

# New Numerical Hidden Structure in the Holy Quran Based on Number 7

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**Abstract** \_ In this investigation, a mixed linguistic-statistical-numerical analysis is performed on the text of the holy Quran in order to look for any possible presence of hidden numerical structure. In our case, we focused our interest on number seven, which seems to have a long historical and religious presence in the holy book. This task could be seen as a pure statistical analysis using some simplified linguistic rules and numerical properties to check the possibility of a Divine origin (i.e. beyond the human capacities) of the book.

The dataset consists of the 2 forms of the Quran: once with diacritics and another time without diacritics. The first text is considered as our reference book since it consists in the authentic Quran that is preserved by the Muslim religious community and respecting the Uthmanic Quran compilation. The second one is similar to the first book, except that we have removed the diacritics to speed up the word search process.

Several simplified experiments of computational linguistics, which are based on the multiplicity by seven, are performed and commented on the Holy Scripture. Results are outstanding and surprising: in fact, the seven-based structure has been discovered in many parts of the holy Quran. This result shows that the possibility of a human origin for such a fascinating structure is quite impossible. In fact, the advanced scientific structure of the Quran antedates the period of the Prophet by many centuries.

**Keywords:** Computational Linguistics, Religious Texts, Holy Quran, Numerical Structure, Number Seven.

## I. Motivation based on the citation of number 7 in the holy Quran

The history of numerical structure began in the 70s with some discoveries on number 19. Later on, very few scientists were interested in this domain (ie.e “Ejaz Adadi”) [Yakub 2008] and recently (2002-2008) several numerical evidences based on number 7 were reported by Kaheel [Kaheel 2005] [Kaheel 2015]. These last results concerned the manipulation and concatenation of some numbers related to the holy Quran, which in many cases, produces a multiple of 7.

By reading the available documentation on the matter we notice that there exist a sort of hidden numerical organisation inside the Holy Scripture, which could be seen as a watermarking [Miller 2007]. For instance, let us look at the following watermarked English text: « *So I do let him accept a great space!! Yes its* ».

In this example, we do not care about the semantic meaning of the text, it is not our objective, but if we decompose this text into segments of 7 characters each, we will get the following table (table 1). Now, again if we keep only the letters located at the 1st diagonal of the table (in red), we will get the following word: « Secret », which was really embedded in the precedent text but in a hidden form.

Table1: Example of text watermarking.

	S	o	-	I	-	d	o
	l	e	t	-	h	i	m
	a	c	c	e	p	t	-
	a	-	g	r	e	a	t
	s	p	a	c	e	!	!
	y	e	s	-	i	t	s
Watermark	S	e	c	r	e	t	

Such techniques of watermarking [Miller 2007] are relatively recent and have been proposed during the last century only.

Now, if such a watermarking does exist in the holy scripture, it is more likely that this signature should be more sophisticated and much more powerful, since it is supposed to belong to a super-intelligent Author (Allah).

This reason was so motivating that it prompted us to conduct a thorough mixed linguistic-statistical-numerical analysis on the holy Quran and especially on number 7.

## II. Citation of number 7 in the holy Quran

The reader of the holy book can easily notice that the number seven is very often used and in many circumstances too, as we can see in the following cases:

1. The number of heavens (as described in the Quran 65:12) is **7** [Holy Quran 2015]
2. Number **7** is the first number stated in the Quran [Kaheel 2015]
3. Number **7** is the most repeated number after number 1 [Kaheel 2015] and [Sayoud 2012]. See figure 1 [Sayoud 2012].

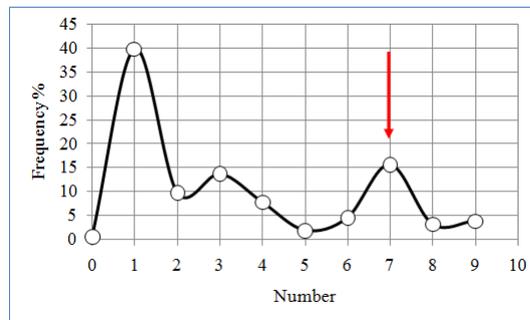


Figure 1: Number citation frequency (*Statistics made by H. Sayoud in 2012*) [Sayoud 2012]

4. Al-Fatihah (the opening of the Quran) is composed of 21 alphabets ( $=3 \times 7$ ): a multiple of **7** [Kaheel 2015]
5. Al-Fatihah (the opening of the Quran) is composed of **7** verses [Kaheel 2015]
6. As described in the Quran, the Hell possess **7** doors (ref. 15:44) [Holy Quran 2015]
7. The number of alphabets used as Initials (disconnected letters) is 14 ( $=2 \times 7$ ): a multiple of **7** [Kaheel 2015]
8. The numbers of the Quran's alphabets is 28 ( $=7 \times 4$ ): a multiple of **7**.
9. The Prophet (PBUH) lived for 63 years ( $=7 \times 9$ ): a multiple of **7** [Kaheel 2015]
10. During the pilgrimage, Muslims turn around the Kaaba **7** times [Al-Bukhari 854]

11. Also, during the pilgrimage, Muslims walk between the two hills of Safa and Marwa **7** times [Al-Bukhari 854]
12. Also, during the pilgrimage, as stated in the Quran, for special circumstances in the pilgrimage, it is required to fast **7** days when returning back [Holy Quran 2015]
13. Once again, during the pilgrimage, the pilgrims throw **7** pebbles at the 'Jamrat Al-Aqabah' [Al-Bukhari 854]
14. In the verse 12:43, the Quran describes the history of Youssof (Joseph) and the famous dream about the **7** cows [Holy Quran 2015]
15. In the Islamic religion, children are required to begin their prayer from the age of **7** [Al-Bukhari 854]
16. In the verse 69:7, the Quran describes the history of Punishment of Aad during **7** nights [Holy Quran 2015]
17. In the verse 2:261, the Quran gives an example for the charity recompense: “*The example of those who spend their monies in the cause of Allah is that of a grain that produces seven (7) spikes...*” [Holy Quran 2015]
18. In the verse 31:27, the Quran speaks about the unlimited/numerous words of Allah and cite as example the « **7** seas »” [Holy Quran 2015]
19. The verse 15 :87 speaks about the **7** repeated verses : « *And We have certainly given you, (O Muhammad), seven of the often repeated (verses) and the great Qur'an* » [Holy Quran 2015]

All these examples show that it should exist an enigma about number seven, but what could be the secret? This question prompted us to analyse the holy book and try to see if we could retrieve other statistical facts related to that number.

### III. New Results and Statistical Evidences based on Number 7

Trying to respond to the previous question, we made several experiments of statistical word analysis on the Holy Scripture (Certified Saudi Version of the holy Quran, narrated by Hafs). So, basically, we first selected the most important words in term of occurrence frequency (most employed words), and then completed that list by some potential keywords that could have a

relationship with any possible numerical evidence, such as the word Adad (meaning “NUMBER”) for example.

Results were interesting and sometimes surprising, as we can see in the following discovered cases:

1. One of the most frequent words in the holy Quran is the name of God « الله » . This Divine name has 3 morphological forms in the holy Quran: **a)** « الله » spelled « Allahee » , **b)** « الله » spelled « Allahu » and **c)** « الله » spelled « Allaha » . We present the occurrences of those 3 words as follows:
  - 1.a. The name of God « الله » spelled « Allahee » has a total occurrence number of  $1239=7 \times 3 \times 59$  (multiple of 7) if we include all the 112 bismala(s) introducing the different chapters. Again, if we do not count those 112 bismala(s), the new count becomes  $1127=7 \times 7 \times 23$ , which is still multiple of 7 (double multiplicity by 7:  $7 \times 7$ ). -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
  - 1.b. The name of God « الله » spelled « Allahu » has a total occurrence number of  $980=7 \times 7 \times 20$ , which is a multiple of 7 (double multiplicity by 7:  $7 \times 7$ ), by either keeping the 112 bismallah or not. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
  - 1.c. The third name of God « الله » spelled « Allaha » has a total occurrence number of  $592=37 \times 16$  (multiple of 37). In this case number 37 seems to be particularly interesting since the expression "... لا اله الا الله \ هو \ انا ...", meaning “There is no God but Allah”, and which represents the first pillar of the Islam, has also an occurrence number of exactly 37 in the holy Quran. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
2. Again, concerning the words that are very frequently used, we strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the coordination conjunction « أو », meaning « OR », in the holy Quran, is  $280=7 \times 40$ . -S-.
3. In the holy Quran, it is clearly stated that there are 7 heavens. Amazingly, the term « Heavens » « السَّمَاوَاتِ / سَمَوَاتٍ » is cited 189 times  $=7 \times 27=3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 7$ . -S-.
4. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word/verb « عدد », meaning « Number », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. This word is extremely interesting since it is the most important keyword in such numerical analysis. In fact, this was one of my first discoveries making me so surprised that I pushed farther my analysis to other potential keywords in the holy book. So, how could be this structure

based on number 7 a pure hazard while the token “NUMBER” itself has been repeated exactly 7 times in the Quran? -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).

5. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word «**كلمات**», meaning « Words», in the holy Quran, is exactly  $14 = 2 \times 7$  (multiple of 7). This word is also particularly interesting since it is one of the most important keywords in our investigation. In fact, it seems like an enigma where the central point is focused on the repetition of words, and we strangely notice that the token “WORDS” itself is repeated by a number that is multiple of 7. -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).
6. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the verb «**أحصى**», meaning « To Count/ Make Statistics », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. As previously, this word is semantically pertinent and represents a potential keyword in statistical analysis. Do we understand that the verb “MAKE STATISTICS” itself has been repeated exactly 7 times? -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).
7. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word «**القرآن**», meaning « The Quran. », in the holy Quran, is exactly  $49 = 7 \times 7$  (double multiplicity by 7). This word represents the central keyword of our investigation, since it represents the dataset (the book) where all the numerical structures are discovered. Moreover, the repetition of “THE QURAN” is not only a multiple of 7, but even more: it is exactly equal to  $7 \times 7$ , namely a strong relationship with number 7. Could this be really a coincidence? On the other hand, we can note that the occurrence of “قُرْآن” without the prefixed article “the” is  $69 = 3 \times 23$ . – Furthermore, note that the Quran had been sent down for a period of 23 years: a strange coincidence again. -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).
8. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the expression «**تلك آيات الكتاب**», meaning « Those are the signs/evidences of the book », which make reference to the mysterious disconnected letters (sort of acronyms) [Sayoud 2013] in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. As stated in its translation (those are the signs/evidences of the book), it is likely that this expression involves a hidden secret or proof in the holy Quran with regards to the disconnected letters. In fact, why is this expression put just after the mysterious disconnected letters? And what sort of sign or evidence should it provide? And finally, why is it repeated seven times? Sincerely, one cannot say that this is a pure hazard. -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).
9. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the *triplet-of-characters* «**سبع**», representing “the connected successive letters composing number 7 in Arabic (i.e. the word *seven* without diacritics), in the holy Quran”, is exactly  $28 = 7 \times 4$ . It is

also equal to the number of Arabic alphabets. Once again this specific keyword, representing the root of the word seven, seems to respect the 7-based structure with a repetition of 28 times, which is not only a multiple of 7, but also equal to the number of the Arabic alphabets composing the holy book. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).

10. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of number seven «سبع / سبعة» / «سبعاً», representing the number 7 used as Noun (not as adjective), such as: “*All the Seven are present*”, is exactly 7. Herein, number seven is used seven times, but why only when it is employed as noun? Maybe it is an indication on its profound entity/symbol and not in its function. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
11. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of number seven «سبع» used without prefix and without suffix, is exactly  $14 = 7 \times 2$ . This is the simplest way to estimate the seven's occurrence number by any computer, without looking for any additional prefix or suffix. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
12. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word «غيب», meaning «Hidden-secrets/ the Unseen/ Knowledge-on-the-future», in the holy Quran, is exactly  $49 = 7 \times 7$  (double multiplicity by 7). This word, which refers to unseen things or hidden secrets, is closely related to the subject of our main investigation and should represent a serious keyword to investigate. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
13. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word «العلم», meaning «The Science», in the holy Quran, is exactly 28 ( $= 4 \times 7$ ), a multiple of 7. Again, if we count the occurrence of this word with or without the article “the”, we will find exactly 105 ( $= 3 \times 5 \times 7$ ), which is still a multiple of 7. It is clear that all fields of numerical analysis or Mathematics represent a small field of the wide domain called “Sciences”. So, we do expect to retrieve a great secret in this particular significant word and probably much more scientific evidences in the holy book. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
14. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the adjective/name (of God) «عليم», meaning «Knowing everything (God)», in the holy Quran, is exactly 161 ( $= 23 \times 7$ ) -S- Note also that the Quran had been sent down for a period of 23 years (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
15. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the composed word «أولو الألباب», meaning «Those who possess intellect/ who reflect (*on the origin of creation/ on the matters of the Quran*)», in the holy book, is exactly 7. It should

probably exist a subtle relationship between this composed word and the mathematical structure, which we are looking for: hence, the seven repetitions of this composed word could not be in vain. -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).

16. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the expression/adjective « لا ريب فيه », meaning « There is no doubt in it (Quran/ Judgement day)», in the holy Quran, is exactly  $14 = 2 \times 7$  (multiple of 7). In the opinion of the author, this expression is one of the most important keywords that could possess a specific mathematical code in the holy Quran, since it clearly states that “THERE-IS-NO-DOUBT-IN-IT”. In fact, we easily retrieve that the total occurrence number of that expression is a multiple of 7, confirming the previous opinion. Moreover, we strangely noticed that the number of alphabetical characters used in this expression is exactly 7 alphabets (ل ا ر ل ه ب ف ي ا ر ل), which represents another surprising fact. Again, in the opinion of the author, this expression has a profound significance and semantically states that there is no doubt in the Divine origin of the holy scripture. On the other hand, it statistically shows an extreme intelligence behind those words. -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).
17. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « آية » without suffixes, meaning “Verse/ Sign/ Proof”, is exactly  $84 = 7 \times 12$  (multiple of 7). On the other hand, by looking for any possible link between the occurrences of this word, meaning “VERSE” and the number of verses in the holy book, we can easily discover that the total number of verses in the holy Quran, by keeping the bismallas (i.e.  $6236 + 112$ ), is equal to  $6348 = 12 \times 23 \times 23$ . Hence, it strangely appears that number 12 is a common factor between both equalities, but we do not know what is the real reason for that coincidence. We also notice, in the number of verses equation ( $12 \times 23 \times 23$ ), that 23 could represent the Quran revelation period, which is really 23 years indeed, and then by multiplying it to 12 (e.g. twelve months), we also get the total number of months concerning the revelation period, namely:  $12 \times 23$  months. Sincerely, we cannot argue that this is a pure hazard. -S- (*Ref. Statistics made in April 2015*).
18. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « تنزيل » when related to the holy book, meaning « Revelation (of the holy book)», is  $14 = 7 \times 2$ . Note that it is employed 14 times in relation with the holy book (meaning: Revelation), and once (another time) with regards to the Angels with another meaning (i.e. Coming down). Moreover, all the occurrences of this word (with the two meanings) are present in exactly 14 ( $7 \times 2$ ) different chapters: 17, 20, 25, 26, 32, 36, 39, 40, 41,

45, 46, 56, 69 and chapter 76. Strangely again, the number of concerned chapters is also a multiple of 7. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).

19. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « الفرقان / فرقان », meaning « Quran/ Criterion/ Salvation», in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. This word, which usually refers to the “Quran” meaning, has a great importance in the statistical analysis of the Quran words. And what is found, herein, proposes the probable existence of a strong numerical structure in the holy book. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
20. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « العَدْل / عدل », meaning « Justice/Equality. », in the holy Quran, is exactly  $14 = 7 \times 2$  -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
21. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the expression/adjective « على كل شيء قدير », meaning « (God) is able to do all things », in the holy Quran, is exactly 35 ( $=5 \times 7$ ) -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
22. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word God's Name « الغفور الرحيم », meaning « The Forgiving, the Merciful. », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
23. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word adjective « غفور رحيم », meaning « (is) Forgiving, Merciful. », in the holy Quran, is exactly 49  $=7 \times 7$  (double multiplicity by 7). -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
24. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word God's Name « رب العالمين », meaning « the Lord of the Worlds », in the holy Quran, is exactly 42 ( $=7 \times 6$ ). -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
25. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word God's Name « التواب الرحيم », meaning « The Receiver of repentance, the Merciful. », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
26. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word God's Name « العزيز الحكيم », meaning « the Almighty, the Wise », in the holy Quran, is exactly 42 ( $=7 \times 6$ ). -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
27. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word adjective « شديد العقاب », meaning « (Allah is) Severe in punishment », in the holy Quran, is exactly 14 ( $=7 \times 2$ ). -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).

28. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word « **بغير حساب** » , meaning « (Allah gives of His Bounty) Without limit. », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
29. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word related to God: « **الفضل العظيم** » , meaning «(God is possessor of) the Sublime Grace », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
30. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word « **يرجع الأمر/ترجع الأمور** » , meaning « All affairs/ Decisions are returned back (to Allah) », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
31. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « **المؤمنين** » , meaning « The Believers », in the holy Quran, is exactly 105 (=7x15) -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
32. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « **مؤمنون/ المؤمنون** » , meaning « The Believers », in the holy Quran, is exactly 35 (=7x5) -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
33. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « **مؤمنة/ مؤمنات** » , meaning « Female Believer(s) », in the holy Quran, is exactly 28 (=7x4) -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
34. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « **رُوح/ الروح** » , meaning « the Spirit », in the holy Quran, is exactly 21 (=7x3) -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
35. We strangely noticed that the occurrence number of the expression « **أحسبني/ حسبنا/ حسبه الله** » , meaning « God is sufficient for (protecting) us/me/him », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
36. We strangely noticed that the total number of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Arabic pronoun « **هو/هي** » , meaning «She/ He » , is respectively 65 (13x5) + 481 (13x37) = 546 =7x78 (multiple of 7 too). -Note that the pronoun “it” doesn’t exist in Arabic (it is replaced by He or She)-. Another strange relationship between those two pronouns is the number 13 that is present in the 2 equalities. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).
37. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the double-word God’s adjective « **واسع عليم** » , meaning « (Allah is) all-Pervading, all-Knowing », in the holy Quran, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. Statistics made in April 2015).

38. A particular interest is given to the word « الحمد », which means « All Praise (*is due to Allah*) ». This one is the first word in the whole text of the holy Quran after the Bismala and is often used as the first word in several chapters too, which makes it quite important. Moreover, Muslims repeat it in their prayers (Fatiha chapter) at least 17 times per day and the word is exclusively reserved to God. In terms of statistics, it is cited 28 times:  $28=7 \times 4$  (multiple of 7). -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
39. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « بُشْرَى », meaning « good tidings/ good news », in the holy Quran, is exactly  $14=2 \times 7$ . -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
40. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « صَفًّا », meaning “rank”, is exactly 7. -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in Apr 2015*).
41. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « سَوْفَ », meaning “will/ shall (i.e. *future auxiliary*)”, is exactly  $42=7 \times 6$  (multiple of 7). -S- (Ref. *Statistics made in April 2015*).
42. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the verb « افتراه », meaning “(they pretend that) He invented it (the Quran)”, is exactly 7. -S-.
43. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « الْهُدَى /هُدَى », meaning “Right guidance”, is  $42=7 \times 6$  (multiple of 7) -S-.
44. We strangely noticed that the total occurrence number of the word « ذِكْرَى », meaning “Reminder”, is  $21=7 \times 3$  (multiple of 7) -S-.

#### IV. Discussion

From this investigation and according to the numerous results showing the presence of a 7-based multiplicity in many parts of the holy Quran, we can state that it should exist a sort of signature or watermarking based on number 7 and maybe other numbers too (eg. 19, 37, ...), probably to preserve or prove the authenticity of the holy book.

Consequently, the possibility that a human being could have invented such a complex scripture appears to be impossible. Again, the probability that the holy book could be falsified or altered is consequently extremely weak.

In the verse: « إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ » (15:9), it is clearly stated that the Holy Scripture is/will be protected and preserved by His Creator [Ibnu-Kathir 1999]. So, it is noticeable that the new numerical structure, which has been discovered in this investigation, could not be a hazard at all.

The above results make the hypothesis advanced by those who think that the Quran could be a human invention quite untenable. How could a man, who was illiterate, develop a so sophisticated mathematical structure, for preserving his scripture, fourteen centuries ago?

## Apologies

The author apologises for any unintentional error that could appear in the present paper. The numbers he got were checked carefully, but in case of non-compatibility with the holy Quran, please disregard our results: the reference remains the holy Quran and not the present paper.

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