

Implementation of Web-Based Maktabah Shamilah Application in Thematic Interpretation Research

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Abstract

The use of information technology in the Islamic field is increasingly developing into various aspects of academic life. One of the real implementations of these developments is the maktabah shamilah application. This application is a digital platform that provides access to various sources of tafsir practically. This study aims to investigate the implementation of the web-based Maktabah Samilah Website in thematic tafsir research. This research uses a qualitative method with descriptive analysis. We have used descriptive analysis through exploring the use of the web-based Maktabah Shamilah application to study thematic tafsir. This study found that the web-based Maktabah Samilah application presents a variety of interpretations quickly and practically and makes it easy for users to obtain a variety of interpretations that have been included in the application. This research is expected to provide detailed insights accompanied by visualization of how to utilize the web-based Maktabah Shamilah in researching thematic tafsir studies.

Introduction

The development of technology today has reached its peak. Humans are now very dependent on technological advances, feeling helped in various aspects of life, including the development of science.(1) Technology makes it easier for humans to access a wide range of global knowledge. Hence, many Muslim innovators are using technology as a means to create new breakthroughs for mankind.(2)

Along with the advancement of technology, the development of knowledge also continues to strive to stay relevant. Today, there are various apps, e-books, journals, and software that aim to disseminate knowledge.(3) This can be seen from the emergence of applications such as Maktabah Syamilah, science portals, and online media journals.(4) The popularity of these applications is inseparable from the practicality, effectiveness, and ease of access they offer to users.(5)

This effectiveness is the main attraction for those who love to use technology. For someone who wants a more practical method of learning or wants to read with ease without the need to buy books or look for sources in the library, apps and digital resources are the first choice.(4) This approach is also adopted by a number of Muslim scholars and practitioners who seek out various sources of study. Time constraints and increased use of technology indirectly encourage them to access digital books via the internet.(6)

Discussion

The Maktabah Shamilah application provides significant help and makes it easier for beginners, as well as researchers and observers of Islamic materials.(7) This application gives readers or users the ability to quickly access data related to certain themes in certain fields of study.(8)

The main feature of this app as a learning medium is its effectiveness, which is manifested in the very comprehensive coverage of book information in the form of a digital library platform that contains many written works from scholars of the salaf and khalaf periods. In addition, it also contains several Islamic publications, fatwa collections and more. Maktabah Shamilah includes thousands of books collected in one website that can be managed easily, practically, and even free to access. In fact, the books in it can be added or reduced according to the needs of the researcher.(9)

Judging from the timeline of its launch, Maktabah Shamilah has proven itself to be a very helpful tool for beginners, both students and scholars in various Islamic disciplines, including the field of interpretation. At the very least, it helps them to understand the benefits and uses of software and applications in an Islamic context.(10)

Ironically, although Maktabah Shamilah has been available since the early 2000s, many students of Islamic sciences to date have not been able to utilize it optimally. Many students in Islamic schools and universities are unable to take full advantage of it, perhaps due to limited information or lack of socialization from those who have used this application first.(11)

In this context, the author will present a review of the online version of Maktabah Shamilah. The presence of this online version provides a valuable solution for knowledge seekers or students who use laptops with low specifications or small memory so that they cannot install Maktabah Shamilah.(12) This also applies to Mac OS users who want to use Maktabah

Shamilah, but there is no software version compatible with Apple laptops (Mausuah Asfar is now available for Mac OS users). All that is required is an internet connection and an understanding of Arabic.(13)

To access this web-based Maktabah Shamilah application, it can be opened on the website www.shamela.ws. Here's how it looks:

WEB-BASED ONLINE MAKTABAH SHAMILAH APPLICATION GUIDE

The homepage of the online version of Maktabah Shamilah is designed with a bright background and tends to be white. This choice of background provides comfort in reading, considering that readability is an important factor in the context of an online library. The design may have taken inspiration from books that generally have bright and white backgrounds.(14)

The header font on the website and the titles of the books in Maktabah Syamilah online use Syakkal Majalla Arabic, while the contents of the books use the font commonly used in Arabic writing, namely Traditional Arabic.(15) Currently, Syamilah Online has provided 7 million pages, 8 thousand books, and involves 3 thousand authors.(16) Let's take a look at the various menus available on the start page.

The online Maktabah Shamilah menu is located at the very top of the page. When first opened, the background has a brownish color, but when scrolling, the background changes to white-gray.(17)

"Al-Raisiyyah" is the main menu or home page. After opening the book and searching, you can return to the main menu or home page by clicking on this menu.

"Aqşam al-Maktabah" is the scholarly category where there are 40 folders representing various fields of Islamic knowledge. Each folder has a list of books included with the number of books listed on the left. If you click on one of the "Aqşam al-Maktabah," you will be directed to the "Qaimatul Kutub" or the list of books of that particular folder.

"Fahras al-Muallifin" is a list of book authors in Syamilah Online. To search for the name of the author of the book, three methods are available, namely:

1. By Year of Death: You can search for the author based on the year of his death.
2. By Alphabetical Letters: The author of the book can be searched based on the alphabetical order of the letters.
3. By Number of Books: Book authors can be sorted by the number of books they wrote.

With these methods, users can easily find authors and their works in Syamilah Online.(18)

"Haulal Masyru" provided information about the Shamilah project, and mentioned that Shamilah Online is a free project. The aim of the project is to collect resources needed by knowledge seekers, such as books and research, in the fields of Shari'ah and tools. The material is presented in a text format that supports searchability and can be copied by users. The project is designed to facilitate easy and efficient access to Islamic knowledge.

"Tanzil al-Maktabah" provides links to download the Maktabah Syamilah program. Download links are available for both Android and Apple apps. For the Windows app, there are two options: the Rajab 1443 version with a full size of 7 gigabytes, and the Syamela app with a smaller size of 226 megabytes. The books can be downloaded after installation of the app.

"Tashaf al-Maktabah" is a menu located in the center of the initial display. When you click on it, you will be directed to "Aqşam al-Kitab."

"Bahts fi al-Maktabah" is the menu located in the center of the initial display or at the top of the leftmost section marked with a search icon. This feature is one of the most important and most frequently used by seekers of shar'i knowledge.(19).

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE ONLINE VERSION OF MAKTABAH SHAMILAH

Advantages of Maktabah Shamilah Online Version:

1. The online version of Maktabah Shamilah allows wide accessibility because it can be accessed from anywhere, anytime, and using various devices, as long as they are connected to the internet.
2. Users have the flexibility to adjust the size of the text in the book according to their preferences.
3. The online version is very supportive in reference making, allowing users to copy and paste the text of the book along with reference details and links to search results on the site.
4. For text search, two options are available: searching through the entire collection of kitab or searching within a specific scope, which offers more convenience compared to the search system in the offline version of Maktabah Syamilah. Offline version of Maktabah Syamilah. With the online version, users no longer need to select and move the entire book to the search field.(20)

While the disadvantages of the Online Version of Maktabah Shamilah are as follows:

1. The fonts used in the system feel stiff and thin, which may reduce comfort in reading.
2. The display design is less attractive, making the user experience less interesting.
3. Not all functions available in the offline version of Maktabah Syamilah are accommodated in the online version.
4. There is no ability to customize the text with the printed version of the book through PDF files, as can be done in the offline version.
6. The font size in the search results is too small, making it difficult to read the search results.
7. Search results only display relevant snippets of text and do not display the entire page according to the page in the book. The inability to include reference captions when copying search results, reducing the ease of use of references.

THE USE OF MAKTABAH SHAMILAH ONLINE IN SEARCHING TAFSIR

1. To search for tafsir, we can directly enter the aqsumul maktabah section then enter the tafsir section
2. After entering the tafsir section, you will be directed to the books of tafsir.
3. Then in this section we can choose the book of tafsir that we will discuss
4. After this section, we can directly write the word that we will look for its interpretation in the search section above, after that we will see the results of the interpretation of the word we are looking for.
5. Then after we write the word we want to find the interpretation of, it will come out all the interpretations of the word from us that we choose.

Conclusions

From this study it can be concluded that technology is very useful for conducting tafsir research. Compare to opening one book or book, which takes 5-10 minutes to get only one tafsir. The use of information technology through Maktabah Shamilah allows researchers to access many books of tafsir in less than 30 seconds, with search results covering many locations of book pages. Overall, the use of Maktabah Shamilah online in learning Islamic religion, especially thematic tafsir, results in the following conclusions:

1. Information technology significantly facilitates and is effective in the enrichment of knowledge in Islamic studies, especially in the field of thematic interpretation.
2. Maktabah Syamilah online is easy to implement as a medium for learning, understanding, research, and development of Islamic studies.
3. Islamic studies become easier, more effective, and efficient by utilizing information technology.

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