



The Qu'ran - printed version and CD

Origin - the Qu'ran (Quran) was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad by God in Arabic. Some Qu'ranic fragments have been dated as far back as the eighth, and possibly even the seventh century. The oldest existing copy of the full text is from the ninth century. Although early variants of the Qu'ran are known to have existed, Muslims believe that the text we have today was established by the Caliph Uthman shortly after the death of the Prophet.

There are 114 chapters in the Qu'ran, which is written in the old Arabic dialect. All the chapters except one begin with the sentence Bismillahir rahmanir raheem, 'In the name of Allah the most merciful and the most kind'. This is the thought with which Muslims should start every action.

The Qu'ran is sometimes divided into 30 roughly equal parts, known as juz'. These divisions make it easier for Muslims to read the Qu'ran during the course of a month and many will read one juz' each day, particularly during the month of Ramadan.

