Early Hours of Morning
Ad-Duhā: Makki

In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever-merciful.

1. Call to witness
the early hours of morning.
2. And the night when dark and still,
3. Your Lord has neither left you,
nor despises you.
4. What is to come is better for you
than what has gone before;
5. For your Lord will certainly give you,
and you will be content.
6. Did He not find you an orphan
and take care of you?
7. Did He not find you perplexed,
and show you the way?
8. Did He not find you poor
and enrich you?
9. So do not oppress the orphan,
10. And do not drive
the beggar away,
11. And keep recounting the favours of your Lord.

The Opening Up
Al-Inshirah: Makki

In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever-merciful.

Have we not opened up
your breast.
2. And removed your burden
3. Which had left you
devoid of hope.
4. And exalted your fame?
5. Surely with hardship there is ease.
6. With hardship indeed there is ease.
7. So when you are free
work diligently,
8. And turn to your Lord
with all your love.*

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* Al-Hallaj explains it thus: "Allah enunciated my knowledge with me from my heart. He drew me near to Him after I had been far from Him. He made me His intimate and chose me." 'The Ta-Sin of Purity.'
95 The Fig
At-Tin: Makki

In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever-merciful.

I CALL TO witness the Fig and the Olive,
2. The Mount Sinai,
3. And this Soil Secure*,
4. That We created man
of finest possibilities,
5. Then brought him down
to the lowest of the low,
6. Except those who believe
and do the right,
for whom there is reward undiminished.
7. Who should then make you deny
the Judgement after this?
8. Is not God the most equitable of all judges?

* The Olive, Mount and Soil Secure are identifiable with the Mount of Olive, Mount Sinai and the Valley of Makkah, that is, Jesus, Moses and Muhammad. From the context of the struggle between good and evil which is perpetual, the Fig stands for the mount of Fig (see Raghbih and Tahi‘al-‘Arous) where Noah, the eldest of the prophets, first preached his gospel. Historically the order should have been the Fig, Mount Sinai, Olive and then Soil Secure. Geographically, however, and viewing from North to South, the names would occur as in the Surah. From the point of rhythmic beauty as well this order is best.

96 The Embryo
Al-‘A’laq: Makki

In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever-merciful.

READ IN THE name of your Lord
who created,
2. Created man from an embryo;
3. Read,
for your Lord is most beneficent,
4. Who taught by the pen,
5. Taught man what he did not know.
6. And yet,
but yet man is rebellious,
7. For he thinks he is sufficient in himself.
8. Surely your returning is to your Lord.
9. Have you seen him who restrains
10. A votary when he turns to his devotions?
11. Have you thought,
if he had been on guidance
12. Or had enjoined piety,
(it would have been better)?
13. Have you thought that if he denies
and turns away,
14. Does he not know that God sees?
15. And yet indeed if he does not desist
We shall drag him by the forelock,
16. By the lying, the sinful forelock.
17. So let him call his associates,
18. We shall call the guards of Hell.
19. Beware! Do not obey him,
but bow in adoration
and draw near (to your Lord).
97 **Determination**  
*Al-Qadr: Makki*

In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever-merciful.

**TRULY WE REVEALED** it  
on the Night of Determination.  
2. How will you know what the Night of Determination is?  
3. Better is the Night of Determination than a thousand months.  
4. On (this night) the angels and grace descend 
by the dispensation of their Lord, 
for settling all affairs.  
5. It is peace 
till the dawning of the day.

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**112 Pure Faith**  
*Al-Ikhlas: Makki*

In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever-merciful.

**SAY:** “HE IS God  
the one the most unique,  
2. God the immanently indispensable.  
3. He has begotten no one,  
and is begotten of none.  
4. There is no one comparable to Him.”

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**113 The Rising Day**  
*Al-Falaq: Makki*

In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever-merciful.

**SAY:** “I SEEK refuge with the Lord of rising day  
2. From the evil of what He has created,  
3. And the evil of evening darkness when it overspreads,  
4. From the evil of sorceresses 
who blow incantations on knots,  
5. From the evil of the envious when he envies.

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* It clearly refers to the Qur'an, confirmed by 44:3-4. This night falls during the month of Ramadan, vide 2:185.