Qur’an I: context, theology
(source: Ahmad von Denffer, ‘Ulum al-Qur’an)

Earlier revelations / books mentioned in the Qur’an:

'To every people (was sent) an apostle …' (10: 47).

- The Torah (taurat) of Moses (Musa).
- The Psalms (zabur) of David (Dawud).
- The Gospel (injil) of Jesus (‘Isa).
- The Qur’an of Muhammad.
- (sometimes: the 'sheets' [suhuf] of Ibrahim and Musa.)

Muslim understanding of the Qur’an:

- Inimitable (i’jaz) and unique; of power and beauty that no human could have produced
- God’s word (kalam); thus pre-existent with God
- Qur’an is with God on “well preserved Tablet” (lauh al-mahfuz)
- revealed to Muhammad during the Night of Power (laylat al-qadr), during Ramadan.

The Qur’an refers to itself as:

- criterion, see 25: 1
- sent down on a blessed night, see 44: 3-4
- reminder, see 15: 9
- scripture, see 21:10
- light, see 4:174
- a guide and a mercy, see 31:3
- a healing and a mercy, see 17:82
- glorious, blessed, an announcer, a warner