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Surah Tawbah Ayat 5

FA IDHA INSALAKHAL ASHHURUL HURUM — READ WITH VERSES 4 AND 6

سورۃ التوبہ آیت ۵ — عربی، انگریزی، اردو اور ہندی ترجمے کے ساتھ

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Quick Answer

- Surah Tawbah ayat 5 is a command revealed about specific Arab tribes that had broken their peace treaties with the Prophet ﷺ. Its opening words mean “once the sacred months have passed” (Quran 9:5).
- Read it with its neighbors: verse 4 protects treaty-keepers to the last day of their term, and verse 6 orders protection and a safe escort for any polytheist who asks to hear the Quran.
- There is no verified wazifa, fixed count, or promised protection formula attached to reciting this verse. It is a passage to understand, not a charm to repeat.

The Verse — Arabic, English, Urdu & Hindi

فَإِذَا ٱنسَلَخَ ٱلْأَشْهُرُ ٱلْحُرُمُ فَٱقْتُلُوا۟ ٱلْمُشْرِكِينَ حَيْثُ وَجَدتُّمُوهُمْ وَخُذُوهُمْ وَٱحْصُرُوهُمْ وَٱقْعُدُوا۟ لَهُمْ كُلَّ مَرْصَدٍ ۖ فَإِن تَابُوا۟ وَأَقَامُوا۟ ٱلصَّلَوٰةَ وَءَاتَوُا۟ ٱلزَّكَوٰةَ فَخَلُّوا۟ سَبِيلَهُمْ ۚ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Fa-idha insalakha al-ashhurul-hurumu faqtulul-mushrikina haythu wajadtumuhum, wa khuzuhum wahsuruhum waq'udu lahum kulla marsad. Fa-in tabu wa aqamus-salata wa atawuz-zakata fa-khallu sabilahum. Innallaha Ghafurur-Rahim.

“But once the Sacred Months have passed, kill the polytheists who violated their treaties wherever you find them, capture them, besiege them, and lie in wait for them on every way. But if they repent, perform prayers, and pay alms-tax, then set them free. Indeed, Allah is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful.” (Khattab, The Clear Quran)

جب عزت کے مہینے گزر جائیں تو مشرکوں کو جہاں پاؤ قتل کر دو اور پکڑ لو اور گھیر لو اور ہر گھات کی جگہ ان کی تاک میں بیٹھے رہو۔ پھر اگر وہ توبہ کر لیں اور نماز پڑھنے اور زکوٰۃ دینے لگیں تو ان کی راہ چھوڑ دو۔ بے شک خدا بخشنے والا مہربان ہے

अतः जब सम्मानित महीने बीत जाएँ, तो बहुदेववादियों (मुश्रिकों) को जहाँ पाओ, क़त्ल करो और उन्हें पकड़ो और उन्हें घेरो और उनके लिए हर घात की जगह बैठो। फिर यदि वे तौबा कर लें और नमाज़ क़ायम करें तथा ज़कात दें, तो उनका रास्ता छोड़ दो। निःसंदेह अल्लाह अति क्षमाशील, अत्यंत दयावान् है।

The Verses Around It — Three Groups, Three Rulings

Group in the passage	What the Quran says	Source
Polytheists who kept their treaty	"As for the polytheists who have honoured every term of their treaty with you and have not supported an enemy against you, honour your treaty with them until the end of its term. Surely Allah loves those who are mindful of Him."	Quran 9:4
Polytheists who broke their treaty	Fought after the announced months end — "But if they repent, perform prayers, and pay alms-tax, then set them free. Indeed, Allah is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful."	Quran 9:5
A polytheist who asks for protection	"And if anyone from the polytheists asks for your protection, grant it to them so they may hear the Word of Allah, then escort them to a place of safety, for they are a people who have no knowledge."	Quran 9:6

Ibn Kathir's abridged tafsir (on Quran.com) heads 9:5 "This is the Ayah of the Sword" and records that Mujahid, Qatadah, Muhammad ibn Ishaq, As-Suddi and Abdur-Rahman ibn Zayd ibn Aslam read the "months" of 9:5 as the four-month grace period announced in 9:2. Verse 13 describes the addressed group as oath-breakers who "attacked you first."

Word by Word

Arabic	Transliteration	English
فَإِذَا	Fa-idha	Then, when
ٱنسَلَخَ	Insalakha	Have passed, slipped away, ended
ٱلْأَشْهُرُ ٱلْحُرُمُ	Al-ashhurul-hurum	The sacred months
فَٱقْتُلُوا۟	Faqtulu	Then kill (battlefield command of that setting)
ٱلْمُشْرِكِينَ	Al-mushrikin	The polytheists (the treaty-breakers addressed)
حَيْثُ وَجَدتُّمُوهُمْ	Haythu wajadtumuhum	Wherever you find them
وَخُذُوهُمْ	Wa khuzuhum	And capture them
وَٱحْصُرُوهُمْ	Wahsuruhum	And besiege them
وَٱقْعُدُوا۟ لَهُمْ كُلَّ مَرْصَدٍ	Waq'udu lahum kulla marsad	And lie in wait for them at every place of ambush
فَإِن تَابُوا۟	Fa-in tabu	But if they repent
وَأَقَامُوا۟ ٱلصَّلَوٰةَ	Wa aqamus-salah	And establish the prayer
وَءَاتَوُا۟ ٱلزَّكَوٰةَ	Wa atawuz-zakah	And give the zakah
فَخَلُّوا۟ سَبِيلَهُمْ	Fa-khallu sabilahum	Then set them free, let them go their way
إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ	Innallaha Ghafurur-Rahim	Indeed, Allah is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful

The Context Card — Print This

- ☐ Read verse 4 first. Treaty-keepers are protected to the end of their term.
- ☐ Read verse 6 after it. A seeker of protection is escorted to safety.
- ☐ Name the audience. Tribes that broke their treaties and attacked first (9:13).
- ☐ Remember the deadline. Four months of safe travel were announced first (9:2).

- ☐ Say the exit ramp by heart. Repent, establish prayer, give zakah — and they are set free (9:5).
- ☐ Attach no wazifa. No count or benefit may be added that no source gives.

7-Evening Passage Tracker — Read 9:1–13 in One Sitting, Then Revisit

Evening	Read 9:1–13 ✓	Found the limit in 9:4 ✓	Found the protection in 9:6 ✓
Evening 1			
Evening 2			
Evening 3			
Evening 4			
Evening 5			
Evening 6			
Evening 7			

Honest Note — Read Before You Forward

No authentic source we can verify gives a fixed count, a set time, or a promised worldly benefit for reciting this verse as a wazifa. It is a command inside a treaty passage, not a dua. Websites that present it as a counted protection formula give no chain and no classical source. Recite it for study and understanding, and do not attach promises Allah never made. For words of protection the Prophet ﷺ actually taught, begin with the morning and evening remembrances.

نوٹ: اس آیت کے لیے کسی مستند ماخذ میں کوئی مقررہ وظیفہ، تعداد، وقت یا دنیاوی فائدہ ثابت نہیں۔ یہ آیت ایک معاہدے کے پس منظر میں دیا گیا حکم ہے، دعا نہیں۔ اسے سمجھنے کے لیے پڑھیں، اور حفاظت کے لیے وہ اذکار اپنائیں جو نبی کریم ﷺ نے سکھائے ہیں۔ (یہ نوٹ کرنٹ اسلام کا ادارتی ترجمہ ہے۔)

Quick Questions

Does 9:5 command Muslims to kill all non-Muslims?

No. Verse 4 orders treaties with polytheists who kept their terms to be honored until they end. Verse 6 orders protection and a safe escort for any polytheist who asks to hear the Quran. Verse 13 limits the fighting to oath-breakers who attacked first.

Why is it called the Verse of the Sword?

Commentators named it Ayat al-Sayf, and Ibn Kathir uses that heading for his commentary, because the verse carries the passage's command to fight treaty-breaking tribes after their warning period ended. The name is a commentator's label, not a title inside the Quran.

How do I explain 9:5 to a non-Muslim friend?

Use the 4–5–6 Reading Rule and keep it under a minute: the verse concerns tribes that broke treaties and attacked; verse 4 protects every tribe that kept its treaty; verse 6 commands escorting a listener to safety. Offer the verse numbers so your friend can check it.

Read More on CurrentIslam.com

- Full article: Surah Tawbah Ayat 5 (9:5) — Meaning, Context and the Verses Around It
- Surah Taubah Last 2 Ayat — Laqad Jaakum
- La Tahzan Innallaha Ma'ana — Surah Tawbah 9:40
- Duas for Forgiveness — Sayyidul Istighfar
- Dua After Salah — Full Adhkar Guide

Sources & credits: Arabic text (Uthmani), English (Dr. Mustafa Khattab, The Clear Quran), Urdu (Fateh Muhammad Jalandhari, resource 234) and Hindi (Maulana Azizul Haque al-Umari, resource 122) all checked via Quran.com and its API on 2 November 2026; context verses 9:4, 9:6 and 9:13 in the same translations. Tafsir points: Ibn Kathir (abridged), as printed on Quran.com at 9:5. The Urdu honest note above is a CurrentIslam editorial translation — have it read once before public distribution. Arabic and Urdu set in Jameel Noori Nastaleeq. Free to print and share for personal and teaching use with this credit line intact. © CurrentIslam.com