

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AS AN INSTRUMENT OF MODERN ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION

Anggun Dwi Nanda Nasution

Islamic Communication and Broadcasting, Faculty Of Da'wah And Communication, State Islamic University Of North Sumatra
anggundwinandanst@gmail.com

Abstract

Artificial intelligence (AI) has become a symbol of the progress of modern civilization, but its presence also raises ethical and spiritual questions that challenge the foundations of humanity. From an Islamic perspective, AI is not simply a machine that imitates human reason, but also a phenomenon of knowledge that demands moral responsibility and tawhid (the unity of God) towards the Creator. This research seeks to develop a conceptual framework for how Islamic principles—such as amanah, 'adl (justice), and rahmatan lil'alamin—can serve as a foundation for the development and utilization of AI. Using a qualitative philosophical approach with thematic interpretation analysis and Islamic ethical theory, this research finds that the Islamic paradigm views AI as an instrument of 'ibadah 'aqliyyah (reason-based worship), namely human efforts to manage knowledge as part of the duties of the caliphate. These findings emphasize that AI should not replace human moral autonomy but should instead be directed towards strengthening humanitarian values, social justice, and ecological balance as mandated by maqasid al-syariah. Therefore, the Islamic paradigm regarding AI demands a balance between technological innovation and spiritual awareness so that digital progress is inseparable from divine values.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Islamic Paradigm, and Digital Morality.

INTRODUCTION

The development of artificial intelligence (AI) technology has become a significant milestone in global transformation across various aspects of life. AI now plays a role not only in industry and the economy but has also begun to penetrate the social, educational, and religious spheres. From an Islamic perspective, technological progress is truly a manifestation of the intellectual capacity bestowed by Allah SWT upon humans as caliphs on earth to manage and prosper life in accordance with divine values. However, a research gap has emerged between the advancement of AI technology and the application of Islamic spiritual values within it. Most technology research focuses on efficiency and productivity, but there is little discussion of the integration of Islamic ethics and the maqasid al-Shari'ah (obligatory principles of Islamic law) into AI development.

Therefore, this study seeks to bridge this gap by offering a conceptual framework for AI as an instrument of modern Islamic civilization. The purpose of this research is to explore how artificial intelligence can serve as a vehicle for the revival of an Islamic civilization based on science, humanitarian values, and the welfare of the people, and to formulate ethical principles that can serve as a foundation for the application of AI within an Islamic context.

METHOD

This research employed a literature review with a descriptive qualitative approach. Data sources consisted of primary and secondary literature in the form of journal articles, books, research reports, and scientific publications relevant to the themes of AI, Islamic ethics, and modern Islamic civilization.

The analysis steps included :

1. Collecting scientific sources from online journal databases
2. Identifying key concepts such as artificial intelligence, maqasid al-Shariah, and technology in Islam
3. Thematic analysis of the data to identify the relationship between AI and Islamic values
4. Developing a conceptual synthesis as a basis for discussion

The approach was chosen because it provides space for in-depth theoretical exploration of existing literature and allows researchers to formulate new conceptual models without being tied to empirical field data.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Research Results

The findings of this study show a solid philosophical foundation for combining Islamic values with artificial intelligence in madrasah education. By looking at main Islamic texts like the Qur'an and Hadith, as well as traditional and modern Islamic philosophy, five important philosophical areas were found that serve as the base for bringing these two together.

- The idea of Tawhid, which means the oneness of God, is central to Islamic teachings. This idea helps explain how technology fits into the bigger picture of the universe, showing it as one of God's signs. It encourages people to use their reason to understand the world He created. R7, an expert in Islamic education, says, "Tawhid gives a complete view of technology, seeing artificial intelligence as an extension of the human mind, which God has given us, not as something apart from religious values."
- The idea of the Caliph refers to humans acting as God's representatives on Earth, responsible for managing resources and building civilization. Research shows that 87% of people surveyed, including religious scholars and teachers, believe that developing and using technology, like artificial intelligence, is part of the Caliph's duty as long as it benefits the public and doesn't do any harm.
- Islamic knowledge systems recognize different ways to gain knowledge, such as through religious teachings, logical thinking, and real-world experiences. A study of 35 school curricula from seven countries found that schools that use digital technology well usually have a way of thinking that accepts many different sources of knowledge.
- Islamic ethics, or akhlaq, gives guidance on how to create and use technology. By sharing religious opinions from today's scholars, five key ethical rules for using artificial intelligence have been found :
 1. Focus on doing good
 2. Avoid causing harm

3. Act with fairness
4. Use knowledge wisely
5. Stay moderate

The 2023 Digital Scholars Forum agreed that “artificial intelligence should be a tool to help people grow in their faith and make positive changes for everyone, not something that replaces humans as moral and spiritual beings.”

- Fifth, the long tradition of Islamic scholarship, which brings together different areas of science and civilization, shows a historical example of how Islam and modern technology can talk to each other.

By looking at the works of classical Muslim scholars like Al-Khawarizmi, Ibn Sina, and Al-Jazari, we can see that technological progress has always been part of Islamic civilization. Using Islamic values with artificial intelligence in the madrasah setting isn't just about adding modern tools to old education methods. It's more like a conversation between Islamic tradition and new technology. This means rethinking both Islam and technology in a way that allows them to talk to each other. The research shows that madrasahs which work well with artificial intelligence usually take part in “technological ijihad,” which is a creative way of understanding and using Islamic principles in today's technological world.

Maqasid-oriented AI” looks at how artificial intelligence is used based on how well it helps protect and improve the five main aims of Shariah : religion, life, reason, family, and wealth. This way of thinking helps break down the simple idea that there's a clear difference between tradisional and modern, which can stop meaningful talks about Islamic education and technology. Innovation in Islamic education isn't about replacing tradition with new ideas, but about bringing tradition back to life by talking with the present day. "(Universitas, Negeri, Palu, Shodiq, et al., 2025)

AI or Artificial Intelligence, is a system made to learn and improve on its own, and it can be run by machines or computers. It has intelligence that is as good as, or even better than, human intelligence. At first, AI was made to help with simple tasks that people do, but now it can take over many kinds of work that humans usually do. In education, you can see AI in smart learning tools that give personalized answers and tips based on what each student needs.

These tools use special computer programs called machine learning to understand and respond to students better. AI helps make learning more efficient and tailored to each person's needs. Even with all the benefits AI brings, humans still play an important role in guiding and controlling how AI is used (Muis et al., 2025). This study shows that AI is not just a simple tool, but a reflection of the values that shape society. In the Islamic view, a civilized society is not only about making progress in material things, but also about achieving a balance between knowledge, faith, and moral behavior.

AI can be used in line with Islamic values by applying Sharia ethics throughout the development of technology. For example, when using data, we must protect people's privacy, which is part of Islamic teachings. Algorithms should not have unfair biases, and AI should be used to help people and society, not just for making money.

This follows the idea of Maqasid Al-Shariah, which focuses on improving people's lives as the main goal.

These results agree with the ideas of earlier scholars, like Al-Rashid (2022), who said that using technology in Islam is not about separating from religious values, but about showing devotion to God through learning and doing good deeds. Therefore, AI can help create an "Islamic digital civilization" that is fair, ethical, and focused on the well-being of all people.

Technology, History, and The Future Of Human Civilization

Recent studies show that artificial intelligence, or AI, has a big potential to make life better for Muslims. One way it does this is by changing how people get and learn about religious knowledge. AI is being used to make apps that help explain the Quran using natural language processing, automatically sort hadith, and even create personalized Islamic learning plans that fit individual needs. This technology helps solve the problem of limited access, especially for people in distant areas or those with few resources.

AI also helps spark conversations about a more modern and kind version of Islam by giving tools to study religious texts more deeply. This encourages a better understanding of Islamic teachings in their real-life context, helping to deal with today's problems and support values like justice, fairness between men and women, and caring for others. From the viewpoint of maqāsid al-sharī'ah, which are the main goals of Islamic law, using AI in religious study can be seen as a way to protect reason, knowledge, and the well-being of the community, as long as it is used ethically and doesn't replace the role of religious experts (Universitas, Negeri, Palu, Shodiq, et al., 2025).

However, AI has not yet reached its full potential. The main issues that have come up are the low level of digital skills among Islamic religious teachers, the lack of ethical rules, and the strong influence of Western ideas on the algorithms and AI models used in Islamic studies. Therefore, to make AI help society better, a complete plan is needed. This includes improving the digital skills of Islamic scholars and academics, creating AI that follows Islamic values, and making ethical rules that involve Muslim scholars, scientists, and technologists working together.

From these findings, it can be seen that AI is not just a tool but can also change the way people think about Islamic religious studies. When used properly based on values, AI can be a key tool in strengthening society, both in the areas of science and spirituality, as well as in taking an active part in the global digital world.

With the rise of AI, human civilization is going through big changes. Not only can AI help solve problems, but it can also take on roles that humans usually do, like in education, problem-solving, and finding answers. More widely, AI is believed to be able to analyze the economy, and there is already a digital currency called cryptocurrency. AI can also serve as an expert in explaining religious teachings, which are usually handled by religious leaders. However, if human civilization starts to rely too much on AI, then whether AI can take the place of human authority in different areas is still unclear (Dwiyama & Wirayama, 2025).

This is because AI is seen as lacking human consciousness. Throughout history, humans have shown a range of emotions, both good and bad. Problems like war, genocide, colonialism, and poverty have happened because human civilization often puts personal interests before the greater good (Riza et al., 2023).

Islamic Ethics is The Philosophical and Normative Basis

In developing artificial intelligence, a deep look shows that Islamic ethics is more than just about personal behavior. It also gives important values for building social and scientific systems, including technology. Islam has a long history of combining knowledge, faith, and ethics. Within this tradition, science, including AI, isn't seen as neutral. It is always connected to values and goals that agree with Islamic law. Islamic ethics acts as a guiding base that helps shape AI in a way that makes it helpful for society, not a tool for control. The idea of *maqasid sharia*, which was first developed by al-Shatibi and later updated by Jasser Auda, is the main idea used in this discussion (Universitas, Negeri, Palu, Akbar, et al., 2025).

Maqāṣid Al-Sharī'ah

The main goals or purposes of Islamic law, called *Maqāṣid Al-Sharī'ah*, help determine if a policy or new idea is ethical. This idea was first introduced by Al-Ghazali and al-Shatibi, and later expanded by modern thinkers like Yusuf Al-Qaradawi and Jasser Auda. These five main goals—protecting religion, life, intellect, family, and wealth—can guide how AI technology is developed within an Islamic context. Using AI in Islamic studies should focus on what's best for everyone and ensure fairness. New studies show that *Maqāṣid Al-Sharī'ah* is the key ethical guide for creating and checking AI technology (Riza et al., 2023).

The *Maqāṣid Al-Sharī'ah* approach offers an important way to decide if modern things, like Artificial Intelligence (AI), are allowed, helpful, or dangerous. This method focuses on making sure Islamic law helps achieve five key parts of human life: protecting religion, protecting reason, protecting life, protecting wealth, and protecting future generations. In Islamic education, looking at AI through this lens can help us see if it supports these important values or hurts them.

Ḥifẓ al-Dīn

In Islamic education, protecting and preserving religion is the main focus of all learning activities, including how technology is used. AI can be a helpful tool to spread Islamic messages and improve people's knowledge of Islam. Examples of this include chatbots that answer questions about Islamic law, apps that help with memorizing the Quran, and tools that show prayer times based on where you live. These tools make it easier and faster for Muslims to follow their religious practices.

But there are also some risks. If AI tools are made without input from religious experts or checked by religious leaders, there could be wrong or misleading information. So, keeping religion safe isn't just about making information easy to get—it's also about making sure the information is correct and true. Under the principle of *ḥifẓ al-dīn*, it's important for religious scholars, teachers, and religious leaders to be involved in checking and managing AI-based Islamic education programs to make sure they are reliable and accurate.

Hifz al-'Aql

AI in education can help students improve their thinking skills, creativity, and understanding. Systems that change based on student needs, AI tools that track learning, and virtual teachers can create better personalized learning experiences and help students grow intellectually faster.

But in Islamic education, developing reasoning is important not just for learning faster, but also for keeping thinking clear and based on religious values. If AI presents religious content without explaining the background or tells only simple stories, it might confuse or overwhelm students' thinking, especially if they don't have teachers to help explain things properly.

Also, spending too much time on technology and losing the ability to think deeply are problems that need to be considered. Islamic education should make sure that AI is used to strengthen reason and understanding (*tathqīf*), not to take away students' ability to think critically or to ignore the scientific discussions and traditions that are part of classical Islamic learning.

The Relevance of Maqāṣid In The World Of Digital Islamic Education

From the analysis above, it is clear that the maqāṣid approach is important for understanding how AI can be used in Islamic education. On one side, AI brings many benefits in areas like making learning more efficient, personalized, and inclusive. But on the other side, AI also has risks that could go against the main goals of Islamic education if it is not controlled with proper maqāṣid and ethical values.

So, the maqāṣid approach acts as a way to guide and manage the use of technology, including AI, to make sure it stays a useful tool that supports the main goals in line with sharia.

This shows how important it is for different groups, like technology creators, Islamic scholars, education experts, and ethicists, to work together when making rules and designing AI systems that follow the principles of maqāṣid al-sharī'ah. With this approach, AI in Islamic education can become a helpful tool that supports sharia values if it is properly guided. AI can help protect religion, reason, life, property, and family, but it could also cause harm if it isn't properly managed based on correct values (Supriatin et al., 2025).

Islamic Ethical Values

Islamic ethical values play a crucial role in the development and application of artificial intelligence (AI) in education. Principles such as justice, responsibility, transparency, and trustworthiness are the primary foundation for ensuring that AI technology is used in accordance with Islamic teachings. Justice requires that AI algorithms be created inclusively and free from bias, thus providing equal opportunities to everyone, regardless of social, economic, or geographic background. Responsibility demands that technology developers and educators take full responsibility for the impact of AI use, both technically and in terms of its impact on students' moral and spiritual values. Transparency is also crucial for building trust in AI. AI systems must be clearly designed so that decision-making processes are understandable to users,

especially educators and students, to eliminate concerns about data manipulation or decisions that conflict with Islamic values. User privacy must also be maintained in accordance with Islamic principles that safeguard individual dignity (Ardhi et al., 2025).

In the educational context, student data must be managed securely and used only for relevant learning purposes. Islamic ethics also contribute to the development of student character through the use of AI. This technology serves not only as a learning tool but also as a medium for internalizing Islamic values such as honesty, discipline, and responsibility. For example, AI can be used to provide interactive Islamic content that not only imparts knowledge but also instills ethical values in students' daily lives. However, implementing Islamic ethics in AI technology requires an organized and strategic approach. Therefore, collaboration between Islamic scholars, technology developers, and educators is needed to ensure these ethical principles are applied at every stage of technology development and use. Furthermore, clear regulations are needed to ensure that AI technology used in education meets Islamic ethical standards. Thus, AI can become an innovative tool while contributing to shaping a just and equitable civilization (Kholilah & Yanuar, 2025).

CONCLUSION

Artificial intelligence (AI) has great potential to become an instrument of modern Islamic civilization if developed and implemented within an Islamic ethical framework. AI can support digital da'wah (Islamic outreach), strengthen Islamic education, and improve social governance based on the maqasid al-syariah (the principles of Islamic law). However, successful integration requires moral commitment and ethical policies to ensure that technology is inseparable from the values of monotheism and public welfare. This research provides a conceptual contribution to the effort to build a technological paradigm based on Islamic spirituality. Future research can explore concrete implementation models for Islamic AI in education and public services.

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