



IMAM SADIQ peace be upon him
ONLINE SEMINARY

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Summary of Quranic Sciences

Lesson 25: Abrogated & Abrogating Verses

(الناسخ و المنسوخ)

Literal meanings of *Naskh*:

1. Copying.
2. To remove or to wipe out.
3. Changing or alteration.

The technical meaning of *Naskh*:

It occurs when a later verse (*nasikh* - abrogating) is revealed and abrogates the content of an earlier verse (*mansukh* - abrogated).

It is said that *naskh* occurs only in God's commandments and prohibitions, not in other fields like descriptive passages relating to ethics, history, etc.

Does abrogation contradict God's knowledge?

No; God, from the beginning, knows that the ruling in the abrogated verse and its *maṣlaḥa* (advantage) will extend for a period and will expire when the abrogating verse comes.

The difference between *Naskh* and *Bada'*:

- **Bada'** occurs in celestial matters and creation, while **naskh** occurs in rulings and Quranic verses.



The difference between *Naskh* and *Takhṣiṣ* (specification):

- **Naskh** specifies in time, while **takhṣiṣ** specifies and excludes some instances or individuals.

According to the Quran, *Naskh* has occurred in the Quran:

«مَا نَنْسَخْ مِنْ آيَةٍ أَوْ نُنسِهَا نَأْتِ بِخَيْرٍ مِنْهَا أَوْ مِثْلَهَا أَلَمْ تَعْلَمْ أَنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ»

For any verse that We abrogate or cause to be forgotten, We bring another which is better than it, or similar to it. Do you not know that Allah has power over all things? (2:106)

Different types of *Naskh*:

1. *Naskh* in both the ruling and recitation:

The second verse negates the content of the first one and omits its entire text and content.

Sunnis believe in such abrogation according to their hadith books.

Example:

'A'isha reported: *"It had been revealed in the Holy Qur'an that ten clear sucklings make the marriage unlawful, then it was abrogated (and substituted) by five sucklings, and Allah's Apostle died, and it was before that time (found) in the Holy Qur'an (and recited by the Muslims)."*

Comment on Aisha's hadith of an omitted verse in the Quran:

1. The content is very strange.
2. It claims that the verse was recited even after the Prophet. How was it hidden from people, and who hid it?

Zarqani, a Sunni scholar, claimed that all those who believe in the occurrence of *naskh* in the Quran adhere to this type. The Shia reject this and consider such belief tantamount to believing in alterations in the Quran.