

CHARACTERISTICS OF ISLAMIC EDUCATION

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Abstract

Islamic education is a comprehensive structure which brings together spiritual, trustworthy, and intellectual factors in addition to the ultimate objective being creating muslims who are both comprehensive with the capacity of transforming society. This article explores the essential attributes of Islamic education, characterized by its comprehensive approach, centered around values framework, contextual significance, concentration on interconnected responsibility, generation of information, the role of educators as illustrations, its notion of lifelong learning, and its promotion of spirituality. According to an analysis of 15 academic works, the article underscores the important nature of those characteristics in developing efficient Islamic educational methods. The results highlight an urgent need for continuing improvement of methodologies for teaching and curriculum development to address modern issues while respecting foundational Islamic principles. Islamic education is a comprehensive system that aims to develop individuals holistically, integrating spiritual, moral, and intellectual dimensions. It is shaped by the teachings of the Qur'an and the Sunnah (practices of the Prophet Muhammad), providing a unique framework that distinguishes it from other educational paradigms. Below are the key characteristics of Islamic education, elaborated in detail

Keyword : Islamic Education; Holistic Approach; Moral Values; Contextual Relevance

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INTRODUCTION

Islamic education represents an exceptional educational environment that is solidly founded in the fundamental values and doctrine of Islam. It attempts to produce human beings who are simultaneously intellectual and professionally steadfast, spiritually aware of myself, and socially responsibility. The fundamental principle of Islamic education has its foundation in the Qur'an especially the Sunnah, which provide broad guidance on various aspects of life, that includes interpersonal conduct, connections with others, and searching for knowledge.

The elements of Islamic education are extensive, reflecting its comprehensive approach to human development. In contrast to conventional educational institutions that primarily focus on academic success, Islamic education emphasizes a synthesis of mystical, moral, and psychological development. This holistic perspective is crucial for nurturing individuals from diverse backgrounds who are anticipated to actively engage in their communities while adhering to Islamic beliefs.

In recent years, there has been more and more understanding of the important role of context-related relevance in teaching. Islamic education attempts for solving technological struggles presented by Muslim communities throughout the world, and to guarantee the subject matter can be both harmonious with the teachings of faith and adaptable to the needs of the community. This adaptability becomes essential for allowing students to manage the complicated details of modern day existence while being grounded in their faith.

Plus, educators in Islamic education perform a purpose that beyond basic instruction; they are seen as moral exemplars who mentor pupils in both academic and ethical arenas. This mentorship cultivates an empowering educational situation in which students may prosper intellectually and spiritually.

This article examines the attributes of Islamic education, focusing on its comprehensive approach centered on values. The framework of dedication to social accountability, the integration of knowledge, and the concept of lifelong learning. Examining these qualities allows us to comprehend the distinct advantages of Islamic education for individual development and society progress.

1. Holistic Approach

Islamic education employs a comprehensive approach that includes multiple facets of human development: a) Spiritual Development: It underscores the importance of fostering faith and spirituality, urging students to have a profound connection with Allah via consistent prayers, supplications, and moral conduct. b) Intellectual Development: Students are urged to pursue knowledge in diverse domains, encompassing both religious and secular disciplines. The quest for knowledge is regarded as a type of reverence, highlighting the need of critical thinking and reasoning. c) Emotional and Social Development: Islamic education cultivates emotional intelligence and social competencies, instructing pupils in healthy interpersonal interactions, amicable conflict resolution, and the establishment of robust community bonds.

2. Value-Based Education

The cornerstone of Islamic education is the synthesis of ethical and moral principles: a) Ethical Framework: Islamic principles offer a moral recommendations that controls students' activities. Fundamental concepts that involve fairness (sidq), dependability (amanah), compassion (rahmah), and justice (adl) are ingrained from a young age. b) Character Development: Concentration will be placed not alone on performing well in school but also on creating virtuous character. Students know the important role of honesty, humility, and respect for others, which are vital features to individuals and interpersonal balance.

3. Contextual Relevance

Islamic education has been modified to be compatible with the specific cultural and social settings of its students: a) **Cultural Sensitivity:** Educators consider into considerations the local customs, traditions, and challenges confronted by Muslim communities in syllabus construction. This kind of approach guarantees that education is pertinent and significant. b) **Engaging with Contemporary Issues:** Islamic education embraces modern worries and such as environmental long-term sustainability, social justice, and technological devices advancements, while adhering to Islamic guidelines.

4. Emphasis on Community and Social Responsibility

Islamic education fosters a robust feeling of community:

a) **Collective Responsibility:** Students understand the necessity of community commitment through benevolent acts (*sadaqah*) and community service (*khidmah*). This trait symbolizes the Islamic notion of an *Ummah*, accentuating unity and community well-being. b) **Leadership Skills:** Volunteering in community activities produces leadership characteristics in students, empowering them to embrace active roles outside their organizations.

5. Integration of Knowledge

Islamic education highlights the incorporation of spiritual understanding with secular topics: a) **Interdisciplinary Learning:** The disciplines that include physical knowledge, mathematically easily accessed data, and history have a relationship with Islamic studies. This integration permits students to appreciate the interconnectedness of information and value and in which various disciplines may effectively complement one another. b) **Critical thinking** : Students must know how to critically consider material and apply their knowledge in practical situations, developing a classroom that stresses exploration and questioning.

6. Teacher as a Role Model

The function of educators in Islamic education beyond basic teaching: a) **Moral Exemplification:** Educators are expecting to represent the fundamentals they impart. Each of their actions represents an acceptable norm for students; consequently characteristics like as patience (*sabr*), kindness (*ihsan*), and commitment are essential for proficient instruction. b) **Mentorship:** Educators perform as mentors, supporting adolescents in academic, moral, and spiritual dimensions. This relationship stimulates mutual respect and confidence within the educational environment.

7. Lifelong Learning

Lifelong learning is vital to Islamic education: a) **Perpetual Quest for Knowledge:** Pursuing knowledge is considered an obligation for all Muslims, regardless of age or condition. The Prophet Muhammad underlined that every believer bears the burden of seeking knowledge. b) **Adaptability:** This

feature stresses the ability to respond to changing settings by consistently improving an individual's expertise and competencies over time.

8. Spiritual Development

Spirituality is an important part of carving out an individual's identity in Islamic education: a) Relationship with Allah: Adolescents are suggested to establish a personal relationship with Allah through worship procedures which includes as meditation (*salah*), fasting (*sawm*), and acknowledgement (*dhikr*). The spiritual dimension promotes ethical living throughout students, motivating learners to act on decisions that incorporate Islamic beliefs in every element of their daily conduct.

METODOLOGY

This article adopts a qualitative approach to explore the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence on education. The method includes a literature review of recent studies and reports on characteristic of islamic education.

RESULT & DISCUSSION

Islamic education has unique characteristics that distinguish it from other educational systems. It is holistic, value-driven, and deeply rooted in the teachings of Islam. Below are the key characteristics of Islamic education: 1) Divine Foundation: Islamic education is based on the Qur'an and Sunnah (Prophetic traditions). These sources provide the ethical, spiritual, and intellectual foundation for all learning activities. 2) Holistic Approach: Islamic education aims to develop the whole person — intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, physically, and morally. It promotes the integration of: 'Aql (intellect), Qalb (heart), Ruh (soul), Jasad (body). 3) Tawhid (Oneness of God): The concept of Tawhid is central. All knowledge and aspects of life are seen as interconnected and stemming from the unity of God. This promotes coherence between religious and worldly knowledge. 4) Value-Oriented: Islamic education emphasizes: Akhlaq (morality), Adab (good manners), Taqwa (God-consciousness). It aims to build character and instill responsibility before God and society. 5) Life-Long Learning: Knowledge in Islam is seen as a continuous process. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: "Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave." 6) Balance Between Dunya and Akhirah: Islamic education teaches that worldly life (*dunya*) and the Hereafter (*akhirah*) are not separate. Success in both is the ultimate goal: Practical skills and sciences are important, Spiritual and ethical development is essential. 7) Purpose-Driven: The ultimate goal is not merely academic achievement, but servitude to Allah ('*ubudiyah*) and becoming a khalifah (vicegerent) on Earth. 8) Integration of Knowledge: Islamic education does not divide between "religious" and "secular" knowledge. It encourages integration of disciplines as long as they align with Islamic values. 9) Individual and Social Reform: It aims to transform individuals into righteous people who will then positively reform society according to Islamic principles. 10) Respect for Teachers and Knowledge:

Teachers are highly respected, seen as guides in the path of both worldly and spiritual success. Likewise, knowledge is treated as a trust (amanah).

This educational system also recognise to the basics of some life education such as:

- 1) **Divine Foundation:** Islamic education is revealed and God-centered. It is not built solely on human reasoning or experience but on: Al-Qur'an – the word of Allah, which provides knowledge, guidance, and law. Hadith/Sunnah – sayings and actions of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, which model how knowledge is to be applied. The Implication of this is to Every subject, whether mathematics or ethics, is taught with a spiritual dimension and awareness of divine purpose.
- 2) **Holistic Development:** Islamic education nurtures every dimension of a person, not just intellectual growth. It integrates: Spirituality (iman), Morality (akhlaq), Social skills, Physical well-being, Critical thinking. For the example, students are taught to reflect on the signs of Allah in nature (science), while also learning how to pray and interact respectfully (Islamic ethics).
- 3) **Tawhid** (Unity of God): All knowledge is unified under the belief in one Creator. Nothing is independent from Allah. There's no division between sacred and secular. The Implication, For instance, studying biology includes appreciating Allah's creation and design. Studying economics involves justice, charity (zakat), and ethical behavior.
- 4) **Value-Oriented Learning:** The purpose of education in Islam is moral excellence, not just academic success. This means teaching: Integrity, Trustworthiness, Patience, Humility, Respect for others. For the Example: In Islamic schools, exams and achievements are important, but greater emphasis is placed on how students behave, treat others, and fulfill religious duties.
- 5) **Life-Long Learning:** Islam promotes continuous learning throughout life. Seeking knowledge is seen as an act of worship. a) Prophet's Hadith: "Whoever takes a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make the path to Paradise easy for him." (Muslim), b) Practical application: Adult education, halaqahs, Qur'an recitation circles, and Islamic seminars help people of all ages to continue learning.
- 6) **Balance Between Dunya and Akhirah:** Islamic education teaches that worldly success and preparation for the Hereafter go hand in hand. For the example: A student studies engineering not just to earn money, but to serve society ethically and earn Allah's pleasure. Human must be balance: Encouraging excellence in science, medicine, and business, without compromising religious obligations.
- 7) **Purpose-Driven** (Ibadah & Khilafah), The ultimate aim is to produce servants of Allah who live as trustees (khalifah) on Earth. Education should lead to: Serving humanity, Protecting the environment, Promoting justice and peace. Real-life example: A doctor trained in Islamic education will consider treating patients as an act of worship and uphold the highest ethical standards.
- 8) **Integration of Knowledge:** Islamic education encourages combining religious knowledge (like fiqh, tafsir, hadith) with worldly knowledge (like math, science, and literature) — both are seen as valuable if used for good. The Implication of this is a curriculum that includes Islamic Studies alongside modern sciences, ensuring that students are both spiritually aware and professionally competent.
- 9) **Social Transformation:** It is not enough to be a

good individual. Islamic education aims to produce people who bring positive change to society, such as: Fighting injustice, Helping the poor, Promoting peace and tolerance. Example: Students are encouraged to engage in community service and da'wah (inviting others to good). 10) Respect for Teachers and Knowledge: a) Teachers are viewed as mentors and moral guides, not just content deliverers. Gaining knowledge is seen as a noble path. b) Adab (Manners): Students are taught to respect teachers, books, and the process of learning. In classical Islamic tradition, students would even perform wudu before studying.

CONCLUSION

The characteristics of Islamic education highlight its distinctive character as an educational system centered on holistic development, ethical behavior, involvement in communities, and lifelong learning. Islamic education instructs individuals not just for academic success but also for their roles as responsible participants in civilization through incorporating philosophical principles with economic expertise and generating an inviting environment for personal growth. This accomplish approach indicates that graduates have not only knowledgeable, but also equipped with the moral standards required to deal with challenges throughout their lives while making a valuable contribution to their neighborhood communities.

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