



The Relevance of the Al-Maragi Interpretation Style and Method in Al-Quran Education

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Abstract: This research is motivated by the importance of observing the suitability of the style and method of interpretation related to Qur'anic education through the interpretation of al-Maragi. This interpretation is known for its rational, moderate, and applicable approach, as well as the use of the *ijmali* (global), *tahlili* (analytical), and thematic interpretation methods. This interpretation style is considered very relevant for use in Qur'anic learning because it presents simple, logical, and easily understood explanations for various groups, from students to the general public. The thematic approach used by Al-Maragi allows for grouping verses based on certain themes, which makes it easier for students to understand Islamic concepts in a comprehensive and structured manner. This method also provides space to link the teachings of the Qur'an to the socio-cultural context of today's society, so that Islamic teachings can be applied in everyday life. This research found that the method and style of Tafsir Al-Maragi greatly contribute to developing relevant and contextual Qur'anic education in the modern era.

Keywords: Al-Maragi; Al-Quran; Interpretation style

Introduction

Quranic education plays a crucial role in equipping Muslims with a deep understanding of the Quran's contents, from a legal, moral, and general perspective. To achieve this goal, an interpretive method is needed that is easy to understand and relevant to the needs of the community. One interpretation deemed to meet these criteria is Ahmad Musthafa Al-Maragi's Tafsir Al-Maragi. This interpretation is renowned for its simple, logical, and applicable style, making it suitable as a reference in Quranic education at various levels of education (Al-Maragi, 1992).

Ahmad Musthafa Al-Maragi compiled his interpretation with the aim of making the Quran understandable to all groups, both academics and the general public. Al-Maragi's rational and contextual approach to interpretation allows it to explain Quranic verses in a manner that is relevant to current developments without neglecting the essence of Islamic teachings. This makes Tafsir Al-Maragi highly relevant

for application in tafsir learning, particularly in the context of formal and non-formal education (Hamka, 1984).

Furthermore, Al-Maragi strives to make the Quran a source of life guidance that is easily understood by all levels of society. Using simple language and presenting systematic explanations, Tafsir Al-Maragi offers a contextual approach to understanding Quranic verses (Shihab, 2007). This is evident in the way this commentary connects the verses to the social situations and conditions of society at the time, thus making it easier for readers to apply Quranic teachings to everyday life.

Tafsir Al-Maragi uses the *ijmali* (global) method of tafsir combined with the *tahlili* (analytical) approach, where each verse is analyzed by explaining its meaning in detail without ignoring the overall context. This method enables readers to understand the contents of the Quran comprehensively, encompassing aspects of language, grammar, as well as moral and spiritual messages. With this method, Tafsir Al-Maragi is relevant

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for application in Quranic exegesis education because it fulfills the need for a deep and comprehensive understanding of Quranic verses (Ash-Shabuni, 1982).

Al-Maraghi is known for his moderate approach to examining contemporary issues. His interpretation not only prioritizes the Quranic text but also considers the socio-cultural context of society, making it more relevant for students seeking to understand the relationship between Islamic teachings and the dynamics of modern life. Therefore, the application of Tafsir Al-Maragi in Quranic exegesis education is expected to produce a generation that not only possesses a strong religious understanding but is also able to wisely face the challenges of the times (Wardhana & Nathan, 2025).

In addition to the *ijmali* and *tahlili* methods, in his interpretation, Al-Maragi also employs a thematic method, which groups several verses based on specific themes. This approach facilitates students and educators in understanding Islamic concepts in a comprehensive and integrated manner. Using the thematic method, Al-Maragi's interpretation allows readers to connect the teachings of the Quran to contemporary issues and the socio-cultural contexts developing in today's society. This is important because a contextual approach helps students see the relevance of Islamic teachings in facing the challenges and changes of the modern era. Therefore, this paper will examine the relevance of Al-Maragi's interpretation style and method in Quranic education.

Method

The method used in this research is descriptive-analytical, which describes the characteristics and methodology of Tafsir Al-Maroghi in interpreting Quranic verses. Then, it analyzes the verses deemed relevant to gain a deeper understanding of the approach used by the authors of this commentary. Using this method, the researcher not only elaborates on the commentary but also examines important aspects that demonstrate the distinctive characteristics of Tafsir Al-Maroghi (Kahar, 2016).

The analytical approach can also be used to highlight the crucial role of the elements of Tafsir *bil-ma'tsur*, namely interpretation based on the narrations of the Prophet Muhammad and his companions, which is one of the distinctive features of Tafsir Al-Maroghi. Furthermore, using this analytical approach, the researcher also considers the linguistic aspects and historical context used by al-Maroghi to assess the relevance of this commentary in facing contemporary interpretive challenges (Fatimah et al., 2025). Through this descriptive-analytical method, it is hoped that the research can reveal the advantages of Tafsir al-Maroghi as an important reference in classical interpretation studies that remains relevant today.

Result and Discussion

Al-Maraghi's Methods and Tafsir Styles

The method and style used in al-Maroghi's tafsir is the *tahlili* (analytical) method. In his tafsir, he interprets verse by verse and chapter by chapter according to the order of the Qur'an. He begins by grouping verses into groups, then explaining the words and their meanings concisely, along with the *asbabun nuzul* (the reasons for the revelation), and then the *munasabah*.

In terms of methodology and style, al-Maraghi can be said to have developed a new method. Some commentators consider al-Maraghi the first exegete to introduce a method of tafsir that separates general explanations from detailed explanations, thus dividing the explanations of the verses into two categories: *ijmali* meaning and *tahlili* meaning.

According to Ahmad Musthafa Al-Maraghi, in his interpretation of Juz' 1, he prioritizes a simple and easy-to-understand approach. Some of the highlights of his interpretation include the following:

Present the verses at the beginning of the discussion. According to Ahmad Mustafa al-Maraghi, each discussion of the interpretation begins with one or two more verses of the Koran which are arranged in such a way as to provide a unified understanding; Explanation of words. Includes linguistic explanations if any words are difficult for readers to understand; General understanding of verses. Each surah of Al-Maroghi always provides detailed verse-by-verse details, leaving no verse unexplored; *Asbabun Nuzul* (The Origins of Nuzul). Includes discussion of the reasons for nuzul if there is a valid narration from the hadith that the commentators rely on; Discarding terms related to science. This interpretation excludes terms related to science, such as Neurology, Nahwu, Balaghah, and so on; The style of the commentators. In this method of interpretation, the commentators present their works using a concise style (Al-Maragi, 1992); Tafsir al-Maraghi can be said to be a book of tafsir that has an interpretive style, namely *Adabi Ijtima'i*, this is because the description of the book of tafsir uses beautiful and attractive language aesthetics with an orientation towards *sadtra*, cultural and social life.

The style used in al-Maraghi's tafsir is the *adab al-Ijtima'i* style, one of the new styles in the modern tafsir period. The main figure who originated this style was Muhammad Abduh, then it was developed by his friend and student, namely Rasyid Rida', who was then followed by other commentators, one of whom was Mustafa Al-Maraghi himself.

Interpretation with the style of *Ijmal adab* tries to bring out the beauty of language and the miracles of the Qur'an, tries to explain the meaning or intent intended by the Qur'an, tries to explain how the Qur'an contains

natural laws and social rules, and tries to reconcile the teachings of the Qur'an with true scientific theories (Zuhdi & Syamsuddin, 2018).

The Relevance of Ahmad Mustafa Al-Maraghi's Tafsir in Interpreting the Qur'an

Based on the method and style of interpretation in Tafsir al-Maraghi, the author can observe several examples of al-Maraghi's interpretation in the following verses:"

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلٍ فِي كُلِّ سُنْبُلَةٍ مِائَةُ حَبَّةٍ وَاللَّهُ يُضَاعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ

سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ : is something that can bring someone to Allah's pleasure.

حَبَّةٌ : is a single word from al-Hab which means grain grown from trees and is a staple food (rice, wheat, etc.).

Not only interpreting and explaining the meaning of the al-Maraghi verse, it also explains the relevance of the meaning and context of the verse, including the following:

First, the meaning and context of this verse talks about the rewards obtained by people who give alms and spend their wealth in the way of Allah. Tafsir al-Maraghi emphasizes that the act of spending wealth in the way of Allah is not only appreciated morally or socially, but also receives enormous rewards from Allah. The parable of this seed illustrates that every act of charity expended in the way of Allah will grow even more, with multiplied rewards, even beyond human understanding of the possible results (Al-Maragi, 1992).

Second, the concept of multiple rewards. This verse also describes the concept of multiple rewards in Islam. Every good deed, especially alms, not only gets a reward according to its value, but can be multiplied. Tafsir al-Maraghi emphasizes that Allah has the power to multiply rewards according to His will, which shows Allah's mercy and justice in rewarding His people.

Third Emphasis on Allah's Will "Allah multiplies (rewards) for whom He wills"

In this section, al-Maraghi's commentary explains that although in general Allah multiplies rewards, the final decision regarding the amount of reward is Allah's prerogative. This implies that God has absolute wisdom in giving rewards, which is not limited to human rules or standards. Allah gives rewards according to a person's intentions and sincerity in doing good deeds.

And fourth, the relevance of the verse in everyday life. Tafsir al-Maraghi also shows the relevance of this verse in the context of everyday life, where the teaching to spend wealth in the way of Allah is not only valid in the time of the Prophet, but also in the present era.

Providing alms or living for the benefit of humanity, such as helping the poor, establishing public facilities, or supporting education and da'wah, will receive greater rewards than we imagine. This motivates Muslims to do more good deeds, without worrying about not having enough, because they believe that Allah will multiply the results.

Relevance of Qs. Ali Imran verse 27 in Tafsir Al-Maraghi

تُولِجُ اللَّيْلَ فِي النَّهَارِ وَتُولِجُ النَّهَارَ فِي اللَّيْلِ وَتُخْرِجُ الْحَيَّ مِنَ الْمَيِّتِ وَتُخْرِجُ الْمَيِّتَ مِنَ الْحَيِّ وَتَرْزُقُ مَنْ تَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ

Meaning: You put the night into the day and you put the day into the night. You bring out the living from the dead, and You bring out the dead from the living. And You give sustenance to whom You will without reckoning (limit)."

وَتُولِجُ: Entering, what is meant by the increase in daylight compared to night time, based on the places where the sun rises and sets and most countries (in this world).

General Explanation

This verse was revealed as entertainment for the Prophet SAW in facing the denial of those who disbelieved and the arrogance of those who did not believe. As well as a reminder to him of the power of Allah who is able to help His religion and glorify His words.

Allah said to the Prophet SAW: "If those who disbelieve turn away from you, and they cannot be convinced through evidence, so that the polytheists remain in their ignorance, and the people of the ahl 'i-kitab remain in their stance, then you must return to Allah swt. And take refuge in Him, by praying and praising Him. You must remember that everything is in His power, Allah does everything according to His will (Al-Maragi, 1992).

The Relevance of Surah Ali Imran, Verse 27

Provision is given without limit

"And You give sustenance to whom You will without reckoning (limit)."

In al-Maraghi's interpretation, this verse shows that Allah gives sustenance to whoever He wishes, without limitation or calculation. The sustenance referred to here is not only limited to possessions or wealth, but also includes health, happiness, knowledge, and all forms of blessings that Allah gives. Allah gives His sustenance according to His will, without any calculations or limitations for whom He chooses. This interpretation teaches Muslims to believe that everything they receive,

whether in material or non-material form, is a gift from Allah full of grace and goodness.

Dimensions of Faith and Submission to Allah

This verse teaches Muslims the importance of submission and faith in Allah. As His creatures, we must sincerely accept all of Allah's decrees in this life, including the passage of time, life and death, and His provision. Tafsir al-Maraghi emphasizes that Muslims must always believe that everything that happens in our lives is part of Allah's wise destiny, and we must be grateful and patient for what He has given us.

Relevance of Verses in Daily Life

Tafsir al-Maraghi also emphasizes the relevance of this verse to everyday life, where every natural phenomenon that occurs around us, such as the change of day and night, or birth and death, should remind us of God's greatness. This provides a profound spiritual perspective that life is not merely a physical journey, but is filled with a greater purpose orchestrated by God.

Furthermore, this verse reminds us that God is the source of all sustenance, and we need not feel anxious or burdened by material shortages. God is the Provider, and He gives to whom He wills without limit. This motivates Muslims to always strive sincerely, while leaving the results to God.

Relevance of Qs. An-Nahl verses 68-69 in Tafsir Al-Maraghi

وَأَوْحَىٰ رَبُّكَ إِلَى النَّحْلِ أَنِ اتَّخِذِي مِنَ الْجِبَالِ بُيُوتًا وَمِنَ الشَّجَرِ وَمِمَّا يَعْرِشُونَ {68} ثُمَّ كُلِي مِن كُلِّ الثَّمَرَاتِ فَاسْلُكِي سُبُلَ رَبِّكِ ذُلُلًا يَخْرُجُ مِن بُطُونِهَا شَرَابٌ مُّخْتَلِفٌ أَلْوَانُهُ فِيهِ شِفَاءٌ لِلنَّاسِ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَةً لِّقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ {69}

"And your Lord revealed to the bees: "Make nests on the hills, in the trees, and in places made by humans," then eat from every (kind of) fruit and walk the path of your Lord which has been made easy (for you). From the stomach of the bee comes out a drink (honey) of various colors, in which there is a medicine that heals humans. Indeed, in that there really is a sign (of God's greatness) for those who think."

أَوْحَى : Inspire

بُيُوتًا : Advice

يَعْرِشُونَ : They lift palm fronds and roofs

سُبُل : Plural form of sabil which means jalal

ذُلُلًا : Plural form of dalul which means obedient and submissive

شَرَابٌ : Honey

أَلْوَانُهُ مُخْتَلِفٌ : Various colors, from white, yellow, and black according to the differences in growing places.

Nest and residence of bees

Tafsir al-Maraghi explains that Allah instructed bees to build their nests in the places mentioned in this verse. Beehives, made of wax, are usually found in trees, rocks, or even man-made structures, such as bee boxes. This verse demonstrates the greatness of Allah's creation in creating habitats suited to the needs of His creatures. Bees, despite their tiny size, possess the extraordinary ability to build their nests in a highly organized and efficient manner. This is an example of the perfection of Allah's creation, which provides every creature with the ability and guidance to fulfill its purpose in nature.

Bee Food and Allah's Sustenance

This verse teaches that Allah makes everything easy for His creatures, including bees. Bees are given the ability to find food from various types of fruit in nature, and Allah has created easy paths for them to reach these food sources.

Tafsir al-Maraghi explains that this shows how great God's mercy is, which not only applies to humans, but also to all of His creation. Every living creature is given sustenance according to their needs and abilities, and the path of sustenance has been prepared by Allah in a very orderly and perfect manner.

Honey Making Process

"From the stomach of the bee comes out a drink (honey) of various colors, in which there is a medicine that cures humans."

One of the most interesting parts of this verse is the explanation of the honey produced by bees. Honey that comes out of the stomachs of bees is not only a delicious and nutritious food, but also has extraordinary health benefits, including being a healing medicine for humans.

Tafsir al-Maraghi highlights that honey is not only a natural product, but is also an example of Allah's greatness in creating natural resources that are beneficial to mankind. Allah created honey with ingredients that can cure various diseases. This teaches that in every creation, there is wisdom and benefits that sometimes we do not immediately understand.

The Relevance of Al-Qur'an Education in Surah An-Nahl 68-69 in Tafsir Al-Maraghi

Surah An-Nahl (16:68-69) talks about Allah's revelation that was sent down to bees to build nests, find food, and produce honey which is beneficial for mankind. In al-Maraghi's interpretation, these verses not only describe the greatness and power of Allah, but also contain lessons that are very relevant for education, especially in the context of natural and scientific education.

The following is a comprehensive explanation regarding the relevance of Al-Qur'an education in the

context of Surah An-Nahl: 68-69 according to al-Maraghi's interpretation:

Teaching Awareness of God's Power and Natural Order

Tafsir al-Maraghi begins his explanation by emphasizing that the revelation given to bees is a manifestation of God's greatness and power in governing the universe. God instructs bees to build nests and forage according to the natural laws He has established. In an educational context, this verse teaches the importance of understanding and appreciating the cosmic system created by God. Learning about natural processes and ecosystems can enrich human understanding of the order of this world and the relationships between living things, which in turn can shape students' character to better appreciate God's creation (Nurchakim, 2023).

In this regard, Qur'anic education teaches a deep ecological awareness, reminding students not only to learn about nature as an object of study but also as God's creation that must be protected and respected. The education about nature taught in this verse can foster a sense of responsibility for the environment, a value highly relevant in environmental education.

Practical Learning and Application of Science

"Then eat of every kind of fruit and follow the path your Lord has made easy for you."

In this verse, Allah states that bees are commanded to eat fruit and follow the path He has made easy for them. Tafsir al-Maraghi interprets this as a form of direct practice of Allah's commands in daily life. This emphasizes the importance of applying knowledge in real life.

In the context of education, this teaches that education is not only limited to theory or knowledge taught in the classroom, but also about the application of knowledge in real life. This verse emphasizes that all knowledge taught to students should be used for good and benefit in their lives, just as bees utilize fruit to meet their needs (Suryanti et al., 2023).

Science and Health

From an educational perspective, this verse teaches that knowledge of nature and science must be based on practical benefits that can be used for the benefit of humanity. Education should include teaching about the use of natural resources, such as honey, which has medicinal properties. By utilizing knowledge of nature, students can understand and apply scientific knowledge in their lives, particularly in the areas of health and medicine.

Signs of Allah's Greatness

"Indeed, in this are signs (of God's greatness) for a people who give thought."

This verse encourages people to reflect and consider the signs of God's greatness found in nature. Tafsir al-Maraghi reveals that phenomena such as the life of bees and honey are examples of signs of God's greatness that contain lessons for humanity.

In the context of education, this verse teaches that education encompasses not only intellectual aspects but also spiritual and reflective aspects. Education should teach students to think critically about the world around them and to recognize the signs of God's greatness in all of His creation. This encourages students to view the world from a more holistic perspective, combining rational knowledge with spiritual understanding (Sofia, 2021).

Holistic Education: Integration of Science, Ethics, and Faith

This verse also teaches the importance of holistic education, integrating knowledge with ethical and spiritual values. The education taught in the Quran encompasses not only intellectual or practical aspects but also character development and spiritual understanding. Education should teach students to understand and appreciate God's creation and to apply their knowledge for the good of humanity and the universe (Afni, 2024).

Conclusion

Tafsir al-Maraghi has significant relevance in the context of Al-Qur'an education, especially in terms of a holistic and applicable approach to understanding. Al-Maraghi's style of interpretation which emphasizes thematic and contextual aspects of interpretation allows readers to explore the deeper meaning of the verses of the Qur'an by connecting them directly to the realities of life, including education. Al-Maraghi's exegetical method, which involves rational analysis, integration of various scientific disciplines, and attention to social and historical context, is very relevant in today's Al-Qur'an education. This approach encourages educators to teach the Koran comprehensively, not only limited to understanding the text, but also to formulate the application of Al-Qur'an values in everyday life. Thus, al-Maraghi's tafsir can make a major contribution to the formation of students' character and intellectual development, making it relevant in Al-Qur'an education which is oriented towards the formation of better, wiser individuals who understand the context of the times.

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The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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