

Editorial

Building a faithful and competent generation through transformative islamic education

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The current transformation of Islamic education reflects an increasingly progressive and adaptive paradigm in response to global challenges, digital innovation, and the evolving needs of modern society. The five articles featured in this issue represent diverse efforts to advance Islamic education, from developing assessment instruments and integrating digital literacy to fostering innovation in learning, promoting interfaith tolerance, and redefining Islamic education's role within socio-political contexts.

The first article, Transformation of Islamic Religious Education Learning through Religious Literacy Assessment Instruments, highlights the importance of reliable and valid tools for measuring students' religious literacy. The second, The Influence of Digital Literacy on Student Engagement and Academic Achievement, demonstrates the significant correlation between digital literacy and students' engagement and academic success. Meanwhile, Optimization of Learning Outcomes of Moral Beliefs through Joyful Learning Genially for Students explores how interactive and joyful learning media can enhance students' moral education outcomes. The fourth article, Islamic Education and Interfaith Tolerance, contributes to the discourse on religious moderation by examining contextual Islamic education that promotes inclusivity and dialogue in multicultural communities. Finally, Relationship between Religion, State, and Politics: A Study of the Dynamics of Islamic Education in Indonesia analyzes how Islamic education interconnects with religion, governance, and politics as a means to reinforce moral and civic responsibility.

Collectively, these articles illustrate a new direction for Islamic education, one that transcends mere transmission of religious knowledge to include character formation, the cultivation of tolerance, and adaptation to technological and social developments. The editorial board hopes this issue will inspire educators, researchers, and policymakers to design Islamic education that is more relevant, inclusive, and sustainable in the modern era. Contemporary issues in Islamic education today revolve around modernization, digital transformation, and the contextualization of Islamic values within a globalized world. Globalization demands that Islamic education evolve to maintain its spiritual integrity while ensuring academic and professional relevance. Reforming Islamic education requires merging global competencies with Islamic values to produce learners who are both devout and adaptive to technological and societal change (Hajar, 2024).

The integration of technology in pedagogy and educational leadership plays a crucial role in strengthening institutional resilience (Ibrahim & Misnan, 2017). Likewise, teacher education is increasingly viewed as central to harmonizing spiritual goals with the realities of modern digital learning environments (Memon et al., 2024). Furthermore, Islamic education faces the challenge of cultivating critical, creative, and tolerant mindsets amid complex socio-political changes. Modernization efforts in Islamic education, as seen in Indonesia, Iran, and Egypt,

reveal adaptive strategies integrating science and faith within curricula (Cici & Banu Irfan, 2022; Fathoni, 2022). Educational reform movements such as Muhammadiyah in Indonesia serve as a leading example of integrating religious and scientific knowledge to foster intellectual and moral excellence (Hamami & Nuryana, 2022; Zalik Nuryana, 2017). Ultimately, the future of Islamic education depends on its ability to unite spiritual tradition with technological and social innovation, forming a generation of Muslims who are faithful, tolerant, and globally competent.

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