



the | inimitable | qur'an

# Frequency of Rhetorical Features

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The Qur'an is a 'sea of rhetoric'. The Qur'an exhibits an unparalleled frequency of rhetorical features, surpassing any other Arabic text, classical or modern. The use of rhetoric in the Quran stands out from any type of discourse.

A close up analysis of the Quran can highlight a wide range and frequency of rhetorical features. This is a comprehensive subject that requires further analysis, however to highlight the Qur'an's uniqueness, the following list has been provided to show that the Qur'an employs more rhetorical features than any other Arabic text; past or present.

- Analogy (For example see Qur'an 88:15-16 & 93:9-10)
- Alliteration (For example see Qur'an 33:71 & 77:20)
- Antiphrasis (For example see Qur'an 44:49)
- Antithesis (For example see Qur'an 35:7 & 9:82)
- Asyndeton (For example see Qur'an 13:2)
- Assonance (For example see Qur'an 88:25-26 & 88:14-15)
- Cadence - This is present in the whole Qur'an, it is a major rhetorical feature which is an inimitable feature of the Quran. The Quranic discourse uses assonance to deliver all the rhetorical features while employing the use of many phonetic features such as assimilation, nasalisation, etc. No other text has done this before, especially in such frequency.
- Chiasmus (See for example Qur'an 3:27)
- Epizeuxis (See for example Qur'an 94:5-6)
- Equivoque (See for example Qur'an 24:43)
- Homonymy (See for example Qur'an 2:14-15 & 3:54)
- Hyperbole (See for example Qur'an 7:40, 33:10 & 39:71-72)
- Isocolon (See for example 65:7-10)
- Metaphor (See for example 19:4 & 21:18)
- Metonymy (See for example 54:13 & 6:127)
- Parenthesis (See for example Qur'an 7:42 & 4:73)
- Polyptoton (See for example Qur'an 80:25-26)
- Rhetorical Questions (See for example Qur'an 55:60 & 37:91-92)
- Stress (See for example Qur'an 29:62 & 3:92)
- Synecdoche (See Q:90:12-13)

Due to the range and frequency of these rhetorical features the Qur'an is on a level of its own. For a detailed examples and descriptions of the rhetorical features in the Qur'an please see the bibliography below.

## **Bibliography**

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