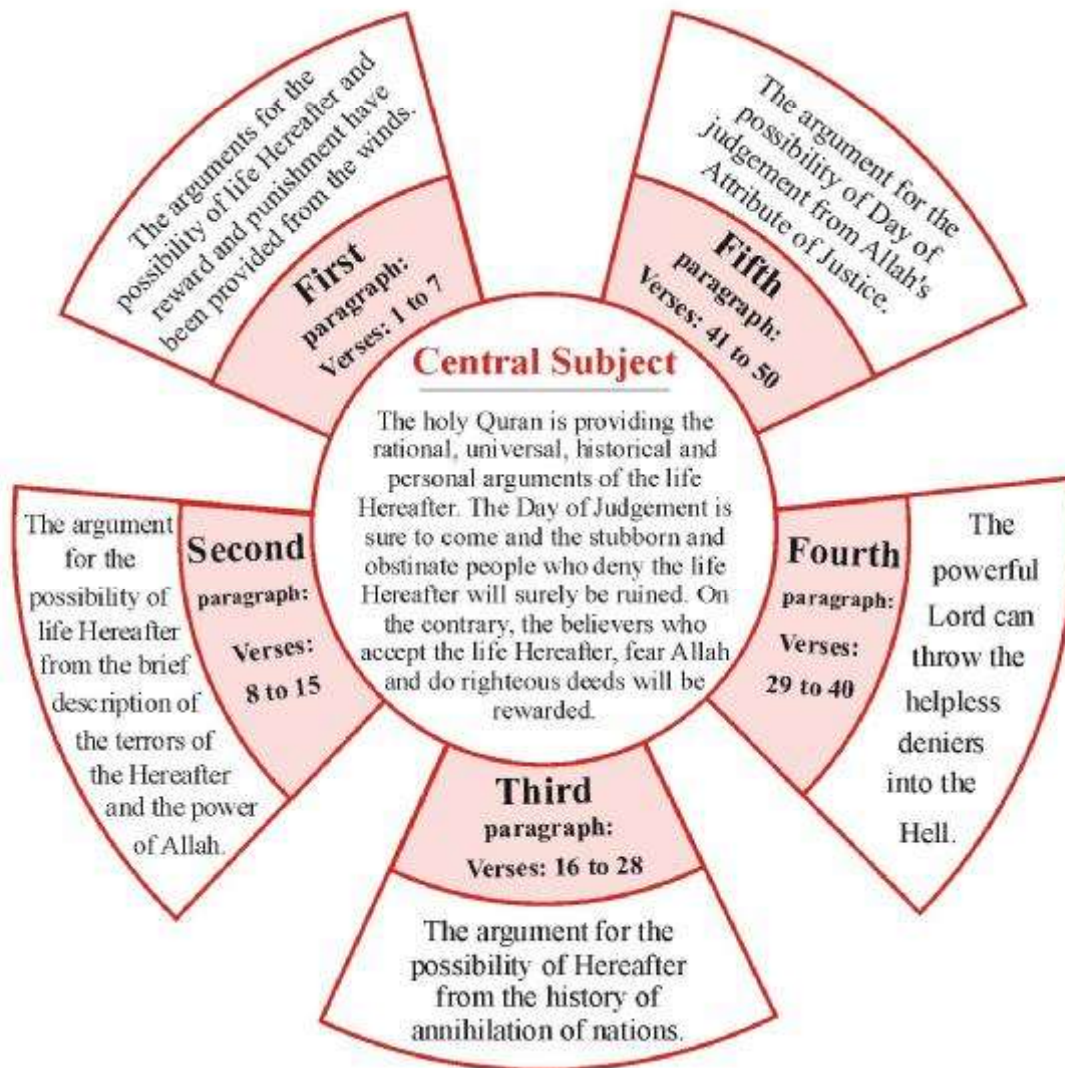


Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah Al-Mursalaat

77 - Soorah Al-Mursalaat Makkan

Verses: 50

Paragraphs: 5



• Period of revelation:

Soorah Al-Mursalaat was revealed during the first phase of prophet's stay in Makkah (0 to 3 prophet-hood), when the invitation of Islam was given secretly. Abdullah bin Mas'ood (R. A.) says that it was revealed into a cave in Minaa. (Saheeh Bukhari)

The excellences of soorah Al-Mursalaat

It is one of the soorahs which made the Messenger (pbuh) of Allah grow old. The Messenger (pbuh) of Allah said:

﴿شَيْبَتْنِي هُوْدُ وَالْوَاقِعَةُ وَالْمُرْسَلَاتُ وَعَمَّ يَتَسَاءَلُونَ وَإِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ﴾ “Soorahs Hood, Al-Waaqi'ah, Al-Mursalaat, An-Nabaa' and At-Takweer have made me grow old.” (Tirmizi, Hadeeth: 3,297, sound)

The relationship of soorah Al-Mursalaat with the Book

- 1- In the previous soorah (Ad-Dahr), the picture of sinful and ungrateful leadership was painted in these words: ﴿إِنَّ هَؤُلَاءِ يُحِبُّونَ الْعَاجِلَةَ وَيَذُرُونَ وَرَاءَهُمْ يَوْمًا ثَقِيلًا﴾ “These unbelievers love the transitory life of (this world) and neglect the heavy Day (that is coming ahead).” (Verse: 27)
Here, in soorah Al-Mursalaat, the same thing has been repeated in a sarcastic way that this leadership who denies the Hereafter is criminal. ﴿كُلُوا وَامْتَنِعُوا قَلِيلًا إِنَّكُمْ فَجْرٌ مُّؤْتُونَ﴾ “Eat and enjoy yourselves for a little while. Surely, you are criminals.” (Verse: 46)
- 2- In soorah Al-Mursalaat, there is comparison between the believers, righteous, pious and the criminals who deny the Hereafter; while in the next soorah An-Nabaa, there is comparison between the righteous people and the rebellious people who deny the life Hereafter.

Important Key words and Subjects

- 1- In this soorah, the following verse has been repeated ten times:

﴿وَيْلٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلْمُكَذِّبِينَ﴾ “Woe on that Day to the disbelievers.”

This is the repeated verse. The deniers of the life Hereafter have been told through this verse that their welfare lies in accepting the invitation of the Messenger (pbuh) of Allah and its rejection will cause their destruction and annihilation.

- 2- This soorah has ended with a question.

﴿فَمَا بَىٰ حَدِيثٍ بَعْدَهُ يُؤْمِنُونَ؟﴾ “In what statement after this (Quran), will they believe?” (Verse: 50) After giving the universal, historical and personal arguments and

completing the argument against them, these leaders have been asked that what can impress them after the miraculous Word of Allah like the Quran?

The Macro-structure of soorah Al-Mursalaat

Soorah Al-Mursalaat consists of five paragraphs.

- 1- Verses: 1 to 7: In the first paragraph, the reward and punishment and the possibility of life Hereafter has been proved through the universal argument of the winds.**

There is a historical argument hidden in it. History has witnessed that many nations have been destroyed with the winds like the peoples of Aad and Thamood. The winds give the evidence that the Day of Judgement is sure to come. Allah sends winds incessantly which blow the dust moving in tempestuous speed and spread the clouds and cause the punishment or reward of Allah to descend. The winds have two aspects of reward and punishment. The winds revive Allah's remembrance in the hearts of people, frighten them and warn them. They indicate that the promise of the Day of Judgement which is made to you will surely be fulfilled.

﴿إِنَّمَا تُوْعَدُونَ لَوَاقِعٌ﴾ "Surely, that which you are being promised, shall be fulfilled."

(Verse: 7)

- 2- Verses: 8 to 15: The picture of the terrors of the Day of Judgement has been shown in the second paragraph and the deniers of the Hereafter have been intimidated with it.**

When the stars will lose their light, the heaven will cleft asunder, the mountains will crumble into dust and when the time for the presence of the Messengers will come, that will be the Day of Judgement. Those who rejected the invitation of the Messenger (pbuh) of Allah will suffer on that Day.

- 3- Verses: 16 to 28: In the third paragraph, the arguments have been given from history, universe and Providence of Allah.**

Allah's Power has been established through all the three kinds of arguments and the possibility of life Hereafter has been proved. This paragraph is divided into three sub-paragraphs.

- (a) Argument for the possibility of life Hereafter from the history of annihilation of nations:**

It has been argued from history and asked: Has Allah not destroyed the criminal nations? Likewise He will destroy the criminal nations in future as

well and in the end, the criminal and denying nations will surely be destroyed. Then there is the repeated verse: ﴿وَيْلٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلْمُكَذِّبِينَ﴾ “Woe on that Day to the disbelievers!” (Verse: 19)

(b) Arguments for the Hereafter from Man's self:

Then man has been invited to look into his own self, think about his past, consider his future and believe in the life Hereafter. Allah's Power and Wisdom has been proved that He made the mother pregnant from a despicable drop of semen. Such a Great Being has complete power to establish the Day of Judgement. People should believe in the life Hereafter and adopt the correct attitude; otherwise the destruction of the deniers of life Hereafter is essential. Then again, there is the repeated verse.

(c) Proof of the Hereafter from the sources of Providence and universal arguments:

After the arguments from history and Man's self, the arguments from Providence have been presented. Man's conscience has been asked: Should they not think about the high mountains and the blessing of sweet water and accept the Power and Authority of Allah? Should they not be grateful for His blessings? The ungrateful people will surely be punished on the Day of Judgement. Then again, the same verse has been repeated.

4- Verses: 29 to 40: In the fourth paragraph, the deniers of the life Hereafter have been intimidated by the severity of punishment of Hell, by the picture of their own helplessness and by the Power and Authority of Allah. This also has three sub paragraphs.

- **Intimidation by the particular nature of the punishment of Hell:**
First, the picture of Hell has been painted. Even its shadows will be distressing. They will neither give coolness nor save from the flames of fire. The high flames of Hellfire have been compared with the high castles and its leaping flames have been compared with the yellow camels. The Hell which will be the abode of those who denied it. Then the repetitive verse has been repeated again. The deniers of the Day of Judgement will be in trouble on that Day and they will be thrown in Hell.
- **Intimidation by the helplessness of the deniers on the Day of Judgement:**
In the next sub paragraph, the picture of the Hell is drawn and then the helplessness of the deniers has been highlighted. On the Day of Judgement, neither they will be able to speak nor they will be given a chance to offer an

excuse. ﴿هَذَا يَوْمٌ لَا يَنْطِقُونَ ۗ وَلَا يُؤَدُّنَ لَهُمْ فِيمَعْتَدُوا﴾ “On that Day, they shall not be able to speak, nor be given permission to offer their excuses.” (Verses: 35, 36)
Then again the verse of repetition: ﴿وَيْلٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلْمُكَذِّبِينَ﴾ “Woe on that Day to the disbelievers!” (Verse: 37)

• **Intimidation by the Power of Allah on the Day of Judgement:**

The Power of Allah is mentioned in the last sub paragraph that on the Day of Judgement He will assemble all the formers and the latters. All the human beings will be helpless. Mankind have been challenged that they may make a plot against Allah if they can. They can neither stop the coming of the Day of Judgement nor avoid it. Those who deny the Day of Judgement will have to suffer on that Day.

5- Verses: 41 to 50: In the last paragraph, the detail of the reward of those who believe in the Day of Judgement, have its fear and do the righteous deeds has been described and the evil and criminal deniers of the Day of Judgement have been intimidated.

The pious people will be given the gardens in which there will be shades, springs and different kinds of fruits. They will be told that they can enjoy the blessings of Paradise in return for their good deeds. An important principle has been described that Allah always rewards the righteous people and He punishes those who deny. ﴿إِنَّا كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الْمُحْسِنِينَ ۗ وَيْلٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلْمُكَذِّبِينَ﴾ “Thus, shall We reward the righteous.” “Woe on that Day to the disbelievers!” (Verses: 44, 45)

• **Intimidation of the deniers by the picture of the attitude of those who deny the invitation:**

After describing the blessings of the righteous people the criminals have been addressed and told in a sarcastic way that they can eat and drink as much as they like and they can enjoy as much as they like during the transitory life of this world; but on the Day of Judgement they will have to suffer.

Then the wickedness of these criminals who deny the life Hereafter has been pointed out that they are arrogant. Whenever they are asked to bow down to Allah, they do not obey. Their destruction is certain.

- In the last verse, the deniers have been asked a stinging but sympathetic question: ﴿فِي أَيِّ حَيْثِيٍّ بَعْدَهُ يُؤْمِنُونَ؟﴾ “In what statement after this (Quran), will they believe?” (Verse: 50) What can satisfy their arrogance, stubbornness and obstinacy after the miraculous word of Quran and its silencing arguments? What can lead them to belief?

Central Subject

The holy Quran is providing the rational, universal, historical and personal arguments of the life Hereafter. The Day of Judgement is sure to come and the stubborn and obstinate people who deny the life Hereafter will surely be ruined. On the contrary, the believers who accept the life Hereafter, fear Allah and do righteous deeds will be rewarded.

