

CASES IN KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

Editors

Roslina Othman
Mohamad Fauzan Noordin
Noor Azura Zakaria



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Roslina Othman and Mohamad Fauzan Noordin

Abstract

Quranic search systems have features that are common to other search systems, while also having features that unique to their requirements. In addition to accommodating the Arabic script, Tanzil for example has employed Boolean and proximity operators together with exact word and root stemming. To avoid disambiguation, Tanzil has incorporated the ability to add diacritical marks and selection of root terms. However, ontology and concordances were not included as part of its search features leaving users in difficulty of finding the words with the right meanings. Transliteration standards were not adopted since Tanzil did not offer phonetic search.

19.1 Tanzil

Tanzil is a Quranic project launched in early 2007 to produce a highly verified Unicode Quran text to be used in Quranic websites and applications. Our mission in the Tanzil project is to produce a standard Unicode Quran text and serve as a reliable source for this standard text on the web.

Since the appearance of the first digital copy of the holy Quran, there had been substantial effort to produce an accurate Quran text, but due to some difficulties (some of which are listed below), these efforts were unsuccessful in many of the cases, and unfortunately, the Quran texts appeared in a majority of Quranic websites and applications were suffering from lots of errors and typos.

These erroneous Quran texts were so rapidly spread over the Internet that finding the correct form of Quranic verses had become almost impossible without referring to a verified printed manuscript. For example, in early 2008, when somebody was searching Google for the verse 38 of Sura Al-Qalam which reads تَخَيَّرُونَ لِمَا فِيهِ لَكُمْ إِنَّ, the first result that he or she was