

THE SECRETS OF THE NUMBER 7

IN THE QUR'AN AND SUNNAH

By: Abduldaem Al-Kaheel

www.kaheel7.com/eng

In this research, we explore some of the mysteries of the number 7 in both the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah (i.e. Teachings) of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and understand why and how God Almighty has given this number such high regard.

We will reflect upon some of the wonders of this number in Allah's Book, and witness how the Qur'an's letters, words, Verses and Chapters come into perfect synchronisation with this number in ways that challenge imagination.

We will also reflect upon certain specific Qur'anic words and Verses on their own, and discover relationships and consistencies that are always in harmony with the number 7.

The Number 7: Great Status

Allah has indeed given some prophets and messengers a status greater than that of others, such as the Prophet Muhammad, about whom He said: *We sent thee not, but as a Mercy for all creatures*

[Al-Anbiya', 21:107]

Similarly, He has given certain days and nights special status, such as 'Laylat Al-Qadr' (The Night of Power), about which Allah said was worth more than a thousand months in reward:

We have indeed revealed this (Message) in the Night of Power: (1) And what will explain to thee what the night of power is? (2) The Night of Power is better than a thousand months. (3) Therein come down the angels and the Spirit by God's permission, on every errand: (4) Peace!... This until the rise of morn! (5)

[Al-Qadr, 97]

God has given importance to certain days, such as Friday, and to certain months like the Holy Month of Ramadhan:

Ramadhan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'an, as a guide to mankind, also clear (Signs) for guidance and judgment (Between right and wrong). So every one of you who is present (at his home) during that month should spend it in fasting, but if any one is ill, or on a journey, the prescribed period (Should be made up) by days later. God intends every facility for you; He does not want to put to difficulties. (He wants you) to complete the prescribed period, and to glorify Him in that He has guided you; and perchance ye shall be grateful.

[Al-Baqarah, 2:185]

Moreover, God has given importance to certain mosques and locations, such as Al-Masjid Al-Haram (The Sacred Mosque or The Grand Mosque) in Mecca, and Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

And He has favoured some Chapters and Verses of the Qur'an over others, making Surat Al-Fatiha 'Umm Al-Kitab' (The Mother of the Book) the greatest Chapter, Surat Al-Ikhlâs equal in reward to a third of the Qur'an, and Ayat Al-Kursi (The Throne Verse, Verse 255 of Surat Al-Baqara) the greatest Verse.

And now, if we ponder upon the numbers mentioned the Qur'an, and study the citations of each number, we find that Allah has given a unique preference to the number 7.

But why 7?

What is it about this number, and why is it that it is repeated on many different occasions in the Holy Qur'an?

It must be pointed out that the number 7 has many implications, in the universe, the Qur'an, and the sayings of the Prophet Muhammad. The mere repetition of this number in the Qur'an is fascinating. Indeed, we believe that there is no other book on the face of this Earth in which the number 7 (or *any* number for that matter) is arranged in such spectacular fashion.

In fact, the number 7 has proven to be a very popular number not only in the Qur'an. One of the most frequently cited numbers in the Holy Bible is 7. The number is mentioned more than 300 times in the Bible, not including the different forms of the number (i.e. seventy, seventh). There seems to be a suggestion amongst many in Christianity that this number is in fact the 'Holy Number of God', and a symbol of His perfection. A book is even written on the subject,

entitled *The Number Seven in the Bible and Nature* by R. McCormack.

The Number 7 in the Universe

When God created the universe, He chose the number 7 as both the number of heavens and number of layers in the Earth's atmosphere. Allah says:

*God is He Who created **seven** Firmaments and of the earth **a similar number**. Through the midst of them (all) descends His Command: that ye may know that God has power over all things, and that God comprehends, all things in (His) Knowledge.*

[Al-Talaq, 65:12]

But even at *atomic level*, this number is evident. The chemical element nitrogen, in its molecular form, makes up the largest component of the air we breathe, about 78%. Nitrogen is an essential building block of proteins, which are absolutely critical to life on Earth.

That being said, the nitrogen atom is composed of exactly 7 protons, 7 neutrons and 7 electrons, and this alone brings about the significance of this number, even in the very *roots* of creation.

In addition, the days of the week are 7, the number of continents is 7, and so is the number of colours in our visible spectrum. It is also worth noting that the geological layers of the Earth are 7; something that scientists only recently discovered.

The Number 7 in the Teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)

There are literally thousands upon thousands of sayings quoted by the Prophet Muhammad. The number 7 plays a significant role in a substantial amount of these sayings; an indication yet again of its importance.

Below is a brief list of some of the Messenger's sayings that involve the number 7 in various contexts:

- "Avoid the **seven** great destructive sins."¹
- "Allah will give shade, to **seven**, on the Day when there will be no shade but His..."²
- "Whoever usurps the land of somebody unjustly, his neck will be encircled with it down the **seven** earths (on the Day of Resurrection)."³
- "...Shall I tell you the most superior Sura in the Qur'an before I go out of the mosque?" When the Prophet intended to go out (of the Mosque), I reminded him and he said, "That is: "Alhamdu-lillahi Rabbil-'Alamin (Surat Al-Fatiha) which is the **seven** oft-repeated verses (Al-Mathani) and the Grand Quran which has been given to me."⁴
- "We have been ordered to prostrate on **seven** bones..."⁵ (i.e. forehead along with nose, two hands, two knees, two toes).
- "The Qur'an has been revealed to be recited in **seven** different ways, so recite of it whichever is easy for you ."⁶

- “Indeed, anyone who fasts for one day for Allah's Pleasure, Allah will keep his face away from the (Hell) fire for (a distance covered by a journey of) **seventy** years.”⁷
- “**Seventy** thousand people of my followers will enter Paradise without accounts...”⁸
- “He who asks pardon is not a confirmed sinner, even if he returns to his sin **seventy** times a day.”⁹
- “If a dog drinks from the utensil of anyone of you it is essential to wash it **seven** times.”¹⁰
- “If any one of you improves (follows strictly) his Islamic religion then his good deeds will be rewarded ten times to **seven** hundred times for each good deed and a bad deed will be recorded as it is.”¹¹
- “If anyone visits a sick whose time (of death) has not come, and says with him **seven** times: I ask Allah, the Mighty, the Lord of the mighty Throne, to cure you, Allah will cure him from that disease.”¹²
- “Allah's Apostle ordered us to do **seven** things and forbade us from doing **seven** others...”¹³
- “He who eats **seven** 'Ajwa dates every morning, will not be affected by poison or magic on the day he eats them.”¹⁴

Therefore, the number 7 (and some of its multiples) is the most popularly cited number in the narrations of the Messenger of Allah. It

is also the most repeated number in the Holy Qur'an, after the number 1.

The Number 7 and the Pilgrimage to Mecca

As is well known by Muslims, the last of the five pillars of Islam is 'Hajj', or the pilgrimage to Mecca, which takes place once a year during the Islamic month of "Dhu Al-Hijjah".

Interestingly enough, many of the rituals involved in Hajj take the number 7 into consideration. For example, during 'tawaf', Muslims circumambulate (i.e. walk around) the Ka'aba 7 times. They also walk and hurdle between the two hills of Safa and Marwa 7 times.

In addition, this number has been mentioned in the only Qur'anic Verse that speaks of *both* Hajj and Umra (a non-obligatory pilgrimage to Mecca) at the same time. God Almighty says:

*And complete the Hajj or 'umra in the service of God. But if ye are prevented (From completing it), send an offering for sacrifice, such as ye may find, and do not shave your heads until the offering reaches the place of sacrifice. And if any of you is ill, or has an ailment in his scalp, (Necessitating shaving), (He should) in compensation either fast, or feed the poor, or offer sacrifice; and when ye are in peaceful conditions (again), if any one wishes to continue the 'umra on to the hajj, He must make an offering, such as he can afford, but if he cannot afford it, He should fast three days during the hajj and **seven** days on his return, Making ten days in all. This is for those whose household is not in (the precincts of) the*

Sacred Mosque. And fear God, and know that God Is strict in punishment.

[Al-Baqarah, 2:196]

What is beautiful about this Verse is the fact that God Almighty has placed it as the 196th Verse of Surat Al-Baqarah (Chapter: The Cow). To be more specific, this number – 196 – is a multiple of 7 *twice*:

$$196 = 4 \times 7 \times 7$$

This example may naturally be met by scepticism (as was the case with me) because it is only the first we have presented so far. We, of course, now believe that it is no coincidence, simply because after extensively long research, we have discovered that the Holy Quran, to put it briefly, is absolutely *flooded* with similar and more intricate examples that emanate the wonders of the number 7. As mentioned earlier, these examples, as we will see later on, involve everything from the numbers of *Chapters* and *Verses* to the numbers of *letters* and *words*.

The Number 7 in the Parables of the Qur'an

The number 7 is cited in various contexts in the Qur'an, one of which is the Qur'anic parables (short stories). In calling upon his people to believe in God Almighty and worship Him alone, the Prophet Noah says:

*"See ye not how God has created the **seven** heavens one above another, (15) "And made the moon a light in their midst, and made the sun as a (Glorious) Lamp? (16)*

[Nuh, 71:15-16]

This number is also used in the story of the Prophet Yusuf (Joseph), by the King of Egypt who talks about his dream:

*The king (of Egypt) said: "I do see (in a vision) **seven** fat kine, whom **seven** lean ones devour, and **seven** green ears of corn, and **seven** (others) withered. O ye chiefs! Expound to me my vision if it be that ye can interpret visions."*

[Yusuf, 12:43]

And in the very same Chapter, God Almighty even repeats this number three times in a single Verse:

*"O Joseph!" (he said) "O man of truth! Expound to us (the dream) of **seven** fat kine whom **seven** lean ones devour, and of **seven** green ears of corn and (seven) others withered: that I may return to the people, and that they may understand." (46) (Joseph) said: "For **seven** years shall ye diligently sow as is your wont: and the harvests that ye reap, ye shall leave them in the ear, - except a little, of which ye shall eat. (47) "Then will come after that (period) **seven** dreadful (years), which will devour what ye shall have laid by in advance for them, - (all) except a little which ye shall have (specially) guarded. (48)*

[Yusuf, 12:46-48]

This number is also found when explaining the punishment of the people who rejected the message of the Prophet Hud:

*But the Thamud,- they were destroyed by a terrible Storm of thunder and lightning! (5) And the 'Ad, they were destroyed by a furious Wind, exceedingly violent; (6) He made it rage against them **seven** nights and eight days in succession: so that thou couldst see the (whole) people lying prostrate in its (path), as they had been roots of hollow palm-trees tumbled down! (7)*

[Al-Haaqqah, 69:5-7]

And in the story of Prophet Moses, the number 70, a multiple of 7, is cited:

*And Moses chose **seventy** of his people for Our place of meeting: when they were seized with violent quaking, he prayed: "O my Lord! if it had been Thy will Thou couldst have destroyed, long before, both them and me: wouldst Thou destroy us for the deeds of the foolish ones among us? this is no more than Thy trial: by it Thou causest whom Thou wilt to stray, and Thou leadest whom Thou wilt into the right path. Thou art our Protector: so forgive us and give us Thy mercy; for Thou art the best of those who forgive.*

[Al-A'raf, 7:155]

Again, the number 7 appears in the story of the People of the Cave, when the number of people that is said to have been in the cave is under speculation:

*(Some) say they were three, the dog being the fourth among them; (others) say they were five, the dog being the sixth,- doubtfully guessing at the unknown; (yet others) say they were **seven**, the dog*

being the eighth. Say thou: "My Lord knoweth best their number; It is but few that know their (real case)." Enter not, therefore, into controversies concerning them, except on a matter that is clear, nor consult any of them about (the affair of) the Sleepers.

[Al-Kahf, 18:22]

In short, the relationship that the number 7 (and its multiples) has with the parables of the Qur'an is one that cannot be ignored. Those interested in ancient history, particularly in Egyptology, will also note that this number was of much significance in ancient Egypt, and a symbol of completeness.

The Number 7 and the Day of Judgment

The number 7 does not seem to confine itself merely to this worldly life, but is also present when mention is of the Hereafter and the Day of Judgment. The Arabic word (Al-Qiyama), meaning 'The Day of Judgment' is repeated in the Qur'an precisely seventy times, and this, of course, is a perfect multiple of 7:

$$70 = 10 \times 7$$

Furthermore, the word (Jahannam), meaning 'Hellfire', is repeated exactly seventy-seven times; again, a multiple of 7:

$$77 = 11 \times 7$$

God Almighty speaks of the seven doors of Hellfire as well:

*And verily, Hell is the promised abode for them all! (43) To it are **seven** gates: for each of those gates is a (special) class (of sinners) assigned. (44)*

[Al-Hijr, 15:43-44]

Even when the punishment of God Almighty is explained, a multiple of 7 is cited again:

*And he that will be given his Record in his left hand, will say: "Ah! Would that my Record had not been given to me! (25) "And that I had never realised how my account (stood)! (26) "Ah! Would that (Death) had made an end of me! (27) "Of no profit to me has been my wealth! (28) "My power has perished from me!"... (29) (The stern command will say): "Seize ye him, and bind ye him, (30) "And burn ye him in the Blazing Fire. (31) "Further, make him march in a chain, whereof the length is **seventy** cubits! (32) "This was he that would not believe in God Most High. (33)*

[Al-Haaqqah, 69:25-33]

Crucially, it must be mentioned that God Almighty uses this number when speaking of His own divine, never-ending words:

*And if all the trees on earth were pens and the ocean (were ink), with **seven** oceans behind it to add to its (supply), yet would not the words of God be exhausted (in the writing): for God is Exalted in Power, full of Wisdom.*

[Lugmaan, 31:27]

The Number 7 and Charity

The number 7 is mentioned when God Almighty speaks of the multiplied reward of those who spend whatever blessings they have for the sake of God's pleasure:

*The parable of those who spend their substance in the way of God is that of a grain of corn: it groweth **seven** ears, and each ear Hath a hundred grains. God giveth manifold increase to whom He pleaseth: And God careth for all and He knoweth all things.*

[Al-Baqarah, 2:261]

Here, we point out to the fact that Allah on one hand speaks of the number 7, but on another hand refers to the concept of multiplication (...each ear Hath a hundred grains. God giveth manifold increase...). In this example, perhaps, is an allusion to a possible numerical arrangement that concerns the multiples of the number 7, and God Almighty knows best.

That being said, one of the multiples of 7, namely the number 70, has been repeated several times in the Holy Qur'an. This number, of course, is a multiple of 7 ten times ($70 = 10 \times 7$). One of those instances is found in Surat Al-Taubah, when God tells the Prophet Muhammad that the hypocrites would not be forgiven for the sin they have committed:

*Whether thou ask for their forgiveness, or not, (their sin is unforgivable): if thou ask **seventy** times for their forgiveness, God*

will not forgive them: because they have rejected God and His Apostle: and God guideth not those who are perversely rebellious.

[Al-Taubah, 9:80]

The Number 7 and the Praise of God

In the Holy Qur'an, there are precisely seven Chapters which begin with praise or glorification, or "Tasbeeh", of Allah. These Chapters are Al-Isra', Al-Hadid, Al-Hasyr, Al-Saff, Al-Jumu'ah, Al-Taghabun and Al-A'la.

Let us take a look at these seven opening Verses:

1. ***Glory to (God) Who did take His servant for a Journey by night from the Sacred Mosque to the farthest Mosque, whose precincts We did bless,- in order that We might show him some of Our Signs: for He is the One Who heareth and seeth (all things).***

[Al-Isra', 17:1]

2. ***Whatever is in the heavens and on earth,- let it declare the Praises and Glory of God: for He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.***

[Al-Hadid, 57:1]

3. ***Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the Praises and Glory of God: for He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.***

[Al-Hasyr, 59:1]

4. *Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the **Praises and Glory** of God: for He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.*

[Al-Saff, 61:1]

5. *Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare the **Praises and Glory** of God,- the Sovereign, the Holy One, the Exalted in Might, the Wise.*

[Al-Jumu'ah, 62:1]

6. *Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare the **Praises and Glory** of God: to Him belongs dominion, and to Him belongs praise: and He has power over all things.*

[Al-Taghabun, 64:1]

7. ***Glorify** the name of thy Guardian-Lord Most High,*

[Al-A'la, 87:1]

This result hides, perhaps, a certain numerical relationship between the number seven and the above Verses, that may be discovered in the near future, and again, God knows best.

The Number 7 and the Letters of the Qur'an

Indeed, the Divine Wisdom of God Almighty has called for the Holy Qur'an to be sent down in the Arabic language, a language which consists of precisely 28 alphabetic letters, a multiple of 7 [28 = 4 x 7].

The number 7 is evident in the opening Chapter of the Qur'an, namely Surat Al-Fatiha, which God comprised of 7 Verses.

And in Surat Al-Hijr, we find that God Almighty directly addresses the Prophet Muhammad by speaking to him of Surat Al-Fatiha:

*And We have bestowed upon thee the **Seven** Oft-repeated (verses) and the Grand Qur'an.*

[Al-Hijr, 15:87]

The above phrase "Seven-oft repeated (verses)" is a reference Surat Al-Fatiha. It is considered the greatest Chapter of the Qur'an, and is indeed oft-repeated, not least because this is the only Chapter that all Muslims recite in each of their five daily prayers.

In addition, it not only consists of 7 Verses, but this very fact has been emphasised by the above Verse from Surat Al-Hijr. Having said that, we now point out to the following wonderful fact. Of the 28 letters that make up the Arabic language, exactly 21 are used in Surat Al-Fatiha. Conveniently enough, 21, as we all know, is another multiple of 7 [$21 = 3 \times 7$]!

Another interesting fact resides in the Qur'an. The Holy Qur'an contains some 'special letters' which create 'special phrases' that are used as the opening Verses of 29 Chapters. We will call them 'special' because the full meaning behind these seemingly disconnected characters has not yet been fully understood. These various opening phrases are listed below:

(الم، المص، الر، المر، كهيعص، طه، طس، يس، ص، حم، عسق، ق، ن)

Peculiarly, as you can clearly see, there are exactly 14 opening special phrases - a multiple of 7 again [$14 = 2 \times 7$].

Please note that some of these phrases consist of just one Arabic letter (ن), some two (حم), some three (الر), some four (المص), and one of them – كهيعص – consists of five letters.

Bet here is where it gets really interesting. Not only are there 14 special words, but the number of different letters making up these phrases is also 14! In other words, exactly 14 *different* opening letters are found in various combinations to form these 14 phrases, and these letters are as follows:

ا ل م ص ر ك ه ي ع ط س ح ق ن

Perhaps, in this presence of the number 14 twice, is an indication as to the existence of a relationship between these specific letters and the number 7 and its multiples. However, that will only be explored in part 7 of this book, so for now, it will have to wait.

The Number 7 and the Creation of the Heavens

There are Verses in the Holy Qur'an that speak about the creation of the 7 Heavens and the Earth in **six** days. If we happen to look for them, we find there are precisely 7 such Verses in the Qur'an:

1. *Your Guardian-Lord is God, Who **created the heavens and the earth in six days**, and is firmly established on the throne (of authority): He draweth the night as a veil o'er the day, each seeking the other in rapid succession: He created the sun, the moon, and the stars, (all) governed by laws under His command. Is it not His to*

create and to govern? Blessed be God, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds!

[Al-A'raf, 7:54]

2. Verily your Lord is God, who **created the heavens and the earth in six days**, and is firmly established on the throne (of authority), regulating and governing all things. No intercessor (can plead with Him) except after His leave (hath been obtained). This is God your Lord; Him therefore serve ye: will ye not receive admonition?

[Yunus, 10:3]

3. He it is Who **created the heavens and the earth in six Days** - and His Throne was over the waters - that He might try you, which of you is best in conduct. But if thou wert to say to them, "Ye shall indeed be raised up after death", the Unbelievers would be sure to say, "This is nothing but obvious sorcery!"

[Hud, 11:7]

4. He Who **created the heavens and the earth and all that is between, in six days**, and is firmly established on the Throne (of Authority): God Most Gracious: ask thou, then, about Him of any acquainted (with such things).

[Al-Furqan, 25:59]

5. It is God Who has **created the heavens and the earth, and all between them, in six Days**, and is firmly established on the

Throne (of Authority): ye have none, besides Him, to protect or intercede (for you): will ye not then receive admonition?

[Al-Sajdah, 32:4]

6. *We **created the heavens and the earth and all between them in Six Days**, nor did any sense of weariness touch Us.*

[Qaaf, 50:38]

7. *He it is Who **created the heavens and the earth in Six Days**, and is moreover firmly established on the Throne (of Authority). He knows what enters within the earth and what comes forth out of it, what comes down from heaven and what mounts up to it. And He is with you wheresoever ye may be. And God sees well all that ye do.*

[Al-Mujadalah, 58:7]

The phenomenon of the creation of the 7 Heavens is repeated 7 times, just like the number of Heavens. The question of whether this is coincidence or divine precision is not up to us, of course. As you will have noticed in the seven Verses above, they all mentioned the heavens, but none of them referred to the heavens as the *seven heavens*.

That is why we will now look at how the 'seven heavens' are repeated in the Qur'an, and extend our argument in favour of the notion that the repetition of Verses and words in this wonderful Book is all in accordance with a deliberate, intricately detailed arrangement.

The Number 7 and the Seven Heavens

When we look for the mention of the seven heavens in the Holy Qur'an, we find a connection between this and the number 7, because the precise number of Verses which mention the seven heavens in the entire book is (yes, you guessed it) 7:

1. *It is He Who hath created for you all things that are on earth; Moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order and perfection to the **seven** firmaments; and of all things He hath perfect knowledge.*

[Al-Baqarah, 2:29]

2. *The **seven** heavens and the earth, and all beings therein, declare His glory: there is not a thing but celebrates His praise; And yet ye understand not how they declare His glory! Verily He is Oft-Forbear, Most Forgiving!*

[Al-Isra', 17:44]

3. *Say: "Who is the Lord of the **seven** heavens, and the Lord of the Throne (of Glory) Supreme?" (86) They will say, "(They belong) to God." Say: "Will ye not then be filled with awe?" (87)*

[Al-Mu'minun, 23:86-87]]

4. *So He completed them as seven firmaments in two Days, and He assigned to each heaven its duty and command. And We*

*adorned the lower heaven with lights, and (provided it) with guard.
Such is the Decree of (Him) the Exalted in Might, Full of Knowledge.*

[Fussilat, 41:12]

5. *God is He Who created **seven** Firmaments and of the earth a similar number. Through the midst of them (all) descends His Command: that ye may know that God has power over all things, and that God comprehends, all things in (His) Knowledge.*

[Al-Talaq, 65:12]

6. *He Who created the **seven** heavens one above another: No want of proportion wilt thou see in the Creation of (God) Most Gracious. So turn thy vision again: seest thou any flaw?*

[Al-Mulk, 67:3]

7. *“See ye not how God has created the **seven** heavens one above another, (15) “And made the moon a light in their midst, and made the sun as a (Glorious) Lamp? (16)*

[Nuh, 71:15-16]

So to reflect, we say the following: God Almighty has created 7 glorious heavens, only one of which is visible to the naked eye. And by His Wisdom, He cites the ‘seven heavens’ in the Holy Qur’an no more or less than precisely 7 times.

The First and Last Mention of 7 in the Qur'an: Symmetry Unmatched

A number of profound numerical consistencies are found between the first and last mention of seven in the Holy Qur'an.

The number 7 is first cited when God Almighty declares:

*It is He Who hath created for you all things that are on earth;
Moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order
and perfection to the **seven** firmaments; and of all things He hath
perfect knowledge.*

[Al-Baqarah, 2:29]

The last time the number is mentioned is in the following Verse:

And (have We not) built over you the seven firmaments,

[Al-Naba', 78:12]

Now, we observe the following facts that demonstrate a mysterious accuracy between the above two Verses:

Fact 1

The number of Chapters from Surat Al-Baqarah, where 7 is first cited, to Surat Al-Naba' where it is last cited, is 77 Chapters – a multiple of 7:

$$77 = 11 \times 7$$

So, having just confirmed that the number of Chapters in between the first and last citation of 7 *divides by 7*, we tackle more sensitive grounds by asking: What about the number of Verses?

Fact 2

If we count the number of Verses, from the Verse where 7 is first mentioned (29th Verse of Surat Al-Baqarah) until the last Verse where 7 is mentioned (12th Verse of Surat Al-Naba'), we find the number of Verses to be precisely 5649. And this is a perfect multiple of 7:

$$5649 = 807 \times 7$$

So far, we have discovered that *both* the number of Chapters and Verses between the first and last repetition of the number 7 are exact multiples of 7. But there's more to come.

Fact 3

The number of Verses from the very beginning of Surat Al-Baqarah (The Chapter where 7 is first mentioned) until the very end of Surat Al-Naba' (The Chapter where 7 is last mentioned) is 5705 – a multiple of 7:

$$5705 = 815 \times 7$$

So not only are the numbers of Chapters and Verses turning out to be multiples of 7, but don't forget that the number 7 is the very subject of our discussion, because we are looking at where this number is used in the Qur'an!

Fact 4

The number of Verses from the beginning of Surat Al-Baqarah up to the Verse which precedes the one mentioning the number 7 in that very Chapter is 28, a multiple of 7 [$28 = 4 \times 7$]. This makes perfect sense of course, because the Verse which mentions 7 is the 29th Verse of Surat Al-Baqarah, meaning that 28 Verse precede it.

In other words, when we count the number of Verses from the first Verse to the Verse that comes directly *before* God's saying,

*It is He Who hath created for you all things that are on earth;
Moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order
and perfection to the **seven** firmaments; and of all things He hath
perfect knowledge.*

[Al-Baqarah, 2:29]

we find that there are exactly 28 Verses. That is regarding the first time 7 is mentioned in the Holy Qur'an.

Which begs the question: What about the last time this number is ever mentioned in the Qur'an? Is there any similar arrangement there?

The answer is yes. In fact, the corresponding arrangement is so beautiful that it involves the same number, 28. If we count the number of Verses from the Verse coming directly *after* the 12th Verse of Surat Al-Naba' (where 7 is last cited) until the very end of Surat Al-Naba', we find that there are precisely 28 Verses!

That is not all, however. Now we ask: What about the number of Verses from the very beginning of the Qur'an, to the very end of Surat Al-Naba', the Chapter which last mentions the number 7?

Fact 5

Counting the number of Verses from the first Verse in the Holy Qur'an to the last Verse in Surat Al-Naba, we find that there are 5712 Verses, a number which perfectly divides by 7:

$$5712 = 816 \times 7$$

Fact 6

Finally, it is interesting to note that in the Arabic language, the number 7 in word form (i.e. seven) can be written in several different ways depending on the context of a given passage.

That being said, when the number is first found in the Qur'an in Surat Al-Baqarah, it is written as (سبع) with three letters (س ب ع). When it is last cited, however, it is written as (سبعاً) with four letters (س ب ع ا).

Therefore, the total number of letters making up the first and last mentions of 'seven' in the Qur'an is 7!

It is necessary to ask the following question: Could these consistencies have been simply blind coincidence? This is a judgment that we do not make, it is up to each individual reader to decide for their own. We simply state what we personally believe, and try to support our views with evidence that addresses human intellect.

So far, we've witnessed precision that extends as far as individual words examined on their own, so just what could be found if all the words of the Qur'an were similarly analysed? Scientific reasoning suggests that such numerical coincidence can only exist in a book when the author actually makes the effort of arranging his words in a specific manner.

And we believe that the arrangements that are found in the Qur'an which relate to the number 7 are abundant proof that God Almighty, with his infinite wisdom, has miraculously arranged the letters of His Book, thus proving that the Qur'an is a Book sent down by the very Creator of the 7 heavens.

Quite honestly, we will never be able to calculate or count just how many examples of numerical consistencies exist within the Qur'an, but we will explore the numerical miracle in more detail in the upcoming Parts of this book.

Just what is the Numerical Miracle?

Every function in this world works according to a particular arrangement. Especially in the 21st century, the language of numbers is inevitably used for most, if not all those functions.

Today, for instance, when scientists speak of the celestial cycles of the moon and the sun, the distances between planets, the estimated age of the Earth and of mountains and rocks - all this is governed by numbers.

Without numbers, we could not have precisely calculated the future dates and times when various phenomena, such as the solar and lunar eclipses, take place. Quite simply, without numbers, we would not have known what time it was. Numbers give meaning to our world.

The days of the month and months of the year are all strictly defined by numbers, and this is something that God Almighty even refers to in the Holy Qur'an:

*The number of months in the sight of God is **twelve** (in a year) - so ordained by Him the day He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are sacred: that is the straight usage...*

[Al-Taubah, 9:36]

This brings us to the word of God Almighty. Naturally, the words of God are unlike those of man. Therefore, we are going to use the simple language of numbers to express the wonderful precision of the Qur'an's words, and hence conclude that this Book is structured in amazingly accurate fashion.

In other words, it is our belief that God Almighty has miraculously arranged His words in a manner such that part of their beauty lies in their arrangement, *in a numerical sense*. Not only that, but we shall be using an abundance of examples of numerical accuracy to prove that if indeed this Qur'an was the word of man, it simply must have contained numerous contradictions, at this numerical level at least.

And now, we will look at some more arrangements connecting the beginning of the Qur'an to its end.

The First and Last Chapters of the Qur'an

There are defined numbers in the Holy Qur'an, about which there can be no argument. For instance, the Qur'an consists of 114 Chapters, and the first Chapter – Surat Al-Fatiha (Chapter: The Opening) - is Chapter #1. It follows that the last Chapter – Surat Al-Nas (Chapter: The People) – is Chapter #114.

These two Chapters, the first and the last, are beautifully connected to each other with respect to the number 7. We now first write the number 1 (which represents Surat Al-Fatiha) followed by the number 114 (which represents Surat Al-Nas) next to it:

The Last Chapter's Number

114

The First Chapter's Number

1

Arranging these two numbers next to each other in logical sequence gives the number 1141. Exquisitely, this is a multiple of 7:

$$1141 = 163 \times 7$$

Not only that, but adding each separate unit of this number also gives us exactly 7!

$$1 + 1 + 4 + 1 = 7$$

At this point, and from this point onwards, it is crucial to note the following:

We follow one fixed mathematical method of arranging numbers, according to their logical sequence in the Holy Qur'an. In other words, the Arabic language, the language of the Qur'an, is communicated from right to left, unlike English, for instance, which reads from left to right. This means that one begins reading the Chapters of the Qur'an from the right to the left. In accordance with this rule, we arrange the numbers from right to left, exactly as they appear in the Qur'an.

Unique Numbers in the Qur'an

There are a few unique numbers that distinguish the Holy Qur'an from any other text. Among these are: The number of its Chapters, the number of its Verses and the number of years it took for the Book to be sent down.

The Qur'an has 114 Chapters, 6236 Verses¹ and was sent down to the Prophet Muhammad over 23 years of revelation.

We will now observe how these clearly distinct numbers achieve consistent numerical results that no person can ever come to produce, no matter how hard they try.

The sheer brilliance of the following numbers is witnessed, of course, using the same method of arranging numbers next to each other, and from largest to smallest. And since there are three numbers to deal

¹ This is the number of Verses according to the most popular style of recitation, known as Hafs bin Aasim. This number slightly differs from other recitations; perhaps these differences mean the existence of multiple numerical arrangements, and God Almighty knows best.

with, there are three possible number combinations that could result in multiples of 7, as we can see below:

1. The Arrangement of the number of Qur'anic Verses **6236**, with the number of Qur'anic Chapters **114**, forms the number:

114 6236

2. The Arrangement of the number of Qur'anic Verses **6236**, with the number of years of its revelation **23**, forms the number:

23 6236

3. The Arrangement of the number of Qur'anic Chapters **114**, with the number of years of its revelation **23**, forms the number:

23 114

Having derived three different numbers from the Qur'an, we will now observe how accurately these numbers are connected to the number 7. The same pattern is always found: these numbers are perfect multiples of 7, *and in whichever direction they are read.*

The First Number: Verses + Chapters

Let us now write the number of Verses of the Holy Qur'an, in addition to the number of Chapters:

| Number of Qur'anic Chapters | Number of Qur'anic Verses |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 114 | 6236 |

The number that represents the Verses and Chapters of the Qur'an is 1146236. This number consists of seven digits, and is a pure multiple of 7:

$$1146236 = 163748 \times 7$$

The First Number Reversed

We will now take our chances with the number 1146236 and reverse it completely (i.e. read it from left to right, so 1 followed by 1 then 4 then 6, etc.), to give us 6326411. Even though we have switched the order of the original number, amazingly, this new number is a multiple of 7 yet again:

$$6326411 = 903773 \times 7$$

Final Note: An interesting point to make is that the sum of the digits making up the number 1146236 (which consists of the number of the Qur'an's Verses and Chapters) is:

$$1 + 1 + 4 + 6 + 2 + 3 + 6 = 23$$

[And 23 is the number of years of the Qur'an's revelation!]

To briefly summarise: The outcome of arranging the number of the Qur'an's Verses and its Chapters is a number that divides perfectly by 7, *even when it's read backwards*, and the sum of its digits is 23; the number of years of it took for the Qur'an to be revealed.

The Second Number: Verses + Years of Revelation

For our second number, we write the number of Verses of the Qur'an, in addition to the number of years of its revelation:

| Years of Qur'anic Revelation | Number of Qur'anic Verses |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 23 | 6236 |

The resulting number is 236236, a number which is also a multiple of 7:

$$236236 = 33748 \times 7$$

The Second Number Reversed

And as we did in the first case, we will now completely reverse this number, making it 623632, a multiple of 7:

$$623632 = 89089 \times 7$$

Therefore, in summary, we say that the same consistent pattern of divisibility by 7 *both ways*, is found when taking the number of years of revelation of the Qur'an into account.

The Third Number: Chapters + Years of Revelation

The third number is formed when joining the number of Chapters in the Qur'an with the number of years of revelation of the Qur'an:

| Years of Qur'anic Revelation | Number of Qur'anic Chapters |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 23 | 114 |

The resulting number is 23114, a multiple of 7:

$$23114 = 3302 \times 7$$

The Third Number Reversed

We expect, of course, that reversing this number should give us a multiple of 7. Indeed, this is precisely the case:

$$41132 = 5876 \times 7$$

Therefore, in our final case, the same consistency is preserved: the number of Qur'anic Chapters alongside the years of its revelation form a number that is a multiple of 7, even when read in the opposite direction.

It cannot be forgotten that all the above combinations were arranged in precisely the same manner: from larger to smaller figures (i.e. starting with the larger number on the right followed by the smaller number).

Please note: Had the three numbers, 6236, 114 and 23, been *any* different, in other words, if the Qur'an had one more or one less Verse or Chapter, or if it had taken one more or one less year to be sent down, this entire numerical pattern would be shattered, and therefore irrelevant.

We're not done, however. These numbers still have more to reveal.

Connecting the Three Numbers

Regarding the three numbers we derived above, it is interesting that they have different numbers of digits, and these digits are in perfect descending order. In other words, the first number consists of 7 digits, the second 6 digits and the third 5 digits:

First Number: 1146236 consists of 7 digits

Second Number: 236236 consists of 6 digits

First Number: 23114 consists of 5 digits

And now, we arrange the number of digits of each number in logical order and observe the result:

| Digits in 3 rd Number | Digits in 2 nd Number | Digits in 1 st Number |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5 | 6 | 7 |

The resulting number is 567, which is a multiple of 7:

$$567 = 81 \times 7$$

This incredible connection of the Qur'an's Chapters, Verses and years of revelation to the number seven with such profound accuracy, is but stunning evidence of an intricate numerical arrangement that no human can construct.

The First and Last Words in the Qur'an

We will now reflect upon some separate words in the Holy Qur'an, in an attempt to emphasise the fact that every word in this Book is indeed deliberately and expertly arranged in its proper place. For

now, we shall examine the *very first* and *very last* word in the Qur'an in terms of *arrangement*. After that, we will look at the first and last word in terms of *revelation*, because it must be pointed out that the order of the Qur'an's Chapters is not the same as the order with which they were revealed. For instance, Surat Al-Fatiha is the first Chapter of the Qur'an, but it is not the first Chapter to be revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

That being said, we now look at the normal arrangement of the Qur'an, and opening the first page, we find that the first word in this Book is (بسم) (In the Name of)². This is found in the first Verse of Surat Al-Fatiha, where God Almighty says (بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم) (In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful) [Surat Al-Fatiha, 1:1]. Now, turning to the last page, we find that the last word is (الناس) (men). This is found in Surat Al-Nas (Chapter: Mankind), in the final Verse which states (من الجنة والناس) (Among Jinns and among men).

The word (اسم) (Name) is found 22 times in the Qur'an, and the word (الناس) (men) has been repeated 241 times in the Qur'an.

And now, we arrange the two numbers as we always do, and observe the outcome:

| Repetition of Last Word in Qur'an | Repetition of First Word in Qur'an |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 241 | 22 |

² 'In the Name of' is 4 English words, but in Arabic, it is just one.

The number we arrive at from combining these two numbers is 24122³. Again, this number is a multiple of 7:

$$24122 = 3446 \times 7$$

The first and last words mentioned in the Qur'an are linked to the number 7. So does this consistency remain when we observe the first and last words to be *revealed*?

The First and Last Revealed Words in the Qur'an

The first word that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad by the angel Gabriel was (اقرأ) (Read), in the first Verse of Surat Al-'Alaq: (اقرأ باسم ربك الذي خلق) (Proclaim! (or read!) in the name of thy Lord and Cherisher, Who created-) [Al-'Alaq, 96:1]. The last word (or phrase, rather) is (لا يظلمون) (None shall be dealt with unjustly)⁴, where God Almighty says:

(وَاتَّقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى اللَّهِ ثُمَّ تُوَفَّى كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَا كَسَبَتْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ) (And fear the Day when ye shall be brought back to God. Then shall every soul be paid what it earned, and none shall be dealt with unjustly) [Al-Baqarah, 281:2].

So the message of Islam began with the word (Read), which pertains to knowledge, and ended with (None shall be dealt with unjustly), which pertains to justice and equality; and that, if anything, is evidence that Islam advocates knowledge and justice.

³ (اسم) 'Name' is used instead of (بسم) 'In the Name of'. Yet even if (بسم) 'In the Name of' is used, this is found 115 times in the Qur'an, and again produces a multiple of 7: 241115 = 34445 x 7.

⁴ In Arabic, this term is actually made up of two words.

And now, we come to the miraculous numerical arrangement in terms of how many times these two terms are repeated in the Holy Qur'an.

We find it very interesting that all the repetitions of the term (None shall be dealt with unjustly) come *before* any mention of the word (Read). This is a significant point, the secret of which is perhaps not only to retain a numerical miracle which illustrates God's wisdom, but to confirm God's concern with absolute justice, and the fact that He does not deal unjustly with His creations.

The term (لا يظلمون) (None shall be dealt with unjustly) has been repeated **15** times in the Qur'an, while noting that the several roots of the word (justice) have been mentioned in various place in the Qur'an. However, we are concerned with this particular phrase, which is made up of two words, namely (لا) (None) and (يظلمون) (shall be dealt with unjustly). Please note that every time this form of the word justice, i.e. (يظلمون) is used in the Qur'an, the word (لا) (None) has come directly before it. The word (اقرأ) (Read) is found exactly **3** times. And now, we write the repetition of each term, in order of arrangement in the Qur'an.

| Repetition of First Revealed Word | Repetition of Last Revealed Word |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3 | 15 |

The outcome is 315, a perfect multiple of 7:

$$315 = 45 \times 7$$

The Beautiful Link between Both Sets of Words

A beautiful connection exists between both outcomes. Let's show the two results below:

$$24122 = 3446 \times 7$$

$$315 = 45 \times 7$$

As we can see above, the result of dividing the first outcome by 7 is 3446, and the result of dividing the second outcome by 7 is 45. Amazingly, *in whichever order we arrange the two results, the answer is always a multiple of 7!*

$$453446 = 1322 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7$$

$$344645 = 49235 \times 7$$

So this consistency is seen for the repetition of the Qur'an's first and last words in terms of *both* arrangement *and* revelation. This, indeed, is wonderful evidence that the words of the Qur'an are both connected and concise, and that if the slightest of alterations had taken place throughout the past 14 centuries, this entire arrangement would be exhausted.

Have the hearts sung yet?

In the next part, we embark on a new adventure with the very first Verse from the Book of Allah the Almighty. We will reflect upon its secrets and the sheer precision in its arrangement. To conclude for now, we simply say:

Say: "The (Qur'an) was sent down by Him who knows the mystery (that is) in the heavens and the earth: verily He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

[Al-Furqan, 25:6]

Summary

In this research, we gained some insight into the mysteries of the number 7 in the Holy Qur'an and the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad.

The most profound example in this research, perhaps, is the link found between the number of Chapters, Verses and years of revelation of the Qur'an. The resulting numbers were simply always multiples of 7, whichever way they were read.

We also witnessed the beautiful consistencies that linked both ends of the Qur'an: the first and last Chapter, the first and last Verse and the first and last word. Again, the outcomes were always multiples 7.

By: Abduldaem Al-Kaheel

www.kaheel7.com/eng

Translated by: Mohammed R. Al Salah

References:

1- The Holy Quran.

2- The Encyclopaedia of the Numeric Miracles in the Holy Quran. By: Abduldaem Al-Kaheel.

¹ Sahih Al-Bukhari, Volume 4, Book 5, Number 28

² Bukhari, Volume 1, Book 11, Number 629

³ Bukhari, Volume 3, Book 43, Number 632

⁴ Bukhari, Volume 6, Book 60, Number 225

⁵ Bukhari, Volume 1, Book 12, Number 774

⁶ Bukhari, Volume 9, Book 93, Number 640

⁷ Bukhari, Volume 4, Book 52, Number 93

⁸ Bukhari, Volume 8, Book 76, Number 481

⁹ Sunan Abu-Dawud, Book 8, Number 1509

¹⁰ Bukhari, Volume 4, Book 1, Number 73

¹¹ Bukhari, Volume 2, Book 1, Number 40

¹² Abu-Dawud, Book 20, Number 3100

¹³ Bukhari, Volume 2, Book 23, Number 331

¹⁴ Bukhari, Volume 7, Book 65, Number 356