

Surah 55. Ar-Rahman

Asad: And His are the lofty ships that sail like [floating] mountains through the seas.⁹

Malik: His are the ships looming up like mountains on the sea.

Pickthall: His are the ships displayed upon the sea, like banners.

Yusuf Ali: And His are the Ships sailing smoothly through the seas lofty as mountains: ^{5187 5188}

Transliteration: *Walahu aljawari almunshaqtu fee albahri kaalaAAalami*

Khatab:

To Him belong the ships with raised sails, sailing through the seas like mountains.

Author Comments

9 - Lit., "in the sea like mountains". The reference to ships as "belonging to God" is meant to stress the God-given nature of man's intelligence and inventiveness - a reflection of God's creative powers - which expresses itself in all that man is able to produce. (See also {42:32-34} and the corresponding notes.)

5187 - The ships-sailing ships and steamers, and by extension of analogy, aeroplanes and airships majestically navigating the air-are made by man, but the intelligence and science which made them possible are given by man's Creator; and therefore the Ships also are the gifts of Allah.

5188 - Lofty as mountains: both in respect of the high sails, or masts, and in respect of the height to which the top of the ship towers above the surface of the sea. The 'Queen Mary'-the biggest ship afloat in 1936-has a height, from the keel to the top of the superstructure, of 135 ft. and from keel to the mast-head, of 234 ft.

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