Traditional and Modern Methods Used for Memorization of Quran in Turkey

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ABSTRACT
The Quran, being the last divine book and guideline for mankind, requires to be preserved until the Day of Judgment occurs. Learning by heart is the most sustainable method of preserving any text because it involves human being as a tool and it assures that this method will continue as long as the humanity itself continues. Muslims have been using this human technique for preserving the Quran from the first day of its revelation and hence the Quran has been surely the most and probably the only memorized book throughout the human history. Turkey’s contribution like any other Muslim country in preserving Quran through memorization is no doubt enormous. The country produces thousands of Huffaz (Memorizers of the Holy Quran) every year with nearly half of them as females. This article analyses the traditional and modern ways adopted for the memorization of Quran in a historic and scientifically advanced country like Turkey. This study on one hand enables us to detect flaws in the system so as to help in improving the system and on the other hand it introduces modern methods used in Turkey to other Muslim countries, which may not be known to them and thus brings in front new ways that may contribute to the betterment of memorization techniques and ultimately the preservation of Quran, the last and only authentic divine guideline for human beings who are engulfed by a number of problems and complications in present age.

Key words: Memorization, Hfiz, Quran, Turkey, Methods.

A QUICK GLIMPSE AT HISTORY OF HIFZUL QURAN IN TURKEY
To have a clear picture of history of Hifz-e-Quran in Turkey we have to beep into the history of Turkey itself. The history of Turkey can be divided primarily into three major eras:

Seljuq Era (1037-1194 A.D)
The Seljuqs paid a great attention to the services towards Quranic Education with special focus on Hifz-e-Quran. Dar-ul-Huffaz and Dar-ul-Quorra institutions were established for the service of Quran.1 Huffaz were assigned special duties like in Karatatay Medressa two Huffaz were assigned the duty to read Quran at the time of sunrise and sunset. The Sultans used to keep with them a hafiz called ‘Hassa Hafiz’ at home and during journey. Moreover some Huffaz were assigned the duty to read Quran in front of the graves in royal graveyard. The Hifz (Memorizing of the Holy Quran) was also carried out in mosques, Medressas (Religious Schools), Dar-ul-Hadith and tombs.2

Ottoman Empire (1299-1923 A.D)
The Dar-ul-Qurras established in Seljuq era continued their services in Ottoman Empire as well and were found in almost all areas coming under the authority of

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Ottomans. Like in Amasya city there were 9 Dar-ul-Qurra in which more than 300 Huffaz were found. Dar-ul-Qurra were normally built near mosques. The successful students were awarded certificates in special ceremonies. In this period famous Qurra and Huffaz migrated to Ottoman Empire like Ibn-ul-Jazari (1429) settled in Bursa and great Qari of Egypt Sheikh Ahmad al-Misri was appointed as Imam in Ayub Sultan Mosque of Istanbul, from where his students spread all over the Ottoman empire and rendered services to Quranic sciences.

Democratic Era (1923 onwards)

In 1923 the Caliphate system was demolished and Turkey was declared as Democratic Country. After the declaration, the Hifz institutions were closed for some period in the name of educational reforms. During that period the Hifz continued unofficially by Mosque Imams. To look after religious matters, Ministry of Religious Affairs was established in March 1924 which established institutions named as “Quran course” for all activities of Quran and that is in practice at present as well. The number of Quran courses established during 1925-1931 was ten, in 1931-1934 it was nine, fourteen in 1935-1936 and until 1950 when it reached to twenty one. In 2012 the number of Quran courses reached to 12000 in which 400000 students got Quranic education among them 200,000 were Huffaz. The number of Huffaz who got certificates from Religious Ministry from 1975 to June 2012 is about 1,02000.

SCHOOLING SYSTEM IN TURKEY

It is obvious that the schooling system has a direct impact on Hifz program in any country. The schooling system in Turkey has been subjected to change in different periods. Before analysing the schooling system of Turkey it will be beneficial to quote a survey conducted among Hifz teachers about Hifz program in which they were asked about the ideal age for starting Hifz. According to 81.7% of teachers the ideal age for starting Hifz was 11-13 years while 95.8 % teachers considered that students who started Hifz after primary education were more successful than those who started after 8 years education. That 8 years compulsory, uninterrupted (without a gap between primary and middle school) education system was enforced in country in 1997. Before that, the students were able to initiate Hifz after completing primary education in maximum 12-13 years of age but due to that system, age limit increased to 15 years while the number of students also decreased. For example in 1996 the number of Hifz students was 22,385 and in 2001 it was 6,025 while in 2004 it was 3119. That 8 years uninterrupted education policy caused substantial decrease in number of Huffaz. Many Scholars demanded to lift that policy. The other disadvantage of 8 years uninterrupted compulsory education was that usually those students who could not qualify for admission to any school headed to Quran courses as the last choice. Many times even the student didn’t come with his own choice but with the wish of his parents. Yet another disadvantage was that students started Hifz a little late. Due to that system a students could start the Hifz in the age of 14 years. That’s why currently, 60% of students are of 14-17 years age group. It also affected the selection process. Anyone who applied was easily selected due to low number of applications.
To avoid such kind of complications, Global Huffaz Trust (Evrensel Hafızlar Derneği-EHAD) suggested to create Hifz Classes in Imam Hatip schools, a type of middle school specified for religious studies. In some countries such kind of program is already in practice which facilitates the student to continue school & Hifz simultaneously.

Though the education policy has been changed to 12 years compulsory education since 2012-2013. The sessions have been termed as 4+4+4 which means 4 years for primary, 4 for middle and 4 for High school education & the condition of continuity has been lifted. Now students have a liberty to do gap in between the stages. It is a good development for those who want to memorize Quran at an early age after primary education and return back to normal education after completing Hifz.

**AN OVERVIEW ABOUT HIFZUL QURAN IN TURKEY**

The Mushaf in Turkey is standard which means that every unit is comprised of 20 pages and hence the Quran is memorized page wise. But the memorization method is unique as it starts with memorization of last page of every unit and then the second last page of every unit and so on. Previously some other methods were also in use like memorizing according to unit or chapter.

The memorized pages from any unit say 5 pages from 1st unit are called as “pişmiş/has” meaning “Cooked/specific.” In other words it is previous lesson. Remaining pages of that unit which have not been memorized yet are called as “çiğ/ham” meaning Raw or Crude. In other words it is lesson of the day.

The average duration for completion of Hifz is 2-3 years, there are some who complete in 1 year or even six months. After completing they take an exam conducted by Ministry of Religious Affairs in main cities of country in the month of July every year and are awarded certificate of Hifz-ul-Quran upon succeeding in the exam. Those who finish Hifz at home or at any private place can also get Certificate by participating in that exam. Currently the number of students per teacher is 30 which affects the education quality, Ministry of Religious Affairs has decided to bring down that number to 5 students per teacher and it must not exceed than 10.

The Hifz institutions are either run by government or by private organizations but approved by Government.

The Ministry of Religious affairs runs a program named Hifz Education program introduced after 2010 which contains three stages:

1. **Preparation Stage**
   - Its maximum duration is 4 months. In this stage:
     - The students learns Tajweed principles.
     - The ability of student to carry and adapt to consequent stage, i.e. memorization stage is determined.
     - Student is helped to develop the ability of memorization and taught the techniques and principles of Hifz.
- Student is motivated to be ready mentally for Hifz.

2. Memorization Stage

The *Hifz* is carried out by two different techniques which will be discussed in detail in coming pages.

3. Follow Up/Consolidation Stage

In this stage the previously memorized pages are consolidated through several repetitions.

Following are the contents of all three stages:

a) *Quran*

b) Religious Information/knowledge

c) Social activities and guidance related to it.\(^{21}\)

### Table-1: Fields, Lessons, Stages and Sessions of Hifz Education Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fields</th>
<th>Preparation Stage</th>
<th>Memorization Stage</th>
<th>Consolidation Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Max 4 Months</td>
<td>1st Session</td>
<td>2nd Session</td>
<td>3rd Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qur'an Kerim</td>
<td>Reading Quran by seeing 17x10=170</td>
<td>Q. Kerim Memorization 17x23=391</td>
<td>Q. Kerim Memorization 17x23=391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice of Reading Principles of Q. Kerim 17x2=34</td>
<td>Practice of Reading Principles of Q. Kerim 17x2=34</td>
<td>Practice of Reading Principles of Q. Kerim 17x2=34</td>
<td>Practice of Reading Principles of Q. Kerim 17x2=34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max 4 Months</td>
<td>4th Session</td>
<td>3rd Section</td>
<td>Max 4 Months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Information</td>
<td>Religious Information 17x2=34</td>
<td>Religious Information 17x2=34</td>
<td>Religious Information 17x2=34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Activities &amp; Guidance</td>
<td>Social Activities &amp; Guidance 17x3=51</td>
<td>Social Activities &amp; Guidance 17x3=51</td>
<td>Social Activities &amp; Guidance 17x3=51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|       | Total: 510 Hours | Total: 510 Hours | Total: 510 Hours | Total: 510 Hours | Total: 510 Hours |

\(^{21}\) Total: 510 Hours
Not: The program is planned for maximum 24 months & 3060 hours with credit of 30 hours/week which includes 4 month preparation, 16 months (4 sessions with each session of 4 months) Memorization and 4 months Consolidation.

Basic principles/salient features of program

- Though maximum duration of program is 24 months but an additional period is provided according to the need of student suggested by follow-up commission.
- The duty of that commission is to give approval of students for moving from preparation stage to Memorization stage, to evaluate the progress of students at the end of every session & stage, to send report to the Mufti of region about their findings and suggestions in the end of May every year. The commission comprises of 3 members, the Mufti of region, teacher and Hifz expert.
- The preparation period is maximum 4 months but a student can move to next stage before that if recommended by follow-up commission.
- For every Hizp (a term for 1/4 of a unit) maximum 4 months have been considered as sufficient to memorize. Each Unit comprises of 20 pages and hence a Hizp is of 5 pages. It means the student memorizes 5 pages from every unit in 4 months’ session.
- As a result of evaluation carried out by commission (by taking 6 tests i.e. for preparation stage, for moving from Prep to Memorization stage and at the completion of every Hizp at the end of every session, Students with less than 50% progress/success rate are reported to Mufti of concerned region for necessary action.
- The duration of Consolidation period is determined according to need of student.
- For every student a separate file named “student follow-up file” is maintained and daily memorization plan is designed for him.

Table-2: General View Over Contents of Quranic Lessons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preparation Stage</th>
<th>Memorization Stage</th>
<th>Consolidation Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Max 4 Months</td>
<td>1st Session</td>
<td>2nd Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Max 4 Months)</td>
<td>(Max 4 Months)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorization of Qur’an-i Kerim 17x10=170</td>
<td>Memorization of Qur’an-i Kerim 17x23=391</td>
<td>Memorization of Qur’an-i Kerim 17x23=391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Yasin Sura</td>
<td>5 pages from end of every unit</td>
<td>10 pages from end of every unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Mulk Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Nebe Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Fatih Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Hujurat Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Rahman Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Safi Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Juma Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Anfal Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Isra Sura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice of Reading Principles of Q. Kerim 17x4=68</td>
<td>K. Kerim Okuyuș Usulleri Tatbikati 17x2=34</td>
<td>Practice of Reading Principles of Q. Kerim 17x2=34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consolidation of Memorization by 1 Hatim in 1st month and by 2 hatims in next months
METHODS USED
There are two types of Techniques/Methods approved by Ministry of Religious Affairs in practice.

1. Traditional Method
- This method is the common one and has its roots to Ottoman Empire. In this method the student starts *hifz* by memorizing the last page of every unit for example in his first lesson he will memorize the last page of 1st unit and in 2nd lesson he will memorize the last page of 2nd unit and thus moves on memorizing until the last page of last unit and then he starts memorizing the 2nd last page of every unit in the same manner.

- The program is divided into 4 sessions, each session is of 4 months and hence the total program is of 16 months. In 1st session the student memorizes 4th section/*Hizp* (last 5 pages of every unit), in 2nd session memorizes 3rd section/*Hizp* (another 5 pages) of every unit, similarly in 3rd and 4th session he memorizes remaining two sections/*Hizp* (2nd & 1st) of every unit and thus completes the whole *Quran*.

- He repeats the previous lesson (has/pişmiş) as well with current lesson (Ham/Çiğ).

- It is supposed here that memorizing becomes more stable if student memorizes pages from bottom to up, means starting from last line of page and ending to 1st line of page but more common is the above one that is memorizing page from top to bottom.

- To have a good pronunciation, the student listens the lesson from the teacher or any recorded recitation of some famous *Qari* before memorizing it.

- Groups of 2 or 4 students are made and they read lesson to each other before reading to teacher.

- Students repeat the lesson of day and previous lessons before going to bed.

- Every student is given the load according to his capacity.\(^{26}\)
Table-3: An exemplary table showing repetitions done for the purpose of consolidation of Memorization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Induction</th>
<th>1st Hour Repetition (Timing is important)</th>
<th>2nd Hour Repetition (Timing is important)</th>
<th>4th Hour Repetition (Timing is not important)</th>
<th>5th Hour Repetition (Timing is not important)</th>
<th>7th Day Repetition (Timing is not important)</th>
<th>14th Day Repetition (Timing is not important)</th>
<th>30th Day Repetition (Timing is not important)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1</td>
<td>1 Feb Sunday: 06.00</td>
<td>1 Feb Monday: 07.00</td>
<td>2 Feb Tuesday: 06.00</td>
<td>3 Feb Thursday: 06.00</td>
<td>7 Feb Saturday: 06.00</td>
<td>14 Feb Saturday: 06.00</td>
<td>2 March Monday: 06.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 2</td>
<td>2 Feb Sunday: 07.00</td>
<td>2 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>3 Feb Tuesday: 08.00</td>
<td>4 Feb Wednesday: 07.00</td>
<td>8 Feb Saturday: 07.00</td>
<td>15 Feb Saturday: 07.00</td>
<td>3 March Tuesday: 07.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 3</td>
<td>3 Feb Tuesday: 08.00</td>
<td>3 Feb Thursday: 08.00</td>
<td>4 Feb Saturday: 08.00</td>
<td>5 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>9 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>16 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>4 March Wednesday: 08.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 4</td>
<td>4 Feb Wednesday: 06.00</td>
<td>4 Feb Thursday: 08.00</td>
<td>5 Feb Friday: 07.00</td>
<td>6 Feb Sunday: 07.00</td>
<td>10 Feb Tuesday: 07.00</td>
<td>17 Feb Tuesday: 07.00</td>
<td>5 March Thursday: 07.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 5</td>
<td>5 Feb Thursday: 07.00</td>
<td>5 Feb Saturday: 08.00</td>
<td>6 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>7 Feb Wednesday: 07.00</td>
<td>11 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>18 Feb Wednesday: 07.00</td>
<td>6 March Friday: 07.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 6</td>
<td>6 Feb Friday: 08.00</td>
<td>6 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>7 Feb Sunday: 08.00</td>
<td>8 Feb Saturday: 08.00</td>
<td>12 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>19 Feb Thursday: 08.00</td>
<td>7 March Saturday: 08.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 7</td>
<td>7 Feb Saturday: 08.00</td>
<td>7 Feb Tuesday: 08.00</td>
<td>8 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>9 Feb Thursday: 08.00</td>
<td>13 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>20 Feb Friday: 08.00</td>
<td>8 March Sunday: 08.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 8</td>
<td>8 Feb Sunday: 08.00</td>
<td>8 Feb Wednesday: 08.00</td>
<td>9 Feb Saturday: 08.00</td>
<td>10 Feb Monday: 08.00</td>
<td>14 Feb Saturday: 08.00</td>
<td>21 Feb Friday: 08.00</td>
<td>9 March Monday: 08.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 9</td>
<td>9 Feb Monday: 09.00</td>
<td>9 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>10 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>11 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>15 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>22 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>10 March Thursday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 10</td>
<td>10 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>10 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>11 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>12 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>16 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>23 Feb Monday: 09.00</td>
<td>11 March Wednesday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 11</td>
<td>11 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>11 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>12 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>13 Feb Saturday: 09.00</td>
<td>17 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>24 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>12 March Thursday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 12</td>
<td>12 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>12 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>13 Feb Saturday: 09.00</td>
<td>14 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>18 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>25 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>13 March Friday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 13</td>
<td>13 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>13 Feb Saturday: 09.00</td>
<td>14 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>15 Feb Monday: 09.00</td>
<td>19 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>26 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>14 March Thursday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 14</td>
<td>14 Feb Saturday: 09.00</td>
<td>14 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>15 Feb Monday: 09.00</td>
<td>16 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>20 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>27 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>15 March Friday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 15</td>
<td>15 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>15 Feb Monday: 09.00</td>
<td>16 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>17 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>21 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>28 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>16 March Saturday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 16</td>
<td>16 Feb Monday: 09.00</td>
<td>16 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>17 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>18 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>22 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>29 Feb Saturday: 09.00</td>
<td>17 March Sunday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 17</td>
<td>17 Feb Tuesday: 09.00</td>
<td>17 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>18 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>19 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>23 Feb Saturday: 09.00</td>
<td>30 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>18 March Monday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 18</td>
<td>18 Feb Wednesday: 09.00</td>
<td>18 Feb Thursday: 09.00</td>
<td>19 Feb Friday: 09.00</td>
<td>20 Feb Saturday: 09.00</td>
<td>24 Feb Sunday: 09.00</td>
<td>31 Feb Monday: 09.00</td>
<td>19 March Tuesday: 09.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Modern Method
This method has been designed for those who want to memorize Quran in short period and keep it memorized for longer time and has been developed by benefiting from research carried out about the memorization and its protection.

It comprises of two levels:

i. **Memorization**
- To get positive results of this method, students are divided in groups with 3 or 4 students in each group and they read the lesson to each other.
- To make memorization easy and solid, the page is divided into two sections, first he memorizes verses of 1st section, after finishing memorization he revises it at least 4 times and reads it to 2 fellow students of the group and finally to the teacher.
- He repeats the same process with 2nd section of the page and finally reads both sections together to two fellow students and then to teacher.

ii. **Consolidation of memorization**

This level is focused on the protection of previously memorized pages with continuation of memorizing new pages and probably the only way to achieve that
is to revise the previous pages with regular intervals before they omit from mind. By having scheduled program of revision of previous pages the students can focus easily on new pages and complete fast and that quality makes this technique a unique one. The revision timings for the current (Ham) and previous (Has) lessons are set as under:

a) 1st revision is done after one hour of reading lesson to Teacher.
b) 2nd revision is done after 24 hours
c) 3rd revision is done after 48 hours
   Up to here the timings are important and time is counted after the reading of lesson to teacher. In next revisions i.e. weekly, biweekly and monthly the timing is not important.
d) 4th revision is done 7 days after reading the lesson to teacher.
e) 5th revision is 14 days after reading the lesson to teacher.
f) Final revision is after 30 days

Students have to follow a diet program suggested for the proper functioning of brain

Students wake up at 4:00 am, pray Tahajjud (Late night) prayer, eat some herbs mixed with honey and start lesson with following Schedule:
- 5:00 am read previous day lesson to teacher, work up to 7 am
- Breakfast at 7 am
- Take a light meal at 10:00 am
- 12:00-1:00 pm have rest
- Eat lunch at 1:00 pm
- Have supper at 3:00 pm
- Have a dinner at 6:00 pm
- 7:00-8:00 pm participate in social activities like playing Table Tennis, football, participating in knowledge competitions, debates, drawing, spiritual music, learning daily life etiquette etc.
- 09:30 pm end of lesson- Now they are free until 11:00 pm when they go bed.

Some Statistics Related to Application of that Modern Technique
That new method has been practiced by Hatice Şahin, the Introducer, on trial basis for 3 years and 4 months and some results are as under:

1st year: 9 students
2nd year: 8 students
3rd years: 11 students became hafız.
   Among those students Tuba Kiliç became Hafız in 53 days,
   Busra Mutlu in 59 days,
   2 students in 2.5 months, 3 students in 3 months,
   5 students in 4 months,
   Remaining students finished in maximum 9 months.

One university student finished Hifz in summer holidays, another university student along with a High school student finished it in two summer holidays. 3 students even memorized the Quran by participating only in weekend lessons in 9 months.
That method is applied with the permission of student and his/her parents because he has/she has to follow a strict Schedule.

This technique is also useful for working persons.

To maintain the memorization student has to work up to 2 years by working 45 minutes every day and repeating every 6 months.

**CONCLUSION**

The flashpoint of *Hifz* education of Turkey is that it is methodical and systematic but for almost every Turkish *Hafiz* the uniqueness of memorization method i.e. memorizing page-wise in a reverse way mentioned above is the point of pride. But probably it is the weakest point of the system as it has following flaws:

- It is against the flow of *Quran*
- Students mostly fail when they are asked to read any *surah* from beginning.\(^{30}\)
- They don’t know the arrangement of *Quranic Surahs*.\(^{31}\)
- In the case any student unfortunately leaves the *Hifz* incomplete, the memorized pages remain scattered which means he remains the *hafiz* of certain pages from every unit, neither a single unit complete nor a big *surah*.

Prof. Dr. Mehmet Akif Koç has truly suggested Ministry of Religious Affairs to conduct an international conference to get recommendations from national and international experts to solve such kind of issues and improve the system.\(^{32}\)

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