

Surah 9. At-Tauba

Asad: They want to extinguish God's [guiding] light with their utterances:⁴⁸ but God will not allow [this to pass], for He has willed to spread His light in all its fullness,⁴⁹ however hateful this may be to all who deny the truth.

Malik: They desire to extinguish the light of Allah with their mouths but Allah will not allow it to happen, for He seeks to perfect His light even though the disbelievers may dislike it.

Pickthall: Fain would they put out the light of Allah with their mouths, but Allah disdaineth (ought) save that He shall perfect His light, however much the disbelievers are averse.

Yusuf Ali: Fain would they extinguish Allah's light with their mouths but Allah will not allow but that His light should be perfected even though the unbelievers may detest (it).¹²⁸⁹

Transliteration: Yureedoona an yuṭfioo noora Allāhi biafwāhihim wayaba Allāhu illā an yutimma noorahu walaw kariha alkāfiroona

Khatab:

They wish to extinguish Allah's light¹ with their mouths, but Allah will only allow His light to be perfected, even to the dismay of the disbelievers.

Author Comments

48 - Lit., "with their mouths" - an allusion to the "sayings" (i.e., beliefs) mentioned in verse {30}.

49 - Lit., "except (illa) that He bring His light to completion", or "to perfection". The expression "for He has willed" (i.e., contrary to what the erring ones want), is here elliptically implied by means of the particle illa.

29176 -

i.e., religion of truth.

1289 - With their mouths: there is a twofold meaning: (1) the old-fashioned open oil lamps were extinguished by blowing with the mouth; the Unbelievers would like to blow out Allah's Light as it is a cause of offence to them; (2) false teachers and preachers distort the Message of Allah by the false words of their mouth. Their wish is to put out the light of Truth for they are people of darkness; but Allah will perfect His Light, i.e., make it shine all the brighter in the eyes of men. His Light in itself is ever perfect, but it will penetrate the hearts of men more and more, and so become more and more perfect for them.

[View Page](#)

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