RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

Neublication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

The Significance of English Language and its Relevance to the Preservation of the Qur'anic Script

Muhammad, Sani Mukhtar (Goni)¹ gwani1978@gmail.com Zubairu Sani Abdulkadir¹

Department of Arts and Social Science Education, Kaduna State University, Kaduna - Nigeria

Abstract

The paper studied the significance of the English language and its relevance to the preservation of the Qur'anic script. The paper provides an overview of the English language in the Qur'anic Script and its roles in English translation and interpretation of the holy Qur'an. It discussed the challenges and controversies in the Qur'anic script translation and highlighted the significance of digital media for the preservation and dissemination of the Qur'an. It also explained the utilization of English for the digital distribution of Qur'an resources and the accessibility of Qur'anic scripts and resources in English for the benefit of non-Arabic speakers. The paper investigated the English language research for the understanding of the Qur'anic script and the significance of the English language on the global perception of Islam and the Qur'an. Finally, the study looked into the English translations of the Qur'an and their significant contributions to interfaith dialogue.

Keywords: English Language, Quranic Script, Qur'an Resources, English Translation, and Interpretation

Introduction

The English language has greatly helped in maintaining and preserving the Qur'anic script. Since English is a universal language, it has made it easier for non-Arabic speakers across the world to access and comprehend the teachings and meaning of the Arabic Qur'an script through translation and interpretation into English. The English language gives Islamic scholars, interpreters, and translators a platform to accurately communicate the holy Qur'anic messages to a larger audience. Hence, this aids in the preservation of the holy Quran and its propagation throughout many civilizations and societies in this contemporary world. This is especially crucial in the modern period, as digital media and technological advancements have facilitated the mass distribution of English translations of the Qur'anic scriptures and other resources (Hakak, Kamsin, Tayan, Idris, Gani, & Zerdoumi, 2017).

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

Furthermore, the growth of the English language has made it possible to analyze the Qur'an in depth from a variety of angles for scholarly research and intellectual discourse, which has improved the understanding of the Qur'anic script and its historical, linguistic, and theological significance among Islamic scholars, translators, and interpreters of Islam (Kamsin, Gani, Suliaman, Jaafar, Mahmud, and Sabri, 2014). Thus, the growth of the English language has been essential in helping to preserve and maintain the significance of the Qur'anic script in modern culture by making it comprehensible and accessible to a worldwide audience. Therefore, due to its widespread influence on international communication, English's supremacy in the study of the Holy Quran has resulted in the incorporation of English terminology and linguistic conventions into a multitude of languages.

For Khan & Alginahi (2013), since the Qur'anic writing is regarded as the Prophet Muhammad's (peace be upon him) revelation of the Holy Quran, it has significant meaning in Islamic tradition. For all Muslims worldwide, the Qur'an is regarded as the ultimate source of knowledge, insight, and moral instruction. Its passages constitute the cornerstone of Islamic spirituality and jurisprudence, and they are repeated during prayers and religious ceremonies.

Hakak, Kamsin, Tayan, Idris, Gani, and Zerdoumi (2017) emphasize that the Qur'an is revered in Islamic theology as a miracle, an unchangeable revelation containing everlasting truths that apply to every facet of human existence. Thus, the Quranic writing scripts are thought to have divine attributes and the capacity to provoke introspective thought and direction. Therefore, learning to memorize and recite the Qur'an is a highly respected activity. In this sense, Muslim communities frequently host recitation contests and activities. Exquisite specimens of Qur'anic calligraphy adorn mosques, holy books, and Islamic art, demonstrating the script's artistic and calligraphic significance. In the end, the Qur'anic text is essential to Islamic belief and practice, influencing Muslims worldwide in their everyday lives, moral standards, and spiritual devotion (Syifak-Izhar, Jasni, Afifah-Nailah, & Gran, 2013). Therefore, the preservation, interpretation, and accessibility of Islamic knowledge and cultural heritage remain essential components of teaching Islam around the world digitally.

An Overview of the English Language in the Qur'anic Script

The Qur'an and the English language are invaluable in today's Muslim communities worldwide. This links the Qur'an to the Muslim community's deep spiritual and cultural significance by providing a basis for academic discussion and an international communication channel among Islamic scholars (Irwandi, 2018). Here, the English language's placement of the Quranic script promotes better cross-cultural understanding and meaningful communication across linguistic and religious divides.

Taslaman (2006) opines that, from a linguistic standpoint, the English language offers the Qur'an's English translation a great window into the holy religious scriptures

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

that are written in languages other than English. This highlights the intricacies of international communication and offers a fantastic opportunity to explore the meaning, context, and Islamic cultural allusions retained in translation. Moreover, a thorough awareness and comprehension of the various interpretations and comments that have emerged within the Islamic tradition have greatly benefited from the English translations of the Qur'anic script. This makes it possible to investigate how non-Arabic-speaking audiences' perceptions and reactions to the Qur'an are shaped by the English language, which in turn affects cross-cultural relationships and religious literacy (Hala, Lara, & Al-Heeh, 2019).

In addition, studying the relationship between English and the Qur'an can promote understanding and communication between different faiths. Through courteous and knowledgeable dialogue concerning the linguistic, religious, and cultural factors involved, people from disparate backgrounds can establish pathways toward mutual comprehension and admiration (Abdul-Raof, 2013). As a result, researching how English and the Qur'an interact fosters scholarly research, interfaith understanding, and cultural interchange while enhancing our understanding of language, literature, and religion as a whole.

English Translation and Interpretation of the Qur'an

The Qur'an is a very sensitive and complex text to translate and interpret into English because of its intricacies, the Arabic language's rhetoric, and the character of the holy Qur'an. Allibaih (2019) confirms that the Qur'an script adheres to the theological and spiritual significance of the Muslim community; therefore, translation and interpretation of the text will be carried out with scholarly rigor, great regard, and sensitivity. This makes translating the Holy Qur'an difficult because of the Arabic language's distinctive features, poetic methods, and linguistic implications for the text's overall meaning.

This forces Islamic scholars, interpreters, and translators to recognize the divinely inspired linguistic beauty and eloquence of the Qur'an to do appropriate translations. Abdul Malek (2000) opines that the difficulty faced by Qur'anic translators and interpreters is preserving the subtle nuances, historical background, and spiritual depth of the original Arabic text while rendering it understandable to readers from a variety of linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Proficiency in the Arabic language is essential, coupled with in-depth knowledge of Islamic theology, ancient Arabic literature, and exegetical traditions.

Al-Mosallam (2013) sees that numerous Qur'anic scholars and translators stress how crucial it is to include comprehensive explanatory notes and contextual details with the translated text to communicate the Quran's complex meanings and avoid misunderstandings. By guiding readers through the linguistic, cultural, and historical nuances of the Qur'an, these annotations improve readers' comprehension of the text's

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

meaning and lessons. In addition, Allibaih (2019) understands that the Qur'an entails more than just translating its words into another language; it also entails explaining the verses' spiritual, moral, and legal meanings within the context of Islam. This means interacting with a variety of scholarly viewpoints and referencing the rich history of Islamic exegesis to guarantee a thorough interpretation that upholds the text's intellectual profundity and holiness. Thus, variations in theological perspectives, cultural circumstances, and linguistic idiosyncrasies can result in different interpretations and translations of the Qur'an, as is the case with every translation or interpretation of religious writings (Al-Mosallam, 2013).

Readers must approach Qur'anic translations with an open mind, understanding the difficulties in translating their eternal message into many languages. In the end, both the interpretation and translation of the Qur'an are academic pursuits requiring careful and respectful treatment of the sacredness of the text, as well as a profound knowledge of Arabic, Islamic theology, and exegetical traditions. Ali (2004) finds out that the history of the English translation of the Qur'an is extensive and varied, spanning several centuries. In 1649, Alexander Ross translated the entire Qur'an into English. The activity of translation known as "The Alcoran of Mahomet" represented a limited understanding of Islamic theology since Arabic was frequently tainted by cultural biases (Ali, 2004).

For El-Awa (2006), several other English translations of the Qur'anic script appeared in the 18th and 19th centuries, which were frequently influenced by the orientalist viewpoints of the day. George Sale's translation, completed in 1734, stands out among these efforts because it offers insightful background information and historical context. These early translations, however, drew criticism for being inaccurate, misinterpreting the original text, and lacking a thorough knowledge of both Arabic and Islamic doctrine (Ali, 2004; & El-Awa, 2006). The process of translating the Qur'an into English changed in the 20th century, with a marked improvement in scholarly rigor and comprehension of Arabic and Islamic theology (El-Awa, 2006). The 1930 translation of the Qur'an by Muhammad Marmaduke Pickthall strove to portray its poetic eloquence and beauty, while Abdullah Yusuf Ali's 1934 translation, which included a wealth of commentary and explanatory notes, attempted to express the text's spiritual and ethical aspects (Ali, 2004).

A variety of English translations of the Qur'an have been produced recently, representing various scholarly viewpoints and methodologies. Among these is the work of scholars like Muhammad Asad, whose translation from 1980 focused on historical background, linguistic accuracy, and a thorough commentary to foster mutual understanding between many cultural and religious traditions (El-Awa, 2006). To accurately portray the intricacy and richness of the original Arabic text, modern English translations of the Qur'an frequently include scholarly introductions, explanatory notes, and contextual information. This shows a deeper involvement with Islamic

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

interpretation. By making the lessons and message of the Qur'an accessible to English-speaking audiences, these translations aim to promote intercultural understanding.

According to Ali (2004), the historical development of English translations of the Qur'an is indicative of changes in scholarly knowledge, methodology, and cultural sensitivity. While cultural prejudices and a lack of knowledge affected early translations, modern translations place a premium on language accuracy, intellectual rigor, and a considerate attitude toward the text's sanctity. Readers can interact with the Qur'anic message in a way that goes beyond linguistic and cultural barriers because of the wide variety of English translations that are currently accessible. For non-Arabic speakers to understand the Qur'an, English translations are essential. They give those who do not speak Arabic the chance to learn the lessons and teachings of the Qur'an. Translations facilitate communication between people of different languages and cultural backgrounds and enable them to interact with religious texts (Abdul Malek, 2000). English translations of the Our'an allow non-Arabic speakers to study and comprehend it. gaining an understanding of its moral, ethical, and spiritual guidance. Additionally, by making Islamic ideals and concepts more widely known, these translations help to promote tolerance and mutual understanding among individuals of various backgrounds and faiths (Al-Mosallam, 2013).

Furthermore, Al-Mosallam (2013) enables meaningful discussions concerning the lessons of the Qur'an and their applicability to current concerns. English translations aid in the promotion of discourse and interfaith understanding. This also provides a chance for scholarly investigation and study, which advances knowledge of Islam and its holy books. All things taken into account, English translations are essential for increasing the Qur'an's comprehensibility and accessibility to non-Arabic speakers to foster intercultural understanding and allow people to study the profound knowledge inherent in its verses.

Challenges and Controversies in the Qur'anic Script Translation

The Qur'anic Script translation presents a certain set of challenges and controversies due to the intricacies of the revelation of the scripture in Arabic and the significance of the written text to Islam. Malakoff & Hakuta (1991) identify some challenges that translators often face regarding translation skills and metalinguistic awareness in bilinguals as well as in the language processing of bilingual individuals. These are linguistic complexity, cultural context, theological sensitivity, interpretation and bias, and the preservation of divine revelation.

Malakoff & Hakuta (1991) view that the holy Qur'an is written in classical Arabic, which contains linguistic nuances, rhetorical devices, and literary styles that are difficult to capture in translation. So, the Qur'anic revelation is deeply rooted in the cultural, historical, and religious context of 7th-century Arabia. Therefore, interpreters and translators should navigate the cultural nuances and references in the text to ensure

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

that the meaning of the translation is accurately conveyed to a contemporary audience. This translates to challenges in the process of conveying the depth and richness of the original text into another language.

Al-Azab & Al-Misned (2012) stress that the noble Qur'an is regarded as the literal word of Allah (SWA) by Muslims. So, different Quranic translators have varying interpretations of the Qur'anic verses based on the potential bias or ideological influence in the translation process. This may result in controversy and disagreement among scholars, believers, and linguistic experts. Therefore, Quranic translators should approach the script translation with deep respect and sensitivity by taking note of how their translation choices may impact the religious beliefs and practices of readers.

For Abdul-Raof (2013), the noble Qur'an is a divine revelation that is perfectly preserved in its original form. So, the Quranic translators should grapple with the challenge of maintaining the sanctity and authenticity of the Quranic message while rendering its translation into another language. Despite these challenges, Malakoff & Hakuta (1991) put much effort into seeing that the translation of the Qur'an would be ongoing, and numerous translations exist in various languages. Therefore, translators and scholars would continue to work diligently to bridge the gap between the Arabic text of the Qur'an and its accessibility to non-Arabic speakers while striving to uphold the integrity and reverence of the sacred scripture.

Utilization of English for Digital Distribution of Qur'an Resources

The utilization of English for the digital distribution of Qur'an resources has become increasingly important in the modern, interconnected world. Kamsin, Gani, Suliaman, Jaafar, Mahmud, & Sabri (2014) explore the development of the novel Quran in information and communication technology for the Muslim world by providing some ways in which English is leveraged for the digital dissemination of Qur'anic resources, which include accessibility to the audience, educational resources, mobile applications, online Qur'an study, and social media and outreach.

Al-Mosallam (2013) opines that Qur'anic translation into English makes teaching the Quran accessible through digital resources to a global audience, including non-Arabic speakers. So, English-language digital platforms host a wealth of educational materials related to the Qur'an, including tafsir (exegesis), scholarly articles, and multimedia content. These resources cater to students, researchers, and anyone seeking to deepen their understanding of the Qur'an. It is also that digital platforms provide a means to distribute these translations widely, allowing individuals from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds to engage with the Qur'an's messages.

Hausser (2012) opines that numerous mobile apps offer the Qur'an in English translation, allowing users to conveniently access the scripture on their smartphones and tablets. Thus, English-language websites and platforms provide virtual spaces for Qur'an study circles, online courses, and live streams of lectures by scholars. These

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

digital avenues enable individuals to engage in structured learning and discussion of the Qur'an's teachings in English. It is also that the apps often feature interactive functionalities, such as search capabilities, audio recitations, and social sharing, enhancing the user experience.

For Allibaih (2019), English-language content related to the Qur'an is shared through social media platforms, enabling widespread outreach to diverse audiences. This includes inspirational quotes, reflections on Qur'anic verses, and multimedia content designed to foster understanding and engagement. Khan & Alginahi (2013) discovered that the holy Quran digitization has challenges and concerns for the utilization of English for the digital distribution of Qur'an resources. Here, this plays a vital role in making the scripture accessible, educational, and engaging for a global audience. Since digital platforms and technology have significantly expanded the reach and impact of English-language Qur'anic resources, this enables Muslim people from various backgrounds to connect with the teachings of the Qur'an in a digital context anywhere, anytime.

Accessibility of Qur'anic Scripts and Resources in English

The accessibility of Qur'anic scripts and resources in English has significantly expanded in recent years, thanks to various efforts aimed at making the sacred text available to a wider audience. Kamsin, Gani, Suliaman, Jaafar, Mahmud, and Sabri (2014) identify some key ways in which Qur'anic scripts and resources in English have become more accessible to the audience, which includes digital platforms, printed publications, multimedia resources, and educational initiatives.

Hakak, Kamsin, Tayan, Idris, Gani, and Zerdoumi (2017) confirm that many skilled translators and Islamic scholars have undertaken the task of translating the Qur'an from Arabic into English by producing a wide range of English translations that cater to diverse audiences. Thus, educational institutions and organizations have developed educational initiatives and programs dedicated to teaching and studying the Qur'an in English. These initiatives offer structured curricula, online courses, and study guides that enhance accessibility for individuals seeking to deepen their understanding of the Qur'an in English. Therefore, English Quranic translations strive to convey the meanings and nuances of the original Arabic text in a manner that is comprehensible to English speakers.

Al-Mosallam (2013) explains that the proliferation of digital platforms, including websites, mobile apps, and e-readers, has made Qur'anic scripts and English translations readily accessible to millions of people around the world. Thus, the users will easily access, download, and engage with the Qur'an in English through these digital platforms. In addition, English translations of the Qur'an are widely available in print, with many publishers offering a variety of editions and formats, including pocket-sized versions, study editions with commentary, and illustrated volumes. Therefore, printed

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

publications contribute to the accessibility of the Qur'an in English for those who prefer physical copies.

Abdul-Raof (2013) suggests that various multimedia resources, such as audiobooks, recitations, and video lectures, should provide alternative ways for individuals to engage with the Qur'an in English. Here, these resources cater to diverse learning styles and preferences, expanding the accessibility of the Qur'an's teachings. For Khan & Alginahi (2013), the enhanced accessibility of Qur'anic scripts and resources in English has empowered a global audience to engage with the teachings and guidance of the Qur'an, facilitating greater understanding and appreciation of this important religious text. The availability of English-language Qur'anic resources in various formats and mediums reflects a commitment to making the scripture accessible to diverse communities worldwide.

Digital Media for the Preservation and Dissemination of the Qur'an

The influence of digital media on the preservation and dissemination of the Qur'an has been profound, playing a pivotal role in both safeguarding the scripture and making its teachings accessible to a global audience. Al-Mosallam (2013) explores the improvement of Quran memorization using mind maps in the age of information technology for the holy Quran. The author provides some key aspects of digital media for the preservation and dissemination of the Qur'an, such as preservation, accessibility, global reach, educational resources, and multimedia platforms.

For Kamsin, Gani, Suliaman, Jaafar, Mahmud, & Sabri (2014), digital media has facilitated the preservation of the Qur'an by providing a platform for the digitization of ancient manuscripts and historical copies of the scripture. This has helped to safeguard the Qur'an's text and its various recitation styles, ensuring that they are stored and accessible in digital archives for future generations. Therefore, digital platforms have significantly enhanced the accessibility of the Qur'an by offering a multitude of avenues through which individuals can engage with the scripture. This includes digital copies of the Qur'an, online databases of Qur'anic manuscripts, and mobile applications that provide easy access to English translations, recitations, and tafsir (exegesis) of the Qur'an (Hausser, 2012).

Al-Mosallam (2013) adds that through digital media, the dissemination of the Qur'an has transcended geographical boundaries, reaching individuals in remote areas and diverse cultural contexts. Thus, online platforms, social media, and digital publications have facilitated the widespread distribution of Qur'anic resources in multiple languages, promoting greater awareness and understanding of the scripture on a global scale. So, digital media has enriched educational resources related to the Qur'an, offering interactive learning tools, virtual study circles, and online courses that cater to diverse audiences. These resources contribute to the preservation and dissemination of the Qur'an by providing accessible avenues for individuals to deepen

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

their understanding and engagement with the scripture (Hausser, 2012).

Khan & Alginahi (2013) prove that the use of digital media has introduced multimedia platforms for the dissemination of the Qur'an, including audio recitations, video lectures, and live streams of Qur'anic events and recitations. So, these multimedia avenues enhance the preservation and dissemination of the Qur'an by appealing to diverse learning preferences and engaging audiences through various digital formats. Hausser (2012) and Khan & Alginahi (2013) opine that the influence of digital media on the preservation and dissemination of the Qur'an has revolutionized the accessibility, reach, and scholarly study of the scripture. Digital platforms have played a crucial role in preserving the Qur'an's diverse recitation styles and making its teachings accessible to a global audience, contributing to the continued relevance and impact of the Qur'an in the digital age.

English Language Research for the Understanding of the Qur'anic Script

The impact of English-language research on the understanding of the Qur'anic script has been significant, contributing to scholarly advancements and facilitating greater accessibility for a global audience. Rashwan, Ramadan, Safwat, Ashraf, and Mamdouh (2016) view that handling the Quranic script has key impacts on English-language research on the understanding of the Qur'an in aspects of comparative studies, translation and interpretation, tafsir (exegesis) and commentary, accessible scholarship, and cross-cultural dialogue.

Abdul Malek (2000) and Allibaih (2019) view that English-language research has led to the production of a wide array of Quranic translations and interpretations. Thus, the scholarly works strive to convey the meanings and nuances of the original Arabic text in a manner that is comprehensible to English speakers, thereby broadening access to the Qur'an's teachings. Furthermore, the English-language research has facilitated comparative studies of the Qur'an, engaging with diverse fields such as linguistics, history, and theology. This interdisciplinary approach has deepened scholarly understanding of the Qur'anic script by placing it within broader intellectual and cultural contexts.

Allibaih (2019) holds that English-language research has produced comprehensive tafsir (exegesis) and commentary works that provide detailed explanations and contextual insights into the Qur'anic verses. Thus, these resources enrich the understanding of the Qur'an's script by delving into its historical, linguistic, and theological dimensions. Therefore, the English-language research has made scholarly insights on the Qur'an more accessible to non-Arabic speakers. Through academic publications, online repositories, and educational resources, English-language research has democratized access to Qur'anic scholarship, fostering a broader engagement with its scriptural content (Al-Mosallam, 2013).

Ali (2004) sees that English-language research has facilitated cross-cultural

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

dialogue and understanding, as it enables scholars, students, and readers from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds to engage with the Qur'an's scriptural message. This has led to greater appreciation, empathy, and mutual understanding across different communities. For Hausser (2012), English-language research has played a pivotal role in advancing the understanding of the Qur'anic script by making its teachings more accessible, fostering interdisciplinary scholarship, and promoting cross-cultural dialogue. Here, the impact of such research extends beyond academic circles, contributing to a more informed and nuanced understanding of the Qur'an's timeless message.

English Language on the Global Perception of Islam and the Qur'an

The influence of the English language on the global perception of Islam and the Qur'an cannot be overstated. English is a widely spoken and understood language, and as such, it has become a key medium for the dissemination of information and ideas across the globe (Hausser, 2012). This extends to the perception and understanding of Islam and the Qur'an. The availability of translated versions of the Qur'an and Islamic literature in English has facilitated a greater understanding of Islam among non-Arabic-speaking populations. It has provided access to Islamic teachings and principles, enabling people from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds to engage with the faith and its sacred texts (Ali, 2004).

Moreover, English-language sources, including books, articles, and digital content, have contributed to shaping the global discourse on Islam. Through these resources, non-Muslims have been able to gain insights into the religion, its beliefs, and its practices. This has helped to dispel misconceptions and stereotypes, fostering a more nuanced and informed view of Islam and the Qur'an on a global scale (Al-Mosallam, 2013). In addition, the use of English has facilitated interfaith dialogue and communication, allowing for meaningful exchanges between Muslims and individuals from other religious traditions. This has contributed to building bridges of understanding, promoting tolerance, and fostering respect for diverse religious perspectives (Hausser, 2012).

In this regard, the influence of the English language on the global perception of Islam and the Qur'an has been significant, playing a pivotal role in broadening awareness, encouraging dialogue, and fostering mutual understanding in an increasingly interconnected world (Khan & Alginahi, 2013). Hausser (2012) and Khan & Alginahi (2013) opine that English-language Qur'an studies are incredibly relevant in multicultural societies for a variety of reasons. First, many people in multicultural societies speak English as their primary or secondary language, so having access to the Qur'an in English allows for a broader and more inclusive understanding of Islamic teachings and beliefs. This can help foster better communication and understanding between people of different faiths and cultures. Additionally, English-language Qur'an

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI)
in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

studies can also help bridge the gap between Muslim and non-Muslim communities by providing a means for non-Muslims to learn about the Qur'an and its teachings in a language that is accessible to them. This can promote tolerance, dialogue, and mutual respect within multicultural societies (Abdul-Raof, 2013).

Furthermore, for those within the Muslim community who may not speak Arabic, English-language Qur'an studies provide an opportunity for them to engage with their faith and religious text in a language that they understand (Al-Mosallam, 2013). This can deepen their connection to their faith and empower them to participate more actively in their communities. In essence, English-language Qur'an studies play a crucial role in promoting understanding, communication, and inclusivity within multicultural societies, ultimately contributing to a more harmonious and cohesive society for all.

English Translations of the Qur'an and Their Significant Contributions to Interfaith Dialogue

English translations of Islamic texts, including the Qur'an, have made significant contributions to interfaith dialogue and understanding. Al-Mosallam (2013) provides ways in which these translations have facilitated positive engagement between different religious communities that have made Islamic teachings more accessible to non-Muslims, enabling them to explore and understand the values, beliefs, and practices of Islam. This accessibility has laid the groundwork for meaningful interfaith exchanges. By providing English-speaking individuals with access to the Qur'an, these translations have created opportunities for shared understanding and discussions on common ethical and moral principles, as well as the shared spiritual values that resonate across different religious traditions.

Rashwan, Ramadan, Safwat, Ashraf, and Mamdouh (2016) opine that English translations have helped to dispel misunderstandings and misconceptions about Islam by presenting accurate and authentic representations of Islamic teachings. This has been instrumental in promoting a more balanced and informed discussion about religion in interfaith contexts. Thus, English translations have facilitated the development of platforms for interfaith dialogue, where individuals from different religious backgrounds can engage in respectful and meaningful conversations about their respective faiths, fostering mutual understanding and respect.

Irwandi (2018) confirms that the availability of English translations has also encouraged collaborative study and research across religious boundaries, allowing scholars and academics from diverse backgrounds to engage in comparative religious studies and contribute to a greater understanding of each other's traditions. Therefore, English translations of Islamic texts have played a vital role in promoting interfaith dialogue and understanding, serving as a catalyst for building bridges between different religious communities and fostering a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect. Conclusion: The English language has become a vital means of preserving the Qur'anic

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

text and restoring the everlasting efforts to develop and meet the greatness and high status of the holy Our'anic scripts.

Conclusion

The English language acts as a bridge to transmit the profound lessons of the Qur'an to a wide range of audiences worldwide because it is a language that is widely spoken and understood. The English translation of the Qur'an makes Islamic teachings and values accessible to individuals with a variety of language backgrounds. The Qur'anic script is one of the main languages used to spread religious knowledge in English due to the increasing use of the internet and digital media. English translations of the Qur'an are easily accessible through online resources, websites, and applications, which promotes a global community of people who are interested in learning about and comprehending Islam. The Our'anic script in English is being preserved for linguistic. cultural, and pedagogical purposes. Maintaining the authenticity and integrity of the Qur'an while ensuring its accessibility to a wider audience is a goal shared by Islamic scholars and translators. Therefore, English translation of the Qur'an promotes the accessibility and extensive distribution of Islamic knowledge, strengthening the bonds of global society and enhancing its level of understanding. The value of the English language in maintaining and disseminating the Qur'anic teachings endures as linguistic diversity and technological advancements coexist, as it is essential for fostering communication and understanding amongst individuals with disparate origins and worldviews.

References

Abdul Malek, M. (2000). A Study of the Qur'an: The Universal Guidance for Mankind (3 ed.). M. A. Malek.

Abdul-Raof, H. (2013). *Qur'an translation: discourse, texture, and exegesis.* Routledge.

Ali, A. Y. (2004). The Meaning of the Holy Qu'ran. Amana Pubns.

Allibaih, M. (2019). Presenting the Qur'anic Text in a Developed Mapping Technique and Reflecting the Related Theories of Linguistics. *Journal of Arts and Humanities*, 8, 8. https://theartsjournal.org/index.php/site/article/view/1642

Al-Mosallam, E. A. (2013). Towards Improving Quran Memorization Using Mind Maps. Paper presented at the Advances in Information Technology for the Holy Quran and Its Sciences (32519), 2013 Taibah University International Conference.

El-Awa, S. M. (2006). *Textual Relations in the Qur'an: Relevance, Coherence, and Structure, Routledge.*

Hakak, S., Kamsin, A., Tayan, O., Idris, M. Y. I., Gani, A., & Zerdoumi, S. (2017). Preserving the Content Integrity of the Digital Holy Quran: A Survey and Open Challenges IEEE Access Retrieved from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315904390_Preserving_Content_Integrit

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS (MIMJRI)

A Publication of the Institute of Africa Higher Education Research and Innovations (IAHERI) in Collaboration with

Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Maradi, Niger Republic

Maiden Edition/Volume 1, October, 2023 ISSN: 3027 - 0294 DOI: https://10.59479/jiaheri.v1i001.38

y_of_Digital_Holy_Quran_Survey_and_Open_Challenges

- Hala T., Lara Q. & Al-Heeh, S. (2019). Women's Language in the English Interpretations of the Qur'anic Discourse: Plenty of Verbal Clues that Urge Women to Keep Face, Be Polite, and Tell the Truth Advances in the Linguistic Sciences, Vol. 1, No. 1.
- Hausser, R. (2012). Computation of language: an essay on syntax, semantics, and pragmatics in natural man-machine communication, Springer Science & Business Media
- Irwandi, M. (2018). The Qur'anic Concept of Human Language: A Preliminary Study on Science-Religion Integration in Studying Sociolinguistics Advances in Social Science, Education, and Humanities Research, volume 178, 1st International Conference of Innovation in Education (ICoIE 2018).
- Kamsin, A. Gani, A., Suliaman, I. Jaafar, S., Mahmud, R., and Sabri, M. (2014). "Developing the novel Quran and Hadith authentication system," in Information and Communication Technology for the Muslim World (ICT4M), 2014, The 5th International Conference on, 2014, pp. 1–5.
- Khan, M. K. and Alginahi, Y. M. (2013). "The holy Quran digitization: challenges and concerns," Life Science Journal, vol. 10, pp. 156–164.
- Malakoff, M., & Hakuta, K. (1991). Translation skills and metalinguistic awareness in bilinguals Language processing in bilingual children, 141–166.
- Rashwan, M. A., Ramadan, A., Safwat, H. M., Ashraf, S., & Mamdouh, H. (2016). Data preparation and handling for the written Quran script verification paper presented at the Digital Signal Processing, Ain Shams University, Ain Shams.
- Syifak-Izhar, H.; Jasni, M. Z.; and Afifah-Nailah, M. & Gran, B. (2013). "Localization Watermarking for Authentication of Text Images in the Quran,"
- Taslaman, C. (2006). The Qur'an: An Unchallengeable Miracle in Turkey: Citlembik Publications.