

**EXPLORING THE LEVELS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF
DIVERSE GROUPS OF PEOPLE IN UNDERSTANDING THE
QUR'AN: A CASE STUDY IN NILAI, NEGERI SEMBILAN**

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AUTHOR DECLARATION

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged.

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

“The name of Allah the most gracious and the Most Merciful”

In the name of God, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful, and all the praises belong to Him. Peace is upon His Messenger Muhammad, the last of the Prophet and righteous follower. I am very grateful to the Almighty Allah SWT for all the strength, pearls of wisdom, patience, and ability bestowed upon me to complete this research. Thus, I would like to express extreme gratitude and appreciation to these important people.

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ABSTRAK

Kitab Al-Qura'n mengandungi segala yang membina dan mendidik manusia sebagai khalifah Allah SWT, membina hati, roh, fikiran, minda, peribadi, mengangkat nilai kemanusiaan setinggi-tingginya dan menggunakannya sebagai panduan sebaik mungkin dalam kehidupan. Masalah utama yang timbul ialah umat Islam mempunyai sebuah buku yang sangat mengagumkan (Al-Qur'an) tetapi tidak banyak yang mampu hidup berpanduan keberkatan dan petunjuk ajaran daripadanya disebabkan pemahaman dan pendekatan Muslim itu sendiri terhadap Al-Qur'an. Oleh itu, kajian ini memprofilkan pemahaman Al-Qur'an di kalangan pelbagai kumpulan manusia di Nilai, Negeri Sembilan dari sudut tahap pemahaman dan ciri-ciri mereka. Secara khusus, kajian ini mempunyai dua objektif utama iaitu menerokai peringkat pemahaman Al-Qur'an di kalangan pelbagai kumpulan manusia dan menganalisis ciri-ciri pelbagai kumpulan manusia berdasarkan tahap pemahaman Al-Qur'an mereka. Seterusnya, kajian ini memilih kaedah kajian kes dan pendekatan secara kualitatif. Dari sudut pengumpulan data, seramai 18 orang peserta kajian telah ditemubual menggunakan kaedah temubual semi struktur. Setiap temubual yang dijalankan telah direkodkan di dalam bentuk audio dan ditranskripsikan dalam dokumen berbentuk 'word'. Seterusnya, perisian ATLAS.ti digunakan untuk menguruskan data dari temubual tersebut. Data dianalisis menggunakan dua jenis analisis iaitu analisis tematik dan analisis kerangka. Hasil kajian mendapati bahawa terdapat lima tahap pemahaman Al-Qur'an iaitu Naive, Beginner, Intermediate, Advance dan Expert. Kelima-lima tahap ini mempunyai ciri-ciri unik yang merangkumi kemahiran dalam berbahasa Arab serta amalan berkaitan Al-Qur'an. Konklusinya, hasil dapatan kajian menunjukkan terdapat pelbagai tahap pemahaman Al-Qur'an bermula dari peringkat yang gagal untuk memahami sehinggalah tahap pemahaman yang cemerlang. Kemahiran bahasa arab dan amalan spiritual yang berkaitan dengan Al-Qur'an merupakan antara kunci utama dalam meningkatkan tahap pemahaman isi kandungannya.

ABSTRACT

The Quran contains everything that build and educate people as caliphs of Allah SWT, building up heart, spirit, body, mind, character, raising the highest dignity of humanity and taking it as guidance of life in the best possible way. Therefore, Muslims are obliged to understand its content and knowledge from it. The major problem for Muslims is that despite having the Quran, many live without its blessings and guidance due to their understanding and approach to the Quran itself. Thus, this study profiled the understandings of the Qur'an among diverse groups of people in Nilai, Negeri Sembilan in the perspective, levels of understanding and their characteristics towards the Qur'an. Specifically, this study had two main objectives which were: to explore the levels of understanding the Qur'an among diverse groups of people and, to analyze the characteristics of diverse groups of people based on their level of understanding the Qur'an. Furthermore, this study chosen a case study method using qualitative approach. To collect the data, 18 participants were selected and interviewed using a semi-structured interview. Each interview was recorded in audio and transcribed in word documents. The ATLAS.ti software was selected to manage the data from the interviews. The data was analyzed using two types of analysis which were thematic analysis and framework analysis. The result showed that there were five levels of understanding which were; Naive, Beginner, Intermediate, Advance, and Expert. Each level had its differences of characteristics enclosed of Arabic language proficiency and their practices toward the Qur'an. In conclusion, the finding from this study shows there were many levels of understanding the Qur'an starting for those who fail to understand to those who comprehend the meaning. Excellent Arabic proficiency and outstanding practices towards the Qur'an is crucial to enhance the levels of understanding the content.

الملخص

إن القرآن محتوًى على كل ما بيني ويعلم الناس لخليفة وينشاء قلوبهم وأرواحهم وأنفسهم وجسدهم وعقلهم وشخصيتهم ويرفع بهاءهم ويجعله إرشادا للحياة. إذن، ينبغي على المسلم لفهم القرآن محتوياته ومعارفاته. المشكلة هي أن المسلمين لديهم كتابا مؤثرا للغاية (القرآن) ولكن كثيرون لا يستطيعون العيش على أساس النعم والتعاليم منه بسبب فهم المسلم للقرآن ونهجه. لذلك ، تصف هذه الدراسة فهم القرآن بين مجموعات مختلفة من الناس في نيلاي، نيجيرى سمبيلان من حيث مستوى فهمهم وخصائصهم. على وجه التحديد ، تحتوي هذه الدراسة على هدفين رئيسيين ، وهما: استكشاف مستوى فهم القرآن بين مجموعات مختلفة من الناس ، وتحليل خصائص مجموعات مختلفة من الناس بناء على مستوى فهمهم للقرآن. تم استخدام المنهج النوعي في طبيعة هذه الدراسة وفقا لتصميم دراسة الحالة، لجمع البيانات ، تمت مقابلة 18 مشاركا باستخدام طريقة المقابلة شبه المنظمة. يتم تسجيل كل مقابلة في شكل صوتي ونسخها في وثيقة "Word" . تم استخدام برنامج "ATLAS.ti" لإدارة البيانات من المقابلات. ثم تحليل البيانات باستخدام نوعين من التحليل وهما التحليل الموضوعي وتحليل الإطار. ووجدت نتائج الدراسة أن هناك خمسة مستويات لفهم القرآن وهي: "Naive, Beginner, Intermediate, Advance, Expert". تتميز هذه المستويات الخمسة بخصائص فريدة تشمل مهارات اللغة العربية بالإضافة إلى الممارسات المتعلقة بالقرآن. خلاصة القول، هناك كثرة من المستويات لفهم القرآن ابتداء من من غير الفاهمين به الى الفاهمين الماهرين. المهارة اللغوية وممارستها هي المفتاح لفهم المستويات القرآن.

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LIST OF TRANSLITERATION

Consonant

Arabic Character	Transliteration
ا, ء	a, ʿ
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ

Arabic Character	Transliteration
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
و	h
هـ	w
ي	y
ة	h

Vocal

Short Vocal	Transliteration
َ (fathah)	a
ِ (kasrah)	i
ُ (ḍammah)	u

Long Vocal	Transliteration
آ	ā
إ	ī
أ	ū

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

SWT
SAW
PBUH
RA
AS
H
AD

Subhānahu wa ta'ālā
Sallā Allah 'alayh wa sallam
Peace be upon Him
Raḍiya Allah 'anhu/'anha/'anhum
'alayh al-salām
Hijrah
After Masihi

