Assessing quranic reading proficiency in the j-QAF programme

Zarif, M.M.M., (Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia)
Mohamad, N., (Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia)
Bakar, B.A., (Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia)

In its effort to provide solid religious foundation for Muslim students, the Ministry of Education Malaysia has launched a national religious literacy initiative known as the j-QAF Programme in 2004. This programme has since been implemented in public primary schools throughout the country and incorporated as a part of the curriculum of studies. The programme includes a wide range of basic religious skills including recitation of the Quran, the learning of the Jawi script and Arabic language as well as the basics of worship. After several years of its implementation, much concern is raised on the effectiveness of this programme in achieving its objectives. Thus, this preliminary paper aims to shed some light on this matter. Specifically, it focuses on analyzing the aspect of Quranic recitation skill, which constitutes one of the core subjects of the programme. A Quran reading test was administered to selected respondents in one of the schools, and the results were analyzed through descriptive statistical methods. The findings indicate the level of proficiency of the students in mastering the skill of Quranic recitation and its possible implication and reflection on the overall effectiveness of the programme.

j-qaf programme; Malaysia; Primary school; Quran; Religious literacy

International Education Studies

19139020

Canadian Center of Science and Education

2014

English