

**1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
RELIGION, SOCIETY & TECHNOLOGY:**

EMERGING TRENDS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

ICRST 2026

**CONFERENCE
ABSTRACTS**



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ICRST-2026

CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

1st International Conference on
Religion, Society & Technology:
Emerging Trends in the Digital Age

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DEDICATION

In Loving Memory of
Haji Taj Ud Din

(May Allah have mercy upon him)

Whose enduring legacy of faith, service,
and commitment to Islamic learning continues
to inspire the vision and mission of
Taj Islamic Research Center (TIRC)

May Allah Almighty forgive him, accept his services,
and grant him the highest ranks in Jannah.

Ameen.

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Sr. No.	Paper Title	Author(s)	Page
1	Media, Identity Crisis and the Socio-Political Impact of 9/11: A Study of Khas-o-Khashak Zamany	Dr. Tahira Ghafoor	1
2	Intervention Study in Communication and Interpersonal Skills through Training on Life Skills-Based Education	Muhammad Salman Qureshi, Dr. Sheeba Farhan, Dr. Tooba Atif	2
3	Artificial Intelligence and Contemporary Islamic Jurisprudence: A Critical Study in the Light of Islamic Legal Maxims	Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq	3
4	An Islamic Ethical Framework on AI-Mediated Erosion of Human Moral Reasoning	Umaira Khalid	4
5	Digital Technologies, Muslim Youth Agency and Implications for Religious Learning and Identity Formation	Rayhan Habiburrahman	5
6	Social Media and Religious Communication: Balancing Freedom of Expression, Religious Harmony and Digital Governance in the Age of AI	Muhammad Irshad Ijaz	6
7	Effect of Social Media Use on Digital Literacy and AI Emotional Support among University Students	Dr. Mussarat Jabeen Khan	7
8	Encounter Without Proximity: Toward a Framework for Digital Interfaith Dialogue in Polarized Ecosystems	Muhammad Usama	8
9	Digital Humanities in Islamic Higher Education: Bridging the Digital Skills Gap among Researchers in Pakistan	Dr. Rehana Mureed Ali	9
10	Artificial Intelligence in the Islamic Perspective: A Research and Analytical Study of Its Religious, Ethical, Jurisprudential and Civilizational Dimensions	Dr. Talib Hussain Hashmi	10

Sr. No.	Paper Title	Author(s)	Page
11	Religious Education in the Digital Era: Emerging Trends, Challenges, and Future Directions	Dr. Sofia Mehboob	11
12	Religion and Artificial Intelligence: Ethical Challenges, Opportunities and Human-Centered Governance	Huma Hanif	12
13	Artificial Intelligence, Digital Harassment, and Female University Students in Pakistan: An Islamic Ethical Perspective	Bakhtawar Imdad Hussain, Momna Shahbaz Ahmed	13
14	How Can Religious Literacy Be Reconstructed in the Digital Era? Critical Digital Engagement and Interreligious Understanding in the Age of Artificial Intelligence & Social Media	Ramli, Rayhan Habiburrahman	14
15	Digital Pedagogy in Islamic Education: Challenges, Opportunities, and Future Directions	Maria Gul	15
16	Algorithmic Taqwā: A Normative Governance Framework for Trustworthy Religious Artificial Intelligence	Dr. Ahmet Alkan	16
17	Digital Identity Formation among Youth in the Digital Age: Opportunities, Challenges, and Religious Perspectives	Tasleem Kousar	17
18	Protecting Women's Rights in the Digital Age: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Pakistan's Contemporary Legal Reforms (2024–2025) in the Light of Maqāṣid al-Sharīʿah	Sofia Yaseen	18
19	The Role of University Education in the Academic and Research Development of Madrasa Graduates in the Digital Age: An Analytical Study	Amir Hussain Shahzad	19
20	Technology, Policy, and Power: Rethinking Governance in the Digital Age	Zarqa Zulifqar	20

Sr. No.	Paper Title	Author(s)	Page
21	The Digital Transformation of Islamic Studies: Emerging Trends, Challenges, and Future Prospects	Muhammad Abdul Mustafa	21
22	Technology, Ethics, and Human Values: Challenges and Solutions in the Modern Digital Age from an Islamic Perspective	Hafiza Uzma Arshad	22
23	Prophetic Principles of Teacher Education and the Educational Demands of the Digital Age: An Analytical Study in the Light of the Prophetic Seerah	Dr. Wajid Ali	23
24	Artificial Intelligence Algorithm in Fatwa: Challenges to Sharia Authorities (Ulama)	Syukra Latif; Arif Rahmat Triasa	24
25	The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Religious Perspective: An Analytical Study	Shahida Parveen, Dr. Noor Hayat Khan	25
26	Digital Technology and the Preservation of Human Values: An Islamic Ethical Perspective	Dr. Muhammad Qasim Butt	26
27	Artificial Intelligence-Driven Public Service Marketing: Digital Service Quality, Citizen Trust, and Ethical Governance in the Digital Era	Abdullah Farooq	27
28	Artificial Intelligence in Christian Religious Education: Practical Opportunities, Ethical Risks, and the Role of Pastoral Mentorship	Ashir Khurshid	28
29	Digital Pedagogy in Islamic Education: Challenges, Opportunities, and Future Directions	Maria Gul	29
30	Contemporary Manifestations of Religious Extremism (Ghuluw fi al-Din): An Analytical Study in the Light of the Qur'an and Sunnah	Hafiza Mahnoor; Mufti Ziauddin	30

Sr. No.	Paper Title	Author(s)	Page
31	Causes of Inactivity and Moral Decline in Religious Societies	Aisha Sadiqa Butt	31
32	Contemporary Muslim Intellectual Crisis: Causes, Challenges, and Prospects	Irfanullah	32
33	Religion Education in the Digital Era: An Analytical and Critical Review of the Methodology of (Come, Understand the Qur'an) by Al-Falah Manzil Trust	Salma Mustafa	33
34	Income and Livelihood Challenges Faced by Widowed Women in Tehsil Jand	Iqra Batool Khan	34
35	A Comparative Study of Islamic and Modern Psychotherapeutic Approaches to Mental Health Enhancement	Fatima Sadia	35
36	Women's Modesty and Chastity in the Era of Social Media: A Research Study in the Light of Islamic Teachings	Farhana Sabira	36
37	Religious Education in the Digital Age: New Avenues of Knowledge Dissemination	Salma Bibi	37
38	Reforming Taxation System of Pakistan through Islamic Principles in the Digital Age	Dr. Robina Mahmud Baig	38
39	The Role of Global Interfaith Organizations in the Digital Age: A Critical Study of Opportunities and Challenges for Dialogue, Religious Harmony, and Peacebuilding	Noor Ul Ain Izhar	39
40	An Analysis of the Necessity and Effectiveness of Religious Education for the Betterment of Muslim Youth in the Digital Era	Dr. Moazzam Ali	40

Sr. No.	Paper Title	Author(s)	Page
41	Religious Hate Speech and Sectarianism on Social Media in Pakistan: Causes, Effects, and Preventive Strategies	Dr. Naveed Khan, Ghulam Muhammad	41
42	The Role of Modern Technology in the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities: An Analytical Study in the Context of Pakistani Society and Islamic Teachings	Smara Hanif	42
43	AI-Driven Marketing in the Contemporary Digital Age: A Juridical Study from the Perspective of Islamic Law	Muhammad Ammar Masood Cheema	43
44	The Role of Religious Education in Shaping Ethical Frameworks for the Digital Economy	Attaullah	44
45	Religion, Ecology and a Sustainable Future: Shaping Environmental Ethics through Seerat-un-Nabi ﷺ in the Context of the Digital Age	Sadia	45
46	Commission-Based Agreements in the Transport Sector: A Juridical Analysis under Islamic Law	Muhammad Kashif	46
47	Strengthening Family Relationships in the Digital Age: An Analytical Study in the Light of the Islamic Concept of Ṣilat al-Raḥim (Maintaining Kinship Ties)	Samina Akhtar	47
48	When Algorithms Meet the Alim: Religion, Society and the Explainability Gap in Pakistan's Digital Islamic Banking Sector	Saman Fatima	48
49	Exploring the Predictors of Appearance Anxiety in Generation-Z: Role of Parasocial Interaction and Self-Objectification	Umm e Habiba	49
50	The Personalities and Roles of Women Mentioned in the Holy Qur'an: Guidance for the Contemporary Era	Maria Younas	50

Sr. No.	Paper Title	Author(s)	Page
51	Monotheism in the Teachings of Jesus: A Comparative Study of the Gospels and the Development of Early Christian Doctrine	Maria Younas	51
52	Artificial Intelligence, Youth, and Religious Education in the Digital Era: Opportunities, Challenges, and Ethical Considerations	Muskan	52

Media, Identity Crisis and the Socio-Political Impact of 9/11: A Study of Khas-o-Khashak Zamany

Dr. Tahira Ghafoor¹

September 11, 2001, altered the socio-political dynamics of the world of the twenty-first century in terms of culture, politics and literature. After these terrible events, religion was associated with politics and the portrayal of Muslims in the media started to propagate prejudices and stereotypical images of religion. All these contributed to the identity crisis of people. In the novel Khas-o-Khashak Zamany, Mustansar Hussain Tarar shows all these phenomena in the character of Inamullah. Throughout his life, Inamullah has to suffer from discrimination and ostracization. In his childhood, he has to face discrimination while under martial law he tries to present himself through writing and faces persecution for this. Feeling unwanted in his own land, he has to migrate to the United States of America in pursuit of safety and opportunities. But the world post 9/11 is not kind to him either. He becomes victimized despite being just an average Muslim and a taxi driver having nothing to do with terrorism. This paper examines the psycho-social and political aspects of the identity crisis faced by Inamullah. It looks into how the media discourse, religion and the state policies impact on the formation of identity and inter-personal relations. It is claimed that not only was there marginalisation of Muslim identity following 9/11, but that it had long-term socio-psychological consequences for today's society.

Keywords: 9/11, Politics, Religion, Media, Society, identity, Muslim, Prejudice, Hatred, Influences

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Intervention Study in Communication and Interpersonal Skills through Training on Life Skills-Based Education

Muhammad Salman Qureshi¹ Dr. Sheeba Farhan² Dr. Tooba Atif³

Good communication and interpersonal skills are important attributes in the workplace and health care environment, but not emphasized in traditional training programs. This study suggests an intervention to improve these two domains based on Life Skills Based Education (LSBE) approach. The training consists of lectures, case studies and role plays based on case scenarios taken from the Manual on Life Skills Based Knowledge. The eight topics in the original manual are of interest, but the present research concentrates on two selected topics to boost communication, inter-personal skills and in turn, empathy, collaboration and decision-making. A total of 50 university students (25 nursing and 25 MBBS) participated. The quasi-experimental pretest-posttest design was used. The Interpersonal Communication Inventory was used to gather data. Both descriptive and inferential statistics (paired t-tests) were used to analyze the effectiveness of the intervention. The minimum score increased from (53 to 70) and the maximum score increased from (91 to 98) after the training intervention. The descriptive analysis revealed that there was a significant increase in the mean score from pre-test ($M=74.96$, $SD=10.16$) to post-test ($M=84.16$, $SD=5.89$) which indicated improvement in performance and consistency of all test takers. The results indicate that participants' clarity of communication, interpersonal skills, and interpersonal dynamics management skills have improved significantly. In conclusion, these results add to the current training programs by offering practical and evidence-based approaches to developing soft skills in Pakistan.

Keywords: Life, Skill-Based Knowledge, Interpersonal, Communication, Medical, Nursing, Students

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Artificial Intelligence and Contemporary Islamic Jurisprudence: A Critical Study in the Light of Islamic Legal Maxims

Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq¹

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been gradually impacting various aspects of human life, such as education, healthcare, finance, communication, and religious studies. AI is being applied in Islamic Studies for Qur'anic interpretation (Tafsir), searching and authenticating Hadiths (Takhrij), research in classical Islamic literature, classification of fatwas, and academic content preparation. The developments provide good opportunities to enhance access to Islamic knowledge and to facilitate research in the field. They also pose significant Sharī'ah and ethical issues, however. This research investigates the issues surrounding the use of AI in Islamic scholarship such as the reliability and authority of AI-generated religious information, the role of AI in issuing Fatwa, its potential role in Ijtihad, academic integrity, errors and hallucinations in AI-generated religious information, intellectual property, and user privacy. This study is of qualitative type, which is based on Islamic legal and ethical sources. It states that AI is not a standalone source of Islamic law and religious advice but a tool to assist in the decision-making process. The role of human scholarly judgment, verification and accountability is still crucial. Thus, the ethical and Sharī'ah-based guidelines are essential for the responsible use of AI, ensuring that technological development is aligned with the principles and objectives of Islamic law.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Islamic Jurisprudence, *Qawā'id Fiqhiyyah*, *Maqāsid al-Sharī'ah*, *Ijtihad*, *Fatwa*, Islamic Ethics

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An Islamic Ethical Framework on AI-Mediated Erosion of Human Moral Reasoning

Umaira Khalid¹

AI is increasingly an integral part of daily communication, work, decision making and problem solving. While algorithmic bias and privacy concerns have been the focus of the debate on the ethics of AI, far less attention has been paid to the possibility that AI could affect human moral reasoning. The paper delves into the concept of “moral deskilling,” which refers to the diminishing moral reasoning skills that come with relying on AI to make choices for them. Using a qualitative and interdisciplinary approach, the study brings together cognitive perspectives on habituation and Islamic ethical thought (Akhlaq). Islamically, man is not only a decision maker, but also a moral agent and is responsible and accountable through Taklif (responsibility) and is there is his ‘Aql (intellect). The excessive use of artificial intelligence in interpersonal relationships, decision-making in the workplace and emotional situations, can then reduce opportunities for moral reflection and personal responsibility. The paper also presents the concept of “tech asceticism” to characterize the use of technological convenience to escape from the emotional work and moral struggle of human relationships. It insists that the use of AI should be guided by human intentions (Niyyah), character (Akhlaq), and spiritual excellence (Ihsan) and not just by automated judgment.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence Ethics, Moral Deskilling, Islamic Ethics, Human Agency, *Taklif*, *Akhlaq*, *Ihsan*

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Digital Technologies, Muslim Youth Agency and Implications for Religious Learning and Identity Formation

Rayhan Habiburrahman¹

The changing forms of the access and understanding of Islamic knowledge by young Muslims, particularly in Indonesia, have undergone significant changes due to the rapid development of digital technology. No longer are religious learning solely determined by traditional teachers and institutions; the digital platforms have a significant impact on the information young people are exposed to and the way in which they construct their religious identity. This research examines the opportunities and challenges facing Muslim youth in the online space. It demonstrates a range of religious resources that are available to young people and how they can learn online in religious communities and create and share Islamic resources. Meanwhile, algorithmic suggestions can form echo chambers by continually showing information that aligns with users' existing viewpoints, reducing their exposure to differing viewpoints. Likewise, there can be a lack of direct contact with qualified teachers that can affect the development of critical thinking in the learning of religion. The study indicates that digital Islamic learning is not intended to replace the Islamic education in the conventional way. Rather, it is an interactive process of technology and conventional ways of learning Islam. The study proposes a Digital Religious Literacy Framework made up of four interrelated aspects: understanding religion, critically evaluating information, understanding algorithms, and making responsible choices and constructive dialogue, that can help to meet new challenges. These can also complement each other to provide young Muslims with information, critical thinking and responsibility to be informed, critical and responsible users of religious information in digital medium.

Keywords: Muslim Youth, Religious Learning, Digital Religious Literacy, Algorithmic Echo Chambers, Islamic Education, Digital Media

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Social Media and Religious Communication: Balancing Freedom of Expression, Religious Harmony and Digital Governance in the Age of AI

Muhammad Irshad Ijaz¹

The advent of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and social media has revolutionized religious communication, presenting fresh possibilities for disseminating religious information, interfaith dialogue, and community discourse. Meanwhile, they have brought about difficulties like religious misinformation, hate speech, digital extremism, and algorithmic bias, which have posed significant issues concerning freedom of expression, religious freedom and social harmony. This paper examines how these freedoms can be balanced with the need for effective digital governance in the age of AI. The study takes a doctrinal and qualitative approach, examining the relevant constitutional provisions and international human rights instruments, such as Article 18 and 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), Article 18, 19 and 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and Article 19, 20 and 22 of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973. It also takes into account the role of States and social media platforms in combating harmful content on the Internet while respecting fundamental freedoms. The study suggests that the principles of legality, necessity, proportionality, transparency and accountability should guide effective digital regulation. It calls for the need for rights-based AI governance, digital literacy and international cooperation to ensure responsible religious communication, protect religious pluralism and ensure social cohesion in the digital age.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Religious Communication, Digital Governance, Fundamental Rights, Freedom Expression

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Effect of Social Media Use on Digital Literacy and AI Emotional Support among University Students

Dr. Mussarat Jabeen Khan¹

This study examines how social media influences digital literacy and emotional support from artificial intelligence in the university. It was a cross sectional study that involved 400 university students (18-29 years) of both genders from Islamabad and Rawalpindi. The Social Media Use Scale (Tuck & Thompson, 2023), Everyday Digital Literacy Questionnaire (Choi et al., 2023), and 4R Model of Generative AI Based Emotional Support Scale (Yang et al., 2025) were used to collect the data. The study revealed that there was a significant positive correlation between social media usage, digital literacy and AI emotional support. Individual with more social media use tend to exhibit higher digital literacy and more AI emotional support than individuals with less social media usage. The study, however, revealed that the female students of the university are more digitally literate and emotionally supported by AI than male students of the university. The digital literacy and AI emotional support were also higher for the students below 20 years of age than the students above 20 years of age in the university, and no difference was found between the genders and age wise in social media usage.

Keywords: Social media use, digital literacy, AI emotional support, university students

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Encounter Without Proximity: Toward a Framework for Digital Interfaith Dialogue in Polarized Ecosystems

Muhammad Usama¹

This paper will explore the question of whether interfaith engagement through digital media is a form of dialogue or just interaction between religious differences. Although the ease of access, global participation and networking opportunities provided by digital platforms have received much attention, the ethical conditions necessary for meaningful interreligious dialogue, especially from an Islamic perspective, have not been discussed to the same extent. The paper states that digital connection is not necessarily a true dialogue. Algorithmic curation, anonymity, unequal visibility, and polarization can erode trust, openness, and mutual understanding. To fill this void, the study establishes a normative framework for differentiating between dialogue (*hiwār*) and argument (*jadāl*) within the Islamic tradition, and it locates *ta'āruf* (Qur'an 49:13) as an ethical aspiration for interfaith engagement. It also suggests that *amān* (security and safe conduct) and *ḍiyāfah* (hospitality) are necessary prerequisites for a genuine dialogue. The study builds on the theory of constructive interreligious dialogue of Catherine Cornille, but it also critically engages with this theory from an Islamic perspective, and incorporates broader scholarly work on digital religion. The paper uses this framework in the context of online interfaith spaces in the present day, through a process of normative textual analysis and critical engagement with digital religion literature. It contends that digital platforms can present itself as *ta'āruf* but fail to set the ethical conditions that are required for meaningful and responsible interfaith engagement in the digital sphere, and provides an Islamic framework for more meaningful and responsible digital interfaith engagement.

Keywords: Digital Interfaith Dialogue, *Hiwār*, *Jadal*, *Ta'āruf*, *Amān*, *Ḍiyāfah*, Digital Religion, Islamic Ethics

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Digital Humanities in Islamic Higher Education: Bridging the Digital Skills Gap among Researchers in Pakistan

Dr. Rehana Mureed Ali¹

Digital Humanities is a new field that brings together digital technologies and traditional academic research and teaching. But it is not widely used in Islamic higher education in Pakistan. Limited digital skills, lack of institutional support and training opportunities are still common reasons why many researchers and postgraduate students continue to use traditional approaches. This paper discusses the lack of digital skills among researchers in Islamic higher education institutions and the potential of Digital Humanities to enhance research and teaching. The study adopts a qualitative research method, which involves a review of the recent literature on Digital Humanities, higher education, and Islamic Studies, and the identification of key barriers to digital transformation. It is a call for more than access to technology, it is a call for curriculum reform, institutional support, and systematic capacity building. The paper suggests practical solutions to enhance the digital skills of researchers and faculty members, such as specific training, digital research tools, interdisciplinary collaboration, and institutional support. These can improve the quality, efficiency, collaboration and international recognition of Islamic research. The study adds to the debate on religion, technology, and higher education by shedding light on the possibilities of Digital Humanities for sustainable and innovative Islamic scholarship in Pakistan.

Keywords: Digital Humanities, Islamic Higher Education, Digital Literacy, Research Skills, Islamic Studies

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Artificial Intelligence in the Islamic Perspective: A Research and Analytical Study of Its Religious, Ethical, Jurisprudential and Civilizational Dimensions

Dr. Talib Hussain Hashmi¹

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is one of the most transformative technologies of the twenty first century that is impacting education, healthcare, business, governance and religious life. AI presents a great opportunity but also raises questions of ethics, religion and jurisprudence. Islamically, technological innovation is encouraged if it serves the welfare, justice and knowledge of humans and is in accordance with the Qur'an, Sunnah and Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah. AI can be used to assist religious education and religious scholarship by providing digital resources, intelligent search, translation, virtual assistants, and online learning platforms. But it also has implications for privacy, accountability, human dignity, authenticity and moral responsibility. While AI can help access and structure religious information, it is not conscious, spiritual, has a moral agency, or has a religious experience. It is therefore not a substitute for human religious authority, Ijtihād, Ifṭā', or moral judgment, which all require wisdom and contextual understanding, as well as spiritual insight. This study adopts a qualitative and analytical method to explore the religious, ethical, jurisprudential, and civilizational aspects of AI in the context of Islam. It believes that the principles of Islam can be used as a basis for responsible AI governance that upholds human dignity, justice, accountability and the common good. The study concludes that AI should be used as a tool to augment, not replace, human moral and spiritual responsibility.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Islam, Islamic Ethics, Islamic Jurisprudence, *Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah*, AI Governance, Human Dignity, Religious Education

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Religious Education in the Digital Era: Emerging Trends, Challenges, and Future Directions

Dr. Sofia Mehboob¹

The current times have seen the emergence of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and its impact on nearly every aspect of human life, including religious education. Thanks to the Internet, smartphones, social media, online learning platforms and Artificial Intelligence, religious knowledge is more accessible, more quickly disseminated and available across the geographical boundaries. Religious education was primarily passed on through the mosques, madrassas and educational institutions, but with the advent of digital technology new opportunities have emerged to reach learners globally. This is a study of how modern digital technologies can help to promote religious education, their key advantages, emerging issues and potential solutions for their effective use. The research is qualitative and uses relevant books, academic research articles, reports and Islamic sources. The results indicate that digital platforms can play a significant role in improving access to religious knowledge, interactive learning, communication and dialogue with the outside world, and new opportunities for Da‘wah and Islamic pedagogy. But the issues of authenticity, misinformation, credibility and quality of religious content online must be addressed. The study concludes that digital technologies can be used responsibly and are powerful tools for extending and enriching religious education in the modern world with the right scholarly and academic guidance.

Keywords: Religious Education, Digital Era, Digital *Da‘wah*, Islam, Artificial Intelligence, Islamic Pedagogy

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Religion and Artificial Intelligence: Ethical Challenges, Opportunities and Human-Centered Governance

Huma Hanif¹

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is changing education, healthcare, governance, business and social interaction at an unprecedented pace, and poses significant questions regarding human dignity, privacy, justice, accountability, and autonomy. This paper explores the intersection of religion and AI, ethical issues, new opportunities, and the importance of human-centred AI governance. It claims that AI has the potential to improve human welfare and public services, but also has the potential to increase inequality, algorithmic bias, surveillance, misinformation and the loss of human agency if left unchecked. Religious ethical traditions provide useful guidelines—such as those of justice, compassion, responsibility, stewardship, human dignity, and accountability—to guide in these challenges. Using a qualitative and analytical approach, the study explores how religious ethics can contribute to responsible AI development and governance. It also underscores the importance of inter-sector collaboration between policy makers, technologists, ethicists and religious experts in developing clear, inclusive and responsible policies for AI. The paper suggests a human-centered approach in which technological innovation is still oriented towards human well-being, fundamental rights and moral responsibility. It calls for an ethical and a value-based governance of the development of AI, which is not only a technological challenge. Religion can thus play a significant role in the design of AI systems that promote innovation and uphold human dignity and ensure that technology is not a replacement for human judgment.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Religion, Ethics, Human-Centered Governance, AI Governance, Human Dignity, Moral Responsibility, Justice, Accountability

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Artificial Intelligence, Digital Harassment, and Female University Students in Pakistan: An Islamic Ethical Perspective

Bakhtawar Imdad Hussain¹ Momna Shahbaz Ahmed²

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has revolutionized digital communication, education, and social interaction, and has introduced new opportunities for digital abuse. In Pakistan, women students at universities are becoming more vulnerable to the use of AI tools for harassment, such as deepfakes, impersonation, cyberstalking, and non-consensual manipulation of digital content. These practices have the potential to have a significant impact on privacy, dignity, psychological health and engagement in digital environments. The present study explores the issue of AI-driven digital harassment of female students in universities in Pakistan through an Islamic ethical lens. The study adopts a qualitative, doctrinal and analytical method, which is supported by the latest research on the ethics of AI, digital harassment, the Qur'an, Sunnah and Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah. It emphasizes the following principles of Islam, such as Karāmah al-Insān (human dignity), 'Adl (justice), protection of honour (Ḥifẓ al-'Irḍ), privacy, and the principle of preventing harm (Lā Ḍarar wa Lā Ḍirār). The study contends that online harassment has become more sophisticated and potentially more damaging and that more than technological and legal solutions are needed to address it. Islamic values can also be integrated with current regulations to foster responsible use of AI, uphold digital dignity and privacy, and create safer and more inclusive digital spaces within HEIs in Pakistan.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Digital Harassment, Female University Students, AI Ethics, Deepfakes, Islamic Ethics, *Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah*, Digital Rights, Pakistan

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How Can Religious Literacy Be Reconstructed in the Digital Era? Critical Digital Engagement and Interreligious Understanding in the Age of Artificial Intelligence & social media

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The new technologies (social media, AI, algorithmic platforms) have transformed the teaching, understanding and dissemination of religion. This study explores the potential for the reconstruction of religious literacy in the digital age, using a qualitative, systematic review and thematic synthesis of the literature on digital religion and media studies and religious education. It is clear in the review that digital religious literacy is more than just doctrinal knowledge; it encompasses critical thinking, source evaluation, algorithmic awareness, ethical participation, and interreligious competence. The study identifies five key shifts in religious literacy: access, social media identity, AI religious education, algorithmic religious amplification and participatory religious communities online. The article ends with a framework for 'Digital Religious Literacy', which incorporates an intercultural, ethical, technological and cognitive approach which can aid in responsible and critical engagement with religious information on the internet.

Keywords: Religious literacy; Digital citizenship; Youth; Interreligious dialogue.

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Digital Pedagogy in Islamic Education: Challenges, Opportunities, and Future Directions

Maria Gul¹

The use of digital technology is revolutionising the world of education and posing new challenges for religious education. Islamic education more than any other education, is the sector that is needed to embrace technological innovations, but at the same time retain the authenticity of the knowledge of Islam, moral values, and its philosophy of education. This paper explores the opportunities, challenges and future directions of digital pedagogy in Islamic education by means of qualitative and conceptual analysis from a literature review. It is built on a foundation of classical Islamic educational philosophy and recent studies on digital pedagogy, educational technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to examine the use of technology to facilitate the goals of Tarbiyah (holistic development), Ta'lim (knowledge transmission) and Ta'dib (ethical formation). The study highlights some of the opportunities namely the wider access to Islamic knowledge, personalized learning, increased engagement of students, global interaction and lifelong learning. Concurrently, questions have been raised about the veracity of digital religious content, the ethics of AI governance, digital inequalities, teacher digital competency, and the role of the teacher-student relationship. The paper suggests a value-based approach that combines Islamic educational principles, digital innovations, and emphasizes ethical governance, pedagogical excellence, and impactful learning outcomes. It suggests that digital pedagogy should be used in addition to, not in replacement of, the human, ethical and spiritual elements of Islamic education.

Keywords: Islamic Educational Philosophy, Digital Pedagogy, Educational Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Digital Ethics, Blended Learning

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Algorithmic Taqwā: A Normative Governance Framework for Trustworthy Religious Artificial Intelligen

Dr. Ahmet Alkan¹

As AI becomes more involved in the realm of religious knowledge, guidance, and the understanding of sacred texts, questions of reliability, authority, and ethical responsibility are pertinent. Although current Trustworthy AI frameworks focus on transparency, accountability, fairness, and human oversight, they do not comprehensively cover the theological and ethical issues that arise in the context of religious AI. In this study, Algorithmic Taqwā is proposed as a normative concept for responsible design and governance of AI systems in religious settings. This study explores the ethical issues of AI, global governance, and Islamic ethics through a qualitative conceptual analysis. It proposes to think about religious AI in terms of technical correctness, performance, epistemic responsibility, moral accountability, and ethical purpose. The proposed framework is based on the principles of Islamic belief which are Niyah (intention), Amānah (trustworthiness), 'Adl (justice), Shūrā (consultation), Mas'ūliyyah (responsibility), Ihsān (ethical excellence), and Taqwā (God-consciousness). The study builds on these principles by proposing the Algorithmic Taqwā Layered Governance Model (ATLGM); which combines the normative, epistemological, institutional and adaptive aspects of AI governance. The study concludes that the concept of Algorithmic Taqwā can be used along with current Trustworthy AI practices to add a spiritually motivated and ethically reflective angle to the responsible development and governance of religious AI.

Keywords: AI Ethics, Algorithmic Taqwā, Trustworthy AI, Religious Artificial Intelligence, Islamic Ethics, Algorithmic Governance, AI Governance

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Digital Identity Formation among Youth in the Digital Age: Opportunities, Challenges, and Religious Perspectives

Tasleem Kousar¹

Social Media has become a communication tool and it has become an important environment for the formation of the identity of young people. This study investigates ways that digital engagement can shape youth as they build and craft their identities. The paper examines the relationship between online actions and identity development based on recent literature, such as systematic reviews, longitudinal studies and mixed methods research. The findings suggest that the quality of online engagement is more important than the amount of time spent online. The sense of being authentic, and connected to online communities does, too, as does creating content, which appears to be more effective at fostering identity clarity, than simply being online every day. At the same time, digital engagement may present challenges to identity, academic procrastination, and changes in online activity as a result of major events in the world, such as COVID-19. The study also brings to light the importance of platform-specific motivations and emotional experiences for the formation of the social identities of young people. It states that the study of youth and social media needs to transcend a limited focus on screen time and focus more on the ways youth use digital platforms, why, and how such spaces influence their social and personal development. In an increasingly connected world, one must have a more complex understanding of digital practices to support healthy development of identity.

Keywords: Social Media, Youth, Identity Development, Digital Engagement, Self-Concept, Online Identity, Adolescents

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Protecting Women's Rights in the Digital Age: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Pakistan's Contemporary Legal Reforms (2024–2025) in the Light of Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah

Sofia Yaseen¹

Digital technology is revolutionizing legal governance, public services and access to justice in Pakistan. Digital tools for legal information, reporting, public awareness and institutional services have increasingly supported recent legal reforms with regard to women's rights. This paper will look at these developments within the framework of Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah (the higher objectives of Islamic law) of these four principles of justice, human dignity, protection of life, protection of the family, protection of intellect and protection of public welfare. The study, which adopts a qualitative socio-legal perspective, examines recent changes in the law and in digital governance practices, complaints processes, awareness-raising activities and technology-enabled services to enhance the legal protection and empowerment of women. The research concludes that digital technologies can enable access to justice, transparency and institutional responsiveness. But issues like digital divide, lack of digital literacy, privacy concerns, cyber harassment and implementation gaps are still big hurdles. Technological innovations from a Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah standpoint, should be for the purpose of justice; protecting human dignity; for public welfare; and to ward off harm. The paper concludes that an approach based on the maqāṣid can offer a balanced view to evaluate the legal and technological reforms. The inclusion of Islamic moral values in the concept of responsible digital governance can play a role in more inclusive strategies for the protection of women's rights and for sustainable social development in Pakistan.

Keywords: *Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah*, Women's Rights, Digital Governance, Legal Reforms, Gender Justice, Pakistan, Islamic Law, Access to Justice, Women's Empowerment

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The Role of University Education in the Academic and Research Development of Madrasa Graduates in the Digital Age: An Analytical Study

Amir Hussain Shahzad¹

Educators and scholars of traditional Islamic seminaries (Madarasas) have embraced the digital age, which has ushered in new opportunities and challenges in the fields of education, research and the production of knowledge. In this paper, the role of university education in enhancing the academic research fabric of the Madrasa graduates in the current digital world has been discussed. It discusses the various ways in which access to academic databases, digital libraries, and Artificial Intelligence assisted tools can improve critical thinking, research methodology, academic writing, interdisciplinary engagement, and digital research skills in higher education. The study is qualitative and analytical that incorporates literature and current research on higher education and Islamic studies that are relevant to the study. The results indicate that the process of University education widens the scope of the intellects of the Madrasa educated people and enhances their capacity to face and respond to the current social and academic problems. But factors like different levels of education, language skills, a lack of knowledge about the standards of academic research, and digital illiteracy can impede the transition process. The study recommends that such gaps, if any, can be addressed by greater cooperation and integration between Madarasas and universities, by training researchers in Madarasas, and by providing structured training in digital skills in Madarasas. It concludes that university education can help to bridge the gap between traditional Islamic scholarship and modern academic practices, and that the education received at the madarasas can allow the preservation of religious identity and enable them to contribute to modern scholarship.

Keywords: Madrasa Graduates, University Education, Digital Age, Research Development, Higher Education, Islamic Studies, Digital Literacy

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Technology, Policy, and Power: Rethinking Governance in the Digital Age

Zarqa Zulifqar¹

The fast pace of digital technology development is changing the face of public authority, as platforms become monopolies and automated decision-making increasingly becomes the norm. This paper explores the shifting dynamics between democratic institutions and strong technology companies and how these dynamics play out given private control of critical digital infrastructure. It takes a socio-legal, qualitative and comparative perspective to analyse the regulatory changes in the European Union, the United States and China as well as relevant legal and empirical literature. The results suggest that the key tech companies wield more quasi-sovereign authority and are less accountable than democratic public institutions. The opaque nature of public governance also presents a problem of transparency, accountability and due process, especially where automated decision-making impacts rights or people's access to public services. The study proposes the need for structural policy changes to build institutional legitimacy, such as measures to regulate the power of platform monopolies; the need to introduce mandatory regulation of algorithmic decision making; the need for effective rights to challenge algorithmic decisions; and investment in public digital infrastructure. It concludes that in the digital era there is a need for more robust systems and processes for making sure that technological power is made transparent, accountable, and open to the public.

Keywords: Algorithmic Accountability, Platform Power, Digital Sovereignty, Tech Policy Reform, Administrative Due Process, Digital Governance

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The Digital Transformation of Islamic Studies: Emerging Trends, Challenges, and Future Prospects

Muhammad Abdul Mustafa¹

The use of digital technologies, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and computational humanities has changed Islamic Studies and is changing the way Islamic knowledge is accessed, analysed and disseminated. This paper examines the opportunities and challenges that digital transformation brings and concentrates on the ways of researching, the sources of the classical texts and the changing nature of religious authority. The research adopts a qualitative analytical method, and focuses upon the digital resources that are employed in Al-Maktabah al-Shamilah, text-mining tools, and digital databases for textual research, manuscript preservation and cross-textual analysis. The results indicate that digitisation has made greater classical Tafsir, Hadith collections, manuscripts and other primary sources available, which provides a much quicker research and more international cooperation than before. There are problems with digital scholarship, however, in source authentication, misinterpretation in context, incorrect information and the impact of unverifiable online religious information. These developments could also pose a challenge to the traditional notions of scholarly authority. It is recommended that the use of digital tools be integrated with traditional methods of teaching Islamic studies and not as a substitute. It has found that there is a need to integrate digital literacy with the traditional methods of Islamic research like Usul and critical textual analysis to ensure the reliability, authenticity and intellectual integrity of Islamic knowledge in today's digital era.

Keywords: Digital Humanities, Islamic Studies, Artificial Intelligence, Text Mining, Religious Authority, Digital Literacy, Manuscripts, Hadith Digitization

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Technology, Ethics, and Human Values: Challenges and Solutions in the Modern Digital Age from an Islamic Perspective

Hafiza Uzma Arshad¹

The 21st Century has witnessed tremendous technological advancement in the field of communication and education, business and everyday life. New technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), social media, big data, robotics and digital communication, have introduced many new conveniences and made information more readily available, but they have also introduced new ethical and social dilemmas. One of the major issues of the digital age today is privacy violations, misinformation, cybercrime, digital addiction and the erosion of moral values. Technology is not prohibited by Islam, rather it is Islam that calls for the responsible use of technology in a manner that can benefit the human beings and the society. Using the Qur'an and the Sunnah as a reference, this paper explores the opportunities and moral issues that come with the modern technology from an Islamic perspective. It emphasizes in particular current topics on the subject of AI, social media, digital education, privacy and information technology. The study takes a qualitative and analytical approach to examine the use of technology responsibly within the framework of Islamic ethics. The paper maintains that the development of technology should stay within the sphere of moral responsibility and welfare of human beings. Finally, it suggests the Islamic ethical framework to strike balance between technological innovation and justice, trustworthiness, accountability, human dignity and preservation of moral and social values in the digital era.

Keywords: Technology, Islamic Ethics, Human Values, Artificial Intelligence, Islam, Social Media, Privacy, Digital Age

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Prophetic Principles of Teacher Education and the Educational Demands of the Digital Age: An Analytical Study in the Light of the Prophetic Seerah

Dr. Wajid Ali¹

Digitalization has been an exciting phenomenon that has changed teaching and learning and thus the expectations for teacher education. In addition to pedagogical knowledge, teachers should be more digitally literate, aware of ethical values, communicative, and be able to master the new technologies well. The Prophet's (s) Seerah is analyzed in this paper as a model for teacher training and its significance in relation to the current digital education. The study is based on a qualitative, analytical method, using the Qur'an, Sunnah, classical works of the Prophetic Seerah and literature on education and digital learning. It emphasizes on the importance of Prophetic principles such as wisdom, compassion, justice, dialogue, gradual teaching, demonstration, learner centredness and character development. The results indicate that these principles are still applicable today in the context of online learning, blended learning, and with the help of AI in the education sector. Through the study, the author proposes that the incorporation of Prophetic Educational Values and current pedagogical practices and digital skills will provide a basis for the reinforcement of the professional formation of teachers, while maintaining the human and ethical aspects of education. It is concluded that an Islamic Educational approach with responsible use of information and communication technology can empower teachers to deal with the opportunities and challenges of the twenty first century education and can help them in creating inclusive, ethical and human centered learning environments.

Keywords: Teacher Education, Prophetic *Seerah*, Digital Education, Educational Technology, Islamic Pedagogy, Professional Development, Digital Literacy

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Artificial Intelligence Algorithm in Fatwa: Challenges to Sharia Authorities (Ulama)

Syukra Latif¹ Arif Rahmat Triasa²

The increasing use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in religious contexts, especially within the context of religious edicts (Fatwas) brings an important question into the light: Who will have the authority to decide the future of the Islamic legal approach? AI can be used to look for sources and to analyze classical Islamic texts, yet it cannot have the ethical, spiritual and contextual abilities needed to use it independently in *Istinbāt al-Ḥukm*. The study of the role of AI in Fatwa is based on literature of AI, Islamic law, and religious authority focused on the qualitative and philosophical-normative method of research. The study employs thematic and evaluative analysis methods based on the principles contained in *Uṣūl al-Fiqh* to examine the potential and limitations of using AI in legal reasoning. The results indicate that while AI can enhance access to *Turāth* and facilitate legal research, it is limited in its ability to handle complex contexts, *Maqāṣid*-based, and ethical aspects of legal decision-making. The study claims that the epistemological and normative demands of a *Mujtahid* cannot be fulfilled by AI and it, therefore, should only be used as an assistive tool and not be made an independent religious authority. It suggests an ethical approach of source verification, algorithmic auditing, and qualified scholarly supervision. The study identifies the need to establish Ulama as AI digital curators, interpreters, and verifiers to ensure the integrity, accountability, and contextual relevance of Islamic Legal scholarship in this era of AI.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, *Fatwa*, Religious Authority, *Uṣūl al-Fiqh*, *Ijtihād*, Disintermediation, Technological Ethics

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The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Religious Perspective: An Analytical Study

Shahida Parveen¹ Dr. Noor Hayat Khan²

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is one of the most important technologies of the digital era and has reached a level of application that has fundamentally changed the education, health care, business, governance, communication and scientific research sectors. While having many advantages, AI has also brought up significant moral issues concerning privacy, justice, accountability, misinformation, IP rights, and human dignity. This paper attempts to critically discuss these challenges from the Islamic moral point of view. The study adopts a qualitative, analytical, and descriptive method, and relies on the Qur'ān, Sunnah, classical and contemporary Islamic discussions and texts, and literature regarding the use of AI and ethics. It discusses the potential of AI, its applications and its ethical considerations based on some basic Islamic values such as justice, honesty, accountability, human dignity, privacy and Huqūq al-'Ibād (rights of others). The study contends that AI is not moral or immoral, but rather the moral and immoral aspects of AI are largely determined by its purpose, design, governance, and human use. In Islamic context technological development should be based on moral accountability and aim to human welfare and to avoid harm. The paper concludes by suggesting that an Islamic ethical approach could offer useful insights into how technological innovation works with human values and ensure that AI is subject to considerations of justice, dignity, responsibility, and respect for others.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Moral Challenges, Islamic Ethics, AI Ethics, *Huqūq al-'Ibād*, Human Dignity, Justice

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Digital Technology and the Preservation of Human Values: An Islamic Ethical Perspective

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New communication, education, social interaction and access to information opportunities have emerged due to the rapid spread of digital technology, while at the same time, it poses new ethical questions. These issues such as digital dependency, loss of privacy, poor family relationships, shorter attention spans, and diminished moral and spiritual values are significant issues in today's society. In this paper, these challenges are examined from an Islamic ethical standpoint and how human values can continue to be at the heart of technological advancement will be explored. The study adopts a qualitative and normative method, supported by relevant verses from the Qur'an, the sunnah of the Prophet s.a.w., and classical Islamic ethical principles, an ethics framework for the use of digital technology is constructed. The study makes the point that technology can be good or bad, and that its ethical nature is subjective to the goals, intent and use of the technology. In the Islamic view, good use of the Internet should enhance human dignity, self-control, family and social health and moral obligations. The paper ends by concluding that the inclusion of Islamic moral values in the context of modern digital tools can be beneficial in promoting responsible digital citizenship, safeguarding human values and relations with technology. It can assist individuals and communities to enjoy technological benefits without losing the moral and spiritual aspects of people's lives.

Keywords: Digital Technology, Islamic Ethics, Human Values, Digital Well-being, Responsible Technology, Youth

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Artificial Intelligence-Driven Public Service Marketing: Digital Service Quality, Citizen Trust, and Ethical Governance in the Digital Era

Abdullah Farooq¹

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing the way that public services are delivered, allowing governments to deliver increasingly personalized, more efficient and faster digital services. The use of AI in public service marketing and citizen engagement needs to be paid more attention given its increased use in public administration. This is a conceptual paper exploring the correlation between public service marketing with AI, digital service quality, citizen trust and ethical governance. It suggests that better quality of digital services can act as a mediator between the use of AI in public service marketing and citizen trust, and ethical governance can enhance this link by providing transparency, fairness, accountability and responsible use of AI. The paper suggests that there are benefits for citizens of using AI for added value and engagement when used in the service of the public purpose, rather than for efficiency. The proposed conceptual framework emphasizes the need to integrate the use of AI with the provision of quality digital services and ethical considerations. The study adds to the ongoing debates on the interplay between AI, public administration, marketing, and digital governance by providing a citizen-centric view of AI services to citizens. It brings the following key points to the conclusion: digital service quality, citizen trust and ethical governance are key pillars to ensure that AI supports sustainable, inclusive and responsible public service innovation.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Public Service Marketing, Digital Service Quality, Citizen Trust, Ethical Governance, Digital Government, Public Administration

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Artificial Intelligence in Christian Religious Education: Practical Opportunities, Ethical Risks, and the Role of Pastoral Mentorship

Ashir Khurshid¹

Christian Religious Education is facing challenges and opportunities as a result of the influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on people in the way they access information, communicate and learn. This paper explores the possibilities of using AI in the context of seminaries, theological institutions and churches in the light of Christian ethics. AI can help in the study of sacred texts, to enhance theological education online, aid in translation, and make historical and religious archives accessible. At the same time, the proliferation of its use also poses issues of algorithmic bias, misinformation, lack of spiritual authenticity and the diminishing role of personal mentorship in faith formation. The study, based on a Christian theological perspective, takes a multi-faceted approach to identifying the ways in which AI has the potential to be a valuable adjunct to administration, research and educational practices, but not a substitute for human and pastoral relationships that are integral to Christian discipleship and teaching. The paper highlights the need to set ethical limits to the use of AI in Christian institutions. It concludes that digital technologies should be used as a tool and not a replacement for human guidance, spiritual formation and personal relationships. With a responsible approach to the integration of AI, Christian educational institutions can maximize the use of technology and make the most of technological advancements while maintaining the relational, ethical and spiritual foundations of religious education.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Christian Religious Education, Christian Ethics, Theology, Digital Education, Spiritual Formation, Religious Institutions

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Digital Pedagogy in Islamic Education: Challenges, Opportunities, and Future Directions

Maria Gul¹

With the advent of the fast and rapid development of digital technology, the educational practices in the world have also undergone a transformation, and new opportunities and challenges have emerged for Islamic education. This paper explores the possibilities for digital pedagogy to support Islamic education whilst remaining faithful to the Islamic philosophy, moral values and authenticity of religious knowledge. The study adopts a qualitative and conceptual approach, utilizing a literature review of pertinent works, and is rooted in classical Islamic educational philosophy, alongside of current research on digital pedagogy, educational technology, and Artificial Intelligence (AI). It talks about the use of digital technology to facilitate the goals of Tarbiyah (holistic development), Ta'lim (knowledge transmission) and Ta'dib (ethical formation). It provides opportunities such as access to Islamic knowledge being broadened, AI integrated personalized learning, engagement of students, interaction with students from across the globe, and lifelong learning. Concurrently, it identifies issues regarding the credibility of digital religious materials, ethical AI governance, digital inequity, digital competencies of teachers and maintaining teacher-student relationships. The paper presents a value-based framework, which combines the Islamic teaching principles of education with digital innovations, with special attention to ethical governance, effective pedagogy and meaningful learning outcomes. It suggests that digital technology should be used to enhance and not replace the human, ethical and spiritual aspect of Islamic education. The integration can be a part of developing inclusive, resilient and ethically sound schools and learning spaces that will meet the opportunities and challenges of the digital era.

Keywords: Islamic Educational Philosophy, Digital Pedagogy, Educational Technology, Digital Ethics, Artificial Intelligence, Blended Learning

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Contemporary Manifestations of Religious Extremism (Ghuluw fi al-Din): An Analytical Study in the Light of the Qur'an and Sunnah

Hafiza Mahnoor¹ Mufti Ziauddin²

Islam teaches moderation and balance in all activities and ghuluw fi al-din (excessiveness in religion) has been forbidden in the Qur'an and Sunnah. Nowadays, religious extremism has emerged in new forms, such as takfir, sectarian prejudice, over-sentimentalized veneration of religious figures, hateful social media content and misaligned religious scripture interpretation. Such developments can help divide Muslim societies, foster religious intolerance and intellectual fragmentation. The study discusses the concept of ghuluw fi al-din in the text of the Qur'an and Sunnah, its modern forms and the causes of it, and the Islamic solutions to it. The research employs a qualitative and analytical approach, based on the Qur'an, the prophetic traditions, and the tafasir, as well as classical and modern Islamic scholarship. The results show that some of the most significant factors that cause religious extremism in the present society are the lack of understanding of religious text, weakness of intellect, rigidity of ideology, and irresponsible use of digital media. The study suggests that the Qur'an and Sunnah contain good instructions for combating ghuluw by moderation, wisdom, justice, tolerance, intellectual discernment and respectful disagreement. It concludes that the promotion of balanced understanding of Islam is vital to the fight against modern religious extremism and to building social cohesion and religious tolerance.

Keywords: *Ghuluw fi al-Din*, Religious Extremism, Islamic Moderation, *Takfir*, Social Media, Religious Tolerance, Qur'an and Sunnah

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Causes of Inactivity and Moral Decline in Religious Societies

Aisha Sadiqa Butt¹

In the present religious society the difference between the knowledge of religion and its actual practice, as well as unethical actions are important intellectual, moral and social problems. It has impact not only on the individual and at community level, but also at the national level, stability of society and in the international perception of Muslim societies. This study outlines the key drivers and implications of the gap between knowledge and practice and looks at various solutions. It is a reflection on issues such as poor moral and character growth, poor personal responsibility, educational failure, social apathy, leadership issues, and a failure to hold people accountable. The study makes the point that religious knowledge alone does not have significant social consequences unless it is brought into the realm of ethical conduct and responsible action. This disconnection can have a negative impact on nation-building, intellectual development, social cohesion and the positive role of Muslim societies at the international level. The study is made using qualitative and analytical method, which focuses on comprehensive moral education, character building, self-reform, quality education, responsible leadership, effective accountability and social responsibility. It argues that any meaningful reform must be accompanied by its application in practice and that religious values must permeate the personal, social and institutional lives. This can help to reinforce the intellectual and moral growth of religious societies and improve their positive impact upon national progress and world society.

Keywords: Religious Societies, Knowledge and Practice, Moral Decline, Character Building, Social Responsibility, Islamic Ethics

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Contemporary Muslim Intellectual Crisis: Causes, Challenges, and Prospects

Irfanullah¹

The modern Muslim society is in an intellectual crisis, in the field of education, scientific development, culture and sociopolitical life. Yet in many Muslim societies limited research productivity, outmoded education and training systems, suppressed intellectual innovation, and an eroding culture of inquiry remain. Even with the deep legacy of critical questioning in the Qur'an and in Islamic intellectual traditions, many Muslim societies still struggle to achieve significant research productivity, antiquated education and training systems, intellectual stagnation, and a declining culture of enquiry. This study explores the key factors, problems and opportunities of the modern crisis of Muslim intellect through the qualitative method. The study argues that the crisis is epistemological and not theological based on the teachings of the Qur'an, classical Islamic literature and the thoughts of scholars from within the Muslim community like Muhammad Iqbal, Fazlur Rahman, Seyyed Hossein Nasr, Ismail Raji al-Faruqi, and Taha Jabir al-Alwani. A number of key factors were identified in the findings: stagnation of education; absence of a strong culture of research; dichotomy between religious and scientific knowledge; lack of intellectual renewal, and political instability. The study also posits a call for the reengagement with the Qur'anic tenets of reflection (*tafakkur*), reasoned thinking (*ta'qqul*), and deep contemplation (*ta'abbur*) as a means to a meaningful intellectual revival. It concludes that there is a need for educational reform and interdisciplinary scholarship, development of research and enhanced interaction between Islamic and contemporary knowledge if there is a desire to revitalize the intellectual life and deepen the contribution of Muslim society to the world's knowledge.

Keywords: Contemporary Muslim Intellectual Crisis, Qur'anic Epistemology, *Tafakkur*, *Ta'aqqul*, *Tadabbur*, Islamic Education, Intellectual Revival

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Religion education in the digital era: An Analytical and Critical Review of the Methodology of (Come, Understand the Qur'an) by Al-Falah Manzil Trust

Salma Mustafa¹

This research critically reviews the methodology used by Al-Falah Manzil Trust for the teaching of their “Aaiye Qur’an Samjhein” (Come, Let’s Understand the Qur’an) program that aims at promoting understanding of the Qur’an among the masses by simple, accessible and contemporary explanations. The study assesses the language features in the program, whether they are in Arabic or English, and the program's approach to the classical principles of tafsir, as well as its effectiveness in promoting audience understanding and engagement with the Qur’ān. There are some strengths identified, notably the clarity and relevance of the program, its presentation at a suitable level, and the motivational approach taken. Concurrently, it seeks to highlight where it is possible to improve the scholarly value of this work by using a more rigorous approach in terms of academic rigor, a more systematic approach with regard to the principles of referencing, and a greater engagement with the methods used in traditional Tafsir. The study concludes that “Aaiye Qur’an Samjhein” is an important initiative to reach out to the masses and make their acquaintance with the teachings of the Qur’ān in a simple way. It also recommends the adoption of modern communication techniques and adherence to the classical principles as a means of fortifying public Qur’anic education and outreach. The study provides valuable guidance for students, researchers and educators in the field of effective and academically sound methods for learning Qur'an in the modern context.

Keywords: Al-Falah Manzil Trust, *Aaiye Qur’an Samjhein*, Qur’anic Understanding, *Tafsir*, Qur’anic Education, Religious Outreach

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Income and Livelihood Challenges Faced by Widowed Women in Tehsil Jand

Iqra Batool Khan¹

This study aims to explore the income and livelihood problems of widows in Tehsil Jand of district Attock, Punjab, Pakistan. Widowhood is a condition that frequently leads to economic insecurity, isolation and vulnerability of households in a predominantly patriarchal and semi-arid environment. Women's limited education, restricted mobility, poor vocational training and reliance on men working are other factors that limit their employment opportunities in a sustainable manner. The study adopts a mixed method of data collection whereby both quantitative and qualitative techniques including questionnaire and interviews were used when sampling the widowed women from various union councils of Tehsil Jand. The results show that the barriers to the transmission of property, access to pensions and social protection, and reliance on relatives extend to many widows and result in severe financial problems. The barriers often encountered for women in the job market push them towards informal jobs, such as stitching, livestock raising and domestic work and jobs, where women earn low wages. There is also a link between a lack of financial security and the children's education and household wellbeing. However, the most common means that widows use to support themselves are from Zakat, charity, community resources, and informal loans, all of which are not reliable in the long term. The study suggests specific targeted government assistance, financial literacy initiatives, vocational training, strengthening social protection and enforcement of women's inheritance rights. These can contribute to increasing the economic resilience, dignity and self-reliance for widowed women.

Keywords: Widowhood, Livelihood Challenges, Income Vulnerability, Tehsil Jand, Attock, Women's Empowerment, Informal Labor

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A Comparative Study of Islamic and Modern Psychotherapeutic Approaches to Mental Health Enhancement

Fatima Sadia¹

This paper compares Islamic and modern western psychotherapeutic theories of mental wellness and treatment of psychological problems. The research is conducted qualitatively and analytically, and it will explore the major modern approach such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Psychoanalysis, Mindfulness, and Islamic approach based on the relationship between the Rūḥ (soul), ‘Aql (intellect), and Qalb (heart). Activities of Islam like Ṣalāh (prayer), Du‘ā (supplication), Qur’anic recitation, Dhikr (remembrance of God), Tawakkul (reliance on God), Ṣabr (patience) and Tawbah (repentance) are recognized as the sources of spiritual and emotional support. The comparison implies that whereas the Islamic approach also includes spiritual meaning, moral development, and a relationship with God, the main focus for modern psychotherapy is on psychological, cognitive, and behavioral aspects, using evidence-based therapeutic techniques. The two approaches are not mutually exclusive and the study suggests an integrative model that unites both approaches in the right manner, while incorporating the Islamic spiritual values. This approach could offer a culturally responsive way of promoting psychological well-being for the Muslim community, which is founded on scientific evidence and religious values.

Keywords: Mental Health, Islamic Psychology, Modern Psychology, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, *Tawakkul*, Spiritual Well-Being, Integrative Therapy

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Women's Modesty and Chastity in the Era of Social Media: A Research Study in the Light of Islamic Teachings

Farhana Sabira¹

The present study investigates how to maintain women's modesty and chastity (Iffat-o-Ismat) in the present era of social media, framed within the Islamic Fiqh and ethics perspectives. Social platforms like Instagram, TikTok, Facebook and Snapchat have revolutionized social interaction and self-expression, providing spaces for education, community engagement, Da'wah and even concerns about privacy, cyber-harassment and over-exposure with psychological pressure. It examines the topic of modesty and good manners in Islam as outlined in the Qur'an and Sunnah, and discusses how some of these concepts like Ghadd al-Başar (lowering the gaze), Hijāb, Sitr (privacy), and Ḥayā' (modesty) apply to the digital age. It also explores hyper-visibility and validation-seeking behavior as a result of algorithm-driven platforms. The study is based on the premise that, using Islamic ethical values, responsible interaction with social media via digital mindfulness, selective sharing, privacy protection and moral self-regulation can be fostered. It also highlights the importance of the collaborative effort of scholars, educators, families, and digital content producers in the creation of ethical digital literacy. The study points to Islamic teachings as a complete guideline for managing digital space in ways that consider the dignity, privacy, modesty and spiritual health of all parties.

Keywords: *Iffat-o-Ismat*, Social Media, Islamic Ethics, *Ḥayā'*, *Hijāb*, Digital Privacy, Cyber Ethics, Islamic Jurisprudence

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Religious Education in the Digital Age: New Avenues of Knowledge Dissemination

Salma Bibi¹

Technology has impacted the lives of modern-day in almost every aspect of life, including religious education. The authors examine the role of digital platforms in the access, transmission and reception of religious knowledge in this research. A major advantage of digital education is that there is much more access to religious knowledge than ever before via digital devices. It also raises queries regarding the authenticity, credibility and authority of religious sources on the internet. The other significant difference between information and spiritual formation is the focus of the study. While knowledge can be transferred through digital platforms, this may not be as effective as strengthening the personal relationship, mentorship and ethical development that is traditionally provided by a teacher-student relationship. The research also indicates that simply shifting the classroom learning approach to online is not sufficient. If not led by a well-trained digital teacher, the online delivery of religious education could decrease student engagement, critical thinking and intellectual depth. It takes a qualitative and analytical approach, and proposes a balanced hybrid model that combines the intellectual, ethical, spiritual and global benefits of traditional RE with the accessibility, flexibility and global aspects of digital technology. It suggests that four things are necessary for good digital religious education: access to technology, good quality resources, qualified teachers, and suitable teaching approaches and engagement with real people. This can help to keep the credibility and formative purpose of RE in the digital world.

Keywords: Digital Religious Education, Online Learning, Religious Knowledge, Digital Pedagogy, Hybrid Education

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Reforming Taxation System of Pakistan through Islamic Principles in the Digital Age

Dr. Robina Mahmud Baig¹

Although the tax system of Pakistan has undergone a lot of changes, it still has a number of issues to address such as narrow tax base, compliance issues, corruption, administrative inefficiency, lack of public confidence, etc. Digital technologies offer new avenues to update tax administration, enhance transparency, and boost revenue collection. The paper discusses Pakistan's tax system in the context of Islamic public finance and explores the potential for sustainable tax reforms in the digital age, guided by Islamic principles. The research is based on the principles of justice (‘Adl), trust (Amānah), public welfare (Maṣlaḥah), and social responsibility in the context of digital tax governance and its potential integration with Islamic fiscal values. It proposes a policy-based approach that incorporates e-governance, Artificial Intelligence, data analytics and automated tax administration. The research also makes a case for the use of technology-based tax system that informed by Islamic ethical values can help to facilitate tax compliance, combat corruption, enhance transparency and improve public trust. It also notes that the use of digital innovation should not only be aimed at raising more revenue but should also be conducive to social good and the equitable distribution of resources. The paper concludes that implementation of Islamic public finance principles along with good digital governance practices can contribute towards making the tax system of Pakistan more transparent and efficient in a way which would make it more equitable. This can help to ensure fiscal sustainability and inclusive socio-economic development and can be integrated with Islamic values of ethics.

Keywords: Pakistan Tax System, Islamic Taxation, Islamic Public Finance, Digital Governance, Artificial Intelligence, E-Governance, Tax Reform, Fiscal Policy, Islamic Economics

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The Role of Global Interfaith Organizations in the Digital Age: A Critical Study of Opportunities and Challenges for Dialogue, Religious Harmony, and Peacebuilding

Noor Ul Ain Izhar ¹

Digital technology has shaped religious life in new ways, providing new opportunities for interfaith dialogue, understanding and peaceful communication. Meanwhile, social media can help spread misinformation, prejudice, sectarian hostility and religious polarization. This paper addresses this dual influence of digital technology on interfaith relations by critically analyzing the literature that exists on the topic, institutional plans and initiatives, recent examples, and Islamic literature and sources. Sri Lanka, Myanmar and India illustrate how misinformation, algorithmic dynamics and irresponsible digital practices can exacerbate religious tensions; and how credible and transparent digital interventions can foster tolerance and social cohesion in Jordan, Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Using the principles of justice, compassion, fraternity, and peaceful coexistence from the Islamic tradition, as embodied in the Charter of Medina and teachings from the Qur'an, the study lays the ethical foundation for interfaith digital engagement. It states that technology is not a polarising or unifying force in itself, but rather one that is shaped by the technology platforms, institutions, and users that utilise it. The paper calls for enhanced digital literacy, effective content moderation, interfaith digital efforts, and inter-sectoral cooperation between policy makers, religious scholars, technology companies, and education and training institutions. It finds that good engagement in the digital world can be a powerful tool for interfaith understanding, peace and social cohesion, as long as it is done in an ethical manner.

Keywords: Interfaith Dialogue, Peacebuilding, Digital Technology, Algorithmic Bias, Misinformation, Islamic Teachings, Social Cohesion

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An Analysis of the Necessity and Effectiveness of Religious Education for the Betterment of Muslim Youth in the Digital Era

Dr. Moazzam Ali¹

Muslim youth have been greatly affected by the rapid development of digital media in their intellectual, social, moral and religious life. Digital platforms offer better opportunities for young people to acquire religious knowledge and values through learning, communication and interaction but can also lead to exposure to misinformation, materialistic lifestyles, moral issues, and confusion regarding religious beliefs and values. This research reviews the functions of religious education in the direction of Muslim youths in the digital era. Its emphasis is on maintaining one's faith and improving ethical and social skills, building strong familial bonds, fostering responsible technological use, and understanding legitimate ways of earning a living. The research paper suggests that the religious education that is relevant to the subjects of Muslim youth could be used to give them the ability to differentiate between good and bad in digital content, and to respond to the intellectual and moral challenges of the day. It also highlights the need to leverage the power of digital media to deliver Islam with the medium being the message to younger generations. The research shows that students' balanced, relevant and accessible religious education, through the medium of digital technology, is vital in shaping their beliefs, responsible behaviour, moral awareness and purposeful lifestyles as Muslim youth. The potential of traditional Islamic education combined with the right technology should, therefore, bolster the religious and moral development of young Muslims in a digital world.

Keywords: Religious Education, Muslim Youth, Digital Age, Islamic Ethics, Religious Values, Digital Media, Faith, Moral Development

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Religious Hate Speech and Sectarianism on Social Media in Pakistan: Causes, Effects, and Preventive Strategies

Dr. Naveed Khan¹ Ghulam Muhammad²

The spread of religious hate speech and sectarianism via social media in Pakistan has created a big problem in the field of social, political and security which impacts interfaith tolerance, public attitudes and social peace. The aim of this study was to investigate the causes of religious hate speech and sectarian contents in social media, and their social impacts, as well as how to respond to these phenomena. Its goal is to create an evidence-based and actionable policy framework for decision makers in education, media and community. The study takes a qualitative and comparative approach to examining relevant literature, social media content, reports and case studies, and to pinpoint major patterns and narratives. The results show that political motives, extremist and militant groups, polarization, misinformation and a lack of platform oversight play a key role in the proliferation of religious hate speech. This material may exacerbate religious tensions, stoke stereotypes and trigger social tension and violence. To tackle these challenges, the study suggests, a coordinated effort is needed, and all of these are being achieved through effective legal measures, responsible media policies, digital literacy, educational reform, improving platform accountability, and community-level dialogue. It concludes that, in addition to the issue of regulating harmful content, sustainable prevention is also dependent on the social and ideological conditions that facilitate its spread. The measures of integrated preventive framework can be a significant contribution to religious tolerance, social cohesion and peace in Pakistan.

Keywords: Social Media, Religious Hate Speech, Sectarianism, Digital Extremism, Religious Tolerance, Preventive Strategies, Social Cohesion

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The Role of Modern Technology in the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities: An Analytical Study in the Context of Pakistani Society and Islamic Teachings

Smara Hanif¹

Disabled people may have access difficulties to education, jobs, health care, moving around and social life. Unfortunately, their inclusion and independence are still limited due to lack of access and unequal opportunities in Pakistan. Meanwhile, new innovations in assistive technologies, Artificial Intelligence (AI), digital communication and smart devices are opening new opportunities to enhance their quality of life. This paper aims to discuss how modern technology can contribute to promoting welfare and social inclusion of persons with disabilities in Pakistani society. A qualitative and analytical approach is taken to examine the opportunities and potential impact of technological innovations on access to education, health care, employment and community participation as well as challenges like digital inequality, limited accessibility and insufficient assistive resources. The study builds on Islamic principles and identifies the concepts of human dignity, equality, justice, compassion and responsibility for the weak of the group. It states that Islam promotes the rights and dignity of people with disabilities and the participation of people with disabilities in social life. The study concludes that technology, with the support of inclusive policies and the guidance of Islamic ethical principles can minimize the barriers and improve the educational, social and economic involvement of persons with disabilities. Therefore, the technological innovation which combines with faith based values could play a role to make Pakistan a more inclusive, equitable and dignified society.

Keywords: Persons with Disabilities, Modern Technology, Assistive Technologies, Artificial Intelligence, Social Inclusion, Islamic Teachings, Human Dignity, Pakistan

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AI-Driven Marketing in the Contemporary Digital Age: A Juridical Study from the Perspective of Islamic Law

Muhammad Ammar Masood Cheema¹

With the swift advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI), marketing is being reshaped by automated advertisements, customised suggestions, customer profiling, prediction analytics and even chatbots. These technologies are useful for increasing efficiency and market engagement, but also highlight a number of ethical and Shariah concerns about deception, transparency, privacy, consumer consent and manipulation. This research explores the use of AI in marketing from Islamic points of view and its alignment with Islamic commercial jurisprudence. The study is conducted in a qualitative and analytical method, relying on Qur'an, Sunnah, classical and modern literature in jurisprudence regarding commercial transactions, and the principles of jurisprudence that have been laid down. It emphasizes mutual consent, truthfulness, transparency, avoidance of *Gharar*, prohibition of fraud and deception, respecting privacy and prevention of unjust absorption of wealth. The study concludes that AI can be a neutral technological tool whose status in the light of Shariah is dependent on its purpose, application and consequences. AI-driven marketing can thus be acceptable if it serves to provide accurate information, facilitate transparent transactions, and safeguard consumer interests. Yet, false claims, misleading advertising, manipulation, use of personal information and practices that infringe on the Islamic values of consumers can pose a conflict of interest. The study suggests a framework for ethical AI marketing that is grounded in Shariah principles, which includes principles of fairness, transparency, accountability, consumer protection, and privacy.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, AI-Driven Marketing, Islamic Law, Shariah, Digital Marketing, Islamic Commercial Jurisprudence, *Gharar*, Consumer Protection, Data Privacy, Business Ethics

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The Role of Religious Education in Shaping Ethical Frameworks for the Digital Economy

Attaullah¹

The digital economy has revolutionized the way the world trades, conducts financial transactions, communicates and manages data, and has posed new ethical dilemmas, like privacy breaches, algorithmic bias, digital fraud, and over-consumption. The development of technology tends to outpace the regulations, and with this there is a need to have strong personal and social moral values for responsible engagement in the digital economy. This paper discusses the importance of religious education in the construction of moral systems for digital economic activities. It is its conviction that religious education has the potential to promote values of honesty, fairness, social responsibility, accountability and respect for human dignity which are important for responsible digital behaviours. The study investigates the question of how value-based education could be used in conjunction with the technological and regulatory measures to tackle the emerging ethical challenges, using a qualitative and conceptual approach. The paper also proposes that the religious ethic together with digital literacy can contribute to the responsible choices that one can make as a consumer, professional, entrepreneur and citizen. The study demonstrates that religious education can play a role in developing a more transparent, fair and humane digital economy through enhancing the moral bases of technology use. A balanced strategy of technological innovation, effective governance and ethical education can offer a sustainable framework for addressing the moral complexities of the digital age.

Keywords: Digital Economy, Religious Education, Ethics, Digital Governance, Moral Frameworks, Technology and Values, Digital Literacy

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Religion, Ecology and a Sustainable Future: Shaping Environmental Ethics through Seerat-un-Nabi ﷺ in the Context of the Digital Age

Sadia¹

Due to the ever-changing technological landscape and rising environmental issues, the importance of linking religious values to environmental responsibility and sustainable development is growing. There are certain principles in ecological stewardship that are taught through the life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (saws), such as moderation, avoiding wastefulness (*Isrāf*), animal care, *Ihyā' al-Mawāt* (reviving barren lands) and conservation of *Mīzān* (balance). This research investigates the application of these Prophetic principles in respect of modern technology and how these can be applied to the environment today. The study adopts a qualitative and analytical perspective to explore the potential of digital platforms, data-driven systems, social media and communication technologies to foster environmental awareness, responsible consumption, community engagement and sustainable practices. The research purports that there is the possibility of complementing the Islamic environmental ethics and technological innovation to solve the current environmental problems. While the Seerah offers us the moral and ethical guidance, modern technology can be utilized as a practical way of implementing these values in the environment. The study aims to show that the implementation of Prophetic environmental principles combined with responsible technological innovation can contribute to value-based environmental education, community involvement and sustainable development. This approach can provide a comprehensive model for creating a more responsible, sustainable, and environmentally balanced future, and it will highlight the ongoing importance of Islamic ethical principles in today's environmental challenges.

Keywords: *Seerat-un-Nabi* ﷺ, Environmental Ethics, Islamic Ecology, Sustainability, Modern Technology, *Isrāf*, *Ihyā' al-Mawāt*, *Mīzān*, Ecological Stewardship, Digital Awareness

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Commission-Based Agreements in the Transport Sector: A Juridical Analysis under Islamic Law

Muhammad Kashif¹

Today, many transport services such as freight brokerage, transport agencies and subcontracting, logistics companies, and online transport companies are based on commissions. These arrangements would pave the way for commercial transactions, but important Shariah issues have been raised, such as *Wakālah* (agency), *Ujrah* (remuneration), transparency, mutual consent, and the avoidance of uncertainty (*Gharar*) and deception. This research aims to analyze the status of commission contract in the transport industry based on Shariah through a qualitative and analytical method. It relies on the Qur'an, the Sunnah, classical and contemporary Islamic legal literature, some resolutions from Fiqh academies and Fatwas along with real-life examples from the transport industry. Different types of commission-based arrangements are analyzed and the legal implications are assessed based on the principles of Islamic jurisprudence. The results show that, in general, commissions are acceptable if the commission is clearly defined, tasks are clearly allocated in the contract, and the contract contains no elements of fraud, undue uncertainty, exploitation, or prohibited conditions. But the commission earned through hawala and deceit and concealment is not in accord with the tenets of shariah. The study concludes by recommending its framework based on Shariah principles, which has a strong focus on transparency, fairness, mutual consent and ethical behavior in today's transport transactions. These values can be used to ensure that today's commercial transactions do not go against the laws and ethics of Islam.

Keywords: Commission-Based Contracts, Transport Sector, Islamic Jurisprudence, *Wakālah*, *Ujrah*, *Gharar*, Shariah Compliance, Commercial Transactions, Islamic Law

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Strengthening Family Relationships in the Digital Age: An Analytical Study in the Light of the Islamic Concept of *Şilat al-Raḥim* (Maintaining Kinship Ties)

Samina Akhtar¹

Digital technology has changed the way people interact with each other, and brought some new ways of communicating as well as some problems with family relations. Spending too much time on social media, digital entertainment and communication via the internet can also lead to emotional detachment and less physical interaction. This research focuses on the concept of *Şilat al-Raḥim* (maintaining kinship ties) and the significance of this concept in relation to the family relationship in the digital era. It delves into the ways that social media, messaging groups, video conferencing and digital tools can keep families connected and in emotional touch when they're separated by distance. The study suggests that the use of technology does not necessarily negatively affect family togetherness but rather depends on the intentional and responsible manner in which it is used. Islamically, *Şilat al-Raḥim* is not just about going to someone's house but about being concerned, feeling for each other, being responsible for each other, being concerned with each other, and communicating meaningfully. The study also concludes that a combination of these values and responsible digital practices can foster positive family bonds, emotional health and well-being, and social connectedness. Technology can thus help to bring digital communication to a tool that can support relationships with kin instead of distracting them. Through this lens, the remaining significance of Islamic moral concepts in today's society in the context of evolving relationships within the family becomes apparent.

Keywords: *Şilat al-Raḥim*, Kinship Ties, Digital Age, Family Relationships, Islamic Ethics, Social Connectivity, Digital Well-being

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When Algorithms Meet the Alim: Religion, Society and the Explainability Gap in Pakistan's Digital Islamic Banking Sector

Saman Fatima¹

Islamic banking heavily depends on the trust of the public that financial products are Shariah compliant due to the verification of financial products by the scholars of the Holy Quran, who are experts in Shariah. As Artificial Intelligence (AI) and automated decision making are increasingly adopted in the Islamic digital banking industry in Pakistan, new questions have emerged regarding the traceability and accountability of Shariah compliance. In this paper, the implications of automation in the governance of shariah are discussed in the context of the new trend in digital banking system and the regulatory framework of the State Bank of Pakistan. The study, which uses a doctrinal analysis, contrasts Pakistan's Digital Banking Framework and Shariah Governance Framework against the new approaches in the international arena on algorithmic accountability. It maintains that the current regulatory frameworks offer limited guidance for auditing and explaining algorithms, contributing to the potential disconnect between Shariah certification in the design process and the functioning of automated systems. This can lead to a higher possibility of non-compliance of Shariah and lessens the evidentiary value of religious certification. The paper suggests enhancing the Shariah Governance Framework by introducing algorithmic audit trails in documented form for review by Shariah boards. These mechanisms would make the financial process more transparent, accountable and traceable and allow scholars to check the authenticity of the process of financing and ensure that it is still carried out in accordance with the approved Shariah. The study concludes that a technologically accountable Shariah governance on Islamic digital banking along with the traditional scholarly oversight is required.

Keywords: Islamic Digital Banking, Shariah Governance, Explainable AI, Algorithmic Accountability, Shariah Compliance, Digital Banking, Right to Explanation

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Exploring the predictors of Appearance Anxiety in Generation-Z; Role of Parasocial Interaction and Self-Objectification

Umm e Habiba¹

Parasocial interaction is a one-sided interaction with media figures, celebrity actors and social media influencers, which is imagined. In this study, the parasocial interaction was the focus of investigation, along with the appearance anxiety and self-objectification of Generation Z. Data was collected using a cross sectional survey design from 150 respondents, which comprised of 75 female and 75 male respondents aged 13-28 years from various academic schools. People who were active social media users with followers of influencers or celebrities. The Celebrity Persona Parasocial Interaction Scale (CPPIS), Objectified Body Consciousness Scale (OBCS), and Appearance Anxiety Inventory (AAI) were used to gather data. Parasocial interaction was correlated with self-objectification, parasocial interaction with appearance anxiety, and self-objectification with appearance anxiety; all of which were significant positive relationships ($r = .48, .40$, and $.43$, respectively, all $ps < .01$). When testing the regression model, parasocial interaction with the therapist ($\beta = .25, p < .01$) and body shame ($\beta = .38, p < .001$) were significant predictors of appearance anxiety. Appearance anxiety and parasocial interaction also showed significant differences between the genders, and appearance anxiety and educational level and sector showed differences. The results indicate that it is necessary to establish the social media literacy program, body positive education and early awareness courses in academic institutions to encourage healthy use and perception of social media among young people.

Keywords: Parasocial Interaction, Self-Objectification, Appearance Anxiety, Body Shame, Generation Z, Social Media

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The Personalities and Roles of Women Mentioned in the Holy Qur'an: Guidance for the Contemporary Era

Maria Younas¹

The study considers the personalities, attributes and roles of four exemplary women from the Qur'anic story-line: Ḥaḍrat Khadijah (RA), Ḥaḍrat Maryam (AS), Ḥaḍrat Asiyah (AS), and Ḥaḍrat Hajar (AS) and how they relate to women today. The study is qualitative and analytical, taking into account the Qur'an, classical and contemporary Tafasir, Prophetic traditions, biographies and relevant scholarly works. It looks at their spiritual, moral, family, educational and social contributions and focuses on values reflecting their beliefs including faith, patience, sacrifice, chastity, trust in Allah, perseverance and commitment to truth and family responsibilities. The study holds that lives of these admirable women give timeless guidance to solve the problems of the modern Muslim women. Their attributes can lead to greater trust, integrity, good family habits, sound judgment, and positive social engagement. The results indicate that these examples are still contemporary and are relevant beyond their historical settings and can be used for character building, responsible citizenship and social change. The study ends by suggesting that their values can be applied to the life of today to help create healthier families, healthy personal growth and an orderly, ethical society.

Keywords: Qur'anic Women, Khadijah (RA), Maryam (AS), Asiyah (AS), Hajar (AS), Women in Islam, Islamic Ethics, Women's Role, Character Building

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Monotheism in the Teachings of Jesus: A Comparative Study of the Gospels and the Development of Early Christian Doctrine

Maria Younas¹

This paper explores the notion of monotheism as Jesus would have taught it and its connection to the theological traditions that arose in early Christianity. It presents and analyzes selected passages of the Synoptic Gospels, the Gospel of John and appropriate Qur'anic passages in a comparative theological and historical-textual way in relation to important Christian theological sources. Care is taken to highlight some of the teachings of Jesus on worshipping one God, obeying the Divine will and his prophetic role. The study also looks at how Christological thinking has developed, and at the factors that have helped to shape Christian beliefs over time. The research does not draw theological conclusions but it concerns itself with the process of scriptural interpretation, theological reflection, and the historical interpretation of the development of Christian belief. It also highlights the importance of a correct interpretation of the text in the digital world, where the dissemination of religious information is occurring at a rapid pace via social media, Internet and Artificial Intelligence. The study indicates that the study of comparative religious knowledge based on evidence can improve the knowledge of Christianity and Islam, reduce religious misconceptions and facilitate positive interreligious dialogue. It affirms that the comparative research informed by history and the text still plays a crucial role in today's digital age for responsible religious communication and meaningful interfaith engagement.

Keywords: Historical Jesus, Monotheism, Gospel Studies, Early Christian Doctrine, Christology, Comparative Theology, Interfaith Dialogue, Digital Religion

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Artificial Intelligence, Youth, and Religious Education in the Digital Era: Opportunities, Challenges, and Ethical Considerations

Muskan¹

Increasingly, with the help of Artificial Intelligence (AI), young people are accessing, learning and engaging with religious knowledge. New opportunities for the accessibility, personalisation and interactivity of religious education in the 21st century are presented by AI-powered platforms for education, chatbots, recommendation systems, social media, and digital learning environments. However, some challenges may emerge when using AI in religious education, including the veracity of information, the authenticity of sources, the authority of digital sources, dependence on automated systems, and the changing nature of religious teachers and institutions. The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between AI, youth and religious education in the digital context, highlighting opportunities and challenges in this relationship. It discusses the use of AI by young people to look for religious information, to clarify questions, to explore perspectives and to engage with religious learning. The study highlights the significance of critical digital literacy and responsible use of AI, especially in discussing sensitive theological and religious topics. It states that AI should be used to augment and augment education, and not replace it. The study suggests that there are potential benefits in the use of responsible and ethically appropriate applications of AI that can enhance RE for young people, and their meaningful involvement in a digitally connected world, without compromising scholarly authority, intellectual responsibility, accuracy or the credibility of religious knowledge.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Religious Education, Youth, Digital Culture, Religious Knowledge, AI Ethics, Digital Literacy, Religious Authority, Islamic Education

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