

# History of Compilation of the Quran

For XPC ONLY

1). During Prophet's life ; preservation only ; various companions & Prophet himself learnt verses by heart; many others noted down revelation on various items, e.g. , stone slabs, leather sheets , palm leaves, flat bones of camels; about 40 scribes carried out this

- 'Ardah ; Prophet's recitation of whatever portion of the Quran had been revealed, before the companions, every Ramadan.
- Last time, Ardah-i-Akheera, Prophet recited the Quran twice; caliph Umar introduced the tradition of Trawih based on the same noble practice of the Holy Prophets.
- On Prophet's death ; the Quran: in the hearts of hundreds of Huffaz (those who had memorized the Quran) and preserved on various articles ; not compiled as a book

2). Abu Bakr's caliphate (632-634AD) :

(false prophet)

- Battle of Yamama, against Musailima the imposter ; hundreds of Huffaz were killed ; Umar sensed the danger of consequences of a similar tragedy in future ; persuaded Abu Bakr who appointed a team of 75 under Zayd bin Thabit ; Zayd worked devotedly to collect each verse; all surahs on sheets/Suhuf, not arranged in the order of recitation (as we have today)
- All sheets placed together as a single script
- Remained with Abu Bakr & then with Umar
- On Umar's death, with his daughter, Hafsa, widow of the Prophet ; it became known as the Mushaf-i-Hafsa

3). Uthman's Caliphate (644-656 AD) ; huge Muslim empire, extended to remote non-Arab territories ; new converts were reported to be disputing on the ways of recitation of the Quran; many had imperfect copies of the Quran.

- Hudhaifa bin Yaman witnessed such disputes in Armenia-Azerbaijan & reported to Uthman
- Uthman appointed four scribes ; Zayd bin Thabit, Abdullah bin Zubayr, Sa'eed bin al-'Aas & Abd Rahman bin Harith.
- They were instructed to follow the dialect of the Quraish in case of differences over the language/pronunciation, since the Quran had been revealed in the Quraishite dialect.



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- The Quran was recited loudly from the start till the end in the Prophet's mosque.
- Thus, a number of copies of the original script were made.
- No dots/desinential marks were placed to incorporate all the ways of recitation and so, the Quran was compiled as well as standardized.
- Surahs were arranged in the order of recitation
- Copies sent to Makka, Yamen, Bahrayn, Syria, Basra & Kufa ; reciters were also sent.
- All the variants were burnt; that differed in any way from the standard version.
- Usman, for performing this great job, earned the title of Jami-al-Quran (The compiler of the Quran).