

# The Number 19 in the Quran:

## A Sign of the Quran's Divine Origin

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The occurrence of things in the Quran in nineteens is an indication of its divine origin.

In 1976, Rashad Khalifa published his findings that there is a numerical pattern in the Quran based on the number 19. His findings were found to be exaggerated, and he also exaggerated his own status. However, other students of the Quran were intrigued by this. On the one hand, we criticize Dr. Khalifa for his exaggerations both regarding his findings and his status. On the other hand, we find that there are things in the Quran that amount to 19 or multiples of nineteen. These occur more frequently than would occur by mere chance, and they occur at key places to draw our attention.

Here are some examples. The Quran says that there are 19 angels guarding hell (Quran 74:30). The next verse, verse 31, details the purpose of mentioning the number of angels. According to this verse, the number is mentioned so that the People of the Book will have certainty, and the faith of the believers will increase, while those who wish to doubt will deride the information.

This verse is composed of  $19 \times 3$  words, i.e. 57 words. The words preceding this verse in the same chapter comprises  $19 \times 5$  words. In the first 19 verses of the chapter are  $19 \times 3$  words. The words occurring up to but not including the mention of 19 in the same chapter are composed of  $19 \times 19$  letters, i.e. 361, the square of 19.

I turn now to Chapter 96. There are 19 verses in this chapter, and the chapter is the 19<sup>th</sup> from the end of the Quran. Some traditions say that the first five verses of this chapter was the first part of the Quran to be revealed to the prophet (pbuh) as he meditated in the cave. Those five verses contain 19 words. The words are made up of  $19 \times 4$  letters, i.e. 76 letters. The entire chapter contains  $19 \times 15$ , i.e., 285 letters.

This number  $19 \times 15 = 285$  plays out again and again in the Quran. For example, the 72<sup>nd</sup> chapter contains  $19 \times 15 = 285$  words.

Interestingly, the chapter ends by saying that God has accounted for everything numerically. If you count the letters comprising the last word of each verse in this chapter, you will find that they amount to 114 letters, i.e.  $19 \times 6$ , which is the number of chapters in the Quran. God has indeed accounted for everything numerically.

Some chapters of the Quran begin with disjointed letters whose significance remains mysterious. Chapter 50 begins with the letter Qaf. If you count the number of times this letter occurs in that chapter, you will find that it occurs  $19 \times 3$  times. Chapter 42 is the only other chapter wherein the disjointed letter Qaf occurs at the beginning. In this chapter as well, Qaf occurs  $19 \times 3$  times.

Although these two chapter numbers are different, you will find that in each case the sum of the chapter number and the number of verses in the chapter is  $19 \times 5 = 95$ .

Jesus and Adam are each mentioned 25 times in the Quran. When the Quran says in 3:59 that Jesus is like Adam, this is the seventh time the two names occur. After that they do not occur together again in the same chapter except in the Quran's 19<sup>th</sup> chapter. And this is the 19<sup>th</sup> time each name occurs. The two names in this chapter are 25 verses apart inclusive.

From the seventh mention of Adam to the 19<sup>th</sup> mention there are  $19 \times 103$  verses, i.e. 1957. That too is the sum of the verse numbers where Jesus is mentioned for the first 19 times.

The Noon Centre for Quranic studies in Palestine has produced many publications on the subject. Some are downloadable for free here: [www.islamnoon.com](http://www.islamnoon.com).

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