



Halaqoh Method to Enhance the Quality of Al Qur'an Learning towards New Students in Islamic Boarding School

Muhamad Syahrul Abidin¹

Institut Agama Islam Al Muhammad Cepu, Blora, Indonesia

abidins591@gmail.com

Linna Endah Nur Wahyuni²

Institut Agama Islam Al Muhammad Cepu, Blora, Indonesia

Linna.endah79@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The main problems covered in this study are 1) How is the implementation of the Qur'an education halaqah in the Mansyaul Huda 02 Senori-Tuban Islamic boarding school? 2) How is the quality of Qur'an learning for new students in the Mansyaul Huda 02 Senori-Tuban Islamic boarding school? 3) What is the role of the Qur'an education halaqah strategy in improving the quality of Qur'an learning for new students in the Mansyaul Huda 02 Islamic boarding school. The research method used is a qualitative method with qualitative data collection techniques through observation, interview, and documentation. The data Analysis Techniques are through data reduction, data presentation, and data verification. The results of the study show that the halaqah applied in the Mansyaul Huda 02 Senori Islamic boarding school in everyday life has an important role in improving the Qur'an reading skills of students, such as reading skills. In addition, the halaqah strategy also forms the Islamic character of students by increasing awareness and practice of Islamic values in the daily lives of students in Islamic boarding schools. This study also shows that the halaqah strategy can increase students' motivation and self-confidence, as well as increase students' insight, thereby opening up wider opportunities for the future of students as provisions for living in society and interacting with the global world. This research implies that the halaqah strategy can be one of the effective strategies to form knowledgeable students, have good morals and have good reading of the Qur'an and have broad insight to face future challenges and contribute to society.

Keywords: *Halaqoh Method, Improving Quality, Al Qur'an Learning*



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INTRODUCTION

The Qur'an holds an important role, benefits, and functions for Muslims, especially in the lives of human beings. The Qur'an serves as a source of knowledge, providing benefits to those who read it, and to those who memorize its contents. One of the virtues of the Qur'an is that the contents of the book are guarded by Allah and are widely memorized by all people, (An Nahdliyah et al., 2022).

Reading the Qur'an is an important practice in Muslim life that involves pronunciation and understanding (Palufi & Syahid, 2020). The ability to read the Al-Qur'an does not only include the ability to read Arabic letters, but also understanding tajwid (correct reading rules), so that the reading is well done and in accordance with applicable norms (Abdurrahman, 2017). Moreover, reading the Qur'an includes aspects of good and correct pronunciation in accordance with the rules of tajwid, so that the messages contained in it can be conveyed clearly and in accordance with the desired meaning (Zaini, 2023)

One of the effective methods in the context of Al-Qur'an education is the halaqoh method. This method emphasizes a dialogical and collaborative approach between teachers and students, so that the learning process becomes more interactive and in-depth (Tatang, Ahmad, at el, 2018).

The halaqoh method is an approach to Islamic teaching that involves discussion and interaction between a teacher (ustadz) and a group of participants with a structured approach (Firdaus & Nasoha, 2024). In principle, this halaqah method is guided by kyai/teachers who each have their own area of concentration of knowledge. This teacher sits in the corner of one of the sudet, then the students sit in a circle around the teacher or ustad (forming a halaqoh), after that, this teacher/ustad delivers his study according to his scientific concentration, (Ilham, 2020).

Based on the writers' observation in the implementation of learning to read the Quran at the Mansyaul Huda 02 Senori Islamic Boarding School - Tuban, several problems were found, namely that some students were less enthusiastic about reading the Quran. In addition, there were also obstacles in students in understanding the laws of tajwid, and many students still stuttered in reading the Quran. On the other hand, the application of the halaqoh method in learning to read the Quran is an interesting phenomenon and is very worthy of being an object



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of research. This study will answer how the halaqoh method was structured and implemented at the Senori-Tuban Islamic Boarding School. This study will also answer how the role of the halaqoh method is in improving reading skills in, including the advantages and disadvantages of the halaqoh method applied at the Mansyaul Huda 02 Senori-Tuban Islamic Boarding School.

Several studies have been successfully conducted, including research conducted by (Kinesti et al., 2023) related to the halaqoh method indicating that this method is a simple approach in teaching students to memorize the Qur'an. The implementation of the method involves dividing students into small groups, each small group forming a circle with several students and guided by a halaqoh musyrifah, namely ustadzah. The halaqah musyrifah holds the authority to direct the memorization of her students. The results of this study state that this halaqoh method has succeeded in attracting students' interest in improving their ability to memorize the Qur'an, as well as strengthening the interaction between the halaqah musyrifah and students, making the relationship between the two closer. Then, the research conducted (Farihah, 2021) related to the halaqoh method on the achievement of student memorization at the Tahfidzul Qur'an An-Nasuhayah Kudus Islamic boarding school, this method can prevent boredom or laziness in murojaah because it is carried out together, namely by motivating other students to memorize faster and be responsible for memorizing the Al-Qur'an and more effective in terms of time and memorization is maximally controlled. Different from previous studies that focused on the application of the halaqoh method in memorizing the Qur'an, this study focuses on the role of the halaqah method in improving reading skills, including the advantages and disadvantages of the halaqah method applied at the Mansyaul Huda 02 Senori-Tuban Islamic Boarding School

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is a descriptive qualitative that applies a phenomenological approach. The purpose of qualitative research is to describe and interpret issues or phenomena systematically from the point of view of the individual or population being studied, and to generate new concepts and theories. The choice of methodology is directed by the questions being raised [Viswambharan & Priya, 2016]. Qualitative research is a research method that aims to capture certain events or incidents felt by research subjects, such as behavior, views, motivations, actions,



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and other aspects comprehensively. This approach is carried out by providing an in-depth explanation using language that is appropriate to the context of the application of various scientific methods. (Moleong, 2019). The research data collected came from interviews and direct observations.

This study used a qualitative approach with a case study design and a descriptive analysis type. This approach was chosen to understand in depth and detail the students' awareness on plagiarism, and how the two courses already set, could help the students to prevent plagiarism. Case study research is presently referred to have a notoriety for being a compelling strategy for exploring, in-depth comprehension of complex issues, occasions and phenomena that happen in real life (Santa, 2021). A case study is considered as an appropriate method for this research. According to Ary et al (2010), case study is a kind of ethnographic research study that concerns on a single unit, such as one individual, one group, one organization, or one program. In addition, they also explained that the goal of this method is to get a detailed description and to understand the entity (the "case"). Besides, Young in Singh (2006) explained that case study is an exploration and analyse of the life of a social unit. It can be a person, a family, an institution, culture group, or even an entire community. Moreover, this research findings are presented qualitatively. Qualitative study can be used to explore the view, perspective and preference of participants related to phenomena happened in their environment (Peterson, 2019; Wijaya, 2022).

The research was conducted at the Mansyaul Huda Islamic Boarding School 02 Senori-Tuban located on Jln. Ahmad Yani No. 6, Jatisari, Senori District, Tuban Regency, East Java. The data analysis technique used in this study as stated by Miles and Huberman. According to Miles and Huberman, the activity of analyzing qualitative data is carried out interactively and continues continuously at each stage of the study until completion. The activity of analyzing the data is through 3 stages: data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing, (Miftahul, 2019).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The teaching Qur'an in Mansyaul Huda 02 which applying Halaqoh method involves several learning sessions, including the lecturing, demonstrating, and practicing. In the lecturing session, students are asked to state question (question and answer session), and is often accompanied by group discussions. Next is the demonstration session, which is a way of



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delivering material by demonstrating a process or activity. In this case, the teacher will demonstrate how to read the Quran properly and correctly according to the rules of tajwid and the correct pronunciation of letters. And then the students will follow the reading demonstrated by the teacher. The last is the practice session, which is a method of practicing a reading by selecting several verses that have been selected using the material that has been explained by the teacher.

Based on the writers' observation, the Halaqoh program in Mansyaul Huda 02 has been implemented well and in accordance with the procedures or curriculum of Mansyaul Huda 02 and the Halaqoh teachers have carried out their duties well. The teaching strategies provided by the teachers vary, starting from Taaruf, distributing sub-materials, explaining materials with examples, repeating materials that have been presented in previous meetings, direct practice, giving students the opportunity to ask questions and giving students additional time to take additional studies. This varied strategy has covered the weaknesses of the previous classical method which is usually still monologue, difficult to measure students' mastery of the material presented, and is still considered monotonous with the lecture method where the teaching process is centered on the teacher or teacher center, resulting in passive students and students who are less serious and not interested in following the material. So, the application of the halaqoh method at the Mansyaul Huda 02 Islamic boarding school has implemented a student center.

The implementation of halaqoh is carried out every Saturday to Thursday morning for 30 minutes before going to school. Every Saturday to Thursday morning students begin to read the Qur'an using the halaqoh method. The halaqah study group at Mansyaul Huda 02 consists of 5 groups with 1 group in the Iqra class, and 4 groups in the Al Quran class. Thus, there are 5 halaqoh study groups at the Mansyaul Huda 02 Islamic boarding school.

The progress of students in the indicator of fluency in reading the Qur'an can be seen from how well they can read the verses of the Qur'an fluently without stopping or hesitating much. The halaqoh method gives students the opportunity to read the Qur'an in turns in front of the ustad and his friends. This direct interaction gives students the opportunity to improve their reading in real-time with the guidance of the teacher. Reading fluency is improved through repeated practice. In halaqoh, students are often instructed to repeat the same reading several



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times until they feel comfortable and fluent. This repetition helps students internalize the rhythm and flow of reading the Qur'an. The ustad in the halaqoh method often provides examples of correct reading before asking students to read. By listening to fluent and correct reading, students can imitate and adopt the reading style, thereby improving their fluency.

The level of success of students can be seen from the daily reading of the halaqoh level, a person will succeed if he really practices the lessons given by his teacher. Ustadz Mukti Efendi as a teacher said "students will succeed if he is really serious when studying, the teacher has tried his best to provide the best teaching so that it is easy for students to understand, the rest depends on the students themselves whether they really practice or just listen". The chief executive and teacher of Tajweed, Ustadz Faza, said, "So far, the success rate of students has increased significantly, including students who study with me who have started to perfect their reading of the Qur'an, because they really follow the lessons, unless the students themselves are not serious about studying, but I have met many students whose reading of the Qur'an has started to be perfect".

The halaqoh method, with all its advantages, has been proven to have a positive influence on the reading of the Qur'an by students. Some of the benefits that can be felt by students include improved reading skills, deeper understanding, higher motivation, and stronger memorization. In addition, this method also helps instill spiritual values that are important for the development of the character of students. By considering these advantages, the halaqoh method can continue to be developed and refined to provide greater benefits in the education of reading and understanding the Qur'an. Support from ustadz, parents, and a conducive learning environment will further strengthen the effectiveness of this method.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by (Mesiono et al., 2017) the halaqah method indicates that this method is a simple approach in teaching students to study the Qur'an. The implementation of the method involves dividing students into small groups, each small group forming a circle with several students and guided by a halaqoh ustad, namely a teacher. The halaqoh ustad holds the authority to direct the reading of his students. The use of this halaqoh method has succeeded in attracting students' interest in improving their ability to read the Qur'an, as well as strengthening the interaction between the halaqoh ustad and students, making the relationship between the two closer. Moreover, the halaqoh method



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can prevent boredom or laziness in reading because it is done together, namely by providing motivation for other students to be more active in reading and responsible for their reading of the Qur'an and more effective in terms of time and maximum control of reading.

However, from the writers' observation, several problems were found that were considered as obstacles to the effectiveness of this Halaqah program. Halaqah is a mandatory program that must be followed by students of Mansyaul Huda 02 and is already included in the Mansyaul Huda 02 curriculum guide book, students of Mansyaul Huda 02 are indeed required to be able to read the Qur'an according to the science of tajwid, considering that Mansyaul Huda 02 is one of the integrated Islamic boarding schools that has a fairly large moral responsibility to produce a generation of Muslims who are competent in reading and teaching the Qur'an.

CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates that the halaqoh method implemented at Mansyaul Huda 02 Senori-Tuban Islamic Boarding School plays a significant role in enhancing students' Qur'anic reading proficiency while simultaneously cultivating their Islamic character through daily practice of religious values. The findings reveal that the structured implementation of halaqoh sessions, incorporating lecturing, demonstration, and practical exercises, effectively improves reading fluency, tajwid mastery, and student engagement. Moreover, the interactive nature of the halaqoh strategy fosters increased motivation, self-confidence, and broader knowledge acquisition among students, equipping them with essential skills for societal integration and global engagement. While challenges such as mandatory participation requirements and varying student commitment levels persist, the overall outcomes indicate that the halaqoh approach serves as an effective educational strategy for developing well-rounded Muslim individuals who are not only proficient in Qur'anic recitation but also possess strong moral foundations and intellectual capacity to confront future challenges. These findings suggest that the halaqoh method warrants further development and broader application in Islamic educational settings to maximize its potential benefits for student development.



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