

## Application of The Ottoman Turkish Tahfiz Method in Pesantren Ash-Syarief Sulaimaniyah Medan

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### ABSTRACT

Lately the trend of memorizing the Quran is growing among the community, ranging from parents to children, including Islamic educational institutions such as Islamic boarding schools. In memorizing the Quran, various memorization methods are usually applied to facilitate memorization in memorizing the Quran. The method of memorizing the Quran that is commonly found in Indonesia is systematic memorization, starting from juz 1 to finish then continued with juz 30 to finish (from front to back) or starting from juz 30 to juz 1 (from back to front). However, it is different from the method used at Pesantren Asy-Syarief Sulaimaniyah Medan. The pesantren uses a memorization method called the Ottoman Turkey Method. The Ottoman Turkish method is also called memorizing the Quran using a round system, where memorization starts from the back page of juz 1 after after the page is finished it will continue to juz 2 the back page is also how it should get to the last page of juz 30, after finishing juz 30 is called having completed memorization of one round. The Quran used is generally the Quran with Ottoman Rasm with 20 pages one juz and each page consists of 15 lines so that to complete the memorization of the Quran requires 20 rounds. The method used in this study is qualitative, while the type of research used is field research through observation, documentation and interviews, which was conducted at Pesantren Asy-Syarief Sulaimaniyah Medan. The finding in this study is that memorization with the Ottoman Turkish method can improve the quality of memorization of the Quran in Pesantren Asy-Syarief Sulaimaniyah Medan.

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## A. INTRODUCTION

The Quran is the holy book of Islam that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad SAW to be taught to his people and become a guide for life for every Muslim. Unlike the holy books of other religions, the purity of the contents of the Qur'an is guaranteed directly by Allah Almighty, and has been preserved from the time of the prophet until now. As the holy book of Muslims, the Qur'an is inseparable from a long history starting from the first verse revealed, the many obstacles that the Prophet got when chanting the Qur'an, rejection from various parties.

The word Qur'an literally comes from the Arabic qara'a which means to read or gather. Both of these meanings have the same meaning, reading means also collecting, because people who collect ideas or ideas contained from what they read. The understanding of the Qur'an in terms is kalam Allah which was revealed to the prophet Muhammad through the Angel Gabriel gradually (Mutawatir). Starting from surah Al-Fatihah to An-Nas, and reading it is worth worship (Kuswoyo, 2021).

The Qur'an is our holy that is maintained its authenticity starting from the authenticity of its language, as well as its words, although many people want to match the style of language, but until now no one has been able to match the beauty of the language in the Qur'an because in fact Allah Himself has maintained and guaranteed the sanctity of the Qur'an as stated in the Qur'an Surah Al-Hijr verse 9, namely:

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ

Indeed, it is We who sent down the Qur'an and surely We (also) maintain it (Religion, 2019).

In Tafsir Ibn Kathir it is clearly mentioned that Allah (swt) establishes that it is Allah who lowers *Adz-Dzikru* that is, the Qur'an to him and He also guards

him from attempts to change or replace him (Mu'thi, 2003). The Qur'an, which literally means perfect reading, is a name chosen by Allah that is very appropriate because no reading from man knows how to read or write starting from five thousand years ago, no one can compete with the Qur'an, the noble and perfect reading. There is no reading like the Qur'an read by so many people, hundreds of millions of people who do not understand its meaning or cannot write with its script. Even memorized letter by letter ranging from children, teenagers to adults (Shihab, 1996)

As the holy book of Muslims, the Qur'an is read as a value of worship but is also studied by Muslims and non-Muslims who eventually gave birth to many disciplines such as Tafsir, Biology, Astronomy, Medicine and others. It should be a matter of pride for Muslims.

In the book *Book of Qur'anic Insights*, Quraish Shihab explains that there is no reading like the Qur'an that is studied, not only the editorial structure and selection of vocabulary, but also its content that is expressed, implied, even to the impression it conveys. All of that is poured into millions of volumes of books generation after generation. Then what is thought of from the never-dried source, varies according to their different abilities and inclinations, but all contain truth. The Quran is like a jewel that emits different lights according to each point of view.

One way to maintain the Qur'an is by memorizing it, the Qur'an repeats the word "easy" in surah Al-Qamar four times, namely:

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ

Means: *Truly, We have really facilitated the Qur'an as a lesson. So, is there anyone who is willing to take a lesson. (QS. Al-Qamar: 17)*

This shows that memorizing the Qur'an is not difficult. The Qur'an is the only holy book that anyone can memorize, both rich and poor, both Muslims and non-Muslims—those who memorize the Qur'an are Allah's choice. This also refutes the assumption of someone who says that memorizing the Qur'an is very difficult, the Qur'an is a kalam Allah that is different from other kalam.

The Qur'an is a miracle given to the Prophet Muhammad and then taught to his followers who continue to be preserved from time to time to maintain its authenticity, one of the wonders of the Quran is thousands or even millions of people who can memorize the Quran and memorize it in various parts of the world, one way to maintain the purity of the Quran is the number of Muslims who are able to memorize the Quran

## **B. METHOD**

In this study, the author uses a type of research with a qualitative approach, which explains the phenomena that occur in the form of descriptions of words, recordings and pictures. The data criteria used are definite data, definite data means here is data as it is. The subject of the study was the Assy-Syarief Medan boarding school. The data obtained through observation instruments, direct observations in the field. In this study, the author uses a qualitative descriptive approach, intended to find out how the application of the Ottoman Turkish Method in memorizing the Quran at the Assy-Syarief Sulaimaniyah Islamic Boarding School Medan.

## **C. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### **1. Profile of Pesantren Assy-Syarief Sulaimaniyah Medan**

Pesantren Assy-Syarief Medan is located in Safa Marwa Housing Jl. Kelambir V, Tanjung Gusta Village, Medan Helvetia District, Medan City North Sumatra is an educational institution of Tahfiz Alquran and Islamic education established since

2013. Pesanteren Assy Syarief Medan is one of the branches of the Sulaimaniyah pesantren based in Jakarta under the auspices of the UICCI (*United Islamic Cultural Centre Of Indonesia*) foundation. This foundation was founded by several Turkish Muslims in 2005 who initially only opened one dormitory, but due to its rapid development finally this pesantren opened several branches spread across several regions of Indonesia, one of which is the Assy-Syarief Medan esantren.

The history of the establishment of the Sulaimaniyah pesantren in Indonesia is inseparable from the role of a cleric in the late period of power of the Ottoman Caliphate named Syeh Sulaiman Hilmi Tunahan who came from Turkey. In addition to the founder is also a teacher. Syeh Sulaiman Hilmi Tunahan's struggle in teaching Islam secretly was because at that time the government system that was originally to the Khalifahan was changed to secular and the entire education system was unified by the new government. Islamic schools were turned into public schools, teaching the Qur'an was banned, and many clerics were arrested and jailed for teaching the Qur'an.

## **2 Stages Before Memorizing the Quran**

Memorizing the Quran is a job of memorizing the holy verses of the Qur'an out of the head, memorizing the Quran requires sincere intentions, high spirits, *istiqamah*, sacrificing time, energy, age and ready to interact for life with the Qur'an. However, memorizing the Quran also requires memorization preparations to facilitate and avoid mistakes when you start memorizing. The several stages that students go through before memorizing are called Pratahfiz.

Before starting to memorize there are several stages passed by students, or what is called pratahfiz. The first stage is to improve the reading, improve makhraj, tajweed and letter properties. During this process, students are also required to chant the Quran in order to facilitate and familiarize themselves with the reading

of the Quran. This stage lasts up to several months, after a few months past this stage the students are tested with oral and written examinations. Students who successfully graduate with the specified standard grades are allowed to proceed to the stage of memorizing the Qur'an, for students who have not graduated will remain in the pratahfiz stage to complete the stages in pratahfiz until the students are declared graduated.

In addition to improving the reading of the Qur'an in the pre-tahfiz stage, students are also taught about various materials such as full memorization of the Quran (intention in totality, permission to both parents, istiqamah in memorization), memorization of the Qur'an (purifying themselves, cleaning the mouth, facing the kblat, not rushing to add memorization, facing the Qibla) and equipping students with instructions before memorizing including things that are recommended and things that are prohibited for memorizers of the Qur'an.

### **3 Application of the Ottoman Turkish Tahfiz Method**

Method in Arabic, known as Thariqah which means strategic steps prepared to do a job. When connected with education, the method must be realized in the educational process, in order to develop mental attitudes and personalities so that students receive lessons easily, effectively and can be digested properly (Ramayulis, 2015).

In the Big Dictionary Indonesian, a method is a systematic way of working to facilitate the implementation of activities to achieve what has been determined. So a method is a way used or a path taken leading to a particular goal (Thontowi, 1993). When someone wants to achieve something, there is a way or method that is done, as well as in memorizing the Qur'an. Actually, there are several methods of memorizing the Quran used in several Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia, including the following:

a. Memorization by the Verse by Verse Repeating Method

This method is most often used by memorizers of the Qur'an. Memorizing by reading the Quran verse by verse while memorizing until the verse is memorized, after one verse memorized then will move to the second verse, after the second verse memorize the first verse repeated again after that back to the second verse, after the two verses smoothly then move to the third verse, after the third verse memorizes smoothly then immediately repeated to the first verse again then the second verse, Third to the last verse on the page.

b. Memorization method with five lines

Usually memorizing with the Standard Qur'an 15 lines one page, the page will be divided into 3 parts namely one part 5 lines, memorization will start from the first line to the fifth line until the lancer, after fluently then continued 5 lines after then after these second 5 lines the lancer will return to the first line until smoothly after smoothly continue to the 5 lines of the 3rd part and so on until memorization is really smooth one page.

c. Talaqqi Method

This method is usually used for memorizing the Quran who are not proficient in reading the Quran, memorizing with this method will be guided by one teacher, the teacher will say sentence by sentence then followed by students, this activity is repeated until the student is fluent.

d. Memorization by listening

Usually, students will be listened to murattal readings from media such as mobile phones, or recordings of the Quran.

The method of memorizing the Quran used in Pesantren Assy-Syarief is called the Ottoman Turkish Method. Some terms used in such methods:

a. Round

Round is the term in this method, in completing memorization students must memorize the Quran up to 20 rounds, if usually memorizing from the first page of juz one is different from this method, memorization begins with the back page of juz. For example, juz 1 last page after finishing followed by juz 2 last page so continue until juz 30. After completing the memorization of the back page from juz 1 to juz 30 is called one round then the memorization will start again from the second back page of each juz. This method is repeated until 20 rounds are completed.

b. New Page

New pages are memorized that have never been memorized or deposited with the teacher,

c. Old Memorization

This page is a memorization that has been deposited to the teacher, every student who wants to deposit the old page must be included as well

#### **4. Advantages and Disadvantages of Ottoman Turkish Method**

After the author examines this method, it turns out that the author can conclude related to the disadvantages and advantages as follows:

a. Pros

- 1) Santri is more quickly finished in chanting the Quran
- 2) Santri became more enthusiastic in pronunciation
- 3) Memorization will be strong because every new memorization that is old must also be deposited
- 4) This method is quite efficient for students whose daily focus is memorizing the Quran



- 5) This method is very suitable for students who have the ability to memorize quickly

b. Cons

- 1) For starters, students will have difficulty in memorizing
- 2) Because the system is with rounds, the number of juz memorized is not in order
- 3) This method is not suitable for students who have low memorization skills
- 4) For students who are slow to memorize, this method is not very suitable because it is difficult to repeat old memorization
- 5) This method is not suitable to be applied to memorizers whose memorization time is limited.

#### **D. Conclusion**

The Ottoman method was to memorize the Qur'an with a round system, to recite the Qur'an 30 juz students had to complete 20 rounds. The memorization system is starting from the back page of juz 1 after finishing again continued to the back yard of juz two, after finishing continued again with the back page of juz 3, so it continues to repeat until the last page of juz 30, after finishing memorizing the last page from juz 1 to juz 30 is called the term one round.

Then memorization continues from the second page of juz one to juz 30 pages to the last 2 after completion called 2 rounds, so continue to be done until round 20. When depositing new memorization to the ustad the old page must also be deposited, the new page is the page that has never been deposited to the ustad while the old page is the one that has already been deposited to the ustad. In applying this method, there are several disadvantages and advantages found, but this method is quite effective in being used in Pesantren Asy-Syarief Sulaimaniyah Medan.

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