THE QURAN
AS A MATHEMATICAL MIRACLE

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Recently a number of studies have been done on the Quran involving counting its words, letters, verses, and chapters. A number of instances of surprising correspondence have been found. For example:

**WORD PATTERNS**

- The word for man (ar-Rajul) and the word for woman (imra-ah) occur 24 times each.
- The word for salat (shaytaan) and the word for angel (ma’aaf) occur 68 times each.
- The word for this life (ajurva) and the word for the next life (aakhirah) occur 115 times each.
- The word for month (shahr) occurs 12 times in the singular.
- The word for two months (shahrayn) occurs twice.
- The word for day (yaum) occurs 365 times in the singular without suffixes.

What explains these instances of correspondence? There are three viable considerations: either it is by chance, by human design, or by divine design. But these are too much to credit to mere chance. Nor did it come about by human design. No one knew about this until recent studies uncovered it.

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE QURAN**

Anyone familiar with the history of the Quran will know that the Quran is a collection of inspired messages which the prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, recited, a piece at a time, over a period of twenty-three years, often in response to new and unexpected events. It is obvious that the number of times he used certain words in all of his recited pieces could not conceivably be kept in his memory. It is difficult enough to count the words from the printed page to make sure that your count is correct, much less to suggest that someone already did this using his memory. To remember, for example, how many times he mentioned the word “day” over a period of 23 years would be an insurmountable task. We are therefore left with the third of the three options: that it is by divine design. Hence we now have further evidence that the Quran is the word of Allah. And below are yet some more instances of this phenomenon.

**EXAMPLES OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN CHAPTER NUMBERS & NUMBER OF VERSES**

Chapter 57: al-Hadeed (Iron)

The chapter named al-Hadeed (Iron) is the 57th chapter. It has 29 verses. There is a mathematical relationship between these two numbers, as follows:

\[ 57 \times 29 = 1653 \]

The sum of the whole numbers from 1 to 57 is the same, represented mathematically as:

\[ 1+2+3+\ldots+57 = 1653 \]

It appears that the number of verses could have been almost any number, and that 29 was chosen to result in this correspondence.

Chapter 22: al-Hajj (Pilgrimage)

The chapter al-Hajj (The Pilgrimage) has the Quran’s last mention of “pilgrimage” in verse number 27. This verse has 14 words. There is a mathematical relationship between these two numbers:

\[ 14 \times 27 = 378 \]

Again, it appears, that the number of words in this verse was chosen to bring about this correspondence.

Chapter 71: Noah

The chapter Nuh (Noah) is numbered 71. It has 28 verses. Now, there are 28 different chapters that mention Noah. And because some chapters mention Noah more than once there are a total of 43 times that Noah is mentioned. Now consider the relationship between these three numbers:

\[ 43+28 = 71 \]

\[ 43+71 = 114 \]

which is the total number of chapters in the Quran.

Since 28 chapters mention Noah, how many chapters do not mention Noah? The answer is 114-28 = 86, which is 43 times 2.

Now consider that the last mention of Noah is in the chapter of Noah. It turns out that of the 86 chapters that do not mention Noah, 43 chapters come before the chapter of Noah and 43 chapters come after it.
This can be shown mathematically, given the facts above. No chapter after chapter 71 mentions Noah. Therefore there are 114–71 = 43 chapters after chapter 71 which do not mention Noah. And, of the first 71 chapters in the Quran, there are 28 chapters which mention Noah. Therefore there are 71–28 = 43 chapters before the chapter of Noah which do not mention Noah. Hence the chapter Nuh (Noah) numbered 71 is strategically placed and its number of verses is apparently chosen to bring about these complex relationships between the numbers involved.

Chapter 13: al-Ra‘ad (Thunder)

The chapter al-Ra‘ad (Thunder) is numbered 13, and is so named because it mentions the word ‘thunder’. That word occurs in verse number 13. This verse also, coincidentally, occurs in the 13th part of the Quran. Being comprised of 114 chapters of unequal length, the Quran is divided into 30 parts of roughly equal length such that a reading of a part each day will complete the book in a month. The 13th verse of the 13th chapter does not have to occur in the 13th part, but it does. Now, the same verse has 19 words. These words are written with 83 letters. There is one other place in the entire Quran that mentions ‘thunder’. That is chapter 2, verse number 19. This verse also has 19 words written with 83 letters, although the words are mostly different. It appears that these instances of correspondence were planned, though not by any human being.

Chapter 32: as-Sajdah (Prostration)

Chapter 32 is called as-Sajdah (Prostration) because it mentions the key word ‘sujjadun’ (prostrate). As is typical of the Arabic language, this word is derived from the three-letter root $3\dot{d}$ to which vowels and other increments are used to produce a variety of words clustered around the root meaning “to prostrate.”

Words based on this root are used in 32 different chapters of the Quran, hence corresponding to the number of this chapter which bears the

The verse in this chapter which mentions prostration is such that a believer naturally wants to prostrate to God after reading it. Now, in the entire Quran there are 15 such verses which have been traditionally noted as ‘verses of prostration’.

The number of verses in this chapter is 30. Half of that number is 15. It turns out that the number 15 is also the number of the verse of prostration in chapter 32.

There are 372 words in this chapter. Half of that is 186. It turns out that the key word in this chapter is the 186th word in the chapter.

Hence, one reading the chapters sequentially is initially surprised to find it absent from the beginning of chapter 9 and again present in the body of chapter 27. Now consider the numerical relationship between these two chapters.

The difference between the chapter numbers is 27–9 = 18.

The number of chapters from 9 to 27 inclusive is 19.

These two results, 18 and 19, form an interesting relationship with the chapter numbers of these two chapters. Consider:

- $18 \times 19 = 342$
- $9+10+11+\ldots+27 = 342$

In chapter 27 we have the only verse in the Quran to mention the word ‘ant.’ The verse number is 18 and it contains 19 words, thus highlighting the interplay between 18 and 19.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHAPTER & VERSE NUMBERS FOR THE QURAN AS A WHOLE


To send data in a telecommunications network, start and stop information, origin and destination information, and error check bits must be added to the encoded data to form a data packet. . . . The error check bit is used to make sure the data received were not garbled during transmission . . . In asynchronous transmission, the commonly used error check method is a parity bit. A parity bit is an extra bit that makes the sum of bits representing a character either even or odd.

Connecting Chapter 9 with Chapter 27

One mentally connects chapter 9 and 27 for the following reason. Every chapter of the Quran except chapter 9 begins with the familiar phrase called the ‘Basmolat’, usually rendered in English as “In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.” On the other hand, chapter 27 is the only chapter that mentions the phrase in the body of the chapter.
Now, is it possible that a system is built into the Quran to assure us that its chapter and verses were transmitted without error, and that the Quran is of divine origin? It will be demonstrated that this is so indeed. First the bare facts:

- There are 114 chapters numbered in sequence 1, 2, 3, etc., as illustrated below:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CHAPTER NUMBERS</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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Total of All Chapter Numbers: 6555

- The numbers of verses in each chapter do not form a predictable pattern. The longer chapters generally come earlier, and the length of chapters gradually

Hence we have the number of verses for the first ten chapters in sequence being 7, 286, 200, 176, 120, 165, 206, 75, 129, and 109. The numbers seem to go up and down with no predictable pattern, as illustrated below:

<table>
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<th>VERSES IN EACH CHAPTER</th>
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<th>176</th>
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Total Number of Verses in the Quran: 6236

- It is a simple observation that the chapter numbers alternate between being odd and being even. Hence 1 is odd, 2 is even, 3 is odd, etc.

- It is also obvious that the number of verses in each chapter do not alternate in this predictable way.

Instead, for the first ten chapters of the Quran, for example, the number of verses are Odd, Even, Even, Even, Odd, Even, Odd, Odd and Odd. If we add each chapter number to

| Results obtained from adding the number of each chapter to its number of verses |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 8 134                       | 133 65                        | 95 111          | 75 99           | 110 106         | 112 116         | 288 123 100    | 62 95 102 101  | 73 100 101 113  | 110 111 116     |
| 203 56 141                 | 106 132                      | 115 74 93 114   | 108 109 112     | 110 106 114     | 120 120        |
| 180 66 88                  | 109 103                      | 102 130         | 82 120 118 114  | 106 115 111     |
| 125 114 102                | 80 132 157 115 77            | 110 107 113 103 | 112 114 110 115 |
| 171 144 253                | 119 81 152 78 107 103 115   | 110 113 114 111 |
| 213 128 120 219            | 85 86 96 97 127             | 110 115 114 111 |
| 128 116 112 77            | 80 120 118 114 106          | 110 115 114 111 |
| 138 117 98 114            | 67 83 121 125 119 107 115  | 110 115 114 111 |
| 119 155 90 125 93 73      | 111 114 122 110 111 113     | 110 115 114 111 |

Surprisingly, this sum is also the sum of all the chapter numbers, i.e. 1+2+3+ ... +114=6555

Hence we see that the total verses in each chapter form a complex relationship with their chapter numbers on a grand scale.

It is too much to suppose that this double correspondence is a mere coincidence. These two numbers are so large that the possibility of their chance coincidence is extremely rare. It is easy to see that what we have here is a complex arrangement containing an internal assurance of the system’s faultless preservation. It is fair to conclude that we have demonstrated here a grand design pointing to the Quran’s divine origin and faithful preservation.

In this age of science and computers, when many have turned away from In this age of science and computers, when many have turned away from turned away from belief in God, it is reassuring that we still have a message which reaffirms belief in God. But it is not enough to marvel at the mathematical miracle from the maker of mankind in the message of Muhammad (pbuh). In the face of this remarkable demonstration that the Quran is the Word of that the Quran is the Word of God we ought to begin now a life-transforming relationship with our Maker.

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