The Effects of Traditional Methods on Students Engagement and Retention in Qur'anic Education

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Abstract: The traditional method of memorisation involves using a technique called *tartil*. This involves reciting the Qur'an slowly and carefully, paying attention to the correct pronunciation, pauses, and intonation. The student will often repeat each *Ayah* over and over again until he has it memorised perfectly. In the past, the traditional method of Qur'an memorisation was the only way to learn the Qur'an. The aim of this paper is to highlight the Effect of traditional method in teaching and memorisation to the Qur'anic teachers, students and general Muslim *Ummah*. The method used in this research is analytical method which contains observation, consulting literatures and interview. And finally the paper made a glance into the method of teaching and memorisation traditionally and concluded.
Keywords: Impact, Traditional, Method, Teaching, Memorisation, Teachers, Students.

How to Cite this Paper: Muhammad Kabiru Sabo (2025). The Effects of Traditional Methods on Students Engagement and Retention in Qur'anic Education. *Middle East Res J Linguist Lit, 5*(1): 16-20.

INTRODUCTION

The Glorious Qur'an is the sacred scripture of Islam, believed by Muslims to be the word of God as revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Memorising and reciting it is a highly revered practice in Islamic culture, with numerous benefits both spiritual and intellectual. Throughout the history, various methods and technologies have been employed to facilitate the teaching and memorisation of the Qur'an. Furthermore, The Glorious Qur'an holds profound significance for millions of Muslims worldwide, not only as a religious text but also as a source of guidance and inspiration. The process of learning and memorising the Qur'an has traditionally been a revered and time-honoured practice, relying on traditional methods passed down through generations. However, with the advent of modern technology, new avenues for learning and memorisation have emerged, bringing both advantages and challenges [1]. In another assertion, the Glorious Qur'an holds a central place in the lives of over 1.8 billion Muslims worldwide [2]. Its memorisation and understanding are considered essential religious practices. Throughout history, various methods have been employed to teach and memorise the Qur'an, with traditional methods dominating for centuries however, this analytical discourse aims at exploring and comparing the approaches of traditional methods and modern technology in this context, examining their advantages, drawbacks, and potential impacts on the preservation and dissemination of the Qur'an. It also aims exploring the strengths and limitations of both traditional and modern approaches, shedding light on their impact on the transmission and preservation of the Qur'an.

Traditional Method of Qur'anic Education

The traditional method of teaching and memorising the Qur'an has been an integral part of Islamic education for centuries. This method usually involves a teacher (*Hafidh*) imparting the knowledge of the Qur'an to students in a one-on-one or small group setting. The primary emphasis is on oral recitation and

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[1] N. Ahmed, "Innovations in the Teaching of the Holy Qur'an: From Traditional Method to Online Education." in International Journal of English Linguistics, vol. 9, issue, (3), 2019, Pp, 96-101.

[2] N. Ahmed, "Innovations in the Teaching of the Holy Qur'an: From Traditional Method to Online Education." in International Journal of English Linguistics, P, 97.

memorisation of the Qur'an using prescribed rules of *Tajwid* [3].

There are several impacts of using the traditional method. First, it is a very effective way to memorise the Qur'an. This is because the method focuses on repetition and recitation, which are two of the most effective ways to learn new things. Students who use this method are able to memorise the Qur'an quickly and accurately. Second, the traditional method helps students to develop a deep understanding of the Qur'an. As they recite the Qur'an over and over again, they come to understand the meaning of the *Ayaat* and how they are applied to their lives [4]. This is because the traditional method encourages students to think about the meaning of the Qur'an as they are memorising it. Third, the traditional method helps students to develop good recitation skills. By practicing their recitation, they learn to read the Qur'an correctly and beautifully [5].

Finally, the traditional method helps students to develop good recitation skills. By practicing their recitation, they learn to read the Qur'an correctly and beautifully. This is an important skill for Muslim *Ummah*, as it allows them to recite the Qur'an in a way that is pleasing to Allah.

Effect of Traditional Method on Qur'anic Teachers Preservation of Qur'anic Knowledge:
The traditional method ensures the preservation of the Qur'an's original text and pronunciation. By passing down the knowledge orally, it minimizes the risk of errors or alterations in the Qur'an's recitation [6].

Effect of Traditional Method on Qur'anic Students Strong Connection with the Qur'an:
The traditional method fosters a deep spiritual and emotional connection between students and the

Qur'an. Reciting and memorising the Qur'an becomes a profound and personal experience for the students [7].

Discipline and Patience:
Memorising the Qur'an through the traditional method requires dedication, discipline, and patience. Students learn the value of persistence and hard work.

Memorising the Qur'an requires discipline, dedication, and focus. Students have to commit a significant portion of their time and effort to the memorisation process. This discipline can positively influence other aspects of their lives as well, promoting a strong work ethic and commitment to their studies [8].

Community Bonds:
Many students attend Qur'anic schools or circles where they interact with peers and teachers, fostering a sense of community and support [9].

Effects of Traditional Method on the General Muslim *Ummah*:
The traditional method of Qur'anic education is an essential part of the Muslim *Ummah*'s cultural and spiritual heritage. It keeps the centuries-old tradition alive and connects the *Ummah* with its roots [10].

As students become *Huffadh* and Qur'anic teachers themselves, they contribute to the spread of Qur'anic recitation across different communities and countries [11].

The oral transmission method ensures the accurate preservation of the Qur'an's original text, protecting it from any alterations or distortions. Furthermore, the direct interaction with a knowledgeable teacher fosters a spiritual bond, enhancing the student's dedication and commitment to memorisation. Also, the sense of community and group learning motivates

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3 M. A. Abdullah, Towards Excellence in Reciting and Understanding the Qur'an. Riyadh: International Islamic Publishing House. 2006, Pp, 12-16. Tajwid means (the rules governing pronunciation and phonetics)
4 M. S. Abdul-Rahman, "The Relationship between Memorisation of the Qur'an and its Understanding from the Perspective of Some Contemporary Muslim Scholars." MA Thesis, University of Jordan, 2002, Pp, 23-45
5 M. Khalid, The Impact of the Traditional Method of Teaching and Memorisation of the Glorious Qur'an on Students' Learning Outcomes. International Journal of Islamic Studies, vol. 2, issue, 1, 2014, 1-12.
6 M. N. Amin, Memorisation of the Qur'an: History, Features, and Process. IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science, vol. 19, issue, 5, 2014, Pp, 35-41.

7 A. A. Ghazali, The Challenges of Hifz al-Qur'an (Qur'an Memorisation) in Non-Arab Speaking Countries. Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Humanities, Historical and Social Sciences, CHHSS'2011, Pp, 22-34
8 A. A. Ghazali, The Challenges of Hifz al-Qur'an (Qur'an Memorisation) in Non-Arab Speaking Countries. Pp, 35-36
9 A. A. Ghazali, The Challenges of Hifz al-Qur'an (Qur'an Memorisation) in Non-Arab Speaking Countries…Pp, 34-38.
10 N. Abdullah, The Science of Tajweed in Qur'anic Recitations. QUR'ANICA - International Journal of Qur'anic Research, vol. 11, issue, 1, 2019, Pp, 1-20.
11 A. A. Ghazali, The Challenges of Hifz al-Qur'an (Qur'an Memorisation) in Non-Arab Speaking Countries…Pp, 34-37.

students and offers a support system during the memorisation process [12].

Spiritual Development:

The traditional methods emphasize the importance of spirituality and devotion in the learning process. Students often spend considerable time in the company of their teachers, leading to a strong teacher-student relationship that goes beyond mere academic instruction. This environment of spiritual guidance plays a significant role in the holistic development of students' faith and character [13].

In many Muslim communities, the memorisation and recitation of the Qur'an are communal activities. Qur'anic teachers often conduct classes in mosques or other Islamic centres, bringing together students from various backgrounds and fostering a sense of community and unity among the *Ummah*.

Cultural Heritage:

The traditional methods of Qur'anic teaching have been an integral part of Islamic culture and heritage. These methods have been passed down through generations, contributing to the preservation of Islamic traditions and values [14].

Intellectual Development:

Traditional methods of Qur'anic education often involve rigorous recitation, pronunciation, and memorisation rules. This proces enhances students' linguistic abilities, phonetic awareness, and memory skills, which can boost their intellectual development [15].

Respect for Scholars and Teachers:

The relationship between Qur'anic teachers and students is highly respected in Muslim societies. This reverence for scholars and teachers fosters a culture of knowledge-seeking and appreciation for religious authority [16]. Research studies have highlighted some positive outcomes of this approach. It helps students develop strong oral recitation skills, fosters discipline and dedication, and enhances their connection with the text. Additionally, the traditional method instils a sense of spirituality and reverence towards the Qur'an [17].

The impact of the traditional method of teaching and memorisation of the Glorious Qur'an on students' learning outcomes has been a subject of interest and research. Studies have shown that the traditional method, which involves rote memorisation and recitation, can be effective for instilling a deep connection with the text and promoting spiritual growth [18].

However, some research suggest that this method may not always lead to a comprehensive understanding of the meanings and context of the *Ayaat*. It might limit critical thinking and analytical skills among students. Therefore, a combination of traditional memorisation with modern teaching approaches that encourage comprehension and application of the Qur'an's teachings is often recommended [19].

A Glance at the Traditional Method of Qur'an Memorisation

The student begins by learning the correct Arabic pronunciation of the Qur'an. This is done by repeating after the teacher, who will often use a wooden board to help the student with the proper articulation of the sounds.

Once the student masters the pronunciation, he will begin to memorise the Qur'an *Ayah* by *Ayah*. The teacher usually assigns few *Ayaat* to the student each day, and the student will be expected to memorise them by the next session. The student often uses a *murshid*, or memorisation guide, to help him memorise the Qur'an [20].

12 M. Z. Siddiqi, The Role of Qur'an Schools in Preserving Islamic Knowledge. Islamic Studies, vol. 46, issue, 2, 2007, Pp, 229-248.

13 A. Al-Musleh, The Qur'an and its role in education and upbringing. JKAU: Islamic Economics, vol. 25, issue, 2, 2012, Pp, 219-244.

14 A. Al-Musleh, The Qur'an and its role in education and upbringing. JKAU: Islamic Economics… Pp, 219-244

15 A. Al-Musleh, The Qur'an and its role in education and upbringing. JKAU: Islamic Economics… Pp, 219-244

16 A. Al-Musleh, The Qur'an and its role in education and upbringing. JKAU: Islamic Economics… Pp, 219-245

17 R. Hashim, "The Role of the Qur'an in Memorisation and Education." Journal of Qur'anic Studies, vol, 16, issue, 1, 2014, Pp, 68-89. This research delves into the significance of memorisation as a method of understanding and preserving the Qur'an, shaping teaching approaches.

18 M. Khan, Traditional Islamic methods of Qur'anic preservation and the challenges of modernity. Journal of Qur'anic Studies, vol, 17, issue, 1, Pp, 2015, 87-108.

19 M. Ghazali, "The Effects of the Qur'anic Method of Education on Memory." in Journal of Islam in Asia, vol. 8, issue, 2, 2011,Pp, 249-268. This study explores how the traditional Qur'anic teaching method enhances memory capabilities in students, benefiting both teachers and learners.

20 The *murshid* is a small book that contains the Arabic text of the Qur'an, along with the transliteration and translation into the local language.

The is student who memorise the Qur'an in groups, with other students who are at the same level. This can be helpful for motivation and accountability. Moreso, the student will be tested on his memorisation regularly, by the teacher, or by a *hafidh* (memoriser) or someone who has memorised the entire Qur'an.

The student will continue to memorise the Qur'an until he has memorised the entire Book. This can take years or several months, depending on the student's dedication retentive memory and ability. This process therefore requires discipline, focus, and hard work. The student who memorises the Qur'an will gain a deep understanding of the Islamic faith, and will be able to recite the Qur'an from memory, a highly respected skill in Islam.

In recent years, there has been a growing interest in using modern methods of Qur'an memorisation, such as audio recordings and software programs. These methods are helpful for some students, but they cannot replace the traditional method, which is still considered to be the most effective way to memorise the Qur'an.

The impact of traditional method of Qur'an memorisation is still felt and widely practiced in Sokoto, Kebbi, and Zamfara States. There are many Qur'an memorisation schools in these states, and many students are still choosing to memorise the Qur'an by the traditional way. This is because the traditional method is considered to be the most effective way to memorise the Qur'an, and it also provides the student with a deeper understanding of the Islamic faith.

It is important to state that the traditional method and modern technology are not mutually exclusive. In fact, the best way to teach the Qur'an is to use a combination of both approaches. This will allow students to benefit from the strengths of both methods.

For example, students can use modern technology to learn basics of the Qur'an, such as the alphabet and the pronunciation of the words. They can then use the traditional method to memorise the Qur'an and to develop a deeper understanding of its meaning. By using a combination of traditional and modern methods, teachers can help students learn the Qur'an in a way that is both effective and engaging.

The traditional method of teaching and memorising the Glorious Qur'an often involves in-person instruction by qualified teachers in a mosque or Islamic school. It emphasizes oral recitation, memorisation through repetition, and a strong focus on correct pronunciation and *Tajwid* (rules of Qur'anic recitation). This method has been passed down through generations and holds significant cultural and spiritual value. However, while technology can enhance learning and provide convenience, some argue that the traditional method fosters a deeper connection with the text and spiritual experience. Both approaches have their strengths, and many institutions now integrate both traditional teaching and modern technology to cater to di*Ayah* learning styles and needs. The combination of the two can enrich the overall learning experience and promote a broader engagement with the Glorious Qur'an.

The traditional method has therefore many benefits, including:
1. It allows for individual attention from the teacher, which can help students learn at their own pace.
2. It provides a strong foundation in the recitation and *Tajwid* (proper pronunciation) of the Qur'an.
3. It helps students develop a deep understanding of the meaning of the Qur'an.

CONCLUSION

The trend of Memorisation is applied by those who were endowed with retentive memory of the techniques adopted by ancient scholars in preserving knowledge, especially that of al-Qur'an. There is no doubt that in this modern age there are many methods used to ensure the preservation of al-Qur'an. However, Memorising method is still used to ensure that the al-Qur'an remains intact in the hearts of men. Despite the fact that memorising the Qur'an is made an easy task to every Muslim, it's process requires some skills beforehand. This includes reciting the Qur'an with proper *Tajwid* and smooth reading. The design of interactive and systematic system and application development is very important in ensuring the effectiveness of the students in Qur'anic memorisation. This is because of the diversity of styles and strategies developed and which will produce quality *Huffadh* in terms of knowledge and professionalism.

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