

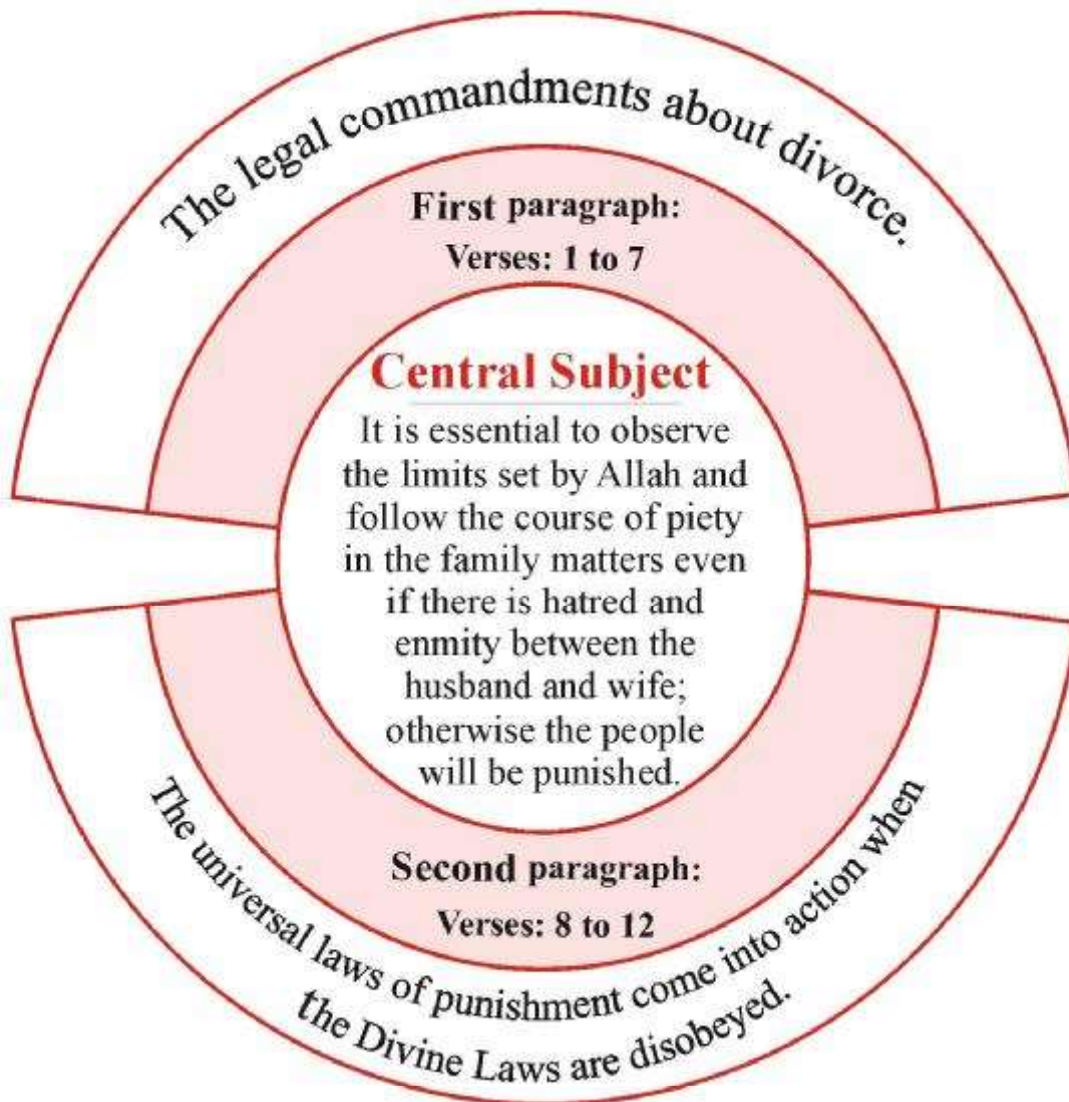
Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah At-Talaaq

65-Soorah At-Talaaq

Madeenan

Verses: 12

Paragraphs: 2



• **Period of revelation:**

The commandments about divorce were given in soorah Al-Baqarah (which was mostly revealed in 2 A.H.). For the completion and detail of these commandments of divorce soorah At-Talaaq was revealed, probably at the end of 2 A.H.

The relationship of Soorah At-Talaaq with the Book

- 1- In the previous soorah (At-Taghaabun), the Muslims were advised to believe and spend generously for the stability of Islamic state to achieve success in the final examination of the Day of Judgement. Here, in soorah At-Talaaq, it has been told that obeying the Quran and Sunnah sincerely on the family front is essential for the stability of Islamic society.
- 2- It has been told in soorah At-Talaaq that observing the limits set by Allah is essential even if one hates his wife; while in the next soorah (At-Tahreem), it has been told that observing the limits set by Allah is also necessary if one loves his wife dearly.

Important Key words and Subjects

1- Legal commandments of Allah:

In this soorah the words: ﴿حُدُودَ اللَّهِ﴾ (limits set by Allah:verse 1), ﴿أَمْرُ اللَّهِ﴾ (command of Allah: verse 5), ﴿أَمْرُ رَبِّهَا﴾ (commandment of their Lord: verse 8), (revelations of Allah: verse 11) reveal the reality that Allah is the Dictator, the Ruler and the Law Giver. His orders and legal commandments must be obeyed.

2- **Universal commandments:** ﴿يَتَنَزَّلُ الْأَمْرُ بَيْنَهُنَّ﴾ “His commandment descends between them.” (Verse: 12) These words explain that Allah is the universal Ruler. His commandments prevail between the heavens and the earth.

3- The quality of “Taqwaa” (piety) has been mentioned five times in this soorah. (Verses: 1, 2, 4, 5, 10) It shows that the stability of family system depends on observing the limits set by Allah and being pious.

4- Six benefits of piety have been mentioned in this soorah.

(a) It provides the way out of difficulties. ﴿وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا﴾ “He that fears Allah may be provided a way out (by Him). (Verse: 3)

(b) ﴿وَيُزِدْ قُوَّةً مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ﴾ “He is given sustenance from the sources he could never imagine.” (Verse: 4)

- (c) ﴿وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِ يُسْرًا﴾ “Allah will ease the hardship of those who fear Him.” (Verse: 4)
- (d) ﴿وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَكْفُرْ عَنْهُ سَيِّئَاتِهِ﴾ “He that fears Allah, will have his sins removed.” (Verse: 5)
- (e) ﴿وَيُعْظَمُ لَهُ أَجْرًا﴾ “And his reward is enlarged.” (Verse: 5)
- (f) Piety is the proof of intelligence and wisdom. ﴿فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ يَا أُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ﴾
“Therefore, fear Allah! O men of understanding.” (Verse: 10)

Macro-Structure of soorah At-Talaaq

The structure of soorah At-Talaaq consists of two parts. In the first part, there are legal commandments and in the second part, there is threat of the universal law of punishment coming into action if these commandments are disobeyed.

1- Verses: 1 to 7: The legal commandments about divorce are mentioned in the first paragraph.

- (a) Giving divorce three times in one go and dismissing the wife has been forbidden.
- (b) The believers have been advised to divorce at the end of prescribed period and keep a count of the prescribed periods.
- (c) The husband has been forbidden to expel the wife from home right away after divorce and the wife has been forbidden to leave the home. The piety and the limits set by Allah must be observed in case of divorce.
- (d) At the end of waiting period, the wife should be kept honourably or should be parted with honourably in the presence of two honest witnesses and observe the piety.
- (e) The believers have been persuaded to follow the course of piety and trust in Allah in the atmosphere of anger and hatred and the detail of benefits for both of them has been described.

- (f) It was told in soorah Al-Baqarah that the waiting period for the menstruating woman is three menstrual periods. Further explanation has been given here, that the waiting period is three months for the woman who has ceased menstruating and the young girl who has not started menstruating yet. The waiting period for a pregnant woman is delivery of the child.
- (g) The sins of those who follow the course of piety are removed and they are given great reward. The wives should be provided with residence during the waiting period.
- (h) The pregnant woman should be provided with sustenance during the waiting period until delivery.
- (i) After the delivery, the divorced woman can suckle the child with mutual consent, but the expenses of suckling will be the responsibility of father. If an agreement is not reached between the ex-husband and wife about suckling the child, another woman can suckle the baby.
- (j) The father should spend on his child and the husband should spend on his wife (till the end of waiting period) according to his financial capacity.

2- Verses: 8 to 12: In the second paragraph, it has been told that Allah's Universal Law of Punishment comes into action if His legal commandments are disobeyed.

- (a) The people who disobey the commands of Allah and His Messengers especially the family laws are punished. Those who understand have been advised to fear Allah and be pious.
- (b) The purpose of raising the Messenger (pbuh) of Allah is the explanation of commandments, taking people out of darkness of unbelief and showing them the way to Paradise.
- (c) Allah is not only the Creator, He is the Legislator as well. As He has the knowledge of everything, He has the power over everything. Knowledge is power. The more knowledge you have, the more powerful you are. Allah has complete Knowledge, therefore, He has complete Power.

Central Subject

It is essential to observe the limits set by Allah and follow the course of piety in the family matters even if there is hatred and enmity between the husband and wife; otherwise the people will be punished.

