
RESEARCH ARTICLE

Numerical Statements of the Holy Quran Based on Verses, Words, and Letters in Makki and Madani Sura

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ABSTRACT

The Holy Quran is such a Holy book that has several purposes and objectives for different people. The main objective of this study is to provide numerical statements of the Holy Quran based on verses, words, and letters in Makki and Madani sura. The study intended to compute several descriptive statistics, construct frequency distribution and present it graphically. The data used in this study were extracted from Quran Code software. The result of the study found that the average number of verses, words, and letters in Madani sura is higher than the Makki sura though the number of Makki sura is higher than the Madani sura. The number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani sura is exponentially declining. The first Arabic letter A-lif(l) occurs at maximum times, and another Arabic letter Dh-aa(ط) occurs at minimum times than all other letters in both Makki and Madani sura.

KEYWORDS

The Holy Quran, Verses, Words, Letters, Frequency Distribution

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1. Introduction

The Holy Quran is the heavenly religious book of Islam (Alrabia et al. 2014). It is widely regarded as the finest work in Arabic literature and has significantly influenced the Arabic language (Wikipedia, n.d.). Muslims hold that it contains the actual words of Allah, and it is the last piece of written revelation from Allah to mankind. It was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (SM) in pure classical Arabic language 14 centuries ago, and it contains 77880 words (Dukes et al. 2010). These words are arranged into 114 suras, which are then divided into several verses (ayats). The Holy Quran is full of knowledge and it guides people in almost every human activity. One may read the Holy Book with questions in mind and will obtain the answers while doing so. There are several miracles of the Holy Quran that have been revealed from the time of revelation to till now. Researchers from all over the world are working to find out more about the miracles of the Holy Quran. As far as we are aware, relatively few studies have been conducted about the numerical interpretation of the Holy Quran.

Al-Dargazelli (2004) computed basic descriptive statistics and constructed frequency tables to identify the numerical pattern of the Holy Quran based on verses. He also classified the suras by Makki and Madani and provided the number of verses for each sura. Dost and Ahmed (2008) developed a new classification based on the frequency distribution of chapters over verses sizes by words. Botani (2012) constructed the frequency distributions of the number of verses, words, and letters of the Holy Quran and then compared the empirical distribution with theoretical probability distributions. The result of that study showed that the probability distributions of the number of verses and words per Quranic chapter are Exponential and Gamma respectively.

The purpose of this study is to determine a technique for calculating descriptive statistics of the number of verses, words, and letters of the Holy Quran and then offering graphical representation and statistical interpretation that may be useful for those involved in this field of study. This study also intends to provide a platform for more research in this area. Note that the numerical analysis of the Quran does not adequately capture its beauty. The ayat structure and its meaning give beauty to the Quran. Ayat and sura cannot be created by any human being on earth. It is crucial to emphasize that this is not a religious study; instead, it is an automated study that gives statistical results. These results are not in any way accepted before receiving the approval of Islamic scholars.

2. Methodology of the Study

2.1. Sources of Data

All of the data used in this study were sourced from Adams' Quran Code software (2011). For those scholars attempting to research Quranic systems and numbers, this software is outstanding.

2.2 Formula for Descriptive Statistics

The formula for several descriptive statistics computed in this study to explain the number of verses, words, and letters in Makki and Madani sura in the Holy Quran has been presented below:

1.	Mean: $\bar{X} = \frac{\sum X}{N}$ Where, \bar{X} = Arithmetic mean $\sum X$ = Total number of observations N = Number of observations	4.	Standard deviation: $\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (X - \bar{X})^2}{N}}$ Where, σ = Standard deviation \bar{X} = Arithmetic mean N = Number of observations
2.	Median: $Me = \left(\frac{N+1}{2}\right)$ th observation When, N is odd. $\frac{\left(\frac{N}{2}\right) \text{ th observation} + \left(\frac{N}{2} + 1\right) \text{ th observation}}{2}$ Median: $Me =$ When, N is even.	5.	Skewness: $\beta_1 = \frac{\mu_3^2}{\mu_2^3}$ $\mu_r = \frac{\sum (X - \bar{X})^r}{N}, r = 2, 3$ Where,
3.	Range: $R = L - S$ Where, L = Largest observation S = Smallest observation	6.	Kurtosis: $\beta_2 = \frac{\mu_4}{\mu_2^2}$ $\mu_r = \frac{\sum (X - \bar{X})^r}{N}, r = 2, 4$ Where,

3. Statistical Software Used

The calculation of several descriptive statistics, construction of frequency distribution, and their graphical representation have been completely done with the help of Microsoft Excel software.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 Some Basic Statistics of Verses, Words, and Letters in Makki and Madani Sura

The Holy Quran is composed of 30 chapters (paras), each of which is further subdivided into sections (rukus) and each section is further divided into verses (ayats). There are two types of suras in the Holy Quran. Makki and Madani sura is the name of the sura. The Holy Quran contains 114 suras in all, 88 of which are Makki and 26 of which are Madani sura. Suras, chapters, and sections can occasionally overlap. Suras are full units, although sections and suras can be prolonged through chapters. Ayats are a subset of suras. Allah predetermined the order in which the suras and ayats appear in the Holy Quran.

The Holy Quran comprises 6236 verses in total, of which 4647 are Makki and 1589 are Madani verses. There are 77880 words in the Holy Quran, of which 48049 are Makki and 29831 are Madani words. The total number of letters in the Holy Quran is 327792, of which 199952 are Makki and 127840 are Madani letters (Appendix Table A1 and A2).

The Holy Quran contains 327792 letters and 77880 words, respectively, indicating that there are roughly 4 letters per word. In Makki sura, the total number of letters is 199952 and the total number of words is 48049, indicating that the number of letters per word in Makki sura is also roughly 4. Similarly to this, the letter count in Madani sura is 127840 and the total number of words is 29831 indicating that the number of letters per word in Madani sura is roughly 4. Appendix Table A1 and A2 provide details.

4.2 Descriptive Statistics of Raw Data (Number of Verses, Words, and Letters in Makki and Madani Sura)

In this section, several descriptive statistics have been computed using the raw data (ungrouped data) of the number of verses, words, and letters in Makki and Madani sura and are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Descriptive statistics of the number of verses, words, and letters in Makki and Madani sura

Statistics	Makki sura			Madani sura		
	No. of verses	No. of words	No. of letters	No. of verses	No. of words	No. of letters
Count (N)	88	88	88	26	26	26
Maximum	227	3324	14232	286	6121	25884
Minimum	3	14	61	8	40	175
Range	224	3310	14171	278	6081	25709
Sum	4647	48049	199952	1589	29831	127840
Mean	52.807	546.011	2272.182	61.115	1147.346	4916.923
Median	41	275.5	1122	29	509.5	2215.5
Mode	5	27	3565	78	-	-
Variance	2263.997	433929.483	7502517.369	4864.986	2119048	38218155.271
Standard Deviation	47.581	658.733	2739.072	69.749	1455.695	6182.083
Skewness	1.426	1.932	1.978	1.882	2.115	2.085
Kurtosis	2.218	4.564	4.943	3.484	4.621	4.441
Standard Error of Mean	5.072	70.221	291.986	13.679	285.485	1212.406

Table 1 demonstrates that the minimum number of verses is 3 and the maximum number of verses is 227 in Makki sura. That is, three Makki suras such as Al-Asr, Al-Kawthar, and An-Nasr have a minimum 3 verses and one Makki sura such as Ash-Shu'araa has maximum 227 verses. Again, the minimum number of words is 14 in Makki sura which is sura Al-Kawthar, and the maximum number of words is 3324 in Makki sura which is sura Al-A'raaf. Also, the minimum number of letters is 61 in Makki sura (Al-Kawthar) and the maximum number of letters is 14232 in Makki sura (Al-A'raaf). Therefore, the sura Al-Kawthar has the minimum number of verses, words, and letters, and the sura Al-A'raaf has the maximum number of words and letters among all the Makki sura. Similarly, the minimum number of verses is 8 and the maximum number of verses is 286 in Madani sura. That is, two Madani suras such as Al-Bayyina, and Az-Zalzala have a minimum 8 verses and one Madani sura such as Al-Baqara has a maximum 286 verses. Again the minimum number of words is 40 in Madani sura which is sura Az-Zalzala, and the maximum number of words is 6121 in Madani sura which is sura Al-Baqara. Also, the minimum number of letters is 175 in Madani sura (Az-Zalzala) and the maximum number of letters is 25884 in Madani sura (Al-Baqara). Therefore, the sura Az-Zalzala has a minimum number of verses, words, and letters, and the sura Al-Baqara has a maximum number of verses, words, and letters among all the Madani sura.

In Makki sura, the average number of verses, words, and letters is roughly 53, 546, and 2272 and in Madani sura, it is roughly 61, 1147, and 4917 respectively. That is the Madani suras are larger than the Makki suras with respect to the length of verses as well as the number of words, and letters.

The mode of the number of verses in Makki sura is 5 which indicates that verse number 5 occur maximum times (4 times). That is suras having 5 verses (Al-Qadr, Al-Fil, Al-Masad, and Al-Falaq) is the modal number. Again, the mode of the number of words in Makki sura is 27 which indicates that word number 27 occurs maximum times (3 times). That is suras having 27 words (Al-Fil, Al-Masad, and Al-Falaq) is the modal number. Also, the mode of the number of letters in Makki sura is 3565 which indicates that letter number 3565 occurs maximum times (2 times). That is suras having 3565 letters (Saba, and Az-Zukhruf) is the modal number. Moreover, the mode of the number of verses in Madani sura is 78 which indicate that verse number 78 occurs maximum times (2 times). That is suras having 78 verses (Al-Hajj, and Ar-Rahmaan) is the modal number.

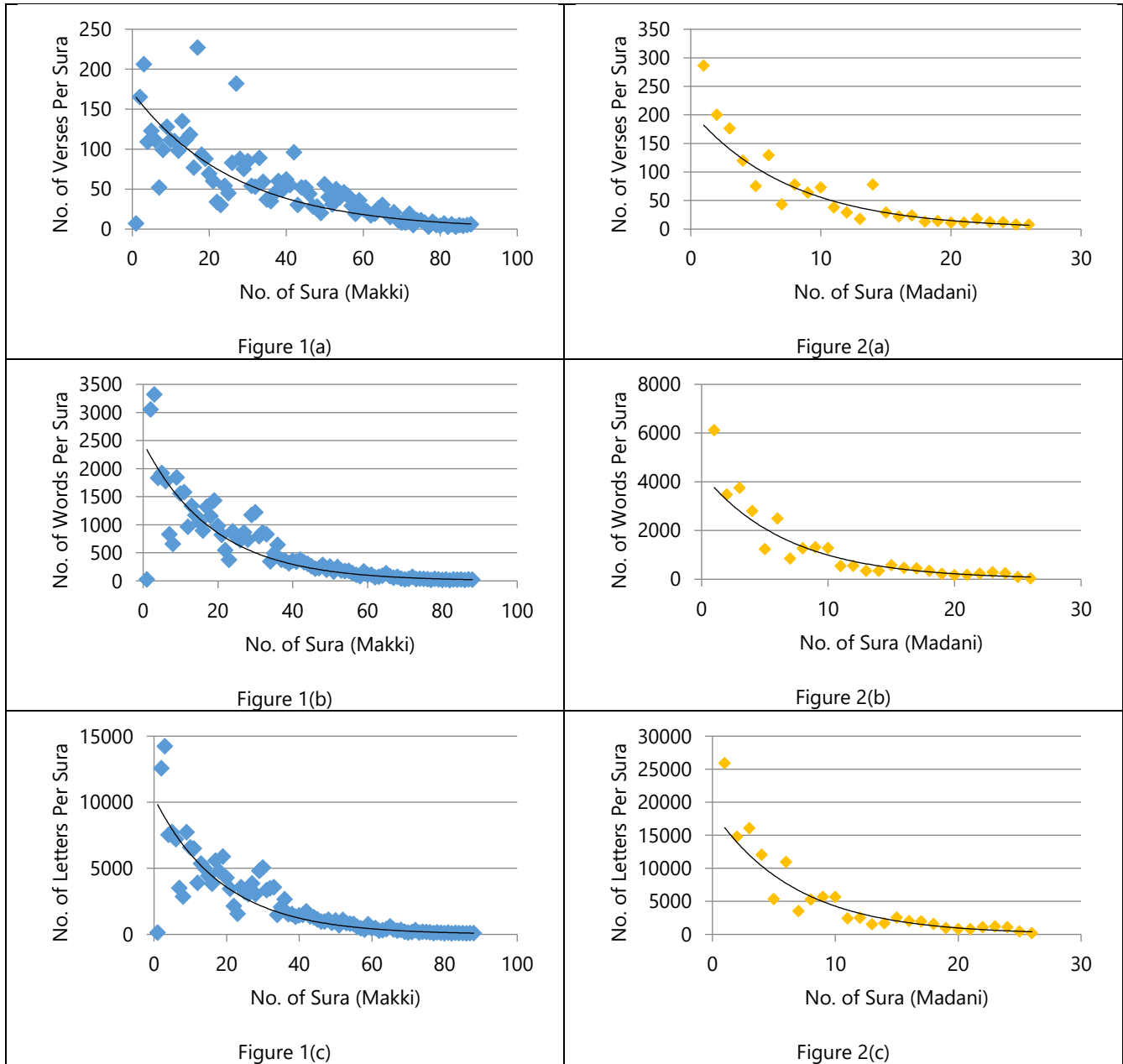
It is clear from Table 1 that mean > median > mode for the number of verses, words, and letters in Makki sura. Also mean > median for the number of verses, words, and letters in Madani sura. The range of the number of verses, words, and letters in

Madani sura is also larger than Makki Sura which means that the variation among verses, words, and letters in Madani sura is more than in Makki sura. Many Mufassirs have also drawn attention to this point.

The Skewnesses of the number of verses, words, and letters in Makki and Madani sura are positive. This means that the distribution of verses, words, and letters in Makki and Madani sura is not symmetric and skewed to the right, meaning that the right tail of the distribution is longer than the left tail. On the other hand, the distribution of the number of verses in Makki sura is Platykurtic because the Kurtosis is less than 3. But the distribution of words and letters in Makki sura is Leptokurtic because the Kurtosis is greater than 3. Moreover, the distribution of verses, words, and letters in Madani sura is Leptokurtic.

4.3 Graphical Representation of the Number of Verses, Words, and Letters Per Makki and Madani Sura

To obtain more information about the number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani sura, it is better to draw the scatter plot for each of them using the raw data. The following figure illustrates the scatter plot of the number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani sura.



The number of verses, words, and letters per Makki sura is exponentially declining, as seen in Figures 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c), and their tendencies are exponential as well. As a result, the distribution of the number of verses, words, and letters inside Makki sura

appears to be exponential. The number of verses, words, and letters per Madani sura is exponentially declining, and it appears that their distribution is similarly exponential, according to Figures 2(a), 2(b), and 2(c).

4.4 Frequency Distribution of the Number of Verses, Words, and Letters Per Makki and Madani Sura

The main purpose of constructing frequency distribution is to specify the pattern of the raw data. To construct frequency distribution of the number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani sura Sturge’s formula for the class interval is

$$i = \frac{\text{Range}}{1 + 3.322\text{Log}(N)}, \text{ Where, } N \text{ is the number of observations (number of Makki and Madani sura).}$$

The frequency distribution of the number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani sura is equal to 8 and 6 classes respectively, and are presented in the following Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2: Frequency distribution of the number of verses, words, and letters per Makki sura

Classes of verses	Makki sura	Classes of words	Makki sura	Classes of letters	Makki sura
02-31	38	13-456	55	60-1959	55
32-61	24	457-900	15	1960-3859	15
62-91	9	901-1344	9	3860-5759	9
92-121	10	1345-1788	4	5760-7659	5
122-151	3	1789-2232	3	7660-9559	2
152-181	1	2233-2676	0	9560-11459	0
182-211	2	2677-3120	1	11460-13359	1
212-241	1	3121-3564	1	13360-15259	1
Total	88	Total	88	Total	88

Table 3: Frequency distribution of the number of verses, words, and letters per Madani sura

Classes of verses	Makki sura	Classes of words	Makki sura	Classes of letters	Makki sura
07-55	16	39-1105	17	174-4683	17
56-104	5	1106-2172	4	4684-9193	4
105-153	2	2173-3239	2	9194-13703	2
154-202	2	3240-4306	2	13704-18213	2
203-251	0	4307-5373	0	18214-22723	0
252-300	1	5374-6440	1	22724-27233	1
Total	26	Total	26	Total	26

From Table 2, it is obvious that among 88 Makki suras, 38 have verses between 2 and 31; more than two-thirds of suras have words between 13 and 456; and letters between 60 and 1959. Only one sura has the highest number of verses between 212 and 241 (Ash-Shu’araa having sura number-26); words between 3121 and 3564; and letters between 13360 and 15259 (Al-A’raaf having sura number-07).

Table 3 makes it clear that out of the 26 Madani suras, 16 have verses between 7 and 55; more than two-thirds of suras have words between 39 and 1105; and letters between 174 and 4683. The majority of verses between 252 and 300; words between 5374 and 6440; and letters between 22724 and 27233 are found in only one sura (Al-Baqara having sura number-02).

4.5 Graph of Frequency Distribution of the Number of Verses, Words, and Letters Per Makki and Madani Sura

A graph of frequency distribution provides a more powerful message about the distribution of data than a table. In this section, we will show a graph of the frequency distribution of the number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani suras.

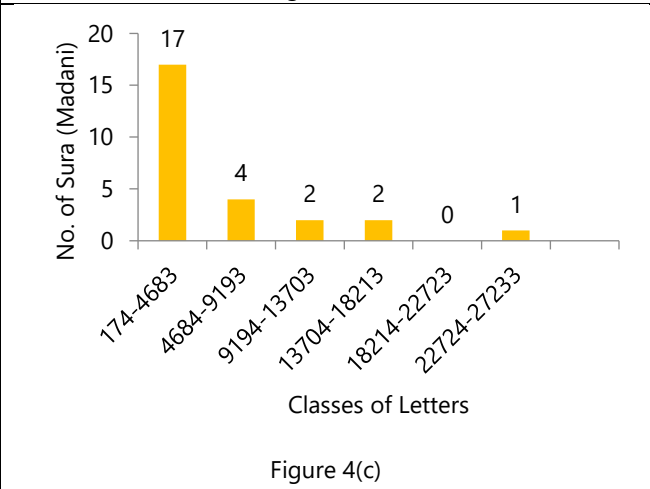
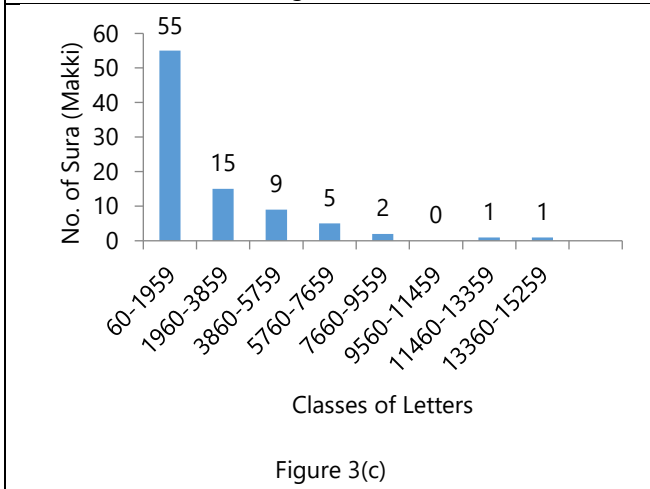
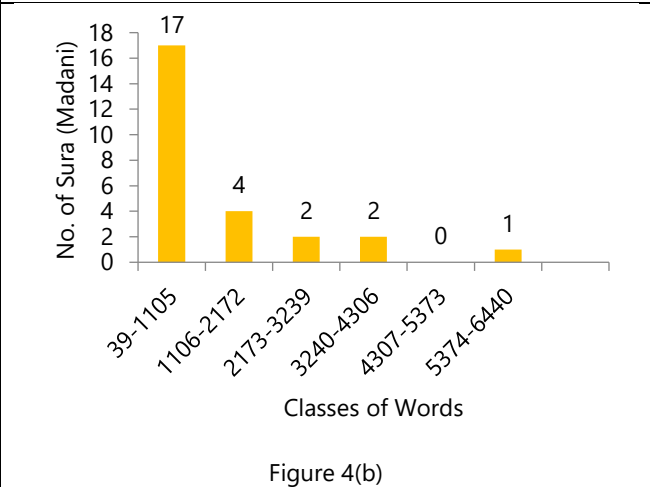
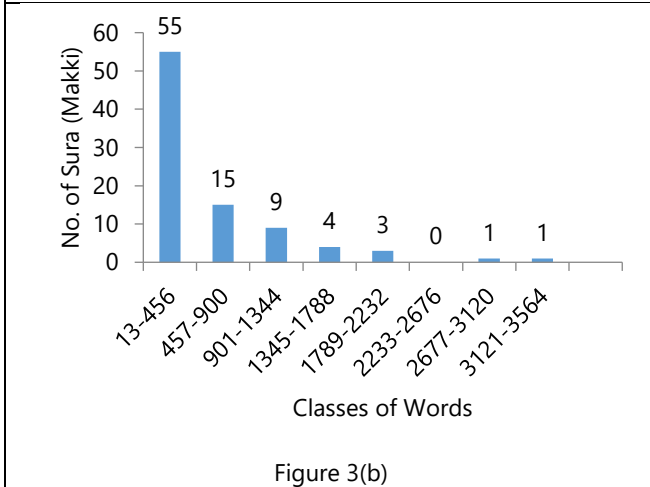
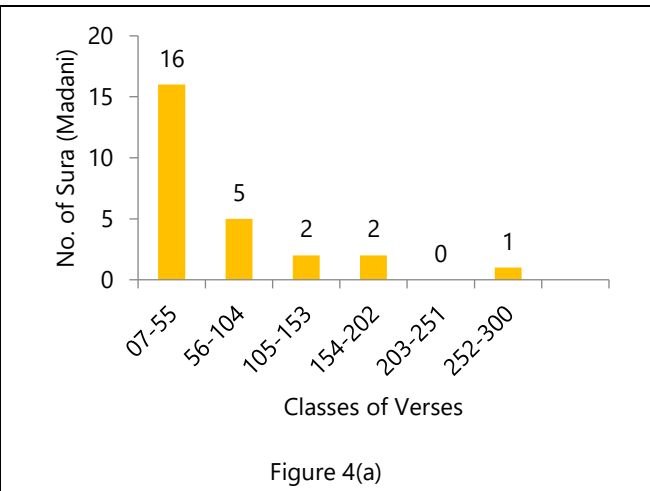
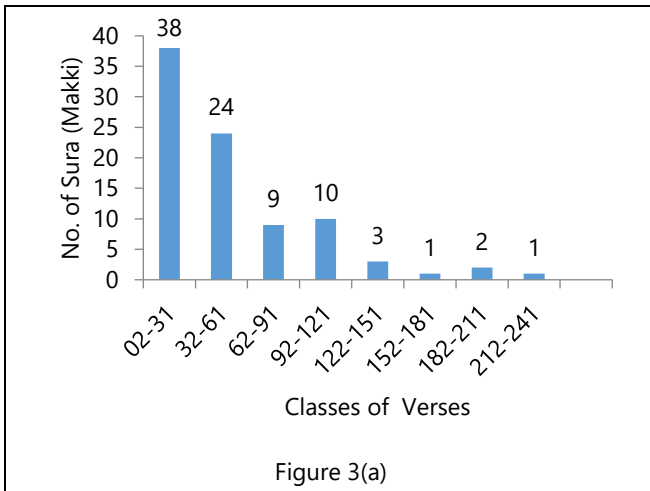


Figure 3(a)- 3(c) and 4(a)- 4(c) demonstrate that the frequency distribution of the number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani suras is exponentially declining as the same as their scatter plot of the raw data.

4.6 Graphical Representation of Unique Letters in Makki and Madani Sura

A total of 29 Arabic letters per Makki and Madani sura in the Holy Quran are presented in the following multiple bar diagram.

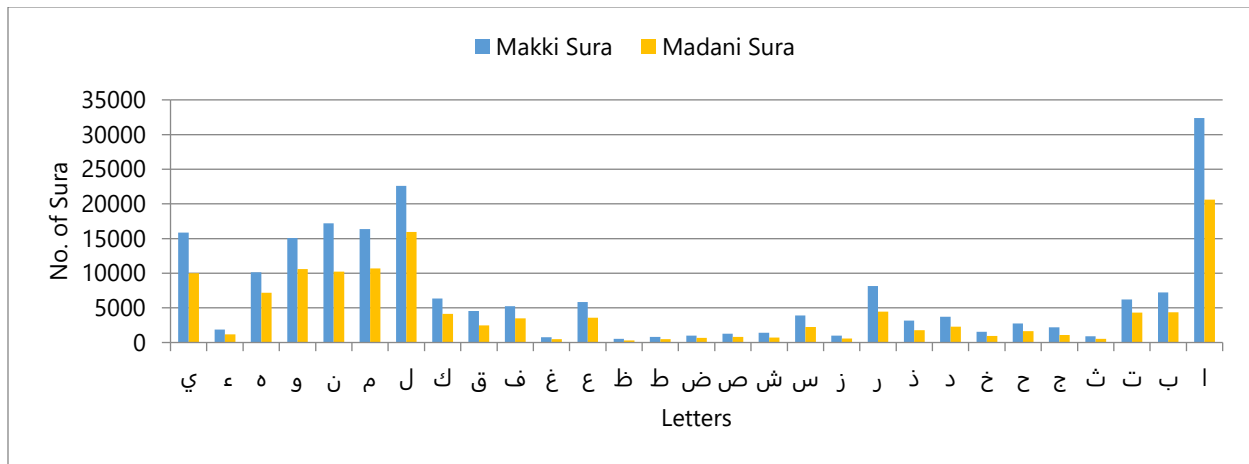


Figure 5: Plot of the number of unique letters in Makki and Madani sura

From Figure 5, it is clear that the first Arabic letter A-lif(l) occurs maximum times than all other letters in both Makki and Madani sura, but this number is higher in Makki sura (32381) than in Madani sura (20610). The Arabic letter Dh-aa(ظ) occurs minimum times than all other letters in both Makki and Madani sura, but this number is lower in Madani sura (309) than in Makki sura (544). It is to be noted that the number of each letter is higher in Makki sura than in Madani sura. Appendix Table A3 provides details.

5. Conclusion

The miracles of the Holy Quran will endure till judgment day. As a result, each of us from our respective places and fields of expertise must keep trying to find all those miracles. The findings demonstrated that the average number of verses, words, and letters in Madani sura is higher than the Makki sura. Most of the Makki suras have verses between 2 and 31, words between 13 and 156, and letters between 60 and 1959, and most of the Madani suras have verses between 7 and 55, words between 39 and 1105, and letters between 174 and 4683. The number of verses, words, and letters per Makki and Madani sura is exponentially declining. Computation of several descriptive statistics, construction of frequency distribution, and identifying the pattern of the number of verses, words, and letters in Makki and Madani sura of the Holy Quran may be helpful for researchers who are interested in this area.

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Appendix Table A1: Number of verses, words, and letters in Makki sura

Serial number	Sura number	Name of sura	Meaning of sura	No. of verses	No. of words	No. of letters
1	1	Al-Faatiha	The Opener	7	29	139
2	6	Al-An'aam	Livestock	165	3054	12573
3	7	Al-A'raaf	The Purgatory	206	3324	14232
4	10	Yunus	Jonas	109	1837	7525
5	11	Hud	Hood	123	1921	7733
6	12	Yusuf	Joseph	111	1781	7210
7	14	Ibrahim	Abraham	52	834	3513
8	15	Al-Hijjar	Al-Hijjar Valley	99	658	2845
9	16	An-Nahl	The Bee	128	1848	7728
10	17	Al-Israa	The Night Journey	111	1560	6574
11	18	Al-Kahf	The Cave	110	1583	6499
12	19	Maryam	Mary	98	965	3880
13	20	Taa-Haa	Taa-Haa	135	1339	5348
14	21	Al-Anbiyaa	The Prophets	112	1173	4988
15	23	Al-Muminoon	The Believers	118	1054	4409
16	25	Al-Furqaan	The Differentiating Book	77	897	3837
17	26	Ash-Shu'araa	Poets	227	1322	5583
18	27	An-Naml	Ants	93	1155	4761
19	28	Al-Qasas	Past Parables	88	1434	5873
20	29	Al-Ankaboot	Spider	69	980	4268
21	30	Ar-Room	The Romans	60	821	3447
22	31	Lugman	Lugman	34	550	2151
23	32	As-Sajda	Prostration	30	376	1557
24	34	Saba	Sheba	54	887	3565
25	35	Faatir	The Originator	45	779	3202
26	36	Yaseen	Ya-Seen	83	729	3034
27	37	As-Saaffaat	The Aligned Ones	182	865	3844
28	38	Saad	Letter Saad	88	737	3030
29	39	Az-Zumar	The Throngs	75	1176	4800
30	40	Al-Ghaafir	The Forgiver	85	1223	5052
31	41	Fussilat	Fully Explained	54	798	3349
32	42	Ash-Shura	Consultation	53	864	3488
33	43	Az-Zukhruf	Ornaments	89	834	3565
34	44	Ad-Dukhaan	The Smoke	59	350	1472
35	45	Al-Jaathiya	Kneeling Nation	37	492	2062
36	46	Al-Ahqaf	The Dunes	35	647	2640
37	50	Qaaf	Letter Qaaf	45	377	1507
38	51	Adh-Dhaariyat	Scattering Winds	60	364	1541
39	52	At-Tur	Mount Sinai	49	316	1320
40	53	An-Najm	The Star	62	364	1438
41	54	Al-Qamar	The Moon	55	346	1479
42	56	Al-Waaqia	The Inevitable	96	383	1733
43	67	Al-Mulk	Kingship	30	337	1347
44	68	Al-Qalam	The Pen	52	304	1282
45	69	Al-Haaqqa	Incontestable	52	262	1130
46	70	Al-Ma'aarij	Ascending Stairways	44	221	968
47	71	Nooh	Noah	28	230	971
48	72	Al-Jinn	Jinns	28	289	1114
49	73	Al-Muzzammil	The Enshrouded One	20	203	868
50	74	Al- Muddaththir	The Cloaked One	56	259	1043

51	75	Al-Qiyaama	Resurrection	40	168	686
52	76	Al-Insaan	Man	31	247	1094
53	77	Al-Mursalaat	The Emissaries	50	185	839
54	78	An-Naba	The Great Announcement	40	177	794
55	79	An-Naazi'aat	Soul Removers	46	183	790
56	80	Abasa	He Frowned	42	137	565
57	81	At-Takwir	Sun Wrapping	29	108	450
58	82	Al-Infitaar	The Fracture	19	84	347
59	83	Al-Mutaffifin	The Defrauders	36	173	763
60	84	Al-Inshiqaaq	The Rupture	25	111	459
61	85	Al-Burooj	The Constellation	22	113	482
62	86	At-Taariq	The Hammering Star	17	65	271
63	87	Al-A'laa	The Most High	19	76	315
64	88	Al-Ghaashiya	The Overwhelming	26	96	399
65	89	Al-Fajr	The Dawn	30	141	594
66	90	Al-Balad	The Town	20	86	355
67	91	Ash-Shams	The Sun	15	58	269
68	92	Al-Lail	The Night	21	75	333
69	93	Ad-Duhaa	The Forenoon	11	44	184
70	94	Ash-Sharh	Relief At Last	8	31	121
71	95	At-Tin	The Fig	8	38	176
72	96	Al-Alaq	The Clot	19	76	304
73	97	Al-Qadr	Destiny	5	34	131
74	100	Al-Aadiyaat	The Chargers	11	44	183
75	101	Al-Qaari'a	Catastrophe!	11	40	177
76	102	At-Takaathur	Hoarding	8	32	141
77	103	Al-Asr	End of Times	3	18	90
78	104	Al-Hummazza	The Gossipmonger	9	37	152
79	105	Al-Fil	The Elephant	5	27	115
80	106	Quraish	Quraish Tribe	4	21	94
81	107	Al-Maa'un	Charity	7	29	133
82	108	Al-Kawthar	The Abundance	3	14	61
83	109	Al-Kaafiroon	The Disbelievers	6	30	114
84	110	An-Nasr	The Final Triumph	3	23	99
85	111	Al-Masad	Palm Fibre	5	27	100
86	112	Al-Ikhlaas	Oneness of God	4	19	66
87	113	Al-Falaq	Daybreak	5	27	90
88	114	An-Naas	People	6	24	99
Total				4647	48049	199952

Appendix Table A2: Number of verses, words, and letters in Madani sura

Serial number	Sura number	Name of sura	Meaning of sura	No. of verses	No. of words	No. of letters
1	2	Al-Baqara	The Cow	286	6121	25884
2	3	Aal-i-Imraan	The Amramites	200	3485	14757
3	4	An-Nisaa	Women	176	3751	16082
4	5	Al-Maaida	The Feast	120	2808	12034
5	8	An-Anfaal	Spoils of War	75	1238	5361
6	9	At-Tawba	Repudiation	129	2498	10940
7	13	Ar-Ra'd	Thunder	43	858	3514
8	22	Al-Hajj	The Pilgrimage	78	1278	5251
9	24	An-Noor	Light	64	1320	5674
10	33	Al-Ahzaab	The Clans	73	1291	5683

11	47	Muhammed	Muhammed	38	543	2404
12	48	Al-Fath	Victory	29	564	2493
13	49	Al-Hujuraat	Inner Chambers	18	351	1526
14	55	Ar-Rahmaan	The Fountain of Mercy	78	355	1671
15	57	Al-Hadid	Iron	29	578	2522
16	58	Al-Mujaadila	Complaining Wife	22	476	2027
17	59	Al-Hashr	Assemblage	24	449	1950
18	60	Al-Mumtahana	Tested Woman	13	352	1557
19	61	As-Saff	The Rank	14	225	962
20	62	Al-Jumu'a	Friday	11	179	773
21	63	Al-Munaafiqoon	The Hypocrites	11	184	806
22	64	At-Taghaabun	Mutual Disillusion	18	245	1088
23	65	At-Talaaq	Divorce	12	291	1199
24	66	At-Tahrim	Prohibition	12	253	1091
25	98	Al-Bayyina	The Evidence	8	98	416
26	99	Az-Zalzala	The Earthquake	8	40	175
Total				1589	29831	127840

Appendix Table A3: Number of unique letters in Makki and Madani sura

Letters	Makki Sura	Madani Sura
ا	32381	20610
ب	7218	4385
ت	6200	4320
ث	888	526
ج	2212	1105
ح	2733	1631
خ	1554	943
د	3717	2274
ذ	3139	1793
ر	8153	4474
ز	1011	588
س	3897	2225
ش	1396	728
ص	1274	800
ض	1012	674
ط	785	488
ظ	544	309
ع	5839	3566
غ	743	478
ف	5257	3490
ق	4564	2470
ك	6370	4127
ل	22586	15964
م	16384	10687
ن	17174	10206
و	15073	10603
هـ	10110	7196
ء	1884	1176
ي	15854	10004