## Literature Related Al-Quran And Science In Malaysia: An Analysis

By: Dr. Ahmad Najib bin Abdullah\* dr\_najib@um.edu.my

#### ABSTRACT

The article attempts to elaborate the writings by local scholar on al-Quran and Science. In the analysis, the writings are categorized into books, theses, published articles and papers presented in seminars and workshops. The analysis then proceeds to illustrating the methods used by the scholars in presenting their respective subjects of discussion. The paper ends up with elaborating the impacts of the writings on the intellectuality of the Malaysian community as concluded from the results of a field study.

Al-Quran is the Holy Book of the Muslims. Allah SWT has sent down the Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad PBUH as guidance for mankind to attain happiness in this worldly life and also in the hereafter. Hence, al-Qur'an plays a vital role in painting the life of the Muslims.

It has became a strong belief of every Muslims that the Qur'an is the words of Allah SWT, which is comprehensive, encompassing all aspects of human life; social, economic, politic and so forth. It is strongly believed that al-Qur'an could provide answers and solutions to all human problems and inquiries.

Recent challenging in development of science and technology is publicly known. There are many new findings produced by the scientists. Along with this development, numerous works have been published by Muslims scholars to highlight the relationship between al-Qur'an and Science. It aims to prove the truth and greatness of the Qur'an which has surpassed all the scientific findings explored by men in this recent time.

<sup>\*</sup> Ahmad Najib bin Abdullah, PhD, is Senior Lecturer at Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya, Nilam Puri, Kelantan.

#### **Definition of Science:**

There are various definitions have been presented to rectify the meaning of science. It is due to diversity in scholarly views and among intellectuals who had discussed the issue.

Shaharir Mohamad Zain defines science as a systematic, logic and objective phenomenal analysis with the use of specific methodology devised to create a focus on reliable knowledge.<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin on the other hand, says science is a branch of knowledge acquired through sensation (analyses done with the use of senses) together with the perception (understanding) formed from it. It can also be understood as systematic analysis on nature or natural phenomena.<sup>2</sup>

In examining the meaning of science, Kamus Dewan offers the following definitions: 1) A systematic knowledge that can be tested and verified its truthfulness, and 2) A branch of knowledge that was founded on truthfulness or true fact.<sup>3</sup>

### Relationship between al-Qur'an and Science:

Al-Qur'an and science cannot be separated. As mentioned earlier, the Holy book of al-Qur'an has affecting many issues related to human life as well as the creation of the universe and phenomena. Science's discoveries which are done in properly manner will not contradict the Quran, but it has benefited the Muslims in enhancing their understanding about al-Qur'an.<sup>4</sup>

Shaharir Mohamad Zain (1987), Pengenalan Sejarah dan Falsafah Islam, Kuala Lumpur: Akademi Sains Islam Malaysia, p. 6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin (2007), Quran Saintifik, Batu Caves: Percetakan Zafar Sdn. Bhd, p. 16

<sup>5</sup> Kamus Dewan (2005), Kuala Lumpur : Dawama Sdn. Bhd , p. 1367

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, p. 20-21

# Development of the Writings of Quran and Science Literature in Malaysia

The development of knowledge related to al-Qur'an and Science has long taken place in Islam. It can be seen through the writings by leading scholars as Harun Yahya<sup>5</sup> and As-Syeikh Abdul Majid Al-Zindani.<sup>6</sup> They have greatly contributed to the area of study.

However, literature on the relationship between al-Quran and Science was generally not conveyed to the public. As a result, the public was not being exposed to the knowledge. These issues were among the main factors why this field was less likely to develop compared to other branch of knowledge.

In Malaysian context, majority of the communities do not recognize figures or even local authors who actively involved in the writings related al-Qur'an and Science. When discussing the issue related to al-Qur'an and Science, some of them only knew certain authors like Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin. This is due to his writings that were widely published across nationwide and the convenience to obtain his writings. In addition, Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin has been frequently seen in TV for religious programmes that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> His real name is Adnan Oktar. He was born in Ankara, Turkey in1956. He has published a lot of writings that called man to ponder upon the creations by Allah. After been jailed on the accusation of contradicting the Darwin's Theory of Evolution while he was studying in Turkey, he has written lots of books on the greatness of creations by Allah. Every explications and explanation he wrote were integrated with scientific facts and Quranic verses using a simplified, digestible language. See http://www.harunyahya.com/theauthor.php

<sup>6</sup> He was born in the year 1942 in Yemen. In 1984, he was appointed to lead the Commission on Scientific Signs in the Quran and Sunnah in Muslim World League, Makkah, Arab Saudi. See:http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdul\_Majeed\_ al-Zindani

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> He was born on 21 July 1955 in Pulau Pinang and he is the Mangeraial Director of Danial Zainal Consultancy (M) Sdn. Bhd. He is also a Manager of Klinik Syifa di Gelugor, Pulau Pinang. In the field of writing, he is a loyal columnist of Islam and Science section for these magazines: "Majalah-i", "Karangkraf", and "Kosmik, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka". So far, he has published ten books as follows: "Konsep Perubatan Islam", "Islam The Misunderstood Religion", "Bahan Berdakwah Untuk Remaja Moden", "Kit Kombat Islam", "Perubatan Islam dan Bukti Sains Moden", "Bukti Sains dan Sejarah Kerasulan Nabi Muhammad S.A.W"., "Empayar Minda Muslim", "7 Formula Individu Cemerlang", "Tip-tip Cemerlang Daripada Quran" and "Quran Saintifik". Five of these books have been awarded as bestseller in Malaysia. The book "Sains Perubatan Islam" and "Bukti Sains Moden" have became finalist in the award of Anugerah Media Islam (AMIN) for the year of 2006. So far, four of his books were licensed for Indonesian market which are: "Empayar Minda Muslim", "Perubatan Islam dan Bukti Sains Moden", "7 Formula Individu Cemerlang" and "Tip-Tip Cemerlang Daripada Quran". See http://www.danialzainalabidin.com

discussed issues related to al-Qur'an and Science, and also attributable to his preaching (dakwah) activities. In spite of the prominence of Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin, there are other individuals who had imparted great contributions in discussing the same issue. Among them are Profesor Dato' Dr. Mohd Yusof Hj. Othman<sup>8</sup>, Dr. Mohd. Arip Hj. Kasmo<sup>9</sup> dan Dr. Jamnul Azhar bin Mulkan.<sup>10</sup>

Mohd. Yusof Hi, Othman is a Professor in Physic Programme at the National University Malaysia (UKM). Before, he was the Head of Physic Department (1990-94); Deputy Dean of Schools of Science and Technology (1994-02); Director of Centre of Research Management and Innovation, UKM (2002-07); and the First Director of Islam Hadhari Institute since July 2007 in UKM. He participated in research in energy renewal for more than 25 years ago. His main contributions are in the research on solar energy, thermal and photovoltan solar energy. His main research stream is in inventing solar energy saver for air and water heater, solar energy water pumping system, grid connection photovoltan system and recently on termal photovolatan saver. He was among UKM academicians who had developed Solar Energy Research Group (Kumpulan Penyelidikan Tenaga Suria) and he was the Founder Secretariat of Malaysia Energy Institute (Institut Tenaga Malaysia, 1992-05). He has written more than 250 journal articles, post-conference and seminars of renewal energy field, physics and science education. He also has written 21 books on Physics and General Readings. He had received several awards from UKM- "Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang" for 1990 and 1993; "Anugerah Khas Kreativiti dan Inovasi" for Academician Category (1997); "Anugerah Khidmat Masyarakat" for Academician (1998); and "Anugerah Khas Penerbitan Akademik" (2003). He is also the recipient of Darjah Kesatria Mangku Negara (KMN) from DYMM Yang Dipertuan Agong and Darjah Dato' Setia Negeri Sembilan (DSNS) from DYMM Dipertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan, He was also awarded "Anugerah Penghargaan Maal Hijrah" (1426H) from the Malaysian Government and "Tokoh Maal Hijrah" from the government of Pulau Pinang (1429H). Prof. Yusof has received 8 awards from UKM; 13 "om Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Malaysia, 4 from International Exhibition of Inventions, Geneva, Switzerland; 3 from Seoul International Invention Fair, and 3 awards in INPEX 2008 Invention & New Production Exposition, Pittsburgh, USA for his research since 1990. He was also awarded with Henry Goh Award 2000 for Most Environment Friendly Invention 2000; Environmental Protection Prize from Swiss Society for the Protection of The Environment in 2001; Special Award from Taiwan Inventors Association in Seoul International Invention Fair 2004; The International Federation of Inventor's Associations (IFIA), Geneva, Switzerland Gold Medal (2008), and Special Prize from Korea Invention Promotion Association for commending excellent efforts to create invention exhibited at INPEX 2008 Invention & New Production Exposition, Pittsburgh, USA. Sec: http:// pkukmweb.ukm.my/~ppfg2002/akademik/myho/biodata-myho.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> He was born in Batu Pahat, Johor in 1957. He further studied in Blackpool College of Science and Art, Blackpool, Lancashire. In 1978, went further study at the University College of Swansea, Wales in Zoology. Now he works as a Lecturer at Centre of General Studies (Pusat Pengajian Umum, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia). See: Dr. Mohd. Arip Hj. Kasmo (2007), PASAK Pengukuhan Akidah Menerusi Penghayatan Sains Dalam Al-Qur'an, Seremban: Penerbitan Awan Biru, cover sheet (Biography).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> He was born on 29 January 1968 in Taiping, Perak. He went further study at the Al-Azhar University, Egypt in Medicine, Among his writings are "al-Qur'an dan Sains", published in 2001 by Pustaka Darussalam Sdn. Bhd, Alor Setar, Kedah. He is actively participated in discussing issues related to al-Qur'an and Science through forum, lectures and motivational slot.-Based on an interview with him on 26 March 2009.

The present study tried to obtain relevant information related to the early development of writings of Qur'an and Science in Malaysia. Among the attempts done were tracing the related literature through main library in Malaysia like the National Library, Public Library of Islam, Library of the University of Malaya Library of the National University of Malaysia), Library of the Malaysia Institute of Islamic Understanding and other institutions. Furthermore, the attempts to trace these writings were also done by visiting the bookstores and books exhibition gallery. Additionally, several scholars were interviewed and inquired on the issues about the early history of the writings of al-Qur'an and Science.

Through an interview with Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin, he indicated, the writings of al-Qur'an and Science has actually developed in the early 70s, that is, there were existence of several writings inclined toward this field. Among these early writings are writing by Ustaz Daud (incomplete name) on lives in the aerospace, which although very informal, it can be viewed as among pioneers who had contributed ideas for the writings of al-Qur'an and Science.

Among the early writings related to al-Qur'an and Science was the writing of Fadzullah Shuib entitled The Holly Book of Qur'an and Authentic Science (Kitab Suci al-Qur'an dan Science Tabi'i), that was published in the year of 1988.

To note, it is quite difficult to decide which writing actually initiated the writings of al-Qur'an and Science in Malaysia. This is due to the ambiguous inclination to link al-Qur'an and Science at the early history of this writing. What is evident is the discussion between Islam and Science but not between al-Qur'an and Science.

- Thus, the present study has found many literatures on Islam and Science, such as:
- Introduction to Islamic Civilisation in Science and Technology (Pengenalan Tamadun Islam dalam Sains dan Teknologi), Shaharir Mohamad Zain (Editor), (1988), Kuala Lumpur: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP).
- Modern Western Science and Its Contradiction with Islam (Sains Barat Moden dan Percanggahannya dengan Islam), Sulaiman Nordin (1979), Kajang: Nuur Publications, and
- Philosophy of Science and Islam (Sains Falsafah dan Islam), Sulaiman Nordin (1993), UKM: Centre of General Studies (Pusat Pengajian Umum).

<sup>11</sup> The interview was conducted on 13 April 2009 at Klinik Syifa, Gelugor, Pulau Pinang.

# Forms of Writings related to al-Qur'an and Science in Malaysia

The present study has found that writings related to al-Qur'an and Science in this country was produced in various forms as listed below:

#### a. Books

Books written by authors in this field encompassed various branch of science. The writings were typically influenced by the background and the preference of the author him/herself. Among books that evidently had discussed issues on al-Qur'an and Science are as follows:

- 1. Encyclopaedia of Science Education in al-Qur'an (Ensiklopedia Pendidikan Sains dalam al-Qur'an). It was written by Haji Abu Hassan bin Haji Ali. This encyclopaedia was published in the year of 2005 in ten volumes, inclusive of four major streams: Mathematics, Physical Science, Biological Science and Social Sciences. The author has explored the treasury of Science through the lens of al-Qur'an and has crystallized the truth of al-Qur'an as a holy book that entailed stories related with various field of science. The methodology used in this writing is very much interesting with every preface was introduced with Quranic verses that matched with the focused topic. It was found that this writing is the largest publication done in Malaysia related to al-Qur'an and Science.
- The Holy Book of al-Qur'an and Authentic Science (Kitab Suci al-Quran dan Sains Tabi'i). Written by Fadzlullah Hj. Shuib, this book was published in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Qualified with M.Sc. (FSU), Dip. In Mod. Instruction (PSU), Cert. In Ed. (MU) and Teaching Cert. (Kirkby College). Former Lecturer of Science in Maktab and former Chief of Assistant Director for Teachers Education Division, Ministry of Education, Malaysia, Lecturer of Education at Faculty of Education who had trained teachers at Faculty of Science and Islamic Academy, Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. He has written more than 10 books of science. Among them are "Pengetahuan Sains untuk Pendidikan Islam", 8 volumes, 2002 organized by Textbook Division, Misnistry of Education, Malaysia. He also wrote of "Sains Rendah Dewan", 6 volumes, 1973, Alam dan Manusia Tahun 4, 1985 and Sains untuk Sekolah Menengah, 5 volumes 2000 published by Bahasa dan Pustaka. He also became the representative of Ministry of Education, Malaysia to 'Science Education Seminars' organized by UNESCO to educational institutions across Asia, Europe and Middle-East, including Universiti Al-Azhar, Kahirah, Mesir. See: Haji Abu Hassan bin Haji Ali (2005) Ensiklopedia Pendidikan Sains dalam al-Qur'an Kuala Lumpur: Emedia Publication, jilid 1- pendahuluan.

- year 1988 by al-Qalam Publication, Kuala Lumpur. This book has discussed about the creation of universe and relationship between al-Qur'an and Science.
- 3. Strengthening Aqidah through Scientific Internalization in al-Qur'an (PASAK: Pengukuhan Akidah Menerusi Penghayatan Sains dalam al-Quran). The author is Dr. Mohd Arip bin Kasmo, and the book was published in the year 2007 by Awan Biru Publication, Seremban. The book generally has touched on several Qur'anic verses related to Science in various fields such as astronomy, medicine and the source of creations.
- Scientific Qur'an (Quran Saintifik). It was written by Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin.
  This book was published in the year 2007 by Zafar Publication Private Limited,
  Batu Caves. This book has reviewed the source of creation of the universe based
  on what have been indicated in al-Qur'an al-Karim.
- Discover the Miracle of Quran through Scientific Inquiries (Menyingkap Keajaiban al-Qur'an Mengikut Kajian Sains). Written by Abu Ar-Razi al-Ahmadi. It was published in the year 2002 by Pustaka Ilmi, Selangor.
- Science & Religion: An Islamic Perspective, Azizan Baharuddin (Editor).
   Published in 2006 by University of Malaya Publication, Kuala Lumpur.
- Education of Quranic Science Philosophy (Pendidikan Falsafah Sains Al-Qur'an). It was written by Yahaya Jusoh and Azhar Muhammad and published in the year 2007 by Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Publication, Skudai, Johor.

#### b. Theses

Theses that were recognized to be related with al-Qur'an and Science are as follows: 13

- Kamariah Mohd. Saidin. (Academic Publication in the field of Science, Technology and Medicine: The Role of University Publications in Malaysia.)
   Penerbitan Ilmiah dalam Bidang Sains, Teknologi dan Perubatan: Peranan Penerbit Universiti di Malaysia. Dissertation (M.A) – Department of Media Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, 1999.
- Monika Abd Razzak. (Healthy lifestyle: A Study on Nutrition according to al-Qur'an and Science) Gaya Hidup Sihat: Suatu Kajian Mengenai Pemakanan

<sup>13</sup> See: http://www.pendeta.um.edu.my

- Menurut al-Qur'an dan Sains. Dissertation (M. Usuluddin) Department of Al-Quran and al-Hadith, Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya, 2003.
- Noraida Ismail. (The Profile of Science and Technology Book Publications: A Focus on Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka). Profil Penerbitan Buku Sains dan Teknologi: tumpuan kepada Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka. Dissertation (M. Publish. Stud.) – Department of Media Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, 2007.
- Sh. Mohd Saifuddeen Sh. Mohd Salleh. (The Role and Function of al-Qur'an in Guiding the Philosphy of Science and Technology). Peranan dan Fungsi al-Quran dalam Memandu Falsafah Sains dan Teknologi. Dissertation (M.Sc. (Hist. Phil.Sc.) – Department of Science and Tecnology Studies, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya, 2006.
- Zulekha Yusoff. (The Philosphy of Alam Tabi'i in Islam: An analysis on Science according to al-Qur'an). Falsafah Alam Tabi'i dalam Islam: Satu analisis tentang sains menurut al-Qur'an. Dissertation (M.A) – Department of Islamic Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, 1993.
- Juriah Mohd. Amin. (The Miracle of al-Qur'an and Science). Kemukjizatan Al-Quran dan Sains. Dissertation (M.A Usuluddin), Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya, 1998.
- Faizah Mat Juden, (Theory of the Existence of Universe: A Comparative Study between Modern Science and al-Qur'an). Teori Kewujudan Alam: Satu Kajian Perbandingan Di antara Sains Moden dan al-Qur'an, Dissertaion (M.A Usuluddin), Department of Al-Quran and al-Hadith, Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya, 2003

#### c. Articles

Articles that managed to be obtained throughout accomplishing the present study are as follows:

 (Exploration of al-Qur'an through Science). Penerokaan al-Qur'an Melalui Sains. Written by Mohd. Yusof Hj. Othman. Siri Wacana Sejarah dan Falsafah Sains, volume 5, published in the year 1996, by Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Kuala Lumpur.

- Al-Qur'an, As-Sunnah and the Philosophy of Science. Al-Qur'an, As-Sunnah dalam Falsafah Sains. Written by Abdul Latif Samian. Siri Wacana Sejarah dan Falsafah Sains, volume 7, published in the year 1999, by Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Kuala Lumpur.
- d. Paperwork14:
- Al-Quran and Science by Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin.
- (Adaptation between Religion and Science). Penyesuaian Antara Agama & Sains by Dr. Syed Abdurahman bin Syed Hussin.
- (Comparison between Science and al-Qur'an and it effects in Da'wah)
   Perbandingan Sains dan al-Quran Serta Kesannya di dalam Dakwah by Adli bin
   Mohd Saad.

### Method of Writings

Methodology has been defined as how a study is verified. The word methodology derived from the Greek word "Methodos" that means "Logos" that indicates a knowledge on technique used in investigating. In Arabic word, it is called "Manhaj".

Based on observation towards literature related to Qur'an and Science, in general, the present study found several methodologies that have been used by authors in their writings.

#### Generally expressing Quranic Verses and Hadith related with Science.

Majority of the authors have used this method in their writings. With this method, the audience can directly see the argumentation based on the revealed guidance articulated. For instance, the writing of Baharuddin Zainal<sup>15</sup> on Quranic verses about the change of day and night. The author has mentioned a Quranic verse with the meaning:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> All paperwork listed was presented at "Konvensyen Kebangsaan Penghayatan al-Qur'an" on 15 December 2007, at Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya, Nilam Puri.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Baharuddin Zainal (2003), Ilmu Falak; Teori, Praktikal dan Hitungan. Terengganu: KUSZA, p. 11

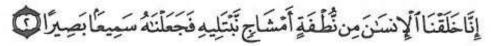
# إِنَّ فِي خَلِقِ ٱلسَّمَوَاتِ وَٱلْأَرْضِ وَٱخْتِلَافِ ٱلَّيْلِ وَٱلنَّهَارِ لَآيَنَتِ لِأُولِى ٱلأَلْبَنبِ

"Behold! In the creation of the heavens and the earth, And the alternation of Night and Day, There are indeed signs for men of understanding'.

(Ali Imran: 190)

#### Firstly explicate the field of science followed by introducing the Ouranic verse.

There were also some authors who had used this methodology in their writing. This method try to provide insight to the reader by generally explicate facts in science. Afterwards, the authors attempted to relate the facts with what has been indicated by Allah in the al-Qur'an. An example of the use of this method can be seen in the writing of Dr. Mohd Arip Kasmo<sup>16</sup> who has talked about embryology. According to the author, "embryology is a branch of knowledge on the creation and development of embryo that is the creation of a child (whether man or animal) that took place in the uterus". He then has related the fact with what has been mentioned in the al-Qur'an:



"Verily we have created man from Nutfah (mixed drops of male and female discharge), in order to try him, so We made him hearer and seer".

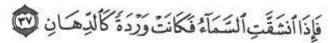
(Surah al-Insan: 2)

#### 3. Stating the opinion of ahl-Tafseer on the related Quranic verses.

Based on this method, the author has tried to bring up the views of ahl-Tafseer on sciences issues after discussing on the related Quranic verses. This method emphasizes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Dr. Mohd Arip Kasmo (2007), Pengukuhan Aqidah Menerusi Pengayatan Sains Dalam al-Quran. Seremban: Penerbitan Awan Biru, p. 54-65.

the importance to refer to the opinions of ahl-Tafseer who certainly the experts in Quranic interpretation. For instance, the explication provided by Dr. Mohd. Arip Kasmo about what has been stated in Qura'an as "the rosy oil" The author presented a Quranic verse as noted below:



"Then when the heaven is rent asunder, and it becomes rosy or red lie red oil, or red hide".

(Surah al-Rahman: 37)

Then, taken the opinion of ahl-Tafseer about the interpretation behind this verse, the followings are presented:

According to Tafseer Ibn Kathir, wardah kal dihaan means wardah like dihaan which indicates it would melt like sludge and silver smelt that when it is heated, its colour is like a dye than shade something into red, and at times the colour turned into yellow, blue or green.

On the other hand, Al-Suddi said, "It would turn into as red as the colour of the red rose and as filthy as the oil". Mujahid in contrast noted like (dihan), "It is as colourful as the colouring dye"

## Attempt to provide an accurate definition to an interpretation.

In explaining a term, there is a possibility that it would coin some confusion, especially when it comes to explain the scientific terms stated in the Qur'an. Therefore, some authors tried to analyse and provide accurate and precise definition by looking at various views of ahl-Tafseer on the term(s). For example, the writing of Ali Abdul Hamid Abu al-Khair 18 who noted the following Quranic verse:

<sup>17</sup> Ibid, p. 45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Ali Abdul Hamid Abu al-Khair (2004), Al-Quran & Sains Moden, Johor Bharu: Penerbitan Jahabersa, p. 118.

# وَٱلسَّمَاءِ وَٱلطَّارِقِ ٥ وَمَآ أَدْرَيْكَ مَا ٱلطَّارِقُ ١ النَّجْمُ ٱلثَّاقِبُ

"By the heaven, and the "Thariq" and what will make you to know what "at-Thariq" is? It is the star of the piercing brightness"

(Surah al-Thariq: 1-3)

The author noted, at-Thariq is what piercing the heaven with a deafening blast. The gleaming glow is so dazzling to the extent it could penetrate anything regardless of distance.

#### Presenting new findings that support the truthfulness of the al-Our'an.

Science is always in need of factual evidences, obtained whether through physical and rational examinations. Thus, a numbers of new findings were gathered by authors in order to link it with what have been indicated in the al-Qur'an. The followings were the scientific findings by Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin<sup>19</sup> where he has knotted Islamic medicine with modern scientific findings, which he discussed the danger of television and its effects on the viewers in terms of physical and emotional development, communication, creativity, focus, sleep, psyche, ethic and academic performance. The author also noted that the influence of violent acts depicted in TV.

### Presenting scientific facts obtained from the Western Scientists.

Apart from presenting the views and opinions of the Muslim Scholars, either from ahl-Tafseer or other scholars, several authors have embedded some scientific facts examined by the Western Scientists. This show, in terms of accepting facts, Islam is objective and not bias, even if the findings were provided by the non-Muslims. Furthermore, these findings by the Western Scientists by its own are actually related to what have been indicated in the al-Qur'an. For example, Syafi'i Muhammad Din and Abu Bakar Hamdan<sup>20</sup> has noted the findings by Gamow that is:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin (2007), Perubatan Islam dan Bukti Sains Moden, PTS Millenia Sdn.Bhd. p. 112-120.

Syafi'i Muhammad Din dan Abu Bakar Hamdan (2002), Keajaiban Ilmu, Sifat dan Perbuatan Allah, Selangor: Pustaka Ilmi., p. 73

"The Galaxies in this whole universe is about 100 billion in number and each of it has 100 billion stars which in the beginning located at some place together with the earth, which took place around 15 billion years ago"

#### 7. Referring to Authentic Tafseer

Several local authors have taken a critical examination on their references especially when it comes to references related to Quranic Interpretation. By referring to interpretations provided by respected and honourable scholars, their writings are more reliable particularlu in terms of authentic and accurate facts. Among writers that particularly concerned with this issue is Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin where this kind of methodology is put as the most priority in studies related to al-Qur'an and Science.

Among books of Tafseer referred by Dr. Danial are as follows:

- Al-Asas fi al-Tafsir by al-Syaikh Sayyid Hawa
- 2. Tafsir al-Quran al-'Azim by Imam Ibn Kathir
- Tafsir al-Jami' Li Ahkam al-Quran by Imam al-Qurtubi
- 4. Tafsir fi Zilal al-Quran by Sayyid Qutb
- 5. Tafsir al-Azhar by HAMKA
- Al-Qur'an and Its Interpretation, Raja Fahd al-Quran Publication Complex

Yet, there are some authors who only referred to local Tafseer like "Tafsir Pimpinan Ar-Rahman" in their writings.

#### 8. Using reference from the Middle East.

Literatures that link al-Qur'an and Science from the authors of Middle East were found to be very favourable among some local scholars. This is due to the balance attitude of the Middle East's authors in acknowledging both roles of religion and science. For this matter, the local scholars opted to give more preferences to the literature and references from the Middle East in their writings. Among scholars who usually been referred in their writings are:

- 1. Dr. Zaghlul al-Najar
- 2. Dr. Abdul Majid Bin Aziz al-Zindani
- Syaikh Tantawi Jauhari
- Dr. Adnan Sharif
- Dr. Mohammad Jamil al-Habbal
- Dr. Miqdad Mar'i al-Jawwari

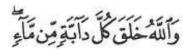
However, it is worthy to note there are some local authors that have referred to the writings of other Muslim scholars like Harun Yahya, Syahid Altar and others.

#### Presenting Dalil (Quranic evidences) and Scientific Evidences for every fact.

There several authors who preferred to support a fact with Dalil (Quranic evidences) and Scientific evidences on the facts presented. For example, the subject of water<sup>21</sup> as the basic needs to every living thing. As the following sayings of Allah SWT:

"And we have made from the water every living thing"

(Al-Anbiya': 30)



"Allah has created every (moving) living creature from water"

(Al-Nur: 45)

- The Biologists mutually agreed water is the basic need for all living things.
- The beginning of life must have taken place at the environment with a slightly low temperature so that water could exist.
- Scientists believed the existence of early livings in this world may be existed 9000 feet below Atlantic sea where the scientists have found traces of hydrogen and after a depth investigation they strongly felt that it is a suitable place for the existence of the early livings.

<sup>21</sup> See : Dr. Danial Zainal Abidin (2007), Quran Saintifik. PTS Melennia

# The impact of the Writings of Literature related to al-Qur'an and Science to Malaysian Community

The present study has also conducted a survey to examine the public views on al-Qur'an and Science, particularly from secondary school students and university students. In addition, the present study has also examined to what extent is the knowledge and exposure they have received on this particular field.

Around 300 respondents have participated in this survey where majority have a religious education background. They represented 55% of the total respondents. The rest are 22.3% respondents who majored in religion and science course followed by 21.3% from a pure sciences course and seven percent represented other courses.

The findings of this survey showed that 93% of the respondents know about Quranic verse related to science. Whereas, the rest are either not sure or do not know about it.

In terms of respondents' knowledge on the writings related to al-Qur'an and Science in Malaysia, 4% have provided an excellent response and 46% have provided a good response while 26% were weak and 7% were very weak response.

In terms of respondents' knowledge on the scholars or individuals who are involved in the field of al-Qur'an and Science in Malaysia, in general, it is till at a slightly moderate level with 45% from the total number of respondents.

Altogether, respondents who had participated in this survey are interested and in a positive way, they would love to continue updating themselves with the development related to al-Qur'an and Science. Although, undeniably there are some respondents who have no idea or information on the development of this branch of knowledge.

Randomly speaking, this shows that the acceptance of student community on the development of this field to be further developed in Malaysia has showed positive signs. Therefore, all parties should altogether be part of the cause, so that, the studies and research as well as understanding on al-Qur'an and Science can be enhanced continuously and progressively. Therefore, target groups like pupils, university students and well-educated community as well as Islamic intellectualists can be attended by the respective parties, so that, learning and research objective can be fortified in the Malaysian educational system. In the end it is hope Malaysia would be a good example to other Muslim countries.

#### Conclusion:

Based on the present study conducted, the development of writings related to al-Qur'an and Science in Malaysia has taken place around 70s and it continuously grows up till today. Scholarly authors who have largely contributed for this development consisted of those who have background on science, either physic or medicine. In terms of methodologies employed by these authors in their writings, it is relatively similar where they attempted to explain the relationship between al-Qur'an and Science based on Quranic verses and interpretations provided by Muslim Scholars as well as vies from the scientists. The present study also found the inclination to outshine the miracle and the greatness of al-Qur'an to the public was among the main factors for the energetic writings in this field. The present study also would like to suggest all parties, especially the government, to give a serious and continuous emphasis in order to build an Islamic generation that could master the field of al-Qur'an and Science through a well-planned and systematic educational system. It is hoped Malaysia could produce Islamic Scientists who could further emerge as honourable scholars who could dignify the studies of al-Qur'an and Science in the future.