

Surah 96. Al-Alaq

Asad: who has taught [man] the use of the pen -

Malik: Who taught by the Pen,

Pickthall: Who teacheth by the pen,

Yusuf Ali: He Who taught (the use of) the Pen ⁶²⁰⁶

Transliteration: Allathee AAallama bialqalami

Khatab:

Who taught by the pen—

Author Comments

6206 - See n. 5593 to lxviii. 1. The Arabic words for "teach" and "knowledge" are from the same root. It is impossible to produce in a Translation the complete orchestral harmony of the words for "read", "teach", "pen" (which implies reading, writing, books, study, research), "knowledge" (including science, self knowledge, spiritual understanding), and "proclaim", an alternative meaning of the word for "to read". This proclaiming or reading implies not only the duty of blazoning forth Allah's message, as going, with the prophetic office, but also the duty of promulgation and wide dissemination of the Truth by all who read and understand it. The comprehensive meaning of qaraa refers not only to a particular person and occasion but also gives a universal direction. And this kind of comprehensive meaning, as we have seen, runs throughout the Qur-an -for those, who will understand.

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