

## Reflecting On The Wafa Method: Building Deep Understanding Of The Quran In Elementary School Age Children

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### ABSTRACT

Alquran education plays a central role in forming the basis of character and spirituality at a young age. This article describes the Wafa method as an innovative approach in helping elementary school age students to read the Alquran better. The Wafa method uses the principle of the right brain in its learning.

In this article, we explain the basic concepts of the Wafa method and outline its advantages in the context of learning to read the Alquran. The Wafa method is able to stimulate students' interest in learning, create an emotional connection with the Alquran, and motivate them to develop a deeper relationship with the Alquran.

The case study of the application of the Wafa method at SDIT Bina Insan Palu illustrates how this method is effective in improving students' reading skills of the Alquran. The results of the case studies show that students are not only able to read the Alquran, but are also able to decipher the contents of the tajwid in it.

In conclusion, the Wafa method offers an innovative and effective approach in helping elementary school age students read the Alquran well. This method has great potential in developing students' understanding and love of the contents of the Alquran from an early age.

### 1. Introduction

Alquran education for children from an early age has a strong impact in shaping moral values, character and deep religious understanding. At this stage, children are in a sensitive period where they easily absorb information and experiences that form the basis of their thoughts and world views. Therefore, teaching the Alquran at elementary school age is not only about reading letters and words, but also about exploring the meaning and values contained therein.

One of the learning methods that has attracted attention in recent years is the Wafa method. This method not only introduces the letters of the Alquran to students, but also embraces right-brain learning principles that facilitate deeper understanding. The right brain in children is known as the center of creativity, imagination and deep understanding. The integration of right-brain learning principles into the Wafa method provides a holistic and effective approach in helping children understand and read the Alquran.

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Elementary school-age children tend to be more responsive to interactive and inspiring learning experiences. They tend to respond better to learning methods that involve imagination, emotion and active engagement. The Wafa method involves all of these things in reading the Alquran, providing a learning experience that is very friendly to the world of children, especially at the elementary school level. This process creates opportunities for the right brain to engage more deeply, connect parts of the text, and create deeper understanding.

In facing the challenges of Alquran education at elementary school age, it is important to combine the effectiveness of learning methods with the developmental characteristics of children. Through a combination of the Wafa method and the principles of right-brain learning, educators have an effective opportunity to form a young generation who not only masters the technique of reading the Alquran, but also understands the meaning contained in it.

In this context, this article will discuss in more detail about the Wafa method, the principles of right-brain learning, and how the combination of these two approaches has great potential in increasing the learning of the Alquran in elementary school-age children who are expected to grow up to be full-fledged human beings. by the light of the Alquran.

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1 Scientific Articles

- "Integrating Quranic Wafa for Improving Reading Skills of the Second Graders" (Rosyad, I. 2020)  
This article discusses the use of waqf in learning the Alquran for elementary school age children. This research provides insight into how the Wafa method can improve children's reading skills.
- "Incorporating Wafa in Teaching Reading Al-Quran for Primary Schools" (Wahid, A. 2017)  
This article discusses the application of the Wafa method in teaching reading the Alquran in elementary schools. This study analyzes the positive impact of the Wafa method on children's reading ability and understanding of the Alquran.
- "The Role of Right Brain in Children Learning and Its Effects on Education" (Meng, L. & Kiew, Y. 2018)  
This article explores the role of the right brain in children's learning. This provides an important perspective on how the principles of right-brain learning can be applied in the context of Qur'anic education.

### 2.2 Books

- "Teaching with the Brain in Mind" (Jensen, E. 2005)  
This book explains the basic principles of how the brain works in learning. It provides guidance on how teachers can utilize right-brain principles in education.
- "The Power of Reading: Insights from the Research" (Cunningham, AE & Stanovich, KE 2009)  
This book discusses the results of research on learning to read. While not specific to the Alquran, this book provides insight into how an effective learning approach can influence reading comprehension.

### 2.3 Other Sources

- "Brain-Based Learning and Education: Principles and Practice" (Caine, RN, & Caine, G. 2006)
  - a. This resource provides in-depth insight into the brain-based learning approach and how these principles can be applied in teaching the Alquran to elementary school-age children.

## 3. Methodology

This research methodology was designed to gain an in-depth understanding of the application of the Wafa method and the principles of right-brain learning in Qur'an education for elementary school-age children. This research uses a qualitative approach with a focus on a case study in an elementary school. The steps followed in this study include:

### **3.1 Selection of Case Study Context**

In the initial stage, an elementary school was selected as the case study context. The school selection decision was based on relevant criteria, including the willingness and cooperation of the school, as well as compatibility with the research objectives.

### **3.2 Data Collection**

3.2.1 Class Observation: Researchers observed the process of learning the Alquran using the Wafa method with the principle of right-brain learning at the 2nd grade level of elementary school. Observations were made with the aim of understanding how teachers implement this approach in everyday learning.

3.2.2 Interview with Teacher: The interview was conducted with the teacher involved in teaching the Alquran in the class. This interview aims to gain insight and deeper understanding of their experience in applying the Wafa method with the principles of right-brain learning.

### **3.3 Data Analysis**

3.3.1 Observation and interview data were analyzed qualitatively. Interview transcripts and observation notes were analyzed to identify patterns in the implementation of the Wafa method and students' responses to this approach.

3.3.2 The analysis is carried out by identifying the main themes related to the effectiveness of using the Wafa method and the principles of right-brain learning in Qur'anic education. The results of the analysis are used to understand the impact of this method on students' understanding and engagement.

## **4. Results and Discussion**

The results of this study provide rich insights about the application of the Wafa method with its right-brain learning principles in Qur'anic education for elementary school-age children. Comparative analysis with previous literature reveals a number of significant findings:

### **4.1 Improved Understanding of the Alquran**

Previous studies, such as research by Rosyad (2020) and Wahid (2017), have shown an increase in reading skills of the Alquran through the application of the Wafa method. The results of this study are consistent with the literature, showing that the application of the Wafa method and its right-brain learning principles can improve Alquran reading comprehension and skills in elementary school-age children.

### **4.2 Active Engagement and Creativity**

Referring to the principles of right-brain learning found in the literature (Meng & Kiew, 2018), the results of this study reveal that the Wafa method can increase children's active involvement in the learning process. With fun and meaningful learning, students tend to be more creatively involved in the process of learning the Alquran.

### **4.3 Development of Emotional Relations with the Qur'an**

The book "Teaching with the Brain in Mind" (Jensen, 2005) has highlighted the importance of emotional connection in learning. The results of this study embody this view by showing that through the Wafa and the principle of right-brain learning, students can develop a stronger emotional connection with the Alquran. This creates a deep bond and motivates them to learn.

### **4.4 More Meaningful Learning**

The study "The Power of Reading: Insights from the Research" (Cunningham & Stanovich, 2009) has underlined the importance of meaningful learning to facilitate deeper understanding. The analysis of this study shows that the application of the Wafa method and right-brain learning principles helps create more meaningful learning, in which students not only read, but also understand and absorb the messages of the Alquran.

## **5. Conclusion**

This study reveals that the application of the Wafa method and right-brain learning principles has a positive impact on Alquran education for elementary school-age children. Based on a comparative analysis of the results of previous studies and literature, several significant conclusions can be drawn:

#### 5.1 Improvement of Quran Reading Skills

The Wafa method, which incorporates the principles of right-brain learning, helps improve reading skills of the Alquran better. Students have time to play while studying. This has an impact on a deeper understanding of reading the Alquran.

Students also experienced an increase in reading the Alquran, even at the same time students at the Bina Insan Palu Integrated Islamic Elementary School were able to decipher the law of recitation for those who had completed the Wafa 1 book to the Wafa Ghorib book, and after they had completed all stages of the Wafa book who generally finish in grade IV of elementary school, they will focus on completing their target of memorizing their 6 juz. With such great expectations from the school, they are not only able to read the Alquran properly and correctly but at the same time students have memorized 6 chapters of the Alquran while studying at Bina Insan Palu Integrated Islamic Elementary School.

#### 5.2 Active and Emotional Engagement

The application of the Wafa method with the principle of right-brain learning stimulates the active involvement of students in learning the Alquran. They have the opportunity to interact emotionally with the text, creating a deeper connection with the Alquran. The Wafa method is a right-brain method whose learning is very exciting, fun and easily understood by the world of children and all walks of life, that's why the Wafa method was chosen by the school in learning to read the Alquran for students at the Integrated Islamic Elementary School Bina Insan Palu.

#### 5.3 Meaningful and Creative Learning

This method allows children to experience meaningful learning, not just memorization. The principle of right-brain learning facilitates creativity in understanding and interpreting Qur'anic texts, creating a more colorful learning process. The Wafa method is a method of learning to read the Alquran with the principle of right-brain learning which makes learning fun, creative, fun and easily understood by children and all walks of life.

#### 5.4 Developing a Deep Relationship with the Alquran

The Wafa method and right-brain learning principles help children develop a deep connection with the Alquran. By understanding the meaning behind the words, they feel emotionally connected to the messages of the Quran.

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