

## Improving Quran Recitation: The Impact Of An Intensive Program For Non-Resident Students At MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri

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**Abstract:** Reforms in the teaching and learning of the Qur'an can enhance the quality of religious education and spirituality within Islamic-based educational institutions. This study employs a descriptive qualitative research method to obtain a deeper understanding of the learning process. The findings reveal that the intensive Qur'anic program significantly improves the recitation quality of students at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember.

**Keywords:** Intensive Program; Qur'an; Reading Quality.

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**Abstrak:** Pembinaan dalam pengajaran dan pembelajaran Al-Qur'an dapat memperbaiki kualitas pendidikan agama dan spiritualitas di lingkungan pendidikan berbasis Islam. Penelitian yang saat ini dilakukan menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif kualitatif untuk mendapatkan pemahaman yang lebih luas. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa program intensive Al-Qur'an dapat meningkatkan kualitas bacaan siswa di MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember.

**Kata Kunci:** Program Intensif; Al-Qur'an; Kualitas.

### A. Introduction

Current education in Indonesia faces various challenges, one of which is the quality of Qur'anic reading among students. This issue also applies to pesantren-based schools (Adelia & Mitra, 2021). Although many schools integrate Qur'anic learning into their curriculum, the level of understanding and reading proficiency remains a significant issue (Al-Farabi et al., 2024; Khotimah et al., 2023). Although students show great enthusiasm in learning the Qur'an, many still struggle to read it correctly,

particularly in terms of tajwid (proper recitation rules) and makhraj (articulation points) (Lozada & Mustofa, 2024; Muh Tahir Malik & Muhammad Alqadri Burga, 2024). This can affect their comprehension of the Qur'an's content and, consequently, their practice of Islamic teachings. Given the Qur'an's vital role as a life guide for Muslims (Nasution & Nasution, 2023).

Improvements in Qur'anic teaching and learning can enhance the quality of religious education and spirituality in Islamic-based educational environments (Sangadah & Basiran, 2023). This is evident at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember, a madrasah under the auspices of Pondok Pesantren Al-Qodiri 1 Jember. Interestingly, although this madrasah operates under a pesantren (Islamic boarding school), a significant number of its students come from outside the pesantren and are referred to as non-resident students (*siswa non-mukim*). MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember ensures Qur'anic reading fluency as one of the core competencies that must be mastered by all students, whether residential (*mukim*) or non-residential (*non-mukim*). Therefore, MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember provides an intensive program specifically designed to improve the Qur'anic reading proficiency of non-resident students (those not living in the pesantren), due to their limited time for Qur'anic studies. This Qur'anic intensive program has been running for approximately five years and consists of multiple tiered classes, ranging from beginner to advanced levels, including: Tilawati Class, Al-Qur'an Class, Talaqqi Class, and Tahfidz Class.

This research is based on a study by Siti Sumiati entitled "Improving the Quality of Qur'anic Recitation through the Talaqqi Method for Tahfidzul Qur'an Students at MTs in Celendek, Bogor", which found that the Talaqqi method effectively enhances the Qur'anic recitation quality of tahfidz students at MTs Celendek Bogor (Sumiati, 2023). Furthermore, Mukmin et al. (2024) state that intensive programs can accelerate the learning process and consolidate Arabic-language materials more effectively. Additionally, Meishanti et al. (2021).

Several previous studies share a common focus on intensive programs; however, they differ from the current study in that they primarily emphasize intensive programs for Arabic and Mathematics learning. In contrast, this study specifically focuses on

Qur'anic learning. Therefore, this research is important to explore how the implementation of the intensive Qur'anic program can improve students' recitation quality.

**B. Method**

This current study utilizes a qualitative descriptive research method to obtain a comprehensive understanding. During the research period, the researcher will be directly involved in the field and serve as an observer (Yusanto, 2020; Handayani, 2020). This research is classified as field research and is descriptive in nature. The research subjects are non-resident students at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember. Data will be collected through observation, documentation, and interviews conducted over a three-month period. Interviews will be conducted with several informants selected using purposive sampling techniques. Below is the list of informants in this study:

Table.1 Informan List

NAME	DESCRIPTION
Eko Mulyadi, MP d	Sekpim 1 ( WK Kurikulum)
Erikafathul Insani, S Pd	"Coordinator of Non-Resident Students"
Fikri Khoirunnisak, S Pd	Teacher of Qur'anic Recitation
Nur Alviola Darojah	Non-resident female student
Helena Cordelia	Non-resident female student
Regi Talita Elok	Non-resident female student
M. Ramadhan Al- Arifin	Non-resident female student
M. Ilyas	Non-resident female student

The researcher employs data analysis techniques proposed by Miles and Huberman. This three-stage research process begins with data reduction, which is used to identify relevant, significant, and important data based on the conducted study and to compile the required research data. In the subsequent stage, the reduced data is presented in the form of brief narrative descriptions (in text format). The final stage involves data verification, where the researcher validates their findings by demonstrating how the data was collected through observation, interviews, and supporting documentation (Latifah & Supena, 2021).

### **C. Findings And Discussion**

#### **1. MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri's Strategies for Improving Qur'an Reading Proficiency Among Non-Resident Students**

One of the initiatives implemented by the principal and teachers of MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember is the establishment of the Intensive Qur'an Program. This program serves as a platform to enhance and improve the Qur'anic reading proficiency of non-resident students. The Intensive Qur'an Program was initiated approximately five years ago through a joint agreement between the school principal and the leadership of MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember. The Intensive Qur'an Program was established to ensure that non-resident students achieve the same goals as their resident counterparts - proficiency in Qur'anic reading that meets the competency standards guaranteed by MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember, namely 'Fluency in Qur'an Reading' (Insani, 2024). This presents a unique challenge for the leadership and all Qur'an teachers at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember. Several research studies support this approach, including work by Jaya (2024) demonstrating that intensive Qur'an instruction significantly improves reading skills. Furthermore, a study by Wahid et al. (2024) emphasizes the importance of sustained programs for enhancing Qur'anic recitation quality."

The strategies implemented to execute the Intensive Qur'an Program, aimed at enhancing students' Qur'anic reading proficiency, involve adapting the curriculum established by the Central TPMQ (Al-Qur'an Teaching and Learning Center) to align with the schedule of the Intensive Qur'an Program for non-resident students.

The Intensive Qur'an Program implemented at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember was established for several key reasons. Primarily, non-resident students require intensive instruction as most have not yet mastered proper Qur'anic recitation according to correct tajwid rules - including elongation (madd), pronunciation points (makhraj), and letter characteristics (sifat). Many students struggle to distinguish between clear (jahr), nasalized (ghunnah), and muted (ikhfa') readings. Therefore, this Intensive Qur'an Program is particularly essential for non-resident students.

#### **2. Implementation of the Intensive Qur'an Program to Enhance Qur'anic Reading Proficiency**

Based on the research process conducted, the researcher obtained interview data from one of the Qur'an teachers at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember, who stated that the Intensive Qur'an Program is particularly suitable for non-resident students. This program provides them with structured Qur'anic learning that has clear objectives, a defined curriculum, and measurable improvements in Qur'anic reading proficiency (Hasan, 2015).

The Intensive Qur'an Program at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri has demonstrated significant implications for improving Qur'anic recitation quality among non-resident students. Interviews with both teachers and students reveal that the program's continuity effectively enhances Qur'an reading proficiency. According to interview data, students reported that the program enables intensive learning through structured instruction (Alviola, 2024). Participants expressed increased confidence in Qur'anic recitation after completing the program, showing notable improvement in both tajwid (proper pronunciation rules) and reading fluency.

Furthermore, intensive learning positively influences students' discipline in engaging with the Qur'an beyond school hours (Mu'iz, 2024; Salim, 2025). Students participating in the intensive program demonstrate greater openness to other religious activities. Additionally, there exists a significant correlation between intensive learning and students' contextual understanding of the Qur'an in their daily lives (Dawam, 2024). In other words, the intensive program deepens students' affection and connection with the Qur'an.

The Intensive Qur'an Program at MTs Unggulan Al-Qodiri 1 Jember employs multiple teaching methodologies, including: Talaqqi method, Drill method, Jibril method. These methods are carefully adapted to suit each class level's specific requirements. Below is the classification table for the Intensive Qur'an Program levels:

<b>Class Level</b>	<b>Learning Focus</b>	<b>Learning Target</b>
Tilawati Class	Tilawati Book for Teens, Levels 1-5	Fluent in reading the Tilawati book, including proper pronunciation of long & short vowels (madd and harakat) as well as clear enunciation (idgham, ikhfa, etc.)
Al-Qur'an Class	Al-Qur'an Juz 1-10	Completed Juz 1-10 using the Jibril Method (teacher reads, student repeats)
Pra Munaqosyah	Al-Qur'an Juz 1-30	Finished reciting Juz 1 to 15 in guided group

Class		reading with the teacher Direct recitation study of Juz 16-30 with a teacher
Tahfidz Juz 30 class	Hafalan Juz 30	Reciting Juz 30 from memory for evaluation Listening Test for Juz 30

The table above shows that the systematic teaching structure in the Intensive Quran Program directly improves students' reading quality. This process forms the foundation for enhancing tajwid skills and reading fluency.

Observations of the program reveal that intensive learning not only improves reading ability but also strengthens students' daily connection with the Quran. After joining the program, students were found reading the Quran more often outside class hours. They also developed deeper appreciation for correct recitation – not just as an obligation, but as a spiritual need (Napisah, n.d.). This confirms that the program effectively improves Quranic reading while also deepening students' spiritual relationship with the Quran in daily life.

#### **D. Conclusion**

This study concludes that the Intensive Quran Program is highly effective and efficient as a solution to improve students' reading quality. Interviews and field observations show that non-resident students at MTs 'Unggulan' Al-Qodiri 01 Jember significantly improved their Quranic recitation after joining the program. This is evident in their enhanced reading skills and ability to memorize short surahs.

The findings suggest that this program can facilitate better Quranic reading proficiency. However, since this research focuses only on the Intensive Quran Program, further studies are needed to examine other intensive programs with broader and more varied research subjects.

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