

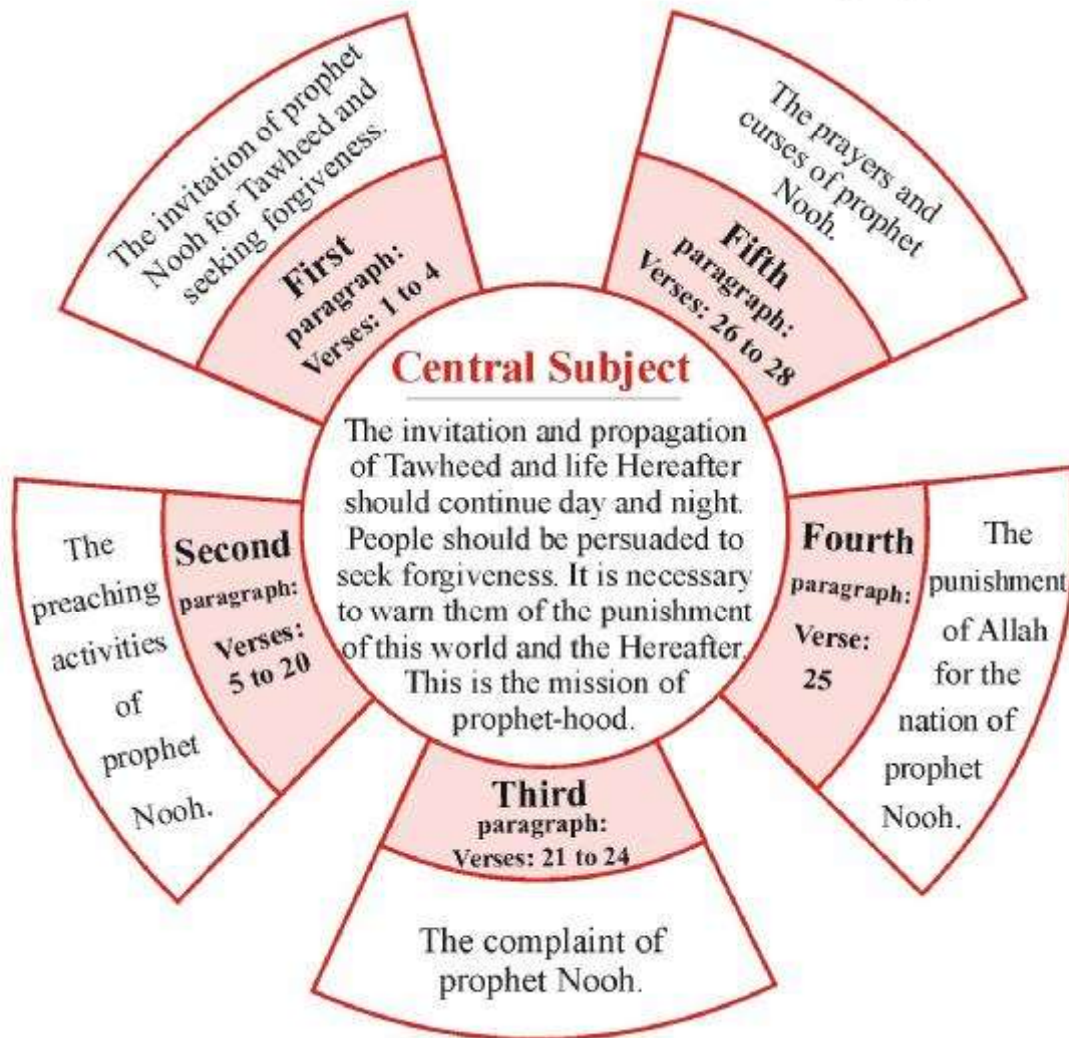
Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah Nooh

71- Soorah Nooh

Makkan

Verses: 28

Paragraphs: 5



• **Period of revelation:**

Soorah Nooh was revealed after the migration to Ethiopia (Rajab, 5 prophet-hood), probably, towards the end of 5 prophet-hood when the enmity had become severe.

In this soorah, the new Muslim companions have been taught to be patient and steadfast and the Quraish have been threatened that they can be destroyed like the nation of prophet Nooh if they rejected the invitation of Tawheed and seeking forgiveness.

The relationship of soorah Nooh with the Book

In the previous soorah (Al-Ma'aarij), the scenes of the Day of Judgement were presented, the end of the stingy people in the life Hereafter was described and the threat of replacement (worldly punishment) was given. Here, in soorah Nooh, the detail of prophet Nooh's invitation and preaching has been given in order that the punishment in this world and in the Hereafter could be avoided. In the next soorah (Al-Jinn), those auspicious souls have been mentioned who heard the Quran from the Messenger (pbuh) of Allah and then preached it among their own species of Jinns.

Important Key words and Subjects

- 1- The etiquettes of invitation and preaching have been taught in soorah Nooh.
- 2- In this soorah, it has been explained about the invitation that it should consist of Tawheed, prophet-hood, life hereafter and the warning.
- 3- In this soorah, the people have been made to realise their sins. They have been invited to seek forgiveness and the excellence of seeking forgiveness has been described. The word ﴿اسْتَغْفَارٌ﴾ "Istighfaar" (seeking forgiveness) has been used in verse 10 and the word ﴿مَغْفِرَاتٍ﴾ "Maghfirah" (forgiveness) has been used repeatedly in verses 4, 6, 28.
- 4- The prayers of prophet Nooh have been recorded in this soorah and his curses after the invitation and preaching of nine hundred and fifty years when it was revealed to him that no one will believe now, have also been recorded.
- 5- The people of Nooh were invited to obey. (Verse: 3) But their disobedience had its effects. (Verse: 21)
- 6- Two kinds of leadership have been mentioned in soorah Nooh - the righteous leadership of prophet Nooh and the sinful leadership of the unbelievers.
 - (a) Prophet Nooh invited to seek forgiveness and gave the good news of increase in their wealth and children. ﴿وَيُؤْتِيكُمْ بِأَمْوَالٍ وَبَنِينَ﴾ "And will help you with wealth and sons." (Verse: 12)
 - (b) But the people followed the polytheist leadership which did not increase their wealth and children; it, rather, increased their loss. ﴿وَاتَّبَعُوا مَنْ لَّمْ يَزِدَّهُمْ مَالًا وَوَلَدًا إِلَّا خَسَارًا﴾ "And followed those whose wealth and children have added to them nothing but loss." (Verse: 21)

The macro-structure of soorah Nooh

Soorah Nooh consists of five (5) paragraphs.

- 1- Verses: 1 to 4: In the first paragraph, prophet Nooh's invitation of Tawheed and seeking forgiveness has been explained.**

Prophet Nooh gave the invitation and warned of the punishment. His invitation consisted of four points: (1) Worship Allah, (2) fear Him, (3) obey me and (4) seek forgiveness of your Lord; you will be given respite and Allah will forgive your sins if you seek forgiveness. The suspended fate and the inevitable fate have been explained.

- 2- Verses: 5 to 20: In the second paragraph, the etiquettes of invitation have been taught in the light of the preaching activities of prophet Nooh and the arguments of Tawheed and life Hereafter have been presented.**

The invitation of Islam is a full time job which should continue all the time. The invitation can be given loudly, in public and in private according to the situation. (Verses: 8,9)

Five (5) worldly benefits of seeking forgiveness have been described. You will get rains. Your wealth will be increased. You will be given sons. You will get gardens and rivers. (Verse: 12)

The arguments of Tawheed and life Hereafter have been provided from the Providence of Allah. (Verse: 15)

Allah has created man from earth with great care with a special purpose. "He will return you to the same earth and then raise you back (to life) again (on the Day of Resurrection)." (Verse: 18)

- 3- Verses: 21 to 24: In the third paragraph, the charge sheet against the polytheist nation of prophet Nooh has been mentioned and the complaint of Prophet Nooh has been reported.**

In spite of preaching of 950 years, they were not prepared to leave their five idols namely Wadd, Suwaa', Yaghooth, Ya'ooq and Nasr. Their pagan chiefs and leaders had devised and spread an outrageous plot. (Verse: 22)

The first curse of Prophet Nooh: **﴿وَلَا تَزِدِ الظَّالِمِينَ إِلَّا ضَلَالًا﴾** "Do not increase the wrongdoers in anything but deviation." (Verse: 24)

- 4- **Verse: 25:** In the fourth paragraph, the detail of Allah's punishment on the nation of Nooh has been described. They were punished because of their evil deeds and they are facing the punishment of grave as well.

“Because of their wrong doings they were drowned (in the great flood) and made to enter the fire (punishment of grave). They found no one besides Allah to help them.” (Verse: 25)

- 5- **Verses: 26 to 28:** The prayers and curses of prophet Nooh have been reported in the fifth and last paragraph.

The second curse of prophet Nooh: ﴿رَبِّ لَا تَذَرْ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ مِنَ الْكٰفِرِيْنَ دَيّٰرًا﴾ “O my Lord! Do not leave a single unbeliever (on the surface of) the earth.” (For if you spare any of them, they will mislead your servants and beget none but wicked disbelievers).” (Verses: 26, 27)

The prayer of prophet Nooh (pbuh):

﴿رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِيْ وَلِيْوَالِدِيْ وَلِمَنْ دَخَلَ بَيْتِيْ مُؤْمِنًا وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنٰتِ﴾ O my Lord! Forgive me , my parents and any who enters my house as a believer, and all believing men and believing women. (Verse: 28)

The third curse of prophet Nooh (pbuh): ﴿وَلَا تُرِدِ الْظٰلِمِيْنَ الْاٰتِمَارًا﴾ “As to the wrongdoers, grant them increase in nothing but destruction.” (Verse: 28)

Central Subject

The invitation and propagation of Tawheed and life Hereafter should continue day and night. People should be persuaded to seek forgiveness. It is necessary to warn them of the punishment of this world and the Hereafter. This is the mission of prophet-hood.

