

# The Usage of My Ahadith Al-Ahkam Mobile Application in Teaching and Learning for Syd21402 Ahadith Al-Ahkam Course At The Faculty of Contemporary Islamic Studies, Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin

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## Abstract

Several past studies and writings have found that the level of student readiness and the level of student acceptance towards the use of mobile learning tools is at a high level. The variety of applications and the web in the era of globalization requires sensitivity from students, educators, educational institutions and parents. Therefore, the My Ahadith al-Ahkam Mobile Application was developed by researchers as a teaching tool for the SYD21402 Ahadith al-Ahkam course. This article aims to identify whether the use of this application successfully attracts students' interest in the course content and whether this application helps students in their learning process. The questionnaire was used to obtain data from students who registered for this course in semester 2 for session 2022/2024. The findings of the study show that 98.6% of students told that the My Ahadith al-Ahkam Mobile Application successfully attracted their interest and helps them in learning process for this course. From the questionnaire, the researchers get some suggestions from students for the improvement of this application.

## Introduction

SYD 21402 Ahadith al-Ahkam course has been offered for the Diploma of Islamic Studies (Shariah) students for almost 15 years since the establishment of Sultan Zainal Abidin University (UniSZA) or formerly known as Universiti Darul Iman. This course is offered to Diploma of Islamic Studies (Shariah) students who are in the last semester, which is the sixth semester. For students in the field of sharia, they need to study hadiths that contain jurisprudence or known as hadith ahkam as a basic to understand the Islamic law. As we know,

the lecture method is very important in the delivery of religious knowledge. However, there are some lecturers who are too dependant on lecture method, so that the teaching become uninteractive and bored. The usage of information technology facilities is seen as increasingly important and a necessity for students.

Learning and teaching in Islamic studies are often said to use chalk and talk methods too much, causing teaching in Islamic studies look dull and bland (Azhar & Huda, 2017). Teaching and learning methods in Islamic studies are also feared to lag behind other disciplines if lecturers too dependant to existing methods. Abdul Munir & Saharizah (2018) say the aspects of the approach in the teaching and learning of Islamic Education teachers need to be adapted to the current and latest developments. Various modern methods have emerged and proven to be effective in improving student understanding. Nabilah et. al (2016) wrote that the diversity of applications and the web in the era of globalization requires sensitivity from students, educators, educational institutions and parents. A good teaching method is able to help students follow the lesson well while leaving a deep impression on the student. From the point of view of Western scholars such as Weinstein & Mayer (1986), a person's success in achieving any goal is greatly influenced by the extent to which effective learning strategies are used and implemented. The learning strategies have different effects on student achievement in the academic field. A teacher needs to diversify teaching methods and adapt them according to the topic chosen by the teacher, so that he can attract the attention of students and have a maximum impact on the teaching and learning. Diverse approaches need to be utilized so that the delivery style becomes more interesting and gives a deep impression on students (Norhaslina et al., 2018).

Along with the development of information technology that also affects teaching methods today, it is time for teaching and learning for this course to be assisted with information technology facilities (Munohsamy, 2014). To attract students' interest in this course, the mobile application called My Ahadith al-Ahkam was developed and used in teaching and learning in the past semester 2 session 2022/2023.

### **Methodology**

This article is written according to the findings of an applied research. Researchers have developed the mobile application as a teaching tool for the SYD21402 Ahadith al-Ahkam course. This application contains hadiths learned throughout the 14 weeks of lectures, the explanation of hadith, video recordings of lectures and quizzes related to hadiths contains in the course syllabus. The contain of this mobile application refered from two books, *Ibānat al-Aḥkām Sharḥ Bulūgh al-Marām* and *l'lam al-Anam Sharh Bulugh al-Maram Min Ahadith al-Ahkam*. A questionnaire was distributed to the students after they used the My Ahadith al-Ahkam Mobile Application in order to see its effectiveness on the interest of the students and to get suggestions from them to improve the application in the future. The data obtained from the questionnaire will be described in sub topic 6.0.

### **My Ahadith al-Ahkam Application Content**

My Ahadith al-Ahkam application is a simple application that can be installed on android. The application displays the word "START" on the first display. After students press 'START', students will be shown three menu options: Content, Introduction and Week. 'Content' helps students to see all the topics need to be studied for this 14-week course. The titles are arranged by week according to the Detail Course Information (DCI)

- Topic 1: Course Introduction and Introduction to the Book of Bulugh al-Maram
- Topic 2: Hadith no 1 & 5 from Chapter of Taharah (Purification)
- Topic 3: Hadith no 25 & 65 from Chapter of Taharah (Purification)
- Topic 4: Hadith no 147 & 181 from the Chapter of Prayer
- Topic 5: Hadith no 188 & 222 from the Chapter of Prayer
- Topic 6: Hadith no 147 from the Chapter of Funeral (al-Janaiz)
- Topic 7: Hadith no 136 & 160 from the Chapter of Funeral (al-Janaiz)
- Topic 8: Hadith no 176 & 177 from Chapter of Zakat
- Topic 9: Hadith no 182 & 208 from Chapter of Zakat
- Topic 10: Hadith no 222 & 240 from Chapter of Fasting
- Topic 11: Hadith no 267 & 275 from the Chapter of Umrah & Hajj
- Topic 12: Hadith no 3, 37 & 53 from the Chapter of Buying and Selling (al-Buyu')
- Topic 13: Hadith no 196 & 211 from the chapter of Marriage
- Topic 14:: Hadith no 322, 339 & 363 from the Chapter of Divorce (al-Talaq)

The students and users of this application can make choices from week one to week fourteen to read the *matan* of hadith and its description. There are two or three hadiths that need to be learned in two hours each week. In addition, students can also follow the recording of lectures delivered by lecturer. The lecture recording link will connect students with the video that has been uploaded on *YouTube*. In order to further improve, the students' understanding of the hadiths studied, several sets of multiple-choice questions and short answers have been prepared by the researcher.

### **The importance of learning the knowledge of Ahadith al-Ahkam**

Hadith is the second source of Islamic law after the Qur'an and serves to explain in more depth what has been outlined in the Qur'an. Hadith also enables a Muslim to understand his actions, words and confessions (al-Khatib, 1961 & Muhiden, 1996). Rasulullah s.a.w said:

*"I leave you two things that you will never go astray as long as you hold to them, the Book of God (Al-Quran) and my Sunnah".*

(Malik, 1661)

By mastering the knowledge of hadith, a Muslim, especially a student in the field of Islamic studies, will better understand Islamic law. For students in the field of sharia, they need to study hadiths that contain jurisprudence as a basic for them to understand the argumentation method for a certain law. The knowledge of hadith law also plays a role in giving students an understanding of what jurisprudence is contained in a hadith. In addition, by studying legal hadiths, students will be able to know how the Messenger of Allah performed certain practices (al-Maliki et.al., 2018). Thus, FKI has offered the SYD 21402 Ahadith Ahkam course as a core course for Diploma in Islamic Studies (Shariah) students. Learning certainly becomes more interesting if the lecturer uses methods based on information technology.

### **Kitab Ibānat al-Aḥkām Sharḥ Bulūgh al-Marām and Ilam al-Anam Sharh Bulugh al-Maram Min Ahadith al-Ahkam**

The two books that are used as the main source of reference for this SYD21402 course are books of lectures on Bulugh al-Maram written by Imam Ibnu Hajar al-Asqalani. The book Bulugh al-Maram is often used as the main reference material in study classes whether in

madrasahs, lodges or universities. It was compiled by Imam al-Hafizh Ibnu Hajar al-Asqalani (773 AH - 852 AH); a scholar of hadith from the Syafii Madzhab who has wrote many books. Imam Ibnu Hajar's famous students are Al-Imam As-Sakhawi, Al-Biq'a'i, Zakariya Al-Anshari, Ibnu Qadhi Syuhbah, Ibnu Tahgri Bardi and Ibnu Fahd Al-Makki (Arafat & Imawan, 2021).

Bulugh Al-Maram was later explained (syarh) by many scholars, such as Subulus Salam by Muhammad bin Ismail al-Amir ash-Shan'ani. The hadiths found in Bulugh al-Maram are arranged thematically based on fiqh chapters such as taharah, prayer and fasting up to the chapter on manners and morals. The hadiths found in Bulugh al-Maram are taken from authentic hadith books such as Sahih al-Bukhari, Sahih Muslim, Sunan Abu Dawud, and others.

Bulugh Al-Maram also was explained (syarh) by other scholars:

- a. Ibanatul Ahkam, by Abu Abdullah bin Abdus Salam Allusy.
- b. Tuhfatul Ayyam fii Fawaid Bulughil Maram, by Samy bin Muhammad.
- c. Minhatul „Allam, by Salih Fauzan.
- d. Syarah bulugh al-Maram, by Athiyyah Muhammad Salim.
- e. l'lam al-Anam by Nur al-Din 'Itr

From the books above, Kitab Ibānat al-Aḥkām Sharḥ Bulūgh al-Marām has been used as the main reference in the teaching and learning process of the SYD 21402 Ahadith al-Ahkam course.

The second reference used in the teaching of the SYD21402 course is l'lam al-Anam Sharh Bulugh al-Maram. The author is Dr. Nūr al-Dīn Muhammad 'Itr. His lineage (nasab) is connected to the Prophet s.a.w. He is a very knowledgeable (alim), muḥaddith (hadith expert), mufassir (expert of interpretation) and Faqīh. He is more prominent in the field of hadith and always teaches hadith using various hadith books.

Nūr al-Dīn 'Itr explained in the preface of his book that he was motivated to compile this book because Ibn Hajar's book Bulūgh al-Marām is the book of hadith ahkam that has the most significant benefit compared to other ahkam hadith books. In addition, the book Bulugh al-Maram is the book with the most concise discussion compared to other hadith books.

Nūr al-Dīn 'Itr assesses that the book Subul al-Salam is not enough to fulfill the needs of the students, because this book is considered to be lacking in scope in debating the aspects of hadith that include the knowledge of riwāyah and dirāyah. Therefore, he felt it necessary to complement and perfect the previous lecture books and compile the lecture book with a new method (Faisholuddin Amien, 2019).

Nūr al-Dīn 'Itr was motivated to compile this book of description (syarh) because it was felt that there was an urgent need to spread the book of Bulūgh al-Marām, because there are many scholars who recite the book of Bulūgh al-Marām. In addition, he stated that in this contemporary era, many books are compiled with new and contemporary methods. Therefore, he felt it was very important to compile this book with a new method.

### **Data Analysis**

After the students who registered for the SYD21402 Ahadith al-Ahkam course used the My Ahadith al-Ahkam mobile application in learning, a set of questionnaires was distributed to them. This questionnaire was conducted in order to identify their interest in this application and get suggestions for improvement.

A total of five questions focusing on the use of the application were asked to the 71 students:

- 1- I enjoyed the experience of using the application for the learning session of this course
- 2- I understand the course content better after using this application
- 3- This application containing lecture videos and reinforcement exercises interested me in taking this course
- 4- This application provides more space for me to independently search for information related to the course
- 5- This application saves my time in searching for information related to the content of the Ahadith Ahkam course

The students were given five answer choices for each question above:

A- Strongly Agree

B- Agree

C- Not sure

D- Disagree

E- Strongly Disagree

Students were also asked what their views or suggestions to improve the My Ahadith al-Ahkam Mobile Application.

Bil	Queations	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Total of Student
1	I enjoyed the experience of using the application for the learning sessions of this course	15 (21.1%)	55 (77.5%)	1 (1.4%)	71
2	I understand the course content better after using this application	15 (21.1%)	55 (77.5%)	1 (1.4%)	71
3	The application that contains lecture videos and reinforcement exercises made me interested in taking this course	15 (21.1%)	55 (77.5%)	1 (1.4%)	71
4	This application provides more space for me to independently search for information related to the course	11 (15.5%)	59 (83.1%)	1 (1.4%)	71
5	This application saves me time in searching for information related to the content of the Ahadith Ahkam course	11 (15.5)	59 (83.1%)	1 (1.4%)	71

Figure 1 Questionnaire Results

Overall, the majority of students' answers are strongly agree (scale 5) and agree (scale 4). Both of these responses reflect positive responses that indicate students admit that the use of this application attracts their interest in the SYD21402 Ahadith al-Ahkam course.

The first question is related to the students' feelings, do they enjoy using the My Ahadith al-Ahkam Application. As a result of the questionnaire, a total of 15 out of 71 students or 21.1% chose to agree, while 55 people or 77.5% chose to strongly agree. This shows that 98.6% admit that they enjoy using this application.

The second question is related to students' understanding, do they better understand the topic studied. The results obtained were that 15 out of 71 students or 21.1% chose to agree, while 55 people or 77.5% chose to strongly agree. This shows that 98.6% admit that they understand the topic discussed better after using this application.

Next, students were asked about the preparation of videos and exercises related to the topics provided in the My Ahadith al-Ahkam application. Out of 71 students, a total of 15 people or 21.1% agreed that the preparation of videos and exercises had attracted their interest. A total of 55 people or 77.5% said they strongly agree. In summary, a total of 70 students or 98.6% said that the preparation of videos and exercises had attracted their interest in using this application for the SYD21402 course.

The fourth question focuses on the opportunity for students to be more independent to obtain additional materials and references related to the learned hadith. Out of all the students, a total of 11 people or 15.5% agreed that they had the opportunity to be more independent and not too attached to the use of hard copy books while following this course. A total of 59 people or 83.1% said they strongly agree. With this, a total of 70 students or 98.6% said they had an independent opportunity to get additional materials and references that were appropriate to the hadith they learned.

The last question was asked to the students in order to identify whether this application saves them time to refer to notes, lecture videos and reinforcement exercises related to the learned hadith. 11 students or 15.5% agree that this application saves them time when making references, while 59 people or 83.1% strongly agree.

In the questionnaire, the students were given the opportunity to express any suggestions for improvement. As a result of the questionnaire, some students suggested that the display design of this application be improved with appropriate pictures and decorations to make it look more attractive. There are also students who suggest more notes in this application. In addition, there are also students who give suggestions to increase the number of applications like this to help them in the teaching and learning process.

From the description above, it can be concluded that the My Ahadith al-Ahkam Application has benefited the students following the SYD21402 course. This application has successfully attracted interest and strengthened their understanding of the content of hadiths learned. With teaching aids like this, teaching and learning methods can be diversified.

### **Conclusion**

Effective teaching and learning methods are very important in ensuring that students have a deep interest in the courses offered to them. In the delivery of knowledge based on Islamic studies, there is no denying that the lecture method is a method that has been used since long ago and has proven to be very effective. However, other methods also need to be disclosed to the students. The use of My Ahadith al-Ahkam Mobile Application is one of the teaching aids that can attract students' interest. Based on the questionnaire distributed to the students, almost 100% agree that this kind of application can increase their interest and understanding.

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