

## Fast 12

### **Holy Prophet attained the highest position of sinlessness and knowledge of God, and closeness to God and to humanity:**

“<sup>1</sup>By the star when it sets! <sup>2</sup>Your companion (the Prophet) is not in error, nor does he deviate. <sup>3</sup>Nor does he speak out of desire. <sup>4</sup>It is nothing but revelation that is revealed — <sup>5</sup>One Mighty in power has taught him, <sup>6</sup>the Lord of strength. So he attained to perfection, <sup>7</sup>and he is in the highest part of the horizon. <sup>8</sup>Then he drew near, drew nearer yet, <sup>9</sup>so he was the measure of two bows or closer still. <sup>10</sup>So He revealed to His servant what He revealed.” — Ch. 53, verses 1–10

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#### *Notes:*

Verse 1. In the **setting of the star** the opponents of the Holy Prophet are warned of the calamities which would soon overtake them; their star of fortune was about to set. The words “By the start when it sets!” may also be translated as: “By portions of the Quran that are revealed!”

Verse 2. By **your companion** is meant *the Prophet*, who had led among this very people a life of unblemished purity. There are two statements made here: in the first it is denied that he is in error, showing that he had a true knowledge or he did not err in theory, and in the second any *deviation* from the right course is denied, to show that he acted according to that knowledge, or his practice accorded with the theory. This verse is a conclusive proof that according to the Holy Quran the Prophet was perfectly sinless.

Verse 4. The Quran was not his word, for he spoke not of his own desire; it was the word of God.

Verse 5. “One Mighty in power” is God.

Verse 6. The Holy Prophet is spoken of here as having **attained to perfection** because the Almighty Himself was his Teacher.

Verse 7. The Prophet’s being in **the highest part of the horizon** is in reference to the resplendence of his light, which was to illuminate all corners of the world — a prophecy that he will shine out in the full brilliance of his light as the midday sun.

Verse 8. “**drew nearer yet**” — The verse points out that the Prophet attained the utmost nearness to God which it is possible for man to attain.

Verse 9. The expression “**measure of two bows**” indicates close union. The two bows seem to indicate the Holy Prophet’s twofold perfection, i.e., his nearness to the Divine Being and his humility in his relations with people.

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