

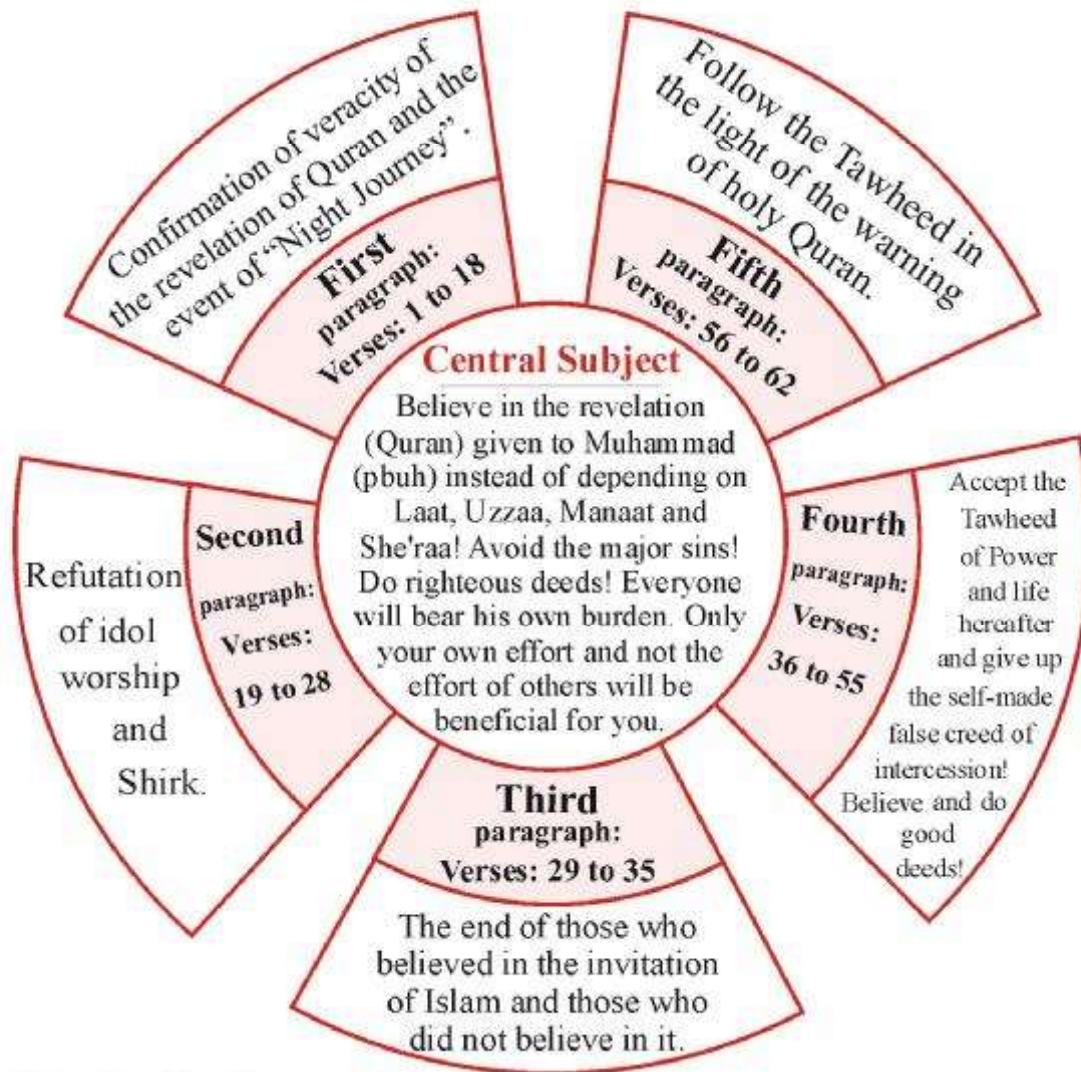
## Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah An-Najm

# 53 - Soorah An-Najm

Makkan

Verses: 62

Paragraphs: 5



### • Period of revelation:

- 1- The first part (initial 18 verses), was probably revealed at the occasion of the event of "Night Journey" (Rajab, 12 prophet-hood).
- 2- The second part (verses 19 to 62), was revealed after the migration to Ethiopia, probably in 5 prophet-hood, when Umayyah bin Khalf had rubbed some dust on his forehead, instead of prostrating when he heard the last verse, the verse of prostration.

## Excellences of soorah An-Najm

Abdullah bin Mas'ood says that according to the order of revelation, it is the first soorah that has the verse of prostration.

﴿أَوَّلُ سُورَةٍ أُنزِلَتْ فِيهَا سَجْدَةٌ﴾ وَالْتَجَمِيرُ قَالَ: فَسَجَدَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ وَسَجَدَ مَنْ خَلْفَهُ إِلَّا رَجُلًا رَأَيْتُهُ أَحَدًا

كَفًا مِنْ تُرَابٍ فَسَجَدَ عَلَيْهِ فَرَأَيْتُهُ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ قُبِيلٌ كَافِرٌ أَوْ هُوَ أُمَيَّةُ بْنُ خَلْفٍ ﴿

The first revealed soorah which has prostration in it is “Wannajm”. He says: “The messenger (pbuh) of Allah prostrated and so did those who were behind him except one man.” I saw: “He took a handful of dust and prostrated on it, and I saw him being killed as an unbeliever afterwards and he was Umayyah bin Khalf”. (Saheeh Bukhari, Hadeeth: 4,582)

## Relationship of soorah An-Najm with the Book

- 1- In the previous three soorahs (Qaaf, Az-Zaariyaat, and At-Toor), there are different arguments of possibility of life hereafter. Here, in soorah An-Najm, it has been told that, in reality, the salvation in the life hereafter depends on the belief of Tawheed and righteous deeds. One should not depend on the intercession of the angels and the righteous people.
- 2- In the last soorah (At-Toor), “the Written Book” was mentioned. Here, in soorah An-Najm, the same Torah has been called the “Scrolls of Moosaa” and some part of its teachings has been described.

## Important key words and subjects

- 1- **Explanation of the position of prophet-hood in soorah An-Najm:**  
“And he does not speak out of his own desire. This is but an inspired revelation.” (Verses: 3, 4) In these verses, this reality has been described that the messenger (pbuh) of Allah is not a philosopher who speaks out of his own desire as a result of his personal thinking, rather he is following the revelation given to him.
- 2- **Details of the happening of “Night Journey” and seeing the signs of Allah:**  
“He did indeed see some of his Lord's greatest signs.” (Verse: 18) This verse reveals the reality that on the occasion of “Night Journey”, the prophet (pbuh) did not see Allah; rather, he saw great signs of Allah.

### **3- Refutation of the creed of Shirk in Allah's Person followed by the Makkan pagans:**

“Are you to have sons, and He the daughters?” (Verse: 21) The self-made creed of Quraish has been attacked by this question. They used to bury their own daughters alive and ascribed daughters to Allah by their false conjectures and suppositions.

### **4- Explanation of certain knowledge and conjectural knowledge in soorah An-Najm:**

In verses 23 and 28, it has been told that the creed of polytheists which is based on conjectures and suppositions is false. The conjecture is not helpful in comparison with the reality.

### **5- Refutation of self-made creed of intercession of angels in soorah An-Najm:**

“Their intercession can avail nothing.” (Verse: 26) The vain hopes of the polytheists about the angels have been removed by this verse that they will not be able to help them in any way.

### **6- Importance of Man's efforts mentioned in soorah An-Najm:**

“Or should man have what he wishes?” (Verse: 24) It has been told in this verse that the success in the hereafter will not be according to man's desires; rather, it will be according to his efforts. “That there shall be nothing for a man except what he strives for.” (Verse: 39)

### **7- Objection against the attitude of the niggards in soorah An-Najm:**

“He gave a little (from the promised amount) then stopped.” (Verse: 34) This verse is about Waleed bin Mugheerah. Someone asked him to give him some money and said that if he (Mugheerah) is punished in the hereafter he will bear it for him. He paid this man some money and then stopped. He has been told that every man's action is useful or harmful for himself.

### **8- Objection against the non-serious attitude of the pagan leaders in soorah An-Najm:**

“And laugh instead of weeping. Rather you are wasting your time.” (Verses: 60, 61) The leaders of Quraish have been criticised for their songs, mockery and non-serious attitude. The solid arguments of Quran should not be ignored in this way. It is a serious Word which needs proper thinking.

## Macro-structure of soorah An-Najm

Soorah An-Najm consists of five (5) paragraphs.

### **1- Verses: 1 to 18: In the first paragraph, the doubts of Makkan pagans about the revelation have been removed.**

The interest, satisfaction and attention of prophet (pbuh) at the occasion of "Night Journey" has been appreciated. He witnessed great signs during this journey.

### **2- Verses: 19 to 28: The polytheists have been criticised severely in the second paragraph.**

They ignore the revelation and follow their baseless conjectures. They worship Laat, Uzzaa and Manaas. They consider angels as the daughters of Allah and thus commit Shirk in His person. They rely on the intercession of angels.

The idol of Laat fixed in Taa'if was the god of Banu Thaqeef. This was the statue of a pious man who used to provide water to the pilgrims.

The idol of Uzzaa which was fixed in the valley of Nakhlah was the god of Quraish. Banu Shaibaan were its attendants. The idol of Manaas which was fixed in Qadeed was the god of Banu Khuza'ah.

She'raa is the name of a star which is hotter than the sun. It also was the god of Banu Khuza'ah.

### **3- Verses: 29 to 35: The messenger (pbuh) of Allah has been advised in the third paragraph.**

Ignore those who turn away from the invitation of Quran! They are the lovers of this world. The purpose of the Day of Judgement is to reward the virtuous and punish the evil people. The people of paradise avoid the major sins.

### **4- Verses: 36 to 55: In the fourth paragraph, the summary of the Book of Ibraaheem and the Book of Moosaa has been given.**

The stingy leadership of Makkan pagans have been invited to think. No one will bear the burden of anyone else on the Day of Judgement. Everyone will get the reward of his own effort. Allah is the Lord of everything.

**Summary of the basic teachings of the Books of  
prophets Ibraaheem and Moosaa:**

- (a) No one will bear the burden of anyone else. (Verse: 38)
- (b) Man will get what he strives for. (Verse: 39)
- (c) Man's efforts will be seen and then complete compensation will be given. (Verses: 40, 41)
- (d) We have to return to our Lord in the end. (Verse: 42)
- (e) Allah is the One Who gives laughter or tears. (Verse: 43)
- (f) Allah is the One Who gives life and death. (Verse: 44)
- (g) Allah is the One Who makes couples of males and females and thus causes the reproduction. (Verses: 45, 46)
- (h) The life hereafter is also the responsibility of Allah. (Verse: 47)
- (i) He gives you property and makes you rich. (Verse: 48)
- (j) He is the Lord of the Dog star. (Verse: 49)

He has annihilated the four nations of Aad, Thamood, Nooh and Loot. History has witnessed that He has got the power to annihilate the nations. (Verses: 50 to 55)

**5- Verses: 56 to 62: In the fifth and last paragraph, it has been told that the holy Quran is accomplishing the obligation of warning like the previous revealed Books.**

The Quraish of Makkah have been warned that they have adopted the negative attitude of arrogance towards the Word of Allah (the holy Quran). In the end, the Quraish have been invited to worship Allah with the the following words: "Prostrate yourselves before Allah and worship Him!" (Verse: 62)

**Central subject**

Believe in the revelation (Quran) given to Muhammad (pbuh) instead of depending on Laat, Uzzaa, Manaat and She'raa! Avoid the major sins! Do righteous deeds! Everyone will bear his own burden. Only your own effort and not the effort of others will be beneficial for you.

