QUR'AN FOR EDUCATION IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (QUEENS): AN INNOVATIVE APPLICATION TO ENHANCE ISLAMIC CHARACTER EDUCATION

Choirul Anwar
UIN Salatiga
irulanwar07gl@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research aims to develop and implement the Qur'an for Education in Elementary School (QUEENS) application to improve the quality of Islamic character education for students based on Qur'an values. The Research and Development (R&D) method is used in this study, and it includes needs analysis, product design, development, testing, and evaluation. The design of the QUUENS app was created using Canva media and then converted to APK format using APK Builder Pro/Website 2 APK Builder Pro v5.2.exe. The test results on students showed a significant increase in Juz 30 memorization by 33.33%, learning interest by 40%, and digital literacy by 43.2%. This indicates that the QUEENS application effectively improves students' academic abilities and develops their interests and skills in using technology. The QUEENS application is expected to be a model for developing educational media based on religious values, significantly contributing to creating a holistic learning environment and supporting students' moral and spiritual development.

Keywords: QUEENS, Innovative Application, Islamic Character Education, Elementary School

INTRODUCTION

Islamic education in primary schools is important in instilling moral and spiritual values in children from an early age (Kamila, 2023). In the era of globalization full of moral and spiritual challenges, quality Islamic education isa crucial need for the nation's next generation. Technology that is rapidly developing has become a challenge for the Islamic generation in maintaining the faith and values of the Qur'an in education. As the main source of Islamic teachings, the Qur'an holds noble values that can guide life and the formation of noble characters for children (Oktafiana et al., 2023).

In Islamic education, integrating Qur'anic values is crucial in forming a generation that is intellectually intelligent and has strong morals and spirituality (Mandasari et al., 2021). However, Islamic education in primary schools still faces several obstacles, such as the lack of innovative learning methods, less contextual learning materials, and the lack of involvement of teachers and parents in the learning process. This results in a low understanding and application of Qur'an values in children's lives (Silvatama et al., 2023).

Along with the increase in mobility, there has been a surge in the use of mobile devices in recent years (Anila & Adri, 2022). One of the devices, Mobile, is the most rapidly growing one, and almost everyone now owns it. Originally designed as communication tools, mobile phones have now gone beyond their basic function. Various additional features, such as image and video and document processing, have been embedded in this

device. This development cannot be separated from the role of the operating system used in Mobile.

Like computers, Mobile Now allows you to install various applications according to the user's needs. One of the most widely used operating systems on mobile devices is Android. Android aims to drive innovation in mobile phone devices, allowing users to explore various capabilities and get a better experience than other mobile platforms (Uska et al., 2022). Until now, Android continues to develop both in terms of the system and its applications. This makes people, ranging from parents to teenagers to children, use mobile phones with the Android operating system in their daily lives because of their ease of access and affordable prices.

Therefore, innovative efforts are needed to improve the quality of Islamic education in elementary schools while remaining based on the values of the Qur'an and in line with the pace of technological development. One potential solution is to develop an interesting and interactive Qur'an learning application, such as the Qur'an for Education in Elementary School (QUEENS). In the world of education, QUEENS is specially designed for elementary school children with various interesting and interactive features, such as animations, educational games, and contextual learning materials. Based on the background of the problems described above, the article titled "Qur'an for Education in Elementary School (QUEENS): An Innovative Applications to Enhance Islamic Character Education" is important to study in order to explore the values of the Qur'an that are integrated with technology.

METHODS

This study uses Research and Development (R&D), a systematic approach to developing and testing the effectiveness of products (Sutiyatno, 2017). The method was chosen based on the research objectives of designing, developing, and testing the QUEENS learning application. The research procedure uses the ADDIE development model developed by Dick and Carey (1996), which consists of five stages consisting of analysis, design, development, implementation, and evaluation (Rayanto & Sugianti, 2020). QUEENS feature was designed using Canva media and then converted using APK Builder Pro\Website 2 APK Builder Pro v5.2.exe.
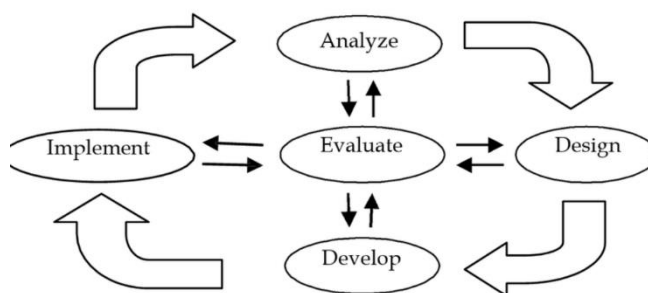

Figure 1

Model ADDIE Dick and Carey (1996)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study results show that conventional teaching methods are less attractive to students today, especially in the community. Gen Z children tend to be too lazy to read conventional books, magazines, newspapers, etc. Children are more likely to use gadgets, androids, and so on to learn and play Online. This align swith the fact that using gadgets positively contributes to students' interest in learning. Positive use of gadgets makes students more proactive in learning independently based on their motivations, without relying on others (Nikmawati et al., 2021).

Today's children who do not master technology will be left behind in the face of the rapid progress of the times. In the learning process, mastery of technology is a must. Countries with advanced education systems have successfully implemented technology in their education. We need to start making improvements and not see technology as a threat but as an opportunity to be taken advantage of. The statement is the opinion of Subandowo (2022) who said that the use of technology has become common in the era of globalization in the 21st century. In education, one of the birthplaces of technology, it is natural for technology to facilitate learning (Yusuf et al., 2023). Educational technology developed from educational practices and audio-visual communication movements. This is where the term educational technology emerged.

QUEENS: Qur'an for Education in Elementary School, an Innovative Android-based App

Qur'an for Education in Elementary School (QUEENS) is an innovative learning media that integrates the values of the Qur'an and Islam through an android application. By utilizing information technology to implement e-governance, QUEENS facilitates the widespread dissemination of information. The statement is very suitable that E-Governance is a government system that has been converted to online to provide services to the community (Siregar & Rosmaini, 2021). This initiative aims to be a smart, creative, and innovative solution in protecting morals and shaping the character of elementary school and madrasah-age students based on the values of the Qur'an and Islam as the core of their personality (Laksana, 2021).

QUEENS is designed with app features such as an online Qur'an, Islamic fiqh, tajwid, educational games, and quizzes that focus on Qur'anic values.

Figure 2

QUEENS logo and main display

The application's initial display is the main menu page, as shown in Figure 3. The menu contains six options: prayer materials, an online Qur'an, fiqh studies for elementary/middle school children, quizzes, tajwid, and education-based games.

Figure 3

Main Menu

The prayer material menu in Figure 4 contains a visualization of prayer movements in order according to the science of worship jurisprudence and the book of Fasholatan. This menu aims to enable phase A students to carry out prayer movements perfectly. This is the opinion (Competitive & Literal, 2021) that learning prayer movements should be practiced early. Guidance from parents and teachers is the main way to provide learning media. Media use is highly recommended in developing learning, especially media that focuses on prayer movements and readings.
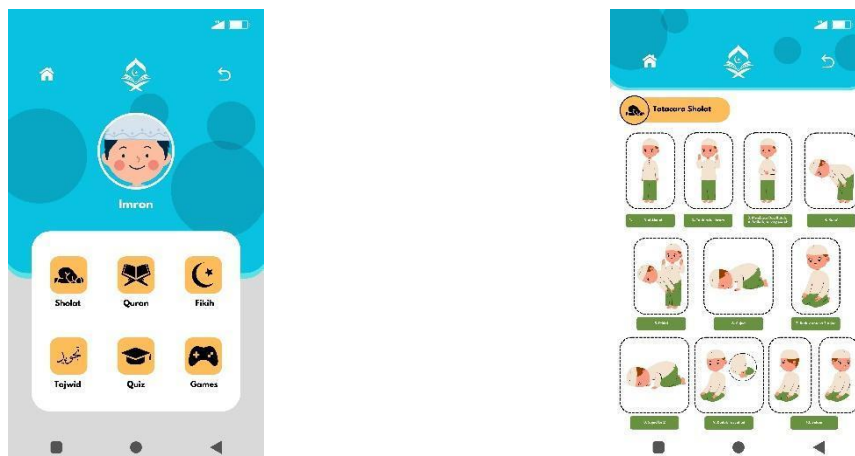
Figure 4
Menu of prayer materials

The familiar menu in QUEENS is the online Qur'an, as shown in Figure 5. The online menu of the Qur'an is served in Juz 30 with a separate translation. This menu aims to develop the memorization of juz 30 in elementary school students. They will exist with the Qur'an on Android, not just in the game world. This is the opinion (Safik, 2020) that the selection of learning media has a significant impact on students' Juz 'Amma memorization, and to improve it, a teacher must choose effective, creative, and innovative learning media. This aims to make students interested in the learning process. One way to improve the learning process is to use media efficiently.
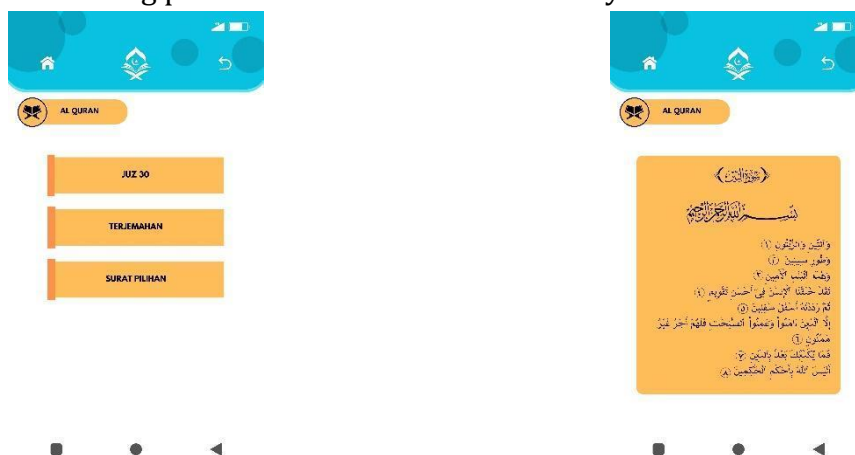

Figure 5
Online Qur'an Menu

The next page is the fiqh material page contained in Figure 6. On this page, students can access basic knowledge related to fiqh, such as the pillars of Islam, the pillars of faith, and the moral creed. The fiqh material in QUEENS is sourced from the book of fiqh and basic aqidah, such as Aqidatul Awwam, Tarikh Nabi, Tanbihul Muta'allim, and so on.
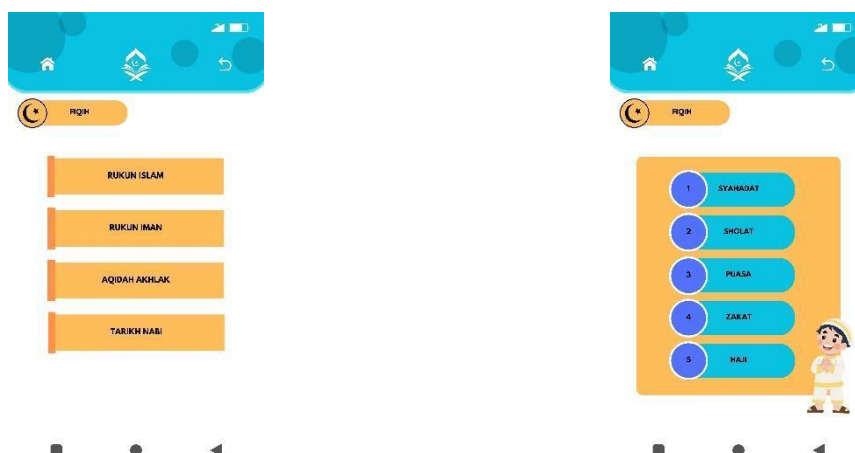
Figure 6
Basic Fiqh Menu

The next result is the Tajweed science page, as shown in Figure 7. Basic tajweed science is integrated into QUEENS so that students pay attention to the rules when reading the Qur'an with tartar (Afif, 2019). The tajweed in QUEENS is sourced from the books of Syifaul Jinan and Tuhfatul Athfal.
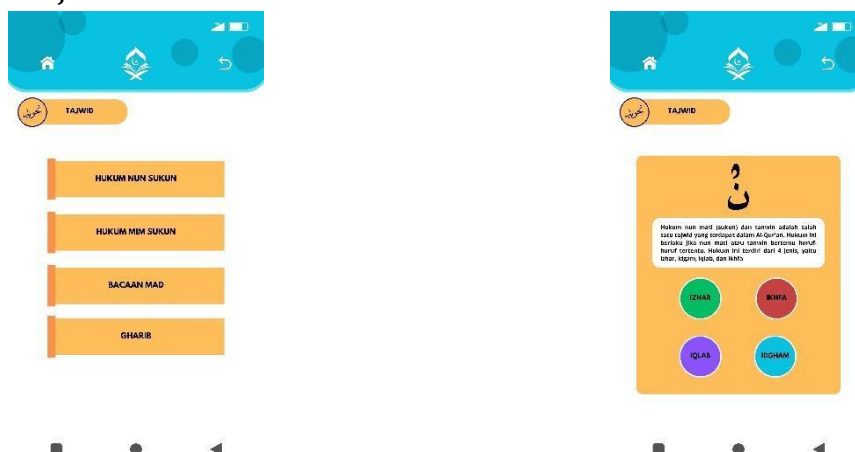

Figure 7
Tajwid Menu

QUEENS also presents quizzes and educational games that contain Islamic content, as shown in Figure 8. This interactive quiz is designed to help students recall the memorization of the Qur'an (Tikror). Each question in this quiz is connected to certain letters that instruct students to read the letters according to the box they choose. By compiling an interesting and interactive quiz menu, the main goal is to increase interest and monitor the development of student's knowledge about the values of the Qur'an (Aminatun et al., 2022).
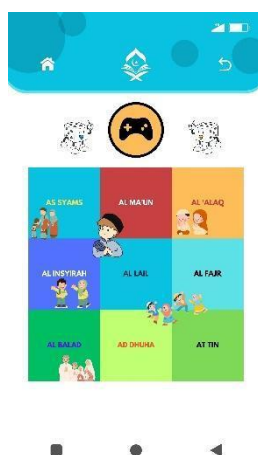
Figure 8

Quiz Menu and Educational Games

QUEENS is first validated before entering the implementation stage. Media validation was carried out by involving UIN Salatiga lecturers who taught learning design courses. Meanwhile, the material validation involved PGMI UIN Salatiga homebase lecturers.

Table 1

Media Expert Validation Results

Aspects	Presentase Media	Information
QUEENS app display	83%	Good
Accessibility of the QUEENS app	88%	Good
Functionality of the QUEENS app	92%	Excellent
Average	**87,67%**	**Good**

Table 1. Explain the results of the media validation test by media experts. Based on the results of the media validation test on the QUEENS application, media experts gave an average of 87.67%. The indicator shows that the QUEENS application has no revisions related to media display.

Table 2

Material Expert Validation Results

Aspects	Presentase Materi	Information
Fill in the QUEENS application material	88%	Good
Sources used in the QUEENS app	92%	Excellent
QUEENS app quality	90%	Excellent

Interactive on the QUEENS app	86%	Good
Average	**89%**	**Good**

Table 2. Explain the results of the material experts' meter validation test. Based on the data above, material experts give an average score of 89%. The results show that the material integrated into the QUEENS application is good. Material experts stated that QUEENS can help students be healthy in using technology and will shape the Qur'anic soul of students through QUEENS.

After passing the media and material validation stage. The implementation of the QUEENS application was re-tested en masse on PGMI UIN Salatiga students before being used for teaching media. The trial implementation was carried out on May 6, 2024 at the research site involving 5 students of SDN Klero 01.

Table 3

Pre-test *and* Post-test *data*

No.	Student	Hafalan Juz 30		Learning Interest		Digital Literacy	
		Pre-test	*Post-test*	*Pre-test*	*Post-test*	*Pre-test*	*Post-test*
1.	RM	60	80	50	70	40	65
2.	MW	55	75	45	65	50	70
3.	FL	70	85	60	80	55	75
4.	VA	65	82	55	75	45	68
5.	MS	50	78	40	60	60	80

Table 4

Data Analysis

No.	Aspects	Rata-rata *Pre-test*	Post-test *installment*	Increased	Percentage Increase
1.	Hafalan Juz 30	60	80	20	33,33%
2.	Learning Interest	50	70	20	40%
3.	Digital Literacy	50	71,6	21,6	43,2%

Based on the data above, the memorization aspect of Juz 30 indicates a significant increase, with an average increase of 33.33%. This shows that using the QUEENS application helps students improve their memorization skills. The second aspect is interest in learning; in this aspect, students also experienced a significant increase, with an average of 40%. This shows that the QUEENS application can increase students' interest and enthusiasm. In this aspect, students' digital literacy skills increased by an

average of 43.2%. This indication shows that students have become more skilled in using digital tools and resources for learning.

After carrying out a series of activities from start to finish according to the ADDIE development research model, the last stage is the evaluation of the entire process that has been passed. The researcher evaluated whether using natural resources of the QUEENS application as a learning medium can be applied to elementary school-age children. The QUEENS application has been tested for feasibility through material media tests, and the results show that it is feasible to apply to a wider class. Based on the data obtained, the learning media from the QUEENS application can improve the character and use of digital learning media for students with good assessment results.

QUEENS app is designed to integrate the content of the Qur'an with modern technology, providing an interactive and engaging learning experience for students. Using technology, the QUEENS application provides various relevant features and effectively supports the learning process of the Qur'an. Using innovative learning media is one reliable strategy to arouse students interest in lessons (Lidu et al., 2023). This is because innovative learning media can make the teaching and learning process more interesting and interactive, thus helping students be more focused and motivated (Cahyo et al., 2024).

One of the key features of the QUEENS app is the online Qur'an, which allows students to access and read the Qur'an digitally anytime and anywhere. In addition, this application also provides fiqh and tajweed materials, which help students understand Islamic laws and how to read the Qur'an correctly (Qolbi & Hamami, 2021). Through educational games and quizzes based on Qur'an values, students can learn in a fun and challenging way. This is the opinion of Solihin (2020) which states that the interactive application of tahfidz Juz 'Amma has proven effective in improving the quality of student memorization in learning tahfidz Al-Qur'an Juz 'Amma.

Not only does the QUEENS application help students memorize and understand the Qur'an, but it also plays a role in developing students' character through Islamic teachings. By integrating Islamic values in every existing feature, this app helps students form good personalities and strong morals. Islamic character in children is formed by instilling a sense of pleasure in the Qur'an and its teaching (Alwi et al., 2023). Thus, according to Islamic teachings, the QUEENS app improves students' academic abilities and builds their character.

CONCLUSION

The QUEENS application has become an innovative solution for improving the quality of Islamic education and students' character development in elementary schools. Through a Research and Development (R&D) approach with the ADDIE development model, QUEENS has successfully integrated the content of the Qur'an with technology to strengthen the understanding of Islamic values. The application trial shows its effectiveness in improving students understanding and building character by the values

of the Qur'an. An increase of 33.33% in memorization of juz 30, 40% in learning interest, and43.2% in digital literacy indicate that QUEENS can be a solution media for students.

The QUEENS application is needed to develop educational media based on religious values that can significantly contribute to creating a holistic learning environment and supporting students' moral and spiritual development. Although the QUEENS application has shown positive results, several challenges need to be addressed, such as the availability of technology infrastructure in schools and homes and the readiness of teachers and students to adopt new technologies. However, these challenges also open up opportunities for further improvement and development. With the right government, schools, and community support, apps like QUEENS can effectively improve education quality and form a better-prepared generation to face future challenges.

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