

# Islam Question & Answer

General Supervisor:  
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## 230021 - What is meant by the Prophet's words, "Read (or recite) the Qur'an, for it will come as an intercessor for its companions"?

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### the question

In the hadith which was narrated by Imam Muslim from Abu Umaamah al-Baahili (may Allah be pleased with him), it says that the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: "Read (or recite) the Qur'an, for it will come on the Day of Resurrection as an intercessor for its companions; read the two bright ones, al-Baqarah and Aal 'Imraan..." What does *iqra'u* (read, recite) mean - does it refer to memorizing or simply reciting?

### Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

The command in the Prophet's words "*iqra'u* (read, recite)" refers to reading (or reciting) in general terms, whether that is reading from the Mus-haf or reciting by heart (from memory).

"It will come as an intercessor for its companions" means for those who read it (or recite it).

End quote from *at-Tayseer Sharh al-Jaami' as-Sagheer* by al-Minnaawi (1/193).

What is meant by that is constantly and regularly reading (or reciting). This is indicated by the phrase "for its companions"; the companion is one who constantly stays with you.

It says in *Fataawa al-Lajnah ad-Daa'imah* - vol. 2 (3/125):

Undoubtedly the one who reads the Qur'an, acts upon its meanings, puts it into practice and recites it correctly, and constantly recites it, will attain the pleasure of Allah and His Paradise, and

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he will reach the highest levels of Paradise, with the honourable noble scribes, and it will be an intercessor and advocate for its companions who act in accordance with it, whether they memorized the Qur'an and learned it by heart, or read it from the Mus-haf without memorizing it. This is indicated by the report narrated by Imam Muslim and Ahmad from Abu Umaamah al-Baahili, who said: I heard the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) say: "Read (or recite) the Qur'an, for it will come on the Day of Resurrection as an intercessor for its companions." End quote.

Merely reading (or reciting) the Qur'an, on its own, is not sufficient to attain its intercession; rather it is essential, in addition to reading (or reciting) it, to act in accordance with it. This is indicated by what is said in the other hadith which was narrated by Muslim (805), according to which the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: "The Qur'an will be brought on the Day of Resurrection, as will its people who used to act in accordance with it, led by Soorat al-Baqarah and Aal 'Imraan, as if they are two clouds, or two black canopies, with light between them, or as if they are two flocks of birds in ranks, pleading on behalf of their companions."

It says in *Mirqaat al-Mafaateeh Sharh Mishkaat al-Masaabeeh* (4/1461):

"who used to act in accordance with it" indicates that those who read (or recite) it but do not act in accordance with it will not be among the people of the Qur'an, and it will not be an intercessor for them; rather the Qur'an will be proof against them. End quote.

Shaykh Ibn Baaz (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

The words of the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him), "Read (or recite) the Qur'an, for it will come on the Day of Resurrection as an intercessor for its companions," were narrated by Muslim in his Saheeh. Its companions are those who act in accordance with it, as it says in the other hadith, in which the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: "The Qur'an will be brought on the Day of Resurrection, as will its people who used to act in accordance with it

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End quote from *Majmoo' Fataawa Ibn Baaz* (8/156).

What is mentioned above does not mean that a person should not be keen to memorize the Qur'an, for the one who memorizes the Qur'an will undoubtedly have an advantage over others, as is indicated by the religious texts. For more information concerning that, please see the answers to questions no. [14035](#) and [20803](#).

And Allah knows best.