

# Flies in the Qur'an Perspective of Tafsir Ilmi

## **M. Fajar** UIN Imam Bonjol Padang

Alamat: Jl. Mahmud Yunus, Anduring, Kec. Kuranji, Kota Padang

Korespondensi penulis: <u>m.fajar6656@gmail.com</u>

Abstract. The Qur'an is a miracle of the Prophet Muhammad whose authenticity has been maintained to this day. The more advanced science becomes, the more visible the validity of its miracles. Many non-Muslim scientists are reluctant to convert to Islam after researching the Koran more deeply. The Koran also contains a lot of science and knowledge if humans can see it from various aspects. In this case, the author will discuss flies, which are one of the animals with perfect metamorphosis. In metamorphosis, several changes and phases occur after the fly hatches its eggs. This research method is research that uses qualitative research using literature study. The type of data collected is primary data, namely tafsir books and secondary data, namely books, articles, journals and literature related to the Koran and flies. Researchers want to know the secret and wisdom of choosing flies as a parable in these letters and verses.

Keywords: Al-Qur'an, Flies, Scientific Tafsir

Abstrak. Al-Qur'an merupakan mukjizat nabi muhammad yang terjaga keaslianya sampai saat ini, semakin maju ilmu pengetahuan, semakin terlihat validitas kemukjizatannya. Banyak ilmuan non muslim yang luluh hatinya untuk masuk islam setelah meneliti lebih dalam terkait alquran.Al- Qur'an juga terdapat banyak ilmu dan pengetahuan jika manusia mampu melihatnya dari berbagai aspek. Dalam hal ini penulis akan membahas lalat yang merupakan salah satu hewan dengan metamorfosis sempurna. Dalam metamormosisnya terjadi beberapa perubahan dan fase fase setelah lalat menetasi telur telurnya. Metode penelitian ini merupakan penelitian yang menggunakan penelitian kualitatif dengan menggunakan studi kepustakaan. Jenis data yang dikumpulkan berupa data primer adalah kitab tafsir dan data sekunder yaitu buku, artikel, jurna, dan literatur yang berkaitan dengan al-Quran dan lalat. Peneliti ingin mengetahui rahasia dan hikmah pemilihan lalat sebagai perumpamaan dalam surat dan ayat tersebut.

Kata Kunci: Al-Qur'an, Lalat, Tafsir Ilmi

## **INTRODUCTION**

In order for the use of this tool to be more optimal and directed, Allah entrusted the guidelines to His last messenger, the guidelines are the Qur'an and the Sunnah. The Qur'an is a miracle of the Prophet Muhammad that has been preserved in its authenticity until now, the more advanced the science, the more the validity of the miracle can be seen. Many non-Muslim scientists have changed their hearts to convert to Islam after researching more deeply related to the Quran. This is a form of guidance and a miracle of the Quran. Not only that, in the Qur'an there is also a lot of science and knowledge if humans can see it from various aspects. (Yanggo, 2016).

Allah spreads the earth and its contents so that humans can learn it. A lot of science and knowledge is widely spread on the surface of this earth, depending on how each person responds to it. God created reason for man as a tool to study and learn. However, if you make a mistake in using this tool, it will be able to create a huge negligence.

In addition to all that, there are also many examples in the Quran, one of which is insects. Insects are of various types and have many species. In the Qur'an, several types of insects are mentioned such as mosquitoes, spiders, grasshoppers, fleas, bees, termite ants, and flies. However, not all of these insects are used as parables in the Quran, only spiders, mosquitoes and flies are parables (Othman, 2012). Insects, which are often considered trivial and small, are used to show the wisdom behind God's creation, as well as to convey moral and spiritual lessons to humans. (Fitriani et al., 2024).

Therefore, on this occasion, researchers are interested in discussing flies. Flies are a type of attack that has many species and more than 87 species. In the Qur'an itself, the word with the meaning of this fly, Allah mentions it once in Surah Al-Hajj verse 73. The researcher wants to know the secret and wisdom of choosing flies as a parable in the letter and verse.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research method is a research that uses qualitative research using literature studies. The type of data collected in the form of primary data is the book of tafsir and secondary data, namely books, articles, journals, and literature related to the Quran and flies. The analysis carried out in the research is an analysis of the content contained in the literature.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **Definition of the Quran and Science**

There are three versions of the meaning of the Qur'an, the first of which is derived from قَرَائِن the word which means to gather, the second comes from قَرَائِن which means similar, the third comes from قَرَاءَة which means reading. (Baidan, 2005). The Qur'an is a verse of Allah that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad PBUH, every person who reads it is considered to worship (Al-Qattan, 2006).

Science in Islam comes from the word al'Ilm in Arabic and comes from the root word 'alima ya'lamu Ilman meaning to know. Science has the meaning of knowing. (Humaidi, 2015). Furthermore, the word science undergoes development and changes in meaning into knowledge, turning into systematic knowledge derived from sensory observation.

With the requirement of observation, science is empirical, both related to physical, chemical, biological, and astronomical objects as well as related to psychology and sociology. This is the most fundamental character of science in the conventional epistemological view. Science is an empirical product of experimentation. Experiments can be carried out on both inanimate objects and living things as far as the results of the experiment can be observed sensually. (Baharun & Mundiri, 2016).

## **Definition of Fly**

Flies are a type of insect of the order Diptera (derived from the Greek "di" meaning two and "ptera" meaning (wings). Flies are insects whose lives are close to humans and are often associated with sanitation problems and clean and healthy living behaviours (PHBS) (Andiarsa, 2018). The order Diptera is a large order, which is estimated to include 240,000 species of animals commonly known as flies, mosquitoes, agas, no-see-um (Ceratopogonidae) and others, although less than half of them (about 120,000 species) have been described.

The most obvious difference between flies and other orders of insects is that flies have only one pair of wings to fly called halteres, which come from the hind wings, on the metathorax (except for a few species of flies that cannot fly). The only other order of insects that has two completely functional wings and dumbbells is Strepsiptera. However, in contrast to flies, Halteres Strepsitera is in the mesothorax and wings in the metathorax.

Animals of this order usually live by sucking blood, plant juices, assisting pollination, or from the carcasses of living things. This order is one of the four largest orders of all living things. About 3,125 species lived in the past, and the oldest ever found is the limonic crane fly, which lived 225 million years ago.

The anatomy of the fly, the body of the fly is usually short and slender, it has adapted to the movement of air. The first tagma of the fly, the head, consists of the ocelli, antennae, compound eyes, and parts of the mouth *(labrum, labium, mandible, and maxilla)*. The second tagma, the thoracic, holds the wings and has flying muscles on the second segment, which is enlarged in shape. The first and third segments are smaller in shape. On the third thoracic segment, there is a halter, which helps balance flies during flight. (Putri, 2019).

Further adaptations to flight are the reduction in the number of nerve ganglions and the concentration of nerve tissue in the thorax, a feature most distinctive in Muscomorpha infrared. Flies have a head that can move with eyes and most have large compound eyes on the left and right sides of their heads, with three small ocelli on top. For directional control of the line of sight, the region of the optical range is analyzed by a group of motion-sensitive neurons.

One part of these neurons is thought to be used to estimate its movement parameters, such as swinging, rolling, and turning. Other neurons are thought to be used to analyze the visual material itself, such as identifying the shape of a figure on the ground using motion parallax. The shape of the antenna varies, but it is often short to reduce the load in flight. No species of fly has teeth or other organs that allow them to eat solid food. Flies only consume liquid food or small granules, such as pollen, and parts of their mouth and digestion show modifications that vary according to the type of food. Female tabanidae use mandibles and knife-like maxillas to make cross-cuts in the host's skin and suck their blood. The stomach of tabanidae includes a large diverticula, allowing the insect to store a small amount of fluid after eating. Metamorphosis is a process of biological development in animals that involves physical, or structural changes that occur after birth.

Metamorphosis is divided into two parts, the first is perfect metamorphosis, and the second is incomplete metamorphosis. Perfect metamorphosis is the process of biological development that occurs through stages, and development towards adulthood changes shape, appearance, and behaviour.

Flies are one of the animals with a perfect metamorphosis. In its metamorphosis, several changes and phases occur after the fly lays its eggs. The phases of that phase are: *First*, the egg phase, in this egg phase, the female fly will look for a place to lay her eggs safely. Female flies can produce up to 900 eggs, even more. In this phase, the female fly takes 24 hours to lay her eggs, so that she can become a larva. This is also called the embryonic period. *Second*, the larval phase, the occurrence of physical changes from flies, which were initially like eggs and now turn into caterpillars, or maggots. This maggot's maggots undergo 3 skin changes before the skin is hard, often referred to as a pupa. In this phase, flies take 2 days to get to the pupa phase. *Third*, is the pupa phase, in this phase the larvae or caterpillars of the caterpillars have become hard and no longer function. This phase takes 1 week to become an adult fly. *Fourth*, Adult flies, That's how the metamorphosis that occurs in flies is described, and this cycle will continue to spin around.

## Perspective Fly of the Quran

The word fly in the Qur'an is found in Surah Al Hajj verse 73. This word is a form of isim that is used for mudzakkar, as well as mua'annats. The singular form is "*zubabah*" while the plural form is "*azibah*" and "*zibbanun*". In this surah al hajj, Allah uses the name "*zubabun*" to refer to flies, because this animal is so active in moving (Zuhaili, 2005).

meaning: "O man, a parable has been made, so listen to it to you. Indeed, everything you call out to other than Allah can never create a fly, even if they unite to create it. and if the fly snatches something from them, they can snatch it back from the fly. It is the very weak who worship and the very weak who are worshipped.

This verse discusses the parable given by God to those who worship other than Him. In the tafsir al-Munir it is explained that the state of the offerings determines the state and behavior of its worshippers for those who believe other than Allah. Allah made the fly a parable, for the worshippers other than Him, Allah expressly stated that the worshippers would not be able to create a fly, even though all the worshippers were united to create it. Even worse, they cannot simply resist and repel a single fly that landed on them. Imam Ahmad narrated from Abu Hurairah (r.a.) in a narration of marfuu' he said:

وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ خَلَقَ خَلْقًا كَخَلْقِي فَلْيَخْلُقُوا مِثْلَ خَلْقِي ذُبَابَةً أَوْحَبَّةً

"Allah said, "Who is more righteous than the one who seeks to create like My creation? So, just try to create an ant, a fly or a seed like My creation"" (HR Ahmad)

Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim also narrated hadiths related to this subject in different redactions:

قَالَ الله عَزَّ وَجَلَّ وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّن ذَهَبَ يَخْلُقُ كَلْخَلْقِي فَلْيَخْلُقُوا ذَرَّةً فَلْيَخْلُقُوا شَعِيْرَةً

Allah SWT said, 'Who is more unjust than those who try to create like My creation? So let's just try to create an ant (or an atom, or a grain of corn), then just try to create a grain of wheat." (HR Bukhari and Muslim)

Although flies are a weak type of animal, flies also have their advantages, because Allah also said in Surah Ali Imran verse 191, that Allah did not create something in vain. From this verse, we can conclude that everything created by Allah has benefits and has advantages and disadvantages, as well as flies. Although flies are synonymous with diseases and dirty places of life, in themselves flies themselves have their advantages.

In a hadith delivered by the Prophet narrated by Imam Bukhari in the book Saheeh Bukhari, no hadith.3320.

عَنْ أَبِيْ هُرَيْرَةَ أَنَّ رَسُوْلَ اللهِ قَالَ : إِذَا وَقَعَ الذُّبَابُ فِيْ إِنَاءِ أَحَ دِكُمْ فَلْيَغْمِسْهُ كُلَّهُ ثُمَّ لِيَطْرَحْهُ فَإِنَّ فِيْ إِحْدَى جَنَاحَيْهِ دَاءً وَفِيْ الآخَرِ شِفَاءً

From Abu Hurayah, the Prophet once said: "If a jatu fly is in one of you, then dip it, because on one of its wings, there is a disease and on the other wing there is an antidote. (H.R Bukhari).

According to Ibn Qayyim Al Jauziah in his book entitled Ath Thib An Nabawi min Zad Al Ma'ad Fi Hadyi Khair Al Ibad, this hadith contains two things: The first is about fiqh and the second is about medicine. Regarding the issue of fiqh, this hadith is a very clear postulate, that if a fly dies in water or a similar liquid object, it does not cause the water to become unclean. That is the opinion of the majority of scholars." There is not a single Salaf scholar who rejects it," said Ibn Qayyim.

Meanwhile, regarding the medical meaning in the above hadith, Abu Ubaid explained, that the meaning of the saying, 'Famquluhu' is 'drown the fly so that it can dispense medicine as it has expelled its disease. So in Arabic, if there is a sentence Huma Yatamaqalani, it means that it is intended for two people who are diving in the water. It must be known that flies according to them do have poison. This is indicated by the appearance of swelling and itching due to the bite. It is no different from a weapon, if you fall into something that can cause danger, you must anticipate it with the weapon. The Prophet commanded that the poison on the wings of the fly be overcome with the antidote that Allah had provided on the other wings.

So the fly is drowned in food or drink so that the poisonous substance can be neutralized by the antidote. This is a medical science that is unknown to existing medical experts because it is indeed sourced from prophetic lanterns. Nevertheless, a wise medical expert who has received Taufik from Allah will surely submit to this therapy and recognize the human being who teaches this method as the absolute best human being. Because, this is supported by divine revelation, beyond the ability of ordinary humans.

A study conducted by a team from the Department of Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Science, Qassim University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, several young researchers consisting of Sami Ibrahim at-Taili, Abdurrahmanal-Misnid and Khalid al-Utaibî. Supervised by Dr Jamal Hamid, and coordinated by Dr Shalih ash-Shalih (a well-known da'i in Europe), conducted research on microbiological analysis of fly wings. They presented this report at the "Student Research Seminar" event at Qashim University, KSA.

The method they use is quite simple, which is to cultivate (grow) sterile water that has been dipped by flies into Agar Media (a medium derived from dried musillaginouse extracted from algae, which melts at 100°C and solidifies at 40°C which cannot be digested by microbes) and then identifies the growing microbes.

There are several species of flies used, and the sample used for each species consists of two samples, namely.

- 1. Sterile water samples, where flies are inserted in such a way that they enter the Agar Media only on the wings of the flies.
- 2. Sterile water samples that were inserted (dipped) by flies all over their bodies.

All of this is done aseptically (microbe-free) in a special room, to avoid the occurrence of external contamination that will make the research results biased. After that, the water sample was cultivated into the Agar Media and incubated for several days so that the microbial culture (culture) grew and was visible. Then the results of microbial culture are identified to find out the type of microbe. The entry of flies into food or drinks, with and without dyeing, turned out to give significantly different results. This confirms what the Prophet said, that on the wings of the fly, there is a disease as well as an antidote.

## CONCLUSION

In the Quran, one of them is insects. Insects are of various types and have many species. In the Qur'an, several types of insects are mentioned such as mosquitoes, spiders, grasshoppers, fleas, bees, termite ants, and flies. However, not all of these insects are used as parables in the Quran, only spiders, mosquitoes and flies are parables. A parable given by Allah to those who worship other than Allah SWT. In the tafsir al-Munir, it is explained that the state of the offerings determines the state and behavior of its worshippers for those who believe other than Allah. Allah made the fly a parable, for worshippers other than Him, Allah expressly stated that the worshippers would not be able to create a fly, even though all the worshippers were united to create it.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Al-Qattan, M. K. (2006). Studi Ilmu-Ilmu Al-Quran. Litera AntarNusa.

- Andiarsa, D. (2018). Lalat: Vektor yang Terabaikan Program? Balaba: Jurnal Litbang Pengendalian Penyakit Bersumber Binatang Banjarnegara, December 2018, 201– 214. https://doi.org/10.22435/blb.v14i2.67
- Baharun, H., & Mundiri, A. (2016). *METODOLOGI STUDI ISLAM: Percikan Pemikiran Tokoh dalam Membumikan Agama*. Ar-Ruzz Media.

Baidan, N. (2005). Wawasan Baru Ilmu Tafsir. Pustaka Pelajar.

- Fitriani, Hasyim, M. F., Razi, F., & Abdulfatah, F. (2024). Tabiat Manusia Dalam Al-Qur'an, Perumpamaan Lalat dan Tafsir Surah Al-Hajj ayat 73 Ṭanṭāwī Jauharī. Indonesia Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, 5(2), 729–748.
- Humaidi. (2015). Paradigma Sains Integratif Alfarabi. Sadra Press.
- Othman, M. S. (2012). Perumpamaan serangga dalam Al-Qur'an: Analisis I'jaz. *Quranica International Journal on Quranic Research*, 2(1), 105–129.
- Putri, Y. P. (2019). Keragaman Spesies Lalat Berdasarkan Lokasi Penangkapan Di Pasar Induk Jakabaring Palembang. *Indobiosains*, 1(2), 45. https://doi.org/10.31851/indobiosains.v1i2.3197
- Yanggo, H. T. (2016). AL-QUR'AN SEBAGAI MUKJIZAT TERBESAR. Waratsah, 01, 1–26.

Zuhaili, W. A. (2005). Tafsir Al Munir: Akidah. Syariah. Manhaj. Gema Insani.