

Interpretation of Paired Verses with a Science Approach

Arif Iman Mauliddin

STAI Al-Falah Cicalengka Bandung, Indonesia

Article Info

Article history:

Received November 15, 2021

Revised June 7, 2022

Accepted June 30, 2022

Keywords:

Created in Pairs

Interpretation

Schience

ABSTRACT

The belief that the Qur'an contains all kinds of knowledge in the universe, including modern science, has inspired some interpreters to create an interpretation of the Qur'an with a scientific nuance. This paper aims to see how the interpretation of other sciences. This study uses a descriptive analysis method of books and journals that discuss paired verses. Whether we realize it or not, the verses in the Qur'an are very close to scientific studies. One of the things described in the Qur'an is that everything is created in pairs. This paper includes several verses and their interpretations that show that the study of the Qur'an is in line with scientific studies. So that the interpretation of this verse produces new studies.

This is an open-access article under the CC BY license.



Corresponding Author:

Arif Iman Mauliddin,

Jl. Kapten Sangun No.6, Tenjolaya, Kec. Cicalengka, Kabupaten Bandung, Jawa Barat, Indonesia 40395.

Email: arifimanmauliddin@staialfalah.ac.id

2. INTRODUCTION

The holy book of the Qur'an was revealed by Allah swt. to the Prophet Muhammad saw. to be used as a guide for mankind. Scientists have proven the truth of the Qur'an which is associated with science. One of the things described in the Qur'an is that everything is created in pairs. Allah swt. states that all His creations are made in pairs, including anything that humans did not know before the Qur'an was revealed.

Among many others, the truth about chemical or scientific things have been exposed by the Qur'an which was revealed by Allah fifteen centuries ago. As it has been explained in the holy book, the entire universe runs in perfect order because the heavens, the earth, and everything in between were created by Allah, who has unlimited power and knowledge.

Doubtlessly, everything that Allah creates has extraordinary perfection and runs in flawless order, for He is the One who controls everything. What is surprising is man's endless insensitivity to the innumerable wonders he encounters, sees, hears and knows including his own body, and his indifference to the messages revealed by Allah in the Qur'an.

Thus, the author believes that it is very important for Quranic interpreter to reveal verses related to science that scientists have proven, such as verses about things in pairs, even though there are big secrets and miracles in the message.

There are no less than 800 verses of the Qur'an in the counting of Muhammad Ahmad al-Ghamrawi. Meanwhile, according to Zaghul al-Najjar there are 1000 authentic verses and hundreds of others which are indirectly related to the phenomena of the universe. Qur'anic scholars differ on the science of the Qur'an. The first group believes and tries to interpret scientific terms in the Qur'an and its editorials in accordance with the progress of contemporary science. The second group rejects the first tendency by clearly distinguishing which one is the essence of religion from the one which is the core of the Qur'an and the one which is a scientific conclusion and is limited to the product of invasion and study of the limited human mind (Saleh, 2011).

3. RESEARCH METHOD

This is library research which is quantitative in nature, namely by collecting data related to paired verses and including several verses and their interpretations. Furthermore, an analysis of the data is conducted in the form of books, articles and others (Nata, 2018). Furthermore, in this intertextuality approach, the author examines and tries to discover certain aspects of the existing works, according to the author's study for further analysis.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Interpretation of Paired Verses

3.1.1. The interpretation of QS. Adz-Dzaariyat verse 49

وَمِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ خَلَقْنَا زَوْجَيْنِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ

Meaning:

"And We created everything in pairs so that you may remember the greatness of Allah."

Meaning of mufradat:

- 1) مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ: of all kinds of animals
- 2) زَوْجَيْنِ : male and female

Verse Interpretation:

In his commentary, al-Maraghi explains that, after Allah swt. included the occurrence of the gathering and provided the arguments that show that the gathering must occur without a doubt, Allah showed the oneness and greatness of His power. It is explained that Allah has created the heavens without being silent, and spread and expand the earth so that it can be inhabited by humans and animals, and He has also created each type of animal to match, male and female, in order that the existence of all kinds of animals continues until with the destruction of this nature, according to God's will. Then, Allah swt. ordered them to hold fast to Allah's rope and warned them of His severe punishment and admonished them not to make rivals and allies against Allah (Maraghi, 1993).

Then Sayyid Qutb also explained about the above verse in his book Tafsir fi zhilalil qur'an that, the text above also makes us agree with various modern scientific researches that are moving on the path that leads to the truth. This research confirms that the entire construction of the universe comes down to atoms consisting of positive and negative electric charges. So, this research is on the path of truth, under the light of this amazing text (Quthb, 2004).

The touch of this brief and astonishing expression relates to the parts of the heavens and the earth and all creatures, whispering humans to the creator of the heavens, the earth, and the creatures while releasing themselves from all the burdens that overwhelm and bind their spirit. Running while unifying Allah who has created this universe alone, without assistants (Quthb, 2004).

Furthermore, Tantawi Jauhari in the interpretation al Jawahir fi Tafsiril Qur'an:

(تذكرون لعلكم) (تذكرون لعلكم) it's all our deeds, namely making the sky, expanding the earth, and creating something in pairs so that you make it a lesson and then you know the Creator and you worship Him. (Tantawi Jauhari, tafsir al Jawahir fi Tafsiril Qur'an).

3.1.2. The interpretation of QS. Ar-Ra'du verse 3

وَهُوَ الَّذِي مَدَّ الْأَرْضَ وَجَعَلَ فِيهَا رَوَاسِيَ وَأَنْهَارًا ۚ وَمِنْ كُلِّ الثَّمَرَاتِ جَعَلَ فِيهَا زَوْجَيْنِ اثْنَيْنِ ۚ يُغْشِي اللَّيْلَ النَّهَارَ ۚ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ

Meaning:

"And it is God who stretched out the earth and made mountains and rivers in it. And made in it all the fruits in pairs, Allah closed the night to the day. Indeed, those are signs (of Allah's greatness) for a people who think."

Meaning of Mufradat:

- 1) مَدَّ : Expanding
- 2) رَوَاسِيَ : The plural form of Rasiyah, which is fixed, immobile and immovable
- 3) وَأَنْهَارًا : The plural form of nahar, which is a wide water channel
- 4) اثْنَيْنِ زَوْجَيْنِ : Men and women, Arabs name two people who are paired as Zaujain: A man is Zauj to his wife, while the wife is Zauj and Zaujah to her husband.
- 5) يُغْشِي : Cover with

Verse Interpretation:

This verse is proof of the existence of an all-powerful and all-mightyful God. It is He (Allah) who made the earth wide, stretching its length and breadth, so that the feet can step on it, the animals going back and forth on it, making benefits for humans, even what is in the bowels of the earth in the form of solid or liquid objects are proven by the eye and has also been proven by astronomers (Shihab, 2002). Allah also anchors mountains that are firmly fixed, meaning a group of mountains for the word رَوَاسِيَ is the plural form of رَوَاسِيَة. It does not move nor mobile so it doesn't shake the earth, and turns it into rivers whose waters flow to benefit their creatures, with which humans water fruits of various types and shapes, then make these fruits as food and drink. his life (Maraghi, 1993).

اثْنَيْنِ زَوْجَيْنِ فِيهَا جَعَلَ الثَّمَرَاتِ كُلَّ وَمِنْ make every kind of fruit in pairs. In modern science it has been established that trees and plants produce fruit and seeds from two pairs of male and female, although sometimes male and female members are together in the same tree as most trees, sometimes also male members on one tree and female members on another such as date palms. Both exist together in one flower such as cotton or each exist in different flowers such as water pumpkins. Some says زَوْجَيْنِ are two types such as sweet and sour, wet and dry, black and white, and large and small (Al-Qurtubi, 2008).

In the sentence يُغْشِي اللَّيْلَ النَّهَارَ Allah also has the power to cover the darkness of night into the day and vice versa to cover the light of day to the darkness of the night, so that the air is bright and everything provides perfect benefits for humans to stay or rest, as well as to seek livelihood and sustenance. So Allah also governs times and era as he governs places and their inhabitants (Ar-Rifa'i, 2012). In the miracle of his creation and the power over all these great things, there are evidence and proofs for people who think about these things and take lessons from them, so that they will know that the God who created all of them is Almighty over all his servants (Maraghi, 1993).

Tantawi in his interpretation رَوَاسِيَ that is a solid mountain. Derived from the sentence الشَّيْءُ رَسَا (something in the middle), that is, when it has become solid. While its plural form رَوَاسِيَة (أنهارا و). This sentence is used after the word mountains because the rivers originate from the mountain. (اثْنَيْنِ زَوْجَيْنِ) that is, Allah made on earth every type of plant in pairs consisting of a male and a female which were on the flowers when Allah created them. A discovery has proven the hadith that in fact every tree and plant will not produce fruit and seeds unless it comes from between two things, namely male and female. Sometimes members of the male sex with members of the female sex are on the same tree as all trees in general. And sometimes members of the male sex are on one tree while members of the female sex are on another tree such as date palms. And sometimes the two sexes are on the same tree where the male and female sexes are on the same flower, and it may be that each male and female sex is on a separate flower. The second is like

a qor'i tree while the first is for example a cotton tree where the male and female sex members are on the same flower. Penjelasan tentang ini akan datang di surah al hijr. (النهار الليل يغشي) yaitu gelapnya malam menutupi siang maka langit menjadi gelap setelah sebelumnya masih cerah. Seolah-olah sebuah kain kegelapan ditutupkan pada waktu siang itu (Jauhari, 1927).

3.1.3. The interpretation of QS. Yasin verse 36

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْأَزْوَاجَ كُلَّهَا مِمَّا تُنْبِتُ الْأَرْضُ وَمِنْ أَنْفُسِهِمْ وَمِمَّا لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

Meaning:

"Glory be to Him Who has created pairs of everything, both from what the earth grows and from themselves and from what they do not know"

Meaning of Mufradat:

- 1) خَلَقَ: make, create.
- 2) الْأَزْوَاجَ: rooted from the word zawaja which means to incite, to mate, to include. Meanwhile, in the context of lafadz it means in pairs.
- 3) تُنْبِتُ: means plants. (Ahmad Warson Munawwir, Al-Munawwir Arab-Indonesia Dictionary).

The interpretation of verse:

The end of the last verse condemns the disobedient who do not thank Allah, and even criticizes anyone who does not acknowledge His oneness and power. The verse above purifies Allah from all bad qualities or shortcomings that are attributed to Him. Indeed, the God they disobeyed is He who, among other things, created all plants and grew fruit by creating a mate for each. On that purpose the above verse states: The Holiest, Glorified from all shortcomings and bad qualities. It is God Who has created pairs of all, pairs that function as male and female, both from those grown by the earth such as dates and grapes and so from themselves as humans, where they consist of male and female and likewise from what which they do not know or do not know, both creatures and inanimate objects (Shihab, 2002).

While scholars limit the meaning of the word (الأزواج) azwaj/ the pair in this verse is only in living things. The writing team of Tafsir al-Munthab, for example, wrote that: "The word 'min' in this verse serves as an explanation. Namely that Allah has created males and females in all His creatures, whether in the form of plants, animals, humans and other living things that are invisible and unknown to humans (Shihab, 2002).

This opinion is not in line with the linguistic meaning, the meaning is only the verses of the Qur'an and scientific facts that are stated today. In terms of language, the word (الأزواج) azwaj means mate. This word according to the Qur'anic linguist, ar-Raghib al-Ashfahani, is used for each of the two accompanying things (simultaneously), both male and female, animals (including intelligent animals, namely humans) and is also used to denote both that pair. He is also used to denote the same thing for non-animals such as footwear. Furthermore, ar-Raghib emphasized that the pairing could be the result of togetherness and it could also be because of the opposite. That is in terms of language. The verses of the Qur'an also use the word in a general sense, not just for living things. And from a scientific point of view, it is proven that electricity is in pairs, there is a positive current and there is also a negative current, as well as atoms, which were thought to be small and indivisible, in fact they are in pairs. Atoms consist of electrons and protons (Shihab, 2002).

Sayyaid Qutb explained that this is a prayer beads that move at the right time and in the right place. With it is described the great nature of these natures of being; the essence of the unity of beings, the unity of rules and formation. Namely, that Allah created living creatures in pairs. Plants pair up like humans too. Likewise another "From what you do not know" (Quthb, 2004).

This unity denotes the unity of the hand that creates. Who holds the rules of creation (along with differences in form, weight, type, kinds, character and characteristics) in these living things which are only known in detail by Allah. Who knows maybe this is the rule of the universe should be even to inanimate objects, too! Likewise, we find thousands of pairs of stars. Formed from two related stars that attract each other. Then it rotates in the same orbit, as if both of them were following a regular rhythm of music! (Quthb, 2004).

Tantawi in his Interpretation

(الأزواج خلق الذي سبحانه) namely groups and types. (الأرض تنبت مما عليها) namely from plants and trees. (يعلمون لا ومما) namely men and women. (أنفسهم ومن) i.e. pairs that Allah did not show and Allah did not make a way to be able to find out (Jauhari, 1927).

3.2. Contextualization of Verses with Science

Air, water, mountains, animals, plants, our bodies, and everything we see, touch, and feel, from the heaviest to the lightest is made of atoms. Atoms are particles so small that they are impossible to see even

*Interpretation of Paired Verses with a Science Approach
(Arif Iman Mauliddin)*

with the most sophisticated microscopes. The diameter of an atom is only one millionth of a millimeter. Each atom consists of electrons (which are negatively charged) and protons (which are positively charged). And next to protons are called neutrons. This is in line with the verses above that everything in this world is in pairs, as some interpreters have mentioned (Yahya, 2003).

And in the electricity it has, electrons obey certain physical laws. One of the laws of physics is "equal electric charges repel each other and opposite charges attract each other".

Electrons evolve only in electron shells. We just mentioned that there are seven electron shells. Each electron shell has a certain energy level, which varies depending on the distance from the shell to the nucleus, the closer the electron shell is to the nucleus, the less energy the electron has and the farther away from it is, the more energy the electron has.

Likewise, there are chemical bonds formed through the movement of electrons in the outermost shell of an atom. Each atom has a tendency to fill its outer shell with as many electrons as it can hold. The maximum number of electrons that the outermost shell of an atom can accommodate is eight. To do this, an atom accepts electrons from another atom in order to complete the number of electrons in the outermost shell to eight, or if this atom has fewer electrons in the outermost shell, it gives to another atom, making previously equipped subshell in its outer orbit. The tendency of atoms to exchange electrons makes up the basis that triggers the chemical bonding forces they form between them (Yahya, 2003).

This driving force is the purpose of the atom to increase the number of electrons in the outer shell to the maximum, causing atoms to form three kinds of bonds with other atoms. Namely ionic bonds, covalent bonds and metallic bonds. Next, water, it has many special chemical properties. Each water molecule is formed from the joining of hydrogen and oxygen atoms. What is interesting is that these two gases, one burns, the other flammable, combine to form a liquid which is water (Yahya, 2003).

And when viewed chemically, the electric charge is 0, meaning neutral. But due to the size of the oxygen and hydrogen atoms, the oxygen component of the water molecule has a slightly negative charge and the hydrogen component has a slightly positive charge. When more than one water molecule combines, the positive and negative charges attract each other to form a very special bond called a "hydrogen bond". Hydrogen bonds are very weak bonds that are somehow short lived. The age of this hydrogen bond is about one hundredth of a billionth of a second. But once one bond is broken, another is formed. So, the water molecules stick tightly to each other while observing the liquid form because they are held together by weak bonds (Yahya, 2003).

Furthermore, there are pairs found in DNA; DNA is the structural unit of genes, while genes are the functional units of genetic material. DNA is made up of long strands of nucleotides, or DNA is a polymer of nucleotides. Each nucleotide consists of one phosphate group, one pentose sugar, and one N base. The structural feature of DNA is that it is double-stranded with complementary and twisted N base pairs, antiparallel, and 2 nm in diameter. The DNA molecule consists of two long polynucleotide chains composed of four types of nucleotide subunits. Each of these chains is known as a DNA chain or DNA strand. There are hydrogen bonds between the nucleotide bases that hold the two chains together (Santoso & Jaya, 2016).

The enzymes (proteins) needed for the DNA synthesis process are DNA polymerase, DNA helicase, helix-destabilizing protein, and DNA primase. DNA polymerase functions to synthesize the appropriate N pairs with the N bases in the DNA strand which acts as a template. DNA helicase functions to open and separate the old N-base food that is paired on the part of the strand that will make its new complement. Helix-destabilizing protein serves to straighten the selection of the old DNA strand that will synthesize its new complement. DNA primase is used to synthesize primary RNA. Such are the things of science that are paired according to some of the verses of Allah that have been explained above (Santoso & Jaya, 2016).

5. CONCLUSION

Allah SWT states that all His creations are made in pairs, including what humans did not know when the Qur'an was revealed. Like the truth of things that are chemical or scientific, many have been revealed by the Qur'an which was revealed by Allah fifteen centuries ago. As has been explained in the holy book that the entire universe runs in perfect order because the heavens, the earth, and everything in between were created by Allah, who has unlimited power and knowledge. Sayyid Qutb also explained in his book Tafsir fi zhilalil qur'an about paired verses that modern scientific research is moving towards the truth and the entire building of the universe is based on atoms consisting of positive and negative electric charges.

Then from the explanation above, it turns out that atoms are the forerunner of everything we see and feel today, such as air, water, mountains, animals, plants, our bodies, and so on. In the miracle of his creation and the power over all these great things, there are evidences and proofs for people who think about these things and take lessons from them, so that they will know that the God who created all of them is Almighty over all his servants.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is very grateful to those who contributed to this paper. To Allah SWT who has given strength and His Messenger as a guide to the way of salvation. Parents who never stop providing prayers and support in studying. To the lecturers who have guided and advised their students to become active writers. Least forgotten are friends who took the time to exchange ideas. With contributions from various parties, this paper can be completed even though there are still shortcomings.

REFERENCES

- Al-Qurtubi, S. I. (2008). *Tafsir Al-Qurtubi, Terj.* (P. Azzam, Ed.).
- Ar-Rifa'i, M. N. (2012). *Ringkasan Tafsir Ibnu Katsir, Terj.* (Syihabuddin, Ed.). Maktabah Ma'arif.
- Jauhari, T. (1927). *tafsir al Jawahir fi Tafsiril Qur'an.*
- Maraghi, A. M. (1993). *Tafsir al-Maraghi, terj.* Toha Putra.
- Nata, H. A. (2018). *Metodologi Studi Islam.* Raja Grafindo.
- Quthb, S. (2004). *Tafsir fi zhilalil Qur'an.* Gema Insani.
- Saleh, S. Z. (2011). Epistemologi Penafsiran Ilmiah al-Qur'an. *TSAQAFAH*, 7(1), 109–132.
- Santoso, L. M., & Jaya, D. (2016). *Biologi Molekul Sel.* Salemba Teknika.
- Shihab, M. Q. (2002). *Tafsir al-misbah.* Lentera Hati.
- Yahya, H. (2003). *Keajaiban Flora dan Fauna.* Globalmedia Cipta Publishing.