

# THE ROLE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) IN ISLAMIC PREACHING AND LEARNING IN THE DIGITAL ERA

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**Abstract:** *Advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology have had a significant impact on the field of education, including Islamic Religious Education (PAI). AI like Machine learning, chatbots, and augmented reality (AR) can improve the quality of learning by providing personalized and adaptive content tailored to students' needs. The research method, library research with a descriptive qualitative approach, was used to collect data from various sources. The research results show that AI integration significantly increases student learning motivation and can also improve the quality of Islamic religious education. However, AI implementation requires teachers to be prepared in digital literacy and to monitor the material to ensure it aligns with Islamic values. With balanced utilization, AI can be a crucial innovation in creating more effective and meaningful Islamic education learning in the digital age. However, its implementation should not replace the role of teachers in the learning process, but rather serve as a tool to help improve learning effectiveness.*

**Keywords:** *Digitalization, Islamic Religious Education Learning, Integration, Artificial Intelligence (AI)*

## Introduction

Islamic Religious Education learning still faces numerous challenges, including conventional and *teacher-centered learning methods*, which can lead to students lacking motivation to learn. Islamic Religious Education materials are often considered boring and uninteresting (Raja et al., 2024). The lack of innovative and interactive learning media makes it difficult for students to understand the material. Consequently, student motivation in Islamic Religious Education subjects tends to be low. Therefore, to increase student enthusiasm for learning, teachers need to design more engaging and innovative learning. This effort is crucial for optimal student learning, both during independent study and during classroom learning (Tanjung & Manalu, 2023).

Objective Education is a change that is desired and attempted by the educational process or educational efforts to achieve it, both in personal behavior, as well as in social life and the surrounding environment (Tanjung, Harfiani, and Mavianti 2023).

Technological advances have revolutionized various aspects of life, including education. As we enter the Industrial Revolution 4.0 and Society 5.0, the world of education is being challenged to transform toward a more digital, adaptive, and personalized world. Various advanced technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), are now being utilized to support this process learning Which more innovative (Harjanto & Sumarni, 2020; Prasetyo & Trisyani, 2020). In this context, learning is no longer limited to conventional classrooms, but can be carried out in an immersive, interactive, and student-centered manner.

Islamic Religious Education (PAI) as part of character education in schools own role vital

in form morals, spirituality, as well as values social participant educate (Az-Zuhaily, 2011). However, the challenge faced in Islamic Religious Education learning today is the lack of student interest in learning due to the method of delivering material which tends to be... textual, monotonous, And minimal innovation (Yuliana, 2023). Matter This cause low student absorption and understanding of Islamic material, especially among the digital generation who are more familiar with technology than conventional textbooks. Therefore, a learning approach is needed that can bridge Islamic values and the characteristics of the times, one of which is through the use of cutting-edge technology such as AI (Syaifulloh, 2022).

Artificial Intelligence enables the creation of adaptive and personalized learning systems, such as the use of religious chatbots, automated sharia-based question-and-answer applications, and digital evaluation systems capable of providing real-time feedback (Hamid, 2021). Meanwhile, technology can provide 3D visualizations for Islamic Religious Education (PAI) materials, such as illustrations of the stories of the prophets, procedures for the Hajj pilgrimage, and simulations of the history of Islamic civilization (Firmansyah, 2022; Ningsih & Rahman, 2023). The use of AI in learning allows students to experience contextual and multisensory learning, which can strengthen understanding and retention of the material.

This study aims to determine how AI is utilized in Islamic Religious Education learning, as well as to determine the effectiveness of using AI in Islamic Religious Education learning. It is hoped that this discussion can provide insight and inspiration for educators, policy makers, and other stakeholders to optimize the use of AI technology in an effort to improve the quality of Islamic Religious Education learning.

## Literature Review

### Islamic Religious Education (PAI) Learning

Islamic education can be defined as education that is based on the values of Islamic teachings as stated in the Al-Quran and Al-Hadith as well as in the thoughts of scholars and in the historical practices of the Muslim community. Various components in education, starting from objectives, curriculum, teachers, methods, patterns of teacher and student relationships, evaluation, infrastructure, environment, and educational evaluation must be based on Islamic values. If these various components form a system based on Islamic values, then this system can be called an Islamic education system.

Islamic religious education in schools aims to grow and increase faith, through providing and cultivating students' knowledge, appreciation, practice and experience of the Islamic religion so that they become Muslim human beings who continue to develop in terms of faith, devotion to Allah SWT and have noble morals in personal life, society, nation and state, and to be able to continue at a higher level.

Islamic Religious Education learning is a real form of implementing the Islamic Religious Education Curriculum in the classroom which involves personal elements such as the principal and teachers, students, learning resources and facilities and infrastructure for successful implementation. Islamic religious learning is not just a written curriculum that is only delivered as knowledge (cognitive). However, the Islamic Education curriculum is able to provide value to students with understanding, behavior, and attitudes towards the existing material. In reality, the Islamic Religious Education learning process in schools has not been able to fully develop students' intellectual capacities and capabilities, characterized by critical, analytical, reflective, and evaluative thinking. Instead, the Islamic Religious Education learning process in schools only produces students who can memorize, define language and terms, recall facts, and cite Islamic Religious Education materials taught by teachers in textbooks.

### **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in English, is a scientific discipline that focuses on the development of computers and systems that are capable of carrying out tasks that were initially better performed by humans. In the field of artificial intelligence, computers are designed to be intelligent and clever, with the goal of mimicking various abilities of the human brain, such as language comprehension, thinking, knowledge, reasoning, problem solving, and decision making. Artificial intelligence, or AI, is a branch of knowledge in computer science that focuses on the development of computer systems that exhibit intelligence in various ways. AI is the study of how to build computer systems that can mimic human intelligence. Artificial intelligence is a dynamic field of research within the research topic of computer science. Artificial intelligence enables machines (computers) to perform work with a level of intelligence comparable to that of humans.

In the world of education, Artificial Intelligence Technology has a very important role for the future of education. Here are some of the roles of Artificial Intelligence Technology in the world of education: First, Personalized Learning: AI technology enables education that is tailored to the needs and abilities of individual students. Second, Interactive Teaching: AI technology can play a role by helping to make the learning experience more interactive and engaging, using features such as chatbots, voice recognition, gamification, and augmented reality. Third, Rapid Evaluation: AI technology can help teachers evaluate student work more quickly and efficiently, using technologies such as handwriting recognition and natural language processing can help improve the quality of feedback and reduce the time required to provide assessments. Fourth, Research and Analysis: AI technology can assist in educational research and analysis by processing large and complex data, and producing more accurate and relevant information about trends and patterns in learning.

### **Method**

This research uses a library research approach. Library research is research conducted by collecting data and information from various library sources, such as books, journals, articles, and other documents that are relevant to the topic being studied.

### **Result and Discussion**

#### **The Use of AI in Islamic Education Learning**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a learning communication medium for Indonesians studying religious education. In this regard, pioneering companies play a strategic role in accelerating AI development and driving the dynamics of the AI industry ecosystem in Indonesia. For example, the use of concordance-based word searches and N-Grams in the Quran, as well as a web application with a Quran index search function to display surahs, verses, topics, subtopics, and grouping the Indonesian translation of the Quran into five categories: faith, morals, worship, stories, and transactions.

AI can improve the effectiveness of teaching and learning by providing learning materials tailored to students' needs in several ways, including:

- a. Personalized Learning: Artificial intelligence can be used to analyze student data, such as learning abilities and interests, to provide learning materials tailored to individual students' needs. This can increase student motivation and engagement in the learning process.
- b. Learning Material Search and Selection: Artificial intelligence can be used to search and select learning materials that align with the curriculum and students' understanding levels. This can assist teachers in preparing high-quality learning materials that are relevant to students' needs.

c. Gamification-Based Learning: Artificial intelligence can be used to create interactive and fun learning systems by utilizing the concept of gamification. This can increase student motivation in learning and strengthen the skills needed in the lesson. Gamification, or in English called "Gamification," is the use of game elements in non-game contexts, such as in the learning process or work. The goal is to increase people's motivation and engagement in carrying out certain activities by making them more fun, challenging, and interactive. Game elements used in gamification can include rewards, achievements, leaderboards, progress bars, challenges, and so on. For example, in the context of learning, game elements can be used to make learning materials more interesting and interactive, such as through the use of quizzes, leaderboards, and rewards for students who successfully complete assignments. In the context of Islamic education, gamification can be used to

Increase student motivation and engagement in learning about Islamic teachings. For example, by utilizing game elements like leaderboards and achievements, students can feel more motivated to study the Quran and Hadith in a more intensive and structured manner.

d. Learning Evaluation: Artificial intelligence can be used to analyze student evaluation results and provide appropriate feedback. This can help teachers understand student learning deficiencies and improve future learning strategies. In the context of Islamic education, artificial intelligence can be used to develop learning applications and systems that are in accordance with Islamic teachings, such as learning applications for the Quran, Hadith, and Islamic history. This can help students better understand Islamic teachings and increase student engagement in learning.

The results of this study provide valuable insights for practitioners and policymakers in Islamic education by emphasizing the importance of preserving religious values in the modern technological era. The negative impacts of the use of artificial intelligence in Islamic education, such as the distortion of religious understanding and the loss of student creativity, emphasize the urgency of adjusting the use of artificial intelligence to reduce risks and ensure the sustainability of high-quality religious education. The use of AI in education requires the preparation of technological infrastructure, various training, and the effectiveness of technology adoption in education requires adequate political and budgetary support, as well as positive support from the community and academics.

## Conclusion

The use of Artificial Intelligence in Islamic education can improve the quality of learning in schools. However, its implementation must be carried out carefully and consider its impact on students, teachers, and the community. Therefore, collaboration between Islamic education experts and experts in technology, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), is needed to develop appropriate solutions to address emerging learning challenges. However, it is important to remember that the use of Artificial Intelligence also has ethical and data security implications that require attention. Furthermore, it is important to remember that Artificial Intelligence should not replace the role of teachers in the learning process, but rather should be used only as a tool to help improve learning effectiveness. Therefore, a wise approach is needed in adopting Artificial Intelligence in Islamic learning, taking into account ethical aspects, data security, and the role of teachers in the learning process. Thus, it is hoped that the use of Artificial Intelligence in Islamic education will provide significant benefits. The integration of AI in Islamic Religious Education (PAI) is highly suited to the characteristics of the digital generation, provided it is implemented while maintaining ethical values and the central role of teachers as educators and spiritual guides. Moving forward, synergy between educators, technology developers, and policymakers is crucial to expand and effectively implement AI in Islamic religious education.

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