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Integration of Islam and mathematics: A study of the number 10 in surah al-Kautsar

Muhammad Zia Alghar
UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
muhammadzia1904@gmail.com

Anisatur Rizqiyah
UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
anisarizqiyah121@gmail.com

Dwi Setiawati Radjak
UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
dwisetiawatiradjak022@gmail.com

Abstract
This study explores the concept of the number 10 as found in Surah al-Kawthar using an integrative approach between the Qur'an and mathematics. Employing a qualitative content analysis method, the study adopts the "Mathematics to Explore the Qur'an" integration model. The primary data source is the Qur'an, with particular emphasis on Surah al-Kawthar, while supporting data are obtained from articles, books, and websites related to Islam-integrated mathematics. The analysis identifies numerical patterns within the surah, including the frequency of words and letters, as well as gematria values. Findings reveal multiple occurrences of the number 10 throughout the surah: in the total word count, the number of unique Arabic letters in each verse, the instances of the letter *rā'* (ر) at the end of each verse, and the symbolic association with the 10th of Dhū al-Ḥijjah—a significant date in Islamic ritual practice. These patterns indicate a mathematically structured composition in Surah al-Kawthar. The study contributes to the growing field of Qur'anic mathematical exploration and aims to uncover deeper dimensions of the Qur'an's miraculous structure.

Keywords: Surah al-Kawthar; Islam and mathematics; Qur'an-integrated math; gematria; number symbolism

INTRODUCTION

Education aims not only to develop knowledge and skills but also to shape learners' character (Hoque, 2016). In Indonesia, the national education system emphasizes not just cognitive development but also the internalization of ethical values, nationalism, cultural appreciation, and spiritual attitudes (Kemendikbud, 2017). Mathematics, as one of the core subjects in schools, is often perceived as purely objective, logical, and value-neutral (Ernest, 1991; Rowlands et al., 2011). However, mathematics can also be contextualized philosophically and spiritually through the Islamic-integrated mathematics approach (Abdussakir & Rosimanidar, 2017), which not only promotes logical reasoning and problem-solving but also reinforces spiritual attitudes and Islamic values.

The integration of Islamic values into mathematics education involves more than quoting Qur'anic verses or incorporating Islamic contexts into problem-solving exercises. It includes deriving mathematical concepts from primary Islamic sources such as the Qur'an, *ḥadīth*, *fiqh*, *sharīʿah*, and Islamic history (Radjak et al., 2023; Sugilar et al., 2019; Walidah et al., 2024). The integration also allows the inclusion of Arabic content and Islamic moral teachings within mathematics problems (Kurniati, 2018; Rofiki & Alghar, 2024). This approach supports the enhancement of both cognitive comprehension and affective-spiritual development.

Islamic-integrated mathematics has gained momentum in terms of quantity and quality. Quantitatively, scholarly publications and student theses on this topic continue to increase (Alghar & Rizqiyah, 2024). Qualitatively, Abdussakir and Rosimanidar (2017) have proposed six integration models: *Mathematics for the Qur'an, from the Qur'an, with the Qur'an, to explain the Qur'an, to explore the Qur'an,* and *to deliver the Qur'an*. These models have been extended using the theory of multiple intelligences and ethnomathematics (Fathani, 2019; Mutijah, 2018), and have been applied in research on learning materials, assessments, and instructional strategies (Alghar, 2024; Masamah et al., 2023; Rosikhoh et al., 2022; Sutiarso, 2020).

One model that has received increasing attention is *Mathematics to Explore the Qur'an*, which uses mathematics to uncover numerical patterns and symbolic structures within Qur'anic texts (Abdussakir & Rosimanidar, 2017). Such studies often focus on number patterns, structural repetition, and symbolic meanings in the Qur'an (Abdussakir, 2014; Al-Ateeqi, 2018; Fahmi, 2004; Mahzuz, 2022). For instance, Al-Kaheel (2006) identified recurring patterns involving the numbers 7 and 19 in specific surahs, while Al-Ateeqi (2018) explored the mathematical significance of the number 15 in Surah as-Sajdah. Other studies have examined *basmalah* patterns and surahs that begin with the *ḥurūf muqaṭṭaʿāt* (Abdussakir, 2006; Al-Ateeqi, 2018).

However, research employing the *Mathematics to Explore the Qur'an* model remains less prevalent than other integration models like *Mathematics for the Qur'an* or *with the Qur'an* (Alghar & Rizqiyah, 2024). This creates opportunities for further exploration into Qur'anic numerical patterns and the "mathematical miracles" they may reveal.

The Qur'an challenges both humans and jinn to produce even one surah comparable to it, as stated in Surah al-Baqarah [2]:23 (Abdussakir, 2014). Implicitly, this suggests each surah possesses a unique and inimitable structure. Among these, Surah al-Kawthar stands out as the shortest surah in the Qur'an, comprising only three verses and ten words (Al-Ateeqi, 2018; Mahzuz, 2022; Mubaroh et al., 2016). Despite its brevity, scholars suggest this surah contains profound structural secrets, reinforcing the Qur'an's divine uniqueness.

Several studies have already applied the *Mathematics to Explore the Qur'an* model to other surahs. For example, Surah al-Qadr has been associated with the number 27, interpreted in relation to *Laylat al-Qadr* (Al-Ateeqi, 2018; Qutbuddin, 2007); Surah Quraysh reveals prime number patterns (Kurniadi & Wandini, 2022); Surah as-Sajdah and its prostration verse correlate with the number 15 (Al-Ateeqi, 2018); and Surah al-Ikhlāṣ exhibits patterns involving palindromic primes (Al-Kaheel, 2009). In contrast, mathematical explorations of Surah al-Kawthar remain limited, revealing a research gap that merits further investigation.

This study aims to fill that gap by examining the numerical structure of Surah al-Kawthar, particularly its connection with the number 10. Using the *Mathematics to Explore the Qur'an* model, this research contributes to the field of Islamic-integrated mathematics and provides insights into the Qur'an's numeric and structural wonders. The findings may also inform pedagogical practices in faith-based mathematics education and open new directions for interdisciplinary Qur'anic research.

METHOD

This research adopts a qualitative approach with a content analysis design, aiming to explore the numerical significance of the number 10 in Surah al-Kawthar. Content analysis is deemed appropriate for this study as it allows the systematic examination of textual data, symbols, and imagery to uncover patterns and meanings (Flick, 2013).

The primary data source for this study is the Qur'an, with a specific focus on Surah al-Kawthar. Secondary data were collected from scientific articles, books, and credible websites relevant to the integration of Islamic teachings and mathematics. Several digital tools and platforms were employed to support the data analysis process, including Microsoft Excel for numerical data processing, the Quranic Arabic Corpus for word and letter searches, and the Masjid Tucson website for gematria value computation (Corpus, 2011; Tuscon, 1985).

The research procedure began with the identification and formulation of the research focus, namely the exploration of the number 10 in Surah al-Kawthar. Following this, the researchers conducted a literature review to identify relevant studies and references. Data were then extracted and analyzed using the *Mathematics to Explore the Qur'an* model, as proposed by Abdussakir and Rosimanidar (2017), which facilitates the identification of mathematical patterns and symbolic structures embedded in Qur'anic verses.

This analysis involved several stages, including: (1) identifying the number of words in Surah al-Kawthar, (2) examining the occurrence and frequency of hijāʾiyyah letters across the surah's three verses, (3) analyzing the presence and repetition of specific letters such as *alif* (ا) and *rāʾ* (ر), and (4) investigating the connection between the number 10 and Islamic rituals, especially the *qurbān* (sacrifice) on the 10th of Dhū al-Ḥijjah.

The results of this content analysis are presented descriptively in narrative form, supported by quantitative evidence organized in tables, as detailed in the subsequent *Discussion and Analysis* section.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Surah al-Kawthar as the shortest surah with 10 words

In the Qur'an, several surahs consist of a small number of verses, including Surah al-Kawthar, Surah al-Naṣr, and Surah al-ʿAṣr. All three contain only three verses. However, when examined in terms of word count, Surah al-Kawthar has the fewest words—only ten—making it the shortest surah in the entire Qur'an (Al-Nofaie et al., 2016; Mahzuz, 2022). Table 1 below illustrates the sequential order of the ten words in Surah al-Kawthar.

Table 1 Order of the ten words in Surah al-Kawthar

Word Order	Arabic Word	Verse
1	إِنَّا	1
2	أَعْطَيْنَاكَ	
3	الْكَوْثَرَ	
4	فَصَلِّ	2
5	لِرَبِّكَ	
6	وَانْحَرْ	
7	إِنَّ	3
8	شَانِئَكَ	
9	هُوَ	
10	الْأَبْتَرُ	

From Table 1, it is evident that Surah al-Kawthar comprises exactly ten words: three words in the first verse, three words in the second verse, and four words in the third verse. In comparison, Surah al-Naṣr contains 19 words, and Surah al-ʿAṣr has 14 words. Thus, Surah al-Kawthar is not only the shortest by verse count but also by word count (Abdussakir, 2006). This numerical characteristic establishes the basis for exploring the significance of the number 10 within the structure of this surah.

The Mention of the Word 'Surah' 10) سورة(Times in the Qur'an

The Qur'an explicitly challenges both humans and jinn to produce a surah like those within it, as found in Surah al-Baqarah [2]:23 (Abdussakir, 2014; Nathir & Othman, 2021). This divine challenge underscores the inimitability and structural perfection of the Qur'an (Ahmad, 2020). Surah al-Kawthar, the shortest surah in the Qur'an with only three verses and ten words, is among those that pose this challenge.

Interestingly, the word *surah* (سورة) appears exactly 10 times throughout the Qur'anic text (Corpus, 2011). Table 2 below lists all occurrences of the word *surah* in the Qur'an:

Table 2 Instances of the word 'Surah' (سورة) in the Qur'an

No.	Surah and Verse	Arabic Text Snippet
1	Al-Baqarah [2]:23	بِسُورَةٍ مِّن مِّثْلِهِ
2	At-Tawbah [9]:64	أَن تُنَزَّلَ عَلَيْهِمْ سُورَةٌ
3	At-Tawbah [9]:86	وَإِذَا أُنزِلَتْ سُورَةٌ
4	At-Tawbah [9]:124	وَإِذَا مَا أُنزِلَتْ سُورَةٌ
5	At-Tawbah [9]:127	وَإِذَا مَا أُنزِلَتْ سُورَةٌ
6	Yunus [10]:38	فَأْتُواْ بِسُورَةٍ مِّثْلِهِ
7	Hūd [11]:13	فَأْتُواْ بِعَشْرِ سُوَرٍ مِّثْلِهِ
8	al-Nūr [24]:1	سُورَةٌ أَنزَلْنَاهَا
9	Muḥammad [47]:20 (first)	نُزِّلَتْ سُورَةٌ
10	Muḥammad [47]:20 (second)	أُنزِلَتْ سُورَةٌ مُّحْكَمَةٌ

The word *surah* is distributed across various chapters, including one mention each in Surah al-Baqarah, Yunus, Hūd, and al-Nūr; two mentions in Surah Muḥammad; and four mentions in Surah At-Tawbah. The exact total of ten occurrences of the word

surah appears to resonate symbolically with the structure of Surah al-Kawthar, which contains ten words. This numerical symmetry opens a meaningful pathway for further exploring the symbolic and mathematical relevance of the number 10 in this surah.

The first verse of Surah al-Kawthar is composed of 10 different hijāʾiyyah letters

Surah al-Kawthar is not only remarkable for being the shortest surah in the Qur'an and consisting of ten words, but its linguistic composition also reveals further numerical patterns. Specifically, the first verse of this surah is formed using exactly 10 distinct Arabic letters (*ḥurūf hijāʾiyyah*) out of the 29 letters in the Arabic alphabet (Al-Ateeqi, 2018). This phenomenon is detailed in Table 3.

Table 3 Ten letters that comprise the first verse of Surah al-Kawthar

No.	Letter	Frequency
1	ا	4
2	ن	2
3	ع	1
4	ط	1
5	ي	1
6	ك	2
7	ل	1
8	و	1
9	ث	1
10	ر	1

From Table 3, we observe that the first verse is constructed using the following ten unique letters: *alif* (ا), *nūn* (ن), *ʿayn* (ع), *ṭāʾ* (ط), *yāʾ* (ي), *kāf* (ك), *lām* (ل), *wāw* (و), *thāʾ* (ث), and *rāʾ* (ر). The recurrence of the number 10 in this structural detail—ten different letters in the first verse—further reinforces the hypothesis that Surah al-Kawthar is numerically designed around this specific number. This observation aligns with the broader argument of mathematical symmetry in the Qur'an (Tuscon, 1985).

The second verse of Surah al-Kawthar is composed of 10 different hijāʾiyyah letters

The numerical pattern observed in the first verse of Surah al-Kawthar continues into the second verse. This verse also consists of exactly 10 different *ḥurūf hijāʾiyyah* (Arabic letters), chosen from the 29 letters in the Arabic alphabet (Al-Ateeqi, 2018). This consistency suggests a deliberate structure that aligns with the central theme of the number 10. Table 4 presents these letters and their frequency in the verse.

Table 4 Ten letters that comprise the second verse of Surah al-Kawthar

No.	Letter	Frequency
1	ف	1
2	ص	1
3	ل	2
4	ر	2
5	ب	1
6	ك	1
7	و	1
8	ا	1
9	ن	1
10	ح	1

The ten distinct letters used in the second verse are: *fāʾ* (ف), *ṣād* (ص), *lām* (ل), *rāʾ* (ر), *bāʾ* (ب), *kāf* (ك), *wāw* (و), *alif* (ا), *nūn* (ن), and *ḥāʾ* (ح). Their distribution is both concise and symmetric. As with the first verse, the use of exactly ten different letters in the second verse underscores the thematic emphasis on the number 10 within the surah's structure, suggesting intentional numerical design embedded in the Qur'anic text (Tuscon, 1985).

The third verse of Surah al-Kawthar is composed of 10 different hijāʾiyyah letters

The pattern established in the first and second verses continues in the third verse of Surah al-Kawthar. Like its predecessors, this verse also consists of exactly 10 distinct *ḥurūf hijāʾiyyah* (Arabic letters), further reinforcing the thematic consistency and numerical structure centered around the number 10 (Al-Ateeqi, 2018). Table 5 details the composition and frequency of these letters.

Table 5 Ten letters that comprise the third verse of Surah al-Kawthar

No.	Letter	Frequency
1	ا	5
2	ن	2
3	ش	1
4	ك	1
5	ه	1
6	و	1
7	ل	1
8	ب	1
9	ت	1
10	ر	1

The ten unique letters that appear in the third verse are: *alif* (ا), *nūn* (ن), *shīn* (ش), *kāf* (ك), *hāʾ* (ه), *wāw* (و), *lām* (ل), *bāʾ* (ب), *tāʾ* (ت), and *rāʾ* (ر). This finding is particularly significant because all three verses—despite their brevity—maintain an exact count of ten distinct letters each. Such precision suggests an intentional and systematic numerical design, aligning with arguments for a mathematical miracle embedded within the Qur'anic structure (Tuscon, 1985).

There are 10 letters that are only repeated once in Surah al-Kawthar

The numerical association with the number 10 in Surah al-Kawthar is not limited to word and verse structure. A deeper analysis reveals that there are 10 distinct *ḥurūf hijāʾiyyah* (Arabic letters) that appear **only once** throughout the entire surah (Al-Ateeqi, 2018). This pattern adds another layer of numerical precision and thematic coherence. Table 6 outlines these uniquely occurring letters and their frequency.

Table 6 Ten different letters that occur only once in Surah al-Kawthar

No.	Letter	Frequency
1	ت	1
2	ث	1
3	ح	1
4	ش	1
5	ص	1
6	ط	1
7	ع	1
8	ف	1
9	ه	1
10	ي	1

Each of these ten letters—*tāʾ* (ت), *thāʾ* (ث), *ḥāʾ* (ح), *shīn* (ش), *ṣād* (ص), *ṭāʾ* (ط), *ʿayn* (ع), *fāʾ* (ف), *hāʾ* (ه), and *yāʾ* (ي)—appears exactly once in the surah. This rare pattern is a strong indicator of a deliberate numeric structure embedded in the surah. Alongside the previously established patterns of ten words and ten distinct letters per verse, the presence of ten singly occurring letters further affirms the surah's intricate mathematical design (Al-Ateeqi, 2018; Tuscon, 1985).

The first letter in Surah al-Kawthar is repeated 10 times

Another fascinating numeric feature in Surah al-Kawthar is the frequency of its **first letter**, *alif* (ا), which appears exactly **10 times** throughout the surah (Al-Ateeqi, 2018). This detail provides additional support for the centrality of the number 10 in the surah's structure. Table 7 summarizes the frequency of *alif* in each verse.

Table 7 Frequency of the letter alif in Surah al-Kawthar

Verse	Verse Text	Frequency of Alif
1	إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ	4
2	فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَانْحَرْ	1
3	إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ	5
Total	10	

The *alif* in the opening word "إِنَّا" is the first letter of the surah, and it is found four times in verse 1, once in verse 2, and five times in verse 3, yielding a total of ten occurrences. This recurrence precisely matches the overall numeric motif of the surah, again pointing to the possibility of deliberate and meaningful numeric construction within the Qur'anic text (Tuscon, 1985). It strengthens the notion that Surah al-Kawthar exhibits a pattern too refined to be coincidental.

The letter rāʾ (ر) as the tenth hijāʾiyyah letter

One of the notable features of Surah al-Kawthar is that **each of its three verses ends with the same letter: rāʾ (ر)**. Remarkably, the name of the surah itself—"al-Kawthar"—also ends with *rāʾ* (Al-Ateeqi, 2018; Mubaroh et al., 2016). Furthermore, when the Arabic alphabet is sequenced in traditional *abjad* order, *rāʾ* (ر) occupies the **tenth position**, thus reinforcing the thematic linkage to the number 10. This is detailed in Tables 8 and 9.

Table 8 The letter rāʾ (ر) at the end of each verse in Surah al-Kawthar

Verse	Verse Text	Last Letter
1	إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ	ر
2	فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَانْحَرْ	ر
3	إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ	ر

Table 9 The first ten letters of the Arabic hijāʾiyyah alphabet

Order	Letter
1	ا
2	ب
3	ت
4	ث
5	ج
6	ح
7	خ
8	د
9	ذ
10	ر

As shown in Table 8, all three verses conclude with the letter *rāʾ* (ر), and Table 9 confirms that this letter is indeed the tenth in the Arabic alphabet. This symbolic placement and repetition emphasize a subtle, yet consistent numerical pattern rooted in the number 10. When viewed in conjunction with the previous findings, the consistent appearance of *rāʾ* at structurally important positions within the surah further supports the hypothesis of mathematical design in the Qur'anic composition (Al-Ateeqi, 2018; Tuscon, 1985).

There are 10 surahs whose last verse ends with the letter rāʾ (ر)

The prominence of the letter *rāʾ* (ر) in Surah al-Kawthar extends beyond the surah itself. A broader examination of the Qur'an reveals that there are exactly **10 surahs** in which the final verse also ends with the letter *rāʾ* (Al-Ateeqi, 2018; Tuscon, 1985). This further amplifies the thematic significance of the number 10 associated with Surah al-Kawthar. Table 10 lists these surahs in detail.

Table 10 Surahs in the Qur'an whose last verse ends with the letter rāʾ (ر)

No.	Surah Name	Reference	Ending of the Last Verse Text
1	Al-Mā'idah	5:120	… وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ
2	Al-Ḥajj	22:78	… فَنِعْمَ الْمَوْلَىٰ وَنِعْمَ النَّصِيرُ
3	Luqmān	31:34	… إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ
4	Ash-Shūrā	42:53	… أَلَا إِلَى اللَّهِ تَصِيرُ الْأُمُورُ
5	Al-Qamar	54:55	… عِندَ مَلِيكٍ مُّقْتَدِرٍ
6	Al-Mumtaḥanah	60:13	… كَمَا يَئِسَ الْكُفَّارُ مِنْ أَصْحَابِ الْقُبُورِ
7	Al-Qadr	97:5	… حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ
8	Al-ʿĀdiyāt	100:11	… إِنَّ رَبَّهُم بِهِمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ لَّخَبِيرٌ
9	Al-ʿAṣr	103:3	… وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْحَقِّ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ
10	Al-Kawthar	108:3	… إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ

As shown, these ten surahs—among them Surah al-Kawthar—end with a verse that concludes with the letter *rāʾ* (ر). This numeric alignment between the number of such surahs and the central theme of "10" in Surah al-Kawthar adds further strength to the argument for intentional numerical coding within the Qur'an. The recurrence of this specific structural feature across exactly ten surahs could be interpreted as a subtle, yet meaningful form of divine design (Al-Ateeqi, 2018).

The command to sacrifice in Surah al-Kawthar is fulfilled on the 10th of Dhū al-Ḥijjah

Another significant correlation with the number 10 in Surah al-Kawthar is found in its second verse, which contains a direct command to perform prayer and sacrifice:

فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَانْحَرْ

"So pray to your Lord and sacrifice [to Him alone]" (Qur'an, 108:2)

The word *wanḥar* (وَانْحَرْ) is interpreted by classical scholars as an instruction to perform animal sacrifice, specifically referring to the ritual of *qurbān* conducted during the Islamic festival of Eid al-Aḍḥā (Katsir, 2003). According to the practice of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ, this sacrifice is performed immediately after the Eid prayer (Nurhuda & Setyaningtyas, 2021).

This command is directly associated with the **10th day of Dhū al-Ḥijjah**, the date on which Eid al-Aḍḥā is observed. On this day, Muslims around the world engage in sacrificial rites commemorating the devotion of Prophet Ibrāhīm and his son Ismāʿīl. Although the slaughter may also be carried out during the subsequent three days of *tashrīq* (11th to 13th Dhū al-Ḥijjah), the **10th is considered the most significant and central day** for the observance (Hartono, 2018).

Thus, the explicit command to sacrifice found in Surah al-Kawthar aligns symbolically and ritually with the **10th of Dhū al-Ḥijjah**, adding yet another dimension to the recurring theme of the number 10 in the surah. This linkage extends beyond textual analysis to encompass historical, theological, and ritual significance—demonstrating a multi-layered integration of numerical symbolism and religious practice (Mahzuz, 2022; Nurhuda & Setyaningtyas, 2021).

The numerical structure of Surah al-Kawthar reveals a consistent and deliberate pattern revolving around the number 10. This pattern appears in multiple dimensions:

1. The surah consists of **10 words** in total (Al-Nofaie et al., 2016; Mahzuz, 2022).

2. Each of its **three verses contains 10 distinct Arabic letters** (*ḥurūf hijāʾiyyah*) (Al-Ateeqi, 2018).
3. There are **10 letters** in the surah that **occur only once** (Al-Ateeqi, 2018).
4. The letter *alif* (ا), which begins the surah, is **repeated exactly 10 times** across all verses (Tuscon, 1985).
5. The letter *rāʾ* (ر), the **10th letter** in the Arabic alphabetical sequence, appears at the **end of each verse**, and Surah al-Kawthar is one of **10 surahs in the Qur'an** whose last verse ends with this letter (Mubaroh et al., 2016; Al-Ateeqi, 2018).
6. Finally, the command to sacrifice (*wanḥar*) given in verse 2 is fulfilled on the **10th of Dhū al-Ḥijjah**, further aligning the surah's message with its numerical theme (Katsir, 2003; Hartono, 2018).

These findings support the notion that the structure of Surah al-Kawthar is not random but rather exhibits mathematical precision. This pattern is in line with earlier studies suggesting the existence of numerical coding and mathematical miracles in the Qur'an (Al-Kaheel, 2006; Abdussakir, 2014). The recurrence of the number 10 in various linguistic and thematic aspects of Surah al-Kawthar enhances our understanding of the surah's unique role in the Qur'an and highlights the potential of mathematics as a lens for Qur'anic interpretation.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis conducted, it can be concluded that Surah al-Kawthar exhibits a strong and consistent connection with the number 10. This connection is reflected in several linguistic and thematic aspects of the surah:

1. It comprises **10 words**, making it the shortest surah in the Qur'an by word count.
2. Each of the surah's three verses is composed of exactly **10 distinct Arabic letters**.
3. There are **10 hijāʾiyyah letters** that appear **only once** throughout the surah.
4. The first letter of the surah, *alif* (ا), occurs **exactly 10 times**.
5. Every verse ends with the letter *rāʾ* (ر), which is the **10th letter** in the Arabic alphabet.
6. Surah al-Kawthar is one of only **10 surahs** in the Qur'an whose last verse ends with *rāʾ*.
7. The command to sacrifice in verse 2 (*wanḥar*) is directly tied to the **10th day of Dhū al-Ḥijjah**, the day on which Muslims perform the Eid al-Aḍḥā sacrifice.

These findings reinforce the idea that the structure of Surah al-Kawthar is not arbitrary. Rather, it reveals intentional mathematical harmony, reflecting a level of precision that supports the argument for the Qur'an's inimitability and miraculous nature. The recurrence of the number 10 in various structural, lexical, and thematic aspects of the surah contributes to the broader discourse on *iʿjāz* (inimitability) and numerical patterns in the Qur'an. Further research is recommended to expand this line of inquiry by exploring similar numerical patterns in other surahs. An interdisciplinary approach—integrating mathematics, linguistics, and tafsīr—will be valuable in

uncovering deeper insights into the mathematical and spiritual dimensions of the Qur'an.

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