

Lawson provisional translation of the *Súrat al-mulk* including scribal preliminaries (bold italics) as in MS. 1261 (see figure 2).

Kitáb Qayyúm al-Asmá' Tafsír Aḥsan al-Qaṣaṣ

(Súrat Yúsuf; the number of qayyúm, 156, corresponds with yúsuf, 156)

Verily in Him do we seek help

Súrat al-mulk, revealed in Shíráz, 42 verses (*áyát*)

- 1 In the Name of God, the Merciful the Compassionate
- 2 Praise be to God, He Who hath caused this book to come down to His servant, by the truth, that it [or he, the book or the servant] might be a luminous lamp unto all the worlds. *wahhájan*
- 3 Verily! This is the exalted path according to your Lord, in truth it is mentioned in the Mother Book upon the truth as straight and righteous. *mustaqím^{an}*
- 4 And in the Mother Book it is before us (*ladayná*) indeed sublime (*la- 'alí*) and according to the greatest truth in the estimation of the Most Merciful it is wise. *ḥakím^{an}*
- 5 He/it is the truth direct from God (*min 'ind Alláh*) upon the Pure Religion (*al-dín al-kháliṣ*) as has been inscribed in the Mother Book (*qad kána fí umm al-kitáb maṣṭúr^{an}*). *maṣṭúr^{an}*
- 6 He is most certainly the truth and path to God through the heavens and the earth; so, whoever wants take him in very truth as a path leading to God. *sabíl^{an}*

- 7 He is the straight religion and God suffices him as a witness regarding
[his] knowledge of the Book. *shahíd^{an}*
- 8 Verily he is the truth with the truth according to the greatest word from
God, the ancient. Indeed he has been raised up from the precincts of the
divine fire. *mab ‘úth^{an}*
- 9 Indeed! He is the secret in the heavens and the earth and is engaged upon
a wondrously new cause through the permission of God, the Sublime. And
he/it has been ordained (written) in the Mother Book, in truth. *maktúb^{an}*
- 10 God has ordained that this book (*dhálika al-kitáb*) in explanation of the
most beautiful story (*tafsír aḥsan al-qaṣaṣ*) be brought out [from its
hiding] with Muḥammad bin al-Ḥasan bin ‘Alí bin Muḥammad bin ‘Alí
bin Músá bin Ja‘far bin Muḥammad bin ‘Alí bin al-Ḥusayn bin ‘Alí bin
Abí Ṭálib upon His servant that it might be a convincing Proof of God
(*ḥujjat Alláh*) from the Remembrance unto all the worlds. *balígh^{an}*
- 11 I call God to witness, as He bears witness to his own Self, that he is the
truth no god is there but him and the angels and those with knowledge
stand firm around the Remembrance with justice there is no god but him
while he is God, knower of all things. *‘alím^{an}*
- 12 The Pure Religion is this flawless Remembrance. Therefore, he who
wishes for himself Islam, let him submit to his cause and God inscribe him
in the book of the righteous as a true muslim upon the Pure Religion
which has been in the estimation of God praised. *maḥmúd^{an}*

- 13 And he who disbelieves in Islam God will never accept from him from his
meritorious acts in truth and by the truth any thing at all. *shay^{an}*
- 14 And it is imperative that God burn him with the wondrously new Fire by
virtue of the law of the Book, according the law of the Báb, in truth and
with the truth, which is preordained. *maḥtúm^{an}*
- 15 God is He of Whom there is no god but Him! And He is God, completely
aware of all Muslims. *baṣír^{an}*
- 16 God is He of Whom there is no god but Him! And He is God, Witness
over all Muslims. *shahíd^{an}*
- 17 God is He of Whom there is no god but Him! And He is God, Knower of
all Muslims. *‘alím^{an}*
- 18 God is He of Whom there is no god but Him! And He is God,
Comprehender of all Muslims. *muḥit^{an}*
- 19 Verily! God will never accept from anyone any act except that it be
brought to the Báb prostrating through the Báb in praise to God, the
Ancient, around the Báb. *maḥmúd^{an}*
- 20 God has permitted you, in truth, to prostrate and draw near. Indeed fire
[itself] prostrates in the point of water to God, the truth, upon the earth
with the truth, witnessed. *mashhúd^{an}*
- 21 O Company of kings and sons of kings! All of you have most certainly
turned away from the beautiful sovereignty of God. *jamil^{an}* or *jami^{‘an}*
- 22 O King of the Muslims! Aid to victory, after the Book, Our most great
Remembrance with the truth that God may ordain for you and those

surrounding you on the Day of Qiyáma, to be stopped and questioned
upon the path (cf. Q 37:24). *mas'úl^{an}*

- 23 Beware O King! By God, the Truth, if you are an enemy of the
Remembrance, God will judge against you on the Day of Qiyáma from
among all the kings with Hellfire and you will find that day none apart
from God the Sublime, the Truth, in truth, a helper. *ẓahír^{an}*
- 24 Beware O King! Purify the holy land (*al-ard al-muqaddasa*) of the people
of disputation of the Book (*ahl al-radd al-kitáb*) the day in which the
Remembrance suddenly comes by the permission of God, the Sublime,
with a powerful cause, difficult and strong. *shadíd^{an}* (Cf Q 53:5)
- 25 Verily! God has commanded you to submit to the Remembrance and his
cause and to control the land with the truth by His/his permission. This
that you may be honored in this world with dominion (*mulk*) and in the
next world amongst the people of the Garden of Ridván around the holy
(*al-quds*) with dwelling in blessed peace and tranquility. *sakín^{an}*
- 26 O King! Be not deceived by kingship (*mulk*). Verily each soul will taste
death as is most certainly written according to the law of God. *maktúb^{an}*
- 27 According to the law of God, the Truth, the earth is a Kingdom subject to
the will of the Remembrance. This is inscribed by the hands of God in
very truth. *masṭúr^{an}*
- 28 So, assist God to victory by means of your people (*bi-anfusikum*) and your
swords (*asyáfikum*) under the shade of this Most Great Remembrance for

the sake of this Pure Religion, with the truth upon the truth, that it may be
all-powerful. *qawiyyan*

29 O Minister of the King! Fear God of whom there is no god but Him, the
Truth the Just and STEP DOWN from your position of authority (*a 'zil*
nafsaka 'an al-mulk). For verily it is We who have inherited the earth and
all that is upon it by the permission of God, the Wise. And He has been in
truth a witness against you and the king. *shahidan*

30 And verily we have indeed drawn near to your souls by the permission of
God, if you obey the Remembrance with pure sincerity, so that on the Day
of Qiyáma you will have a mighty kingdom in the Garden of Eternal Bliss
(*jannat al-'adn*). *'azíman*

31 Indeed, this kingdom of yours is vain. God has prepared the delights of
this for the polytheists. While with God your lord is a fair destiny decreed
in very truth upon the truth in pre-eternity. *qadíman*

32 And with us in the garden of eternity is an exalted kingdom. *rafí'an*

33 We bestow it upon whomsoever we will from among our servants who
have followed this Báb to God and his waláya [they have] upon the truth
assisted to victory. *našíran*

34 O Company of Kings! Spread abroad our verses (*áyátaná*) to the Turk and
the the Land of India, upon the turth with the truth with swiftness. *sarí'an*

35 And beyond their lands [spread our verses] from the east of the earth and
its west with truth upon the truth with all strength. *qawiyyan*

- 36 O servants of the Most Merciful! God has not created you nor has He supplied your needs except for this Cause which has been [decreed] according to God in the Mother Book upon the truth with the truth most mighty. *'azím^{an}*
- 37 So, follow in obedience what God has inspired us from the laws of the Báb in this Book (*dhálika al-kitáb*) submissive (*muslim^{an}*) to God and to his cause upon the truth pleasing [to H/him]. *raḍiyy^{an}*
- 38 And know ye that if you assist God He will assist you to victory on the Day of Qiyáma with the Most Great Remembrance upon the path with a most noble and generous victory. *naṣr^{an} karím^{an}*
- 39 By God! If you do well it is for your own souls that you do well and if you disbelieve in God and in His verses/signs, verily we remain through God, in very truth, completely independent of all creation and any earthly kingdom. *ghaniyy^{an}*
- 40 O People of the Earth! Whoever obeys the Remembrance and this his book has obeyed God and his Friends (*awliyá'*, the Imams) in truth and will in the Next World be accounted, according to God, among the people of the Garden of Divine Good Pleasure (*jannat al-riḍwán*). *maktúb^{an}*
- 41 Verily, we have removed the mountains from the earth and the stars upon the Throne around the fire in the centre of the water in the presence of the Remembrance through God the truth and not one of you will be left unaccounted at all. *aḥad^{an} aḥad^{an}*

42 And He is the Vanquisher above His servants, He is God Knower of all things. *'alim^{an}*