

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION OF ISLAMIC EDUCATION

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Abstract: The importance of Islamic education is mainly in shaping the futuristic outlook of both individuals and society. Education in Islam is focused on the comprehensive education of individuals based on the vast teachings of the Quran and the Sunnah. The impact of globalization, modernity and technological advancement has made it necessary to review Islamic education methodologies and frameworks. This article explores how to establish a solid base of Islamic education to develop the personality of the Muslims in a way that is suitable for the corners of creation and is able to promote in the worldly life with its various events and conditions while adhering to the Islamic identity despite of this diversity. This study answers the fundamental question of what is a solid foundation for Islamic education? How do we preserve our traditions while embracing modern pedagogical methods? The Foundations Of Islamic Education Islamic education is based on the teachings of Quran and Hadith.

Keywords: Islamic pedagogy, islamic values, moral education

Introduction

Alhamdulillah, all praise be to Allah because with His permission I can finish this article titled 'Building a Strong Foundation for Islamic Education. Islamic Education and its Impact on Human Resources Development'. The role of Islamic education in human resources development is one of the important pillars of developing the future of countries and societies. The objective of Islamic education, based on Quran and Sunnah, is to produce mu'min individuals who possess the Islamic values in their entire character. That said, with globalization, modernity, and new trends related to technology and its implications, there is a dire need to re-examine the approaches and frameworks of Islamic education. The focus of this paper is to see how the individual can be groomed with a strong edifice of Islamic education which could help nurture the individual in a way so as to prosper in the face of stark diversity and a fast changing world while not allowing his Islamic identity to erode away. It raises essential questions: What is a solid basis for Islamic education? In fact, how can we maintain traditional values whilst upholding modern pedagogical techniques?

Literature Review

In this research, education means an awareness and a deliberate attempt to provide the atmosphere and process of learning that would enable students, through active effort, to actualize their potential and to gain religious spiritual strength, self-control, and the necessary skills. Then, the definition of Islamic education among others by Dr. Yusuf Qardawi, as quoted by Azyumardi Azra, explains that Islamic education defines the education of the whole person, his mind and heart, spirit and body, morals, and skills.

Because Islamic education prepares people for life and prepares to face society with all its goodness and evil, sweet and bitter. While a more technical understanding of Islamic education is the process of guidance in the form of leadership, guidance, and proposals by the student subject to develop the soul - comprising the mind, feelings, will, and intuition - and the body of the student object with certain material materials at a certain period of time using certain methods and existing equipment toward the creation of a certain person accompanied by evaluation according to Islamic teachings. Islamic education is a process of individual formation based on the teachings of Islam as revealed by Allah SWT to Muhammad Saw.

These definitions differ from those of general education and Islamic education, wherein the concept of general education is defined as the process of transferring cultural values from generation to generation. The difference is that in Islamic education, there are other values which are to be transferred or learned from the sources of Islamic values: Quran, Sunnah, Ijtihad. It is the process through which a Muslim takes another Muslim to the integration of his personality using Islamic measures related to soul and body by means of Islamic education.

Principles of Islamic Education The salient principles of Islamic education are:

- Tawhid: This is the very important underlying concept that shapes and molds the whole process of education in purpose and direction. The word Tawhid means the oneness of Allah (SWT). It instills the principle that knowledge starts from Allah and should lead the humans to know His noble attributes. Islamic education instills the sense of the existence of Allah in every walk of life, whereby every action and intention is done with His will.
- Akhlaq (Moral Character) Development: The core purpose of Islamic education is the building of Akhlaq or moral character. It shall focus on character traits like honesty, patience, humility, respect, and mercy. Ethics would be in the everyday lives of a person in such a way that a man stands out to be an embodiment of integrity and righteousness.
- Tarbiyah in Arabic means rearing, and it holds a great place in Islamic education. It is not just knowledge transmission; rather, it's about the rearing of the soul, building up behavior, and developing a rapport with Allah. In such a way, one can fulfill every test that life may pose before a person with faith, steadfastness, and spiritual consciousness.
- Balancing Dunya and Akhirah Islamic education prepares the individual to live a balanced life for both this world, dunya, and the hereafter, akhirah. It directs learners to excel in worldly aspects, at the same time never compromising on spiritual development and salvation. This thus helps in ensuring that one enjoys his or her life to the fullest while at the same time remembering the purpose.

Challenges of Islamic education in the digitalization era

During this period of digitalization, Islamic education faced several challenges, and some remain unsolved. These include the following:

- Distortion of Values and Information

In the digital era, access to information is very easy, but not all available information is valid or in accordance with Islamic teachings. These challenges include:

- Fake News (Hoax): Many false religious news or information are spreading on social media, confusing the public, especially the younger generation.
- Online Radicalization: Since the advancement of technology, many groups have spread teachings that deviate from and even have no basis in religious law.

Obstacles in Curriculum Development

Curriculum on Relevance, This is quite an uphill task-to maintain the purity of Islamic concepts within the curriculum that is meant to address the needs of the contemporary world in globalization. Such a curriculum will have to discuss current topics like globalization, digital ethics, and environmental sustainability from an Islamic perspective. These mean that Islamic ideals have to be well planned and integrated into all subjects or subjects like social studies and science, so that students learn how such principles are applied in their daily lives and on issues of the global world.

Skills Developments To ensure that students excel in the changing world, they should be equipped with skills like critical thinking, digital literacy, and flexibility in addition to religious knowledge. Balancing tradition and modernity, both significant concerns for Islamic education, will perhaps prove challenging in working out how best to integrate such skills.

Challenges in Resource Development

- Adequate Resource Capacity: In most cases, Islamic Educational institutions face some sort of financial or technological issues where they fail to implement the latest technology and produce high quality teaching materials.

Lack of infrastructure development Infrastructure remains to be underdeveloped in some regions, which is majorly composed of small or developing ones. Lack of strong foundational grounds like stable internet access and updated, correct technology has led to a failure in implementing digital-based Islamic education.

Method

Key Components in Laying a Good and Effective Foundation for Islamic Education

- Inclusion of Islamic Values within the Curriculum
A very strong foundation for Islamic education, which includes the application of principles of tawhid, ethics, and shariah in all practical life, is the integration of Islamic values into all aspects of learning, both the content and the activities of the educational process. The value-based curriculum will enable the students to develop a strong Islamic character.
- Developing Critical and Creative Thinking Skills
Islamic education should be more than just learning. It should stimulate critical and creative thinking among students. In this way, learners are prepared to face modern challenges, and at the same time remain true to Islamic principles. This allows for balanced intellectual development and combines worldly knowledge with spiritual wisdom.
- Effective Teaching Methods
Appropriate teaching methodologies, such as discussion, case studies, project-based learning, and interactive technologies, would be selected to enhance the learning process. These methodologies ensure that the learning environment is more interactive and contextual for the students.

- **Development of Effective Communication Skills**

Islamic education teachers should be articulate as well, in the manner of relaying the message of Islam in clear language; they also consider the psychological and social needs of students such that the message being conveyed would ring a bell with their experiences.

- **Encouraging Teamwork**

This is because Islamic education should bring the students closer to each other, both in learning activities and social relationships, so that ukhuwah Islamiyah may grow. It also indicates the importance of acting in teams in striving for good communal relations.

By incorporating these five ingredients, Islamic education can produce an intellectually capable yet morally grounded breed of people who are able to engage in current challenges while holding onto the values in Islam.

Results and Discussion

There are several different approaches in building a sound foundation for Islamic education:

- **Curriculum Development**

The curriculum has to ensure that religious subjects-the Qur'an, Hadith, and Fiqh-find their proper balance with modern subjects: science, technology, and social sciences. This ensures that any student can deal with the modern world without losing his identity with Islam.

- **The Role of Educators**

They further help a lot in developing the students' perception about Islam. The teachers are to a greater extent introduce the Islamic knowledge concerning the Sharia and modern methodology of teaching to effectively communicate the Islamic ideas, principles as well as education.

- **Role of Family and Community**

The families and communities have a role to play in educationally engaging with schools, reinforcing Islamic values in homes, and reinforcing institutional initiatives in creating an environment that promotes learning.

- **Integration of Technology**

The introduction of technologies, such as e-learning platforms and learning apps, can enhance the access of the youth towards acquiring Islamic education.

Conclusion

Education is parallel to the definition of education in the concept of Qur'an summarized in three concepts, namely: Tarbiyah, Ta'lim, and Ta'dib educations. Tarbiyah concept explains more to humans that Allah gives education through his messenger, namely the Messenger of Allah Saw, and then the Messenger conveyed to the scholars, then the scholars conveyed to humans. While education in the concept of ta'lim is a process of transferring knowledge to improve the intellectuality of the students. Then ta'dib is an educational process that is more focused on fostering the morals of the students.

A strong Islamic education lays the foundation for individuals who will be successful academically and with deep moral values and spiritual upbringing. It is very instrumental in bringing up individuals of broad vision to make positive contributions both at the community and wider world levels. Only this way, if the traditional approach to Islamic Education is combined with the modernist approach towards it, will the Islamic education serve the relevance related to contemporary needs and challenges: integrating Fiqh, Akhlaq,

and Tauhid into school curricula. Besides, that would increase in the students the capability for critical, creative thinking, and problemsolving in this manner.

Students will be assisted in facing those various challenges that are emerging day by day throughout the world through an Islamic worldview. Educators, parents, and policymakers must be involved in this effort to achieve the success of such an endeavor. Educators and parents must be able to employ creative teaching strategies that encourage active learning and integrate lifelong learning principles. Parents should reinforce Islamic values at home, creating an atmosphere that fosters spiritual and intellectual growth in the child. Meanwhile, the policymakers must engage in formulating and enacting policies that give utmost priority to Islamic education, but in line with modern standards of education around the world.

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