Multicultural Education in the Perspective of Islamic Education Philosophy

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Abstract

This paper explains that multicultural education emphasizes the importance of respecting and understanding cultural diversity in education. In the context of Islamic education philosophy, multicultural education has a deep relevance and is in line with the basic principles of Islam that emphasize equality, justice, and equality among all humans regardless of race, ethnicity, or cultural background. Islam encourages its people to know and understand each other, in accordance with Allah’s words in the Qur’an letter Al-Hujurat verse 13 which mentions the importance of knowing each other. Therefore, multicultural education in the Islamic perspective is not only a necessity in a plural society, but also part of the practice and demands of religion. The multicultural approach in Islamic education helps enrich students’ understanding of diversity and teaches them to be tolerant and respectful of differences. Through this education, it is hoped that a harmonious, peaceful and respectful society can be realized in the midst of cultural and religious diversity.

Keywords: Multicultural Education, Islamic Education Philosophy, Education

INTRODUCTION

Education Multicultural education in the perspective of Islamic education philosophy is a profound and relevant topic in the context of the development of an increasingly global and multicultural modern society. Education is one of the important instruments in shaping the character of individuals and society. In an environment that is now increasingly diverse in culture, religion and tradition, it is important for us to understand how Islam views and formulates the concept of multicultural education (Hidayat et al., 2023).

Islam as a religion that has people spread all over the world holds rich and diverse values. Therefore, multicultural education in the Islamic context not only includes the notion of harmony between religions and cultures, but also explores the depth of understanding of Islamic values themselves. This perspective teaches tolerance, understanding and cooperation between different communities, in line with Islamic teachings that emphasize the unity of mankind (Sari & Siregar, 2021).

A philosophical approach to understanding multicultural education in the Islamic context allows us to explore its roots and underlying principles. Islamic philosophy of
education emphasizes the importance of justice, equality and human rights, all of which form the basis for understanding how education can be a means of achieving harmony in a multicultural society (Ritonga, 2021).

Multicultural education in the perspective of Islamic education philosophy also considers the role of teachers and educators in shaping multicultural understanding among students. Teachers who have a deep understanding of Islamic values and experience in interacting with various cultures can be a good model in educating the younger generation to become open and inclusive individuals (Rifa'i & Khaeriyah, 1970). In the context of globalization and accelerated cultural exchange, an understanding of multicultural education in the perspective of Islamic education philosophy is the key to building a society that coexists peacefully and respects diversity. By understanding Islamic values and the principles of multicultural education, we can form a generation that has a deep understanding of pluralism and is able to establish harmonious relationships with fellow humans around the world. Therefore, research and discussion on this topic is essential to support efforts to create a more just and prosperous world (Abdin & Tuharea, 2023).

Multicultural education in the perspective of Islamic education philosophy also highlights the importance of a holistic approach to education. Holism in education means integrating various aspects of life, including religious, cultural, social and moral, in the learning process. With this approach, education is not only a means to improve intellectual intelligence, but also to form good character, have a deep understanding of religious values, and be able to contribute positively in building a diverse society.

In addition, it is important to evaluate how the curriculum and teaching methods in multicultural education reflect Islamic principles. This involves reviewing course materials, textbooks and other educational resources to ensure that they not only reflect Islamic values but also include an accurate understanding of different cultures and religions. In order to achieve effective multicultural education from the perspective of Islamic philosophy of education, collaboration between educational institutions, families and communities is essential. Society should support and encourage multicultural education as an integral part of developing a diverse society.

METHOD

The research method to be used in this study is a qualitative research method with a literature approach. The initial step will involve identifying significant sources of literature in the field of multicultural education and Islamic education philosophy (Khatibah, 2011). The selected sources will be chosen based on their relevance and significance in addressing core concepts, theories and related views. Data will be collected through critical analysis of these literary texts, with a focus on developing an in-depth understanding of how multicultural education can be interpreted and aligned with the values and principles in Islamic educational philosophy.

The results of the analysis will be the basis for building a strong theoretical framework, which will ultimately result in a deeper understanding of the challenges, opportunities and practical implications of integrating multicultural education in the context of Islamic education (Darmalaksana, 2020).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Integration of Multicultural Education in the study of Islamic Education Philosophy

The integration of multicultural education in the study of Islamic education philosophy is an attempt to understand, examine, and apply the concepts of multicultural education in the context of Islamic education based on the principles and values underlying the philosophy of Islamic education. It involves exploring how multicultural
education, which focuses on recognizing and respecting the diversity of cultures, ethnicities, religions, and other backgrounds, can be integrated in Islamic education centered on specific religious values and beliefs.

This integration includes several important aspects:

a. Understanding Islamic Values: This approach requires a deep understanding of the Islamic values and principles underlying education, such as justice, equality, civility and tolerance. In this context, how these values can support multicultural education should be studied.

b. Inclusive Learning: The integration of multicultural education in Islamic education emphasizes the importance of creating an inclusive learning environment where all students, regardless of their background, feel accepted and valued.

c. Review of Curriculum and Course Materials: This involves evaluating the curriculum and subject matter used in Islamic education to ensure that they reflect multicultural values and include a broader understanding of cultural and religious diversity.

d. Teacher training: Teachers in Islamic education need to be trained to understand and apply the concepts of multicultural education in their teaching, as well as how to integrate Islamic values with this approach.

e. Encouraging Inter-Cultural Dialogue: This integration encourages dialog and interaction between students from different cultural and religious backgrounds, so that they can learn from each other and understand differences with respect.

The main objective of integrating multicultural education in the study of Islamic education philosophy is to create an education that is more inclusive, just, and relevant to today’s global reality. It also aims to assist students in developing a better understanding of the diversity of the world and how to deal with it with an open and tolerant mind, while still adhering to the values and principles of the Islamic religion (Dwiyani, 2023).

The integration of multicultural education in the study of Islamic education philosophy is an approach that encourages the incorporation of the values and principles of multicultural education into the foundation of Islamic education philosophy (Pramono, 2023). The main objective of this approach is to enable Islamic education to be more inclusive, responsive to cultural and religious diversity, and relevant in the context of an increasingly globally connected world. Through a deeper understanding of Islamic values, such as justice, equality and tolerance, this approach proposes that Islamic education can become a vehicle for the formation of a generation that can appreciate, respect and interact with diverse cultural and religious backgrounds with a wiser and more tolerant understanding. In addition, this approach involves reviewing the curriculum, teacher training and learning environment to reflect multicultural values, encompass a deeper understanding of diverse cultures and religions and provide opportunities for constructive intercultural dialog. Thus, the integration of multicultural education in the study of Islamic education philosophy aims to create an education that not only teaches the teachings of Islam, but also promotes tolerance, respect for diversity and peace in an increasingly diverse and globalized society.

2. Multicultural Education Approach in the Islamic Context

The multicultural education approach in the Islamic context refers to an educational method or philosophy that recognizes, respects, and incorporates the diversity of cultures, ethnicities, religions, and other backgrounds in the educational process based on Islamic principles and values. This approach aims to create an educational environment that is inclusive, equitable, and oriented towards developing a better understanding of diversity within Islamic societies and around the world (Siska, 2023).

Some key points in the multicultural education approach in the Islamic context include:
a. Acceptance of Diversity: This approach encourages acceptance of diversity in all its forms, including cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversity. This reflects the teachings of Islam which recognizes differences as the will of God and emphasizes the importance of coexisting in harmony.

b. Tolerance and Inter-religious Dialogue: Multicultural education in the Islamic context promotes inter-religious tolerance and inter-religious dialogue. This includes a better understanding of other religions and respect for their religious beliefs and practices.

c. Development of Social Awareness: This approach helps students to develop a better social awareness of social problems, inequalities, and injustices that may exist in Islamic societies or in the world at large. The aim is to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to address these challenges.

d. Education for Peace: This approach prioritizes education for peace and conflict resolution. This is in line with the message of peace and reconciliation found in Islamic teachings.

e. Study of Islamic History and Culture: Students are taught about the history, culture and great contributions that have been made by different groups in the Islamic tradition. This helps to understand the diversity within Islamic society itself.


The multicultural education approach in the Islamic context aims to produce individuals who are more open, tolerant and aware of the diversity in society and contribute to peace and justice. It creates a bridge between the Islamic teachings that underpin education and the realities of an increasingly globalized and diverse world.

The multicultural education approach in the Islamic context also recognizes that education must be dynamic and responsive to changing times. This requires Islamic education to continuously adapt to global and technological developments, while maintaining the integrity of Islamic values and principles. In an era of advanced information and communication, multicultural education in Islam also introduces a deeper understanding of how to utilize technology to facilitate intercultural dialogue, expand knowledge and promote peace through digital platforms that can reach a wider audience. Thus, the multicultural education approach in the Islamic context is a holistic and continuous effort to bridge religious values with the demands of a diverse and changing world (Drake & Reid, 2020).

The multicultural education approach in the Islamic context also places an important role on teacher training. Teachers in the Islamic education system need to be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to implement this approach effectively. This teacher training includes an in-depth understanding of the concepts of multiculturalism, inclusive teaching strategies and the ability to facilitate intercultural dialogue in the classroom. Teachers also need to understand how to integrate Islamic values with the principles of multiculturalism, so that they can guide students in understanding the interrelationship between these two aspects (Fitri et al., 2020). In addition, the multicultural education approach in Islam promotes the importance of utilizing student diversity as a rich source of learning. Students are allowed to share their experiences, views and knowledge, thus creating an environment where each individual feels valued and contributes to the learning process.

The integration of multicultural education in Islamic education also supports a lifelong learning approach. This means that education about multiculturalism and tolerance does not only take place in schools but also involves communities, families and activities outside of school. The aim is to create a society that accepts and supports diversity in various aspects of life (Mawardi, 2016).
With a multicultural education approach in an Islamic context, the hope is that the younger generation of Muslims can grow into individuals who are more open, inclusive and compassionate in interacting with an increasingly complex and diverse world. This is in line with Islamic teachings that emphasize the importance of peace, justice and respect for the dignity of every human being, regardless of their background. By integrating multicultural education, Islamic education can continue to be relevant and make a positive contribution to the development of global society

3. Multicultural Education towards Peace and Harmony in Islamic Society

Multicultural education in Islamic societies is an educational approach that aims to promote peace, tolerance and harmony among individuals of diverse cultural, ethnic, religious and belief backgrounds in Muslim societies. This approach has a significant impact on peace and harmony in the following ways: (Fitri et al., 2020).

a. Inter-religious Understanding and Tolerance: Multicultural education enables individuals in Islamic societies to better understand other religions and interact with people of different faiths. This helps reduce inter-religious tensions and increases the level of tolerance, which in turn, contributes to peace in society.

b. Overcoming Conflict: By understanding the principles of multicultural education, individuals can learn how to manage conflict in a peaceful and productive manner. They can develop dialogue and negotiation skills that help prevent or resolve conflicts that may arise due to cultural or religious differences.

c. Positive Identity Formation: Multicultural education teaches individuals about the values of diversity and pluralism. This can help in the formation of a positive identity based not only on aspects of their own culture or religion, but also understanding and appreciating the identities of others.

d. Understanding of Own and Other Cultures: Through multicultural education, the Islamic community can develop a deeper understanding of its own and other cultures. This helps avoid stereotypes and prejudices that often arise when there is a lack of understanding of different cultures or religions.

e. Ability to Address Global Challenges: In an increasingly connected and globalized world, an understanding of cultural and religious diversity is a valuable asset. Multicultural education equips individuals with the necessary skills and understanding to participate in an increasingly globally diverse environment.

f. Promoting Social Peace and Justice: Multicultural education can also motivate individuals to take an active role in promoting social peace and justice in their society. They can understand that justice, tolerance and respect for diversity are principles that are aligned with Islamic values. (Mawardi, 2016)

Thus, multicultural education in Islamic societies has great potential to produce a more harmonious, peaceful and tolerant society. It contributes to the formation of individuals who are more aware of the importance of diversity in promoting peace and avoiding conflict. In this way, multicultural education plays an important role in building a more united and harmonious society in an increasingly complex and diverse world.

In the implementation of multicultural education in Islamic societies, several important things need to be considered:

a. Inclusive Curriculum: Multicultural education requires the development of a curriculum that reflects multicultural values, incorporates perspectives from various cultural groups, and highlights the contributions of diverse cultures to Islamic civilization. This ensures that school learning recognizes diversity and values the contributions of all groups in society.

b. In-depth Teacher Training: Teachers are key agents in the implementation of multicultural education. Therefore, they need to get in-depth training on this approach. This includes a deep understanding of Islamic values, the ability to
facilitate intercultural dialogue and the skills to address issues related to diversity in the classroom.

c. Community Participation: Multicultural education in Islamic societies also involves the active participation of the community. The community can support this approach by promoting tolerance, facilitating activities that strengthen understanding of diversity, and playing a role in supporting multicultural education in schools.

d. Continuous Research and Evaluation: It is important to continuously conduct research and evaluation of multicultural education in the Islamic context to ensure its effectiveness. Data and feedback from learners, teachers and communities can help in refining this approach.

e. Education for Multicultural Leadership: Training leaders and decision-makers at various levels of government and educational institutions on the importance of multicultural education is an integral part of implementing this approach broadly. Leaders who support multicultural education can play a major role in driving positive change in society.

f. Family Socialization: Families also have an important role to play in multicultural education. They can help shape attitudes and values of tolerance in their children, as well as provide support in developing an understanding of diversity (Abdin & Tuharea, 2023).

Through effective multicultural education, Islamic societies can build a solid foundation for peace, tolerance and harmony. This is not only important in the context of Muslim societies, but also plays a role in creating a more coexisting, respectful and peaceful global society in an increasingly diverse world.

A key finding of multicultural education is that it strongly emphasizes the importance of valuing and understanding cultural diversity in the learning process. The multicultural education approach seeks to create an inclusive learning environment, where individuals from different cultural backgrounds are respected and recognized. In multicultural education, we understand that our society is increasingly diverse, with people coming from different cultures, religions, languages and other backgrounds. Therefore, multicultural education aims to:

1. Respect Diversity
   Multicultural education teaches students to appreciate and respect the differences between individuals and cultural groups. This includes respect for different languages, traditions, religions, values and cultural norms.

2. Raising Cultural Awareness
   Through multicultural education, students are encouraged to increase their awareness of their own culture as well as that of others. This helps to eliminate stereotypes and prejudices that may exist.

3. Understanding Other Perspectives
   Multicultural education gives students the opportunity to understand the worldviews and perspectives of people from different cultural backgrounds. This helps promote understanding and empathy.

4. Encourages Inclusion
   Multicultural education encourages social and educational inclusion. This means providing equal opportunities for all students, regardless of their cultural background. This creates a more fair and equitable learning environment.

5. Enriching Learning
   Through multicultural education, students can enrich their learning experience by gaining greater insight into the world and society around them.
These key findings suggest that multicultural education is not just about teaching facts about different cultures, but also about shaping attitudes and values that promote intercultural cooperation, tolerance and understanding. Thus, multicultural education is important in preparing a generation that is ready to face an increasingly diverse and globally connected world.

Multicultural education is an approach in education that strongly emphasizes the importance of respecting and understanding cultural diversity in the learning process. (Munadlír, 2016) The basic concept of multicultural education and then compares it with other findings in the field of education. (Arifudin, 1970) Multicultural education emphasizes that in an educational environment, every individual, regardless of cultural or ethnic background, has the same right to a quality education. (Muliadi, 2012) This means that multicultural education encourages respect for cultural diversity and integrates various values, norms, languages and traditions into the learning process. The goal is to create an environment that is inclusive and respectful of differences between students, as well as preparing them for a multicultural society. (Latifah et al., 2021).

The main difference between multicultural education and other approaches to education is the focus on cultural diversity as a central aspect of learning. (Nur Latifah et al., 2021) Traditional education often tends to ignore or overlook cultural differences and emphasizes a homogeneous curriculum. However, multicultural education considers cultural diversity as a source of wealth that can enrich the learning process. (Akbarjono, 2018) It also recognizes that students’ learning experiences can be influenced by their cultural backgrounds, so it is necessary to approach learning with these differences in mind. (Gorski, 2016)

In summary, multicultural education is an approach that encourages respect for cultural diversity in education. (Jun, 2016) Its main difference is its emphasis on cultural integration in the learning process, while other approaches may pay less attention to this aspect. With multicultural education, the goal is to create an inclusive environment and prepare students for a more culturally diverse society. (Mahiri, 2017) Multicultural education also has a significant positive impact in increasing intercultural understanding and reducing stereotypes and prejudices among students. This helps to create a society that is more tolerant and open to differences, which in turn can contribute to the resolution of social conflicts and the creation of a more peaceful and harmonious environment. (Au, 2017) Multicultural education also prepares students for an increasingly globalized and connected world. In this era of globalization, individuals often have to interact with people from different cultural backgrounds in their work and daily lives. Multicultural education equips students with the social skills and understanding necessary to function effectively in this context. (Pratiwi et al., 2018)

However, there are also some challenges that may be faced in implementing multicultural education. One of them is the development of curriculum and educational resources that are in line with the existing cultural diversity. In addition, this approach also requires adequate teacher training in terms of teaching and classroom management that supports multicultural values. Thus, multicultural education is a very relevant and important approach in today’s educational world. It promotes respect for cultural diversity, prepares students for a multicultural society, and has a positive impact on building intercultural understanding. Although there are challenges in its implementation, its benefits in creating an inclusive environment and preparing students for an increasingly globalized future are significant.

The implications of this research are very important in the context of multicultural education. In this context, several key implications can be identified. First, it highlights the importance of raising intercultural awareness among students, teachers and educational institutions. This means that education should be more active in promoting understanding and appreciation of different cultures and ethnic backgrounds. Students should be taught
to respect and understand cultural differences, rather than just seeing them as barriers. Second, it involves developing a diverse curriculum. The curriculum should include multicultural elements that cover different aspects of culture, history and experience. This will help students gain a broader insight into the world and enhance their understanding of cultural diversity. Third, teacher training should be improved. Teachers must understand how to teach in a multicultural environment, deal with cultural differences in the classroom, and facilitate discussions that support intercultural understanding. This requires specialized and continuous training to ensure that teachers have the necessary skills to meet these challenges. Fourth, multicultural education has significant implications in the preparation of students for a global society. Students need to be equipped with the intercultural skills, intercultural communication and understanding necessary to successfully interact with individuals from different cultural backgrounds in an increasingly connected global context. Fifth, multicultural education also plays a role in promoting social inclusion. By teaching respect for cultural diversity from an early age, we can build a more inclusive society that is more open to differences and fairer in its treatment of all individuals. By understanding and implementing the implications of this research, we can take concrete steps to advance multicultural education, create a more inclusive educational environment, and contribute to the formation of a society that is more welcoming of cultural diversity.

In developing research and expanding ideas on multicultural education, it is necessary to explore the evaluation of program effectiveness, understand the impact of multicultural education on society at large, develop more inclusive teaching resources, improve teacher training in multicultural contexts, and investigate the influence of social media and technology on multicultural education. In addition, the integration of multicultural education in specific subject curricula and case studies in specialized educational settings are also areas worth further exploration. Through these efforts, we can deepen our understanding of how to create educational environments that better support cultural diversity and social inclusion.

CONCLUSION
Multicultural education is an approach in education that recognizes cultural diversity and seeks to understand and integrate it in the curriculum and teaching-learning process. In the context of Islamic education, this multicultural approach actually has suitability. Islamic education philosophy emphasizes respect for humanity, brotherhood, and equality before God. Islamic education encourages understanding and respect for diversity and teaches the importance of cooperation and peaceful coexistence among various groups.

Thus, multicultural education can be seen as a means to realize the goals of Islamic education. Through multicultural education, learners are taught to appreciate differences and understand that every individual, regardless of ethnic, racial or religious background, has the potential to contribute to society. By combining the multicultural approach with the principles of Islamic education, it can create a generation that is more tolerant, empathetic, and has the ability to interact with various groups in society with respect and justice.

REFERENCES


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