



Innovation in Qur'anic Arabic Language Learning Based on Digital Technology Media to Strengthen the Understanding of Islamic Values

Lilik Nur Kholidah

Arabic Department, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Negeri Malang

Email: lilik.nur.fs@um.ac.id

Abstract

The use of technology in today's digital era has become an essential element in learning and everyday life. Qur'anic Arabic language learning in educational institutions has not yet demonstrated an optimal process, particularly in terms of the use of digital technology media. This paper examines the urgency of innovating Qur'anic Arabic language learning based on digital technology media, which can serve as a body of knowledge to strengthen the understanding of Islamic values. The utilization of digital technology media is one constructive effort to enhance the quality of Qur'anic Arabic language learning in the digital era.

Keywords **Inovation, Qur'anic Arabic Language, Islamic values**

Introduction

Historically, Arabic is one of the languages that has served as a means of communication in the world. Arabic possesses various advantages; therefore, ideally, Muslims should be able to maximize their efforts to learn and deepen their knowledge of the Arabic language, whether for personal mastery or by facilitating and guiding future generations toward this goal.

At present, the role of the Arabic language is highly significant. Arabic holds a position as a language of knowledge that has produced major scholarly works in various fields, including Islamic sciences. Thus, in order to explore the meaning and essence of Islamic values, one key element that cannot be ignored is the Arabic language (Al Khirtani, 2018).

The relationship between Arabic and Islam is deeply intertwined. Arabic is the language of the Qur'an, the foundation of Islamic teachings. It is the language used in worship, Islamic sciences, and Islamic literature since the prophethood of Muhammad and the revelation of divine scripture, as well as the language of

Hadith. This close relationship between Arabic and Islam makes it unique among other languages from a linguistic perspective. Its connection with the Qur'an also provides a strong and enduring foundation. Many scholars have devoted their abilities to uncovering the secrets of the Qur'an, as the Qur'anic text is the primary source of knowledge for all Muslims (Abdul Aziz, 2008).

The Arabic language represents the legacy of the long history of the Muslim community. Mastery and understanding of Arabic can open broader insights into the Islamic values contained in the Qur'an as the first and foremost source of Islamic law. Islam has its primary sources of religious teachings in Arabic, namely the Qur'an. Therefore, studying and understanding it certainly requires proficiency in the Arabic language. Understanding Qur'anic Arabic becomes a constructive effort toward deeper comprehension and practice of Islamic teachings.

Qur'anic Arabic holds a strategic position in Islamic education, not only as a linguistic skill but also as a pathway to achieving a correct understanding of religion (Mega Primaningtyas, 2019). Therefore, its learning process must be designed using systematic, meaningful, and contextual approaches in order to facilitate students in absorbing and applying the knowledge they acquire.

One of the keys to success in the teaching and learning process is the use of appropriate instructional media. Learning media function as a means of communication between teachers and students to deliver subject matter more clearly, attractively, and effectively. Along with technological advancements, instructional media are no longer limited to blackboards or printed books, but have developed into digital and interactive forms. The use of technology-based media, such as educational games, has been proven to increase students' motivation, interest, and learning outcomes. Arabic is an indispensable language for studying and deepening Islamic religious knowledge, as many reference sources, books, and classical texts of Islamic scholarship—especially the more comprehensive and extensive ones—are generally written in Arabic (Sya'bani et al., 2023).

Mastery of the Arabic language is necessary to understand and convey the values of the Islamic religion (Nugraha, 2023). Therefore, this paper examines the urgency of innovating Qur'anic Arabic language learning based on digital technology media to strengthen the understanding of Islamic values.

Method

This research was conducted using a literature study approach, involving a review of theories relevant to the research problems. The research technique was carried out by examining data sources in the form of scholarly literature, employing the literature review method (Arikunto, 2019). The data sources in this study were obtained from scientific writings, including peer-reviewed journal articles and relevant books.

The research findings are described and elaborated through relevant theories, previous research findings, and empirical realities. This study emphasizes its scope on conceptual aspects, Qur'anic Arabic language learning, and the utilization of digital technology media to strengthen the understanding of Islamic values.

Result and Discussion

The Position and Function of Qur'anic Arabic in Understanding Islamic Values

In modern linguistic theory, a language may be considered superior to others due to historical factors and the transformation of thought and culture. Arabic possesses distinctive qualities because it is the language of the Qur'an. By understanding Arabic, one can comprehend the contents of the holy scripture that serves as the guide for Muslims. The superiority of Arabic does not lie solely in its role as a religious language; rather, Arabic also has unique characteristics from a linguistic perspective. Through the study of its linguistic sciences, one can appreciate the beauty of the grammatical structure of the Qur'an, which constitutes an element of the Qur'an's miraculous nature (Asy'ari, 2016).

From an Islamic perspective, the urgency of learning Arabic is explicitly emphasized in the Qur'an. Allah SWT states in Surah Yusuf verse 2: "Indeed, We have sent it down as an Arabic Qur'an so that you may understand." (QS. Yusuf: 2). This verse indicates that Arabic is not merely a means of communication, but also the language of divine revelation that serves as the key to understanding the Qur'an in a deep and authentic manner.

Arabic is not only a tool for communication, but also an important bridge that connects individuals to the dimensions of spirituality and obedience to Allah SWT. Spiritual experiences in acts of worship performed in Arabic have the potential to transform individuals inwardly. This language becomes a means to attain states of *khushu'* (deep concentration) and contemplation in worship, helping individuals experience closeness to Allah and gain a deeper understanding of themselves and God (Syedah, 2021).

The revelation of the Qur'an in Arabic represents a distinctive privilege. Moreover, from a linguistic scholarly perspective, Arabic possesses unique features compared to many other languages. In terms of phonology, the sounds of the *hijaiyyah* letters cannot be fully represented by other alphabets, and their pronunciation follows specific articulation patterns. In morphology (*ṣarf*), word formation in Arabic derives from roots whose letters and meanings are interrelated. In syntax (*naḥw*), the final vowel markings (*ḥarakāt*) influence a word's grammatical position within a sentence structure, along with principles of agreement in sentence construction. In semantics (*dalālah*), Arabic examines implicit meanings within texts, particularly in Qur'anic discourse (Asy'ari, 2016).

The selection of Arabic as the language of the Qur'an has rendered Arabic a highly distinctive language. This is because no other language is considered as comprehensive as Arabic. With approximately 24 million words, Arabic is regarded as a language capable of conveying the divine words of Allah. In addition to being chosen as the language of the Qur'an, this selection is also related to geographical

factors that facilitated and accelerated its dissemination. The Middle East serves as a connecting route between the East and the West; therefore, it is reasonable that this region, from a geographical perspective, became a highly suitable location for the transmission of the final revelation intended for all humankind across the world (Shihab, 1998: 105–106). Consequently, it is logical that Arabic was chosen as the language of the Qur'an, as its geographical context supported the rapid spread of the message.

Another uniqueness of the Arabic language lies in the vast number of its vocabulary items. Each tribe also possesses its own distinct dialect. In *al-Mufashshal fi Tarikh al-'Arab Qabl al-Islam*, al-'Iraqi Jawwad Ali states that the Arabic lexicon can reach up to 12.3 million words, with the precise number being 12,305,052 lexical items. This number positions Arabic as one of the richest and most extensive languages in terms of vocabulary throughout history. There are at least two reasons why Arabic is abundant in vocabulary. First, Arabic has highly diverse and productive root systems, from which a single root can generate various words with different meanings. Second, Arabic contains many words that share similar forms but carry different meanings (Aman, 2021).

Thus, Arabic holds a special status as the language of the Qur'an. In Indonesia, one of the developments in integrating Arabic language knowledge with Qur'anic studies is known as **Qur'anic Arabic**. Qur'anic Arabic is teaching material derived from Qur'anic verses that are popular among Indonesian Muslims, used in religious outreach (da'wah), education, and Islamic studies. In addition, it includes commonly recited readings and prayers used in daily activities (Maswani, 2022).

Specifically, the scope of Qur'anic Arabic is as follows:

1. **Popular Qur'anic verses among Indonesian Muslims:** Popular verses are those that have been memorized, frequently recited, or commonly heard during worship activities, study circles (*majlis ta'lim*), and other Islamic da'wah activities. Examples include verses 1–7 of Surah Al-Fatihah, which are recited in every unit of prayer (*raka'ah*), as well as verses from the short

chapters in Juz 30. Research by D. Hidayat identified 514 Qur'anic verses that are popular among respondents, consisting of 80 participants in the Teaching Program.

2. **Other Qur'anic verses with high-frequency vocabulary:** These are verses containing words (*mufradat*) that frequently appear in basic-level Islamic studies. Verses suitable for beginners, particularly youth and adult learners, amount to 1,436 verses, comprising 844 Meccan (*Makkiyah*) and 592 Medinan (*Madaniyyah*) verses, distributed across 55 Meccan and 27 Medinan surahs (Hidayat, 2000).
3. **Daily recitations and prayers:** This includes prayers recited during obligatory (*fard*) and voluntary (*sunnah*) prayers, prayers before and after worship, and prayers associated with fasting and Hajj rituals.
4. **Arabic discourse related to Islamic principles:** According to Government Regulation No. 55 of 2007, "Sciences derived from Islamic teachings include Islamic religious knowledge (*dirasah Islamiyah*), either independently or integrated with general knowledge and skills. Islamic religious knowledge (*dirasah Islamiyah*) can be classified thematically into: creed (*aqidah*), Qur'anic exegesis (*tafsir*), Hadith, jurisprudence principles (*usul fiqh*), jurisprudence (*fiqh*), ethics (*akhlak*), Sufism (*tasawuf*), and Islamic history (*tarikh Islam*)."

The importance of Arabic in understanding the Qur'an lies in its ability to facilitate accurate interpretation. The nuances of words, the use of grammar, and even the syntax of Arabic play a crucial role in conveying deeper meanings. Understanding the social and linguistic context at the time of the Qur'an's revelation is also essential for deriving wisdom from its teachings. Arabic serves as the key to a deeper comprehension of Islamic teachings and Qur'anic values. Its capacity to express religious nuances and provide insight into divine meaning makes it a foundational element of religious understanding for Muslims. Through proper study, research, and application, Arabic continues to be a tool that enables Muslims to extract guidance and wisdom from the Qur'an to face contemporary challenges (Ridwan,

2023).

The diverse content of Qur'anic Arabic can be studied through structured learning activities. Therefore, Qur'anic Arabic instruction is primarily directed at developing text comprehension skills rather than conversational or writing skills, and is limited to understanding Qur'anic language materials (Muttaqin, 2013).

The position of Arabic as the language of Islamic knowledge, education, and culture during the Islamic Golden Age is considered a “dual achievement,” reflecting both the accomplishments of Islam and the Arabic language. As a result, many authors have paired the words “Islam and Arabic” in the titles of their works, such as *al-Wâḥidî fî Târîkh al-'Ulûm 'inda al-'Arab* by 'Abduh al-Hilwu and Bahza Jâbir, *Târîkh al-Falsafah al-'Arabiyyah* by Jamîl Shalîba, *Tajalliyât al-Falsafah al-'Arabiyyah* by Abû Ya'rib al-Marzûqî, among others.

The strategic role of Arabic as a language of education, culture, and politics in everyday life during the Islamic Golden Age cannot be separated from several key factors. First, the ideological factor: Arabic was already closely intertwined with Islam, which its followers practiced. Second, the doctrinal factor: the Qur'an in Arabic emphasizes the pursuit and development of knowledge, motivating Muslims to understand and actualize Islamic teachings contained in the Arabic texts of the Qur'an and the Sunnah. Third, the linguistic factor: Arabic continues to function as a dynamic fusha language, capable of keeping pace with the developments of the era due to its morphological, syntactic, semantic, and sociolinguistic advantages. Fourth, the political factor: support from rulers and multi-ethnic populations, from Andalusia (Spain) in the West to Persia in the Middle East, played a crucial role in sustaining Arabic's prominence (Sabrina G, 2023).

Innovation in Qur'anic Arabic Language Learning Based on Digital Technology Media

The current development of the Arabic language highlights its relevance to the demands of the modern era. In the digital age, Arabic has gained a broad platform to play a role in conveying the messages of Islam to a wider audience. The application of digital technology in Qur'anic Arabic language learning represents a significant innovation for improving the quality of Qur'anic Arabic instruction.

In today's digital era, technology is an essential part of both education and daily life. Its use has become mandatory across all fields, including education. Therefore, the integration of digital technology into Qur'anic Arabic learning can help learners more easily study and understand teaching materials. There is a wide variety of digital technologies that can be utilized for Qur'anic Arabic instruction. According to Tugino (2023), the main types of digital technology that can be applied include:

a. Mobile applications

There are numerous applications for Islamic Education (PAI) and Arabic language learning available on the App Store and Play Store, which facilitate the learning process. These applications are generally equipped with Indonesian translations, Qur'anic exegesis (*tafsir*), and other features to aid in understanding the meaning. Some popular applications include:

1. Qur'an

The mobile application "Quran" is designed to simplify access to Qur'anic reading and comprehension. Its features and advantages include:

- **Complete Qur'an:** The app provides the full Qur'an with translations in Indonesian, English, and other languages. Additionally, users can choose Qur'anic recitation in various *qira'at* (reading styles).

b. Explanations of Nahwu, Şarf, Tafsir, and Asbāb al-Nuzūl: This application is equipped with explanations of Arabic grammar (Nahwu and Şarf), Qur'anic exegesis (Tafsir by Ibn Kathir and Jalalain), and the reasons for revelation (Asbāb al-Nuzūl) prepared by a team of experts. These explanations help users understand

the meanings and content of Qur'anic verses.

c. Audio Recitation Feature: Users can listen to Qur'anic recitations by renowned qurrā' (reciters) with clear and melodious audio quality.

d. Verse Search Feature: The application includes a search function that allows users to find specific verses and their translations efficiently.

e. Bookmark Feature: Users can mark particular verses as bookmarks for future reference.

f. Islamic Study Feature: In addition to the Qur'an, the application provides Islamic studies on various topics, such as creed ('Aqīdah), jurisprudence (Fiqh), and Qur'anic interpretation.

The Mobile Quran application serves as an effective tool to facilitate access, recitation, and understanding of the Qur'an, as well as learning Arabic and Islamic teachings. With its comprehensive features, the app helps users deepen their knowledge of the Qur'an, Arabic, and Islam in an easy and efficient manner.

2. Qur'an Kemenag

The Qur'an Kemenag mobile application, developed by the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs, is designed to facilitate access to the Qur'an and its understanding. Its features include: Complete Qur'an: The app provides the full Qur'an with translations in Indonesian and English, with options for various qirā'āt (reading styles).

Explanations and Tafsir: Expert-prepared explanations and tafsir help users understand the meanings and content of Qur'anic verses. Audio Recitation: Users can listen to Qur'anic recitations by famous reciters with clear and melodious audio.

Verse Search: The app provides a search function for finding verses and translations quickly. Bookmark: Users can save specific verses for later reference.

Islamic Studies: The app offers studies on Islamic topics such as creed,

jurisprudence, and Qur'anic interpretation. The Qur'an Kemenag app is an effective medium for accessing and reciting the Qur'an and can also serve as a learning tool for Islamic Education (PAI) and Arabic language. Its features allow users to deepen their understanding of the Qur'an and Islamic teachings efficiently and conveniently.

3. Quran Majeed

This application provides the complete Qur'an with English translations and audio recitations by well-known reciters. Users can also study tafsir to gain a deeper understanding of Islamic teachings.

The current tendency of younger generations to access digital information highlights the potential of such digital media as tools to strengthen understanding of Islamic values. Therefore, the use of digital technology in Qur'anic Arabic learning is essential—not only to enhance comprehension of Islamic teachings but also to improve digital literacy

Conclusion

Innovating Qur'anic Arabic language learning by utilizing various digital media represents a constructive effort to create an adaptive learning process in line with the developments of the current digital era. The use of diverse digital technologies is necessary to optimize the delivery of Islamic values.

There is a wide range of digital technologies that can be employed in Qur'anic Arabic learning, including mobile applications, Mobile Qur'an, Qur'an Kemenag, and Quran Majeed. The integration of digital technology in Qur'anic Arabic instruction can help learners study and understand learning materials more easily and effectively.

References

Abdul Aziz bin Ibrahim. 2008. *Min Khosoisi Al-Lughoh Arobiyah*. Riyadh: Kunuz Syibilia Al Yamin, D. L. 2023. Bahasa Arab Sebagai Identitas Budaya Islam dan Pemersatu Keberagaman Suku. Ta'limi | Journal of Arabic Education and Arabic Studies, 2(1), 73–86. <https://doi.org/10.53038/tlmi.v2i1.60>

- Alhirtani, Nahla A K, 2018. "The Influence of Arabic Language Learning on Understanding of Islamic Legal Sciences--A Study in the Sultan Idris Education University.," *International Education Studies* 11, no. 2,: 55–66
- Aman, Moh. 2021. Bahasa Aran dan Bahasa al Quran. Tadarus Tarbawy. Vol. 3 No. 1 Jan – Juni . ISSN. 2657-1285 e-ISSN. 2656-8756 (301)
- Asy'ari, Hasyim 2016. Keistimewaan Bahasa Arab Sebagai Bahasa Al-Qur'an. *Jurnal Manajemen Pendidikan Islam (Nidhomul Haq)* ISSN 2503-1481, Volume 1 (01) 21-28
- Arikunto, S. 2019. *Prosedur Penelitian: Suatu Pendekatan Praktik*. Rineka Cipta
- Hidayat, 2000. Laporan Penelitian, "Materi Pelajaran Ayat Al-Qur'an Untuk Peserta Didik Tingkat Pemula",
- Kamusella, Tomasz Dominik, "The Arabic Language: A Latin of Modernity?," *Journal of Nationalism, Memory and Language Politics* (2017)
- Mega Primaningtyas, C. E. S. 2019. Urgensi Bahasa Arab dalam Pendidikan Islam di Era Revolusi Industri 4.0. *SALIHA: Jurnal Pendidikan Islam*, 2(2). Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-021-12260-z>
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-13062-7>
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cegh.2021.100907>
<http://ejournal-s1.undip.ac.id/index.php/jnursing>
<https://ejurnal.poltekkes-tjk.ac.id/index.php/JKEP/article/view/355>
<http://p>
- Masnawi. (2022). *Bahasa Arab Qurani : Model Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Berbasis Religiusitas Pada Orang Dewasa*. Jakarta Publik Indonesia Utama
- Muttaqin, Zainudin .2013. Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Quran melalui jalur Pendidikan Keagamaan. *Qiro'ah. Jurnal penddiikan Agama Islam*. Vol 5 No 2 Juni 2013
- Novi Maria Ulfah, 2015. Strategi Dan Manajemen Dakwah Islam Indonesia, *Jurnal Ilmu Dakwah UIN Semarang*, Semarang, ISSN 1693-8054, hlm. 34
- Nugraha, Rahmat Mulya et al., 2023 "Pelatihan Peningkatan Kemampuan Bahasa Arab Aktif Bagi Siswa SMP Terpadu Al-Amin Tasikmalaya," *JIPM: Jurnal Inovasi Pengabdian Masyarakat* 1, no. 2, 93–97
- Purba, Fatimah. 2016. Pendekatan dalam Studi Al-Quran: Studi tentang Metode dan Pendekatan Al-Quran. *Jurnal As-Salam*, Vol.1, No. 2, September - Desember 2016
- Ridwan, Mohammad. 2023. Membuka Wawasan KeIslaman, Kebermaknaan Bahasa Arab dalam Pemahaman Islam. *Jazirah. Jurnal Peradaban dan Kebudayaan*. Vol 4 nomor 2 Desember 2023
- Sabrina G, Azizah, Inayah, Umairah Muthia, Dwi Haryuni, Nadya (2023). Peranan Bahasa Arab Dalam Pengembangan Studi Islam . *Jurnal Ekonomi, Syariah dan Studi Islam* Vol. 1 No. 2, Oktober 2023 E-ISSN: 2986-2981 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.59548/je.v1i12.78>
- Shihab, M. Quraish, 1998 *Mu'jizat al-Qur'an: Ditinjau dari Aspek Kebahasaan, Isyarat Ilmiah dan Pemberitaan Ghaib*, Bandung: Mizan,
- Syedah Mahparaa, 2021 "No Title," in *Ahamiyatu Al-Lughati Al-'Arabiyyati Wa 'Alaqtuha Bi Ad-Dini Al-Islamy*, vol. 1, 132–149.
- Sya'bani, Muhammad Zaky, Hazaputra, Qois Azizah. 2023 Relevansi Bahasa Arab dalam Dakwah : Refleksi atas kedudukan bahasa arab sebagai bahasa Al-Quran (Tinjauan Literatur), *Ath-Thariq ; Jurnal dakwah dan komunikasi*, Vol.

07 No. 01, Januari-Juni

Tugino, Muhammad Munadi, Khuriyah. 2023. Pengaplikasian Teknologi Digital dalam Pembelajaran PAI dan Bahasa Arab. INNOVATIVE: Journal Of Social Science Research Volume 3 Nomor 2, 12028-12040