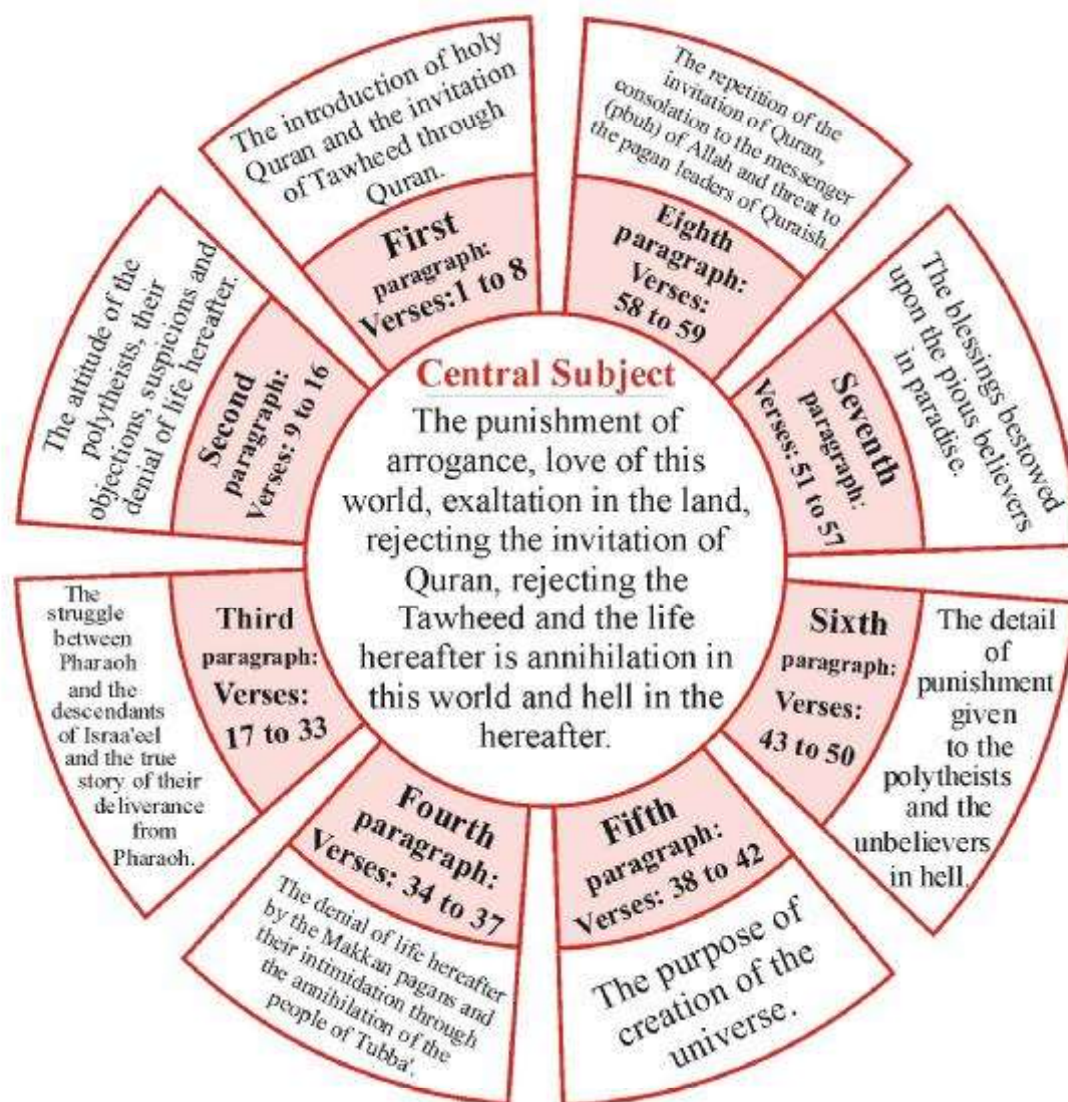


## Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah Ad-Dukhaan

# 44 - Soorah Ad-Dukhaan Makkan

Verses: 59

Paragraphs: 8



### • Period of revelation:

Soorah Ad-Dukhaan was revealed in the beginning of the third phase of prophet's stay in Makkah (6 to 10 prophet-hood), probably during the famine of 7 prophet-hood along with soorah Jaathiyah. This is the fifth of the soorahs that begin with letters Haa-Meem.

The Makkan pagans were alleging the messenger (pbuh) of Allah that he was possessed and insane. They also alleged that he was taught by someone. They were suspicious about the life hereafter. They were threatened that the revenge will be taken from them on the Day of Judgement. The attitude of the Quraish of Makkah was like that of the Pharaoh who had committed the crime of “exaltation in the land”. The messenger (pbuh) of Allah was consoled and the Quraish were threatened with the word “Fartaqib” (wait!) which meant that the things will change within a few years.

### Relationship of soorah Ad-Dukhaan with the Book

In the previous soorah (Az-Zukhruf), the thing which was described about Tawheed of Legislation and the Tawheed of Sovereignty in a positive way; the same thing has been described here in soorah Ad-Dukhaan in a negative way and the negative arrogant attitude has been explained.

The arrogant attitude of “exaltation in the land” gives birth to the attitude and creed of Shirk in legislation.

### Important Key words and Subjects

#### 1- The introduction of holy Quran in soorah Ad-Dukhaan:

The holy Quran has been called “the clear Book” in soorah Ad-Dukhaan (Verse: 2) The holy Quran has been called the Mercy. With the use of the words ﴿يَسِّرُنَهُ﴾ “Yassarnaaho” (We have made it easy), it has been explained that by revealing the holy Quran in Arabic language, it has been made easy for the Arabs who were its initial listeners. ﴿فَإِنَّمَا يَسِّرُنَهُ بِلِسَانِكَ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَذَكَّرُونَ﴾ “Surely, We have made this (Quran) easy (by revealing it) in your own language so that they may take heed”. (Verse: 58)

#### 2- Answer to the objections against the messenger (pbuh) of Allah in soorah Ad-Dukhaan:

The objections of Quraish against the messenger (pbuh) of Allah that he is being taught by someone and that he is insane have been answered by revealing the Quran in easy and clear Arabic language.

﴿لَئِمَّا تَوَلَّوْا عَنَّهُ وَقَالُوا مَعْلَمٌ فَهُمْ عَلَىٰ﴾ “Yet, they deny him, saying: 'He is a madman, taught by others!'” (Verse: 14)

### 3- Arguments from Tawheed of Power and Tawheed of Providence to prove the Tawheed of Divinity:

The Quranic invitation of Tawheed of Divinity has been given in the beginning for which the argument has been given from Tawheed of Power and Tawheed of Providence. ﴿لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ رَبُّكُمْ وَرَبُّ آبَائِكُمُ الْأَوَّلِينَ﴾ “There is no God but He. He gives life and death. He is your Lord and the Lord of your forefathers.” (Verse: 8)

### 4- Description of the attitude based on denial of the life hereafter:

The Quraish were involved in doubt and suspicion about the life after death. ﴿بَلْ هُمْ فِي شَكٍّ يَلْعَبُونَ﴾ “But they play about in doubt.” (Verse: 9) They used to say our first death is the final death and we will not be raised again after our death. ﴿إِنْ هِيَ إِلَّا مَوْتُنَا الْأُولَىٰ وَمَا نَحْنُ بِمُنْقَرِينَ﴾ “There is nothing beyond our first death and we shall not be raised again.” (Verse: 35) On the Day of Judgement, they will be told to taste the punishment of hell. This is the reality about which you were in doubt, they were told. ﴿إِنَّ هَذَا مَا كُنْتُمْ بِهِ تَمْتَرُونَ﴾ “This is the (punishment) which you used to doubt.” (Verse: 50)

### 5- Use of a special term ﴿عُلُوًّا فِي الْأَرْضِ﴾ “Uloo fil Ardh” (Exaltation in the land) in soorah Ad-Dukhaan:

There are two main reasons for the disbelief of the leadership. One reason is their pride and arrogance which make them consider the others as low and the other reason is their denial of the life hereafter. The Quraish who denied the life hereafter were told that their attitude is arrogant like that of Pharaoh. Pharaoh committed the crime of “exaltation in the land”.

﴿إِنَّهُ كَانَ عَلِيًّا مِنَ الْمُسْرِفِينَ﴾ “He was the most arrogant among such inordinate transgressors.” (Verse: 31) He was a military dictator who was very extravagant in the use of his authority. Prophet Moosaa advised him to avoid this attitude but he did not pay any attention to his advice.

﴿وَأَنْ لَا تَعْلُوا عَلَيَّ لِلَّهِ إِنِّي إِلَيْكُمْ بِسُلْطَنٍ مُّبِينٍ﴾ “Do not exalt (yourselves) against Allah, surely, I have brought to you a clear authority. (Verse: 19)

**6- Description of Divine favours on the Israelites and their superiority:**

The favour of deliverance of Israelites from Pharaoh and his followers and their preference over the other nations has been mentioned.

﴿وَلَقَدْ أَنْجَيْنَا بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ مِنَ الْعَذَابِ الْمُهِينِ﴾ “We did deliver the children of Israa'eel from a humiliating chastisement.” (Verse: 30)

﴿وَلَقَدْ اخْتَرْنَاهُمْ عَلَىٰ عِلْمٍ عَلَىٰ الْعَالَمِينَ﴾ “And We chose them, in spite of knowing (their weaknesses) above the nations of the world.” (Verse: 32)

**7- The consolation for the oppressed people in soorah Ad-Dukhaan:**

Allah's Attribute that He takes revenge from the wrong-doers and He destroys the criminals has been described. ﴿يَوْمَ نَبْطِشُ الْبَطْشَةَ الْكُبْرَىٰ إِنَّا مُنتَقِمُونَ﴾ “One day We shall seize you with a mighty onslaught to exact Our retribution.” (Verse: 16)

Allah will punish the criminals on the Day of Judgement. He can annihilate them in this world as well. Arguing from the history, they are told that they are not better than the Yemenite kings (people of Tubba') who were destroyed because of their crimes and no traces of them were left.

﴿أَهُمْ خَيْرٌ أَمْ قَوْمُ تُبَّعٍ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ أَهْلَكْنَاهُمْ إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا مُجْرِمِينَ﴾ “Are these people better than the people of Tubba' and those who were before them? We destroyed them all, only because they had become criminals.” (Verse: 37)

**8- The polytheists are threatened and the Muslims are consoled in soorah Ad-Dukhaan:**

The Quraish have been threatened twice with the word ﴿فَارْتَقِبْ﴾ “Fartaqib” (wait) in this soorah. (Verses: 10, 59)

**9- The sky was smoke in the beginning, it will turn into smoke again on the Day of Resurrection:**

The sky will become smoke again on the Doomsday.

﴿يَوْمَ تَأْتِي السَّمَاءُ بِدُحَانٍ مُبِينٍ﴾ “The Day when the sky will pour down visible smoke.” (Verse: 10)

It was revealed in soorah Haa-Meem As-Sajdah that the beginning of the sky was done with the smoke.

﴿ثُمَّ اسْتَوَىٰ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَهِيَ دُخَانٌ فَقَالَ لَهَا وَلِلْأَرْضِ ائْتِيَا طَوْعًا أَوْ كَرْهًا قَالَتَا أَتَيْنَا طَائِعِينَ﴾ “Then He turned towards the sky, which was but smoke, He said to it and to the earth:

'Come forward both of you, willingly or unwillingly,' and they submitted: 'We shall come willingly.'" (41: 11)

### Macro-structure of soorah Ad-Dukhaan

Soorah Ad-Dukhaan consists of eight (8) paragraphs.

- 1- Verses: 1 to 8: There is the introduction of Allah and the Quran in the first paragraph and the invitation of Tawheed has been given through the holy Quran.**

﴿إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ مُبْرَكٍ إِنَّا كُنَّا مُنذِرِينَ﴾ "We revealed this Quran in a blessed night, for We wanted to forewarn (mankind)." (Verse: 3) The holy Quran was revealed in a blessed night in which the wise decisions are made. The "blessed night" means the "night of power" which is in the month of Ramadhaan and not the fifteenth of Sha'baan. Allah is the Lord and the Creator. He is worthy of worship. He has the control over the life and the death of those who have gone and those who are going to come.

- 2- Verses: 9 to 16: The attitude of the polytheists has been mentioned in the second paragraph.**

Their objections, their doubts and suspicions and their denial of life hereafter have been described.

﴿بَلْ هُمْ فِي شَكٍّ يَلْعَبُونَ﴾ "Yet, they play about in doubt." (Verse: 9) They say that the messenger (pbuh) of Allah is a mad man who is taught by others. The revenge will be taken from them. Allah's grasp is very severe.

﴿يَوْمَ تَبْطِشُ الْبَطْشَةَ الْكُبْرَىٰ إِنَّا مُنتَقِمُونَ﴾ "One day We shall seize you with a mighty onslaught to exact Our retribution." (Verse: 16)

- 3- Verses: 17 to 33: In the third paragraph, the true story of the struggle between Pharaoh and the children of Israa'eel and their deliverance from Pharaoh has been mentioned.**

The attitude of the Quraish of Makkah was arrogant like that of Pharaoh who had committed the crime of "exaltation in the land". Prophet Moosaa told him that he should not try to exalt himself against Allah.

﴿وَأَنْ لَا تَعْلُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ﴾ "Do not exalt (yourselves) against Allah." (Verse: 19) But he did not accept the invitation of prophet Moosaa and was ruined. History has

got many examples to learn a lesson from. When Allah destroys the criminals, neither the sky cries for them nor the earth. They are not given respite. ﴿فَمَا بَكَتْ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّمَاءُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَمَا كَانُوا مُنظَرِينَ﴾ “Neither heaven nor earth sheds tears for them; nor were they given respite.” (Verse: 29) It has been told again about Pharaoh that he misused his authority and was a transgressor. He was a rebel who used to go beyond the limits. ﴿إِنَّهُ كَانَ عَلِيًّا مِنَ الْمُسْرِفِينَ﴾ “He was the most arrogant among such inordinate transgressors.” (Verse: 31)

**4- Verses: 34 to 37: In the fourth paragraph, the denial of life hereafter by the Makkan pagans has been mentioned and they have been intimidated with the annihilation of the people of Tubba'.**

The polytheists were asked if they were better than the people of Tubba'. Allah ruined them because they were disobedient and criminal people.

﴿إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا أَجْرَمِينَ﴾ “They had become criminals.” (Verse: 37)

**5- Verses: 38 to 42: In the fifth paragraph, the information about the creation of the universe has been given:**

It is told about the universe that it has not been created without a purpose. ﴿وَمَا خَلَقْنَا السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا لَهْوًا﴾ “It was not for a sport that We created the heavens, the earth and all that lies between them.” (Verse: 38) Allah has created the universe with a special purpose. The worldly life is a test. The Day of Judgement will surely come and no one will be able to get any help on that Day. The believers will have Allah's Mercy. He is the Mighty, the Merciful.

**6- Verses: 43 to 50: The details of the treatment given to the polytheists and the unbelievers in the hell are described in the sixth paragraph.**

The sinners will be given Zaqqoom (cactus) to eat. They will be in fire and will be given boiling water to drink. Those who are suffering from suspicion will be told: 'you considered yourselves to be powerful and honourable! Now taste the flavour of punishment.' ﴿إِنَّ هَذَا مَا كُنْتُمْ بِهِ تَمْتَرُونَ﴾ “This is (the punishment) which you used to doubt.” (Verse: 50)

**7- Verses: 51 to 57: There is the promise of blessings of Paradise for the pious believers.**

﴿إِنَّ الْمُتَّقِينَ فِي مَقَامٍ أَمِينٍ﴾ “Surely, the righteous will be in a secure place.” (Verse: 51)

The pious people will be in peace. They will be blessed with gardens, springs, precious clothes and big eyed damsels. They will not die again in the paradise. This is the special favour of Allah and this is the greatest success, indeed.

**8- Verses: 58 to 59: The invitation of Quran has been repeated in the eighth paragraph like the first one. The messenger (pbuh) of Allah has been consoled and the polytheist leaders have been threatened with annihilation.**

The holy Quran was made easy by revealing it in the Arabic, the language of the messenger (pbuh) of Allah so that they may be reminded. Under the circumstances the prophet (pbuh) should be patient and wait and the polytheists are also waiting. The decision of Allah will come soon.

﴿فَأَمَّا يَئِيْزُهُمْ بِلسَانِكَ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَذَكَّرُوْنَ ۝ فَارْتَقِبْ إِنَّهُمْ مُّرْتَقِبُوْنَ﴾ “Surely, We have made this Quran easy by revealing it in your own language so that they may take heed. (If they do not accept the admonition) then wait; surely, they too are waiting.”

(Verses: 58, 59)

### Central Subject

The punishment of arrogance, love of this world, exaltation in the land, rejecting the invitation of Quran, rejecting the Tawheed and the life hereafter is annihilation in this world and hell in the hereafter.

