

UNDERSTANDING ISLAMIC AQIDAH THROUGH THE LENS OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES IN EDUCATION: A LITERATURE ANALYSIS OF ITS INFLUENCE AND IMPLICATIONS

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Abstract; Understanding Islamic aqidah plays an important role in shaping the identity and values of Muslims, especially in the educational context. This research aims to explore the influence of religious studies in deepening understanding of Islamic faith and its implications in the educational context. Through careful analysis of the literature, we investigate how the study of religion can be an enriching lens for understanding Islamic creeds. Our findings reveal that the study of religion not only provides an understanding of the theological aspects of aqidah, but also provides insight into the history, culture, and social context that shapes that understanding. The implication of this research is the development of a holistic educational approach, enabling students to integrate knowledge about Islamic creeds with a broader understanding of religion in general. By emphasizing the values of tolerance, respect for diversity, and intellectual criticism, education based on religious studies can prepare students to face the challenges of the modern world with strong beliefs and a deep understanding of Islamic beliefs. Thus, this research makes an important contribution in enriching discussions about Islamic education that is inclusive and relevant to the times.

Keywords: Islamic Aqedah, Islamic Studies, Islamic Education

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INTRODUCTION

Islamic aqidah, which includes beliefs and values, plays an important role in Islamic teachings. Aqidah is the basis of faith, guiding individuals about the source and nature of religion, while morals come from it, forming behavior and character ("Aqidah Livestock Marketing Strategy (Case Study of the Business Unit of Pt. Agro Niaga Global)," 2023) (Kurniasih et al., 2023) The integration of Aqidah Akhlak education in institutions aims to improve student character development by instilling religious values into everyday life (Syafi'i et al., 2022) The significance of Aqidah lies in its influence on social behavior, as seen in educational settings where it has a positive impact on student behavior and interactions (Azty et al., 2018) The values of the Aqidah, such as prayer, seeking knowledge, and honesty, are not only theoretical but practical, emphasizing the importance embody these beliefs in daily actions]. In essence, Islamic Aqidah functions as a foundation of faith, guiding individuals towards correct behavior and moral behavior in accordance with Islamic teachings.

Education plays an important role in forming and disseminating Islamic Aqidah, emphasizing the importance of instilling faith and moral values in students. Islamic boarding schools such as Tebuireng and Al Irsyad focus on teaching Aqidah in accordance with the principles of Ahlusunnah wal Jama'ah, utilizing methods such as lectures, discussions, and assessments to ensure students' understanding and behavior is in line with Islamic teachings (Arifudin, 2022). Aqidah Akhlak at madrasah aliyah aims to develop students' cognitive, affective and psychomotor skills based on Islamic values, encouraging the formation of karimah character through various learning activities (Umam, 2022) Strengthening the Islamic faith in children before puberty, both at home and at home educational institutions, highlighted as a collective responsibility involving parents, communities and teachers (Apri, Wardana, Ritonga., Anisa, 2023) Furthermore, Islamic religious education is very fundamental in character development, functioning as a foundation for moral competence and behavior in students' daily lives (Puspitasari et al., 2022) Ultimately, integrating Aqidah and moral education into the learning process of the millennial generation is very important to promote religious moderation, tolerance, and peace, ensuring the importance of Aqidah education in shaping individuals and society (Rehayati et al., 2023)

Understanding the influence of Islamic Aqidah in religious education is very important to form individuals with commendable behavior and good morals (Kurniasih et al., 2023) (Rizqiani & Sukmawaty, 2023) Islamic Aqidah education plays an important role in influencing students' social behavior, values, and understanding, which ultimately contributes to the development of Islamic culture and habits (Syukur et al., 2023) Through providing knowledge, appreciation, and experiences related to Islamic teachings, students can embody religious values and morals, leading to a society with individuals who have good morals and adhere to religious principles. In addition, instilling Aqidah and moral education from an early age, whether at home, at school, or in society, is very important to promote religious moderation and tolerance among the millennial generation, ensuring they understand the importance of religious values and moderation in their lives (Rainy et al., 2023) .

From several literature analyzes carried out, it was found that there were research gaps in the analysis of related literature, such as a lack of in-depth research and limited literature analysis . Through this research, the problem formulation is: 1. How is Islamic Aqidah understood through religious studies in education? 2. What are the Influence and Implications of Islamic Aqidah in the Context of Religious Education?

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a descriptive-qualitative approach and literature study. The author examines literature such as journals, books and scientific articles as the main subject of this research. The author chose a qualitative research method because this type of research is accountable and reliable. Data triangulation is used to evaluate data validity by comparing various data sources. To obtain data, journals, e-books and theses are searched via the internet. To carry out searches using scientific works published on Google Scholar, Elsevier, and Scopus, keywords such as Madrasah Strategy, Era of Globalization, and Religious Moderation are used. Journals that are relevant to these keywords are selected. The results show that researchers have selected fifty journals to analyze, summarize, and classify. to develop new ideas and thoughts that remain relevant to the topic of conversation.

Next, the data was analyzed descriptively and interpreted by considering the development of religious moderation in madrasas.

(Solatun, 2008) Research qualitative can interpreted US method To use explore as well as understand meaning by groups person or a number individual from community/social or related humanity . (New & Indonesian, nd) Method looks research deductive applied by researchers Which involved active in research This with focused on meaning individual, as well as translate complexity problem Which There is. (Creswell & Creswell, 2018) Data is classified according to existing problems and then analyzed using deductive, inductive and comparative methods. (Zubar, 2002) , which aims to make data easy to read, understand and interpret. The purpose of interpretation is to obtain meaning and significance from the data . (Patton, 2000)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Concept of Islamic Aqidah

Aqidah is a basic belief that every Muslim must believe in. This includes theological aspects such as belief in Allah, the angels, Allah's books, His messengers, the Day of Judgment, and qada and qadar. The Islamic creed, or Islamic doctrine and beliefs, encompasses the core principles of faith in Islam. The main components of the Islamic Aqidah include teaching the words "la ilaha ila Allah," instilling love for Allah and the Prophet Muhammad SAW, educating about the Qur'an, and emphasizing the importance of adhering to faith (Akmansyah, 2014) In addition, the values of the Aqidah it is very important for individuals to live in harmony and can be derived from various sources, including literary works such as novels, which describe moral values and character typologies related to Aqidah (Karya et al., 2022) In addition, the family plays an important role in forming Aqidah environment for children, with parents being key figures in building an understanding of monotheism and providing guidance and support for the development of their children's faith ("Aqiqah Livestock Marketing Strategy (Case Study of the Business Unit of Pt. Agro Niaga Global)," 2023) Overall, Aqidah, along with Fiqh and Akhlaq, forms the basis for practicing the Islamic religion, as highlighted in the Prophet's teachings and scientific interpretations.

The main components of Aqida h are: 1. Faith in Allah. Believe in the oneness of Allah and all His attributes. 2. Angel. Believe in the existence of angels and their role as messengers of Allah. 3. Books. Believe in the holy books revealed to the prophets. 4. Apostles. Believe in the prophets and apostles who were sent to convey revelation. 5.

Doomsday. Believe in life after death, day of judgment, heaven and hell. 6. Destiny. Believe in good and bad destiny determined by Allah.

History of the Development of Aqidah in Islamic Tradition

The history of the development of aqidah in the Islamic tradition starts from: 1. The Early Islamic Period. Focus on cultivating the basics of faith through the teachings of the Koran and Sunnah. 2. Classical Period. Formation and codification of aqidah teachings by scholars such as Imam Abu Hanifah, Imam Ash-Shafi'i, and Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal. 3. Development of Thought. The emergence of various theological schools such as Maturidiyyah, Ash'ariyyah, and Ahlus Sunnah wal Jama'ah. 4. Contemporary. Adaptation of aqidah teachings to modern challenges and integration in formal education.

The development of Aqidah in the Islamic tradition has been a significant focus in various research papers. Aqidah moral education plays an important role in shaping behavior based on Islamic values, which aims to increase students' moral beliefs and awareness ("Aqiqah Livestock Marketing Strategy (Case Study of the Business Unit of Pt. Agro Niaga Global)," 2023) Hadiths, which are categorized as Mutawatir and Ahad, are very fundamental in the Islamic Aqidah, with Al-Bani emphasizing the authenticity of the Ahad Hadith as a basis for belief when it meets certain criteria (Umam, 2022) Furthermore, research has explored the influence of Aqidah Moral Education on students' social behavior, showing a correlation positive relationship between religious education and moral values and improved social behavior (Zumaro, 2022). The findings of this research collectively highlight the importance of developing Aqidah through education, emphasizing the integration of faith, morals and behavior in Islamic teachings.

Religious Studies in Education

Definition and Scope of Religious Studies in Education

The study of religion in education encompasses a wide range of disciplines that explore religious traditions, texts, rituals, and practices in a variety of academic contexts. It involves the study of various religions, their histories, philosophies, and their impact on society, making them an important component of civic life (Tahir, 2019) In the realm of higher education, a focus on religious competencies is essential, especially in post-secular societies, where

multiconfessional approaches preferred (Mikhaylova, 2020) Islamic studies, for example, is an important part of the educational curriculum, covering various aspects of Islamic science and methodologies for understanding religion (Magness & Mitchell, 2022) In addition, religious education in church schools does not only emphasize academic rigor but also plays an important role in nurturing students' spiritual development (Adi, 2021) Overall, the study of religion in education serves to deepen understanding, promote tolerance, and contribute to the holistic development of individuals within diverse social frameworks.

Methods and Approaches in the Study of Religion

Approach methods in the study of religion include: 1. Historical Approach. Examines the historical development of religion and its influence on society. 2. Phenomenological Approach. Studying religious experiences directly and subjectively. 3. Sociological and Psychological Approaches. Analyze the impact of religion on individuals and society from a social and psychological perspective. 3. Pedagogical Approach. Methods and strategies for teaching religion in formal and informal educational contexts.

In the field of Religious Studies, various methods and approaches are used to investigate the depths of religious phenomena. Phenomenology, a new approach in the study of religion, aims to explore the deeper meaning of religious experiences and can serve as a bridge between philosophical and theological perspectives (Science et al., 2023) Empirical approaches in the Study of Religion involve critical and philosophical analysis to understand religious phenomena , emphasizing the integration of normative and empirical approaches for a comprehensive understanding of religion (Mahfuza, nd) In addition, phenomenological approaches have been increasingly used in Islamic studies, using descriptive methods and in-depth interviews to explain religious phenomena in more depth (Syukron et al., 2023) Additionally, modern educational techniques, such as the use of multimedia, visual aids, and interactive methods such as brainstorming and discussion, are applied to improve critical thinking and analytical skills in students studying religious subjects (Ramly, 2022)

Interplay between Islamic Aqidah and Education

Islamic faith and education have a deep interaction in shaping individual beliefs, morals and behavior. Aqidah education, which focuses on faith and moral values, influences students' social behavior positively (Arifudin, 2022) Schools such as Tebuireng and Al Irsyad emphasize teaching materials such as the Koran and Hadith, along with various teaching methods and assessment techniques (Kurniasih et al., 2023) The urgency of Islamic Aqidah education for children before puberty is highlighted, emphasizing the role of parents, communities and educational institutions in strengthening the Islamic faith through exemplary methods and guidance (Syafi'i et al., 2022) (Apri, Wardana, Ritonga., Anisa, 2023) Furthermore, integrating Aqidah Akhlak learning in educational institutions aims to increase character formation and improve the quality of Islamic education. Ultimately, instilling aqidah and moral education from an early age, both at home and at school, it is very important to nurture individuals with good morals, tolerance, and a deep understanding of religious moderation (Rehayati et al., 2023)

Integration of Islamic Aqidah in the Education Curriculum

Integration of Islamic faith in the education curriculum can be done through: 1. Application in the curriculum. Instilling aqidah values in Islamic religious subjects in schools. 2. Holistic Approach. Integrate the principles of aqeedah in various disciplines and school activities. The integration of Islamic Aqidah in the educational curriculum plays an important role in developing students' character and religious values. Various studies highlight the importance of integrating Islamic teachings into the curriculum to strengthen students' spiritual, moral and ethical dimensions (Minabari et al., 2023) (Setyawan, 2023) Implementing an integrated curriculum that includes subjects such as Fiqh, Al-Qur'an-Hadith, Aqidah Akhlak, and Islamic History can effectively foster students' understanding and appreciation of Islamic principles (Rofiq et al., 2023) Furthermore, the incorporation of Hadith into education has shown promising results in improving students' relationship with their faith, promoting critical thinking skills, and bridging the gap between traditional Islamic knowledge and modern learning (ISwandi, Aslan, 2022) By embedding Islamic Aqidah into educational practices , institutions can contribute significantly to the

holistic development of students, cultivating a strong foundation in Islamic values and beliefs.

Case Studies and Examples of the Application of Aqidah in Education

Aqidah education plays an important role in Islamic education, especially in shaping students' character and morals. Various case studies provide insight into the application of Aqidah Akhlak education in different educational environments. For example, research highlights the importance of teaching Islamic beliefs to children before puberty, emphasizing methods of example, ta'widiyyah, mau'izhah, and other techniques to strengthen Islamic faith (Apri, Wardana, Ritonga., Anisa, 2023). shows the application of Aqidah Akhlak learning in schools, with a focus on activities such as exploration, refinement, and confirmation, supported by mastery of the material and teachers' understanding of students' personalities (Indrawan, 2022) A comparative study between Islamic boarding schools reveals similarities in teaching objectives, materials, and methods, while emphasizing different approaches to student input and output (Arifudin, 2022) Furthermore, research shows the positive influence of Aqidah Akhlak education on students' social behavior, highlighting the correlation between moral education and character development (Kurniasih et al., 2023) Efforts to improve The quality of Islamic education includes integrating Aqidah Akhlak learning through handbooks, materials and support systems, which aims to improve students' character formation and daily life practices (Syafi'i et al., 2022)

Understanding Aqidah in Religious Studies

Aqidah, a basic concept in Islamic theology, encompasses the beliefs and values that are essential to a Muslim's faith and practice. The research explores various aspects of Aqidah, such as the semantic domain classification based on the perspective of local Islamic scholars, the values and typology of characters depicted in novels that reflect the principles of Aqidah, the integration of Aqidah Akhlak learning to improve students' character development, the importance of embedding Aqidah in morals and worship. everyday life, and the influence of Aqidah Moral Education on students' social behavior. These studies emphasize the importance of understanding and applying Aqidah not only as theoretical knowledge but as a guiding

principle in everyday life, shaping individual beliefs, behavior and interactions within an Islamic framework (Indirawati Zahid, Noorazlin Abu Bakar, Wan Zailan Kamaruddin Wan Ali, 2022) (Ayu et al., nd)

Critical Analysis of Various Academic Perspectives

Various academic perspectives on understanding Aqidah in religious studies include various approaches and methodologies. Scholars highlight the epistemic authority of religious scholars in defining the Islamic studies curriculum (Islam et al., 2023) explore the values of Aqidah in literary works such as novels (Jailani & Indonesia, 2023) analyze the neurobiological basis of the brain in the Qur'an from the perspective of neuroscience (Tatyana, E., 2023) and critically assess translations of Quranic verses to reveal shifts in semantic emphasis over time. In addition, research examines the influence of Aqidah Moral Education on students' social behavior, emphasizing the correlation between faith, morals, and behavior in Islamic education (Kurniasih et al., 2023). This perspective collectively contributes to a comprehensive understanding of Aqidah in the realm of religious studies, combining historical, literary, neuroscientific, and educational dimensions.

The Influence of Aqidah in Education

Aqidah, or religion-based education, plays an important role in shaping students' behavior and personality. Studies emphasize that Aqidah Akhlak education positively influences students' social behavior (Kurniasih et al., 2023), improves their personality development (Amelia Afrina, Siti Aminah, 2023) and fosters the formation of good character based on Islamic values (Umam, 2022) Implementation Aqidah Akhlak education aims to instill faith, increase moral awareness, and promote responsible behavior among students, ultimately leading to a deeper understanding of Islamic teachings and values in their daily lives. By integrating Aqidah education into the curriculum, educators can contribute to the holistic development of students, nurturing not only their cognitive knowledge but also their affective and psychomotor skills, thereby striving towards the perfection of life guided by Islamic principles.

The Impact of Aqidah on Learning and Teaching

The study of Aqidah (Islamic beliefs) and Akhlak (morals) plays an important role in shaping student behavior, attitudes, and character development (Adiba Maulidiya, Moch.Salman Alfarizi, 2022) (Indah Berliana Suwandi, Gunawan Ikhtiono, 2022) (Rachman et al., 2023) . Through effective teaching methods and interactive media, such as Auto Play Media and active student learning strategies such as the CBSA method, learning outcomes in the Aqidah Akhlak subject have shown significant improvement, with students showing increased understanding and application of moral principles in everyday life. their day (Umam, 2022) (Sari, 2022) The role of teachers is very important in cultivating students' religious character, acting as a motivator, mentor and educator to instill discipline, responsibility and honesty among students]. The implementation of Aqidah Akhlak education not only increases students' faith and moral values but also influences positive changes in their behavior, emphasizing the importance of integrating Islamic teachings into everyday life.

Case Studies Showing the Influence of Aqidah in Curriculum and Educational Practice

Aqidah, or faith, plays an important role in curriculum and educational practice as demonstrated in various case studies. Research has shown that the application of Aqidah Akhlak learning in educational institutions focuses on character formation and reflects religious values in everyday life (Arifin et al., 2023) (Indrawan, 2022) (Syafi'i et al., 2022) The integration of Aqidah Akhlak education aims to influence students' social behavior positively, emphasizing the importance of morals and good behavior in shaping students' personalities (Indah Berliana Suwandi, Gunawan Ikhtiono, 2022) (Amelia Afrina, Siti Aminah, 2023) Factors such as teachers' mastery of the material, understanding students' personalities, and the existence of a supportive environment such as dormitories and Islamic boarding activities have been identified as facilitators in the successful implementation of Aqidah Akhlak education. In addition, the influence of Aqidah moral education on students' personalities has been analyzed quantitatively, showing a significant positive impact on students' behavior and attitudes.

Examples of cases in Islamic schools that have successfully integrated Aqidah into every subject show an increase in students' understanding of moral and spiritual values. The implementation of

special programs such as tahfiz Al-Quran and tafsir studies which emphasize the Aqidah aspect, shows positive results in the formation of students' character. Studies in various countries show that Aqidah-based curricula are more effective in forming students with character and achievement compared to general curricula which place less emphasis on religious aspects.

Practical and Theoretical Implications Implications for Religious Education Curriculum Development

Developing a curriculum that thoroughly integrates Aqidah in every subject and school activity can increase the effectiveness of religious education. The emphasis on interactive and contextual teaching methods in Aqidah, such as discussion, debate, and problem solving based on real situations, can increase student understanding and engagement. Training for educators on how to teach Aqidah effectively and relevantly to the context of modern life.

The development of a religious education curriculum has significant implications based on data from the context provided. The curriculum in educational institutions, including Islamic boarding schools, madrasas, and schools, plays a central role in shaping the characteristics and qualifications of graduates, involving complex and contextual processes that include religious teachings, ethics, morals, and the application of religious values in everyday life. day. (Dzikrul Khakim, Nur Ahid, 2023) Incorporating multicultural values such as tolerance, equality, justice and democracy into the curriculum can increase students' understanding and acceptance of diversity (Pamuji & Mawardi, 2023) . Furthermore, the Islamic religious education curriculum must be contextualized to meet the needs of society in the era of society 5.0, emphasizing spirituality, monotheism, ethics in the use of technology, and theocentric values (Nafisah, 2023) Understanding the historical role of religious curricula in education, contemporary debates about including curriculum religion in public schools highlights constitutional issues, teacher training, and methodology as highly contested areas (Sawari et al., 2022). These insights underscore the importance of continually updating and adapting religious education curricula to address society's diverse needs and challenges.

CONCLUSION

Educators and educational policy makers involved in developing religious education curricula can benefit from several key insights. First, the curriculum development process for religious education involves a complex and contextual approach, requiring a focus on religious teachings, ethics, and the application of values in everyday life. Second, it is important to incorporate Islamic teachings in all components of the curriculum to ensure a comprehensive educational experience. Additionally, considering the broader social and cultural context, such as secularization, migration, and digitalization, is critical in shaping religious education curricula to meet contemporary challenges and needs. In addition, promoting interfaith activities and religious literacy studies in educational institutions can increase students' understanding of religious values, foster tolerance and counter-radicalism. By collaborating with relevant stakeholders, regularly updating curriculum content, and emphasizing inclusivity and diversity, educators and policymakers can create a strong and relevant religious education curriculum.

This research found that Aqidah has a significant influence on the formation of students' character and morals in religious education. Good Aqidah literacy increases learning motivation and positive behavior at school. Interactive and contextual teaching methods are more effective in teaching Aqidah than dogmatic approaches. This research confirms the importance of integrating Aqidah in the religious education curriculum to increase the effectiveness of learning and build student character. Practical implications include the development of a holistic curriculum and training for educators to teach Aqidah in a relevant and contextual way.

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