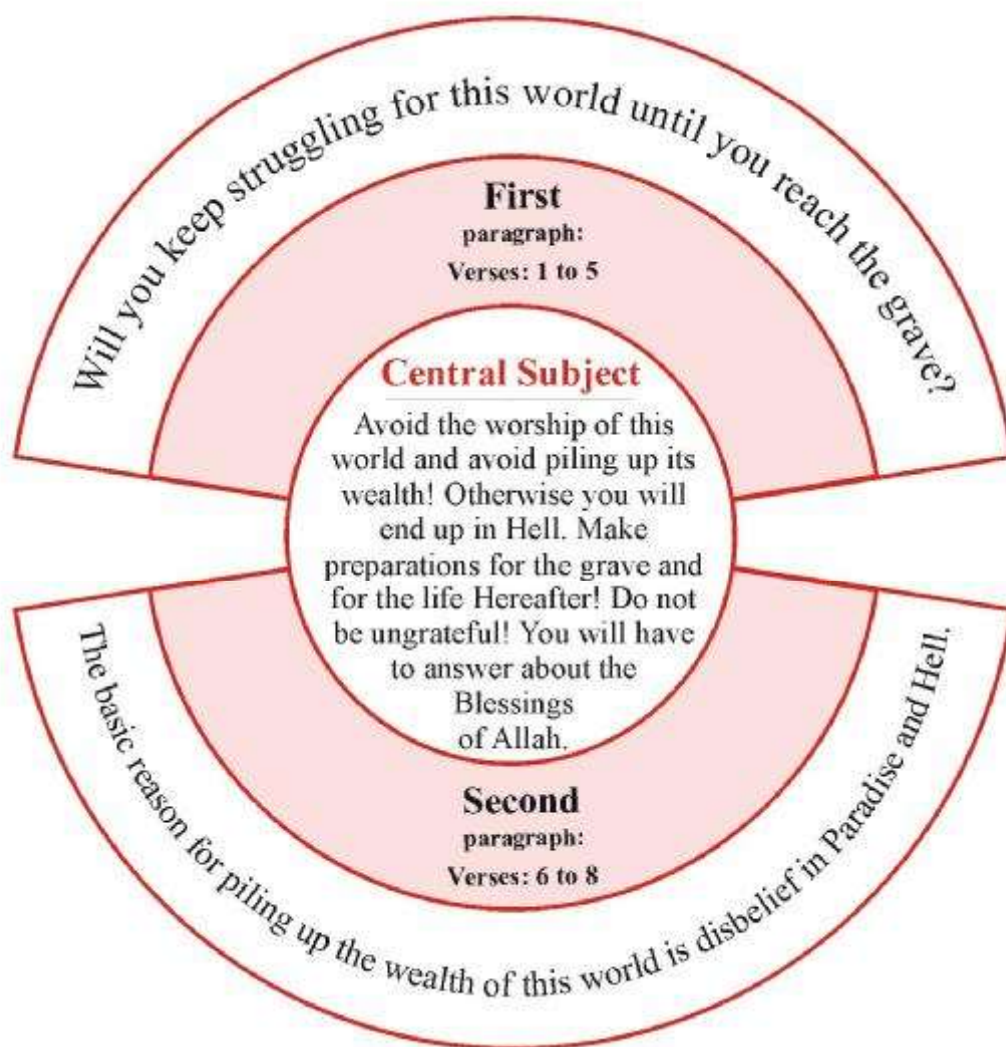


Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah At-Takaathur

102 - Soorah At-Takaathur Makkan

Verses: 8

Paragraphs: 2



• Period of revelation:

Soorah At-Takaathur was, probably, revealed during the second phase of prophet's (pbuh) stay in Makkah (4 to 5 prophet-hood), after the general proclamation of Islam. The materialistic leadership of Quraish has been criticised severely for their love of this world in this soorah.

The relationship of soorah At-Takaathur with the Book

- 1- In the previous soorah (Al-Qaari'ah), weighing of good and bad deeds was mentioned. Here, in soorah At-Takaathur, the good and bad deeds have been explained, so that man may save himself from Hell and achieve the Paradise.
- 2- In the next soorah (Al-'Asr), man has been ordered to follow four things in order to save himself from the loss.

Important Key words and Subjects

- 1- ﴿الَّذِي يَلِيهِ الْهَاجِ﴾ (distracted, forgot, diverted the attention).
- 2- ﴿تَكَاثُرٌ﴾ (It belongs to the chapter of Tafa'ul and means having competition in wealth and trying to surpass others in this competition).
- 3- ﴿عِلْمٌ يَلْقِينِ﴾ (Sure knowledge which is beyond any doubts and suspicions. This is given only to those who fear Allah. This sure knowledge is achieved by pondering over Quranic and universal arguments and looking into the signs found in man's own self.)
- 4- ﴿عَيْنِ الْيَقِينِ﴾ (Eye of certainty, the reality which can be seen, visible reality). This knowledge with certainty of eyes will be achieved on the Day of Judgement after seeing the reality with your own eyes.
- 5- People have forgotten the next life in this race of piling up the riches of this world. Its basic reason is lack of belief in the reward and punishment of the Hereafter.
- 6- If people knew the Hell with certainty of knowledge they would not forget the next life in the race of piling up riches of this life. Man will be questioned about the blessings on the Day of Judgement and he will see the Hell with his own eyes.

The Macro-Structure of soorah At-Takaathur

Soorah At-Takaathur consists of two paragraphs.

- 1- **Verses: 1 to 5: Two realities have been described about man in the first paragraph.**

One, that he has forgotten his Lord in the race of piling up riches and the other that because of this race of accumulating wealth he does not remember death until he reaches the grave.

﴿الْهَيْكُمُ التَّكَاثُرُ﴾ “O mankind, you have been distracted by the (rivalry of) piling up worldly gains (against one another)” (Verse: 1)

﴿حَتَّىٰ زُرْتُمُ الْمَقَابِرَ﴾ “(You will never be satisfied) until you get to the grave.” (Verse: 2)

﴿كَلَّا سَوْفَ تَعْلَمُونَ﴾ “Nevertheless, soon you shall come to know.” (Verse: 3)

﴿ثُمَّ كَلَّا سَوْفَ تَعْلَمُونَ﴾ “Again, nevertheless, soon you shall come to know.” (Verse: 4)

﴿كَلَّا لَوْ تَعْلَمُونَ عِلْمَ الْيَقِينِ﴾ “Nay! would that you knew through the real knowledge.” (Verse: 5)

The third verse begins with the word ﴿كَلَّا﴾ “Kallaa” (Nay, never) Man forgets his Lord and worships this world only because he does not have firm belief in the life Hereafter. He does not have firm belief in reward and punishment and in Paradise and Hell. He entertains the vain hope that he will not be punished in Hell for what he is doing; but soon he will know.

2- Verses: 6 to 8: The reasons for forgetfulness have been highlighted in the second paragraph.

﴿لَتَرَوُنَّ الْجَحِيمَ﴾ “Because (on the Day of Judgement) when you shall see the blazing fire.” (Verse: 6)

﴿ثُمَّ لَتَرَوُنَّهَا عَيْنَ الْيَقِينِ﴾ “And see it with the certainty of your own eyes.” (Verse: 7)

﴿ثُمَّ لَتُسْأَلُنَّ يَوْمَئِذٍ عَنِ النَّعِيمِ﴾ “On that Day, you shall be questioned about the blessings.” (Verse: 8)

If man knew with certainty that he will see the Hell and he will have to face it, he would not have forgotten the death and the grave and he would not live the life of forgetfulness. He must know that on the Day of Judgement he will be questioned about the blessings.

Central Subject

Man should avoid the worship of this world and avoid piling up its wealth, Otherwise he can end up in Hell. He should make preparations for the grave and for the life Hereafter and should avoid ingratitude. He will have to answer about the Blessings of his Lord on the Day of Judgement.