

Surah 22. Al-Hajj

Asad: Art thou not aware that it is God who has made subservient to you all that is on earth,⁷⁹ and the ships that sail through the sea at His behest - and [that it is He who] holds the celestial bodies⁸⁰ [in their orbits], so that they may not fall upon the earth otherwise than by His leave?⁸¹ Verily, God is most compassionate towards men, a dispenser of grace -

Malik: Do you not see that Allah has subdued to you all that is in the earth and the ships that sail through the sea by His command? He is withholding the sky in a way that it cannot fall down on the earth without His permission; surely Allah is very kind and merciful to mankind.

Pickthall: Hast thou not seem how Allah hath made all that is in the earth subservient unto you? And the sap runneth upon the sea by His command, and He holdeth back the heaven from falling on the earth unless by His leave. Lo! Allah is, for mankind, Full of Pity, Merciful.

Yusuf Ali: Seest thou not that Allah has made subject to you (men) all that is on the earth and the ships that sail through the sea by His command? He withholds the sky (rain) from falling on the earth except by His leave: for Allah is Most Kind and Most Merciful to man. ^{2846 2847}

Transliteration: Alam tara anna Allaha sakhkhara lakum ma fee alardi waalfulka tajree fee albahri biamrihi wayumsiku alssamaa an taqaAAa AAala alardi illa biithnihi inna Allaha bialInnasi laraoofun raheemun
Khatab:

Do you not see that Allah has subjected to you¹ whatever is in the earth as well as the ships that sail through the sea by His command? He keeps the sky from falling down on the earth except by His permission. Surely Allah is Ever Gracious and Most Merciful to humanity.

Author Comments

79 - I.e., "has enabled you to benefit from all. . .", etc. (cf. surah {14}, note [46]).

80 - Lit., "the sky" - used here as a metonym for the stars and planets, which are held on their courses by the God-willed laws of cosmic movement (Maraghi XVII, 137).

81 - I.e., at the Last Hour, which - as the Qur'an so often states - will manifest itself in universal cosmic catastrophe.

29469 -

For your service.

2846 - Land and sea have been made subject to man by Allah's command, so that man can develop his life freely on earth.

2847 - Samaa means (1) something high, (2) a roof, a ceiling, (3) the sky, the canopy of heaven. (4) cloud or rain. I understand the last meaning here, though most authorities seem to render it by some such words as "sky". If we understand rain here, we have a complete picture of the three elements in which man lives- land, air and sea. Rain is also appropriate for mention with Allah's kindness and mercy. He regulates the rain for man's benefit.

[View Page](#)

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