

## Critical Review on Hadith Application in Google Play Store from 2017-2023

**Nurul Izzatul Huda Mohamad Zainuzi**

Faculty of Quranic and Sunnah Studies, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Malaysia.

Email: hudazainuzi@raudah.usim.edu.my

**Syed Najihuddin Syed Hassan**

Faculty of Quranic and Sunnah Studies, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Malaysia.

Email: syednajihuddin@.usim.edu.my

**Nur Aliah Sabrina Mohd Sabri**

Faculty of Quranic and Sunnah Studies, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Malaysia

Email: aliahsabrina@raudah.usim.edu.my

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### Abstract

Beside Qur'an, the study of Hadith is the second main source of Islamic Teaching. Despite the age's more rapid growth and the rise of technology as a method of communication and knowledge communication technology (ICT) in this era of digitization has given a new dimension to the understanding of hadith. Numerous initiatives have been created to enhance, sustain, and preserve to learn Hadith in digital platform. The availability of Hadith applications nowadays significantly assists Muslims in better understanding and applying Science of Hadith in their daily lives. However, there are several Hadith application methods available to Muslims on a variety of current platforms. There are a lot of programmes in the Google Play Store, so it can be difficult to identify which ones have pros and cons. In order to analyse data and assess the usability of hadith applications accessible in the Google Play Store, this study used the Hands-On Measurement approach. Following data analysis and usability evaluation based on a variety of crucial mobile application needs, including as learnability, efficiency, memory, error management, and satisfaction, thirty hadith apps from the Google Play Store were selected for a shortlist. According to the study, Muslims can utilise the hadith applications that are available on the Google Play Store as a source of

knowledge and education, however precaution should always be applied if the software has issues.

**Keywords:** Hadith Applications, Mobile Application, Google Play Store, Hands-On Measurement Method.

### **Introduction**

A piece of digital software known as an application completes an essential task for a user or, in certain situations, for another application. Applications include specific software programmes and programmes in generally. A "programme" provides a set of instructions that allows a user to start an application. Knowledge is now easier to access and more widely accessible due to the internet revolution. This presents a new perspective and a chance to distribute Hadith knowledge widely. A mobile app can encourage people to use it in their daily routine, making it an actual app on their phone every day. It might be a terrible moment if people misunderstand this global digital dimension.

In this study, the usability of Hadith apps available on the Google Play store is evaluated. Users face the risk of selecting the wrong software because there are so many options available. This may discourage them from using mobile applications for educational purposes. This study's determination of the greatest practical use can let certain Muslim communities utilise the resources without difficulty. Additionally, individuals will find the M-learning process entertaining if it includes six multimedia elements, including images, colours, music, and movies. As a Hadith learning facility in the digital world and as a result of the application design that has already attracted users, the established Hadith applications are currently quite relevant and have established themselves as a guide for many Muslim users. Therefore, this article aims to critically analyze the usability of the Hadith application in the Google Play Store as well as describe the use of the Hadith application as a source of reference and learning.

### **Problem Statement**

Numerous Hadith apps facilities have been forcefully imposed onto the community on various platforms. Sometimes, users are less aware of the pros and cons of the various applications since there are so many to pick from. This research examines apps that run on smartphones. According to this study, Muslims can use the Hadith apps available in the Google Play Store as a source of knowledge and guidance in their daily life. Moreover, to have a better understanding of how things will be done with future applications. If people can access an important purpose as much as they want, they will be more interested. This guarantee will be provided by future study and applied to a particular development.

### **Literature Review**

A unique update mechanism is provided by mobile app stores like the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store, making it simple for app developers to publish and distribute updates. After downloading a new version, users may also provide comments so that future users can learn from the reviews. Due to specific update and reviewing methods, users and developers may communicate through the store. For instance, users may download the latest current improvements and comment on them. Additionally, programmers may publish changes and respond to client comments. (Hassan & Safwat Mohamed Ibrahim, 2018). The Google Play Store is extremely competitive for app developers due to the recent increase in mobile applications and smartphone users.

According to Noei and Ehsan (2018), the Google Play Store has more than three million apps as of July 1, 2018.

The two most popular mobile app distribution platforms are the Google Play Store for Android and the Apple iOS Software Store for iOS, both of which have almost 100% market share. There are over 2.47 million applications in the Google Play Store and 1.8 million in the iOS App Store. This indicates that more than 5% of Android or iOS phones and tablets can run applications.

Creating digital versions of hadith knowledge has attracted the attention of mobile app developers. These innovations have made technology more user-friendly and versatile, bringing consumers and the Prophetic hadith closer together. Additionally, Malaysia is starting to see a rise in the usage of mobile devices for education. Despite being relatively new in terms of application, mobile learning, or M-learning, has really grown successful. Modern thinking emphasises the capability of allowing individual learning without a physical location. In a short, learning might happen anytime, anyplace, and is not only restricted to formal traditional classrooms. It is clear that employing digital tools to facilitate connections among individuals within the M-Learning framework may improve the effectiveness and efficiency of lifelong learning. The smartphone app has gotten religious academics, scholars, and internet users closer to the hadiths when they are looking for information relating to them. Among the four hadith software made through Android and iOS platforms are (i) Maktabah al-Hadis al-Syarif (collection of four key volumes of hadith, namely Sahih al-Bukhari, Sahih Muslim, Sunan al-Tirmidhi, and Sunan al-Nasa'i) and was established in 2005 by Amadsoft firm. (ii) ASGATech's Al-Hadith al-Nabawi (hadith collections of Sahih al-Bukhari, Sahih Muslim, Hadith Qudsi, Riyad al-Salihin, and Al-Forty Nawawi's Hadith, (iii) TkXel and ENMAC's iHadith Pro (hadith collections of Sahih Bukhari) (Zulkipli et al., 2017). To encourage people to learn about and explore religious traditions in a digital, mobile environment, it is essential to understand how religious mobile applications are developed. Additionally, it's important to consider how believers use these applications and what they signify for contemporary religious practises. (Bellar, 2017).

The exciting development of hadith studies has also taken on a new dimension according to science and technology improvements, which are completely supported by information and communication technologies (ICT). With the help of several practical apps and industry-specific technologies, the once difficult science of takhrij al-hadith has become considerably easier. In an effort to strengthen, uphold, and preserve the righteousness of the Islamic sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad PBUH in the ICT era, some Muslim IT engineers have successfully translated the treasures of Islamic studies into a variety of digital representations, including the creation of websites, the existence of computer software systems, and mobile phone applications. (Zulkipli et al., 2021).

Some academics say that learning the hadith is a necessary legal obligation that has to be upgraded in a wider context. All disciplines may now be applied effectively because to a number of technological improvements in based learning approaches. The hadith study also includes updates to contemporary teaching techniques. Technology-based learning, sometimes known as e-learning, was developed 40 years ago. This approach is a new style of learning that makes advantage of the Internet's ability to distribute interactive learning materials and programmes to different community levels, whether local or distance. (Mohd Nasir et al., 2021).

According to Ummah (2019), There is a digitalization of hadith in addition to providing access and application of hadith in order to keep hadith study among several

other professions that are also includes the discovery and to capture the interest of society, especially generation Y. By implementing hadith into areas of life and society issues other from the Qur'an, the hadith will be able to fulfil its function as the second most significant source of Islamic teachings after the Qur'an. In order for the study of hadith to eventually return to its pinnacle of achievement, the millennial generation's crucial role as regeneration is required. They were encouraged to participate themselves and utilise digitalization on hadith as best they could.

According to some scholars, the study of Hadith is still developing as a result of the application of contemporary technologies in the educational process. This is consistent with how modern research and development methodologies are evolving. Technology advancement has given schooling both opportunity and problems. The study of Islam, particularly the study of Hadith, was affected by this growth as well. Mobile learning is a novel approach to education that was created as a result of using technology for learning. Mobile learning, as opposed to traditional methods, allows students to access information and study at any time and from any location. (Rosdi et al., 2018).

The digitization of Hadith is a new effort that aims to increase access to the Hadith of the Prophet through today's ICT applications. ICT is developed as an educational tool to improve the quality of learning more effectively, while Islam emphasizes the use of ICT based on the core of monotheism so that the purpose of seeking knowledge and information complies with Shariah law in terms of fulfilling secular and hereafter needs. In addition, the information required by ICT must be based on the principle of truth so as not to slander the development of Islamic knowledge. Therefore, the careful use of ICT can positively impact the Islamic world. There are several purposes of using technology in Hadith's field; the process of teaching and learning Hadith is smoother, saving time, economy, and human resource allocation. Through the interactive method of Hadith, it can attract the interest and attention of students as well as improve students' memory of Hadith (Zulkipli et al., 2021).

At the same time Supriyadi (2020) added that, one guiding guideline that millennials must follow when studying Islam or conducting scientific research on Islam is using original and trustworthy sources. When studying hadith, it is necessary to identify the primary sources, especially the hadith written by the ulama. The works that are frequently cited and recommended in hadith discussions include kutub sittah, or the six hadith books, while some refer to them as kutub al-tis'ah, or the nine hadith books. Despite the fact that the internet provides as a communication and educational platform, this concept is frequently neglected. The internet has become the primary reference source for academics and students performing tasks. As internet technology has advanced, millennials have become more reliant on social media as a source of information. Ironically, getting knowledge on hadith from the internet or social media is not accompanied by a critical approach to distinguish which hadith is authentic. Students must investigate sahih hadith based on the following criteria: a. Sanadnya continues (iitishal al-sanad); b. The narrator is fair ("adalat al-rawi"); c. The narrator is dhabit (dhabth al-rawi); d. Avoiding syadz ("adam al-syadz"); e. Avoiding illat ("adam" illat).

Thus, the use of technology in student-centered teaching does not conflict with the study of religious fields. Students can also get optimal results while studying. Time and cost are among the factors current constraints can be saved. The development of ICT was found to solve the problems encountered in studying hadith with the advent of software hadith, which serves to store thousands of books and collections of hadith in the form of soft copy

or digital access. The process of searching for hadith based on word searching facilitates and speeds up the hadith search process. Recently several websites offer hadith search and access facilities similar to those provided by hadith applications in the form of a disc (Hassan et al., 2015).

Consequently, based on the observations and conclusions from studies conducted by previous researchers, the researcher found that studies on the usability of Hadith applications that already exist in the Google Play Store should be evaluated according to criteria such as learnability, efficiency, memorability, error management and satisfaction to analyze the use of these applications in the daily lives of Muslims.

The researcher has made a literature review based on studies by previous researchers regarding mobile applications, google play store and hadith applications. Most of them think that learning Hadith in the ICT era or through applications is very helpful for various age groups, especially in globalization.

### **Research Significance**

The significance of an investigation has tremendous implications in improving a problem or situation for the study led. Therefore, this study also has some importance; among them is to critically analyze and evaluate the level of usability of Hadith applications that already exist in the Google Play Store if it is suitable to be used as a reference in learning for Muslims. In addition, it can see the extent of the use of these applications in the daily lives of Muslims, whether the application used is authentic, whether the application is suitable for use by all groups. These are the significance of this study conducted.

### **Methodology**

A collection of systematic techniques employed in this research is known as research methodology. It was basically a guide to research and how it is carried out. It outlines and analyses procedures, clarifies their limitations and resources, explains their assumptions and implications, and connects their possibilities to the liminal zone at the edge of knowledge. Hence, this research will be using qualitative and quantitative approach as the results of the use of these two methods will be more encouraging. By combining qualitative and quantitative research, the researcher can get a greater breadth and depth of understanding, as well as confirmation, while avoiding the flaws that each approach has on its own.

The researcher has listed various Hadith-related applications on the Google Play Store; the researcher tends to filter down the list to a few applications that must be criticized. This research serves as a foundation for conducting a usability study of Hadith applications. The methodology used in these studies served as the foundation for this study. However, this research aims to investigate the usability concepts (Learnability, Efficiency, Memorability, Error Management and Satisfaction) in various Hadith applications. The most important aspect of an application is its usability because the best applications, in the opinion of users, are usable and easily understandable rather than those that provide all features. The coverage of this chapter will discuss its research design, data collection and data analysis in great depth.

### **Data Collection**

Identifying a sample from a specific demographic and defining the sort of data that is desired are the first steps in obtaining data (Kabir, 2016). In this study, the data collected from observation will be arranged and summarized according to the relevant categories: learnability, efficiency, memorability; the ability to use a website easily by users, error management; the operational, functional and usable of using the app and satisfaction. According to the research's goals, the researcher evaluates and interprets the data presented.

### **Hands-On Measurement Method**

There is hands-on measuring method meant to test the usability of a mobile application objectively, and these require an ISO 15939-compliant approach. This standard describes the process of producing base measurements using a measuring technique, derived measures using a measurement function, and indicators obtained from derived measures analysis. A study of mobile wireless information systems has developed mobile device-specific usability measures such as display load, clarity of operation possibilities, completeness of operation menu, display self-adjustment options, and their purpose and calculation method. Furthermore, these methods address three categories of wireless mobile-related issues: network, device, and mobility. A mobile app usability metric framework and the Goal Question Metric technique are used to link usability goals like simplicity, accuracy, and safety to questions and related metrics (Nayebi, et al., 2012).

### **Usability Evaluation**

It is critical for all types of software to consider the following three usability characteristics: easier to use; it takes less time to finish a specific task, less challenging to learn; operations can be understood by simply viewing the item, increased user satisfaction meets or exceeds user expectations. According to ISO 9241, usability is "the extent to which a product can be used by defined users to achieve given goals with effectiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction in a specified context of use." usability paradigms propose an improved one known as the Consolidated Usability Model. Usability is defined in this model as a combination of efficacy, efficiency, satisfaction, learnability, and security, as well as a recommended set of associated criteria (Nayebi, et al., 2012)

### **Findings**

Analysis has been done on the user interface, performance, and thirty selected Hadith apps. Additionally, the efficacy of the Hadith application has been assessed in accordance with a number of critical factors, including learnability, effectiveness, memorability, error management, and satisfaction, as shown in table 1.



**Table 1: The Results of The Usability Evaluation of 30 Hadith Applications in Google Play Store from 2017 until 2023**

	Application	Area of Assessment				
		Learnability	Efficiency	Memorability	Error Management	Satisfaction
1	Hadith Collection (All in One)	10/10	9/10	10/10	8/10	9/10
2	Jami' Kutub Tis'ah (جامع الكتب التسعة)	9/10	9/10	6/10	7/10	9/10
3	Smart Hadith	6/10	5/10	3/10	3/10	4/10
4	Hadith Encyclopedias	8/10	7/10	5/10	6/10	7/10
5	HadithOne	4/10	6/10	3/10	6/10	4/10
6	40 Hadiths (Imam An-Nawawi)	8/10	9/10	7/10	7/10	9/10
7	Hadith Companion	7/10	8/10	8/10	8/10	9/10
8	Hadith Qudsi – Sacred Hadith Collection	6/10	5/10	6/10	9/10	7/10
9	Sahih Bukhari – All Hadiths	8/10	7/10	5/10	4/10	6/10
10	Semak Hadis	9/10	9/10	8/10	8/10	9/10
11	One Day One Hadis	8/10	7/10	9/10	9/10	8/10
12	Kitab Hadits Shahih	9/10	7/10	7/10	8/10	9/10
13	السنن الترمذي	4/10	6/10	4/10	8/10	6/10
14	المعجم الصغير	4/10	6/10	4/10	8/10	6/10
15	Sunnah – A Hadith Directory App	8/10	8/10	6/10	9/10	8/10
16	Musnad Ahmad	4/10	4/10	4/10	6/10	3/10

	English Hadith Complete Volume					
17	Riyad As-Salihin	10/10	9/10	9/10	7/10	9/10
18	Muwatta Imam Malik Arabic and English	10/10	9/10	9/10	7/10	9/10
19	Sahih Muslim Shareef	6/10	5/10	6/10	8/10	7/10
20	Hadith Sunan Abu Daud	9/10	8/10	8/10	6/10	7/10
21	Jami' At-Tirmidhi Hadiths Arabic & English	3/10	4/10	4/10	6/10	4/10
22	Sunan an Nasai Hadith Arabic and English	10/10	9/10	9/10	7/10	9/10
23	Hadith Imam Tirmidhi English	8/10	7/10	7/10	6/10	7/10
24	موسوعة الحديث	10/10	9/10	9/10	9/10	10/10
25	الحديث الشريف	9/10	7/10	6/10	8/10	7/10
26	الموسوعة الحديثية	10/10	9/10	10/10	7/10	10/10
27	الباحث الحديثي	10/10	9/10	8/10	7/10	8/10
28	Hadith (Qatar Charity)	8/10	9/10	7/10	9/10	8/10
29	Jami Sahih Al Adkaar	8/10	5/10	7/10	8/10	6/10
30	جامع الحديث النبوي الشريف	7/10	4/10	6/10	6/10	5/10



**Table 2: The Results of The Analysis of The Application of Hadith Based on Several Critical Criteria That are Necessary for The Application of Hadith**

No	Application	Criteria					
		Sanad	Matn	Source	Translation	Status	Explanation
1	Hadith Collection (All in/One)	/	/	/	/	/	x
2	Jami' Kutub Tis'ah (جامع الكتب التسعة)	/	/	x	x	/	x
3	Smart Hadith	/	/	/	/	x	x
4	Hadith Encyclopedic	/	/	x	/	/	x
5	HadithOne	/	/	x	/	x	x
6	40 Hadiths (Imam An-Nawawi)	/	/	x	/	x	x
7	Hadith Companion	/	/	x	/	x	x
8	Hadith Qudsi – Sacred Hadith Collection	/	/	/	/	x	x
9	Sahih Bukhari – All Hadiths	/	/	x	/	x	x
10	Semak Hadis	/	/	/	/	/	/
11	One Day One Hadis	/	/	x	/	x	x
12	Kitab Hadits Shahih	X	/	x	/	x	x
13	السنن الترمذي	/	/	x	x	x	x
14	المعجم الصغير	/	/	x	X	x	x
15	Sunnah – A Hadith Directory App	X	x	/	/	/	x
16	Musnad Ahmad English Hadith Complete Volume	/	/	/	/	/	/
17	Riyad As-Salihin	/	/	/	/	x	x
18	Muwatta Imam Malik Arabic and English	/	/	/	/	x	x

19	Sahih Muslim/ Shareef	/	/	x	/	x	/
20	Hadith Sunan/ Abu Daud	/	/	x	/	x	x
21	Jami' At- Tirmidhi Hadiths Arabic & English	/	/	/	/	x	x
22	Sunan an Nasai Hadith Arabic/ and English	/	/	/	/	x	x
23	Hadith Imam Tirmidhi English	/	/	/	/	/	x
24	موسوعة الحديث	/	/	/	X	/	/
25	الحديث الشريف	/	/	/	X	x	x
26	الموسوعة الحديثية	/	/	/	X	/	/
27	الباحث الحديثي	/	/	/	X	/	/
28	Hadith (Qatar/ Charity)	/	/	x	X	x	x
29	Jami Sahih Al/ Adkaar	/	/	/	X	x	x
30	الحديث النبوي الشريف جامع	/	/	/	X	/	/

This table explained the criteria of hadith term in order to learn and understand hadith. A Hadith's sanad is a collection of narrators that it has been transmitted from the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to its current source. Each person narrating from the source till the chain reaches the Prophet is listed among those who narrated the hadith. The words, phrases, and behaviours related to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) are referred to as the matn, or real content or text of the hadith. Analysing the Hadith's grammatical characteristics, context, and coherence is required to understand the matn.

### Conclusion

The usability of the Hadith application is assessed from this study in terms of learnability, effectiveness, memorability, mistake management, and satisfaction. The final result is that the requirements of the study plan were fulfilled in terms of data collection, handling, and analysis. In order to objectively assess the usability of a mobile application, this study used a hands-on measuring method. Furthermore, for hands-on measurement, base and derived measurements and their measuring methods must be defined. By defining these criteria, practitioners will be able to compare and adequately benchmark the usability of mobile applications. It is possible to analyze a range of user satisfaction data regarding the mobile application markets. These markets can help academics get feedback from customers from all over the world. By releasing developed applications in mobile markets, researchers can prototype and evaluate their research methodologies.

This type of data study is based on the evaluation conducted on 30 Hadith applications that have been shortlisted and analyzed. Overall, the data demonstrated the usability of the Hadith applications in the Google Play Store, as well as the use of Hadith applications as a

source of reference and learning. These findings are particularly remarkable, and all the study's objectives have been fulfilled. Lastly, the researchers hope these studies can be used as a reference source for future researchers who would do research in Hadith applications.

Furthermore, it is undeniable that technology is one of the essential elements in this age of globalization and liberalization. Its importance covers almost all aspects of life, such as the demands of knowledge, ease of communication, ease of access to various types of information, etc. In line with the situation, a paradigm shift needs to be done, including the context of Hadith's teaching and learning process in line with the educational requirements of the era of globalization and liberalization with the current generation raised in the period of information at everyone's fingertips. Therefore, the researchers strongly hope that will consider the improvement of some elements such as video and audio in the future.

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