

Compilation of The Quran

1. Define Compilation of the Quran

- I. The entire Quran was completed in the lifetime of the prophet (saw) and it was called *mushaf* by the prophet (saw).

2. Discuss the Phases of the compilation of the Quran

- i. Compilation during the time of the prophet (saw).
- ii. Compilation during the time of Abubakar (RA).
- iii. Compilation during the time of Uthman (RA).

3. Explain the Compilation of Quran during the time of the prophet (saw)

- i. Revelation used to be written down in the very early days of Islam.
- ii. In medina the prophet (saw) had to call several persons, who write down the revelation when it was revealed.
- iii. The prophet (saw) instructed his scribes as to where the different revealed verses should be placed and thus determined the order and arrangement of the Quran.
- iv. This order and arrangement was well known to the Muslims and strictly observed by them.
- v. The angel Jibril went through all the revelation with the prophet (saw) each year in Ramadan and went through it twice in the year the prophet died.

4. Why Quran was not written in a single volume during the time of the prophet (saw).

- i. The revelation did not come down in one piece, but at intervals and was received continuously until the end of the prophet's life.
- ii. Some verses were abrogated in the cause of the revelation meant that flexibility needed to be observed.
- iii. The verse and the chapters were not always revealed in their final order but were arranged later.

- iv. The prophet (saw) lived only nine days after the last revelation and was severely ill.
- v. There was no dispute about the Quran during the time of the prophet (saw) as developed afterwards when he was no longer available.

5. Discuss the Compilation during the time of Abubakar (RA)

- I. In the battle of *Yamamah* a number of Muslims who had committed the Quran to memory were killed.
- II. Umar (RA) took note of this alarming situation and therefore suggested to Abubakar (RA) that precaution should be taken to preserve the Quran in writing before the *huffaz* (memorisers) die out.
- III. Abubakar (RA) sent for *Zeid Ibn Thabit* (RA) to undertake this responsibility and to coordinate the efforts of the preservation of the Quran.
- IV. Zeid started locating Quran materials and collecting it from parchments, scapula, leaves of date and palm and from memorisers’.
- V. The committee after speculation and confirmation the produced the final copy of the Quran.
- VI. The final was prepared and passed on to Abubakar and after Abubakar’s death it taken by Umar and after Umar’s death it was in custody of Hfswah.

6. Discuss the Compilation of Quran during the time of Uthman

- i. During the time of Uthman (RA) differences in reading the Quran become obvious.
- ii. After consultation with the companions, Uthman decided to have a standard Quran prepared from the preserved manuscript (that was kept with Hafswa (RAA) at that time.
- iii. Uthman ordered Zaid bin Thabit, Abdillah bin Zubair and Saad Ibn Al- Asto reproduce the manuscript (mashaf) from standard copies.
- iv. They made many copy, Uthman returned the original manuscript to Hafswa (RAA).

- v. Uthman sent a copy to every Muslim province and ordered that all other Quran materials be burnt.
- vi. Each city had instruction to reproduce adequate copies for the use of its people.

7. State the significance of the compilation of the Quran

- i. Compilation of the Quran provides uniform reading of the book by both Arab and non-Arab Muslims.
- ii. It promotes unity of mission, action and purpose.
- iii. The compiled text facilitates the keeping and perpetuation of the message to the future generation without alteration.
- iv. The compiled text acts as a symbol of Islam
- v. It helps in preserving the message as the materials used are more durable
- vi. It inevitably provides rewards for those who participated in the compilation
- vii. It is a very useful source of reference for those who wish to study and research on it . The materials used are more durable

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