

## Islamic Education and Moral Education of Islam in the modern times

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### Abstract

Islam from its inception placed a high premium on education and has enjoyed a long and rich intellectual tradition. Knowledge occupies a significant position within Islam, as evidenced by most revered book of Islam, the Koran. The importance of education is repeatedly emphasized in the Koran with frequent injunctions, such as "God will exalt those of you who believe and those who have knowledge to high degrees" (58:11), "O my Lord! Increase me in knowledge" (20:114) and "As God has taught him, so let him write" (2:282). Such verses provide a forceful stimulus for the Islamic community to strive for education and learning.

Islam has laid down some universal fundamental rights for humanity as a whole, which are to be observed and respected under all circumstances. To achieve these rights, Islam provides not only legal safeguards, but also a very effective moral education system. Thus, whatever leads to the welfare of the individual or the society is morally good in Islam and whatever is injurious is morally bad. Islam attaches so much importance to the love of God and love of man that it warns against too much formalism.

**KEYWORDS:** Islam, Education, Morality,

### Introduction:

The aim of teaching Islamic education is to develop and promote moral character. Studies in Islamic education have established that teaching good behaviour is an important component which enhances the development of individual potential in a holistic, balanced and integrated manner, encompassing the intellectual, spiritual, and physical aspects. Reaching the level of moral and good personality requires a process. This process can be facilitated through teaching and learning. Learning takes place only if the instructor considers students as partners, and is ready to build on what they already know and what they think. To help students understand religious values will depend on the method of instruction. If the method of instruction is not appropriate, it becomes difficult to achieve the stated education objectives.

The term 'education' in Islam is understood and comprehended in different manner to what is understood within Western societies in the modern times. As we explored, the general understanding of an educated individual within Western societies is someone who possesses critical faculties and is perceived as being autonomous with aesthetic sensitivity. From an Islamic perspective an educated individual might possess similar attributes; however the necessary component that is required is belief and knowledge of how to worship God and how to live life in accordance to the Islamic laws. There is no one word that describes 'education' within the Arabic language; however scholars generally tend to use three different words. *Tarbiyah* comes from the root word *raba* (to grow, to increase, to rear, spiritual nurturing), which implies a state of ethical and

spiritual nurturing in developing the individuals potential and guidance of the child to the state of complete maturity. *Ta'dib* is derived from the root word *aduba* (to be refined, disciplined, cultured, well mannered), which suggests the social aspects of a human being including the process of character development and good social behavior. *Ta'lim* stems from the root word of *'alima* (to know, to be informed, to perceive, to learn, to discern), this refers to knowledge, the imparting and receiving of it through instruction and teaching.

### **Aims and Objectives of Islamic Education and Moral Education:**

Philosophy of the Islamic Education based on the principles of belief and righteous conduct. This connection between moral values and practice lies at the very heart of the Islamic way of life. To be a Muslim requires that one's faith be reflected in one's practice and daily moral conduct with other people. The Islamic values education curriculum called for here focuses on personality and character development of children, close attention to the real needs and concerns of students, and preparation of students with the critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as Muslims in modern society. So, following are some of the Aims and Objectives of Islamic Education as well as Moral Education.

#### **The Vision:**

The vision of Islamic education and moral education makes a fundamental distinction between teaching about "Islam" and teaching about "being Muslim." The goal of Islamic education as well as is not to simply fill students' minds with information about Islam, but rather to teach them about being Muslim.

#### **The Mission:**

The mission of Islamic Education as well as moral education is to pursue excellence in teaching, research, and consultancy in the academic study of Islam and Muslims as an implementation of the vision for education and multiculturalism. The Islamic Education is working to achieve the following goals:

- ✓ To promote intelligent debate and understanding on Islam and the role of Muslims in the contemporary world.
- ✓ Provide students with an opportunity to broaden, deepen, and enrich their understanding of Islam, based on authentic sources and comparative methods of study.
- ✓ Develop students' understanding of the position of the Qur'an in Islam.
- ✓ Provide students with general understanding of Islam and How to be a Muslim.
- ✓ Develop students' awareness of the history of Islam.
- ✓ Promote the appreciation of Islamic ethics and code of personal practice.
- ✓ Prepare students to contribute to both Muslim and multi-cultural environments.
- ✓ Equip students with the skills they need to pursue life-long learning.
- ✓ Develop critical and analytical thinking in students.
- ✓ Provide students with an opportunity to develop the capacity for independent learning.
- ✓ Enable students to develop their academic potential

#### **Belief Statement:**

There are some factors which are essential for effective teaching and learning to occur. They are meaningful, integrative, value-based, challenging and active.

- ✓ Effective Islamic teaching and learning must be meaningful. Students should feel that the content of their curriculum is worth learning, because it is meaningful and relevant to their lives. When learning is meaningful and relevant, students are intrinsically motivated to learn. Furthermore, students must be led to discover the larger connections between the knowledge and skills they are learning—rather than memorizing isolated bits of information. As Muslims, students must be trained to always keep their eye on the whole picture, or macro-view, when studying.
- ✓ Most important of all, effective Islamic teaching and learning must be value-based. By focusing on values and by considering the ethical dimensions of topics, Islamic education becomes a powerful vehicle for character and moral development, thus achieving its real purpose.
- ✓ Finally, effective Islamic teaching and learning must be active. Islamic Education should demand a great deal from both the teacher and students. The teacher must be actively and genuinely engaged in the teaching process—making plans, choices and curriculum adjustments as needed. The effective teacher of Islamic education must be prepared to continuously update his or her knowledge base, adjust goals and content to students' needs, take advantage of unfolding events and teachable moments, and to develop examples that relate directly to students.

**General objectives for Islamic Education and Moral Education:**

To teach students the fundamentals of Islam which includes:

Faith, worship, morals or morality and Islamic Law.

Moreover Islamic Education and Moral Education adopt some of the General objective as follows:

- ✓ To develop in students a deep rooted belief in, and a commitment to, the fundamentals of Islam.
- ✓ To help student establish the knowledge and practice of faith.
- ✓ To develop students' knowledge of the Prophet and appreciate and practice the teachings of his day to day deeds.
- ✓ To help the students gain the realization that the Prophet, his companions, and the righteous people are the ultimate examples in our lives.
- ✓ To help students develop their identity as believers.
- ✓ To help students to define the Islamic way of worship and living.
- ✓ To clarify to students the Islamic laws in the light of Qur'an and deeds of Prophet.
- ✓ To develop students understanding if the types of Shirk.
- ✓ To develop students understanding the concept of sin in Islam and its consequences.
- ✓ To develop student personal relationship to the Qur'an as the word of Allah.
- ✓ To develop students' respect and appreciation for the Qur'an as the final source of guidance and final criterion in Islam.
- ✓ To develop students' appreciation for the deeds as an explanatory source of the Qur'an.
- ✓ To develop in students an appreciation for the memorization and understanding of the Qur'an and its unique linguistic style.
- ✓ To help students develop an awareness of the wisdom behind Allah's creation.

- ✓ To emphasize to students the responsibility of Muslims toward self, family, the Muslim nation, and humanity at large.
- ✓ To help students realize that Allah's word is truth and the teachings of the Prophet are truth.
- ✓ To lead students to develop the practice of the Truth in all aspects of their lives according to the examples and teachings of the deeds.
- ✓ To teach students Islamic manners and etiquette in relation to themselves and all others. • To help students develop a moderate practice of Islam in all aspects of their lives based on the Qur'an and the deeds.
- ✓ To encourage students to appreciate all branches of knowledge of Allah's creation such as applied sciences, history, and languages.
- ✓ To make students aware of their responsibility as Muslims to their environment.
- ✓ To prepare students to contribute to the establishment of an Islamic society.
- ✓ To make students aware of the Muslim communities around the world.

### **Conclusion:**

Education should therefore help people develop spiritually, intellectually, and socially. There are three objectives of Islamic education: first, human objectives which are related to self-improvement in form of knowledge, behaviour, intelligence and self-actualization. Second, is the social objective related to living together, and third, professional objective which takes education and learning as an important component considering Islamic education as field of knowledge, an art, and as professional as well as a social activity in the community.

Thus, Islamic education and moral education must therefore focus on examining major themes and important topics, rather than superficial coverage of many different topics. This approach advocates that the Islamic curriculum of studies must be structured coherently around the concept of powerful ideas.

In addition, Islamic education should be integrative across a broad range of topics and in its treatment of these topics. It should be integrative across time and place as well as integrative across the curriculum. It must integrate knowledge, beliefs, and values with action and application. These integrative aspects have the far-reaching potential of enhancing the power of Islamic studies and learning.

Finally, Islamic education set forth here is based on a dynamic, rather than static, view of Islam and Islamic education as well moral education. This view is rooted in the belief that the mission of Islam is to positively affect and transform the world, and that the purpose of Islamic education is to prepare young men and women who are capable of carrying out this mission—emotionally, morally, and intellectually.

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