

**JURNAL ILMIAH MAHASISWA UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH
PONOROGOTARBAWI: JOURNAL ON ISLAMIC EDUCATION**

Url: <http://studentjournal.umpo.ac.id/index.php/tarbawi>

**EXPLORATION OF THE NUMBER OF PALINDROMES IN THE STRUCTURE OF
THE TOTAL VERSES OF THE QUR'AN**

Nur Hamid, M. Aqil Rohmatullah, Shalehuddin, Athoillah

Universitas Nurul Jadid, Indonesia

E-mail: nurhamid@unuja.ac.id

Abstract

This study aims to identify and describe palindrome number patterns within the numerical structure of the Qur'an based on the number of verses in each chapter. The research employed a descriptive qualitative approach using the Madinah Standard Mushaf as the primary data source. Data were collected through documentation and analyzed using content analysis. The findings reveal that the Qur'an contains various palindrome number patterns, both in the verse counts of individual chapters and in combinations of verse counts from multiple chapters. Palindrome verse counts such as 11, 22, 44, 55, 77, 88, 99, and 111 were identified. In addition, 92 palindrome patterns were found from combinations of two chapters and 195 patterns from combinations of three chapters. Combinations of four chapters are estimated to potentially produce approximately 1,656 palindrome patterns. These findings indicate the existence of an interesting numerical regularity within the Qur'an that may contribute to mathematical studies of the Qur'an and provide a foundation for further research on its numerical patterns.

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan mengidentifikasi pola bilangan palindrom dalam struktur numerik Al-Qur'an berdasarkan jumlah ayat pada setiap surat. Penelitian menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif dengan sumber data berupa mushaf Al-Qur'an standar Madinah. Data dikumpulkan melalui teknik dokumentasi dan dianalisis menggunakan analisis isi (content analysis). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Al-Qur'an memuat berbagai pola bilangan palindrom, baik pada jumlah ayat setiap surat maupun pada penggabungan jumlah ayat beberapa surat. Ditemukan surat-surat dengan jumlah ayat palindrom, seperti 11, 22, 44, 55, 77, 88, 99, dan 111. Selain itu, ditemukan 92 pola palindrom dari penggabungan dua surat dan 195 pola dari penggabungan tiga surat. Penggabungan empat surat diperkirakan berpotensi menghasilkan sekitar 1.656 pola palindrom. Temuan ini menunjukkan adanya keteraturan numerik dalam struktur Al-Qur'an yang menarik untuk dikaji dari perspektif matematika serta dapat menjadi dasar bagi penelitian lanjutan mengenai pola-pola matematis dalam Al-Qur'an.

Kata Kunci: *Al - Qur'an; Palindrome Numbers; Numerical Structure; Mathematical Patterns; Verse Count. Bilangan Palindrom; Struktur Numerik; Pola Matematis; Jumlah Ayat.*

How to Cite: Nur Hamid, et. all (2026). Eksplorasi Bilangan Palindrom Dalam Struktur Jumlah Ayat Surat Al-Qur'an. Penerbitan Artikel Ilmiah Universitas Muhammadiyah Ponorogo, Vol 10 (No 1) April 2026

INTRODUCTION

The Qur'an is not merely a sacred text distinguished by the beauty of its language and meaning. Throughout history, it has continued to contain mysteries that invite endless exploration¹. As time progresses, approaches to understanding the Qur'an have also evolved². Alongside the development of scientific knowledge, increasing attention has been given to examining the Qur'an from other perspectives, including mathematics³. This interest is not without reason, as researchers have identified various intriguing numerical patterns within the arrangement of its verses, chapters, and words. These patterns range from symmetrical word repetitions to numerical correlations between contrasting concepts, seemingly indicating a remarkable degree of mathematical order and precision within the Qur'an⁴.

Nevertheless, most numerical studies of the Qur'an have remained relatively limited in scope and have tended to focus on recurring themes. Researchers have often concentrated on counting word frequencies, comparing the occurrences of concepts such as heaven and

hell, or revisiting the widely discussed theory of multiples of 19. Yet, mathematics encompasses a much broader range of patterns and unique properties⁵. One particularly interesting but relatively unexplored phenomenon in Qur'anic studies is the occurrence of palindromic numbers. A palindromic number is a number whose sequence of digits remains the same when read from left to right or from right to left. In other words, its digits form a symmetrical arrangement that remains unchanged when reverse⁶. Numbers such as 11, 22, 101, and 111 are simple examples. Such numbers possess a distinctive mathematical beauty, reflecting balance and symmetry, and potentially offering an interesting perspective for further numerical exploration.

This raises an important question that has received relatively little attention: given the extensive patterns and structural order found within the Qur'an, might its numerical structure also contain specific patterns such as palindromic numbers? Previous studies have generally focused on more conventional numerical relationships without examining

¹ Abdul Hamid, *Pengantar Studi Al-Qur'an* (Prenada Media, 2022).

² Abdul Hafid, "Metodologi Pemahaman Al-Qur'an: Berbagai Cara Dalam Memahami Cara Mufassir Dalam Menafsirkan Al-Qur'an," *Hamalatul Qur'an: Jurnal Ilmu Ilmu Alqur'an* 4, no. 2 (2023): 69–84.

³ Rizqon Halal Syah Aji, "Matematika Dalam Rasionalitas Al-Qur'an; Bukti Perenialisme Atas Nalar Saintifik," *Salam: Jurnal Sosial Dan Budaya Syar-I* 7, no. 9 (2020): 787–800.

⁴ Aji, "Matematika Dalam Rasionalitas Al-Qur'an; Bukti Perenialisme Atas Nalar Saintifik."

⁵ Aji, "Matematika Dalam Rasionalitas Al-Qur'an; Bukti Perenialisme Atas Nalar Saintifik."

⁶ Maria Marantika Aunga, "Etnomatematika Pada Aktivitas Menenun Masyarakat Suku Dawan-Timor Dan Kaitannya Dengan Matematika Sekolah" (PhD Thesis, Universitas Negeri Malang, 2025), <https://repository.um.ac.id/367367/>.

specific patterns of this kind in greater depth. A more systematic and careful investigation may reveal interesting patterns within the arrangement of chapters, verses, and even the divisions of juz and hizb. The central question, therefore, is whether the Qur'an contains a recognizable pattern of palindromic numbers within its numerical structure, or whether such occurrences are merely coincidental.

This question serves as the starting point for the present study. Rather than being driven solely by curiosity, this research seeks to systematically examine the process of identifying and analyzing palindromic patterns within the Qur'an. The study aims to investigate whether such symmetrical numerical patterns can be identified within its structure, without making assumptions about their intentionality. This investigation involves a series of systematic procedures, including numerical identification, data matching, and detailed analysis. Each stage is organized methodically to ensure that the findings can be examined and accounted for from a scientific perspective.

Ultimately, the primary objective of this study is to offer a broader perspective on the numerical dimensions of the Qur'an. The findings are expected to demonstrate that the Qur'an can be examined not only from

theological and linguistic perspectives but also through mathematical analysis that has received comparatively limited attention. Palindromic numbers represent one of the mathematical patterns that can be investigated within its numerical structure⁷. By identifying and analyzing such patterns systematically, this study may contribute to a deeper understanding of the numerical characteristics found within the Qur'anic text and provide a basis for further research on related mathematical patterns in the future.

METHODS

This study employs a qualitative research design with a descriptive approach. The primary objective is not merely to measure or quantify the data statistically, but to describe and examine in depth the phenomenon of palindromic numbers embedded within the numerical structure of the Qur'an. Through a descriptive approach, each finding can be presented in detail and systematically without being constrained by rigid statistical formulas. Accordingly, the study presents its findings in a clear, transparent, and accessible manner⁸.

Unlike conventional studies that clearly distinguish between research objects and subjects, the present study focuses on a single entity, namely the Qur'an itself. The material

⁷ Abah Salma Alif Sampayya, *Keseimbangan Matematika Dalam Al Al Qur'an* (Penerbit Republika, 2007).

⁸ Dede Rosyada, *Penelitian Kualitatif Untuk Ilmu Pendidikan* (Prenada Media, 2020).

object of the study is the Qur'anic mushaf, specifically the standard Madinah edition. Meanwhile, the formal object is the numerical structure contained within it, particularly patterns associated with palindromic numbers. Thus, the Qur'an serves a dual role as both the central object of investigation and the primary source of data. No human participants, respondents, or informants are involved in this study, as the analysis focuses on textual and numerical data rather than individual perceptions or experiences.

The data consist of numerical elements found within the Qur'an, particularly those related to the number of verses in each chapter. More specifically, the study examines the total number of verses in all 114 chapters of the Qur'an, ranging from Al-Fatihah, which contains 7 verses, to An-Nas, which consists of 6 verses. From this dataset, particular attention is given to chapters whose verse counts form palindromic numbers, such as Hud (11 verses), Ar-Rahman (55 verses), Al-Mursalat (77 verses), and Al-Lahab (111 verses). In addition, the study examines pairs of chapters whose verse counts form reversed numerical sequences, such as Yusuf (12 verses) and Al-Anbiya (21 verses), as well as Ibrahim (14 verses) and Fussilat (41 verses), among others. A total of 300 chapter pairs exhibiting such numerical patterns were identified. The study also draws upon

secondary data in the form of previous studies on numerical *i'jaz* and other relevant supporting literature to strengthen the analysis.

Data were collected using documentation techniques by identifying and recording numerical elements that have the potential to form palindromic patterns. The process began by compiling a list of numbers found within the structure of the Qur'an and subsequently classifying them according to the identified patterns. Simple tables were also used to facilitate data recording and verification. All data were manually collected and carefully examined, as even minor errors in numerical identification could affect the validity of the final conclusions. The data were analyzed using content analysis with a thematic approach, which involved not only identifying numerical occurrences but also classifying the findings according to the patterns that emerged (Drisko & Maschi). After all relevant numerical data had been compiled, the chapters meeting the criteria for palindromic numbers were identified. The resulting patterns were then described and examined in relation to the overall structure of the Qur'an. The final stage involved interpreting the findings to explore their significance within the context of the numerical patterns identified.

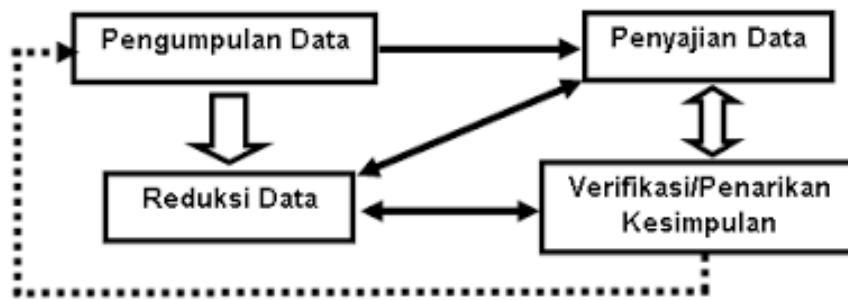


Figure 1. data analyss

1. Berdasarkan urutan surat

- 12 – 21 = yusuf – al anbiya
- 13 – 31 = ar ra'd – luqman
- 14 – 41 = ibrahim – fussilat
- 15 – 51 = al hijr – az zariyat
- 16 – 61 = an nahl – as saff
- 17 – 71 = al isra' – nuh
- 18 – 81 = al kahf – at takwir
- 19 – 91 = maryam – asy syams
- 23 – 32 = al mu'minin – as sajdah
- 24 – 42 = an nur – asy syura
- 25 – 52 = al furqan – at tur
- 26 – 62 = asy syu'ara – al jumu'ah
- 27 – 72 = an naml – al jinn
- 28 – 82 = al qasas – al infitar
- 29 – 92 = al 'ankabut – al lail
- 34 – 43 = saba' – az zukhuf
- 35 – 53 = fatir – an najm
- 36 – 63 = yasin – al munafiqun
- 37 – 73 = as saffat – almuzzammil
- 38 – 83 = sad – al muthaffifin
- 39 – 93 = az zumar – ad duha
- 45 – 54 = aj jasiyah – al qamar
- 46 – 64 = al ahqaf – at taghabun
- 111 = al lahab
- 47 – 74 = muhammad – al muddassir
- 48 – 84 = al fath – al insyraq
- 49 – 94 = al hujurat – al insyirah
- 56 – 65 = al waqi'ah – at talaq
- 57 – 75 = al hadid – al qiyamah
- 58 – 85 = al mujadilah – al buruj
- 59 – 95 = al hasyr – at tin
- 67 – 76 = al mulk – al insan
- 68 – 86 = al qalam – at tariq
- 69 – 96 = al haqqah – al 'alaq
- 78 – 87 = an naba' – al a'la
- 79 – 97 = an nazi'at – al qadr
- 89 – 98 = al fajr – al bayyinah
- 11 = hud
- 22 = al hajj
- 33 = al ahzab
- 44 = ad dukhan
- 55 = ar rahman
- 66 = at tahrir
- 77 = al mursalat
- 88 = at tariq
- 99 = az zalzalah

Figure 2. The Qur'an Surah

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Chapters with Palindromic Verse Counts

The Qur'an contains several chapters whose verse counts exhibit palindromic patterns. For example, Al-Buruj and Al-Mujadilah each contain 22 verses, while Al-Jumu'ah, Al-Munafiqun, Ad-Duha, Al-'Adiyat, and Al-Qari'ah each contain 11 verses. Other chapters have verse counts of 44, 55, 77, 88, 99, and 111. These findings indicate the presence of palindromic numerical patterns within the structure of the Qur'an.

From a numerical perspective, the chapter containing 111 verses is particularly interesting to examine, namely Yusuf. Its verse count forms a palindromic number with a symmetrical digit arrangement. The uniqueness of this number occurs in a chapter with a distinctive thematic character, as it presents the story of Prophet Yusuf in a continuous and comprehensive narrative.

The chapter portrays the journey of Prophet Yusuf through various trials, including betrayal, false accusations, and hardships, before ultimately reaching success

and forgiveness. The coherence of this narrative makes Yusuf an interesting chapter to examine alongside the numerical finding of the palindromic number 111. This discussion is intended as an exploration of numerical patterns within the structure of the Qur'an without associating the number with any particular theological or interpretive meaning [12]⁹.

2. Palindromic Patterns in Pairs of Chapters

Based on Verse Counts

This study further investigates whether other palindromic patterns can be identified by combining the verse counts of two chapters in the Qur'an. The findings demonstrate that certain pairs of chapters produce palindromic numerical arrangements when their verse counts are considered together. However, such patterns are particularly evident in pairs whose numerical sequences exhibit symmetry. Examples include: (1) Ar-Ra'd (43) and Luqman (34), forming 43–34; (2) Al-Haqqah (52) and Al-Inshiqaq (25), forming 52–25; and (3) Saba (54) and Fatir (45), forming 54–45. Thus, combining the verse counts of two Qur'anic chapters can produce pairs with palindromic numerical patterns. Overall, the identification process resulted in 97 such numerical patterns.

One particularly interesting finding is the pair Saba (54) and Fatir (45), which produces the sequence 54–45. This pair forms a distinctive numerical arrangement because the digits in the verse count of Saba can be reversed to produce the verse count of Fatir, creating the pattern 54–45. Interestingly, these two chapters are also positioned close to one another in the Qur'anic arrangement, meaning that the numerical pair occurs in two neighboring chapters. In terms of their content, Saba discusses various forms of Allah's blessings and power. We often encounter diverse perspectives when discussing the nature of an ideal state. However, we can gain a profound and relevant understanding of this concept by examining the indications or portrayal of an ideal state found in Surah Saba [15]¹⁰. Fatir then continues with a discussion of Allah's greatness as the Creator of the heavens and the earth, various signs of His power, and the invitation for humanity to recognize and be grateful for His blessings [1]¹¹. The combination of the chapters' close position, the reversed numerical pattern of 54–45, and their thematic connection concerning Allah's power and blessings makes the pairing of Saba and Fatir an interesting subject for

⁹ "Kisah Nabi Yusuf: Kisah Yang Tidak Diulang," accessed August 25, 2026, <https://tafsiralquran.id/kisah-nabi-yusuf-kisah-yang-tidak-diulang/>.

¹⁰ Mumtaza Nur Annisa, "Refleksi Surah Saba Ayat 15: Konsep Tata Negara Ideal," *Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia*, March 17, 2024,

<https://tafsiralquran.id/refleksi-surah-saba-ayat-15-konsep-tata-negara-ideal/>.

¹¹ "S. 7. (35) Fatir 1-10," *Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia*, n.d., accessed August 25, 2026, <https://tafsiralquran.id/s-fatir-1-10/>.

further exploration of numerical patterns within the Qur'anic structure.

3. Palindromic Patterns in Combinations of Three Chapters

Following further identification, this study also examines combinations of three chapters that produce palindromic numerical patterns. The analysis identified 195 numerical patterns involving three - chapter combinations. One example is the sequence 64-4-46, which is formed from the verse counts of An-Nur (64), Quraishy or Al-Ikhlâs (4), and An-Nazi'at (46).

The numerical pattern 64 – 4 – 46 represents an interesting arrangement within the numerical structure of the Qur'an because it is formed by combining the verse counts of three chapters: An-Nur, with 64 verses; Quraishy or Al-Ikhlâs, with 4 verses; and An-Nazi'at, with 46 verses. The arrangement demonstrates a reversal between the first and

final numbers, 64 and 46, which contain the same digits in opposite order, while the number 4 occupies the central position and connects the pattern. Beyond its numerical uniqueness, these three chapters also contain distinctive themes. An-Nur discusses social conduct, the preservation of personal dignity, and the importance of purity and social order¹² [27-31]. Quraishy highlights the blessings of security and sustenance granted by Allah [3-4]¹³. Meanwhile, An-Nazi'at discusses human resurrection, the events of the Day of Judgment, and Allah's power over all creation[27-33]¹⁴¹⁵. The combination of the numerical pattern 64 – 4 – 46 and the thematic content of these three chapters makes this arrangement an interesting phenomenon for further examination as part of the study of numerical patterns within the structure of the Qur'an.

Table 1. Several Palindromic Numbers in the Number of Verses of Qur'anic Chapters

Palindromic Number	Combined Chapter		
	Combined 1 Chapter	Combined 2 Chapters	Combined 3 Chapters
Chapter	surat Al-Buruj dan Al-Mujadilah Surat Yusuf	Ar-ra'ad (43) dan Luqman (34)	An-nur (64), Al-Ikhlâs (4), dan An-Nazi'at

¹² "Tafsir Surah An-Nur Ayat 32 - Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir Di Indonesia," accessed August 25, 2026, <https://tafsiralquran.id/tafsir-surah-an-nur-ayat-32/>.

¹³ "Tafsir Surah Al Quraishy Ayat 1-4 Berbicara Mengenai Keamanan Yang Dira..," accessed August 25, 2026, <https://tafsiralquran.id/tafsir-surat-al-quraishy-ayat-1-4/>.

¹⁴ "Z. B. An-Nazi'at 21-30," *Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia*, n.d., accessed August 25, 2026, <https://tafsiralquran.id/z-b-an-nazi-at-21-30-2/>.

¹⁵ "Z. B. An-Nazi'at 31-40," *Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia*, n.d., accessed August 25, 2026, <https://tafsiralquran.id/z-b-an-nazi-at-31-40-2/>.

Palindromic	22	43 - 34	64 – 4 - 46
	111		

CONCLUSION

Based on the identification and analysis conducted, it can be concluded that the verse-count structure of the Qur'an contains various palindromic numerical patterns that are worthy of examination from a mathematical perspective. These patterns are found not only in the verse counts of individual chapters that directly form palindromic numbers, but also through combinations of the verse counts of two, three, and even four chapters, resulting in palindromic numerical arrangements. This study identified 92 palindromic patterns formed by combinations of two chapters and 195 patterns formed by combinations of three chapters.

Furthermore, based on the identification process, combinations of four chapters are estimated to produce approximately 1,656 palindromic numerical patterns. These findings indicate the presence of numerical regularities within the structure of the Qur'an

that merit further investigation as part of mathematical studies of the sacred text. Nevertheless, this study is descriptive in nature; therefore, the findings are not intended to establish causal relationships or serve as a basis for theological interpretation. Rather, they should be understood as a description of the numerical patterns identified in the data. Future research could expand upon these findings by employing computational methods, pattern-searching algorithms, and other mathematical approaches to enable the identification of numerical patterns in the Qur'an to be conducted more comprehensively, systematically, and verifiably.

AUTHORS' NOTE

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article. Authors confirmed that the paper was free of plagiaris

REFERENCES

Aji, Rizqon Halal Syah. "Matematika Dalam Rasionalitas Al-Qur'an; Bukti Perenialisme Atas Nalar Saintifik." *Salam: Jurnal Sosial Dan Budaya Syar-I* 7, no. 9 (2020): 787–800.

Annisa, Mumtaza Nur. "Refleksi Surah Saba Ayat 15: Konsep Tata Negara Ideal."

Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia, March 17, 2024. <https://tafsiralquran.id/refleksi-surah-saba-ayat-15-konsep-tata-negara-ideal/>.

Aunga, Maria Marantika. "Etnomatematika Pada Aktivitas Menenun Masyarakat Suku Dawan-Timor Dan Kaitannya

- Dengan Matematika Sekolah.” PhD Thesis, Universitas Negeri Malang, 2025.
<https://repository.um.ac.id/367367/>.
- Hafid, Abdul. “Metodologi Pemahaman Al-Qur’an: Berbagai Cara Dalam Memahami Cara Mufassir Dalam Menafsirkan Al-Qur’an.” *Hamalatul Qur’an: Jurnal Ilmu Alqur’an* 4, no. 2 (2023): 69–84.
- Hamid, Abdul. *Pengantar Studi Al-Qur’an*. Prenada Media, 2022.
https://www.google.com/books?hl=id&lr=&id=0VW6EAAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PA1&dq=Al-Qur%27an+bukan+hanya+sekadar+bacaan+yang+indah+dari+sisi+bahasa+dan+makna.+Sejak+dulu,+kitab+ini+selalu+menyimpan+misteri+yang+tak+pernah+habis+untuk+digali+&ots=VhoXl2WA-2&sig=0GBR24X_bcI1pUNRR3qJKj9xxcg.
- “Kisah Nabi Yusuf: Kisah Yang Tidak Diulang.” Accessed August 25, 2026.
<https://tafsiralquran.id/kisah-nabi-yusuf-kisah-yang-tidak-diulang/>.
- Rosyada, Dede. *Penelitian Kualitatif Untuk Ilmu Pendidikan*. Prenada Media, 2020.
<https://www.google.com/books?hl=id&lr=&id=kXIREAAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PR4&dq=Dengan+pendekatan+deskriptif,+setiap+temuan+dapat+kami+urai+secara+detail+dan+sistematis,+tanpa+harus+dipaksakan+ke+dalam+rumus-rumus+yang+kaku&ots=wgBN-vrflh&sig=jx8XXh8hyq67tNIjghTF6f4dp1Y>.
- “S. 7. (35) Fatir 1-10.” *Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia*, n.d. Accessed August 25, 2026.
<https://tafsiralquran.id/s-fatir-1-10/>.
- Sampayya, Abah Salma Alif. *Keseimbangan Matematika Dalam Al Al Qur’an*. Penerbit Republika, 2007.
- “Tafsir Surah Al Quraaisy Ayat 1-4 Berbicara Mengenai Keamanan Yang Dira..” Accessed August 25, 2026.
<https://tafsiralquran.id/tafsir-surat-al-quraaisy-ayat-1-4/>.
- “Tafsir Surah An-Nur Ayat 32 - Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir Di Indonesia.” Accessed August 25, 2026.
<https://tafsiralquran.id/tafsir-surah-an-nur-ayat-32/>.
- “Z. B. An-Nazi’at 21-30.” *Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia*, n.d. Accessed August 25, 2026.
<https://tafsiralquran.id/z-b-an-naziat-21-30-2/>.
- “Z. B. An-Nazi’at 31-40.” *Tafsir Al Quran | Referensi Tafsir di Indonesia*, n.d. Accessed August 25, 2026.
<https://tafsiralquran.id/z-b-an-naziat-31-40-2/>.

