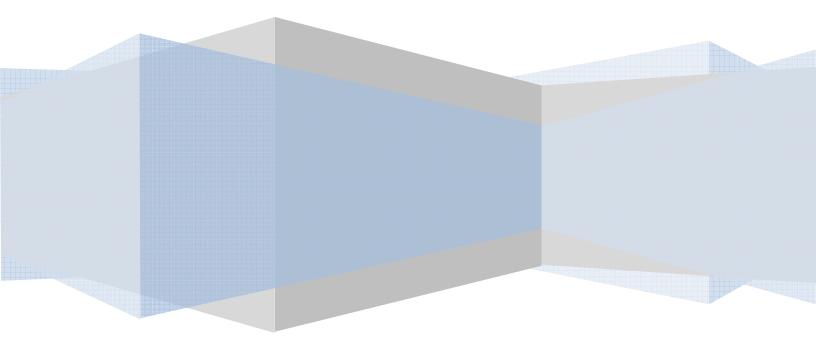
Memorizing Qur'aan for the Busy Housewife and Mother

By: Fatimah As-Salafy



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Many of us would love to memorize the Book of Allaah. After conquering our own self-doubt, we ask ourselves, "Where is the time?" "How can I successfully and accurately memorize the Qur'aan, maintain it, and apply it in my life?" Fear not, you are not the first wife or Mother to embark on the path of memorizing Qur'aan. Many women before you have done it with a husband and children. This book is an attempt to show you how to organize your time in a way that gives Allaah, your studies, and your family their rights.

One day, an American student and I were sitting in front of Shaykhah Umm Ahmad (Abdul Adheem Bin Badawi's wife) from Ash-Sheen, Egypt. We wanted to know how best to utilize our time. How could we balance between our roles as mothers, wives and students? Umm Ahmad is known to have finished memorizing the Qur'aan in approximately 2 months. So, she began to give us an example from her life. She said, "I would wake up a little before Fajr and start cooking the Sheikh's meals for the day. Everything I could think of that he might need in the course of the day, | prepared. While the food was cooking, | would pray Tahajjud and also memorize some verses from the Qur'aan. Then, | would gather all of his food, wrap it and store it. After praying Fajr, | would sit to memorize. | would not stop memorizing until | had completed the amount | had given myself for the day. | would not even stop to eat. | only stopped my memorization for salaah and if my husband needed me. |f someone came to the door, | did not answer. |f someone called, | did not speak with them. | had set my goal and | did not stray from it for anyone, maa shaa Allaah."

Now for some of us this is practical, especially if you don't have children. However, for us who have children, this method won't work. But, we can still take a few lessons from Umm Ahmad:

 Meal Preparation: Do you have a menu or are you making it up as you go along each day? Make a weekly menu. You will see a big difference in time and money. If you know what you're cooking, you can prepare some things in advance. (i.e. chopping for stir-fry, marinating meats, cutting meats, etc) When you make a shopping list according to your menus, you don't spend haphazardly.

- 2. Be consistent: Memorize everyday; not every other day. Starting and stopping kills progress. Memorizing one verse per day will give you 365 verses memorized in a year!!! Do you know what that is? Suratul Baqarah is 286 verses. You could have memorized the longest surah in the Qur'aan and then some.
- 3. Set goals for yourself. Do not give yourself excuses and don't allow others to keep you from obtaining your daily goals. Give family and friends a certain time or a day that they can call you or stop by. Let them know the reason why and they should respect it.

Umm Ahmad's method worked for me when my Mujaahid and Jamilah were small. They would sit while | memorized. However, over the years, more children and added responsibilities have caused me to alter my studies to fit all the other things and people pulling at my time. So, | will give you a couple of techniques that have worked for me:

1.) Memorizing after each salah. This has been the most successful method for me. | homeschooled my children and it seemed that all the time was allotted for them. So, | would memorize two verses after each salah. As soon as | finished my prayer, | would work on two verses: about 10 minutes. | would not focus on what was before or what | needed to memorize after the next salah, but those two verses only. Of course, after some time | increased the number of verses | would do after each prayer. Remember, the brain is a muscle. If you exercise it, it becomes stronger and stronger. So challenge it!!!! Don't memorize the same amount of verses for months and months. You may start out with one verse after each salah but don't allow it to stay that way.

2.) Memorizing with the children. Instead of having multiple lessons for Qur'aan, combining it all into one group effort is very effective. This may mean your children will be memorizing a bigger surah, but usually children are not intimidated by new and bigger things. You can read to them tafsir of the Surah they are working on as bedtime stories. Go over vocabulary. Group efforts can be fun.

3. Another very effective way to memorize, that is tried and true, is the Mauritanian method of memorization. REPETITION!!! REPETITION!!!! REPETITION!!!! In Mauritania, they memorize by repeating the verses hundreds of times. This etches it into your memory.

I know that we as women are busy. This, I have no doubt. But, let's give the Qur'aan priority. Make du'a to Allaah concerning the utilization of your time. If any of you are TV watchers, chunk the "idiot box" this is time wasted, being idle: Time that you could be memorizing or perfecting your recitation of Qur'aan. Women, we have our ways of making time for anything that we want to do. Let's make Qur'aan a daily quest to be embarked upon, in shaa Allaah.

Subhanakallahumma wa bihamdika, ashaadu an laa ilaha illa anta, astaghfirooka wa atoobu ilayk. Ameen (If there is anything that | have said good then know it is from Allaah and if | have said anything incorrect, it is from the Shaytaan and myself, and | ask Allaah to forgive me. Aameen

If you would like personal advice on study habits, would like to take classes, or offer suggestions; please email me at <u>ummthulqarnayn@yahoo.com</u> or <u>salafyforlife@yahoo.com</u>

You can also get additional information on memorizing Qur'aan from my website www.allthingsquraan.com

Resources and Links

http://www.allthingsquraan.com

http://thefiks.org

http://www.islamicbulletin.com

http://www.quranexplorer.com

http://www.quranstar.com

http://www.qurancorpus.com

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