) Fire. **(Bukhari)**

Narrated Hazrat Ibn `Umar : The Holy Prophet  looked at the people of the well (in which the bodies of the pagans killed in the Battle of Badr were thrown) and said, "Have you found true what your Lord promised you?" Somebody said to him, "You are addressing dead people." He replied, "You do not hear better than they but they cannot reply." **(Bukhari)**

Kindly note that it is the disbelievers who can hear, but cannot reply from the graves, as they are being punished. However, the Muslims can reply as is proven in the Ahadeeth given below.

All Muslims in the graves are alive, and they can listen and respond!

Narrated Hazrat Abu Hurairah : The Holy Prophet  said while standing near the graves of the martyrs of Uhud, "I bear witness that you are alive in the sight of Allah." Then turning towards those present he said, "So visit them, and greet them – I swear by the One in whose power lies my life, they will answer back to whoever greets them until the Last Day." **(Hakim, Baihaqi)**

Reported Syedah 'A'isha  (that whenever it was her turn for Allah's Apostle  to spend the night with her) he would go out towards the end of the night to (the graveyard of) al-Baqi' and say: "Peace be upon you, abode of a people who are believers. What you were promised would come to you tomorrow, you receiving it after some delay; and Allah willing we shall join you. O Allah, grant forgiveness to the inhabitants of Baqi' al-Gharqad." **(Muslim)**

THE CONCLUSION

Al-Hamdolillah! With the above noted radiant & irrefutable evidences, we have conclusively proven the following:-

- a. **The Deaf, Dumb & Blind - referred to in the Holy Qur'an - actually refers to the disbelievers, or to the idols whom they worship.**
- b. **It does not refer to the Holy Prophets عليه السلام & saints رضي الله عنه who are buried.**
- c. **The Holy Prophets عليه السلام and all other virtuous Muslims enjoy a life after death (called Barzakh) – prior to resurrection; i.e. they are alive in their graves. They can see, hear and reply.**

All Praise is for Allah, the Lord of the Creation. Infinite blessings & peace be upon our Master, Mohammed – the leader of the creation - and upon all the Prophets; and upon all those who rightfully follow him, until the day of resurrection.

May Allah guide us on the Straight Path. Aameen.

Aqib F. Qadri

11 Rabi-ul-Aakhar, 1432 Hijri (16 March 2011)