



Learning Arabic Language Improves Student's Memorization of the Al-Qur'an

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Abstract

Learning Arabic for non-Arab people still has many obstacles and problems to face because Arabic is not an easy language to master completely. But studying it is something that cannot be ignored. The need for Arabic for the world community is currently quite high, both for Muslims and non-Muslims. The specificity of the language of the Al-Qur'an has given people enthusiasm and willingness to learn Arabic. The efforts made are to make it easier to memorize the Al-Qur'an. Apart from that, understanding Arabic allows a person to easily understand and understand the contents of the Al-Qur'an. An interest in memorizing the Al-Qur'an and the ability to speak Arabic can be an influence on someone's achievement in memorizing the Al-Qur'an. This research was conducted at Ma'had Rubbaht Al-Futuhah Jepara, Central Java. This research aims to determine the effect of Arabic language mastery and the ability to memorize the Al-Qur'an of Santriwati Ma'had Rubbaht Al-Futuhah Jepara, Central Java. So this research is expected to provide good benefits for Santriwati, namely increasing motivation in memorizing and mastering the Al-Qur'an, for teachers it is hoped that it can provide benefits in helping provide easy learning motivation for Santriwati in mastering and memorizing the Al-Qur'an. The research method used is a quantitative approach, namely interview guides, test papers, observation guides and archives.

Keywords: Learning, Arabic, Memoriation, Al-Qur'an.

Introduction

The Al-Qur'an is a holy book which is the main miracle of Rasulullah SAW. The specialness and majesty of the contents of the Al-Qur'an compared to previous holy books makes the Al-Qur'an a perfect book. (Shihab, 2014). As a holy book and guide for Muslims, the Qur'an explains various things and areas related to human life. There are many solutions offered and provided by the Qur'an for the benefit and progress of Muslims, namely those related to faith, education, social relations, politics, health, personality (morals), history and so on. (Sarnoto, 2016).

Arabic is the language used by Arab people. It has the distinction of being the language used in the Al-Quran, the Muslim holy book. As in the words of Allah SWT: "Indeed, We have sent it down in the form of the Al-Qur'an in Arabic, so that you may all become intelligent people." (QS: Yusuf: 2)

With these features, Arabic has become a language studied by many people, not only in their own country but in almost all corners of the world. Indeed, most people still think that learning Arabic is something that is very difficult and difficult, so they are still less interested in learning it. (Al-Fisyawi, 2002)

But we don't realize that actually by studying Arabic well and understanding it, it will really help us in memorizing and mastering the Al-Qur'an, especially its contents. (Alhamadi, 2010) Therefore, we as Muslims in particular, it would be better if we could memorize and understand the main content of the Al-Qur'an which guides our lives as human beings properly and correctly. One easy way to master the Al-Qur'an is to learn and master the language it uses first, namely understanding Arabic. (Markur, 2012)

The rapid interest and enthusiasm of Muslims in memorizing the Al-Qur'an is increasingly being felt over time. This can be observed by the emergence of Islamic boarding school programs that concentrate on the Al-Qur'an, or more precisely, Islamic boarding schools that tahfidzul Al-Qur'an. Apart from informal education, Al-Qur'an memorization programs are also in great demand in formal schools. The presence of integrated schools is a step towards realizing Al-Qur'an memorizers.

The presence of schools and Islamic boarding schools as institutions for tahfihz Al-Qur'an is a breath of fresh air that can provide enthusiasm and interest in the wider community to memorize the Al-Qur'an. With formal institutions based on the Al-Qur'an, this allows people to take alternatives from the various educational institutions available to enroll their sons and daughters into these institutions. The interest embedded in memorizing the Al-Qur'an is an effort made to memorize the Al-Qur'an, because with strong interest the desire and aspirations to memorize the Al-Qur'an will come true.

Apart from interest, efforts to facilitate the process of memorizing the Al-Qur'an is the uniqueness and specialty of the Al-Quran, namely that the language contained in it is Arabic, in every content and sentence as well as the language contained in it there is no difference between the Al-Qur'an from one country to another, even though the languages used between countries are different. Apart from that, every Muslim can read and memorize the Al-Qur'an regardless of their condition. Many Muslims who have special needs are more able to memorize the Al-Qur'an.

Method

This research is research that uses descriptive qualitative methods. This research will discuss the relationship between memorizing the Al-Qur'an and success in learning Arabic. Based on the problems studied, the results of this research will be more detailed if descriptive

qualitative methods are used. Where in this research process the data is obtained from the results of observations and interviews. In this study, the participants were students at junior high school level. The targets in this research were memorizers of the Al-Qur'an and non-memorizers of the Al-Qur'an. This research was conducted at the Rubbaht Al-Futuhat Islamic Boarding School, Jepara, Central Java.

Based on the topic of this research, the participants in this research had different backgrounds, namely some had previously memorized the Al-Qur'an, but had not studied Arabic, and there were also those who had just started memorizing at the Islamic boarding school. This data will be used by researchers as primary data in this research. The data obtained from this research was generated using interview and observation techniques. This technique is used with the aim of getting comprehensive answers from participants and also to see directly the situation in the field. In this interview technique, participants are free to answer according to what they feel so that it will be easy for researchers to explain the results of this research.

The results of the interviews and observations obtained were processed using narrative analysis techniques. In this technique, the researcher reviews the notes obtained from the research conducted and relates them to the problem formulations in this research. After that the results of the analysis are presented in this study.

Result and Discussion

The rapid interest and enthusiasm of Muslims in memorizing the Al-Qur'an is increasingly being felt over time. This can be observed by the emergence of Islamic boarding school programs that concentrate on the Al-Qur'an, or more precisely, Islamic boarding schools that tahfidzul Al-Qur'an. Apart from the informal education sector, Al-Qur'an memorization programs are also in great demand in formal schools. The presence of integrated schools is a step towards realizing Al-Qur'an memorizers.

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Studying Arabic will certainly have a positive impact on memorizing the Al-Qur'an. Memorizing the Al-Qur'an is not easy. It's the same as learning anything, especially Arabic. Learning Arabic is also not easy. However, if the individual has the motivation to learn, it will be easy for the individual to understand the learning. Although some find it difficult to learn Arabic and memorize it. However, when individuals begin to understand Arabic, they will find it easier to memorize. Some people are of the view that Arabic is a difficult language. However, each language certainly has its own difficulties. Learning Arabic means learning to understand and comprehend the Al-Qur'an. Even though there will be difficulties faced, of course there will be ease obtained by learning Arabic.

There are many conveniences that memorizers of the Al-Qur'an will get when they learn Arabic. Apart from making the memorization process easier because you understand the meaning, learning Arabic also has an effect on the memorizer's knowledge of the meaning of each word. The researcher also expressed his opinion regarding the impact of studying Arabic on his ability to memorize. Some of them think that after learning Arabic they are more familiar with the vocabulary in the Al-Qur'an. This makes it easier for them to memorize the Al-Qur'an. But unfortunately not all

Memorizers learn Arabic. In fact, if memorizers of the Qur'an are equipped with learning Arabic, it will be easier for them to complete the process of memorizing the Qur'an. (Rifani, 2019) As for memorizers of the Al-Qur'an who study Arabic, they have their own goals outside of the goal of learning the language. If learning a foreign language is aimed at communication, then for memorizers of the Al-Qur'an studying Arabic is to make it easier to memorize and achieve their targets. Based on research conducted, students are only able to speak Arabic with simple conversations such as greeting and introducing themselves. However, armed with learning Arabic, they admitted that it was easier to memorize. This means that even though their Arabic communication skills are not yet categorized as perfect, they are still able to help students memorize the Al-Qur'an.

The lack of communication skills in learning Arabic for memorizers of the Qur'an is caused by two factors, namely, lack of practice in daily life, and their motivation in learning Arabic is only limited to knowing the vocabulary, language rules, and meaning of the Qur'an.

an. Because without the need for communication skills to memorize, it will still be easier for them to understand the al-Qur'an when they learn Arabic.

Memorizing something will certainly be easier to memorize in a language that we already know and understand. Likewise with memorizing the Al-Qur'an, of course it will be easier for individuals to memorize the Al-Qur'an when they have mastered Arabic. Some of the participants in this research were students who had previously memorized the Al-Qur'an, but had not studied Arabic. They only learn Arabic at the junior secondary level. When asked about the differences in memorizing before and after studying Arabic, they thought that memorizing was easier when they had studied Arabic. Even though he thinks that Arabic is a difficult language. Even so, they realize the ease of memorization that is obtained when they learn Arabic. This need makes them enthusiastic about learning Arabic.

Studying Arabic helps students understand the meaning of the Al-Qur'an. Understanding this meaning affects the ability to memorize the Al-Qur'an. Memorizing the Al-Qur'an is certainly not easy, the right strategy is needed for each individual to help make it easier for them to memorize. One strategy that can be used is to learn Arabic. Studying Arabic helps individuals recognize and understand Arabic language rules.

Studying Arabic is a necessity for memorizing the Al-Qur'an. Apart from making the memorization process easier, Arabic is also needed so that the memorizer knows at least a little about the meaning conveyed by the verse. Of course, memorized verses will not bring any beneficial changes because the memorizers do not know the meaning conveyed.

Every individual who memorizes the Al-Qur'an will certainly aspire to complete his memorization, namely 30 juz of the Al-Qur'an. Each memorizer has a different strategy because each individual's abilities are also different. However, the general thing that is needed to memorize the Al-Qur'an is to learn Arabic. (Muradi, 2015)

Introduction, familiarization and understanding of Arabic will help memorizers memorize the Al-Qur'an and help memorizers achieve their targets in memorizing. Motivation from within oneself is the main thing that can encourage the success of learning. Seeing the various conveniences that memorize the Qur'an can get if they learn Arabic, memorizers of the Qur'an should be motivated to learn Arabic.

Arabic is a language used by many speakers in various parts of the world. This language became an international language after being designated as one of the official languages used in United Nations (UN) communications in 1974. Thus, learning Arabic has become important, for both Muslims and non-Muslims.

For Muslims, Arabic is important to learn and master. The reasons why it is important to master Arabic, especially by Muslims are: "a) the language of the Al-Qur'an ; b) language in prayer; c) the noble language of al-Hadith; d) language in the economic interactions of the Arab nation; and e) a language with quite a lot of speakers in the world."

The role of the Arabic language is so large, that for a long time the Indonesian people have paid great attention to the teaching of the Arabic language in schools, Islamic boarding schools and educational institutions, both formal and non-formal, which are under the auspices of the Ministry of Religion by requiring students to study Arabic. Arabic language lessons are a mandatory subject from Ibtidaiyah to tertiary level.

Studying Arabic at an Islamic boarding school is a special skill, because every year thousands of people study Arabic, but very few succeed in achieving the goals of learning Arabic. Mistakes that occur in learning Arabic for Indonesian students are inevitable, because Arabic is a foreign language, and the systems of the two languages are different, both in terms of phonology (sounds), morphology (words), syntax (sentences), semantics. (meaning), including the letters used as symbols for the sounds of the two languages.(Hasyim, 2016)

In education, Arabic plays an important role. Especially in deepening religious knowledge. Religious knowledge, which acts as a foundation in life and also in the formation of morals, requires everyone to study it well. The influence of Arabic itself on education is as follows:

1. Make it easier to master science. Islam really emphasizes the importance of the aspect of knowledge through reading. Allah says "Read in the name of your Rabb who created." [Q. S Al 'Alaq :1]Through Arabic, people can gain knowledge. Because Arabic has become a means of transferring knowledge. Concrete evidence is that many scholars enshrine various scientific disciplines in poetry, better known as nazham (manzhumah or nazhaman). With this, it will be relatively easy for someone to learn it, because they are attracted to the beauty of its structure, and it becomes mandatory to memorize it for people who really want to master it well. For example, the book *AsySyathibiyah Fi Al Qiraati As Sab'i Al Mutawatirati 'Anil Aimmati Al Qurrai As Sab'ah*, is a poetry book containing qiraahsab'ah lessons, written by Imam Al Qasim bin Firah AsySyathibi. Another book is in the form of a series of verses. Then *Al Jazariyah*, which is a book about recitation by Imam Muhammad bin Muhammad Al Jazari. In the field of musthalah hadith science, there is the book *Manzhumah Al Baiquniyah*, written by Shaykh Thaha bin Muhammad Al Baiquni. And there are many other examples.(Salim, 2015)

2. Increase the sharpness of thinking power. In this case, Umar bin Khattab said, "Study Arabic. In fact, it can strengthen the mind and increase honor. Studying Arabic will improve a person's thinking power, because in Arabic there are beautiful language structures and harmonious combinations between sentences. This will invite someone to optimize their imagination. And this is one of the factors that will slowly sharpen a person's intellectual strength.
3. Influences Moral Development. People who study Arabic will prove that this language is a means of forming noble morals and cutting off dirty behavior. In this regard, Ibn Taymiyah said: "Know that, attention to Arabic will have a big influence on (someone's) intellectual, moral and religious powers. with a very strong and real influence. Likewise, it will have a positive effect to try to emulate the early generations of this Ummah from among the friends, tabi'in and imitating them, will increase intelligence, religion and ethics."(Imam, 2009)

Teaching a foreign language is a process of educational interaction that is always related to the material (Arabic) which is the content and process, between teaching staff (Ustadz) and students (Santri). The interaction process takes place in a situational relationship.

At the Rubbath Al Futuhat Islamic Boarding School, teaching is a profession that requires knowledge, skills and accuracy because it is the same as skills training which requires tips, strategies and patience, so that you become proficient and professional. Likewise in teaching Arabic, so that Arabic language teaching can run effectively and efficiently, a method is needed.

The Arabic language teaching method at the Rubbath Al Futuhat Jepara Islamic Boarding School applies two methods, namely:

- 1) Traditional/classical method. Traditional Arabic language teaching methods are Arabic language teaching methods that focus on language as a culture of knowledge, so that learning Arabic means learning in depth about the ins and outs of Arabic language, both aspects of grammar/syntax (Qowaidnahwu), morphemes/morphology (Qowaid as -sharf) or literature (adab).(Salim, 2017)
- 2) The modern Arabic language teaching method is a teaching method that is oriented towards the goal of language as a tool. This means that Arabic is seen as a communication tool in modern life, so the core of learning Arabic is the ability to use the language actively and being able to understand speech/expressions in Arabic.

The general aim of teaching Arabic at the Rubbath Al Futuhat Jepara Islamic Boarding School is to develop students' ability to use the language both orally and in writing. The ability to use language in the world of language teaching is called language skills. The areas of skill in mastering Arabic include listening ability (listening competence/mahaarah al-Istima'), speaking ability (speaking competence/mahaarah al-takallum), reading ability (reading competence/mahaarah al-qira'ah), and writing ability (writing competence/mahaarah al – Kitaabah).

The language used in the Al-Qur'an is Arabic. So learning Arabic cannot be separated from people memorizing the Al-Qur'an. The Al-Qur'an itself contains guidelines for the life of Muslims. All Muslims should learn Arabic so they can understand Arabic at least a little. Especially those who memorize the Al-Qur'an should have a basic knowledge of Arabic so that they know what they are reading and memorizing.

Based on the results of observations made by researchers, several memorizers of the Qur'an used the Qur'an which had a word-by-word translation. They said that this made it easier for them to memorize the Al-Qur'an, especially verses with unfamiliar words. This shows that Arabic language lessons are important for those who want or are memorizing the Al-Qur'an.

There are many methods for memorizing the Al-Qur'an, one of which is by reading the verse over and over again. When memorizing, the memorizer must be familiar with and recognize the verse he or she will memorize. One method used to introduce individuals to the verses they have memorized is by reading them repeatedly. This method aims to make the memorizer familiar with the reading of the verse that he will memorize. This method is one of the effects of habituation.

It's the same as learning a foreign language. In foreign languages, the ability to read, write, listen and speak is required. Studying Arabic means learning to master the skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking. The habituation carried out during learning will have an impact on individuals who begin to recognize word by word, sentence by sentence and paragraph by paragraph. So that the end result is that individuals get used to and are able to master the language.

Studying Arabic is a shortcut to completing memorizing the Al-Qur'an. Getting used to Arabic will increase your ability to memorize. The method of studying Arabic for memorization skills should be popularized. Because apart from being able to complete memorization in an easier way, the memorizer will have knowledge of another language, namely Arabic.

Learning Arabic certainly will not have an immediate impact on an individual's memorization process. There needs to be a process in every learning. But the main thing to do is get started. Starting to familiarize yourself with Arabic will help with two things, namely helping to make learning Arabic easier to understand, and helping to make the memorization process easier. As previously mentioned, most individuals think that Arabic is a difficult language. So the individual feels lazy about learning Arabic. For those who want to memorize the Al-Qur'an, learning Arabic should be something that can be used as motivation, namely to make it easier to memorize the Al-Qur'an.

Conclusion

From the description above, it can be concluded that the interest of students at the Rubbath Al Futuhat Jepara Islamic Boarding School in memorizing the Qur'an is the deep attention or preference (tendency) of students to memorize the Qur'an continuously into memory and keep it from being forgotten through the process of repetition. Meanwhile, Arabic language skills are the ability to use Arabic, both spoken and written, which in world language teaching is called Arabic language skills, mastery of which includes listening competence (mahaarah al-Istima'), speaking competence (mahaarah al-Istima'), speaking competence (mahaarah al-Istima'). takallum), reading ability (reading competence/mahaarah al-qira'ah), and writing ability (writing competence/mahaarah al – Kitaabah).

Students at the Rubbath Al Futuhat Jepara Islamic Boarding School have a high interest in memorizing the Al-Qur'an, supported by good Arabic language skills which will help improve their Al-Qur'an tahfizh achievements because the Al-Qur'an was revealed in Arabic.

Arabic language skills have a big influence on the memorization process. All students interviewed by researchers agreed that learning Arabic would make it easier to memorize. Students who acted as participants in this research also stated that they wanted to study Arabic more deeply to help with the memorization process. The motivation that students have has an impact on their exam results which are above the minimum completeness criteria. This shows that the motivation and needs of memorizing the Al-Qur'an have an impact on the success of learning Arabic.

The motivation for students at the Rubbath Al Futuhat Islamic Boarding School in Jepara to learn Arabic for memorizing Al-Qur'an is to make it easier for them to memorize so that their communication skills using Arabic are still in the passive category. So, to improve students' communication skills, teachers should create policies that can form Arabic language

habits. Even though the goal of communicating in Arabic is not achieved, if more and more memorizers of the Al-Qur'an realize the need to learn Arabic, this will certainly increase the interest in learning Arabic.

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