

TOWARDS  
DEVELOPING  
AN  
INTEGRATED  
RESEARCH  
METHOD  
IN  
HUMAN SCIENCES

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EDITOR

MOHD. YUSOF HUSSAIN



IIUM Press



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## Preface

The idea of coming up with a book on research methodology emerged as a result of realizing the need for lecturers from various disciplines at the International Islamic University Malaysia to attempt to apply the integrated understanding and appreciation of the analysis and report writing from both perspectives to enable them to integrate research endeavours.

The first three chapters in this book are intended to give readers an understanding and show how to get started on research. The next three chapters are more comprehensive in lecturers through the principles of common sense of ethics and professionalism. Chapters 4 to 6 are specific to individual disciplines. They cover the method in sociological research, psychological research, field observation, participant observation in anthropology, in communication research, discourse analysis, bibliometric methods in library and information science, the use of documentary research in methodology in History, textual analysis in the study of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Heritage, and literature studies.

I thank the contributors and all who have directly and indirectly to the completion of this book. It would not have materialized without their efforts. Special thanks to Asfizahanim Anuar for her help in the preparation of the manuscript.



# Discourse Analysis of Islamic English Texts

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NORMALA OTHMAN  
NURAIHAN MAT DAUD

## Introduction

The inability of the majority of the Muslim world to comprehend Arabic and the fact that English has become a major global language are among the major reasons for the increasing use of English in the Muslim world, be it for translating or interpreting the Qur'ān and *Ḥadīth*, in religious writings, or sermons. However, the accuracy of Qur'ānic interpretations are often questioned. Some fear that salient points of the Qur'ān or Islamic teachings may never reach the Muslim reader as they are either mistranslated or lost in translation. Despite this, the output of Islamic materials in English continues to stream into the market, because out of the one billion Muslim population, at best only about ten per cent understand Arabic. Apprehensions about the sanctity of Islamic texts are dealt with by the use of Arabic terminology, which are supposedly understood by the Muslim populace, in the English translations. This has resulted in the birth of a modified version of the English language, one that is interspersed with various Qur'ānic and religious terms which cannot be wholly translated due to a lack of equivalent English terms. Examples of this modified English can be seen below:

The struggle to build a godly community takes two forms – or better, falls into two categories of moral actions – *jihād* and (a long and weighty phrase) *al-amr bil-ma'rūf wal-nahy 'an al-munkar*.

(Humphries, 1999: 175)