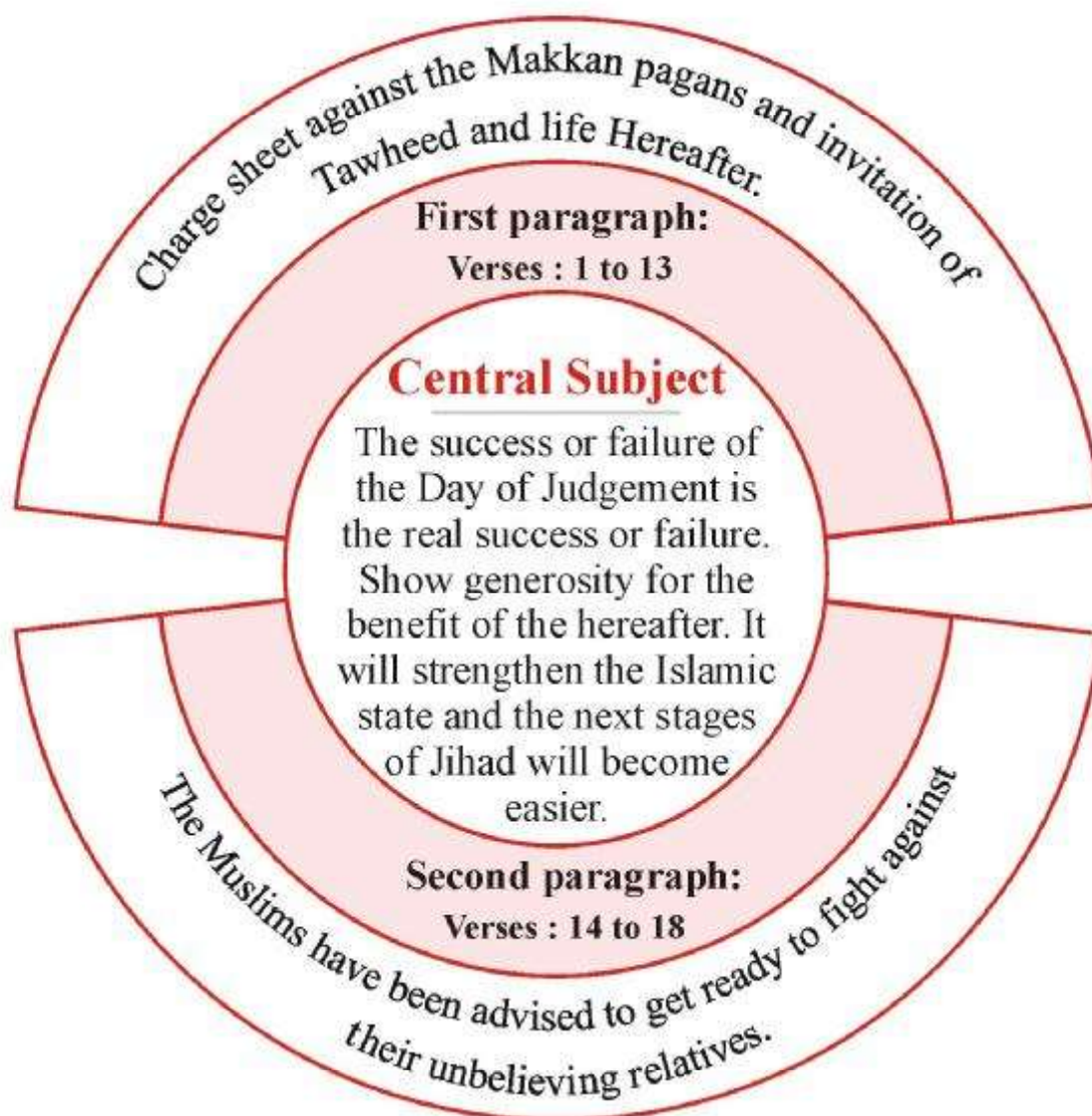


Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah At-Taghaabun

64 - Soorah At-Taghaabun Madeenan

Verses: 18

Paragraphs: 2



• **Period of revelation:**

Soorah At-Taghaabun, probably, is the first complete soorah which was revealed in 1 A.H., after migration to Madinah. Before this, a few verses of soorah Al-Hajj (25 to 28) were revealed after migration to Madinah.

The immigrants and the “Ansaar” (helpers) have been prepared for spending in the way of Allah and for Jihad in this soorah.

In spite of being a Madeenan soorah, the mood of soorah At-Taghaabun resembles the Makkan soorahs. However, it has got the appeal for charity (Verse 16) and goodly loan (Verse 17) as well. There is also advice for the immigrants that the relatives, the houses and the properties they left in Makkah, are a test for their belief. (Verse: 15) The fighting is not mentioned in soorah At-Taghaabun. However, the financial Jihad (spending for the cause of Allah) is mentioned for the consolidation of new Islamic state. There is also preparation for war against the Quraish of Makkah and charge sheet against them.

The new Muslims are mentally prepared for the war and the legitimacy of war against the Quraish has been provided.

- 1- The Quraish of Makkah had rejected the prophet-hood of Muhammad (pbuh) by saying that he was only a man. ﴿أَبَشَرٌ يَهْدُونَنَا؟﴾ “Are human beings going to guide us?” (Verse: 6) They had evicted the Messenger (pbuh) of Allah and his companions from their homes in love of their idols.
- 2- They had denied the life Hereafter and said that they will not be brought to life again. ﴿لَنْ يُعْعَبُوا﴾ “They will not be raised to life again.” (Verse: 7)

Excellences of soorah At-Taghaabun

This soorah is included in ﴿مُسَبِّحَات﴾ “Musabbahaat” - the soorahs that begin with the words ﴿سَبَّح﴾ “Sabbaha”, ﴿يُسَبِّحُ﴾ “Yusabb-e-ho” or ﴿سُبْحَانَ﴾ “Subhaana”, (the soorahs that begin with glorification of Allah). They include soorahs Al-Hadeed, Al-Hashr, As-Saff, Al-Jumu'ah, At-Taghaabun, Bani Israa'eel and Al-A'laa.

﴿أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ ﷺ كَانَ يَقْرَأُ الْمُسَبِّحَاتِ قَبْلَ أَنْ يَرْقُدَ، وَيَقُولُ: إِنَّ فِيهَا آيَةً خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ آيَةٍ﴾

“The prophet (pbuh) used to recite “Al-Musabbahaat” before going to sleep and said that they have one verse better than a thousand verses.

(Tirmizi, Hadeeth: 2,921)

The relationship of soorah At-Taghaabun with the Book

In the previous soorah (Al-Munaafiqoon), the Muslims were advised to save themselves from the conspiracies of hypocrites and they were persuaded to spend in the way of Allah. Here, in soorah At-Taghaabun, they have been told that in order to achieve success in Jihad, the financial and economic stability of the state is essential before the military campaigns which is possible only if the Muslims spend in the way of Allah generously.

Important Key words and Subjects

- 1- **The correct belief of Tawheed:** In this small soorah various Attributes of Allah have been described so that the believing citizens of newly born Islamic state may believe in the perfect Tawheed along with Allah's Attributes and prepare for the coming stages of charity and Jihad. He is the Glorified (verse: 1), the King (verse: 1), the Praiseworthy (verse: 1), the Powerful (verse: 1), the Creator (verse: 2), the Observer (verse: 2), the One Who gives shape (verse: 3), the Knower (verses: 4, 18), Free of all needs and Worthy of all praise (verse: 6), the One Who guides the heart (verse: 11), the God and the Trustworthy (verse: 13), the Forgiving (verse: 17), the Appreciative (verse: 17), the Forbearing (verse: 17), the Knowledgeable (verse: 18), the Almighty (verse: 18), the All-Wise. (verse: 18)
- 2- **The invitation for belief and good deeds:** In this soorah, the invitation of belief has been given in these words: ﴿قَامِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ﴾ “Therefore, believe in Allah and His Messenger”; (verse: 8) and the invitation for obedience has been given in the following words: ﴿أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ﴾ “And obey Allah and obey His Messenger (pbuh)” (verse: 12) and ﴿وَاسْمَعُوا وَأَطِيعُوا﴾ “Listen attentively and be obedient.” (verse: 16) It is necessary for the consolidation of the party and organisation.
- 3- **The Day of success and failure:** The Day of Judgement has been called the Day of success and failure. (verse: 9)

4- In this soorah, after mentioning the act of creation, the freedom of faith given by Allah is mentioned. ﴿فَمِنْكُمْ كَافِرٌ وَمِنْكُمْ مُؤْمِنٌ﴾ “Yet, some of you are unbelievers and some are believers.” (Verse: 2) It is noteworthy here, that the words “Kafir” (unbeliever) and “Mo'min” (believer) both are subject which means that some of you do not believe and some do believe. (Verse: 3)

5- Charge sheet against the Makkan pagans and legitimacy of war:

(a) The Makkan pagans thought that a human being cannot be a prophet. It is against the reason. They denied the prophet-hood of Muhammad (pbuh).

(Verse: 6)

(b) The Makkan pagans denied the Day of Judgement and denied the reward and punishment. (Verse: 7)

6- Your wives and children can be your enemies:

In this soorah, the reality that your wives and children (living in Makkah) can be your enemies has been described in the following words:

﴿إِنَّ مِنْ أَرْوَاجِكُمْ وَأَوْلَادِكُمْ عَدُوًّا لَكُمْ فَاحْذَرُوهُمْ﴾ “Surely, among your wives and your children there are some who are your enemies: so beware of them.” (Verse: 14)

7- The wealth and children are a test: In this soorah, the wealth and children are called a test in the following words: ﴿إِنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ﴾ “Your wealth and your children are but a trial.” (Verse: 15)

The Macro-Structure of soorah At-Taghaabun

Soorah At-Taghaabun consists of two paragraphs.

1- Verses: 1 to 13: In the first paragraph, there is the charge sheet against the Makkan pagans and the invitation of Tawheed and Hereafter.

Allah is the Glorified, the Creator, the King, the Observer and the Powerful Who deserve All Praise.

Man has been given the freedom of faith. ﴿فَمِنْكُمْ كَافِرٌ وَمِنْكُمْ مُؤْمِنٌ﴾ “Yet, some of you are unbelievers and some are believers.” (Verse: 2)

The creation of heavens and earth is purposeful. Man has been given the best shape. (Verse: 3) ﴿خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِالْحَقِّ وَصَوَّرَكُمْ فَأَحْسَنَ صُوْرَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ الْمُبْصِرُ﴾ “He created

the heavens and the earth to manifest the truth. He shaped you and shaped you well, and to Him you shall all return.” (Verse: 3) The purpose of creation is the accountability of the Hereafter. We all have to return to Him. Allah is the One Who knows the secrets of the hearts. He will judge us on the Day of Judgement. (Verse: 4)

Like the Makkan pagans, the previous unbelieving nations also considered the prophets as ordinary men and not the Messengers and Guides from Allah; therefore, they were annihilated. (Verse: 6)

The second crime of the Makkan pagans was that they denied the life Hereafter, although establishing the Day of Judgement is very easy for Allah Who has the above mentioned Attributes. ﴿وَذَلِكَ عَلَى اللَّهِ يَسِيرٌ﴾ “And that is easy for Allah.” (Verse: 7)

The Makkan pagans were invited to believe in Allah, believe in Muhammad the last Messenger (pbuh) and believe in the light of revelation (Quran and Sunnah). ﴿فَأْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَالنُّورَ الَّذِي أَنْزَلْنَا﴾ “Therefore, believe in Allah and His Messenger, and in the light which We have revealed.” (Verse: 8)

The Day of Judgement is the Day of success or failure. The Paradise and great success can be achieved as a result of belief and good deeds. (Verse: 9) The result of unbelief and denial will be punishment of Hell. (Verse: 10)

Not to accept Islam because of worldly difficulties is stupidity. Allah guides the hearts of those who believe. ﴿وَمَنْ يُؤْمِن بِاللَّهِ يَجِدْ لَهُ سَبِيلًا﴾ “He that believes in Allah, his heart is guided to the Right Way.” (Verse: 11)

The immigrants and the new Muslims have been given the invitation of belief again and they have been advised to follow the Tawheed and have their trust in Allah. (Verse: 13)

2- Verses: 14 to 18: In the second paragraph, the immigrant Muslims have been advised to be prepared to fight against their unbelieving relatives.

The Muslims should consider their infidel and pagan relatives as their enemies and a trial and beware of them. (Verse: 14)

The wealth and children of the Muslims can also be their enemies. They should be overlooked, pardoned and forgiven and the great reward of Allah should be kept in view. (Verses: 15, 16)

The believing citizens of the newly born Islamic state have been given four (4) advices that they should (1) listen, (2) obey, (3) be pious and (4) spend in the way of Allah and lend Him a goodly loan avoiding the stinginess according to their capacity, so that the Islamic state may achieve financial stability and move towards the next stages of Jihad and achieve its purposes.

﴿فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ وَأَسْمِعُوا وَأَطِيعُوا وَأَنْفِقُوا﴾ “Therefore, fear Allah as much as you can, listen (to His message) attentively, be obedient, and be charitable.” (Verse: 16)

The Muslim Ummah (nation) can never be successful without the strong organisation, obedience of the leader, fear of Allah and generosity.

﴿فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ وَأَسْمِعُوا وَأَطِيعُوا وَأَنْفِقُوا خَيْرًا لِّأَنْفُسِكُمْ وَمَنْ يُوقِ شَخَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ﴾ “Therefore, fear Allah as much as you can, listen (to His message) attentively, be obedient, and be charitable. This is for your own good. Those who are saved from covetousness of their own souls, it is they who are truly successful.” (Verse: 16)

In the end, it has been explained that Allah will appreciate the sentiments of Muslims. He is the Appreciative, the Forbearing, the Knower of the unseen and the seen, the All-Mighty and the All-Wise. Hidden in it is the good news that the doors of conquests of Islam will open during the first A.H. as a result of the companions' generosity and spending in the way of Allah.

Central Subject

The success or failure of the Day of Judgement is the real success or failure. In spite of the love of wealth and children and in spite of the trials, generosity should be shown for the success in the Hereafter. It will strengthen the Islamic state and the next stages of Jihad will become easier.

