

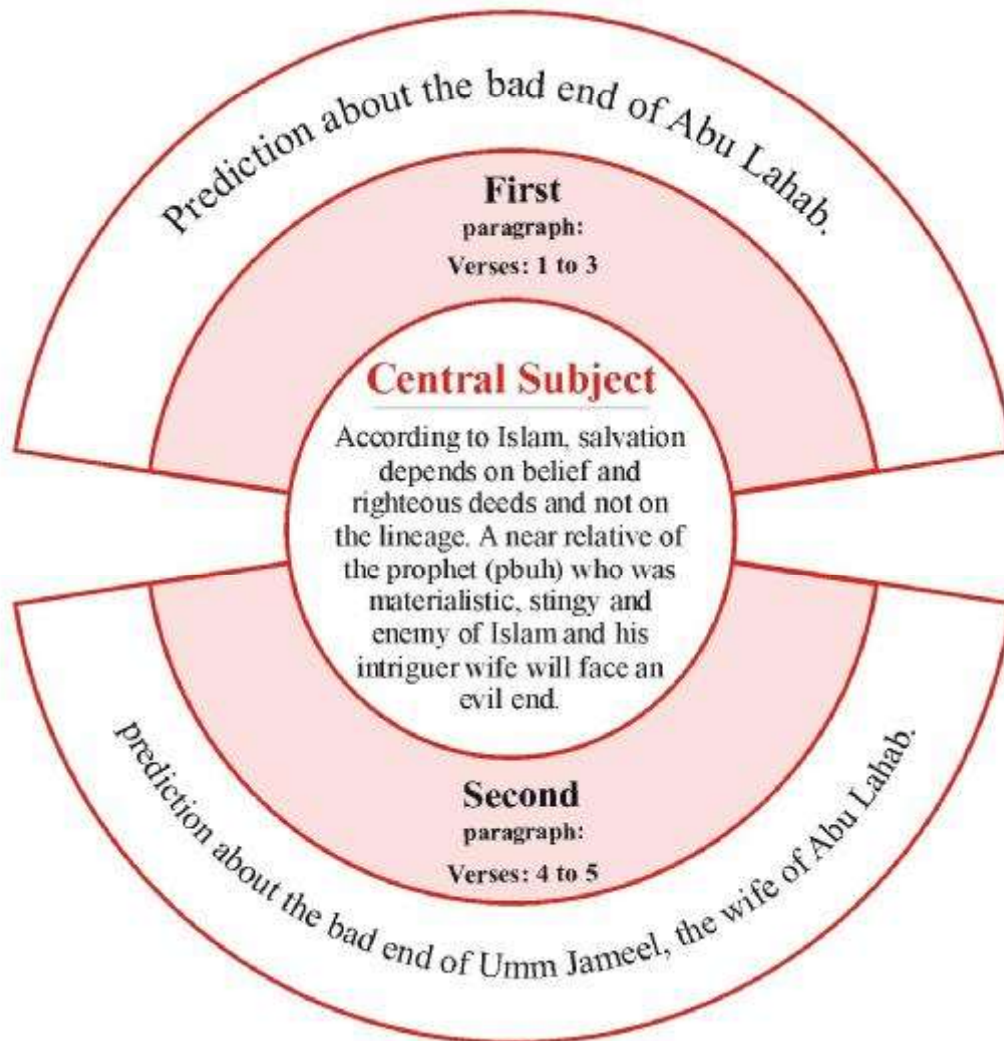
Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah Al-Lahab

111 - Soorah Al-Lahab

Makkan

Verses: 5

Paragraphs: 2



• Period of revelation:

Soorah Al-Lahab was, probably, revealed during the second phase of prophet's stay in Makkah, after the open invitation of Islam in 4 prophet-hood when the prophet (pbuh) climbed up the mount of Safaa and preached Islam openly and Abu Lahab used the words ﴿تَبَّأَلَّكَ﴾ "Tabban lak" (You be ruined) for the prophet (pbuh). (Saheeh Bukhari: 4,687)

It is also possible that this soorah might have been revealed when the prophet (pbuh) was detained in the mountain trail of Abi Taalib for three years (7 to 10 prophet-hood) and when Abu Lahab left his own clan of Banu Haashim and joined the unbelievers.

The relationship of Soorah Al-Lahab with the Book

In soorah Al-Kauthar it was prophesied that the enemies of the Messenger of Allah will be uprooted and the good news of Allah's help and victory was given in soorah An-Nasr.

Here, in soorah Al-Lahab, the destruction of Abu Lahab, a great enemy of Allah, His messenger, Tawheed and Islam and his wife has been predicted by name. In the next soorah Al-Ikhlâas, there is clarification of the belief of Tawheed of Person on which Abu Lahab was incensed.

Important Key words and Subjects

- 1- There is prediction about the bad end of Abu Lahab and his wife the enemies of Islam and the enemies of prophet (Pbuh). He was an uncle of the prophet (pbuh). His name was Abdul Uzzaa bin Abdul Muttalib. His filial appellation was Abu Lahab. The name of his wife was Arwaa bint Harb. She was sister of Abu Sufiyan. Her filial appellation was Umm Jameel.
- 2- Abu Lahab is the only enemy who has been censured by name in the Quran, although he belonged to Bani Haashim and was an uncle of the Messenger (pbuh) of Allah.
- 3- The belief and the righteous deeds are important in Islam and not the lineage and family.

The Macro-structure of Soorah Al-Lahab

Soorah Al-Lahab consists of two paragraphs.

- 1- **Verses: 1 to 3: There is the prediction of bad end of Abu Lahab in the first paragraph.**

The wealth and property of Abu Lahab did not give him any benefit. He will burn in Hellfire.

﴿تَبَّتْ يَدَا أَبِي لَهَبٍ وَتَبَّ﴾ “Perish the hands of Abu Lahab! And perish he!” (Verse: 1)

﴿مَا أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ﴾ “His wealth and whatever he earned did not avail him anything.” (Verse: 2)

﴿سَيُضِلُّكَ آزَابَاتُ النَّهَبِ﴾ “Soon he shall be burnt in a flaming fire.” (Verse: 3)

2- Verses: 4 to 5: There is the prediction of admonitory end of Umm Jameel, the wife of Abu Lahab in the second paragraph.

The wife of Abu Lahab who used to spread thorns in the way of prophet (pbuh) will face the bad end.

﴿وَأَمْرًا تُدْرِكُهُ الْكَمَالَةُ وَالْحَطْبُ﴾ “And his wife, the carrier of crackling firewood.” (Verse: 4)

﴿فِي جِيدِهَا حَبْلٌ مِّنْ مَّسْنَدٍ﴾ “Shall have a rope of palm-leaf fibre around her neck.”

Central Subject

According to Islam, salvation depends on belief and righteous deeds and not on the lineage. The real uncle of the prophet (pbuh) and his wife will go to Hell because of their disbelief and bad deeds.

