

## **Hostel Environment (*Maskan Mukhayam Il Quran*) And Students Memorization Of The Holy Quran In Mukhayam Il Quran Al-Jamea- Tus- Saifiyah, Arabic Academy Private Secondary School, Nairobi, Kenya.**

Taha Idris Zoeb and Elizebeth pelesy  
*The Catholic University of Eastern Africa - Nairobi*

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study sought to investigate the level of commitment and comfort of the students of Maskan Mukhayam il Quran Nairobi on the bases of physical facilities provided to them . The study was done in the area of hostel (*Maskan. Mukhayam il Quran il kareem*) Al Jamea Tus Saifiyah University which is located in Karen, Nairobi County, Kenya . The study was guided by the following research question. How does of physical facilities in the hostel effect commitment and comfort of students towards the memorization of Holy Quran The humanistic theory of teaching and learning by Maslow guided the study. The study used mixed methods design which is a combination of quantitative and qualitative design. The target population comprised of 4 principals and 30 students. Non-probability sampling was used to sample the participants Questionnaire and interview guide were developed to gather data for the study. Content validity and reliability was used. Data was analyzed in SPSS Varsion 20. Ethical considerations were followed from the beginning of the study to the end. The findings show that the basic physical facilities provided is good and shows that students are satisfied with the facilities provided to them students agreed that betterment and development in the above facilities does help them to memorize Quran more comfortably and easily while staying in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.

**Key Terms:** Hostel, Environment, Physical Facilities, Students

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Mahad uz zahra is an Institution of Al Jamea tus saifiyah which facilitates the memorization of the Holy Quran and Offers a mean to study its Knowledge and erudition. Mahad uz zahra also known as the Faculty of Quranic sceinces has branches (around 20) all around the world .Many of these branches also provide boarding facilities to students' from all around the world to come and reside over there for specific course which extends to various period of time. *Mahad uz Zahra* Nairobi was established in 2018 and has produced 156 hafiz (the one who memorized the whole quran). It has become a worldwide pursuit among the *dawoodi bohra* community to memorize the Holy Quran. Offering an environment which is beneficial and more productive for memorizing the Holy Quran is been one of the main goals of Nairobi Mukhayam. Building a comprehensive and effective learning environment is an important condition for implementing teaching and learning of the Holy Quran in this modern world. Learning environment refers to the diverse physical locations, contexts, and cultures in which students learn. Since students may learn in a wide variety of settings, such as outside-of-school locations and outdoor environments, the term is often used as a more accurate or preferred alternative to classrooms. In this research it will be referred or will be widely used as an alternative for dormitory or hostel in which students reside. A boarding school provides education for pupils who live on the premises, as opposed to a day school. The word "boarding" is used in the sense of "room and board", i.e. lodging and meals. As they have existed for many centuries, and now extend across many countries, their function and ethos varies greatly. Traditionally, pupils stayed at the school for the length of the term; some schools facilitate returning home every weekend, and some welcome day pupils. Some are for either boys or girls while others are co-educational. (Bamford 1967)

In the Arabic language, the word *madrasa* (مدرسه) means any educational institution, Madrasas have a long and rich history. After the birth of Islam in the seventh century, Muslims who wanted a religious education joined study circles in mosques where teachers provided instruction. Over the next 400 years, additional centers of learning, founded and endowed by rulers, high officials and wealthy members of the community, met in public and private libraries. These were early forms of madrasas.

By the 11th century, madrasas were well-established independent centers of learning with some of the features they retain today. They had permanent buildings, paid staff and resident scholars with living quarters and stipends. Students were given room and board, and received a free education. (theconversation.com, 2020) Madrasas often have varied curricula. Some madaris in India, for example, have a secularized identity. Although early madaris were founded primarily to gain "knowledge of God" they also taught subjects such as mathematics and poetry. For example, in the Ottoman Empire, "Madrasahs had seven categories of sciences that were taught, such as: styles of writing, oral sciences like the Arabic language, grammar, rhetoric, and history and intellectual sciences, such as logic. This is similar to the Western world, in which universities began as institutions of the Catholic church.. The environment in which these boarding school students learn and live, and socialize may have influence on students' commitment for excellence, ethical behavior. (Khalidah, 2014)

Lots of studies is done relating boarding students and environment in which the live all around the world which consists of study relating the food given to the students the social behaviour of the students living in boarding schools and issues relating their physical needs and act. An example of this studies are study conducted in Indonesia to determine the comfort of students in the hostel, other study was done in Malaysia to measure students commitments and their relationship with the environment in their dormitory.

In Africa studies are also done related to the boarding schools and living environment of the students' example a study done in Tanzania to show the influence of boarding schools to the very young learners also study done in Senegal show in the situation of Madrasa students who learn Quran which says Quranic schools, or "daaras" in Senegal, tend to have a bad reputation among NGOs and in national and international media. These schools are usually portrayed as sites where students – known locally as talibés - are kept in squalid and unsafe conditions, and forced by abusive clerics to beg for money.

Similarly in Kenya many studies have been done related to boarding schools example : a study was done to find out the extent in which the low-cost boarding primary schools have increased retention and enrolment in ASALS etc. However guided by the studies discussed above this research focuses to explore whether the environment of rooms in maskan mukhayam il Quran has any relationship to commitment of students toward Memorization of the Holy Quran

### **Statement of the Problem.**

Offering an environment which is beneficial and more productive for memorizing the Holy Quran is been one of the main goals of Nairobi Mukhayam and all the other branches of Mukhayam all around the world and there is a constant struggle to improve and upgrade our services to student in all aspects including the boarding and living environment. Keeping this in mind a study was needed to be done to show the students perception about the living condition in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran and the impact on students satisfaction, comfort and commitment to memorize the whole Holy Quran.

Studies similar to the one which I need to conduct are studies done in Malaysia (kurnia, 2013) also Khalidah (2014) on, relationship between environmental factors and students' commitment for excellence, even a study is done in srilanka where relationship between the living environment of children and its impact on their performance is discussed also their physical and emotional comfort is discussed. Similarly studies done in tanzania discuss how boarding schools effect the live of the young children (The influence of boarding school to young children: A case of two boarding schools in Hai, 2016) and how local madrasas have poor accommodation of students in many African countries Also an article on how boarding schools in Kenya help more children in enrolling in schools is found.

However no one from the above studies have discussed how a better living environment effect the students commitment towards memorizing the holy Quran and enhance their affection towards it.my intent in this study to explore the the students point of view on a better environment and students commitment and comfort towards memorization of Holy Quran.

#### **Research Objectives**

The study was guided by the following research objective

- I. To assess the students' overall perceptions on Maskan Mukhayam il Quran's (boarding facility) environment, basic physical facilities
- II. To investigate the influence of environmental factors, (basic physical facilities ) on the commitment and comfort towards the memorization of Holy Quran.
- III. What measures can be put in place by teachers to address these challenges in improvement of the memorization of Holy Quran

### **Theoretical Framework.**

The **humanistic** theory of teaching and learning is an educational theory that believes in teaching the 'whole child. 'A humanist approach will have a strong focus on students' emotional wellbeing and eternally view children as innately good 'at the core' Abraham maslov was a famous humanist and his :key humanistic theory

will be closely related to this research which is : Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs is a famous pyramid that shows the fundamental things that people need in order to be fulfilled in their lives. The hierarchy has two types of needs:

- **Basic Needs:** At the bottom of the pyramid are basic needs or what we sometimes call deficit needs or deprivation needs. When we don't have these needs, we're motivated to fulfil them by any means necessary.
- **Growth Needs:** Once we have our basic needs satisfied, we work on growth needs or what we sometimes call being needs or esteem needs. These are the needs that have to be met to reach self-actualization

**Figure 1. 1: Maslow Hierarchy Theory of Teaching and Learning**



– Strengths of the Theory

A focus on emotions – There are not many educational theories that take into account students' emotional ('affective') states. Maslow's hierarchy helps to address this flaw. The other strength is clear and understandable it's a good starting point for stimulating discussion about the importance of emotions in learning. A positive outlook – the hierarchy sees students as all having positive potential and able to climb to the top.

– Weaknesses of the Theory

Linear – It is evident that people can succeed and learn in very troubling, difficult situations. Students can succeed through poverty, war and hardship to rise to become doctors and artists. Maslow's hierarchy doesn't take into account the fact that some people can learn despite some of their basic needs not being fully met

Methodologically Limited – Maslow developed the hierarchy by looking at a small subset of successful people. The hierarchy is not statistically relevant and lacks a clear evidence base. However this research was based mainly based on humanistic theory of Abraham Maslow as he explained that every person is born with a set of basic needs as; biological and physiological, safety, belongingness or love, self-esteem, and self-actualization needs. He believed that when lower needs are fulfilled, the higher level needs are emerged (Beard, 2006) this is to some extent very true as seen in most government institutions and companies that providing housing and salary or medical care enables the employ to focus on completely on his job without worrying about these basic matters, like wise if the hostel is providing with better facilities and attend students phsychological ,social and physical needs they will be more focused to achieve their academic goals.

## **II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

A study done in Malasyia by Zain, (2019) found that Hostels, Sports Facilities and Parking and Transportation of Infrastructure were all significant to impact students' academic achievement .like wise Mohammed (2014)found that there is a significant relationship between educational infrastructure provision (i.e. basic facilities provided by the school for students' needs) and academic performance of University of Ghana students. This finding highlighted that higher provision of educational infrastructure led to higher performance of students Accordingly a study done in Kenya by (Muendo, 2016) The study findings were that schools do not have adequate physical facilities. Such physical facilities include classrooms, laboratories, library and dormitories which negatively affect their academic performance.

However the gap in their researches is that they do not reveal the students satisfaction level in the boarding schools which this research intend to show their respected researches are also conducted in different

location and this research location will be in Nairobi Kenya they have also conducted correlation tests and used several different methodology however this research will simply process the data and present them in pie chart or bar chart figures.

### III. METHODOLOGY

The study will be done in the area of hostel (*Maskan. Mukhayam il Quran il kareem*) Al Jamea Tus Saifiyah University is located in Karen, Nairobi County, Kenya. The university is right within Nairobi city boundaries, with good access to important city amenities such as internet and other infrastructure.

The study used a mixed design methods which was a combination of quantitative and qualitative design. The researcher used a cross-sectional survey research design The justification for the adoption of a cross-sectional survey is based on its ability to generate the required data from the sampled respondents for analysis.

MUKHAYAM IL QURAN AL- JAMEA- TUS- SAIFIYAH has a student population of about 50 students, and staff population of 14. Majority of the student and staff population are of Bohra descent. The entire student population and larger % of the staff resides within the university hostels and staff residential houses. Over 99 percent of the target population professes Islamic faith. MASKAN MUKHAYAM IL QURAN AL- JAMEA- TUS- SAIFIYAH has a population of 34 people who make the target population for this study. The population comprises students, teachers and administration representatives. These are directly in contact with each other.

The researcher applied purposive sampling technique, in which the researcher will rely on his own judgment when choosing the target of study. This method/technique will be used as the researcher wants to study the level of satisfaction of the living condition of student and its impact on students satisfaction, comfort and commitment to memorize the whole Holy Quran, hence the researcher sampled students only

The study purposively sampled Maskan Mukhayam il Quran secondary school to participate in the study in Nairobi County because the researcher believes that the school is capable of giving reliable information about administrative skills mainly on memorization of Holy Quran

The school principals of the sampled school were automatically included as respondents. The sample size for principals was the same for the school which is 100% of the total population of the Maskan Mukhayam il Quran private secondary school.

**Tabel 1. 1:  
Sampling Matrix**

Category	Target Population	Sample Size	Sampling Technique	Percentage
School	1	1	Purposive	100%
Principals	4	4	Purposive Sampling	100%
Students	30	30	Purposive Sampling	100%
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>		

**Source:** Researcher, 2020

In this study, principals and BOG members will be interviewed. The interview consisted of sections The validity and reliability of the research instruments was done to control the quality of the research outcome. The pilot study was undertaken on the questionnaire.

Data was analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20.0 which included the use of graphical such as pie charts, bar graphs, and histograms, tabulation such as frequencies and numerical such as mean, in order to depict and present the findings of the research.

Before embarking on data collection and during and after data collection, the researcher put into considerations several ethical issues. First, the researcher got a permission Faculty of education at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa to conduct the study. At the same time, the researcher got a permit from Nairobi County Director of Education.

To promote also ethical consideration, the researcher sought the consent of the study participants before administering the research instruments The researcher assured the participants of their freedom to pull out should they feel like without threatening them. The principle of anonymity was observed by asking the participants not to indicate their names on the questionnaires.

#### IV. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

##### Basic Physical Facilities

To enquire from the respondents their views regarding the physical environment in the hostel and how the environment does affects their comfort and commitment towards memorization of the Holy Quran. The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on how they feel about facilities provided to them. Their responses were shown in figure 1

##### **The Condition of the Room (Ventilation, Space ) is pleasant in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran (n-30)**

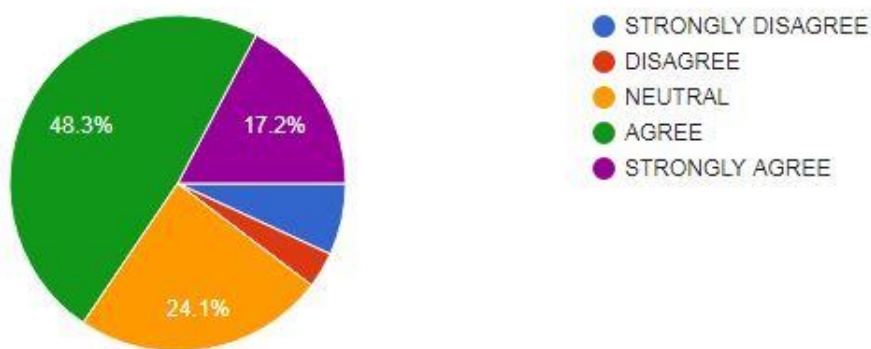
The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire. Their responses were shown in figure 10

##### **Figure 1 The condition of the room ( ventilation ,space ) is pleasant in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.**

Figure 1 reveals that 17.2% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that the ventilation and space

The condition of the room ( ventilation ,space ) is pleasant in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.

29 responses



in the room is pleasant in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.. Whereas 48.3% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.24.1% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 3.4% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 6.3 % of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it. This shows that the majority of the students are happy with their rooms

##### **The Bathroom is Kept Clean all the Time**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on the Bathroom is Kept Clean all the Time. Their responses were shown in figure 11

**Figure 2: The bathroom is kept clean all the time**

The bathroom is kept clean all the time

29 responses

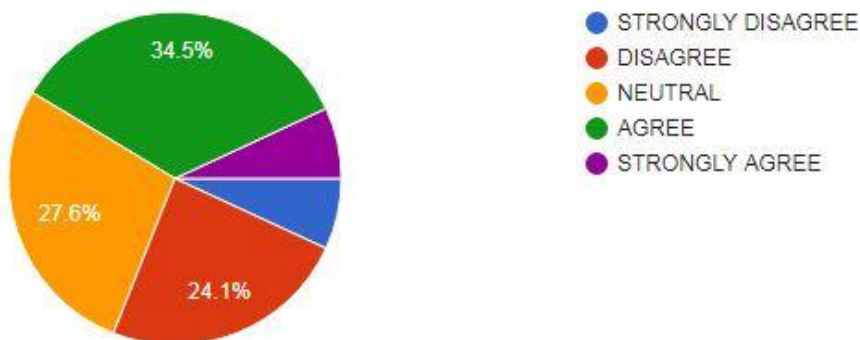


Figure 2 reveals that 6.9.5% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that their bathrooms are kept clean all the time. Whereas 34.5% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.27.6% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 0% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 6.9% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it

**Adequate lightings is available for studying in the study room**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on adequate lightings is available for studying in the study room. Their responses were shown in figure 3

**Figure 3 Adequate lightings is available for studying in the study room**

Adequate lightings is available for studing in the study room

29 responses

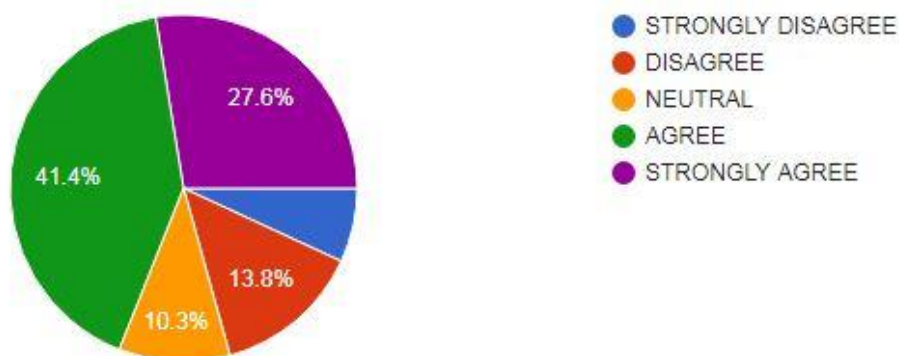


Figure 3 reveals that 27.6% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement there is adequate lightings in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran for studying. Whereas 41.4% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.10.3% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 13.8% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 6.9% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it

**Laundry facilities are good and they deliver the clothes very well (n=30)**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on laundry facilities are good and they deliver the clothes very well. Their response are shown in figure 4

**Figure 4 Laundry facilities are good and they deliver the clothes very well**

Laundry facilities are good and they deliver the clothes very well

29 responses

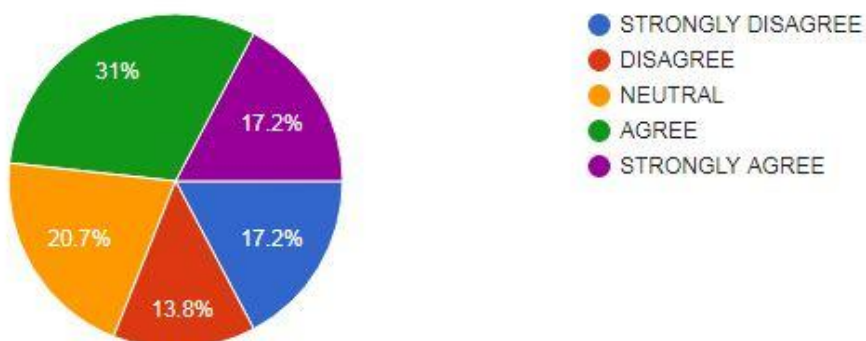




Figure 4 reveals that 17.2% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that the laundry services are good Maskan Mukhayam il Quran. Whereas 31% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.20.7% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 13.6% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 17.2% % of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it.This shows that there is a need in improvement in laundry sector because less than 50% of the respondents agreed that the services of laundry is good

**Indoor Sports facilities are available in Maskan**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on indoor sports facilities are available in Maskan. Their responses are indicated in figure 5

**Figure 5 Indoor sports facilities are available in maskan**

Indoor sports facilities are available in maskan

29 responses

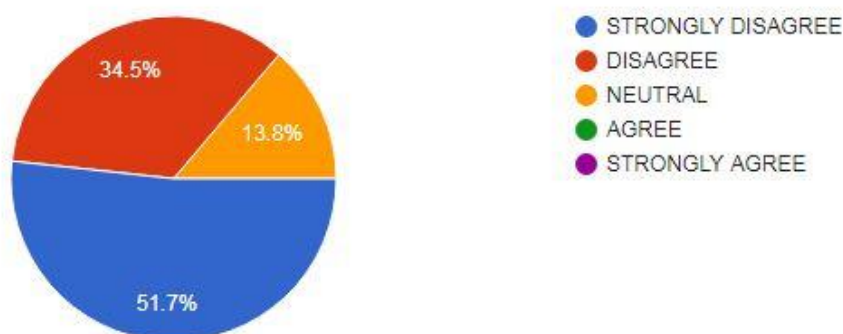


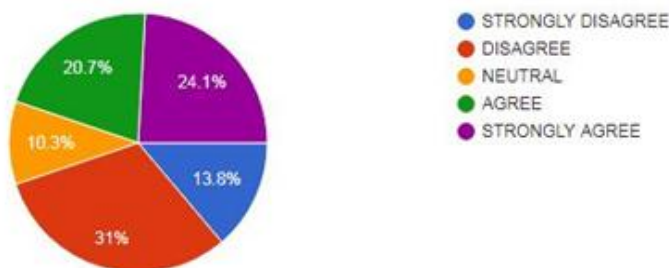
Figure 5 reveals that 0% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that indoor sports facilities are properly available for them.. Whereas 0% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.13.6% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 34.5% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 51.7% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it.

**Medical Services are not provided in Maskan.**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on medical Services are not provided in Maskan. The responses are shown in figure 6

Medical services are not provided in maskan

29 responses



**Figure 6 Medical Services are not provided in Maskan**

Figure 6 reveals that 24.1% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that proper medical aid is provided Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.. Whereas 20.7% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.10.3% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 31% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 13.8% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it.

**The Breakfast served in Maskan is Delicious and Prepared well.**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on breakfast served in Maskan is delicious and prepared well. The responds are mentioned in figure 7

**Figure 7. The breakfast served in Maskan is delicious and prepared well.**

The breakfast served in maskan is delicious and prepared well

29 responses

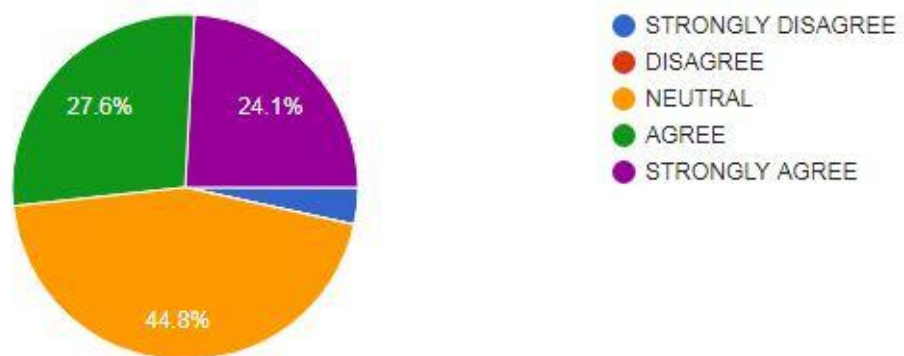


Figure 7 reveals that 24.1% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that they enjoy staying in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.. Whereas 27.6% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.44.8% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 0% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 3.4% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it.

**Entertainment services are not easily accessible in Maskan**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on entertainment services are not easily accessible in Maskan. The responds are indicated in figure 8

**Figure 8 Entertainment services are not easily accessible in Maskan.**

Entertainment services are not easily accessible in maskan

29 responses

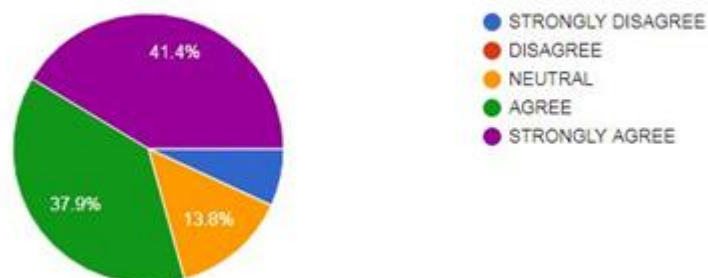




Figure 8 reveals that 41.4% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that entertainment services are not accessible in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.. Whereas 37.9 % of the respondents (agree)to the statement.13.8 % of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 6.9% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 0% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it.

**The beds are not proper and cupboards are not enough for our belongings**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on the beds are not proper and cupboards are not enough for our belongings. The results are shown in figure 9

Figure 9 *The beds are not proper and cupboards are not enough for our belongings*

The beds are not proper and cupboards are not enough for our belongings

29 responses

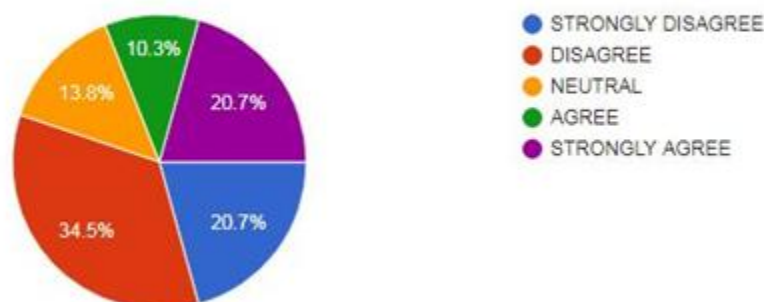


Figure 9 reveals that 20.7% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that The beds are not proper and cupboards are not enough for our belongings in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.. Whereas 10.3% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.31.8% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 34.5% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 20.7% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it.

**The general conditions at Maskan are unpleasant or sometimes even unsafe**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on the general conditions at Maskan are unpleasant or sometimes even unsafe. The results are shown in figure 10

Figure 10 *The general conditions at maskan are unpleasant or sometimes even unsafe*

The general conditions at maskan are unpleasant or sometimes even unsafe.

29 responses

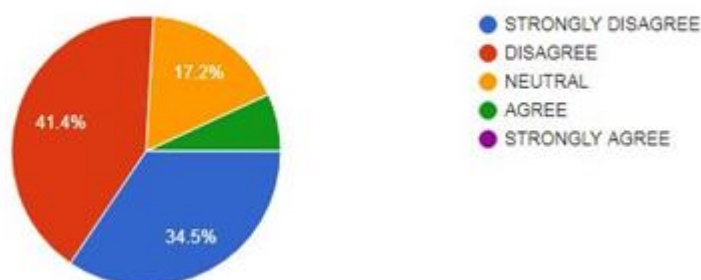


Figure .10 reveals that 0% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that The general conditions at maskan are unpleasant or sometimes even unsafe in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.. Whereas 6.9% of the respondents (agree)to the statement.17.2% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that

nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 41.4% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 34.5% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it.

### **Betterment and development in the above facilities will help me to memorize Quran**

The study requested the respondents to indicate their views by filling a liker scale questionnaire on betterment and development in the above facilities will help me to memorize Quran. The results are shown in figure 11

**Figure 11 Betterment and development in the above facilities will help me to memorize Quran more comfortable and easily.**

Betterment and development in the above facilities will help me to memorize Quran more comfortably and easily  
29 responses

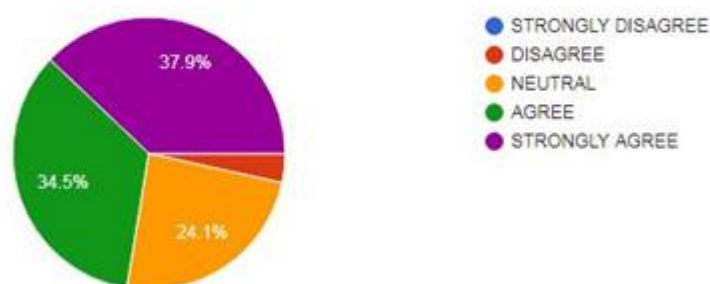


Figure 11 reveals that 37.9% of the respondents (strongly agree) with the statement that **Betterment and development in the above facilities will help them to memorize Quran more comfortable and easily while staying in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.** Whereas 34.5% of the respondents (agree) to the statement. 24.1% of the respondents have a (neutral) view which indicates that nor they agree to the statement fully or disagree with it. 3.6% of the respondents (disagree) with the statement as well as 0% of the respondents (strongly disagree) with it. These figures depicts as a whole (i.e. total respondents) students' perception on Maskans basic facilities to support their academic life.

The basic physical facilities provided is good and shows that students are satisfied with the facilities provided to them ,81% of the students agreed or strongly agreed that **Betterment and development in the above facilities will help them to memorize Quran more comfortably and easily while staying in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.**

As discussed in Abraham Maslovs theory that Air ,food ,shelter, sleep, clothing are the basic physical needs of a student that should be addressed properly and by doing so will effect the academic performance and in this case memorization of Holy Quran.

And through the findings obtained by interviews with the staff members that their are many challenges they face to fulfil these requirements as specially regarding food as different students has their own tastes even sometimes there is lack of working hands to full fill the needs at the at most level, mismanagement and not properly organized management system and overload of work are some of the challenges the manager of maskan mukhayam il Quran and his staff faces.

### **V. Summary**

The main objectives of this study was to to assess the students' overall perceptions on Maskan Mukhayam il Quran's (boarding facility) environment basic physical facilities And also to investigate the influence of the environmental factors on students' commitment and comfort towards the memorization of Holy Quran and to know what are the challenges' faced by the teachers in obtaining their goal which is Offering an environment which is beneficial and more productive for memorizing the Holy Quran in Maskan Mukhayam il Quran.

### **VI. Conclusion**

Overall, this study concludes that students of Maskan Mukhaym il Quran (hostel) are happy with the environment provided to them in the hostel however there are some areas which need to be taken care of which are disturbing the students in there commitment and goal which is memorizing the Holy Quran. The conclusion came after analyzing the data received from the respondents through questionairs and interviews. The study was based on factors based on Abram Maslov's theory of needs .

## VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were drawn based on the responses gained by the students and interviews with the teachers

– The School Management

Maskan mukhayam il Quran should reorganize there management plans try to overcome issues like maintances of physical facilities such as laundry ,sports ect.

– The Teachers

Those teachers who have been appointed for supervision of Maskan should devote more time to assess the activities and plan for development and betterment of fulfilling both emotional and physical needs of students. Information from the interviews also derived that the staff are not very much motivated or appreciated for the work they do so improvement in this are is also needed.

### **Suggestions for Further Studies**

The topic of the study was the study of hostel environment and students memorization of Holy Quran in Mukhayam il Quran Nairobi but a similar further study could be done in all the Mukhayams all over the world and unlike this study also management issues and plans and their effect can also be studied.

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