

مِنْ تَحْتِهَا — مِنْ تَحْتِهِمْ

The Quran sometimes uses these two phrases. The question is why? Lets cite the ayaat below and take a look at the context they both appear in to find our answer. Inshaa ALLAH.

ALLAH says:

وَبَشِّرِ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ أَنَّ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ

تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ

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And give good tidings to those who believe and do righteous deeds that they will have gardens [in Paradise] beneath which rivers flow.

Surah Al Baqarah 25

ALLAH says:

أُولَئِكَ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتُ عَدْنٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهِمُ الْأَنْهَارُ يُحَلَّونَ فِيهَا مِنْ
أَسَاوِرَ مِنْ ذَهَبٍ وَيَلْبَسُونَ ثِيَابًا خُضْرًا مِنْ سُنْدُسٍ وَإِسْتَبْرَقٍ مُتَّكِينَ
فِيهَا عَلَى الْأَرَائِكِ نِعْمَ الثَّوَابُ وَحَسُنَتْ مُرْتَفَقًا ﴿٣١﴾

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Those will have gardens of perpetual residence; beneath them rivers will flow. They will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold and will wear green garments of fine silk and brocade, reclining therein on adorned couches. Excellent is the reward, and good is the resting place.

Surah Al Kahf 31

مِنْ تَحْتِهِمْ

Meaning ‘from beneath/under them [The Believers].

This is used in the context when ALLAH talks about the believers who will dwell in Paradise.

مِنْ تَحْتِهَا

Meaning ‘from beneath/under them [The Gardens].

This is used in the context when ALLAH talks about the actual gardens of Paradise.

Perhaps the orientalist might say that there is some sort of contradiction in the Quran because of the difference in usage. However, we say, the rivers flow beneath the gardens of Al Jannah [Paradise] and the rivers flow beneath the believers as well. There is no problem with this. The difference in usage is tied/linked with the context of the passage.

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لَمَسَاتُ بَيَانِيَّةٍ لِلدُّكْتُورِ فَاضِلِ السَّامِرَائِيِّ

Lamasaat Bayaaniyyah

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[May ALLAH preserve him.]

Abu Ezra

أَبُو عَزْرِيٍّ

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