

Description of Paradise and Hell according to Quran:

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Description of Paradise according to Quran:

The reality of Paradise is something which people will never be able to understand until they actually enter it, but God has shown us glimpses of it in the Quran. He has described it as a place essentially different to the life of this world, both in the very nature and purpose of life, as well as the types of delights which people will enjoy therein. The Quran tells people about Paradise, which God offers to them, describes its great blessings, and proclaims its beauties to everyone. It informs people that Paradise is one of two ways of life prepared for them in the afterworld, and that every good thing will be theirs in Paradise to a degree that surpasses our present ability to imagine. It also shows that Paradise is a place where all blessings have been created perfectly and where people will be offered everything their souls and hearts will desire, and that people will be far removed from want and need, anxiety or sadness, sorrow and regret. Every kind of beauty and blessing exists in Paradise and will be revealed with a perfection never seen or known before. God has prepared such blessings there as a gift, and these will be offered only to people with whom He is pleased. (People who believed in him, did not commit Shirk, believe in His Messengers, Books, the day of Resurrection/judgment and followed their life obeying his commandments)

But what is the nature of these delights in Paradise, and how will it be different from the delights of this world? We will try to highlight a few of these differences.

Pure delight without pain and suffering

While people in this world experience some delight, they also face much toil and suffering. If one was to scrutinize the life which they live, they will find that the amount of hardship they face is much more than the ease and comfort. As for the life of the Hereafter, there will be neither hardship nor suffering in it, and people will live therein in pure joy and delight. All the causes of sorrow, pain and suffering which people experience in this life will be absent in the Hereafter. Let's take a look at some of these causes.

Wealth

When one thinks of success in this life, they usually conjure the image of big houses, fine jewelry and clothing, and expensive cars; financial stability is seen to be the key to a happy life. To most people, success is inseparably related to wealth, even though this is the furthest from the truth. How many times have we seen the wealthiest of people living such miserable lives, that it sometimes even leads them to commit suicide! Wealth is something which humans in their very nature desire at any cost, and this desire has been created for a great and wise purpose. When this desire is not satiated, it causes some extent of grief in a person. For this reason, God has promised the inhabitants of Paradise that they will have all that they imagined as far as wealth and belongings are concerned, both for those who were extremely poor, experiencing even hunger and thirst, to those well-to-do but who desired even more. God gives us a glimpse of this when he says:

“... There will be there all that the souls could desire, all that the eyes could delight in ...” (Quran 43:71)

“Eat and drink at ease for that which you have sent forth (good deeds) in days past!” (Quran 69:24)

“... They will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold, and they will wear green garments of fine silk and heavy brocade. They

will recline therein on raised thrones. How good [is] the recompense! How good is the resting place.” (Quran 18:31)

Disease and Death

Another cause of pain and suffering in this life is the death of a loved one or disease, which are both non-existent in Paradise. None will feel any sickness or pain in Paradise.

The Prophet Muhammad said that a caller will call out in Paradise when people enter it:

“Indeed may you be healthy and never be sick again, may you live and never die again, may you be young and never grow feeble again, may you enjoy, and never feel sorrow and regret again.” (*Saheeh Muslim*)

Social Relationships

As for the remorse felt due to a rift in personal relationships, people will never hear any evil or hurting comments or speech in Paradise. They will only hear good words and words of peace. God says:

“They will not hear therein ill speech or commission of sin. But only the saying of: Peace! Peace!” (Quran 56:25-26)

There will be no enmity between people or ill-feelings:

“And We shall remove from their breasts any (mutual) hatred or sense of injury (which they had, if at all, in the life of this world)...” (Quran 7:43)

The Prophet said:

“There will be no hatred or resentment among them, their hearts will be as one, and they will glorify God, morning and evening.” (*Saheeh Al-Bukhari*)

People will have the best of companions in the Hereafter, who were also the best people in the world:

“And whoever obeys God and the Messenger – those will be with the ones upon whom God has bestowed favor – of the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs and the righteous. And excellent are those as companions!” (Quran 4:69)

The hearts of the people of Paradise will be pure, their speech will be good, their deeds righteous. There will be no hurtful, upsetting, offensive or provocative talk there, for Paradise is free of all worthless words and deeds. If we were to discuss all the causes for anguish in this life, we would surely find its absence or opposite to be true in Paradise.

The Eternalness of the Hereafter

The Pleasures of this world are transient whilst the joys of the hereafter are lasting and eternal. In this life when a person enjoys something, it is only a short while before they get bored with it and proceeds to search for something they feel is better, or they may not feel a need for it altogether. As for the delights of Paradise, a person will never feel bored with anything, but rather, its goodness will increase each time they indulge in it.

Also, the life of this world is very short. Humans only live on this earth for a short while, and very few people reach the age of seventy.

“...Say: Short is the enjoyment of this world. The Hereafter is (far) better for him who fears God...” (Quran 4:77)

As for Paradise, people will live forever. God says:

“...its provision is eternal and so is its shade...” (Quran 13:35)

“What is with you must vanish, and what is with God will endure ...” (Quran 16:96)

“(It will be said to them): This is Our Provision, which will never finish” (Quran 38:54)

Superior Delights

The delights of the people of Paradise, such as their clothing, food, drink, jewelry and palaces, will be far superior to their counterparts in this world. There is in fact no room for comparison, as even the smallest space in Paradise is better than this world and all that is in it.

Free from all Impurities

Paradise is free from all the impurities of this world. Eating and drinking in this life results in the need for excretion and its associated unpleasant odors. If a person drinks wine in this world, he loses his mind. Paradise is free from all of these discomforts: its people will not urinate, defecate, spit or suffer from catarrh. The wine of Paradise, as described by its Creator, is:

“Crystal-white, delicious to those who drink (thereof), free from intoxication, nor will they suffer intoxication there from” (Quran 37:46-47)

The water of Paradise does not become brackish, and its milk never changes in flavor:

“...rivers of water incorruptible; rivers of milk of which the taste never changes...” (Quran 47:15)

The women of Paradise are pure and free from menstruation, postnatal bleeding and all the other impurities suffered by women in this world, and all are free from stool and feces. God says:

“...and they will have therein purified spouses...” (Quran 2:25)

The prophet answered a person when they asked how the people of Paradise will relieve themselves:

“They relieve themselves by perspiring through their skins, and its fragrance will be that of musk, and all stomachs will have become lean.” (*ibn Hibbaan*)

What we have mentioned has been a mere comparison in order to understand the nature of Paradise, but as God said, its delights are truly hidden:

“No person knows what is kept hidden for them of joy, as a reward for what they used to do.” (Quran 32:17)

Paradise: There is nothing Like It

The delights of Paradise surpass the imagination and defy description. They are like nothing known to the people of this world; no matter how advanced we may become, what we achieve is as nothing in comparison with the joys of the Hereafter. As is mentioned in several reports, there is nothing like Paradise:

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The Sahabah asked the Prophet about the buildings of Paradise and he replied with a wonderful description:

“Bricks of gold and silver, and mortar of fragrant musk, pebbles of pearl and sapphire, and soil of saffron. Whoever enters it is filled with joy and will never feel miserable; he will live there forever and never die; their clothes will never wear out and their youth will never fade.” (*Ahmad, at-Tirmidhi, ad-Daarimee*)

God says:

“And when you look there (in Paradise) you will see a delight (that cannot be imagined), and a great dominion.” (Quran 76:20)

What God has kept hidden from us the delights of Paradise is beyond our ability to comprehend. The Prophet said that God said:

“I have prepared for My slaves what no eye has seen, no ear has heard and no human heart can imagine.”

Below are the verses from The Quran, which describes paradise

Surah: 2. al-Baqara

25. But give glad tidings to those who believe and work righteousness that their portion is Gardens beneath which rivers flow. Every time they are fed with fruits there from they say: "This is what we were fed with before" for they are given things in similitude; and they have therein companions (pure and holy); and they abide therein (for ever).

Surah: 3. Aali Imran

15. Say: shall I give you glad tidings of things far better than those? For the righteous are Gardens in nearness to their Lord with rivers flowing beneath; Therein is their eternal home; with spouses purified and the good pleasure of Allah, for in Allah's sight are (all) His servants.

133. Be quick in the race for forgiveness from your Lord and for a garden whose width is that (of the whole) of the heavens and of the earth prepared for the righteous.

Surah: 4. an-Nisaa

57. But those who believe and do deeds of righteousness We shall soon admit to gardens with rivers flowing beneath their eternal home: therein shall they have companions pure and holy: We shall admit them to shades cool and ever deepening.

Surah: 7. al-a`raf

43. And We shall remove from their hearts any lurking sense of injury; beneath them will be rivers flowing; and they shall say: "Praise be to Allah Who has guided us to this (felicity): never could we have found guidance had it not been for the guidance of Allah: indeed it was the truth that the apostles of our Lord brought unto us." And they will be called, "This is paradise, which you have been made to inherit for what you used to do"

44. The companions of the garden will call out to the companions of the fire: "We have indeed found the promises of our Lord to us true: have you also found your Lord's promises true?" They shall say "yes"; but a crier shall proclaim between them: "the curse of Allah is on the wrong- doers;

Surah: 9. at-Tawbah

72. Allah has promised to believers men and women gardens under which rivers flow to dwell therein and beautiful mansions in gardens of everlasting bliss. But the greatest bliss in the Good Pleasure of Allah: that is the supreme felicity.

Surah: 13. ar-Ra'd

23. Gardens of perpetual bliss: they shall enter there as well as the righteous among their fathers their spouses and their offspring: and angels shall enter unto them from every gate (with the salutation):

35. The parable of the Garden which the righteous are promised! Beneath it rivers flow. Its fruit is lasting, and its shade. That is the consequence for the righteous, and the consequence for the disbeliever is the Fire.

Surah: 14. Ibrahim

23. But those who believe and work righteousness will be admitted to Gardens beneath which rivers flow, abiding eternally therein by permission of their Lord; and their greeting therein will be "Peace!"

Surah: 15. al-Hijr

45. Indeed the righteous (will be) amid Gardens and fountains (of clear-flowing water).

46. (Their greeting will be): "Enter it in peace, safe [and secure]."

47. And We shall remove from their hearts any lurking sense of injury: (they will be) brothers (joyfully) facing each other on thrones (of dignity).

48. There no sense of fatigue shall touch them nor shall they (ever) be asked to leave.

Surah: 16. an-Nahl

31. Gardens of Eternity which they will enter: beneath them flow (pleasant) rivers: they will have therein all that they wish: Thus does Allah reward the righteous

Surah: 18. al-Kahf

31. For them will be Gardens of Eternity; beneath them rivers will flow; they will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold and they will wear green garments of fine silk and heavy brocade; they will recline therein on raised thrones. How good the recompense! How beautiful a couch to recline on!

Surah: 22. al-Hajj

14. Verily Allah will admit those who believe and work righteous deeds to Gardens beneath which rivers flow: for Allah carries out all that He plans.

23. Allah will admit those who believe and work righteous deeds to Gardens beneath which rivers flow: they shall be adorned therein with bracelets of gold and pearls; and their garments there will be of silk.

Surah: 25. al-Furqaan

15. Say: "Is that best or the eternal Garden promised to the righteous? For them that is a reward as well as a goal (of attainment).

16. "For them there will be therein all that they wish [while] abiding eternally. It is ever upon your Lord a promise [worthy to be] requested.

Surah 35. Fatir

33. [For them are] Gardens of Eternity will they enter: therein will they be adorned with bracelets of Gold and pearls; and their garments there will be of silk.

34. And they will say:"Praise be to Allah, who has removed from us (all) sorrow: indeed, OUR Lord is Forgiving and Appreciative.

35. He who has settled us in the home of duration [i.e Paradise] out of his bounty. There touches us not in it any fatigue, and there touches us not in it weariness [of mind].

Surah: 36. Ya seen

55. Indeed the companions of paradise, that day, will be amused in [joyful] occupation

56. They and their spouses-in shade, reclining on adorned couches.

57. For them therein are fruits, and for them is whatever they request [or wish]

58. [And] "peace/salam" a word from a Merciful Lord.

Surah: 37. as-Saaffaat

40. But the sincere (and devoted) servants of Allah

41. For them is a Sustenance Determined

42. Fruits (Delights) and they (shall enjoy) honor and dignity.

43. In Gardens of pleasure.
44. Facing each other on Thrones (of dignity):
45. Round will be passed to them a Cup from a clear-flowing fountain
46. Crystal-white of a taste delicious to those who drink (thereof)
47. No bad effect is there in it, nor from it will they be intoxicated.
48. And with them will be women limiting [their] glances, with large, [beautiful] eyes.
49. As if they were (delicate) eggs closely guarded.
50. Then they will turn to one another and question one another.
51. One of them will start the talk and say: "I had an intimate companion (on the earth)
52. "Who used to say `Are you indeed of those who believe
53. " `When we die and become dust and bones shall we indeed receive rewards and punishments?"
54. (A voice) said: "Would you like to look down?"
55. He looked down and saw him in the midst of the Fire.

56. He will say, "By Allah, you almost ruined me.

57. "Had it not been for the Grace of my Lord I should certainly have been among those brought in [to Hell].

58. "Is it (the case) that we shall not die

59. "Except our first death and that we will not be punished?"

60. Verily this is the supreme achievement!

61. For the like of this let all strive who wish to strive.

Surah: 38. Saad

49. This is a Message (of admonition): and verily, for the righteous, is a beautiful place of (final) return,-

50. Gardens of eternity, whose doors will be opened to them;

51. Reclining within them, they will call therein for abundant fruit and drink.;

52. And beside them will be Chaste women restraining their glances, (companions) of equal age.

53. Such is the Promise made to you for the Day of Account!

54. Truly such will be our Bounty (to you); for It there is no depletion.

Surah: 39. az-Zumar

73. And those who feared their Lord will be led to the Garden in groups until, when they reach it while its gates have been opened and its keeper say."Peace be upon you; you have become pure; so enter it to eternally therein'

74. They will say: "Praise be to Allah Who has truly fulfilled His promise to us and has given us (this) land in heritage: we can dwell in the Garden as we will: how excellent a reward for those who work (righteousness)!"

75. And you will see the angels surrounding the Throne, exalting [Allah] with praise of their Lord. And it will be judged between them in truth, and it will be said, "[ALL] praise to Allah. Lord of the worlds.

Surah: 41. Fussilat (Ha-Mim)

30. Indeed, those who have said, "Our Lord is Allah" and then remained on a right course- the angels will descend upon them [saying], "Do not fear and do not grieve but receive good tidings of Paradise, which you were promised.

31. "We are your protectors in this life and in the Hereafter: therein shall you have all that your souls shall desire; therein shall you have all that you ask for!

Surah: 43. az-Zukhruf

68. My devotees! no fear shall be on you that Day nor shall you grieve

69. [You] who believed in Our verses and were Muslims.

70. Enter the Garden, you and your kinds, delighted.

71. To them will be passed round dishes and goblets of gold: there will be there all that the souls could desire all that the eyes could delight in: and you will abide therein eternally.

72. Such will be the Garden of which you are made heirs for your (good) deeds (in life).

73. You shall have therein abundance of fruit from which you shall have satisfaction.

Surah: 44. ad-Dukhaan

51. As to the Righteous (they will be) in a position of Security

52. Among Gardens and Springs;

53. Dressed in fine silk and in rich brocade they will face each other;

54. So; and We shall Join them to Companions with beautiful big and lustrous eyes.

55. There can they call for every kind of fruit in peace and security;

56. Nor will they there taste Death except the first Death; and He will preserve them from the Penalty of the Blazing Fire

57. As a Bounty from thy Lord! That will be the supreme achievement!

Surah: 47. Muhammed (S.A.W)

15. (Here is) a Parable of the Garden which the righteous are promised: in it are rivers of water incorruptible: rivers of milk of which the taste never changes; rivers of wine a joy to those who drink; and rivers of honey pure and clear. In it there are for them all kinds of fruits and Grace from their Lord. (Can those in such Bliss) be compared to such as shall dwell forever in the Fire and be given to drink boiling water so that it cuts up their bowels (to pieces)?

Surah: 55. ar-Rahman

46. But for he who has feared the position of your Lord [accountability to Allah] there will be two Gardens

48. Containing all kinds (of trees and delights)

50. In them (each) will be two Springs flowing (free);

52. In them will be Fruits of every kind two and two.

54. They will recline on Carpets whose inner linings will be of rich brocade: the Fruit of the Gardens will be near (and easy of reach).

56. In them will be (Maidens) Chaste restraining their glances whom no man or Jinn before them has touched

58. As if they were rubies and coral.

60. Is there any Reward for Good other than Good?

62. And besides these two there are two other Gardens

64. Dark green in color (from plentiful watering).

66. In them (each) will be two springs pouring forth water in continuous abundance:

68. In them will be Fruits and dates and pomegranates:

70. In them are good and beautiful women

72. Fair ones reserved in pavilions-

74. Whom no man or Jinn before them has touched

76. Reclining on green Cushions and rich Carpets of beauty.

Surah: 56. al-Waaqi`ah

10. And those Foremost (in Faith) will be Foremost (in the Hereafter).

11. These will be those Nearest to Allah:

12. In Gardens of Bliss:

15. (They will be) on Thrones encrusted (with gold and precious stones).

16. Reclining on them facing each other.

17. Round about them will (serve) youths of perpetual (freshness).

18. With goblets (shining) beakers and cups (filled) out of clear- flowing fountains:

19. No after-ache will they receive therefrom , nor will they suffer intoxication:

20. And with fruits any that they may select;

21. And the meat of fowl, from whatever they desire.

22. And (there will be) Companions with beautiful big and lustrous eyes- -

23. Like unto Pearls well-guarded.

24. A Reward for the Deeds of their past (Life).

25. They will not hear therein ill speech or commission of sin.

26. Only the saying "Peace! Peace."
27. The Companions of the Right Hand what will be the Companions of the Right Hand?
28. (They will be) among lote trees without thorns
29. Among Talh trees with flowers (or fruits) piled one above another
30. In shade long-extended
31. By water flowing constantly
32. And fruit in abundance
33. Whose season is not limited nor (supply) forbidden
34. And [upon] beds raised high.
35. We have created (their Companions) of special creation.
36. And made them virgin-pure (and undefiled)
37. Beloved (by nature) and equal in age

Surah: 69. al-Haaqqah

19. So as for he who is given his record in his right hand, he will say, "Here, read my record!

20. "I did really understand that my Account would (one Day) reach me!"

21. And he will be in a life of Bliss

22. In a elevated garden.

23. The Fruits whereof (will hang in bunches) low and near.

24. [They will be told],"Eat and drink in satisfaction for what you put forth in the days past.

Surah: 76. al-Insaan

5. As to the Righteous they shall drink of a Cup (of Wine) mixed with Kafur

6. A Fountain where the Devotees of Allah will drink ; they will make it gush forth in force [and abundance].

7. They perform (their) vows and they fear a Day whose evil flies far and wide.

8. And they feed for the love of Allah to the needy, the orphan and the captive,

9. (Saying) "We feed you for the sake of Allah alone: No reward do we desire from you nor thanks.

10. "We only fear a Day of distressful Wrath from the side of our Lord."

11. So Allah will protect them from the evil of that day and give them radiance and happiness.

12. And because they were patient and constant He will reward them with a Garden and (garments of) silk.

13. Reclining in the (Garden) on raised thrones they will not see any [burning] sun or [freezing] cold.

14. And the shades of the (Garden) will come low over them and the bunches (of fruit) there will hang low in humility.

15. And amongst them will be passed round vessels of silver and goblets of crystal

16. Crystal-clear made of silver: they will determine the measure thereof (according to their wishes).

17. And they will be given to drink there of a Cup (of Wine) mixed with Zanjabil

18. [From] a fountain within it [i.e., paradise] named Salsabil.

19. They will circulate among them young boys made eternal. When you see them, you would think them [as beautiful as] scattered pearls.

20. And when you look there [in Paradise], you will see pleasure and great dominion..

21. Upon them [i.e., the inhabitants] will be green Garments of fine silk and heavy brocade and they will be adorned with Bracelets of silver; and their Lord will give to them to drink of a Wine Pure and Holy.

22. [And it will be said], "Verily this is a Reward for you and your efforts/Endeavor is accepted and recognized."

Surah: 77. al-Mursalaat

41. As to the righteous, they shall be amidst (cool) shades and springs (of water)

42. And (they shall have) fruits, -all they desire.

43. "Eat and drink in satisfaction for what you used to do (good deeds).

44. Indeed, We thus reward the doers of good.

Surah: 78.an-Naba'

31. Verily for the righteous there will be a fulfillment of (the Heart's) desires;

32. Gardens enclosed and Grape-vines;

33. Companions of Equal Age;

34. And a Cup full (to the Brim).

35. No ill speech will they hear therein or any falsehood.

36. [As] reward from your Lord [a generous] gift calculated {to be adequate}.

Surah: 83. at-Mutaffifeen

18. No! Indeed, the record of the righteous is in “illiyyun”.
19. And what can make you know what is illiyyun?
20. (There is) a Register (fully) inscribed.
21. To which bear witness those nearest (to Allah).
22. Truly the Righteous will be in Bliss:/pleasure.
23. On Thrones (of Dignity) will they command a sight (of all things):
24. You will recognize in their Faces the radiance of pleasure.
25. They will be given a drink [pure] wine [which was] sealed.
26. The seal thereof will be Musk: and for this let those aspire who have aspirations:
27. With it will be (given) a mixture of Tasneem:
28. A spring from (the waters) whereof drink those Nearest to Allah.

Surah: 88. al-Ghaashiyah

8. [Other] faces that Day will be joyful.
9. Pleased with their Striving/efforts

10. In an elevated Garden.
11. Where they will hear no unsuitable speech.
12. Within it is a flowing spring.
13. Therein will be Thrones (of dignity) raised high.
14. Goblets/cups placed (ready).
15. And Cushions set in rows
16. And rich carpets (All) spread out.

AS we just saw the glimpses of paradise described in Quran for the inhabitants of paradise, but these pleasures (which we cannot even imagine in this life) are still nothing to the ultimate pleasure of seeing Allah suban hu tala in Paradise.

The Quran says “Faces shining brightly [believers] on the day of resurrection will look at their Rabb,” (surah Qiyamah, verse 22,23).

Our beloved prophet said “You will see your Rabb clearly on the day of judgment as you see the full moon [Bukhari].

In contrast the disbeliever will be deprived of seeing their Rabb on that day. (Surah Mutaffifeen, verse 15).

May Allah make us among those who will enter paradise and see our Lord (Ameen).

To achieve this ultimate goal, just believing in Allah, His Messengers, and books is not enough, we have to follow His and Allah’s Messenger commandments also as described in Quran and prophet’s sunnah.

Description of Hell according to Quran:

Islam teaches that Hell is a real place prepared by God for those who do not believe in Him, rebel against His laws, and reject His messengers. Hell is an actual place, not a mere state of mind or a spiritual entity. The horrors, pain, anguish, and punishment are all real, but different in nature than their earthly counterparts. Hell is the ultimate humiliation and loss, and nothing is worse than it:

"Our Lord! Surely, whom you admit to the Fire, indeed you have disgraced him, and never will the wrongdoers find any helpers." (Quran 3:192)

"Do they not know that whoever opposes God and His Messenger (Muhammad), certainly for him will be the Fire of Hell to abide therein? That is the extreme disgrace"(Q 9/63)

The Names of Hell

Hell Fire has different names in Islamic texts. Each name gives a separate description. Some of its names are:

Jaheem – fire - because of its blazing fire.

Jahannam - Hell - because of the depth of its pit.

Sa'eer - blazing flame - because it is kindled and ignited.

Saqar - because of the intensity of its heat.

Hatamah - broken pieces or debris - because it breaks and crushes everything that is thrown into it.

These texts make it clear that Hell and Paradise exist. Speaking of Hell's eternity, God says:

"They will wish to get out of the Fire, but never will they leave there from; and theirs will be a lasting torment." (Quran 5:37)

"...And they will never leave of the Fire." (Quran 2:167)

"Surely, those who disbelieve and did wrong; God will not forgive them, nor will He guide them to any way except the way of Hell, to dwell therein forever." (Quran 4:168-169)

"Surely, God has cursed the disbelievers, and has prepared for them a flaming Fire wherein they will abide forever." (Quran 33:64)

"And whosoever disobeys God and His Messenger, then surely, for him is the fire of Hell, he shall dwell therein forever." (Quran 72:23)

The Keepers of Hell

Mighty and stern angels stand over Hell who never disobeys God. They do precisely as ordered. God says:

"O you who believe, save yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is men and stones over which are (appointed) angels, stern and severe, who flinch not (from executing) the commands they receive from God, but do (precisely what) they are commanded." (Quran 66:6)

They are nineteen keepers of Hell as God says:

"Soon I will cast him into Hell Fire. And what will explain to you what is Hellfire? Nothing does it allow to endure, and nothing does it leave alone! Darkening and changing the color of man! Over it are nineteen (angels as keepers of Hell)." (Quran 74:26-30)

"And those in the Fire will say to the Guards of Hell, 'Call upon your Lord to lighten for us the torment for a day!'" (Quran 40:49)

The name of the chief angel guarding over Hell is Malik, as mentioned in the Quran:

"Surely, the disbelievers will be in the torment of Hell to abide therein forever. (The torment) will not be lightened for them, and they will be plunged into destruction with deep regrets, sorrows and in despair therein. We wronged them not, but they were the wrongdoers. And they will cry: 'O Malik! Let your Lord make an end of us' He will say: 'Surely, you shall abide forever.' Indeed We have brought the truth to you, but most of you have a hatred for the truth" (Quran 43:74-78).

Its Location

There is no exact mention from the Quran or the sayings of Prophet Muhammad which pinpoint the location of Hell. No one knows its exact place except God.

Its Size

Hell is huge and immensely deep. We know this through several ways.

"On the Day when We will say to Hell: 'Are you filled?' It will say, 'Are there any more (to come)?" (Quran 50:30)

A, great many angels will bring Hell on the Day of Resurrection. God speaks of it:

"And Hell will be brought near that Day..." (Quran 89:23)

The Prophet said:

"Hell will be brought forth that Day by means of seventy thousand ropes, each of which will be held by seventy thousand angels.

Another narration from the prophet indicates the vast size of Hell is that the sun and moon will be rolled up in Hell on the Day of Resurrection.

Its Levels

Hell has various levels of heat and punishment, each is reserved according to the extent of their disbelief and sins of those being punished. God says:

"Surely, the hypocrites will be in the lowest depths (grade) of the Fire." (Quran 4:145)

The lower the level of Hell, the greater is the intensity of heat. Since the hypocrites will suffer the worst punishment, so will they be in the lowest part of Hell.

God refers to the levels of Hell in the Quran:

"For all will be (ranked) by degrees according to what they did." (Quran 6:132)

"Is one who seeks the good pleasure of God then like the one who draws on himself the wrath of God? His abode is Hell – and worst, indeed, is that destination! They are in varying grades with God, and God is All-Seer of what they do." (Quran 3:162-163)

The Gates of Hell

God speaks of seven Gates of Hell in the Quran:

"And surely, Hell is the promised place for them all. It has seven gates, for each of these gates is a class of sinners assigned." (Quran 15:43-44)

Each gate has an allotted share of the damned who will enter through it. Each will enter according to his deeds and assigned a level of Hell accordingly. When the unbelievers are brought to Hell, its gates will open; they will enter it, and stay in it forever:

"And those who disbelieved will be driven to Hell in groups until, when they reach it, its gates are opened and its keepers will say,

‘Did there not come to you messengers from yourselves, reciting to you the verses of your Lord and warning you of the meeting of this Day of yours?’ They will say, ‘Yes, but the word (meaning the decree) of punishment has come into effect upon the disbelievers.’” (Quran 39:71)

They will be told after admission:

"Enter the gates of Hell to abide eternally therein, and wretched is the residence of the arrogant." (Quran 39:72)

The gates will be shut and there will be no hope of escape as God says:

"But those who reject Our signs, they are the companions of the left hand. On them will be Fire vaulted over (meaning the gates will be locked). (Quran 90:19-20)

Furthermore, God says in the Quran:

"Woe to every scorner and mocker, who collects wealth and (continuously) counts it, He thinks that his wealth will make him immortal. No! He will surely be thrown into the Crusher. And what can make you know what is the Crusher? It is the fire of God, (eternally) fueled, which mounts directed at the hearts. Indeed, it (Hellfire) will be closed down upon them in extended columns." (Quran 104:1-9)

Its Fuel

Stones and stubborn unbelievers make the fuel of Hell as God says:

"O you who have believed, protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones..." (Quran 66:6)

"...then fear the Fire, whose fuel is men and stones, prepared for the disbelievers." (Quran 2:24)

Another source of fuel for Hell will be the pagan gods that were worshipped besides God:

"Indeed, you (disbelievers) and what you worship other than God are the firewood of Hell. You will be coming to (enter) it. Had these (false deities) been (actual) gods, they would not have come to it, but all are eternal therein." (Quran 21:98-99)

The Clothing of its Inhabitants

God tells us that the dress of the people of Hell will be garments of fire tailored for them:

"...But those who disbelieved will have cut out for them garments of fire. Poured upon their heads will be scalding water." (Quran 22:19)

"And you will see the criminals that Day bound together in shackles, their garments of liquid pitch (melted copper) and their faces covered by the Fire." (Quran 14:49-50)

Its Heat

God says:

"And the companions of the left – what are the companions of the left? (They will be) in scorching fire and scalding water and a shade of black smoke, neither cool nor beneficial." (Quran 56:41-44)

Everything people use to cool down in this world – air, water, shade – will be useless in Hell. The air of Hell will be hot wind and the water will be boiling. The shade will not be comforting or cooling, the shade in Hell will be the shadow of black smoke as mentioned in the verse:

"And shadow of black smoke." (Quran 56:43)

In another passage, God says:

"But he, whose balance (of good deeds) will be light, will have his home in a (bottomless) pit. And what will explain to you what this is? (It is) a Fire blazing fiercely." (Quran 101:8-11)

God describes how the shade of Hell's smoke will rise above the Fire. The smoke that rises from Hell will be divided into three columns. Its shade will neither cool nor offer any protection from the raging Fire. The flying sparks will be like huge castles similar to string of marching yellow camels:

"Proceed to a shadow (of smoke) having three columns (but having) no cool shade and availing not against the flame. Indeed, it throws sparks (as huge) as a fortress, as if they were yellow camels (marching swiftly)." (Quran 77:30-33)

The Fire consumes everything, leaving nothing untouched. It burns skin reaching all the way to the bones, melting the contents of the stomach, leaping up to the hearts, and exposing the vital organs. God speaks of the intensity and affect of the Fire:

"I will drive him into Hellfire. And what can make you know what is Hellfire? It lets nothing remain and leaves nothing (unburned), altering the skins." (Quran 74:26-29)

The Fire never extinguishes:

"So taste you (the results of your evil deeds). No increase shall We give you except in torment." (Quran 78:30)

"...Whenever it abates, We shall increase for them the fierceness of the Fire." (Quran 17:97)

The torment will never be reduced and the unbelievers will not have any break: "...Their torment shall not be lightened nor shall they be helped." (Quran 2:86)

The Food of its Inhabitants

The food of the people of Hell is described in the Quran. God says:

"No food will there be for them except from a bitter, thorny plant which neither nourishes nor avails against hunger." (Quran 88:6-7)

The food will neither nourish nor taste good. It will only serve as a punishment to the people of Hell. In other passages, God describes the tree of *zaqqum*, a special food of Hell. *Zaqqum* is a repulsive tree; its roots go deep into the bottom of Hell, its branches stretching all over. Its ugly fruit is like the heads of the devils. He says:

"Indeed, the tree of *zaqqum* is food for the sinful, like murky oil, it boils within bellies, like the boiling of scalding water." (Quran 44:43-46)

"Is that (Paradise) better as hospitality or the tree of *zaqqum*? Indeed, We have made it a torment for the wrongdoers. Indeed, it is a tree issuing from the bottom of the Hellfire, its emerging fruit as if it was heads of the devils. And, indeed, they will eat from it and fill with it their bellies. Then, indeed, they will have after it a mixture of scalding water. Then, indeed, their return will be to the Hellfire." (Quran 37:62-68)

"Then indeed you, O those astray (who are) deniers, will be eating from trees of *zaqqum* and filling with it your bellies, and drinking on top of it from scalding water, and will drink as the drinking of thirsty camels. That is their hospitality on the Day of Recompense." (Quran 56:51-56)

People of Hell will get so hungry that they will eat from the obnoxious tree of *zaqqum*. When they will fill their bellies with it, it will start to churn like boiling oil causing immense suffering. At that point they will rush to drink extremely hot water. They will drink it like thirsty camels, yet it will never quench their thirst.

Rather their internals will be torn. God says:

"...They will be given to drink boiling water, so that it cuts up their bowels (to pieces)." (Quran 47:15)

The thorny bushes and zaqqum will choke them and stick in their throats because of their foulness:

"Surely, with us are fetters (to bind them) and a raging Fire (to burn them), and a food that chokes and a penalty grievous."
(Quran 73:12-13)

Another food served to the people of Hell will be festering puss that oozes out of their skin, and the decaying skin and flesh of those being burnt. It is the "juice" of the people of Hell. God says:

"So no friend has he here this Day, nor has he any food except filth from the washing of wounds which none do eat but those in sin." (Quran 69:35-37)

"This – so let them taste it – is scalding water and (foul) purulence. And other (punishments) of its type (in various) kinds."
(Quran 38:57-58)

Lastly, some sinners will be fed fire from Hell as a punishment. God says:

"Indeed, those who devour the property of orphans unjustly are only consuming into their bellies fire." (Quran 4:10)

"Indeed, they who conceal what God has sent down of the Book and exchange it for a small price – those consume not into their bellies except the Fire." (Quran 2:174)

Its Drink

God tells in the Quran about the drink of people of Hell:

"They will be given to drink boiling water, so that it cuts up their bowels (to pieces)." (Quran 47:15)

"...And if they call for relief, they will be relieved with water like murky oil, which scalds (their) faces. Wretched is the drink, and evil is the resting place." (Quran 18:29)

"Before him is Hell, and he will be given a drink of purulent water. He will gulp it but will hardly (be able to) swallow it. And death will come to him from everywhere, but he is not to die. And before him is a massive punishment." (Quran 14:16-17)

The types of drink people of Hell will get to drink are as follows:

- Extremely hot water as God says:

"They will go around between it and scalding water, heated (to the utmost degree)." (Quran 55:44)

"They will be given drink from a boiling spring." (Quran 88:5)

The intensity of the fire of Hell will be such that people will be willing to give up their dearest possessions to escape it:

"Indeed, those who disbelieve and die while they are disbelievers – never would the (whole) capacity of the earth in gold be accepted from one of them if he would (seek to) ransom himself with it. For those there will be a painful punishment, and they will have no helpers." (Quran 3:91)

The horror and intensity of the Fire is enough to make a man lose his mind. He would be willing to give up everything he holds dear to save from it, but he never will be. God says:

"The criminal will wish that he could be ransomed from the punishment of that Day by his children, and his wife and his brother, and his nearest kindred who shelter him, and all – all that is on earth – so it could save him. No! Indeed, it is the Flame (of Hell), plucking out (his being) tight to the skull!" (Quran 70:11-16)

Many verses of the Quran speak of various levels of punishment for the people of Hell:

"The hypocrites will be in the lowest depths of the Fire." (Quran 4:145)

"And on the Day that Judgment will be established (it will be said to the angels): Cast the people of Pharaoh into the severest penalty!" (Quran 40:46)

The Fire kindled by God will burn the skin of the people of Hell. The skin is the largest organ of the body and the site of sensation where the pain of burning is felt. God will replace the burnt skin with a new one to be burnt again, and this will keep on repeating:

"Indeed, those who disbelieve in Our verses – We will drive them into a Fire. Every time their skins are roasted through We will replace them with other skins so they may taste the punishment. Indeed, God is ever Exalted in Might and Wise." (Quran 4:56)

Another punishment of Hell is melting. When super-heated water will be poured on their heads, it will melt away the internals:

"...poured upon their heads will be scalding water by which is melted that within their bellies and (their) skins." (Quran 22:19-20)

One of the ways God will humiliate the sinful in Hell is by gathering them on Judgment Day on their faces, blind, deaf, and dumb.

"And We will gather them on the Day of Resurrection (fallen) on their faces – blind, dumb and deaf. Their refuge is Hell; every time it subsides We increase them in blazing fire." (Quran 17:97)

"And brings an evil deed — such will be flung down on their faces into the Fire, (and it will be said), ‘Are you recompensed for anything but what you used to do?’" (Quran 27:90)

"The Fire will burn their faces and they will grin therein, their lips displaced." (Quran 23:104)

"The Day their faces will be turned over in the Fire, they will say, ‘How we wish we had obeyed God and obeyed the Messenger.’" (Quran 33:66)

Another painful punishment of unbelievers will be getting dragged on their faces into Hell. God says:

"Indeed, the criminals are in error and madness. The Day they are dragged into the Fire on their faces (it will be said), 'Taste the touch of Hell.'" (Quran 54:47-48)

They will be dragged on their faces while they are tied in chains and fettered:

"Those who deny the Book (the Quran) and that with which We sent Our messengers – they are going to know, when the shackles are around their necks and the chains; they will be dragged in boiling water; then in the Fire they will be filled (with flame)." (Quran 40:70-72)

God will blacken the faces of the people of Hell:

"On the Day (some) faces will turn white and (some) faces will turn black. As for those whose faces turn black. (to them it will be said), 'Did you reject faith after your belief? Then taste the punishment for what you used to reject.'" (Quran 3:106)

Their faces will be such as if the night has covered them:

"But they who have earned (blame for) evil doings – the recompense of an evil deed is its equivalent, and humiliation will cover them. They will have from God no protector. It will be as if their faces are covered with pieces of the night – so dark (are they). Those are the companions of the Fire; they will abide therein eternally." (Quran 10:27)

The Fire will surround the unbeliever on all sides just as sins surrounded him like a sheet wound around his body:

"Theirs will be a bed of Fire and over them coverings (of Fire)..." (Quran 7:41)

"On the Day when the torment (of Hell) will cover them from above them and from underneath their feet." (Quran 29:55)

"...and surely Hell will surround the unbelievers..." (Quran 9:49)

The Fire of Hell will leap up to the hearts. The Fire will penetrate their super-sized bodies and reach the innermost depths:

"No! He will surely be thrown into the Crusher. And what can make you know what is the Crushers? It is the fire of God, (eternally) fueled, which mounts directed at the hearts." (Quran 104:4-7)

God has described the chains, yokes, and fetters of Hell. They will be tied up with chains and dragged with yokes on their necks:

"for the rejecters We have prepared iron chains, yokes, and a blazing Fire." (Quran 76:4)

"With Us are fetters (to bind them), and a Fire (to burn them), and a food that chokes, and a penalty grievous." (Quran 73:12-13)

"We will put yokes on the necks of the unbelievers. It would only be requital for their evil deeds." (Quran 34:33)

"when yokes will be put round their necks and the chains, they will be dragged along." (Quran 40:71)

"(The stern command will say): seize him and bind him, and burn him in the blazing Fire, further, make him march in a chain, whereof the length is seventy cubits." (Quran 69:30-32)

The pagan gods and all other deities that were worshipped besides God who people thought will be their intercessors with God and bringing them closer to Him will be thrown into Hell with them. This will be to humiliate and demonstrate that these false gods have no power,

"Indeed, you (disbelievers), and that which you worship other than God, are but fuel for Hell. Verily, you will enter it. Had these (false deities) been (actual) gods, they would not have entered there, but all will eternally abide therein." (Quran 21:98-99)

When the unbeliever will see Hell, he will be filled with remorse, but it will not be of any benefit:

"And they will feel regret when they see the punishment; and they will be judged in justice, and they will not be wronged." (Quran 10:54)

The unbeliever will pray for his death when they sense its heat,

"And when they are thrown into a narrow place therein bound in chains, they will cry out thereupon for destruction. (They will be told), 'Do not cry this Day for one destruction but cry for much destruction.'" (Quran 25:13-14)

Their screams will get louder and they will call onto God hoping He will take them out of Hell:

"And they will cry out therein, 'Our Lord, remove us; we will do righteousness – other than what we were doing!'" (Quran 35:37)

They will realize their sins and the error of stubborn disbelief:

"And they will say, 'If only we had been listening or reasoning, we would not be among the companions of the Blaze.' And they will admit their sin, so (it is) alienation for the companions of the Blaze." (Quran 67:10-11)

Their prayers will be rejected:

"They will say, 'Our Lord, our wretchedness overcame us, and we were a people astray. Our Lord, remove us from it, and if we were to return (to evil), we would indeed be wrongdoers.' He will say, 'Remain despised therein and do not speak to Me.'" (Quran 23:106-108)

After that, they will call the keepers of Hell asking them to intercede to God on their behalf for reduction in torment:

"And those in the Fire will say to the keepers of Hell, 'Supplicate your Lord to lighten for us a day from the punishment.' They will

say, 'Did there not come to you your messengers with clear proofs?' They will say, 'Yes.' They will reply, 'Then supplicate (yourselves), but the supplication of the disbelievers is not except in error.'" (Quran 40:49-50)

They will even plead for their own destruction to relieve themselves of the pain:

"And they will call, 'O Malik, let your Lord put an end to us!' He will say, 'Indeed, you will remain.'" (Quran 43:77)

They will be told the punishment will never be reduced, it is eternal:

"Then be patient or impatient – it is all the same for you. You are only being recompensed for what you used to do." (Quran 52:16)

They will weep for a long time:

"So let them laugh a little and then weep much as recompense for what they used to earn." (Quran 9:82)

As you have seen, the descriptions of Hell in the Islamic scripture are clear and graphic, as are the descriptions of the people who deserve their fate therein. Such is the clarity that any person who believes in Judgment Day and the eternal destinies of the Hereafter must be motivated to at least try not to be of the people thrown inside. The best, and really only, way of avoiding this fate is to seriously search into the true religion God has mandated for humanity. A person should never follow a religion merely because it was that which he was "born into", nor should they take religion to be a new age fashion. Rather, they should look into the truth about this world and the life to come, and be sure that they have prepared for that judgment from which there is no return, by living a life and system of belief revealed and unchanged from the One High Above.

Do you know that Quran describes lot of wishes people destined to the hell fire will have on the Day of Judgment, but it will be too late. Here are some of them.

1) "Oh, I wish that I were dust!" 78/40

2) "Oh, I wish I had sent ahead [some good] for my life. 89/24

3) " Oh, I wish I had not been given my record. 69/25

4) "Oh, woe to me! I wish I had not taken that one as a friend. 25/28

5) "How we wish we had obeyed Allah and obeyed the Messenger." 33/66

6) " Oh, I wish I had taken with the Messenger a way." 25/27

7) "Oh, I had been with them so I could have attained a great attainment." 4/73

8) "Oh I wish I had not associated with my Lord anyone." 18/42

9) "Oh, would that we could be returned [to life on earth] and not deny the signs of our Lord and be among the believers." 6/24

This is a universal truth and most dangerous news about humanity in the Quran, Allah says "certainly, We have destined many Jinns and human beings for Hell; those are the ones who have hearts with which they do not understand, they have eyes with which they do not see, they have ears with which they do not hear. They are like animals-or even worse; they are those who are heedless. (Quran 7:179)

May Allah guide us to the right path and save from eternal disgrace and punishment of Hellfire. AMEEN.