

Surah 26. Ash-Shu'araa

Asad: and then my breast will be straitened and my tongue will not be free: send, then, [this Thy command] to Aaron.⁸

Malik: My breast feels cramped and my tongue is not eloquent; send Haroon (Aaron).

Pickthall: And I shall be embarrassed, and my tongue will not speak plainly, therefor send for Aaron (to help me).

Yusuf Ali: "My breast will be straitened and my speech may not go (smoothly): so send unto Aaron. ³¹⁴⁵

Transliteration: Waya^ḍeequ ^ṣadree walā yantāliqu lisānee faarsil ilā haroona

Khatab:

And ?so? my heart will be broken and my tongue will be tied. So send Aaron along ?as a messenger?.

Author Comments

8 - Cf. {20:25-34} and the corresponding notes. In the present context, stress is laid on the deep humility of Moses, who considered himself incapable of fulfilling the task for which he had been chosen, and asked God to entrust it to Aaron instead.

3145 - As we should say in English, "My heart would fail me, and my tongue cleave to my mouth." Moses had an impediment in his speech, and his mission was risky: see next note. But Allah's Plan works in wondrous ways. Aaron was given to assist him in his mission, and Moses's shortcomings were transformed by Allah's grace into power, so that he became the most powerful leader of Israel.

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Source : *Alim.org-Compare Translation-Surah 26-Ayah 13*