

Sura Ruum

1. The first ayat of this sura is has three letters of the Arabic alphabet. Can you circle these letters?

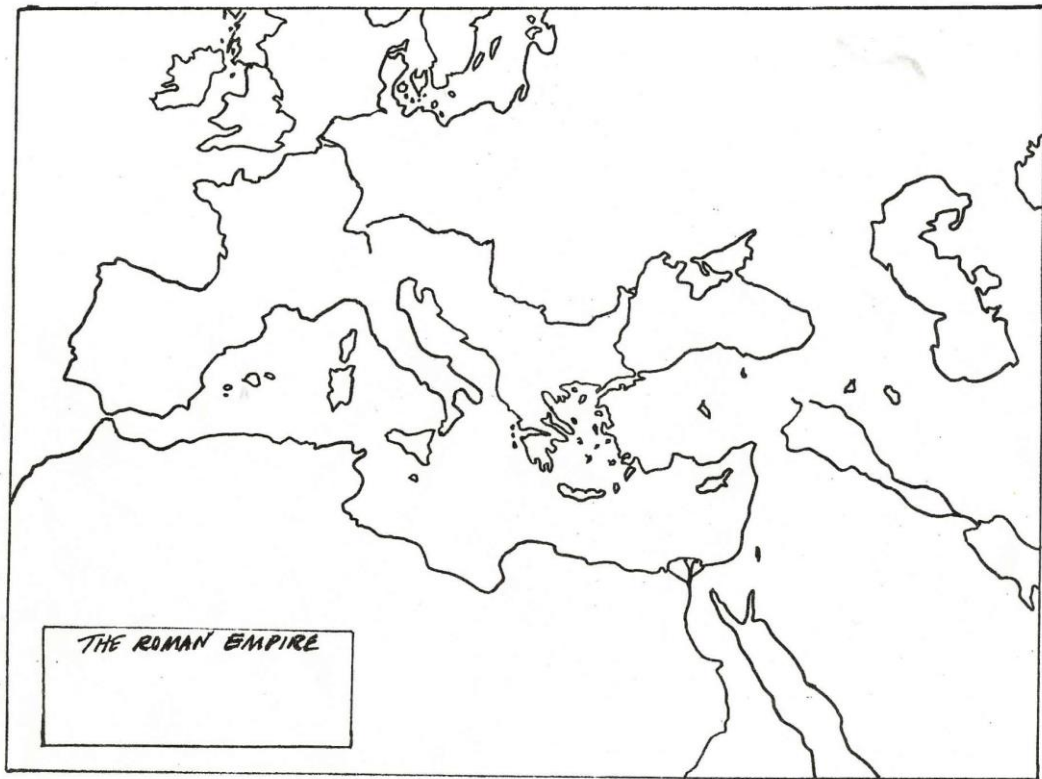
ا ب ت ث ج ح خ د ذ ر ز س ش
ص ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل م ن ه
و ي

2. 'Ruum' is sometimes translated as 'Romans' and sometimes as 'Byzantines'. What is the historical relationship between these two groups of people?

3. This sura contains the only verses in the Holy Quran which reference political events contemporary to Prophet Muhammad but beyond the Arabian Peninsula. Most scholars believe the beginning verses were in reference to the defeat of the Byzantines by the Sassanids. What empire did the Sassanids comprise?

Why were the Meccans pleased, and Prophet Muhammad (saw) saddened at the defeat of the Byzantines?

4. Use the map below to colour in the Roman Empire. Use one colour for the Western Roman Empire and another for the Eastern Roman Empire. Add in the cities of 'Rome' and 'Constantinople'.



5. Allah (swt) tells us in this sura to observe the fate of people who were before us, and more powerful than us, by doing what? Give the ayat number(s).

Try and identify where in the world these images are taken from!



These tombs were built by slaves under the rule of pharaohs



These ancient peoples who built their houses in mountains are thought by some to have been the people of Prophet Salih!



The city's remote location kept it a secret from the outside world, and it became the safest city in the empire



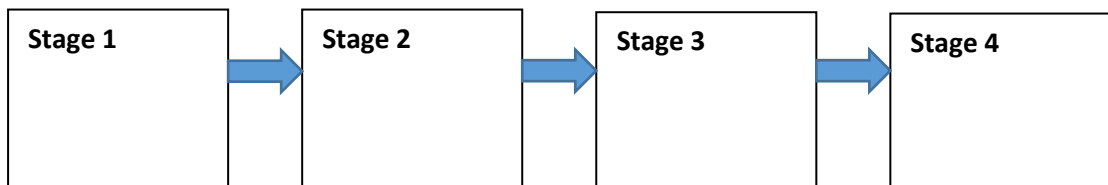
This colosseum was built centuries ago by an empire which spanned over five million kilometres at its peak

6. Allah (swt) tells us in this sura that “corruption has appeared on land and sea because...” of what? Give the ayat number. What does this tell us?
7. Allah (swt) talks about the circle of life in ayat #54. In what state do you start from and travel to and where do you end? Fill in the table below with the descriptions provided in the ayat.

Child	Youth/Maturity	Old Age

What does Islam teach us is important to keep in mind about this circle of life, in relation to death?

He also talks about the stages of existence in ayat #40. Fill in the diagram below with the descriptions provided in the ayat.



In which stage does the aforementioned ‘circle of life’ take place?

8. In ayat #55, when 'the Hour' sets in, what will the guilty say?

What is another Arabic term (found in the next ayat), and its English translation, for 'the Hour'?

9. Ayats #20-25 and #46 begin with the phrase: وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ . What is the English translation of this phrase?

Match each of the below with its function/purpose.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Created from dust | A. Arousing fear and hope |
| 2. Created mates for you | B. Human beings of varying tongues and colours |
| 3. Lightning | C. Bear glad tidings |
| 4. Sends water from sky | D. Revive the earth |
| 5. Sends the winds | E. Find tranquillity in them |

10. What does Allah (swt) command in the last ayat of this sura? Who/what is He referring to?