

Translations of *Quran 12 - Joseph*

1

YUSUF ALI: A.L.R. These are the symbols (or Verses) of the perspicuous Book.

PICKTHAL: Alif. Lam. Ra. These are verse of the Scripture that maketh plain.

2

YUSUF ALI: We have sent it down as an Arabic Qur'an, in order that ye may learn wisdom.

PICKTHALL: Lo! We have revealed it, a Lecture in Arabic, that ye may understand.

3

YUSUF ALI: We do relate unto thee the most beautiful of stories, in that We reveal to thee this (portion of the) Qur'an: before this, thou too was among those who knew it not.

PICKTHALL: We narrate unto thee (Muhammad) the best of narratives in that We have inspired in thee this Qur'an, though aforetime thou wast of the heedless.

4

YUSUF ALI: Behold! Joseph said to his father: "O my father! I did see eleven stars and the sun and the moon: I saw them prostrate themselves to me!"

PICKTHALL: When Joseph said unto his father: O my father! Lo! I saw in a dream eleven planets and the sun and the moon, I saw them prostrating themselves unto me.

5

YUSUF ALI: Said (the father): "My (dear) little son! relate not thy vision to thy brothers, lest they concoct a plot against thee: for Satan is to man an avowed enemy!"

PICKTHALL: He said: O my dear son! Tell not thy brethren of thy vision, lest they plot a plot against thee. Lo! Satan is for man an open foe.

6

YUSUF ALI: "Thus will thy Lord choose thee and teach thee the interpretation of stories (and events) and perfect His favour to thee and to the posterity of Jacob - even as He perfected it to thy fathers Abraham and Isaac aforetime! for Allah is full of knowledge and wisdom."

PICKTHALL: Thus thy Lord will prefer thee and will teach thee the interpretation of events, and will perfect His grace upon thee and upon the family of Jacob as He perfected it upon thy forefathers, Abraham and Isaac. Lo! thy Lord is Knower, Wise.

7

YUSUF ALI: Verily in Joseph and his brethren are signs (or symbols) for seekers (after Truth).

PICKTHALL: Verily in Joseph and his brethren are signs (of Allah's Sovereignty) for the inquiring.

8

YUSUF ALI: They said: "Truly Joseph and his brother are loved more by our father than we: But we are a goodly body! really our father is obviously wandering (in his mind)!"

PICKTHALL: When they said: Verily Joseph and his brother are dearer to our father than we are, many though we be. Lo! our father is in plain aberration.

9

YUSUF ALI: "Slay ye Joseph or cast him out to some (unknown) land, that so the favour of your father may be given to you alone: (there will be time enough) for you to be righteous after that!"

PICKTHALL: (One said): Kill Joseph or cast him to some (other) land, so that your father's favour may be all for you, and (that) ye may afterward be righteous folk.

10

YUSUF ALI: Said one of them: "Slay not Joseph, but if ye must do something, throw him down to the bottom of the well: he will be picked up by some caravan of travellers."

PICKTHALL: One among them said: Kill not Joseph but, if ye must be doing, fling him into the depth of the pit; some caravan will find him.

11

YUSUF ALI: They said: "O our father! why dost thou not trust us with Joseph, seeing we are indeed his sincere well-wishers?"

PICKTHALL: They said: O our father! Why wilt thou not trust us with Joseph, when lo! we are good friends to him?

12

YUSUF ALI: "Send him with us tomorrow to enjoy himself and play, and we shall take every care of him."

PICKTHALL: Send him with us to-morrow that he may enjoy himself and play. And lo! we shall take good care of him.

13

YUSUF ALI: (Jacob) said: "Really it saddens me that ye should take him away: I fear lest the wolf should devour him while ye attend not to him."

PICKTHALL: He said: Lo! in truth it saddens me that ye should take him with you, and I fear less the wolf devour him while ye are heedless of him.

14

YUSUF ALI: They said: "If the wolf were to devour him while we are (so large) a party, then should we indeed (first) have perished ourselves!"

PICKTHALL: They said: If the wolf should devour him when we are (so strong) a band, then surely we should have already perished.

15

YUSUF ALI: So they did take him away, and they all agreed to throw him down to the bottom of the well: and We put into his heart (this Message): 'Of a surety thou shalt (one day) tell them the truth of this their affair while they know (thee) not'

PICKTHALL: Then, when they led him off, and were of one mind that they should place him in the depth of the pit, We inspired in him: Thou wilt tell them of this deed of theirs when they know (thee) not.

16

YUSUF ALI: Then they came to their father in the early part of the night, weeping.

PICKTHALL: And they came weeping to their father in the evening.

17

YUSUF ALI: They said: "O our father! We went racing with one another, and left Joseph with our things; and the wolf devoured him.... But thou wilt never believe us even though we tell the truth."

PICKTHALL: Saying: O our father! We went racing one with another, and left Joseph by our things, and the wolf devoured him, and thou believest not our saying even when we speak the truth.

18

YUSUF ALI: They stained his shirt with false blood. He said: "Nay, but your minds have made up a tale (that may pass) with you, (for me) patience is most fitting: Against that which ye assert, it is Allah (alone) Whose help can be sought"..

PICKTHALL: And they came with false blood on his shirt. He said: Nay, but your minds have beguiled you into something. (My course is) comely patience. And Allah it is Whose help is to be sought in that (predicament) which ye describe.

19

YUSUF ALI: Then there came a caravan of travellers: they sent their water-carrier (for water), and he let down his bucket (into the well)...He said: "Ah there! Good news! Here is a (fine) young man!" So they concealed him as a treasure! But Allah knoweth well all that they do!

PICKTHALL: And there came a caravan, and they sent their waterdrawer. He let down his pail (into the pit). He said: Good luck! Here is a youth. And they hid him as a treasure, and Allah was Aware of what they did.

20

YUSUF ALI: The (Brethren) sold him for a miserable price, for a few dirhams counted out: in such low estimation did they hold him!

PICKTHALL: And they sold him for a low price, a number of silver coins; and they attached no value to him.

21

YUSUF ALI: The man in Egypt who bought him, said to his wife: "Make his stay (among us) honourable: may be he will bring us much good, or we shall adopt him as a son." Thus did We establish Joseph in the land, that We might teach him the interpretation of stories (and events). And Allah hath full power and control over His affairs; but most among mankind know it not.

PICKTHALL: And he of Egypt who purchased him said unto his wife: Receive him honourably. Perchance he may prove useful to us or we may adopt him as a son. Thus we established Joseph in the land that We might teach him the interpretation of events. And Allah was predominant in His career, but most of mankind know not.

22

YUSUF ALI: When Joseph attained His full manhood, We gave him power and knowledge: thus do We reward those who do right.

PICKTHALL: And when he reached his prime We gave him wisdom and knowledge. Thus We reward the good.

23

YUSUF ALI: But she in whose house he was, sought to seduce him from his (true) self: she

fastened the doors, and said: "Now come, thou (dear one)!" He said: "Allah forbid! truly (thy husband) is my lord! he made my sojourn agreeable! truly to no good come those who do wrong!"

PICKTHALL: And she, in whose house he was, asked of him an evil act. She bolted the doors and said: Come! He said: I seek refuge in Allah! Lo! he is my lord, who hath treated me honourably. Lo! wrong-doers never prosper.

24

YUSUF ALI: And (with passion) did she desire him, and he would have desired her, but that he saw the evidence of his Lord: thus (did We order) that We might turn away from him (all) evil and shameful deeds: for he was one of Our servants, sincere and purified.

PICKTHALL: She verily desired him, and he would have desired her if it had not been that he saw the argument of his Lord. Thus it was, that We might ward off from him evil and lewdness. Lo! he was of Our chosen slaves.

25

YUSUF ALI: So they both raced each other to the door, and she tore his shirt from the back: they both found her lord near the door. She said: "What is the (fitting) punishment for one who formed an evil design against thy wife, but prison or a grievous chastisement?"

PICKTHALL: And they raced with one another to the door, and she tore his shirt from behind, and they met her lord and master at the door. She said: What shall be his reward, who wisheth evil to thy folk, save prison or a painful doom?

26

YUSUF ALI: He said: "It was she that sought to seduce me - from my (true) self." And one of her household saw (this) and bore witness, (thus):- "If it be that his shirt is rent from the front, then is her tale true, and he is a liar!"

PICKTHALL: (Joseph) said: She it was who asked of me an evil act. And a witness of her own folk testified: If his shirt is torn from before, then she speaketh truth and he is of the liars.

27

YUSUF ALI: "But if it be that his shirt is torn from the back, then is she the liar, and he is telling the truth!"

PICKTHALL: And if his shirt is torn from behind, then she hath lied and he is of the truthful.

28

YUSUF ALI: So when he saw his shirt,- that it was torn at the back,- (her husband) said: "Behold! It is a snare of you women! truly, mighty is your snare!"

PICKTHALL: So when he saw his shirt torn from behind, he said: Lo! this is of the guile of you women. Lo! the guile of you is very great.

29

YUSUF ALI: "O Joseph, pass this over! (O wife), ask forgiveness for thy sin, for truly thou hast been at fault!"

PICKTHALL: O Joseph! Turn away from this, and thou, (O woman), ask forgiveness for thy sin. Lo! thou art of the faulty.

30

YUSUF ALI: Ladies said in the City: "The wife of the (great) 'Aziz is seeking to seduce her

slave from his (true) self: Truly hath he inspired her with violent love: we see she is evidently going astray."

PICKTHALL: And women in the city said: The ruler's wife is asking of her slave-boy an ill-deed. Indeed he has smitten her to the heart with love. We behold her in plain aberration.

31

YUSUF ALI: When she heard of their malicious talk, she sent for them and prepared a banquet for them: she gave each of them a knife: and she said (to Joseph), "Come out before them." When they saw him, they did extol him, and (in their amazement) cut their hands: they said, "Allah preserve us! no mortal is this! this is none other than a noble angel!"

PICKTHALL: And when she heard of their sly talk, she sent to them and prepared for them a cushioned couch (to lie on at the feast) and gave to every one of them a knife and said (to Joseph): Come out unto them! And when they saw him they exalted him and cut their hands, exclaiming: Allah Blameless! This is no a human being. This is not other than some gracious angel.

32

YUSUF ALI: She said: "There before you is the man about whom ye did blame me! I did seek to seduce him from his (true) self but he did firmly save himself guiltless!...and now, if he doth not my bidding, he shall certainly be cast into prison, and (what is more) be of the company of the vilest!"

PICKTHALL: She said: This is he on whose account ye blamed me. I asked of him an evil act, but he proved continent, but if he do not my behest he verily shall be imprisoned, and verily shall be of those brought low.

33

YUSUF ALI: He said: "O my Lord! the prison is more to my liking than that to which they invite me: Unless Thou turn away their snare from me, I should (in my youthful folly) feel inclined towards them and join the ranks of the ignorant."

PICKTHALL: He said: O my Lord! Prison is more dear than that unto which they urge me, and if Thou fend not off their wiles from me I shall incline unto them and become of the foolish.

34

YUSUF ALI: So his Lord hearkened to him (in his prayer), and turned away from him their snare: Verily He heareth and knoweth (all things).

PICKTHALL: So his Lord heard his prayer and fended off their wiles from him. Lo! He is Hearer, Knower.

35

YUSUF ALI: Then it occurred to the men, after they had seen the signs, (that it was best) to imprison him for a time.

PICKTHALL: And it seemed good to them (the men-folk) after they had seen the signs (of his innocence) to imprison him for a time.

36

YUSUF ALI: Now with him there came into the prison two young men. Said one of them: "I see myself (in a dream) pressing wine." said the other: "I see myself (in a dream) carrying bread on my head, and birds are eating, thereof." "Tell us" (they said) "The truth and meaning thereof: for we see thou art one that doth good (to all)."

PICKTHALL: And two young men went to prison with him. One of them said: I dreamed that I was pressing wine. The other said: I dreamed that I was carrying upon my head bread whereof the birds were eating. Announce unto us the interpretation, for we see thee of those good (at interpretation).

37

YUSUF ALI: He said: "Before any food comes (in due course) to feed either of you, I will surely reveal to you the truth and meaning of this ere it befall you: that is part of the (duty) which my Lord hath taught me. I have (I assure you) abandoned the ways of a people that believe not in Allah and that (even) deny the Hereafter.

PICKTHALL: He said: The food which ye are given (daily) shall not come unto you but I shall tell you the interpretation ere it cometh unto you. This is of that which my Lord hath taught me. Lo! I have forsaken the religion of folk who believe not in Allah and are disbelievers in the Hereafter.

38

YUSUF ALI: "And I follow the ways of my fathers,- Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and never could we attribute any partners whatever to Allah: that (comes) of the grace of Allah to us and to mankind: yet most men are not grateful.

PICKTHALL: And I have followed the religion of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. It never was for us to attribute aught as partner to Allah. This is of the bounty of Allah unto us (the seed of Abraham) and unto mankind; but most men give not thanks.

39

YUSUF ALI: "O my two companions of the prison! (I ask you): are many lords differing among themselves better, or the One Allah, Supreme and Irresistible?

PICKTHALL: O my fellow-prisoners! Are divers lords better, or Allah the One, Almighty?

40

YUSUF ALI: "If not Him, ye worship nothing but names which ye have named,- ye and your fathers,- for which Allah hath sent down no authority: the command is for none but Allah: He hath commanded that ye worship none but Him: that is the right religion, but most men understand not...

PICKTHALL: Those whom ye worship beside Him are but names which ye have named, ye and your fathers. Allah hath revealed no sanction for them. The decision rests with Allah only, Who hath commanded you that ye worship none save Him. This is the right religion, but most men know not.

41

YUSUF ALI: "O my two companions of the prison! As to one of you, he will pour out the wine for his lord to drink: as for the other, he will hang from the cross, and the birds will eat from off his head. (so) hath been decreed that matter whereof ye twain do enquire"...

PICKTHALL: O my two fellow-prisoners! As for one of you, he will pour out wine for his lord to drink; and as for the other, he will be crucified so that the birds will eat from his head. Thus is the case judged concerning which ye did inquire.

42

YUSUF ALI: And of the two, to that one whom he consider about to be saved, he said: "Mention me to thy lord." But Satan made him forget to mention him to his lord: and (Joseph) lingered in prison a few (more) years.

PICKTHALL: And he said unto him of the twain who he knew would be released: Mention me in the presence of thy lord. But Satan caused him to forget to mention it to his lord, so he (Joseph) stayed in prison for some years.

43

YUSUF ALI: The king (of Egypt) said: "I do see (in a vision) seven fat kine, whom seven lean ones devour, and seven green ears of corn, and seven (others) withered. O ye chiefs! Expound to me my vision if it be that ye can interpret visions."

PICKTHALL: And the king said: Lo! I saw in a dream seven fat kine which seven lean were eating, and seven green ears of corn and other (seven) dry. O notables! Expound for me my vision, if ye can interpret dreams.

44

YUSUF ALI: They said: "A confused medley of dreams: and we are not skilled in the interpretation of dreams."

PICKTHALL: They answered: Jumbled dreams! And we are not knowing in the interpretation of dreams.

45

YUSUF ALI: But the man who had been released, one of the two (who had been in prison) and who now bethought him after (so long) a space of time, said: "I will tell you the truth of its interpretation: send ye me (therefore)."

PICKTHALL: And he of the two who was released, and (now) at length remembered, said: I am going to announce unto you the interpretation, therefore send me forth.

46

YUSUF ALI: "O Joseph!" (he said) "O man of truth! Expound to us (the dream) of seven fat kine whom seven lean ones devour, and of seven green ears of corn and (seven) others withered: that I may return to the people, and that they may understand."

PICKTHALL: (And when he came to Joseph in the prison, he exclaimed): Joseph! O thou truthful one! Expound for us the seven fat kine which seven lean were eating and the seven green ears of corn and other (seven) dry, that I may return unto the people, so that they may know.

47

YUSUF ALI: (Joseph) said: "For seven years shall ye diligently sow as is your wont: and the harvests that ye reap, ye shall leave them in the ear,- except a little, of which ye shall eat.

PICKTHALL: He said: Ye shall sow seven years as usual, but that which ye reap, leave it in the ear, all save a little which ye eat.

48

YUSUF ALI: "Then will come after that (period) seven dreadful (years), which will devour what ye shall have laid by in advance for them,- (all) except a little which ye shall have (specially) guarded.

PICKTHALL: Then after that will come seven hard years which will devour all that ye have prepared for them, save a little of that which ye have stored.

49

YUSUF ALI: "Then will come after that (period) a year in which the people will have abundant water, and in which they will press (wine and oil)."

PICKTHALL: Then, after that, will come a year when the people will have plenteous crops and when they will press (wine and oil).

50

YUSUF ALI: So the king said: "Bring ye him unto me." But when the messenger came to him, (Joseph) said: "Go thou back to thy lord, and ask him, 'What is the state of mind of the ladies who cut their hands'? For my Lord is certainly well aware of their snare."

PICKTHALL: And the king said: Bring him unto me. And when the messenger came unto him, he (Joseph) said: Return unto thy lord and ask him what was the case of the women who cut their hands. Lo! my Lord knoweth their guile.

51

YUSUF ALI: (The king) said (to the ladies): "What was your affair when ye did seek to seduce Joseph from his (true) self?" The ladies said: "Allah preserve us! no evil know we against him!" Said the 'Aziz's wife: "Now is the truth manifest (to all): it was I who sought to seduce him from his (true) self: He is indeed of those who are (ever) true (and virtuous).

PICKTHALL: He (the king) (then sent for those women and) said: What happened when ye asked an evil act of Joseph? They answered: Allah Blameless! We know no evil of him. Said the wife of the ruler: Now the truth is out. I asked of him an evil act, and he is surely of the truthful.

52

YUSUF ALI: "This (say I), in order that He may know that I have never been false to him in his absence, and that Allah will never guide the snare of the false ones.

PICKTHALL: (Then Joseph said: I asked for) this, that he (my lord) may know that I betrayed him not in secret, and that surely Allah guideth not the snare of the betrayers.

53

YUSUF ALI: "Nor do I absolve my own self (of blame): the (human) soul is certainly prone to evil, unless my Lord do bestow His Mercy: but surely my Lord is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful."

PICKTHALL: I do not exculpate myself. Lo! the (human) soul enjoineeth unto evil, save that whereon my Lord hath mercy. Lo! my Lord is Forgiving, Merciful.

54

YUSUF ALI: So the king said: "Bring him unto me; I will take him specially to serve about my own person." Therefore when he had spoken to him, he said: "Be assured this day, thou art, before our own presence, with rank firmly established, and fidelity fully proved!

PICKTHALL: And the king said: Bring him unto me that I may attach him to my person. And when he had talked with him he said: Lo! thou art to-day in our presence established and trusted.

55

YUSUF ALI: (Joseph) said: "Set me over the store-houses of the land: I will indeed guard them, as one that knows (their importance)."

PICKTHALL: He said: Set me over the storehouses of the land. Lo! I am a skilled custodian.

56

YUSUF ALI: Thus did We give established power to Joseph in the land, to take possession therein as, when, or where he pleased. We bestow of our Mercy on whom We please, and We

suffer not, to be lost, the reward of those who do good.

PICKTHALL: Thus gave We power to Joseph in the land. He was the owner of it where he pleased. We reach with Our mercy whom We will. We lose not the reward of the good.

57

YUSUF ALI: But verily the reward of the Hereafter is the best, for those who believe, and are constant in righteousness.

PICKTHALL: And the reward of the Hereafter is better, for those who believe and ward off (evil).

58

YUSUF ALI: Then came Joseph's brethren: they entered his presence, and he knew them, but they knew him not.

PICKTHALL: And Joseph's brethren came and presented themselves before him, and he knew them but they knew him not.

59

YUSUF ALI: And when he had furnished them forth with provisions (suitable) for them, he said: "Bring unto me a brother ye have, of the same father as yourselves, (but a different mother): see ye not that I pay out full measure, and that I do provide the best hospitality?"

PICKTHALL: And when he provided them with their provision he said: Bring unto me a brother of yours from your father. See ye not that I fill up the measure and I am the best of hosts?

60

YUSUF ALI: "Now if ye bring him not to me, ye shall have no measure (of corn) from me, nor shall ye (even) come near me."

PICKTHALL: And if ye bring him not unto me, then there shall be no measure for you with me, nor shall ye draw near.

61

YUSUF ALI: They said: "We shall certainly seek to get our wish about him from his father: Indeed we shall do it."

PICKTHALL: They said: We will try to win him from his father: that we will surely do.

62

YUSUF ALI: And (Joseph) told his servants to put their stock-in-trade (with which they had bartered) into their saddle-bags, so they should know it only when they returned to their people, in order that they might come back.

PICKTHALL: He said unto his young men: Place their merchandise in their saddlebags, so that they may know it when they go back to their folk, and so will come again.

63

YUSUF ALI: Now when they returned to their father, they said: "O our father! No more measure of grain shall we get (unless we take our brother): So send our brother with us, that we may get our measure; and we will indeed take every care of him."

PICKTHALL: So when they went back to their father they said: O our father! The measure is denied us, so send with us our brother that we may obtain the measure, surely we will guard him well.

64

YUSUF ALI: He said: "Shall I trust you with him with any result other than when I trusted you with his brother aforetime? But Allah is the best to take care (of him), and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!"

PICKTHALL: He said: Can I entrust him to you save as I entrusted his brother to you aforetime? Allah is better at guarding, and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy.

65

YUSUF ALI: Then when they opened their baggage, they found their stock-in-trade had been returned to them. They said: "O our father! What (more) can we desire? this our stock-in-trade has been returned to us: so we shall get (more) food for our family; We shall take care of our brother; and add (at the same time) a full camel's load (of grain to our provisions). This is but a small quantity.

PICKTHALL: And when they opened their belongings they discovered that their merchandise had been returned to them. They said: O our father! What (more) can we ask? Here is our merchandise returned to us. We shall get provision for our folk and guard our brother, and we shall have the extra measure of a camel (load). This (that we bring now) is a light measure.

66

YUSUF ALI: (Jacob) said: "Never will I send him with you until ye swear a solemn oath to me, in Allah's name, that ye will be sure to bring him back to me unless ye are yourselves hemmed in (and made powerless). And when they had sworn their solemn oath, he said: "Over all that we say, be Allah the witness and guardian!"

PICKTHALL: He said: I will not send him with you till ye give me an undertaking in the name of Allah that ye will bring him back to me, unless ye are surrounded. And when they gave him their undertaking he said: Allah is the Warden over what we say.

67

YUSUF ALI: Further he said: "O my sons! enter not all by one gate: enter ye by different gates. Not that I can profit you aught against Allah (with my advice): None can command except Allah: On Him do I put my trust: and let all that trust put their trust on Him."

PICKTHALL: And he said: O my sons! Go not in by one gate; go in by different gates. I can naught avail you as against Allah. Lo! the decision rests with Allah only. In Him do I put my trust, and in Him let all the trusting put their trust.

68

YUSUF ALI: And when they entered in the manner their father had enjoined, it did not profit them in the least against (the plan of) Allah: It was but a necessity of Jacob's soul, which he discharged. For he was, by our instruction, full of knowledge (and experience): but most men know not.

PICKTHALL: And when they entered in the manner which their father had enjoined, it would have naught availed them as against Allah; it was but a need of Jacob's soul which he thus satisfied; and lo! he was a lord of knowledge because We had taught him; but most of mankind know not.

69

YUSUF ALI: Now when they came into Joseph's presence, he received his (full) brother to stay with him. He said (to him): "Behold! I am thy (own) brother; so grieve not at aught of their doings."

PICKTHALL: And when they went in before Joseph, he took his brother unto him, saying: Lo! I, even I, am thy brother, therefore sorrow not for what they did.

70

YUSUF ALI: At length when he had furnished them forth with provisions (suitable) for them, he put the drinking cup into his brother's saddle-bag. Then shouted out a crier: "O ye (in) the caravan! behold! ye are thieves, without doubt!"

PICKTHALL: And when he provided them with their provision, he put the drinking-cup in his brother's saddlebag, and then a crier cried: O camel-riders! Lo! ye are surely thieves!

71

YUSUF ALI: They said, turning towards them: "What is it that ye miss?"

PICKTHALL: They cried, coming toward them: What is it ye have lost?

72

YUSUF ALI: They said: "We miss the great beaker of the king; for him who produces it, is (the reward of) a camel load; I will be bound by it."

PICKTHALL: They said: We have lost the king's cup, and he who bringeth it shall have a camel-load, and I (said Joseph) am answerable for it.

73

YUSUF ALI: (The brothers) said: "By Allah! well ye know that we came not to make mischief in the land, and we are no thieves!"

PICKTHALL: They said: By Allah, well ye know we came not to do evil in the land, and are no thieves.

74

YUSUF ALI: (The Egyptians) said: "What then shall be the penalty of this, if ye are (proved) to have lied?"

PICKTHALL: They said: And what shall be the penalty for it, if ye prove liars?

75

YUSUF ALI: They said: "The penalty should be that he in whose saddle-bag it is found, should be held (as bondman) to atone for the (crime). Thus it is we punish the wrong-doers!"

PICKTHALL: They said: The penalty for it! He in whose bag (the cup) is found, he is the penalty for it. Thus we requite wrong-doers.

76

YUSUF ALI: So he began (the search) with their baggage, before (he came to) the baggage of his brother: at length he brought it out of his brother's baggage. Thus did We plan for Joseph. He could not take his brother by the law of the king except that Allah willed it (so). We raise to degrees (of wisdom) whom We please: but over all endued with knowledge is one, the All-Knowing.

PICKTHALL: Then he (Joseph) began the search with their bags before his brother's bag, then he produced it from his brother's bag. Thus did We contrive for Joseph. He could not have taken his brother according to the king's law unless Allah willed. We raise by grades (of mercy) whom We will, and over every lord of knowledge there is one more knowing.

77

YUSUF ALI: They said: "If he steals, there was a brother of his who did steal before (him)."

But these things did Joseph keep locked in his heart, revealing not the secrets to them. He (simply) said (to himself): "Ye are the worse situated; and Allah knoweth best the truth of what ye assert!"

PICKTHALL: They said: If he stealeth, a brother of his stole before. But Joseph kept it secret in his soul and revealed it not unto them. He said (within himself): Ye are in worse case, and Allah knoweth best (the truth of) that which ye allege.

78

YUSUF ALI: They said: "O exalted one! Behold! he has a father, aged and venerable, (who will grieve for him); so take one of us in his place; for we see that thou art (gracious) in doing good."

PICKTHALL: They said: O ruler of the land! Lo! he hath a very aged father, so take one of us instead of him. Lo! we behold thee of those who do kindness.

79

YUSUF ALI: He said: "Allah forbid that we take other than him with whom we found our property: indeed (if we did so), we should be acting wrongfully.

PICKTHALL: He said: Allah forbid that we should seize save him with whom we found our property; then truly we should be wrong-doers.

80

YUSUF ALI: Now when they saw no hope of his (yielding), they held a conference in private. The leader among them said: "Know ye not that your father did take an oath from you in Allah's name, and how, before this, ye did fail in your duty with Joseph? Therefore will I not leave this land until my father permits me, or Allah commands me; and He is the best to command.

PICKTHALL: So, When they despaired of (moving) him, they conferred together apart. The eldest of them said: Know ye not how your father took an undertaking from you in Allah's name and how ye failed in the case of Joseph aforetime? Therefore I shall not go forth from the land until my father giveth leave or Allah judgeth for me. He is the Best of Judges.

81

YUSUF ALI: "Turn ye back to your father, and say, 'O our father! behold! thy son committed theft! we bear witness only to what we know, and we could not well guard against the unseen!

PICKTHALL: Return unto your father and say: O our father! Lo! thy son hath stolen. We testify only to that which we know; we are not guardians of the Unseen.

82

YUSUF ALI: "'Ask at the town where we have been and the caravan in which we returned, and (you will find) we are indeed telling the truth.'"

PICKTHALL: Ask the township where we were, and the caravan with which we travelled hither. Lo! we speak the truth.

83

YUSUF ALI: Jacob said: "Nay, but ye have yourselves contrived a story (good enough) for you. So patience is most fitting (for me). Maybe Allah will bring them (back) all to me (in the end). For He is indeed full of knowledge and wisdom."

PICKTHALL: (And when they came unto their father and had spoken thus to him) he said:

Nay, but your minds have beguiled you into something. (My course is) comely patience! It may be that Allah will bring them all unto me. Lo! He, only He, is the Knower, the Wise.

84

YUSUF ALI: And he turned away from them, and said: "How great is my grief for Joseph!" And his eyes became white with sorrow, and he fell into silent melancholy.

PICKTHALL: And he turned away from them and said: Alas, my grief for Joseph! And his eyes were whitened with the sorrow that he was suppressing.

85

YUSUF ALI: They said: "By Allah! (never) wilt thou cease to remember Joseph until thou reach the last extremity of illness, or until thou die!"

PICKTHALL: They said: By Allah, thou wilt never cease remembering Joseph till thy health is ruined or thou art of those who perish!

86

YUSUF ALI: He said: "I only complain of my distraction and anguish to Allah, and I know from Allah that which ye know not..."

PICKTHALL: He said: I expose my distress and anguish only unto Allah, and I know from Allah that which ye know not.

87

YUSUF ALI: "O my sons! go ye and enquire about Joseph and his brother, and never give up hope of Allah's Soothing Mercy: truly no one despairs of Allah's Soothing Mercy, except those who have no faith."

PICKTHALL: Go, O my sons, and ascertain concerning Joseph and his brother, and despair not of the Spirit of Allah. Lo! none despaireth of the Spirit of Allah save disbelieving folk.

88

YUSUF ALI: Then, when they came (back) into (Joseph's) presence they said: "O exalted one! distress has seized us and our family: we have (now) brought but scanty capital: so pay us full measure, (we pray thee), and treat it as charity to us: for Allah doth reward the charitable."

PICKTHALL: And when they came (again) before him (Joseph) they said: O ruler! Misfortune hath touched us and our folk, and we bring but poor merchandise, so fill for us the measure and be charitable unto us. Lo! Allah will requite the charitable,

89

YUSUF ALI: He said: "Know ye how ye dealt with Joseph and his brother, not knowing (what ye were doing)?"

PICKTHALL: He said: Know ye what ye did unto Joseph and his brother in your ignorance?

90

YUSUF ALI: They said: "Art thou indeed Joseph?" He said, "I am Joseph, and this is my brother: Allah has indeed been gracious to us (all): behold, he that is righteous and patient,- never will Allah suffer the reward to be lost, of those who do right."

PICKTHALL: They said: Is it indeed thou who art Joseph? He said: I am Joseph and this is my brother. Allah hath shown us favour. Lo! he who wardeth off (evil) and endureth (findeth favour); for lo! Allah loseth not the wages of the kindly.

91

YUSUF ALI: They said: "By Allah! indeed has Allah preferred thee above us, and we certainly have been guilty of sin!"

PICKTHALL: They said: By Allah, verily Allah hath preferred thee above us, and we were indeed sinful.

92

YUSUF ALI: He said: "This day let no reproach be (cast) on you: Allah will forgive you, and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!"

PICKTHALL: He said: Have no fear this day! May Allah forgive you, and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy.

93

YUSUF ALI: "Go with this my shirt, and cast it over the face of my father: he will come to see (clearly). Then come ye (here) to me together with all your family."

PICKTHALL: Go with this shirt of mine and lay it on my father's face, he will become (again) a seer; and come to me with all your folk.

94

YUSUF ALI: When the caravan left (Egypt), their father said: "I do indeed scent the presence of Joseph: Nay, think me not a dotard."

PICKTHALL: When the caravan departed their father had said: Truly I am conscious of the breath of Joseph, though ye call me dotard.

95

YUSUF ALI: They said: "By Allah! truly thou art in thine old wandering mind."

PICKTHALL: (Those around him) said: By Allah, lo! thou art in thine old aberration.

96

YUSUF ALI: Then when the bearer of the good news came, He cast (the shirt) over his face, and he forthwith regained clear sight. He said: "Did I not say to you, 'I know from Allah that which ye know not?'"

PICKTHALL: Then, when the bearer of glad tidings came, he laid it on his face and he became a seer once more. He said: Said I not unto you that I know from Allah that which ye know not?

97

YUSUF ALI: They said: "O our father! ask for us forgiveness for our sins, for we were truly at fault."

PICKTHALL: They said: O our father! Ask forgiveness of our sins for us, for lo! we were sinful.

98

YUSUF ALI: He said: "Soon will I ask my Lord for forgiveness for you: for he is indeed Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

PICKTHALL: He said: I shall ask forgiveness for you of my Lord. Lo! He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

99

YUSUF ALI: Then when they entered the presence of Joseph, he provided a home for his

parents with himself, and said: "Enter ye Egypt (all) in safety if it please Allah."

PICKTHALL: And when they came in before Joseph, he took his parents unto him, and said: Come into Egypt safe, if Allah will!

100

YUSUF ALI: And he raised his parents high on the throne (of dignity), and they fell down in prostration, (all) before him. He said: "O my father! this is the fulfilment of my vision of old! Allah hath made it come true! He was indeed good to me when He took me out of prison and brought you (all here) out of the desert, (even) after Satan had sown enmity between me and my brothers. Verily my Lord understandeth best the mysteries of all that He planneth to do, for verily He is full of knowledge and wisdom.

PICKTHALL: And he placed his parents on the dais and they fell down before him prostrate, and he said: O my father! This is the interpretation of my dream of old. My Lord hath made it true, and He hath shown me kindness, since He took me out of the prison and hath brought you from the desert after Satan had made strife between me and my brethren. Lo! my Lord is tender unto whom He will. He is the Knower, the Wise.

101

YUSUF ALI: "O my Lord! Thou hast indeed bestowed on me some power, and taught me something of the interpretation of dreams and events,- O Thou Creator of the heavens and the earth! Thou art my Protector in this world and in the Hereafter. Take Thou my soul (at death) as one submitting to Thy will (as a Muslim), and unite me with the righteous."

PICKTHALL: O my Lord! Thou hast given me (something) of sovereignty and hast taught me (something) of the interpretation of events - Creator of the heavens and the earth! Thou art my Protecting Guardian in the world and the Hereafter. Make me to die Muslim (unto Thee), and join me to the righteous.

102

YUSUF ALI: Such is one of the stories of what happened unseen, which We reveal by inspiration unto thee; nor wast thou (present) with them then when they concerted their plans together in the process of weaving their plots.

PICKTHALL: This is of the tidings of the Unseen which We inspire in thee (Muhammad). Thou wast not present with them when they fixed their plan and they were scheming.

103

YUSUF ALI: Yet no faith will the greater part of mankind have, however ardently thou dost desire it.

PICKTHALL: And though thou try much, most men will not believe.

104

YUSUF ALI: And no reward dost thou ask of them for this: it is no less than a message for all creatures.

PICKTHALL: Thou askest them no fee for it. It is naught else than a reminder unto the peoples.

105

YUSUF ALI: And how many Signs in the heavens and the earth do they pass by? Yet they turn (their faces) away from them!

PICKTHALL: How many a portent is there in the heavens and the earth which they pass by with face averted!

106

YUSUF ALI: And most of them believe not in Allah without associating (other as partners) with Him!

PICKTHALL: And most of them believe not in Allah except that they attribute partners (unto Him).

107

YUSUF ALI: Do they then feel secure from the coming against them of the covering veil of the wrath of Allah,- or of the coming against them of the (final) Hour all of a sudden while they perceive not?

PICKTHALL: Deem they themselves secure from the coming on them of a pall of Allah's punishment, or the coming of the Hour suddenly while they are unaware?

108

YUSUF ALI: Say thou: "This is my way: I do invite unto Allah,- on evidence clear as the seeing with one's eyes,- I and whoever follows me. Glory to Allah! and never will I join gods with Allah!"

PICKTHALL: Say: This is my Way: I call on Allah with sure knowledge. I and whosoever followeth me - Glory be to Allah! - and I am not of the idolaters.

109

YUSUF ALI: Nor did We send before thee (as messengers) any but men, whom we did inspire,- (men) living in human habitations. Do they not travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those before them? But the home of the hereafter is best, for those who do right. Will ye not then understand?

PICKTHALL: We sent not before thee (any messengers) save men whom We inspired from among the folk of the townships - Have they not travelled in the land and seen the nature of the consequence for those who were before them? And verily the abode of the Hereafter, for those who ward off (evil), is best. Have ye then no sense?

110

YUSUF ALI: (Respite will be granted) until, when the messengers give up hope (of their people) and (come to) think that they were treated as liars, there reaches them Our help, and those whom We will are delivered into safety. But never will be warded off our punishment from those who are in sin.

PICKTHALL: Till, when the messengers despaired and thought that they were denied, then came unto them Our help, and whom We would was saved. And Our wrath cannot be warded from the guilty.

111

YUSUF ALI: There is, in their stories, instruction for men endued with understanding. It is not a tale invented, but a confirmation of what went before it,- a detailed exposition of all things, and a guide and a mercy to any such as believe.

PICKTHALL: In their history verily there is a lesson for men of understanding. It is no invented story but a confirmation of the existing (Scripture) and a detailed explanation of everything, and a guidance and a mercy for folk who believe.