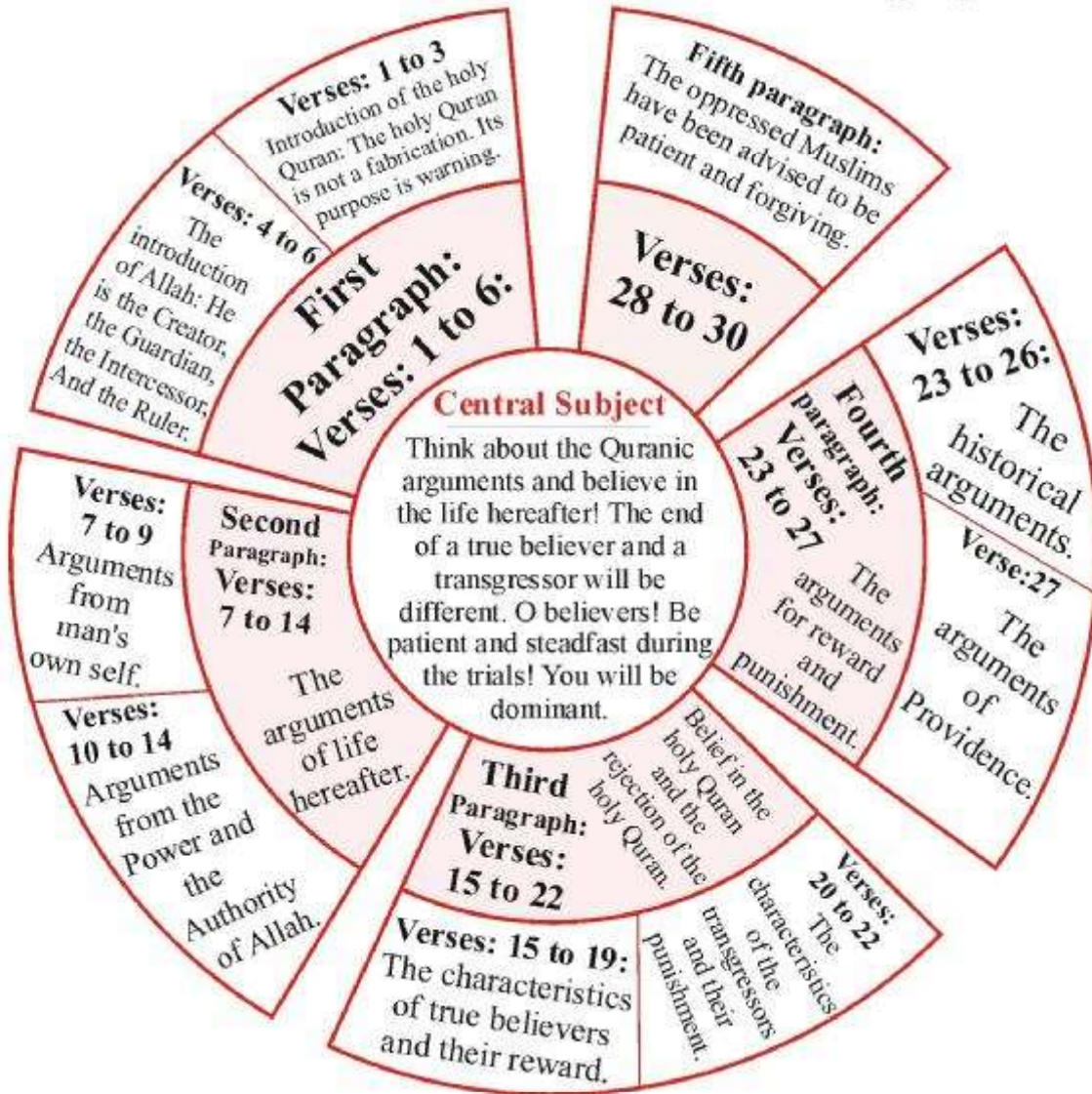


# Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah As-Sajdah

## 32 - Soorah As-Sajdah Makkan

Verses: 30

Paragraphs:5



### • Period of revelation:

Soorah As-Sajdah was revealed after the general proclamation of Islam during the beginning of second phase of the prophet's (pbuh) stay in Makkah (4 to 5 Prophet-hood) when he was alleged to be a slanderer. The Muslims were not yet being tyrannised. The so-called wise men of Quraish and the transgressors were invited to think about the character of the true believers.

## Excellence of soorah As-Sajdah

Abdullah bin Abbaas (R.A.) reports about the excellence of this soorah that the messenger (pbuh) of Allah used to recite it during the Fajr prayer (morning-prayer) on Fridays. (Saheeh Muslim: Hadeeth No. 2,068)

### The relationship of soorah As-Sajdah with the Book

- 1- In the previous soorah (Luqmaan), there was charge sheet against the chiefs of Quraish that they used the amusing tales to divert the attention of people from the invitation of Islam. They are caught in their pride and do not want to listen to the invitation of Islam. They are steadfast on the traditions of their forefathers instead of following what Allah has revealed. They commit Shirk which is the greatest injustice.

Here, in soorah As-Sajdah, contrary to these transgressors and criminals, the characteristics of pious and righteous believers have been described. They are not arrogant. They praise and glorify Allah. They offer the “Tahajjud prayer” (after mid-night prayer). They pray to their Lord with fear and hope and they are generous.

﴿إِنَّمَا يُؤْمِنُ بِآيَاتِنَا الَّذِينَ إِذَا ذُكِرُوا بِهَا حُزُوا وَسَجَدُوا وَإِسْمَعُوا بِحَمْدِ رَبِّهِمْ وَهُمْ لَا يَسْتَكْبِرُونَ ۝

﴿تَتَجَاوَىٰ جُنُوبَهُمْ عَنِ الْمَضَاجِعِ يَدْعُونَ رَبَّهُمْ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنفِقُونَ﴾

“Only those people believe in Our revelations, who, when they are reminded of them, prostrate themselves in adoration and celebrate the praises of their Lord and are not puffed up with pride. They forsake their beds and invoke their Lord with fear and hope; and they spend (in charity) out of the sustenance which We have given them.” (Verses: 15, 16)

- 2- In soorah As-Sajdah, there is a comparison between the true believers, who have a good moral character and the transgressors, who have a bad character. They cannot be equal and their end will not be the same.
- 3- In the next soorah (Al-Ahzaab), there is a comparison between the sincere companions and the hypocrites and the difference between their character has been shown.

### Important key words and subjects

#### 1- “Faasiqeen” (transgressors) is the key word in soorah As-Sajdah.

- (a) The transgressors and the evil-doers have been told clearly that they cannot be equal to the believers.

﴿أَفَمَنْ كَانَ مُؤْمِنًا كَمَنْ كَانَ فَاسِقًا؟ لَا يَسْتَوُونَ﴾ “Can he who is a believer be like the one who is a transgressor? (Of course), they are not alike.” (Verse: 18)

- (b) It has been told clearly about the transgressors that they will dwell in Hell.

﴿وَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ فَسَقُوا فَمَأْوَهُمُ النَّارُ﴾ “But those who transgress shall be cast into the fire”. (Verse: 20)

#### 2- “Liqaq” is also a key word in soorah As-Sajdah.

The word “Liqaq” (meeting with the Lord) has been used three times in soorah As-Sajdah. (Verses: 14, 10, 23)

- (a) The Makkan pagans, in fact, denied the life after death. They used to deny the meeting with their Lord. ﴿إِنَّا لَنَعْلَمُ خَلْقَ جَدِيدٍ أَمْ لَئِنْ لَمْ يَلْقَئْهُمْ رَبُّهُمْ كَفُرُوْنَ﴾ “Shall we be created afresh? Nay! They deny the fact that they will ever meet their Lord”.

(Verse: 10)

- (b) It was told clearly in Torah by prophet Moosaa that no one should have any doubt about the meeting with the Lord.

- (c) Those who deny the life hereafter, will be forgotten on the Day of Judgement as they had forgotten in this world the meeting with their Lord.

﴿فَلَوْ لَوْ قَوَّامًا نَسِينُمْ لِقَاءَ يَوْمِكُمْ هَذَا إِنَّا نَسِينُكُمْ﴾ “Now taste the reward for forgetting the meeting of this Day. We too have forgotten you now.” (Verse: 14)

#### 3- In this soorah, besides the word “Mujremeen” (criminals), the word “Faasiqeen” (transgressors, sinful), has also been used for those who deny the life hereafter.

Man becomes immoral, evil, transgressor, sinful and criminal when he does not have the feelings of responsibility in the hereafter.

- (a) Allah will take vengeance on the criminals and transgressors who deny the life hereafter. ﴿إِنَّا مِنَ الْمُجْرِمِينَ مُنتَقِمُونَ﴾ “Surely, We shall take vengeance on such criminals.” (Verse: 22)

(b) On the Day of Judgement, the criminals and transgressors who denied the life hereafter will stand with their heads down with shame in front of Allah.

﴿إِذِ الْمُنْكَرُونَ نَاكِسُوا رُءُوسِهِمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ﴾ (If you could only visualise) “When the criminals will hang their heads before their Lord!” (Verse: 12)

### Macro-structure of soorah As-Sajdah

#### 1- Verses: 1 to 6: In the first paragraph, Allah has been introduced by describing His Attributes.

He is the Lord of the worlds. He is the One Who has revealed the Quran. It is not the fabrication of the messenger (pbuh) of Allah. He is the Creator, the Guardian, the intercessor. There is no guardian and intercessor besides Him. He is the Ruler. ﴿يُنزِّلُ الْأَمْرَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ﴾ “He plans all affairs from the heavens to the earth.” (Verse: 5) He knows what is hidden and what is visible. He is the Mighty, the Merciful.

#### 2- Verses: 7 to 14: In the second paragraph, the arguments of life hereafter have been given and the end of the criminals who deny the life hereafter has been told.

Allah has originated the creation of man from clay. Then He issued his progeny by the extract of a despicable water, then He fashioned him in due proportion and breathed into him of His spirit and gave him the power to hear, see and understand, but very few of the mankind are grateful. (Verses: 7 to 9). They deny the life hereafter; but these evil criminals will repent on the Day of Judgement. They will beseech Allah to be sent back to this world so that they may do good deeds. ﴿فَارْجِعْنَا نَعْمَلْ صَالِحًا إِنَّا مُوقِنُونَ﴾ “Please send us back (to the world) and we will do good deeds: we are now convinced.” (Verse: 12) But it will not be possible.

Allah Almighty will do complete justice on the Day of judgement and will fill the Hell with mankind and Jinns. ﴿لَأَمْلَأَنَّ جَهَنَّمَ مِنَ الْإِنْسِ وَالْجِنَّةِ وَالنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ﴾ “I shall fill the Hell with Jinns and men all together.” (Verse: 13) Allah will forget those who forget the Day of Judgement.

#### 3- Verses: 15 to 22: The characteristics of those who believe in the holy Quran have been described in the third paragraph.

The believers fall in prostration when they hear Allah's revelations and they

praise and glorify Him. (Verse: 15) They are not arrogant. They forsake their beds and invoke their Lord with fear and hope. They spend in the way of Allah. (Verses: 15, 16) They are the lucky people who will get wonderful Prizes. It has been told clearly that the believers and the transgressors can never be equal. ﴿أَفَمَنْ كَانَ مُؤْمِنًا كَمَنْ كَانَ فَاسِقًا لَّا يَسْتَوُونَ﴾ “Can he who is a believer be like the one who is a transgressor? They are not alike.” (Verse: 18) Those who believe and do good deeds will go to Paradise and those who transgress will go to Hell. They are the criminals who ignore the guidance and they will face the retribution.

**4- Verses: 23 to 27: In the fourth paragraph, there are historical arguments for reward and punishment and the arguments for Providence as well.**

- (a) It was told clearly in the Book given to prophet Moosaa (pbuh) that there should be no doubt about the meeting with the Lord. Allah had given leadership to the children of Israa'eel as a result of belief and patience. ﴿وَجَعَلْنَا مِنْهُمْ أُمَّةً مُّهْتَدُونَ بِأَمْرِنَا لِيَصْبِرُوا وَكَانُوا بِآيَاتِنَا يُوقِنُونَ﴾ “When they showed patience, We appointed from amongst them leaders giving guidance under our command so long as they continued to have faith in Our revelations.” (Verse:24) So the belief and patience are the two weapons that would lead the Muslims to success in confrontation with the Makkan pagans.
- (b) Those who deny the life hereafter have been frightened by the annihilation of other nations. The argument for the life hereafter has been provided from the Providence. Allah is the One Who irrigates the barren land through rain by His Providence and provides food for the mankind and animals. He will resurrect the dead from their graves and will establish the Day of Judgement.

**5- Verses: 28 to 30: In the fifth and last paragraph, the messenger (pbuh) of Allah is advised to ignore those who deny the life after death.**

Those who deny the life hereafter, ask, “When will the Day of Judgement be established?” ﴿فَاعْرِضْ عَنْهُمْ وَانْتَظِرِ إِنَّهُمْ مُّنتَظِرُونَ﴾ “Therefore, pay no heed to them, and wait as they are waiting.” (Verse: 30) Allah is going to decide very soon. There is an indication of the good news in it that finally the Muslims will become dominant.

### Central subject

The arguments given in the holy Quran, should be considered and the life hereafter should be believed in. The end of the believer and the transgressor will be different. The Muslims should be patient and steadfast during the trials so that they may achieve domination and success.

