

Interpretation of Adam and Eve's Magic Squares 3x3 Talisman Using a Mathematical Approach

Rusli

Physics Departmen, UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
rusli@fis.uin-malang.ac.id

Abdussakir

Mathematics Department, UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
sakir@mat.uin-malang.ac.id

Asni Furaida

English Literature Department, UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
asnifuraida33@gmail.com

Abstract

Indonesian society until now still believes and use talisman. One of wich that often used is Adam and Eve's magic square 3x3 talisman. The Adam and Eve's magic squares 3x3 talisman is the basic of making other talismans. This talisman is used for compassion, safety, treatment and other efficacy. This talisman is called Adam and Eve's because mathematically the number of Adam's name equal to 45 and Eve's is equal to 15 which corresponds to the number of this talisman that is interpreted that Eve is made of Adam's ribs. This talisman can also be taken from the beginning of the Surah in Quran is a combination of *kaf ha ya ain shad* and *ha' mim ain sin qaf* with mathematical calculation can be obtained of talisman. If the Adam and Eve's magic squares 3x3 talisman is consideret as a matrix then a mathematical operation can be done by calculating the characteristic roots or addition of eigen value with the results 15. This number corresponds to the sum of the columns, rows or diagonals of this talisman. By the same characteristics root value will provide the energy of harmony to the purpose of its manufacture.

Keywords: Adam; Eve; Mathematics; Magic Square.

Abstrak

Masyarakat Indonesia sampai sekarang masih ada yang mempercayai dan menggunakan wifiq. Salah satu wifiq yang sering digunakan adalah wifiq kotak ajaib 3x3 Adam dan hawa. Wifiq persegi ajaib 3x3 Adam dan Hawa merupakan dasar dari pembuatan wifiq-wifiq yang lain. Wifiq ini digunakan untuk pengasihian, keselamatan, pengobatan dan khasiat lainnya. Wifiq ini dinamakan Adam dan Hawa, karena secara matematika jumlah nama Adam sama dengan 45 dan Hawa sama dengan 15 yang bersesuaian dengan penjumlahan angka dari wifiq ini sehingga bisa diinterpretasikan bahwa Hawa terbuat dari tulang rusuk Adam. Wifiq ini juga bisa diambil dari awal surat dari Al-Quran yaitu gabungan *kaf ha ya ain shad* dan *ha' mim ain sin qaf* dengan perhitungan matematis bisa didapatkan wifiq tersebut. Jika Wifiq persegi ajaib 3x3 Adam dan Hawa ini dianggap sebuah matriks maka bisa dilakukan operasi matematika dengan menghitung akar karakteristik atau jumlah dari nilai eigen yaitu hasilnya 15. Jumlah ini bersesuaian dengan penjumlahan kolom, baris maupun diagonal dari wifiq ini. Dengan nilai akar karakteristik yang sama tersebut akan memberikan keselarasan energi terhadap tujuan pembuatannya.

Kata kunci: Adam; Hawa; Matematika; Persegi Ajaib

Introduction

Indonesian society until now still believes and uses talisman. The country of Indonesia owes a lot to this mystical tradition. In the struggle against the Dutch colonialism, talisman becomes one of the most effective weapons in this struggle. Realizing that talisman is used as one of the weapons against the Dutch colonial, then the talisman Law is made in the *Wetboek van Strafrench*, the rest of which can be read in the Criminal Code Article 547, "a witness who when asked to give

testimony under oath according to the law provisions, in the court is using talisman, will be threatened with a maximum sentence of ten days or a maximum fine of seven hundred and fifty rupiah¹.

One of the most widely used talisman is the Adam and Eve's talisman. Adam and Eve's talisman is a talisman that has a shape of magic square 3x3, which each of its square filled with numbers 1 to 9. Magic square is a number arrangement in squares that has rectangle shape with the nature of numbers according to its each row, column, or diagonals which is the same. Magic squares of $n \times n$ size, as many as $n \times n$ numbers are arranged in square boxes provided that there are no numbers written repeatedly and the numbers are according to each row, column and diagonal are the same². Adam and Eve's talisman is usually written in the form of Arabic letters and figures, as shown below.

٤	٩	٢	د	ط	ب
٣	٥	٧	ج	هـ	ز
٨	١	٦	ح	ا	و
A			B		

Figure 1. A. Adam and Eve's talisman in the form of numbers and B. in letters

The 3 x 3 magic square of Adam and Eve's talisman is first told in Ancient China. Kungfutse tells that at that time there was a just and wise emperor who ruled between 2025 and 2198 BC. The emperor is Emperor Yu, known for his wisdom and high precision. He once built a dam on the Yellow river to prevent flood. When he was sitting while pondering on the edge of the river suddenly a turtle god named Hi emerged. There is a picture on the back of the turtle in the form of numerical signs which after being transcribed in modern figures look the same as Adam and Eve's talisman³.

In Islamic civilization in the Middle East, the earliest talisman writing was during the Abbasid dynasty and written by Tsabbit ibn Qurrah, then continued in Rasa'il Ikhwan as Shafa. But more comprehensive talisman writing was written by Ahmad Ibn Muhammad Al-Ghazali (Imam Ghazali's younger brother) in *Al-Awfaq* (plural form of *wafaq*). Then came the book of Syamsul Ma'arif Kubro which is written by Ahmad Ibn Ali Al-Buni (d. 1225), and still well-known among Islamic boarding schools until now.

Adam and Eve's talisman has four character forms which are the characters of earth, water, wind and fire. There are those who divide it based on four angels, namely Azrael, Michael, Israfael and Gabriel. There is also a division based on planets and stars in the sky. Each of these divisions has its own character and efficacy. Like table 1 below.

Table 1. Adam and Eve's talisman divisions table and its characteristics⁴.

¹ Ade Faizal Alami, *Jimat NU: Nalar Perdukunan*. (Yogyakarta: Ar-ruz Media, 2014), 23

² W. S. Andrew, *Magic Squares and Cubes*. (New York: Dover Publication, Inc, 1980), 1

³ Frank J. Swetz, *Legacy of Luoshu: The 4000 Year Search for The Meaning of The Magic Square of Order Three*. (Wellesley, Massachusetts: A K Peters, Ltd, 2008)

⁴ Nineveh Shadrach, *The Occult Encyclopedia of Magic Squares* (United States: Ishtar Publishing Vancouver, 2009), 15.

Azrael	Michael	Israfil	Gabriel
4 9 2	6 7 2	2 7 6	8 1 6
3 5 7	1 5 9	9 5 1	3 5 7
8 1 6	8 3 4	4 3 8	4 9 2
Earthly, Northern, Cold and Dry	Watery,Southern, Cold and Moist	Aerial, Western, Hot and Moist	Fiery, Eastern, Hot and Dry
Separation, Betrayal, and Imprisonment	Bringing of Prosperity	Arousing of Passion and Attraction	Being well received and respected
Taurus Female	Cancer Female	Gemini Male	Aries Male
Virgo Female	Scorpio Female	Libra Male	Leo Male
Capricorn Female	Pisces Female	Aquarius Male	Sagittarius Male

According to Ali Abu Hayullah Marzuqi, letters and numbers have different properties following the character of the four elements *al hayula al ula* (first material) namely *al-nariyah* (fire), *al maiyah* (water), *al hawaiyah* (air) and *al turabiyah* (earth). Because the movement of the universe emerged to the nature of heat, cold, dry and wet. In the philosophy of emanation in Islam, the first material is the beginning of the universe formation. Therefore, according to Shaikh Jalaludin Abd Al-Rahman Al-Suyuti the nature of the four elements is also found in the human body, a place when one's body is sick, then there is an imbalance of the four elements in the body⁵.

In this paper, the authors will examine Adam and Eve's talisman from a mathematical approach. The authors will find out whether talisman is considered a matrix of 3x3, if yes then mathematics operational can be applied on it; for example, seeking the sum of characteristic values or eigen values of a matrix. It also can be added, subtracted and did the other operational. Then from the operational results are interpreted and deciphered in the realm of Islamic life and tradition.

Method

The first and very crucial method and technique in this research is to convert the *abjadiyah* letters rules into numbers. According to Ulama, the arabiyah letters are generally divided into two rules. First, *Alfabetiyah* rule (*hijaiyah* rules). That is the letters are composed of { ا ب ت ث ج ح خ د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل م ن و ه } as they are commonly seen and known. The *Alfabetiyah* rule are made by Nasr bin Ashim and Yahya bin Ya'mur al-'Adawani, during the empire of Abdul Malik bin Marwan. The foundation or basis creation of these rules is the similarity between letters in terms of syllables (forms), rosm (writing) and the number of points received. Second, the *Abjadiyah* rule (*Suryaniyah* Rule), namely the letters arranged { ا ب ج د ه و ز ح ط ي ك } { غ ل م ن س ع ف ص ق ر ش ت ث خ ذ ض ظ }. This rule existed before Islam brought by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) came and it was even alleged that this rule first appeared when Allah taught the Prophet Adam about names of all things. So, the study is using the rule of *Abjadiyah* to analyze the Adam and Eve's talisman above⁶. If the *Abjadiyah* rule is numerated, it will likely become the figure 2 below.

⁵ Ade Faizal Alami, 26.

⁶ Ahmad Shofi Muhyiddin, *Rahasia Huruf Hijaiyah Membaca Huruf Arabiyah dengan Kacamata Teosofi*. (Yogyakarta: Aura Pustaka, 2012), 19.

ن	م	ل	ك	ي	ط	ح	ز	و	ه	د	ج	ب	ا
50	40	30	20	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
غ	ظ	ض	ذ	خ	ث	ت	ش	ر	ق	ص	ف	ع	س
1000	900	800	700	600	500	400	300	200	100	90	80	70	60

Figure 2. Conversion of *Abjadiyah* from letters to numbers

Example: the sentence of الله اكبر

Allahu akbar consists of 8 letters namely *alif* = 1, *lam* = 30, *lam* = 30, *ha* = 5, *alif* = 1, *kaf* = 20, *ba'* = 2 and *ra'* = 200. If you add up $1 + 30 + 30 + 5 + 1 + 20 + 2 + 200 = 289$. The second method is to look for the characteristic values of a matrix which in this case is Adam and Eve's talisman. In mathematics, the characteristic value is formulated with $\text{Det}(\lambda I - A) = 0$. Where λ is the eigen value, I is the matrix identity and A is matrix $n \times n$ ⁷. In this study, the authors used the Matlab software facility to facilitate the calculation of the sum characteristics value of talisman above.

Results and Discussion

Talisman with number formations as above is called Adam and Eve's talisman, it's all because of the word Adam (ادم) which consists of three letters when it is converted into numbers becomes *alif* = 1, *dal* = 4 and *mim* = 40. If added together $1 + 4 + 40 = 45$. The number 45 is equal to the sum of all the numbers in talisman above, namely $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 = 45$. While the word Eve (حوا) which also consists of three letters if converted into the number *ha'* = 8, *wau* = 6 and *alif* = 1. If the summed up is $8 + 6 + 1 = 15$. The number 15 is equal to the sum of each row, each column or diagonally which is 15. From numbers 45 and 15, it can get a new perspective that $15 \times 3 = 45$ which can be interpreted as the Eve's creation from one of Adam's ribs.

This Adam and Eve's talisman is presenting the balance and union of man and woman. Even numbers (feminine) are in every corner of the table, odd numbers (masculine) are within them. The relationship sacredness of man and woman seen in talisman above is the same as *the yin* and *the yang* in the perspective of China. In addition, it is also show the union of the tetrahedron star and earth tetrahedron in the Star of David in Jewish perspective⁸. When it gets deeper, the Adam and Eve's talisman above represents a child who is in his mother's womb who is represented by an odd number in an even number. Therefore, Adam and Eve's wifq is mostly as a means of compassion, because indeed the basic energy pattern characteristics are like that.

Adam and Eve's talisman can be traced from the combination of the *muqatta'ah* كهيعص (*kaf ha ya 'ain shad*) and حم عسق (*ha' mim 'ain sin qaf*). If it is converted in the number two of *muqatta'ah* letters is كهيعص consisting of *kaf* = 20, *ha* = 5, *ya* = 10, *'ain* = 70 and *shad* = 90 as well حم عسق consisting of *ha'* = 8, *mim* = 40, *'ain* = 70, *sin* = 60 and *qaf* = 100. If the letters of the two *muqatta'ah* letters are combined, they will form a series of 20, 5, 10, 70, 90, 8, 40, 70, 60, and 100. This series consists of 10 numbers while the magic square 3x3 consists of only nine squares and there are also two twin numbers namely the number 70, while in the magic square there should not be the same number, and then the solution is one of the number 70 is removed by means of $100 - 70 = 30$. So in the beginning the number 100 changes to 30. The new series is 10, 20, 30, 40, 5, 60, 70, 8, and 90. If the series is only taken the front number then the new

⁷ Ririn Kusumawati, *Aljabar Linear dan Matriks* (Malang: UIN-Malang Press, 2009), 205.

⁸ Nineveh Shadrach, *Magic Square and the Tree of Life Western Mandalas of Power* (United States: Ishtar Publishing Vancouver, 2009), 11.

series is obtained 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. These series are nothing but numbers that are in the Adam and Eve magic square 3x3.

If the Adam and Eve's talisman is modified as shown in the figure 3 below

	4	9	2	
	3	5	7	
17 =	8	1	6	= 28

Figure 3. Adam and Eve's talisman Modification

Then there are two sets of numbers. First 3, 5, 8 and 1 and if it is added becomes 17. Second 4, 9, 2, 7 and 6 and if it is added together becomes 28.

The number of 17 has an important position in the Islamic mystical tradition. Jabir ibn Hayyan viewed at the whole material world based on number 17. According to him, the number of 17 contains a series of 1, 3, 5 and 8, and these numbers form the basis for all other numbers. If traced further, the number of 17 is the total number of compulsory prayers in a day. Some Sufis consider the word *Allahu akbar* to consist of 17 letters. From the example above it is known that the word *Allahu akbar* if it is converted into numbers is 289, the number 289 is nothing but the result of 17×17 or the square of 17^9 .

Likewise with the number 28 plays an important role in Islam, because mystics connect 28 Arabic letters (with which the holy book of the *Al-Quran* was written) with the points that the moon passes through. A medieval mathematician and historian, al-Biruni (d. 1048) said that this relationship proves the closeness between the cosmos and the word of God. This relationship is in accordance with 28 names of the prophets before Muhammad mentioned in the Koran and hence the poets likened the Prophet Muhammad to the full moon.

In mathematics, it is known as perfect numbers. Perfect numbers are said if the sum of the factors of a number is equal to the number itself, such numbers are called perfect numbers. One perfect number is 28, because $28 = 1 + 2 + 4 + 7 + 14$. This perfect number is mentioned in the Dialogue of Plato as a sign of the deity birth¹⁰.

If Adam and Eve's talisman is considered a 3 x 3 matrix, then mathematical operations can be carried out, that is, looking for the characteristic root or the sum of the eigen values. With the help of the Matlab software, the sum of the eigen values is 15. As shown in Figure 4 below.

⁹ Annemarie Schimmel, *Misteri Angka-Angka dalam Berbagai Peradaban Kuno dan Tradisi Agama Islam Yahudi dan Kristen*. (Bandung: Pustaka Hidayah, 2006), 225

¹⁰ Dali S Naga, *Berhitung Sejarah dan Pengembangannya*. (Jakarta: PT Gramedia, 1980), 39

```

Command Window
>> A = [4 9 2; 3 5 7; 8 1 6]

A =

     4     9     2
     3     5     7
     8     1     6

>> eig(A)

ans = (eigen values)

    15.0000 + 0.0000i
     0.0000 + 4.8990i
     0.0000 - 4.8990i

>> trace(A)

ans = (root of the characteristic
      function)

    15

>> sum(eig(A)) (sum of the eigen
               values)

ans =

    15.0000
    
```

Figure 4. The result of calculating the Eigen values for Adam and Eve's talisman using the Matlab program.

The result of the characteristic root or the sum of the eigen values is 15. The number 15 is the same as the sum between the rows, columns and diagonal of the magic square of Adam and Eve above. With this equation, there is an energy harmony in the purpose of making the wifiq.

Conclusion

From the long elaboration above, it can be concluded that the Adam and Eve's talisman is a talisman that has existed since the time of Emperor Yu (2025 BC) but for the numbers that fill the magic square, it has existed since the Prophet Adam was sent to earth. It is called Adam and Eve's talisman because the numbers contained in Adam's name is the same as 45 which corresponds to the sum of all the numbers that are in the talisman which are numbers 1 to 9. While the Eve's number contained therein is 15 which corresponds to the addition between lines, column or diagonal. Because $45 = 15 \times 3$ can be interpreted that Eve was created from part of Adam's rib.

If the Adam and Eve's talisman is modified, then we will get the numbers 17 and 28. The number 17 is denoted from the number of rak'ahs from the number of obligatory prayers and the square of 17 is the numbers contained in the word *Allahu akbar*. Whilst, the number 28 is the sum of *abjadiyah* letters that make up the *Al-Quran* and the numbers of so many prophets' names mentioned before the Prophet Muhammad. If Adam and Eve's talisman is considered to be a matrix after finding the root characteristics or the sum of the eigen values with the help of the Matlab software, the number 15 is obtained. The number 15 is equal to the sum of the rows, columns and diagonals so that occur the energy of harmony align with the aim of making the talisman.

Bibliography

- Alami, ade Faizal. *Jimat NU: Nalar Perdukunan*. Yogyakarta: Ar-ruz Media, 2014.
- Andrews, W. S. *Magic Squares and Cubes*. New York: Dover Publication, Inc, 1980.
- Kusumawati, Ririn. *Aljabar Linear dan Matriks*. Malang: UIN-Malang Press, 2009.
- Muhyiddin, Ahmad Shofi. (2012). *Rahasia Huruf Hijaiyah Membaca Huruf Arabiyah dengan Kacamata Teosofi*. Yogyakarta: Aura Pustaka, 2012.
- Naga, Dali S. *Berhitung Sejarah dan Pengembangannya*. Jakarta: PT Gramedia, 1980.
- Schimmel, Annemarie. *Misteri Angka-Angka dalam Berbagai Peradaban Kuno dan Tradisi Agama Islam Yahudi dan Kristen*. Bandung: Pustaka Hidayah, 2006.
- Shadrach, Nineveh. *Magic Square and the Tree of Life Western Mandalas of Power*. United States: Ishtar Publishing Vancouver, 2009.
- Shadrach, Nineveh. *The Occult Encyclopedia of Magic Squares*. United States: Ishtar Publishing Vancouver, 2009.
- Swetz, Frank J. *Legacy of Luoshu: The 4000 Year Search for The Meaning of The Magic Square of Order Three*. Wellesley, Massachusetts: A K Peters, Ltd, 2008.