

# The Role of Women as a National Defense Strategy in an Islamic Perspective: Criticism on Theory of Socialist Feminism

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## Abstract

State defense is essential to maintain sovereignty and protect the country from various threats. The role of women in this case is very vital because the concept of defending the country actually starts from the smallest unit in society, namely the family. This is where good values are instilled and strengthened, which is the basis for the development of the personality of the younger generation as defenders of the country. However, understanding from the perspective of socialist feminism diminishes the importance of women's strategic role and no longer prioritizes them in the context of the family. This study uses a qualitative research method with an Islamic approach as an analysis tool, with Surah At-Tahrim, Verse 6 as a theoretical foundation. The findings in this study underscore the importance of the responsibility of protection that every individual, including women, must bear towards their families. Education and the development of good values in the family are the keys to developing the character of the younger generation as agents of state defense. In the context of national defense, women play a strategic role not only as mothers and wives but also as educators and coaches for the nation's resilient future generations. In addition, Islam also criticizes socialist feminism that may not fully recognize the traditional role of women in the family, which is considered important and strategic in Islam.

**Keywords:** *Women, National Defense, Socialist Feminism, Islamic Perspective in the World*

## Introduction

National defense is one of the important issues that will not stop the system, whether it happens in underdeveloped countries, developing countries to developed countries. State defense is an effort made by a country to protect its sovereignty from all kinds of internal and external

threats. The essence is an effort to involve citizens in their rights and obligations in maintaining national security and resilience. So in maintaining the country's resilience, there must be support from the people to foster a sense of belonging to the regulations that have been set<sup>1</sup>. In this case, women have an important role in defending the country's sovereignty. Because the concept of state defense starts from the smallest unit in society, namely the family. This is where good values are instilled and strengthened, which is the basis for the development of the personality of the younger generation as defenders of the country. In Islam, women have a very glorified position. The role of women is not only as a supporter behind the front lines but has also shown extraordinary ability and courage in various aspects of defense and security. History shows that women have contributed to multiple forms of struggle and defense both in the past and present.<sup>2</sup>

In essence, women and men have different roles. When married, a woman who plays the role of a mother who is pregnant gives birth, breastfeeds, and acts as the first educator for her child. Meanwhile, men play the role of fathers, who are the head and priest in the family and are responsible for the needs of their children and wives, both physically and mentally. This difference raises the question: Do the positions of women and men also differ in realizing family resilience, especially in the lives of the nation and state? Basically, men and women have an equally important role in building a national defense strategy in their country. Both must support each other and work together in realizing family resilience.<sup>3</sup> Women, as mothers, have the main responsibility of educating and shaping children's character. The quality of education and the values that a mother instills in the family greatly affect the development of the younger generation in the future. This strong and characterful generation will later contribute to national resilience so that women are the main pillars of creating a safe and prosperous society. Meanwhile, a man who is a father figure in this family is responsible for instilling positive values and good character in family members to help build a stronger and more sustainable national resilience. That way, the role of the family becomes

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<sup>1</sup> Ulfatun Hasanah, "GENDER DALAM DAKWAH UNTUK PEMBANGUNAN (Potret Keterlibatan Perempuan Dalam Politik)," *Jurnal Ilmu Dakwah* 38, no. 2 (2019): 250, <https://doi.org/10.21580/jid.v38.2.3887>.

<sup>2</sup> A Damayanti, "Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dalam Upaya Ketahanan Nasional," 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Gusti Putri, "Edukasi Pria Dan Wanita Harus Setara," 2019.

the foundation to avoid violence through the cultivation of values, character, and ethics.<sup>4</sup>

The study traces some of the results of previous research related to the themes that will be discussed as follows. Angel Damayanti shows that men and women have the same rights and obligations to protect their country. In addition, related to the change in threat perception, both men and women have the same responsibility in safeguarding the nation's national interests.<sup>5</sup> Ulfatun Hasanah and Najahan Musyafak show that in development, men and women do not necessarily have the same roles; there are areas that men and women can do.<sup>6</sup> Christine S.T. Kansil, Michelle Prawira, and H.K. Martono explain that the presence of the COVID-19 pandemic is disrupting women's duties as housewives and mothers of the nation, eventually resulting in reduced and suboptimal women's empowerment.<sup>7</sup> Therefore, the government must increase gender defenses.

This research will try to criticize the concept of Socialist Feminism using an Islamic perspective. This concept is one of the schools of feminist thought that combines gender analysis and criticism of capitalists. Socialist feminism argues that the oppression of women cannot achieve full freedom due to financial dependence on men. This wealth imbalance can create conditions where women are the subject of male power in the context of capitalism.<sup>8</sup> Socialist feminism seeks to integrate the struggle for women's liberation by fighting against other systems of oppression based on race, class, or even economic status.<sup>9</sup> This concept of socialist feminism is in stark contrast to the principles applied by Islamic teachings. In the Islamic view, women's roles and rights have been regulated in a different context to what socialist feminism proposes.

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<sup>4</sup> BPK RI, "Bersama Meningkatkan Peran Perempuan dan Laki-Laki Dalam Membangun Ketahanan Keluarga Untuk Kesejahteraan Bangsa," 2018.

<sup>5</sup> Angel Damayanti, "Pemberdayaan Perempuan dalam Upaya Ketahanan Nasional," Monograph (Indonesia, Jakarta: Fakultas Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik, 2017), <http://repository.uki.ac.id/638/>.

<sup>6</sup> Ulfatun Hasanah and Najahan Musyafak, "Gender and Politics: Keterlibatan Perempuan Dalam Pembangunan Politik |," *Sawwa: Jurnal Studi Gender* 12, no. 3: 409–32, accessed February 8, 2025, <https://journal.walisongo.ac.id/index.php/sawwa/article/view/2080>.

<sup>7</sup> Christine S. T. Kansil, Michelle Prawira, and H. K. Martono, "Pertahanan Negara Dan Gender Wanita Di Masa Pandemi Covid19 Di Indonesia," *Prosiding Seri Seminar Nasional* 1, no. 1 (2021): 549–66, <https://doi.org/10.24912/pserina.v1i1.17511>.

<sup>8</sup> Ian Buchanan, "'Socialist Feminism.' A Dictionary of Critical Theory," Oxford Reference Online, 2011.

<sup>9</sup> Linda Napikoski, "Socialist Feminism vs. Other Types of Feminism," 2018, <https://www.thoughtco.com/socialist-feminism-vs-other-feminism-3528987>.

Socialist feminism tends to emphasize women's liberation through structural changes in the economy and society, while Islam emphasizes justice and equality in a more spiritual and moral context.<sup>10</sup> Islam criticizes socialist feminist views that may not fully recognize the traditional role of women in the family, which is considered important and strategic in Islam.

This research aims to investigate the role of women in the concept of state defense, especially in facing non-physical threats such as the cultivation of foreign values that can damage the nation's civilization. The methodology used in this study is qualitative with a descriptive approach. In this study, we rely on the ability to read and search from various sources related to related problems, both by reading books and journals, looking for articles that are already available, and in other forms of references. According to John W. Cresswell, qualitative research is an approach to exploring and understanding the perceived meaning of social and humanitarian issues. This qualitative research has a procedure that collects specific data to get more accurate results.<sup>11</sup> Researchers use two types of data collection, and the first is through literature studies such as books and journals. In this study, the data obtained must be relevant, namely, the role of women in state resilience from an Islamic point of view as the main point, followed by a criticism of the Islamic perspective on the theory of socialist feminism. With an analysis tool using the Quran Surah At Tahrim verse 6 as the theoretical basis. The researcher took several journal samples that can be used as a reference for this research. Researchers also look for theoretical sources that will be analyzed and used to present conclusions.

## Discussion

### The Role of Women in Islam as a National Defense Strategy

Islam has many missions, one of which is the liberation of human beings from various forms of anarchy and injustice. Islam places great emphasis on justice in all aspects. Justice will not come if it does not free the weak and oppressed groups of society. Therefore, the Qur'an emphasizes that believers are commanded to continue to fight to liberate

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<sup>10</sup> M.H. M. Syafi'ie, S.H., "Feminisme, Islam Dan HAM," 2019, <https://law.uui.ac.id/blog/2019/12/03/feminisme-islam-dan-ham-oleh-m-syafiie-s-h-m-h/>.

<sup>11</sup> Hocelayne Paulino Fernandes, "ANOTASI PENELITIAN KUALITATIF JOHN W. CRESSWELL," no. 1810128110004 (2014): 139.

the weak and oppressed groups of society. The Prophet PBUH himself taught about gender equality and justice. In the age of jahiliyyah, women were treated low and had no value, such as being slaves, double burdens, fulfilling men's desires, being raped, and so on. Until finally, the Prophet PBUH struggled to raise the status of women. The Quran also upholds gender equality and justice, even though its delivery is implied only.<sup>12</sup>

The role of women in Islam as a national defense strategy has a broad and complex dimension. In this context, women are not only seen as individuals exercising domestic roles but also as agents of change who can contribute to national resilience and social stability. Women, especially mothers, have a central role in shaping the character and moral values of children. In many cultures, including in the context of Islam, the family is considered the basic unit of society. The mother serves as a *madrasatul ula* (first school) for children, educating them about religious values, ethics, and social responsibility. By instilling positive values, women can contribute to creating a generation that is aware of the importance of the country's stability and security.<sup>13</sup> Likewise, women's empowerment through access to education and economic resources is also an important strategy in national defense. By giving women the opportunity to participate in the economy, they not only improve the welfare of their families but also contribute to the national economy.

Economically independent women tend to be better able to protect their families from social and economic threats, including radicalization.<sup>14</sup> Women are also starting to get involved in politics and public policy, which is an important step in strengthening their position in society. Women's involvement in decision-making can ensure that their perspectives and needs are taken into account in policies related to national security and defense. It also reflects the principle of gender equality taught in Islam, where women have the right to participate in public life.<sup>15</sup>

Islam affirms that men and women both have a responsibility to protect the near and maintain justice. As it is written in the Qur'an, Allah says, "Neither a man nor a woman, when Allah and His Messenger have established a decree, still have a choice about their affairs. Whoever

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<sup>12</sup> Nasaruddin Umar, *Argumen Kesetaraan Gender Perspektif Al-Qur'an*, 2001.

<sup>13</sup> Achmad Syarifudin, "Peran Strategis Kaum Perempuan Dalam Mewujudkan Masyarakat Religi," *Jurnal Kajian Gender Dan Anak* 12, no. 1 (2017).

<sup>14</sup> Siti Inayatul Faizah, "Strategi Dakwah Perempuan Berbasis Perberdayaan Ekonomi," *Ahsan: Jurnal Dakwah Dan Komunikasi* 2, no. 2 (2023): 88–99.

<sup>15</sup> Damayanti, "Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dalam Upaya Ketahanan Nasional."

disobeys Allah and His Messenger, then he is indeed a manifest error." (QS. Al-Ahzab: 36). This verse shows that men and women both must obey Allah and His Messenger, including in maintaining religious decrees that include social justice and state defense. Similarly, in the context of jihad, women can play a role in activities that support community development, such as education, health, and economic empowerment. Through active participation in social activities, women help create a more stable and prosperous society, which in turn supports national resilience.<sup>16</sup> Islam itself is not a partisan religion. Islam does not teach regarding the position of women below men. In fact, Islam teaches that when a woman is married, she has a responsibility for herself, which her husband bears. In a hadith, it is explained that Islam gives great respect to women because the best man is the one who does good and is responsible for his wife. Islam gives freedom to women not to earn a living. The goal is not to burden men, but women have an important task, which is to be the first educators for their children. Because the resilience of a country starts from a small scope, namely the family. Islam also provides obligations and rights for men and women, but men are given a higher rank than women. The goal is not to discriminate against women or degrade them, but in a household, the man has an obligation as a priest in his family.<sup>17</sup>

The role of women in Islam is not excluded if they participate in the defense of the country. Women can contribute according to their capacities and skills, either directly or indirectly. The following verse affirms the principle that all individuals are allowed to strive for goodness: "And who is better in religion than the one who surrenders himself to Allah, while he is doing good, and he follows the upright religion of Abraham? And Allah took Abraham to be a close friend." (QS. An-Nisa: 125). This verse shows that the most important thing is faith and charity, without distinguishing the equality between the roles of men and women in their ability to fight in terms of goodness, including maintaining the stability of the country's defense. This is in line with the statement that every individual has the right to participate in all activities related to the security of the state regardless of gender because, in

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<sup>16</sup> M. ADLI AZHARI LUBIS, "PEREMPUAN DALAM JIHAD MILITER PERSPEKTIF YUSUF ALQARDHAWI DAN RELEVANSINYA DENGAN PP NO. 39 TAHUN 2010 TENTANG ADMINISTRASI PRAJURIT TNI" (2020).

<sup>17</sup> Ulfatun Hasanah and Najahan Musyafak, "Keterlibatan Perempuan Dalam Pembangunan Politik," *Surabaya: UNESA UNIVERSITY PRESS* 12 (2018): 409–32.

essence, human beings were created to be caliphs on earth and are responsible for protecting and maintaining society.<sup>18</sup>

Welfare is also one of the country's defense strategies. In Islam, welfare includes various aspects involved, such as material, spiritual, and moral welfare. Among the different elements, welfare is often an indicator of a person's well-being, opinion, population, health, education, society, culture, and many more. This welfare indicator raises the question of why some humans still have their welfare not fulfilled.<sup>19</sup> Welfare is the most important goal in women's strategies for national defense. Welfare must be balanced with justice, which cannot be calculated mathematically. For example, justice in economics cannot be said to be the conclusion of justice; it is only a substitute for justice.

The fairness of roles between men and women in Islam emphasizes certain aspects where men and women have equal status and position. As in the case of men and women, they have the same duties and obligations to carry out obligatory duties and stay away from all religious prohibitions, as well as to shoulder the burden of faith and bear the rewards and sins equally. Although there is equality in some aspects, Islam also provides distributive justice that recognizes the difference in duties and responsibilities between men and women. Related examples include the status of women as witnesses, part of women's inheritance, and women's opportunities to become heads of families or states. However, in some aspects, men are positioned higher, such as in household leadership and the public sphere, while women have a higher role in receiving appreciation from their children.<sup>20</sup> Women also have an important role in society. In Islam, women have a comprehensive and equal role with men. Women have a high position in society, as shown by the history of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, who has many influential and contributing women in various areas of life, including politics and economics.<sup>21</sup> Although there is equality in some aspects, Islam also recognizes the different roles between men and women in society. Men and women have other roles in the domestic and public spheres, which are considered to benefit men and lead to the dwarfing of women.

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<sup>18</sup> M.H. Badri, S.HI., "Pembangunan Hukum Perspektif Gender Melalui Kesetaraan," n.d., 1-17.

<sup>19</sup> Amirus Sodiq, "Konsep Kesejahteraan Dalam Islam," *Equilibrium* 3, no. 2 (2016): 380-405.

<sup>20</sup> M.HI H. A. Zahri, S.H, "KEADILAN GENDER DALAM PERSPEKTIF ISLAM DAN PERATURAN PERUNDANG-UNDANGAN BIDANG PERKAWINAN," 2023.

<sup>21</sup> Nayla Sakinah, "Konsep Keadilan Gender Dalam Perspektif Islam," 2023.

However, this does not mean that women are not empowered or unable to contribute in different areas of life. To achieve justice between men and women in the country's defense strategy, women must be given access to military education and training that is appropriate to their capabilities. This includes removing barriers that may prevent women from participating fully in this field. Education based on the values of equality and gender justice can help build a better understanding of the role of women in the country's defense.<sup>22</sup> The role of men and women in maintaining the country's resilience has its portion. There are realms that men can do, and there are also realms that women can't do, and vice versa. So, in the issue of justice in the roles of men and women, women should not be used only as housekeepers but as companions in every activity in various fields.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ عَلَيْهَا مَلَائِكَةٌ غِلَاظٌ شِدَادٌ لَا يَعْصُونَ اللَّهَ مَا أَمَرَهُمْ وَيَفْعَلُونَ مَا يُؤْمَرُونَ

"O you who believe, guard yourselves and your families from the fire of Hell, whose fuel is man and stone. Its guardians are harsh and violent angels. They have not disobeyed God against what He has commanded them, and they always do what they are commanded." (Q.S. At-Tahrim: 6)

Surah At-Tahrim, the 66th surah in the Qur'an, has significant relevance to the role of women in Islam, particularly in the context of the country's defense strategy. This surah includes moral and ethical lessons that can be linked to the responsibility and contribution of women in society, it covers the role of women in daily life as follows:

### **The Role of Mothers in the Education and Teaching of Islamic Values**

In Muslim families, women are often the first educators to introduce children to the Qur'an and hadith. They teach children how to read and understand sacred texts and help them internalize the values contained in them. In addition to religious education, women also play a role in teaching moral and ethical values taught in Islam, such as honesty, integrity, and compassion. They instill these principles in the daily lives of their children, helping them to become individuals of noble character.

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<sup>22</sup> & Retno Daru Dewi G.S. Putri Abby Gina Boang Manalu<sup>1</sup>, Nur Iman Subono<sup>2</sup>, "Partisipasi Perempuan Dalam Perhutanan Sosial: Studi Kasus Di Lima Provinsi," 2022.

Many women are active in religious activities in their communities, such as recitations, Qur'an interpretation classes, and spiritual discussions. This participation not only enriches their religious knowledge but also sets a positive example for other members of the community.

Women also have a central role in instilling moral values. The education provided by women focuses on building strong character. They teach values such as hard work, perseverance, and responsibility through real examples in everyday life. This helps children understand the importance of these values in building a successful and meaningful life. Women also play a major role in educating children about the social and ethical norms that apply in society. By teaching children the importance of polite, respectful, and compassionate behavior, they help create a harmonious and supportive social environment. By instilling Islamic values that emphasize peace, justice, and respect for others, women contribute to preventing conflict and violence in society. They educate children to be individuals capable of managing conflicts constructively and peacefully.<sup>23</sup>

In the field of education, women have several roles. Many women become teachers in public schools and madrasas. They not only teach academic subjects but also insert Islamic values into the learning process. This helps form a generation that is not only intellectually intelligent but also spiritually strong. Women are also involved in the development of educational curricula that are in line with Islamic values. They ensure that the material taught in schools reflects the principles of justice, compassion, and honesty, all of which are essential for social stability. Outside of the classroom, women often organize extracurricular activities such as debate clubs, Qur'an study groups, and social activities. These activities provide opportunities for students to develop their social and leadership skills, which are essential for building a strong and cohesive community.

In addition, women play an important role in strengthening social networks and communities outside the home. They often serve as liaisons between families and communities, organizing various social, religious, and educational events that strengthen bonds between community members. By being active in these activities, women help build a sense of community and solidarity among neighbors and friends, which is crucial

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<sup>23</sup> Fitriyatun Hidayah and Dewi Maharani, "Peran Ibu Sebagai Madrasatul Ula Dalam Pendidikan Akhlak Anak (Studi Kasus Wanita Karier Di Jawa Tengah Indonesia)," *Washiyah : Jurnal Studi Keislaman* 4, no. 1 (2023): 42–55.

for creating a harmonious and supportive environment. This participation also provides a positive example for their children of the importance of social engagement and contribution to society.<sup>24</sup>

Women also play the role of mediators and advisors in families and communities. They are often a place to vent for family members and the community who need guidance or advice. With their wisdom and empathy, women help resolve conflicts and problems peacefully and constructively. In this role, they contribute significantly to creating a stable and peaceful environment, both within the family and in the wider community. By instilling Islamic values such as peace, justice, and respect for others, women help build a just and prosperous society, which ultimately strengthens the country's moral and social defenses.

### **The Role of Mothers and Educators of Future Generations**

Mothers have a crucial role in instilling basic values in children from an early age. They teach the importance of honesty, hard work, and responsibility through various daily activities, such as playing, storytelling, and household activities. The education of these values forms the basis of the child's character that they will carry throughout their lives. Through affectionate interactions, mothers teach children to care for others and understand their feelings. This is important for developing empathy and the ability to build healthy and supportive relationships in society. Mothers also play a role in teaching discipline and responsibility. They instill the importance of following the rules, completing tasks, and taking responsibility for their actions. This education helps children become independent and responsible individuals who are able to contribute positively to society.<sup>25</sup>

Mothers are the main role models for their children. By demonstrating good behavior, such as honesty, perseverance, and cooperation, mothers provide concrete examples of how children should behave. Children tend to imitate what they see, so a good example from a mother is essential in the formation of their character. Mothers who are active in community activities show children the importance of social involvement and contribution to society. Participation in social, charitable, and religious activities helps children understand the values

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<sup>24</sup> D Yudianti and K Muthia, "Peran Orang Tua Dalam Pendidikan Islam Pada Anak Di TK Al-Aysar Cipocok," *Prosiding Seminar Nasional Pendidikan ...* 1 (2023): 158–64.

<sup>25</sup> Naeli Mutmainah, Hisam Ahyani, and Ahmad Hapidin, "PERAN ORANG TUA DALAM MEMBENTUK SIKAP MANDIRI ANAK USIA DINI PADA MASA PANDEMI COVID-19," *AULADA: Jurnal Pendidikan Dan Perkembangan Anak* III, no. 2 (2021): 197–209.

of solidarity and cooperation. Mothers who face life's challenges wisely and patiently provide valuable lessons to children about resilience and the ability to overcome adversity. It helps children develop problem-solving skills and the ability to stay calm in difficult situations.<sup>26</sup>

The education provided by mothers does not stop when children reach a certain age. Mothers continue to support and guide their children throughout their lives, providing advice and helping them overcome the various challenges they face. This lifelong education is essential for continued personal and professional development. In addition to supporting formal education, mothers also encourage children to be involved in various forms of informal education, such as courses, training, and extracurricular activities. It helps children develop a variety of skills and knowledge that are essential for their lives.

Mothers teach children to value knowledge and learning. They emphasized the importance of continuing to learn and seek new knowledge as a way to improve themselves and contribute to society. Through their role in the education and teaching of Islamic values and as mothers and educators of future generations, women contribute significantly to supporting social stability. This role is very important in building a peaceful, just, and prosperous society.<sup>27</sup>

Mothers also play an important role in developing children's interests and talents. By observing and recognizing their children's potential, mothers can encourage and support the development of special skills, be it in the arts, sports, sciences, or other fields. This support includes providing facilities and opportunities for children to participate in training or extracurricular activities that suit their interests. Mothers who play an active role in this not only help children discover and hone their talents but also provide the motivation and encouragement needed to achieve achievement.<sup>28</sup>

In addition, mothers play a role in teaching children about the importance of life balance. They help children understand how to manage their time between studying, playing, and resting. Mothers teach the

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<sup>26</sup> Mislaini Mislaini, Hoktaviandri Hoktaviandri, and Indah Muliati, "Peran Ibu Sebagai Pendidik Dalam Keluarga," *Jurnal Kawakib* 1, no. 1 (2020): 64–83, <https://doi.org/10.24036/kwakib.v1i1.14>.

<sup>27</sup> Moh. Kholik, Mujahidin Mujahidin, and Achmad Abdul Munif, "Menanamkan Nilai-Nilai Akhlak Dalam Pergaulan Siswa Di Lingkungan Madrasah," *Ngaos: Jurnal Pendidikan Dan Pembelajaran* 2, no. 1 (2024): 54–65, <https://doi.org/10.59373/ngaos.v2i1.12>.

<sup>28</sup> Hidayah and Maharani, "Peran Ibu Sebagai Madrasatul Ula Dalam Pendidikan Akhlak Anak (Studi Kasus Wanita Karier Di Jawa Tengah Indonesia)."

importance of maintaining physical and mental health by giving examples of living a healthy lifestyle, such as eating nutritious food, exercising, and maintaining cleanliness. Education about this life balance is essential to ensure that children grow into physically and emotionally healthy individuals and manage life's stresses and challenges wisely. Through these teachings and examples, mothers help shape a generation that is not only academically and professionally successful but also prosperous and happy in their personal lives.

## **Economic contribution and community sustainability**

### **1. Housekeeping Management**

Women are often responsible for household financial management, including budget planning, daily expenses, and savings. They ensure that the resources available are used efficiently to meet the needs of families, from basic needs such as food and clothing to education and health costs. In addition to economic responsibility, women also play a key role in ensuring that children get a good education. They organize and allocate budgets for school fees, books, and educational supplies and are actively involved in their children's academic activities, both at home and at school. Domestic work includes various tasks such as cooking, cleaning the house, doing laundry, and caring for sick family members. This work ensures that the home environment remains comfortable and healthy, which is fundamental for the well-being of the entire family.<sup>29</sup>

Women also play a role in ensuring the financial sustainability of families through prudent thrift and investment practices. They may take the initiative to start a small business from home, such as making crafts, selling food, or running an online store, which provides additional income for the family. In addition, they often look for creative ways to reduce expenses, such as utilizing recycled materials, gardening for daily food needs, or making their own household needs. Thus, women not only manage household budgets wisely but also contribute significantly to the economic stability of the family and, in turn, strengthen the economy of the local community.

### **2. Contribution to the Family Economy**

Housework performed by women provides a stable foundation for the family economy. By ensuring that the household runs smoothly and

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<sup>29</sup> Fimalati Syifaunisya et al., "Meningkatkan Pendapatan Masyarakat Melalui Peran Ekonomi Kreatif Di Desa Durian Perspektif Ekonomi Islam," *Jurnal Widya Balina* 8, no. 2 (2023): 864–76.

basic needs are met, they allow the rest of the family to focus on their work and education, which in turn increases the family's overall productivity and income. Through careful management, women are able to save household costs by reducing waste and making optimal use of resources. For example, they can make their own food instead of buying outside, or make their own clothes instead of buying them. These practices help to increase family savings and provide funds for future investments. Many women are taking advantage of technology and innovation in carrying out domestic duties. For example, they use energy-efficient household appliances, utilize information technology to seek out information about financial management, or take online courses to improve their skills. These innovations help improve the efficiency of household chores and strengthen the family economy.<sup>30</sup>

Many women are taking advantage of technology and innovation in carrying out domestic duties. For example, they use energy-efficient household appliances, utilize information technology to seek out information about financial management, or take online courses to improve their skills. These innovations help improve the efficiency of household chores and strengthen the family economy. Additionally, they often take on roles in family financial education, teaching children about the importance of saving and managing money wisely. Thus, women contribute not only through physical work but also through education and sustainable financial management, all of which are essential for the long-term well-being of the family.<sup>31</sup>

## **Involvement in Economic Ventures for Family Welfare**

### **1. Developing a small business**

Many women run small businesses from home, such as making handicrafts, cooking food for sale, or sewing clothes. These businesses provide additional income for families and are often the main source of income for some families. Women often use the special skills they have to start a business. For example, the skills of cooking, sewing, or making handicrafts can be used as a profitable business. By developing these skills, they not only support the family economy but also empower

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<sup>30</sup> Andhi Nur Rahmadi et al., "Pemberdayaan Ibu Rumah Tangga Dalam Membuka Peluang Usaha Baru Guna Meningkatkan Perekonomian," *Jurnal Pengabdian ...* 4, no. 3 (2023): 2630–35, <https://doi.org/10.55338/jpkmn.v4i2.1588>.

<sup>31</sup> Agus Supandi Soegoto et al., "Meningkatkan Peran Ibu Rumah Tangga Dalam Pengelolaan Keuangan," *JPPM (Jurnal Pengabdian Dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat)* 4, no. 1 (2020): 141, <https://doi.org/10.30595/jppm.v0i0.5545>.

themselves economically. In many cases, women support each other in running businesses through community networks. They share information, resources, and moral support, which helps overcome the challenges they face in running a business. These networks are also often the basis for cooperatives or joint venture groups that improve the economic well-being of the community.<sup>32</sup>

## 2. Contribution to the Local Economy

Small businesses run by women often focus on the local market. By providing products and services needed by local communities, they help drive the local economy and create jobs for others. Women often bring innovation in the products and services they offer. For example, they may develop a new product that suits the tastes of the local market or offer a service that was not available before. These innovations not only increase the competitiveness of their businesses but also contribute to the diversification of the local economy. Many women are involved in economic empowerment programs organized by the government or non-governmental organizations. These programs often offer training, access to capital, and marketing support that helps women to start and grow their businesses. Participation in these programs increases women's economic capacity and promotes local economic growth.<sup>33</sup>

## 3. Contribution to Sustainable Development

Many women run businesses by paying attention to the principles of environmental sustainability. For example, they may use eco-friendly materials in their products or adopt business practices that reduce waste and emissions. These efforts not only support the family economy but also contribute to environmental conservation. Women who succeed in their endeavors often serve as mentors and teachers to other members of the community. They share their knowledge and experience, provide training, and help others to start businesses. This creates a domino effect that strengthens the community's economy and promotes sustainable development. In addition to contributing economically, many women are involved in social and philanthropic activities. They use part of their income to support social initiatives, such as education, health, and other

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<sup>32</sup> N Fauzah et al., "Peran Perempuan Dalam Meningkatkan Kesejahteraan Keluarga: Tinjauan Ekonomi Islam," *Jurnal Manajemen ...* 9, no. 2 (2023).

<sup>33</sup> Fasiha and Muhammad Alwi, "Urgensi Pengelolaan Keuangan Rumah Tangga Penerima Manfaat Program Keluarga Harapan Dalam Peningkatan Kesejahteraan," *Sosio Informa: Kajian Permasalahan Sosial ...* 9, no. 01 (2023): 13–29, <https://doi.org/10.31595/inf.v9i1>.

women's empowerment. These activities help improve the social and economic well-being of the community as a whole.<sup>34</sup>

## **Participation in Political and Social life**

### **1. Involvement in the Political Process**

Women play an important role in the democratic process through participation in general elections. By voting, they help elect leaders and representatives who are committed to policies that promote peace and justice. This participation ensures that women's perspectives and needs are taken into account in policymaking. Many women are active in political parties, both as members and leaders. They work to advance an agenda that includes women's rights, gender equality, and policies that support peace. This involvement allows women to influence the direction of public policy and ensure that issues important to their communities receive attention.<sup>35</sup>

Women are often involved in advocating for policies that promote gender equality. They work to eliminate discrimination and ensure that women have equal access to education, employment, and health services. This inclusive policy helps create a more just and harmonious society. Women also play a role in promoting policies that protect human rights. They are advocates for laws and regulations that protect individuals from violence, harassment, and other rights violations. By fighting for these rights, women help build safer and more peaceful societies. Many women work to promote policies that protect and respect women's rights, such as anti-domestic violence laws, maternity rights, and equal pay. These policies not only improve women's welfare but also contribute to social stability and justice.

### **2. Peace Program Development**

Women are often involved in conflict mediation initiatives, both at the community and national levels. They act as mediators who seek to resolve disputes peacefully. This approach helps to reduce violence and create conditions conducive to peace. Women are also active in peace education programs, which teach children and adolescents the values of

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<sup>34</sup> Kalsum Kalsum, Ahmad Yamin, and Supriyadi Supriyadi, "Peran Pemberdayaan Dan Kesejahteraan Keluarga Dalam Peningkatan Pendapatan Masyarakat (Studi Kasus Di Desa Seteluk Tengah Kabupaten Sumbawa Barat)," *JlIP - Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Pendidikan* 6, no. 10 (2023): 8417–22, <https://doi.org/10.54371/jiip.v6i10.3124>.

<sup>35</sup> Nur Hidayat and Andi Asri, "Partisipasi Perempuan Dalam Perumusan Kebijakan Di Era Otonomi Daerah Kabupaten Sorong," *Jurnal Faksi: Ilmu Sosial Dan Ilmu Politik* 9, no. 1 (2023): 63–72.

tolerance, dialogue, and conflict resolution. These programs help create a generation that understands the importance of peace and has the skills to manage conflict constructively. Many women promote cooperation between communities to address common problems and build more harmonious relationships. By working together across ethnic, religious, and social boundaries, they help create a more inclusive and peaceful social climate.<sup>36</sup>

### 3. Contribution to Social Organizations and Community Empowerment

Women are often involved in non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and non-profit organizations that focus on issues such as education, health, and women's rights. They work to improve the well-being of communities through various programs and initiatives, such as skills training, health services, and awareness campaigns. Women often play the role of community organizers, helping to coordinate collective efforts to address local problems. They form working groups, cooperatives, and action committees that work to improve living conditions and improve access to resources.

Many women are involved in skills training and education programs that aim to empower individuals and communities. The training covers a wide range of skills, from handicrafts to information technology, which helps individuals improve their economic capacity. Women's empowerment programs are often focused on building women's capacity in various fields, such as leadership, entrepreneurship, and education. By increasing this capacity, women become more independent and able to contribute more significantly to community development. Women often support the development of small businesses through the formation of savings and loan groups, cooperatives, and business support programs. This helps create jobs, increase family incomes, and reduce poverty in the community.<sup>37</sup>

Women are often involved in the provision of social and health services in their communities. They work as volunteers, nurses, and counselors who provide support to individuals and families in need. These services are essential to ensure that all members of the community

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<sup>36</sup> Devi Nurhayati, Winarno, and Muhammad Hendri Nuryadi, "Peran Badan Kesatuan Bangsa Dan Politik Dalam Meningkatkan Partisipasi Politik Pemilih Perempuan Melalui Pendidikan Politik Di Kabupaten Sukoharjo," *Jurnal Pendidikan Kewarganegaraan Dan Politik* 1, no. 2 (2023): 80–89, <https://doi.org/10.61476/sqagb315>.

<sup>37</sup> Ham Sasono Yafki, Yaqub Cilkusin, and Khoiron, "Partisipasi Perempuan Dalam Politik (Studi Anggota Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah Kota Malang 2019-2024)," *Jurnal Respon Publik* 17, no. 12 (2023): 7–15.

have access to the care and support they need. Women often lead awareness campaigns aimed at raising understanding of social issues, such as reproductive health, children's rights, and violence prevention. The campaign helps educate the public and encourage positive behavioral change. Through involvement in various organizations and social activities, women help build strong social networks. The network provides emotional and practical support, as well as promotes social cohesion and solidarity among community members.

## **Conclusion**

Women have an important role in the country's defense strategy, especially from an Islamic perspective. This role includes various aspects of social, economic, and political life that overall support the stability and sustainability of the country. Surah At-Tahrim provides relevant guidance on the role of women in Islam, particularly in the context of state defense and criticism of socialist feminist theories. Through the moral and ethical messages contained in this surah, women can understand the importance of their role in supporting social stability, economic contribution, and participation in political and social life. Thus, they can contribute significantly to the development and sustainability of a more just and harmonious society.

Women play the role of the main educators who teach Islamic and moral values to children and society. They also play a crucial role as mothers who shape the character of future generations. Through education and role models, women help create a harmonious, ethical, and stable society. Women play a role in household and family economic management, including financial management, domestic employment, and small businesses. This work not only ensures the well-being of families but also contributes to the local economy and sustainable development. Women's participation in the economy helps create jobs, increase incomes, and reduce poverty. Women participate in political processes, advocacy for inclusive policies, and peace initiatives. They are also active in social organizations and community empowerment programs, which contribute to social well-being and justice. This participation ensures that women's perspectives and needs are taken into account in policymaking and community development.

In an Islamic perspective, the role of women in state defense emphasizes the balance between rights and responsibilities, as well as the importance of family and community values. This is different from the

theory of socialist feminism which often emphasizes gender equality without considering the context of religious and cultural values. Islam sees the role of women not only from an economic and political point of view, but also from a spiritual and moral aspect, all of which contribute to the stability and sustainability of the country. Overall, the role of women as a national defense strategy in an Islamic perspective emphasizes the importance of women's contribution in various areas of life to create a peaceful, just, and prosperous society. This role is underpinned by religious values that value justice, cooperation, and common welfare, as well as providing criticism of socialist feminist views that may ignore cultural and spiritual contexts.

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