

Copies were made of the Quran:

After the death of the second leader, Umar (RA, Uthman Bin Affaan (RA) became the leader in 644 CE and Islam had spread to far areas such as Persia and Byzantine. People who accepted Islam, had learned how to read the Quran from Muslim soldiers, traders and other Muslims. It was in the same language – Arabic – but there are seven different ways to recite the Quran.

To put it simply; the way in which an American pronounces and writes certain words is different compared to how a person from Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia or New Zealand would pronounce or write it.

Hence, to avoid confusion within the later generations, Uthman (RA) decided to make the Quran uniformed so that it would be read in a particular way. A group of companions including Zayd bin Thabit, Abdullah bin Zubayr, Saeed ibn al Aas, and Abdur Rahman bin Harith (RA). were assigned the task of making transcripts (copies) of the original copy as no 'printing machines' were available at that time.

Once these standard transcripts were prepared, Uthman RA made arrangements for the Quran to be copied according to this script and distributed.

These copies are available today:

One can still find in museums, original Quranic scripts written during this period and shortly after. Famous examples of these include the Uthman Quran and scripts, the Sana Palmimsest, and verses and chapters written on barks, stones, parchments, bones and leaves – the words from these are the exact same as the words in the Quran found today.

Hence, as God states in the Quran:



**“Indeed, it is We who sent down the Quran and indeed, We will preserve it.” (Quran 15:9).**



It must be stressed that it is impossible for the Quran available today to have been changed or altered – if it had been altered then different versions would've been passed down the generations through memory and writing, and we would have different versions available today like the Bible.

The Quran is described as a linguistic miracle – because it is unchanged and the word of God which supports the original teachings in the previous books...their core message was to worship God alone and to accept all the prophets including Muhammad, Jesus, Moses, David, Solomon and Abraham as His prophets (PBUT)...this is the message of Islam.

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In the name of God, the Most Kind, the Most Merciful

# Why Is The Quran A Miracle?

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The prophets (PBUT) were all sent by the same God. Some of them were given books or scripts; these can be compared to an instruction manual which taught their nations about God and their purpose in life.

In Islam, the following books were revealed to the prophets:

**The Tawrat** (Torah): to the prophet Moses.

**The Zabur** (Psalms): to the prophet David.

**The Injil** (Gospel): to the prophet Jesus.

**The Quran:** to the prophet Muhammad.

(Peace be upon them)



The prophets such as **Adam, Seth, Idris and Abraham** (peace be upon them) were also given scrolls containing guidance from God.

Why did God reveal so many books and scrolls?

These books and scrolls were sent to different people and nations. Yet over time, the originals and their messages and meanings were pro-actively altered. Hence, the need arose for new books to be sent to correct and re-affirm the original messages; especially the core message of worshipping God alone. The final book sent to us is the Quran.

Why did God also reveal miracles and why is the Quran described as a miracle?

Along with the books, God also revealed many miracles to His prophets such as the splitting of the sea by Moses, the virgin birth of Mary and the healing of the lepers by Jesus (PBUT). The greatest miracle given to the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the Quran.

Why is the Quran described as a miracle?

Initially all the books revealed to the prophets were the words of God, yet with the exception of the Quran, the books which are predominantly inside the Bible, have all been changed and are no longer the exact words revealed to the prophets (PBUT) thousands of years ago.

The Quran is a miracle because it has remain unchanged since it was revealed by God in its true form over 1400 years ago.

How do Muslims know that the words in the Quran today are the exact same words of God revealed over 1400 years ago?

The Quran has been preserved in two main ways:

**1. The Quran was memorised and compiled during the time of the prophet Muhammad (PBUH):**

During the time of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) the Quran was revealed to him through the Angel Gabriel (AS) and preserved through memorization. Hundreds of Companions (RA) of the Prophet (PBUH) had memorized the Quran without any mistakes.

Yet the Quran was also preserved through writing during this period. The prophet Muhammad (PBUH) made special arrangements to have it written down by dictating it to Zayd bin Thabit (RA) (his companion), who in turn would write it down on anything that was available; bark, stone, bones, leaves and parchments, and read it back to the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to ensure that no mistakes were made.

The prophet Muhammad (PBUH) also informed his companions (RA) of the order of the verses and they were written accordingly.

Hence, during the time of the Prophet (PBUH) one copy of the Quran existed which had been formed under his personal supervision. It was not in book form but in different parchments.



**2. The Quran was written in a complete book form:**

After the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) passed away in 633 CE, Abu Bakr (RA) became the leader (caliph). During the battle of Yamamah and other battles, some memorisers of the Quran were killed. Under the advice of Umar (RA), Abu Bakr (RA) decided to compile the Quran into a book form. Zayd bin Thabit (RA), was asked to supervise this task as he used to write the Quran for the Prophet (PBUH) during his time.

Many companions, including himself, had memorized the entire Quran and hence the Quran could have easily been written down from memory. Furthermore, there were complete written collections of the verses of the Quran available with many companions.

Yet, Zayd bin Thabit (RA) applied a stringent criteria and used both methods; by collecting the written verses and by using memory.

He followed four steps:

- 1. First he verified each verse with his own memory.**
- 2. Then Umar Ibn Al-Khattab (RA), who had also memorised the Quran and was in charge of the project with Zayd (RA), verified it too.**
- 3. Then, before the verse could be accepted, two reliable witnesses had to testify that was written was heard directly from the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).**
- 4. After that, the written verses were collated and further checked with the companions and their written collections.**



In this way the Quran was compiled. The purpose of this transcription was to prepare an organised document so that reference could be made to it when required.