

WHY WAS THE HOLY QURAN COMPILED INTO A BOOK FORM?

1. Death of many Qur'anic memorizers as a result of Rida'ah wars during Abu Bakar's caliphate especially during the battle of Yamamah.
2. The materials on which the holy Qur'an was previously collected and written were loose and could easily be lost e.g bones, leaves, and others. So there was need to remove it from scattered materials.
3. There was need to deal with false prophets such as Talha and Musailama who wanted to mix their words with the words of Allah.
4. The rise of conflicts about the interpretation of the holy Qur'an also necessitated its compilation into a book form.
5. Need to teach Islam to the new converts using the holy Qur'an dictated its compilation into a book form.
6. Need to preserve the holy Qur'an for the future generation.
7. Death of the Prophet PBUH yet he was the source of guidance for the Muslims.
8. Need to have the laws of the holy Qur'an compiled in one volume as a source of sharia.
9. The development of technology that saw the emergence of suitable writing materials such as pens and papers.
10. The expansion of the Islamic empire that necessitated the sending of Allah's message to all corners of the Muslim world.
11. The great influx into Islam and the increase in the number of Muslims.

IMPORTANCE OF THE COMPILED TEXT OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

1. It helped to save the holy Qur'an for the future generation because its memorizers were dying in Rida'ah wars (wars of apostasy).
2. It made it easy for the spread of Islam because all the divine laws of Allah were intact and moving with them became simple.
3. It also facilitated its memorization because it is easier to memorise from the same book than reading from scattered scripts.
4. It made it easy for Muslims to use the holy Qur'an in administration because all its laws were collected in one text book.
5. The standardized copy produced by Caliph Uthman saved the Muslim community from getting divided because it came with uniform reading and meaning.
6. The holy Qur'an contains a lot of information in our contemporary life and therefore compiling it facilitated research in various aspects like science.

7. It displayed the passion and love the companions of the Prophet PBUH had for Islam which is a lesson for modern Muslims to follow.
8. The burning of the disputed copies of the holy Qur'an by Caliph Uthman is a lesson to Muslims that they should always be on alert to deal with anything bound to bring disunity among the Muslims.
9. It facilitated the recitation of the holy Qur'an especially for non-Arab Muslims by Hujaji bin Yusuf who added vowels to it.
10. The reluctance Caliph Abu Bakar showed when he was first approached by Umar bin Khattab to compile the holy Qur'an is a lesson for the Muslims to be strictly mindful of innovation (**Bidi-a**) in Islam.
11. Caliph Abu Bakar accepted to compile the holy Qur'an into a book form after mutual consultation with the prominent companions of the Prophet PBUH. This is a lesson for modern Muslim leaders not to be dictators but also involve others (consultation) in matters affecting Islam.
12. We learn from the prophet's time that whenever he received a verse, he instructed his companions to write it down. Muslims should also take writing down of Muslim documents seriously and keep them safely.

It helped to differentiate the prophet's words (hadith) and those of his companions (Athar) from Allah's words because the later were compiled in one uniform book