

The Quran's Mathematical Code

Most of the following information is contained in Rashad Khali-fa's translation of the Quran. (Please see Quran: The Final Testa-ment, Appendix 1, pages 375-403.)

This appendix is reproduced from my earlier book JESUS: Myths & Message, Universal Unity, 1992, pp. 195-202.

SIMPLE FACTS

There are 114 chapters in the Quran, or 19×6 .

The total number of verses in the Quran is 6346, or 19×334 .

When you add the 30 different numbers which are men-tioned in the Quran's text: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 99, 100, 200, 300, 1000, 2000, 3000, 5000, 50000 and 100000 (i.e. one God, two brothers, etc.), the total is 162146 or 19×8534 .

The first statement in Quran, "In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful" consists of 19 Arabic letters. Known as the '*Basmalah*,' it prefaces every chapter except Chapter 9.

Though missing from Chapter 9, exactly 19 chapters later the *Basmalah* occurs twice. Chapter 27 has this statement at its beginning and in verse 30. This makes the total number of times the *Basmalah* occurs in the Quran 114, or 19×6 .

It follows that since there are 19 chapters between the miss-ing *Basmalah* and the extra one, that the sum of those chapter numbers is a multiple of 19. (The sum of any 19 consecutive numbers is a multiple of 19.) But the total, 342, is also the exact number of words between the two occurrences of the *Basmalah* in Chapter 27. This number, 342, is 19×18 .

Each word in the *Basmalah* occurs in the Quran a number of times that is a multiple of 19.

—The first word '*Ism*' (name) occurs 19 times.

—The second word '*Allah*' (God) occurs 2698 times or 19×142 .

—The third word '*Al-Rahman*' (Most Gracious) occurs 57 times or 19×3 .

—The fourth word '*Al-Raheem*' (Most Merciful) occurs 114 times or 19×6 .

The first revelation that came to the prophet Muhammad, was 19 words.

The total number of letters in the 19 words of the first revelation is 76, 19×4 .

Although they were first in order of revelation, these verses are placed at the beginning of Chapter 96 in the final order of compilation. This chapter is atop the last 19 chapters.

Chapter 96 consists of 304 Arabic letters, or 19×16 . And those 304 letters make up 19 verses.

The last chapter revealed (Chapter 110) has 19 words, and its first verse is 19 letters.

As mentioned above, the word '*Allah*' (God) occurs 2698 times (19×142). If you add the numbers of the verses where this word occurs, the total is 118123 or 19×6217 .

The main message in the Quran is that there is only '*One God*'. The number of times that the word '*Wahed*' (one) is used to refer to this concept of One God is 19.

At the time of the revelation of the Quran letters were used as numbers, in the same way that the Romans used their letters, now known as Roman numerals. The importance of the concept of One God is underscored by the fact that if you take the numerical values assigned to the letters of '*Wahed*': $W = 6$, $A = 1$, $H = 8$, $D = 4$, the total is 19. These values are known as the gematrical value of the letters. It is very interesting that the gematrical value for the Hebrew word '*one*' or '*Vahed*' is also 19.

The word 'Quran,' in all of its grammatical forms, occurs in 38 different chapters (38 is 19×2). When you exclude any occurrences where it refers to a Quran other than the actual Quran which we have (for example, one excluded verse refers to a hypothetical non-Arabic Quran), and add the chapter and verse numbers for those occurrences, the total is 4408, or 19×232 .

The total number of times 'the Quran' is mentioned is 58 times, but one of them refers to "a Quran other than this" which the disbelievers demanded. So the actual number of references to the actual book the Quran is 57 or 19×3 .

Within the 114 chapters of the Quran, 29 of them are prefixed with certain letters of the Arabic alphabet, or 'Quranic Initials.' Intermixed between the first initialed chapter (Chapter 2) and the last initialed chapter (Chapter 68), there are 38 non-initialed chapters, or 19×2 .

In this same group of chapters, from Chapter 2 to Chapter 68, there are 19 alternating sets of initialed and non-initialed chapters.

The total number of verses making up this group of chapters is 5263, 19×277 .

Within this group of chapters there are also 2641 occurrences of the word 'Allah', or 19×139 . Of course, that leaves 57, or 19×4 , occurrences of that word outside of this group.

If you add the chapter and verse numbers of the 57 occurrences of 'Allah' outside the initialed section, the total is 2432 or 19×128 .

QURANIC INITIALS

Twenty-nine chapters of the Quran begin with letters of the Arabic alphabet. These are sometimes called the Quranic Initials.

Rashad Khalifa's search for an explanation of these Quranic Initials while he was translating the Quran led to the discovery of the code imbedded in the Arabic text of this scripture. These

initials exhibit many aspects of the code, when looked at as individual sets and when looked at all together.

Let us begin by looking at the initials that use a single letter. The first one we will examine is the initial that has the English transliteration of 'Q'.

THE INITIAL 'Q.' (*Qaaf*)

There are several special phenomena having to do with the initial Q. Perhaps it can be seen as standing for Quran. This is especially so since there are two Q-initialed chapters, each with 57 (19×3) Q's in them. Thus the total of Q's in both chapters is 114 (19×6), the same number as the number of chapters in the Quran.

The fact that both Q-initialed chapters contain exactly 57 Q's is quite remarkable because the first one of them (Chapter 42) is more than twice as long as the second one (Chapter 50).

There is another remarkable phenomenon in the sum of the number of each chapter with the number of verses in that chapter. Chapter 42 has 53 verses; 42 plus 53 is 95, or 19×5 . If we look at the other Q-initialed chapter, 50, it has 45 verses; 50 plus 45 is also 95.

Dr. Khalifa's idea that Q might stand for the Quran is strengthened by discoveries made after his death (*SUBMITTERS PERSPECTIVE*, Masjid Tucson, December, 1990). When you look at the chapters between and inclusive of those Q initialed chapters (Chapters 42 and 53) there are some interesting facts. First of all, the total number of Q's occurring in that group of chapters is 456, or 19 times 24.

Also, if you add the total number of verses in these 9 chapters you have 403. This number added to the sum of the chapter numbers, 414, is 817, or 19 times 43.

Then, if you look at the gematrical value of the initials in the initializing verses for those chapters, the total is 570 or 19 times 30. (See the discussion of gematrical value earlier, in the section on the simple facts.)

Finally, let us examine the chapter numbers and verse numbers for the six occurrences of the word 'Quran' in those chapters (42:7; 43:3 & 31; 46:29; 47:24 and 50:1). When you add just the chapter numbers: $42 + 43 + 46 + 47 + 50$, the total is 228, or 19 times 12. Likewise, when you add the verse numbers: $7 + 3 + 31 + 29 + 24 + 1$, the total is 95, or 19 times 5.

THE INITIAL 'N.' (*Noon*)

This initial prefixes only one chapter, number 68. Chapter 68 is the last initialed chapter. In the case of this one initial only, the letter's name is spelled out in the Arabic—*Noon Wow Noon*. The total number of occurrences of N in this chapter, including the two occurrences in the initial's name, is 133, or 19×7 . Please note that not all Qurans have this letter's name spelled out, but it is in many older Qurans.

THE INITIAL 'Š.' (*Saad*)

Š prefixes three different chapters, 7, 19 and 38. The total occurrences of Š in these three chapters taken together is 152, or 19×8 .

In modern copies of the Quran the Arabic word '*Bastatan*' is written with a 'Saad' rather than the Arabic letter 'Seen.' This would increase the count of 'Saad' by one, and it would no longer be divisible by 19. But the oldest available copy of the Quran, the Tashkent copy, writes '*Bastatan*' with a 'Seen.' Rashad Khalifa includes a reproduction from that Tashkent copy in his translation (*QURAN: THE FINAL TESTAMENT*, 1989, p. 614).

In most cases, the initials occur together in sets. Next, we will examine some of these sets.

THE INITIALS 'Y.S.' (*Ya Seen*)

These two initials are found at the beginning of Chapter 36. The number of times that these two letters appear in this chapter is 285, or 19×15 .

The Quran uses two different forms of 'Y' one of which is very subtle for non-Arabic readers to distinguish. Rashad Khalifa's book *QURAN: Visual Presentation Of The Miracle* (Islamic Productions, 1982) shows every 'Y' and 'S' marked in the Arabic text of Chapter 36.

THE INITIALS 'H.M.' (Haa Meem)

This set of initials is found initializing the seven consecutive chapters 40 through 46. The total occurrence of these two in all of these chapters is 2147, or 19×113 .

THE INITIALS 'Á.S.Q.' (Ayn Seen Qaf)

Chapter 42 is the only chapter with a set of initials (H.M.) in the first verse and another (Á.S.Q.) in verse two. Of course, the H's and M's figure in the counts for 'H.M' as mentioned above. The number of times the letters of the second set of initials, Á.S.Q., are in Chapter 42 is 209, or 19×11 .

THE INITIALS 'A.L.M.' (Alef Laam Mim)

'A' is the most common letter in Arabic, 'L' is the second most common, and 'M' is the third most common. This combination of initials prefixes six chapters: 2, 3, 29, 30, 31 and 32. In every one of those six chapters, the total occurrence of A's plus L's and M's is divisible by 19. Of course this means that when looking at all six chapters together, the grand total of all these initials is divisible by 19.

THE INITIALS 'A.L.R.' (Alef Laam Ra)

These initials prefix Chapters 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15. Again, in each of those chapters the total number of A's plus L's plus R's is divisible by 19.

INITIALS 'A.L.M.R' (Alef Laam Mim Ra)

This group of initials prefixes only Chapter 13. Their total combined frequency in that chapter is 1482, or 19 times 78.

INITIALS 'A.L.M.Š.' (Alem Laam Mim Saad)

Chapter 7 is the only chapter prefixed by this combination of initials. The total occurrence of these combined letters in this chapter is 5320, or 19 times 280.

Note that the initial Saad also interacts with the Saads of Chapters 19 and 38 to produce a total of Saads that is divisible. (See the discussion of the Initial Saad above.)

INITIALS 'K.H.Y.Á.Š.' (Kaaf Ha Ya 'Ayn Saad)

This longest set of initials begins Chapter 19. The joint total of these initials in that chapter is 798, or 19 times 42.

INITIALS 'H.' (Ha); 'T.H.' (Ta Ha); 'T.S.' (Ta Seen); and 'T.S.M.' (Ta Seen Mim)

These remaining four groups of initials interact in an interlocking and overlapping relationship which produces a combined total of 1767 which is 19 times 93.

MATHEMATICAL PROPERTIES OF THE INITIALED CHAPTERS AS A WHOLE

Half of the Arabic alphabet, or 14 letters, are combined in various different ways to make up 14 different sets of initials. These 14 sets initialize 29 different chapters. If you take the gematrical values of each of the 14 different letters occurring as initials and sum them, you get 693. Add to that 29 for the number of chapters and you get 722, or 19 times 19 times 2.

Also, if you add the gematrical values of each initial (693 again) to the chapter numbers where each first occurs (totaling to 295) you get 988, or 19 times 52. For example, 'Alef' has the gemetrical value of 1 and first occurs in Chapter 2; 'Ha' has the gemetrical value of 5 and it first occurs in Chapter 19...those numbers for all 14 initials give you the total of 988.

You will find more of these relationships in Rashad Khali-fa's appendix, along with tables illustrating them. There is one

more that is so remarkable that it must be included. For each initialed chapter take the chapter number, add the number of Quranic Initials which prefix it and then add the number of verses containing initials (this number will be 1 for all chapters except 42, which has initials in two verses). As an example, the first initialed chapter is Chapter 2; it has 3 Quranic Initials that occur in 1 verse. When we add 2 plus 3 plus 1 we get 6. Let us call this total the chapter total. When you sum all of the chapter totals for the initialed chapters you get 931 or 19 times 49. This in itself is amazing enough, but there is more. If you multiply the chapter number by the number of initials instead of adding them, and then add the number of verses containing initials, you still get a grand total which is a multiple of 19—2052 or 19 times 108!

You can illustrate for yourself how remarkable this is by trying to duplicate it. You will see that this definitely is not a mathematical property, and clearly indicates divine arrangement. In fact, you can try to duplicate just a few of these phenomena in a piece of literature. You will soon find how impossible it is to make sense and still adhere to the mathematical properties.

FURTHER READING:

Appendix 1, *QURAN: The Final Testament*, Rashad Khalifa translator, Universal Unity, 1992, pages 375-403.

BEYOND PROBABILITY: God's Message In Mathematics, Abdullah Arik, Monotheist Productions International, 1992.

QURAN: Visual Presentation of the Miracle, Rashad Khalifa, Islamic Productions, 1982.

THE COMPUTER SPEAKS: God's Message To The World, Rashad Khalifa, Renaissance Productions International, 1981.