

The authenticity of the Qur'an

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What is the evidence that the Qur'an is indeed a divine

1-The evidence is in the Qur'an itself:

- Its verses are clear and logical
- It provides guidance and addresses our hearts & souls
- None of its verses were proven wrong
- It was preserved in its original form

2-Muhammad (PBUH) was illiterate: how can he produce such a Qur'an?

3-No one could produce such a Qur'an

Qur'anic verses are clear and logical

The Qur'an encourages us to think, consider and reflect and ask us to ponder its verses

"Do they not ponder on the Qur'an? Had it been from other than God, they would surely have found in it much discrepancy"

An-Nesa'a 4: 82

Qur'anic verses are clear and logical

**Study the Qur'an and reflect on its
verses**

“Here is a Book which We have sent to you, full of blessings, that they may reflect on its signs, and that men of understanding may receive admonition”

Sa D 38: 29

Qur'anic verses are clear and logical

The relationship between the spouses is a sign of God

“And among His signs is that He created for you mates from among yourselves, that you may dwell in tranquility with them, and He has put love and mercy between your hearts. Indeed in this are signs for those who reflect”

Ar-Rum 30: 21

Qur'anic verses are clear and logical

Our human diversity is a sign of God

“And among His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variations in your languages and your colors. Indeed in that are signs for those who know”

Ar-Rum 30: 22

Qur'anic verses are clear and logical

He who created you is able to resurrect you

"Does not man see that We created him from sperm, yet behold! He stands as an open adversary. And he makes comparisons for us, and forgets his own origin and creation. He says: "Who can give life to dry and decomposed bones?". Say: "He will give them life Who created them for the first time, for He fully knows all creation"

Ya Sin 36: 77-79

Qur'anic verses are clear and logical

Those who are good and righteous are not like those who are wicked and have no faith

“Not without purpose did We create heaven and earth and all between! That were the thought of unbelievers, but woe to the unbelievers from the Fire of Hell! Shall We treat those who have faith and do good the same as those who do mischief on earth? Shall We treat those who are God-conscious the same as those who rebel and are wicked?”

Sa D 38: 27 & 28

**The Qur'an provides guidance
and addresses our hearts and**

**Those who are guided can see their
way clearly, those with no faith or
understanding are blind**

“Can he who was dead, to whom We gave life, and a light whereby he can walk amongst men, be like him who is in the depths of darkness, from which he can never come out? Thus to those without faith their own deeds seem pleasing”

Al-An'am 6: 122

**The Qur'an provides guidance
and addresses our hearts and**

**The reward of those who believe,
obey and follow divine guidance**

“O you who believe be conscious of Allah, and believe in His messenger, and He will bestow on you a double portion of His mercy; He will provide for you a light by which you shall walk straight; and He will forgive you, for Allah is often-forgiving, most-merciful”

Al-Hadeed 57: 28

The Qur'an provides guidance and addresses our hearts and

We should obey God and give in charity because it is good for us

"So be conscious of Allah as much as you can; listen and obey; and spend in charity for the benefit of your own souls; those saved from the covetousness of their own souls are the ones that achieve prosperity. If you loan to Allah a beautiful loan, He will double it to your credit, and He will grant you forgiveness, for Allah is all-thankful, most forbearing"

At-Taghabun 64: 16 & 17

The Qur'an provides guidance and addresses our hearts and

Prayers help us in various ways

- Reading the Qur'an
- Avoiding shameful and evil deeds
- Remembering our accountability to Allah

"Recite what is sent of the Book by inspiration to you, and establish regular prayer, for prayer restrains from shameful and evil deeds; and the remembrance of Allah is the greatest thing, for Allah knows all that you do"

Al-Ankabut 29: 45

**The Qur'an provides guidance
and addresses our hearts and**

**Fasting Ramadan allows us to achieve
piety, self-discipline and learn
patience & perseverance**

**“O you who believe fasting is prescribed
to you as it was prescribed to those
before you that you may learn Taqwa”**

Al-Baqara 2: 183

**The Qur'an provides guidance
and addresses our hearts and**

**The Qur'an tells us to look around
and search for the truth**

“Say: “travel through the earth and see
how Allah did originate creation: so
will Allah produce a later creation, for
Allah has power over all things”

Al-Ankabut 29: 20

None of the verses of the Qur'an were proven wrong

The Qur'an is not a book of science, but none of its verses were proven wrong as our scientific knowledge advanced

There should be no contradiction between Divine guidance and scientific achievements. God who sent down His divine message is the same who gave us our intellect and told us to look around, experiment, reflect and achieve

**None of the verses of the
Qur'an were proven wrong**

**The creation of the heavens and earth
in six days**

**"It is Allah Who has created the heavens
and the earth, and all between them,
in six days, then He established
Himself on the throne"**

As-Sajda 32: 4

None of the verses of the Qur'an were proven wrong

The six days in the Qur'an are not our six days

"He directs the affairs from the heavens to the earth, then it ascends unto Him on a day, the measure of which is a thousand years of your reckoning"

As-Sajda 32: 5

"The Angels and the Spirit ascend unto Him in a day the measure whereof is as fifty thousand years"

Al-Ma'arij 70: 4

The different stages in embryonic development are

“We did create man from a quintessence of clay. Then We placed him as a drop of sperm in a place of rest, firmly fixed. Then We made the sperm into a clot of congealed blood; then of that clot We made a lump; then We made out of that lump bones and We clothed the bones with flesh; then We developed out of it another creature. So blessed be Allah, the best to create”

Al-Mumenoun 23: 12-14

Muhammad was illiterate, how can he produce such a Qur'an?

The opponents of Islam say that Muhammad made up this Qur'an, and he heard stories from Christian scholars during his travel.

Muhammad (PBUH) was illiterate, he could not read or write. The Qur'an states:

“You were not able to recite a book before this (book came), nor were you able to write it with your right hand. In that case those who doubt would have doubted”

Al-Ankabut 29: 48

The opponents of the Qur'an claim that Muhammad was

The Qur'an refutes their claim:
“We know indeed that they say: “It is a
man that teaches him” The tongue
they wickedly point to is notably
foreign, while this is Arabic, pure and
clear”

An-Nahl 16: 103

The opponents of the Qur'an claim that Muhammad only

The Qur'an puts forth their claim to refute it:

"The unbelievers say: "This is but a lie that he forged, and others have helped him at it" In truth it is they that are lying and doing wrong. And they say: "Tales of the ancient, which he ordered to be written, and they are dictated before him morning and evening". Say: "The Qur'an was sent down by Him who knows the secret in the Heavens and the Earth; indeed He is often-forgiving, most-merciful"

Al-Furqan 25: 5 & 6

No one is able to produce such a Qur'an

The Qur'an is a miracle that has defied mankind throughout the ages and no one has been able to produce such a Book

"If you are in doubt as to what We have revealed to Our servant, then produce a Sura (chapter) like it, and call your witnesses or helpers (if there are any) besides Allah, if you are truthful"

Al-Baqara 2: 23

No one can produce such a Qur'an

"Or do they say: "He forged it"? Say:
"Bring then a Sura like unto it, and call
to your aid anyone you can, besides
Allah, if you speak the truth"

Yunus 10: 38

"Or they may say: "He forged it" Say:
"Bring then ten Suras forged, like unto
it, and call to your aid whomsoever
you can, besides Allah, if you speak
the truth"

Hud 11: 13

No one can produce such a Qur'an

"Say: "If the whole of mankind and the Jinns were to gather together to produce the like of this Qur'an, they could not produce the like thereof, even if they backed each other with help and support"

Al-Isra'a 17: 88

The Qur'an was preserved in its original form

Previous Divine revelations were entrusted to the scholars like the Torah of Moses

“We revealed the Torah to Moses; therein was guidance and light; by its standard have been judged the Jews, by the Prophets who bowed in Islam to Allah’s will, and by the Rabbis and the scholars; for to them was entrusted the protection of Allah’s Book, and they were witnesses thereto”

Al-Maeda 5: 44

The Torah was changed

“Woe to those who write the Book with their own hands, and then say: “This is from Allah” to traffic with it for a miserable price! Woe to them for what their hands do write, and for the gain they make thereby”

Al-Baqara 2: 79

God promised to safeguard this Qur'an

“We have sent down this message and
We will surely safeguard it”

Al-Hijr 15: 9

The Qur'an safeguards previous divine revelations

“We sent the Book in truth, confirming
the Book that came before it, and
guarding it in safety”

Al-Maeda 5: 48

How was the Qur'an preserved?

The original Arabic Qur'an was preserved in two forms:

- 1-Oral form being memorized in the hearts of the Prophet and his companions
- 2-Written form as various verses revealed from time to time were written on material available at the time

Oral memorization of the Qur'an

The Qur'an was sent down slowly and gradually over 23 years. Few verses were revealed from time to time. The Qur'an is recited during prayers five times every day. The Arabs at that time were mostly illiterate and were known for their ability to memorize. Therefore, it was not difficult to memorize these Qur'anic verses.

Many of the Prophet's companions memorized the

1-Abou Bakr 2-Omar 3-Othman 4-Ali
5-Talha 6-Sa'ad 7-Ibn Msoud 8-Hudhaifa
9-Salem 10-Abou Horaira 11-Ibn Omar
12-Ibn Abbas 13-Umrou Bin Al's
14- Abdullah bin Amrou Bin Al's 15-
Mo'aweya
16-Ibn Az-Zubair 17-Ibn Sa'eb 18-Aesha
19-Afsa
20-Umm Salama 21-Ubai Bin Ka'b 22-Mo'adh
Bin Jabal 23- Zaid bin Thabit 24- Abou Ad-
Darda'a
25-Mujma' bin Haretha 26-anas bin Malik

Thousands memorized the Qur'an shortly after the

The number of Huffadh (memorized the whole Qur'an) killed at the time of Bi'r Ma'ouna (occurred at the time of the Prophet) was 70, and on the day of Yamama (in the 12th year after Hijra) also 70.

There were others who memorized the Qur'an by heart. To memorize the Qur'an is a great honor. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told us that those who know the Qur'an well are with the Angels (Bokhari)

The Qur'an is safeguarded in the hearts of Muslims

“But it is clear signs in the hearts of
those endowed with knowledge, none
but the unjust reject Our signs”

Al-Ankabut 29: 49

Seven Qurr'a (reciters of the Qur'an) were well known at

- 1-Othman
- 2-Ali
- 3-Ubai Bin Ka'b
- 4-Abou Ad-drda'a
- 5-Zaid Bin Thabit
- 6-Ibn Masoud
- 7-Abou Musa Al-Asha'ri

The Angel Jebreel (Gabriel) taught Prophet Muhammad

He would tell him to put this verse in its proper place, before this verse or after this verse, in its proper Sura

The Angel would teach the Prophet what was revealed of the Qur'an each year. In the last year of the Prophet's life he studied the whole Qur'an with him twice. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: (I knew then that my death is near) Bokhari

The Qur'an was written at the Prophet's time

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) appointed some of his companions to write Qur'anic verses inspired to him, as Divine revelation came gradually over 23 years

Among those writers were:

- Abou Bakr, Omar, Othman & Ali
- Mo'weya, Aban Bin Sa'eed, Khalid bin Al-Waleed
- Obai Bin Ka'b, Zaid Bin Thabit & Thabit Bin Qais

The Qur'an was written on whatever material available at

Wide palm leaves

Thin stones

Leather or parchment

Wide bones

The written verses of the Qur'an were placed in the house of Allah's messenger (PBUH)

The Prophet (PBUH) would point to his writers where to put each Qur'anic verse in its Surah (chapter)

The Qur'an was not collected in orderly fashion, one verse after the other, or one Sura after the other as we have the Qur'an today

Why was not the Qur'an written in orderly fashion at

- Most of the Prophet's companions were occupied with memorization of the Qur'an
- Not many knew how to write
- The Qur'an was coming down all the time, till shortly before the prophet's death
- Some verses were cancelled (Naskh)
- The order of the Qur'an that we have today is not the same order as it came

The Qur'an was collected and written in one Mushaf (Book)

In the 12th year after Hijra, one year after the Prophet's death a large number of Qurra'a (those who memorized the whole Qur'an) were killed in the battle of Yamama, among them Salem Mawla Hudhaifa.

Omar was terrified that others may die or be killed and then the memorized Qur'an would be lost. He advised Abou Bakr to collect the Qur'an and write it in one book to safeguard it

Zaid Bin Thabit was chosen to write the Qur'an

Abou Bakr chose Zaid for several reasons:

- 1–He was among those who memorized the Qur'an
- 2–He was among those who were responsible for writing Qur'anic verses as they came down
- 3–He was told about the last revelation of the Qur'an when Jebreel met with Allah's messenger twice in the last year of the prophet's life
- 4–He was known for his intelligence, strong

How Zaid collected the Qur'an?

He followed two methods:

- 1-He authenticated anything written, and only accepted what correlated with what was memorized, and took the oath from two witnesses that the material was written in the presence of Allah's messenger
- 2-He also relied on what was memorized in the hearts of the prophet's companions.

The last verses of Surat At-Tawba were only written by Abi Khuzaima Al-Ansari, though many of the Prophet's companions had already memorized these verses.

Where was the Mushaf that Abou Bakr collected saved?

It was safeguarded with Abou Bakr

Then when he died it was safeguarded
with Omar

Then after the death of Omar it was
safeguarded with Hafsa, the Prophet's
wife and the daughter of Omar

We do not know where is this Mushaf
now

The Qur'an was collected a second time at the time of

Many people accepted Islam, among them were those whose native tongue was not Arabic.

Each region recited the Qur'an according to the Prophet's Companion who taught them. For example those in Syria recited the Qur'an according to Ubai Bin Ka'b; those in Iraq recited the Qur'an according to Ibn Masoud; and others recited the Qur'an according to Abou Musa Al-Ashari. There were therefore differences in the way the Qur'an was recited, because the Qur'an

Othman sought the opinion of the Prophet's companions

Their collective opinion was to write the Qur'an in one way, then send copies of this Qur'an to each region of the Muslim Umma (nation), and to burn any other Qur'an

This way there will be no difference in recitation, and no arguments as to who is right and who is wrong

A committee of four was charged with this mission of

The four were:

Zaid Bin Thabit; Abdullah bin Az-Zubair; Saeed bin Al'as and

Abdul Rahman bin AlHareth bin Hisham

They got the Qur'an safeguarded with Hafsa

They started writing the Qur'an after consulting the Prophet's companions and agreeing that this is the way that the Prophet (PBUH) did recite the Qur'an

They wrote the Qur'an according to the seven Qira'at with no signs (Tashkila), but if there was only one way of recitation they placed signs to indicate that.

What they differed in was written according to the tongue of Quraish

What is different between the Qur'an of Othman and that of

The Qur'an written at the time of Othman had several advantages:

- 1-The Suras (chapters) and Ayat (verses) were arranged as we have today. In Abou Bakr's Qur'an the verses were arranged but not the Suras
- 2-Only what was evidenced by Tawater (Many agreed that there is no way that a mistake could occur), not what was recited by only few people
- 3-What was cancelled in the final revelation (Naskh) was deleted from the Qur'an of Othman
- 4-The Qur'an was written in a way to allow for all seven Qira'at and seven letters
- 5-What was written by some of the Prophet's companions as explanation or remarks was deleted and only what was proven to be a Qur'an was accepted

Mushaf Othman allowed for 7 different Qira'at

It was devoid of signs or Tashkila to allow recitation according to different ways known to be correct and authentic, according to the different ways that Allah's messenger (PBUH) recited the Qur'an

The emphasis is on oral recitation of the Qur'an. A Hafidh learns how to recite the Qur'an properly from another Hafidh, and so on going back to the Prophet's companions and to the Prophet himself

Who are the well-known Qurra'a of the Qur'an?

Among the Prophet's companions:

Abou Bakr, Omar, Othman & Ali
Obai Bin Ka'b, Zaid Bin Thabit, Ibn Masoud, Abou Ad-Darda'a,
Abou Musa Al-Asha'ri

Among the Tabee'een:

In Madina: Ibn Al-Musayyib, Urwa, Salem, Umar Bin Abdul Aziz,
Sulaiman Bin Yasar and Ata'a, Zaid Bin Aslam, Muslim Bin
Jundob, Ibn Shihab, Abdul Rahman Bin Hurmuz, Mo'adh Bin
Al-Hareth

In Macca: Ata'a, Mujahid, Tawoos, Ikrima, Ibn Abi Molayka,
Obaid Bin Umair

In Basra: Ammar bin Abdul Qais, Abou Al-Aliya, Abou Raja'a,
Nasr Bin Asim, Yahya Bin Ya'mar, Jabir Bin Zaid, Al-Hassan,
Ibn Sereen, Qutada

In Kufa: Ulqima, Al-Aswad, Masrouq, Obaida, Ar-Rabee' Bin
Khaytham, Al-Hareth Bin Qais, An-Nahke', AshShu'abi

The seven Qira'at

These seven Qira'at are all well authenticated and traced to the Prophet (PBUH). They were recited by a large number of people that it is impossible that an error could have occurred (Tawater)

They represent minute changes not a notable change in how, sometimes a word can be recited

Examples of different Qira'at

It is only differences in letters, or how a word is pronounced, not changing words or sentences like:

- Yakhda'youna or Yukhadeouna
- Wassa or Awsa
- Yattawwa'a or Tataa'awa
- Ma Khalaqa Adh-dkara wa Al-Untha or Wadh-dhakara wa Al-Untha
- Wakan Amamahum Malikun or Wakan Wara'ahum Malikun

What are the seven Qira'at?

This refers to seven people who were well known for their recitation of the Qur'an. They are:

1-Nafi' 2-Asim 3-Hamza 4-Abdullah Bin Amir

5-Abdullah Bin Kuthayr

6-Abou Amrou Bin Al-Al'a

7-Ali Al-Kisa'ee

There were others besides them like

Suspicions or doubts raised by opponents of the Qur'an

Bokhari & Muslim related that Allah's messenger (PBUH) said: (May Allah have mercy on this person (Abbad Bin Bashar), he reminded me of verses of the Qur'an I forgot). They claim that this means that Muhammad did forget the Qur'an.

The answer is that these verses were memorized by the Prophet and his companions and were written. It is possible that the Prophet (PBUH) forgot at one time these verses and the man reminded him of them. That only shows the humanity of Muhammad, any person can forget at one time or another, but does not mean that some verses of the Qur'an were left out. The Qur'an states: "It is not up to me to change it of my own accord. I only follow what is revealed to me" Yunus 10: 15

Suspicions or doubts raised by opponents of the Qur'an

They say: "The Qur'anic verse "We shall teach you the message, by degrees, so you shall not forget, except as Allah wills" Al-A'la 87: 6 & 7, shows that Muhammad did forget some Qur'anic verses.

The answer is that Allah did bless His Messenger that he did not forget the Qur'anic verses inspired to him. The Messenger used to worry that he may forget the Qur'an revealed to him, but he was reassured by his Lord that he will remember: "Move not your tongue in haste regarding the Qur'an. It is up to Us to

Suspicions and doubts raised by the opponents of the

They say that the Prophet's companions deleted from the Qur'an what they considered fit to delete like Ayat (verse) of Muta'a (temporary marriage) and Du'a of Qunout

The answer is that none of these were proven to be a Qur'an. The companions only accepted what was narrated by Tawater (Numerous people narrated it that a mistake could not happen)

Some of the Prophet's companions wrote in their Mushaf (Qur'an) notes or Du'a (prayer) that they knew is not a Qur'an

Suspicions and doubts by opponents of the Qur'an

They say: Many of those who
memorized the Qur'an were killed,
and their knowledge therefore is lost

The answer is that many others were
alive at that time, and the Qur'an was
also safeguarded in written form

Suspicions and doubts raised by opponents of the Qur'an

They say: The written Qur'an was not arranged in an orderly fashion, according to the Suras and Ayats

The answer is that the Prophet (PBUH) told his companions the place of each Ayat in each Sura and this was known and memorized. Also the Qur'an that was written in the Prophet's house was arranged in an orderly fashion according to the Suras and Ayat

Suspicions and doubts raised by opponents of the Qur'an

They said that Al-Hajjaj deleted verses from the Qur'an and added other verses in order to praise the leaders of Bani Umayya

The answer is that there is no historical proof to their claim, and the scholars would not have kept quiet if this actually happened; and how can he influence the memorization of those who already have memorized the

Suspicions and doubts raised by opponents of the Qur'an

They say: Ibn Masoud denied that Al-Mu-Awethatain are from the Qur'an (Qul Aoudhou Berabbi Al-Falaq & Qul Aoudhou Berabbi An-Nas)

The answer is that this is a lie about Ibn Masoud. He may not have heard it from Allah's messenger (PBUH) and wanted to make sure. All others of the Prophet's companions collectively agreed that these two Suras are part of the Qur'an

The Qur'an told Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) things he

“Such are some of the stories of the unseen, which We have revealed to you. Before this, neither you, nor your people knew them. So persevere patiently, for the end is for those who are righteous”

Hud 11: 49

The opponents of the Qur'an question the integrity of the

They say:

- Not many memorized the Qur'an
- How can we depend on their memorization?
- Surely they forgot part of the Qur'an
- They may have deleted some verses, or added other verses according to their likes and dislikes

We should trust the Prophet's companions

- 1-They knew the importance of preserving and safeguarding the Qur'an, and the great reward of spreading useful knowledge.
They realized that Islam is built on the Qur'an and Sunnah
- 2-They were righteous and did not lie or cheat
- 3-They were gifted, as the Arabs were at that time, for their ability to memorize
- 4-They loved Allah's messenger and were committed to teach others and safeguard this religion
- 5-The Qur'an was made easy to remember, and its eloquence and attraction commands the hearts
- 6-The Qur'an came down interrupted over 23 years, and was recited in prayers every day, so it is not difficult to memorize
- 6-Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) method of teaching his companions made it easy for them; Some verses of the Qur'an came down to answer questions and some verses were associated with certain incidents
- 7-Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was there to answer their questions and explain what may be vague or not understood

The opponents of the Qur'an also question the written

They say that Muhammad ordered his companions not to write. So how can we trust what is written?

The answer is that initially the Prophet (PBUH) feared that his sayings if written may be misunderstood as being a Qur'an, so he told his companions not to write except the Qur'an. He did not forbid writing the Qur'an. Later on he allowed his companions to write his sayings to be preserved, when the knowledge of the Qur'an became established.

The original Qur'an had no signs or Tashkila

Abu Al-Aswad Ad-Dua'ali was the first person to put signs; Ibn Sereen also had signs in his Mushaf; followed by Nasr Bin Asim Al-Laithy and Yahya Bin Ya'mar; then Abdul Malik Bin Marwan ordered that the Mushaf have signs to allow people to recite correctly with no mistakes