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Comprehensive Analysis of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah: Islamic Law Perspective and Contemporary Implementation

Suhaimis¹, Saifullah², Tamrin Kamal³, Desi Asmaret⁴, Julhadi⁵

^{1,2,3,4,5} Muhammadiyah University of West Sumatra, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

This journal article presents a comprehensive analysis of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah, a fundamental concept in Islamic jurisprudence that classifies actions into five legal categories: obligatory (*wajib*), recommended (*mandub*), permissible (*mubah*), disliked (*makruh*), and prohibited (*haram*). The study explores the traditional Islamic law perspective of these categories, which guide the ethical and legal conduct of Muslims. Additionally, the paper examines how these rulings are interpreted and applied in contemporary contexts, considering the challenges posed by globalization, technological advances, and social changes. The analysis highlights how Islamic scholars have adapted the understanding of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah to address modern issues, such as evolving social norms, new technological innovations, and legal systems. Through this exploration, the paper aims to provide a nuanced understanding of how Islamic law continues to shape both individual behavior and societal development in the modern world while remaining rooted in its classical principles. The findings underscore the dynamic nature of Islamic jurisprudence and its capacity to offer relevant guidance in addressing contemporary challenges.

Al-Ahkam, Al-Khomsah, Islamic Law, Islamic Jurisprudence, Legal Categories.

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**Corresponding
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suhaimismandai@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION

The evolution of Islamic law, particularly in the context of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah, has been a focal point for scholars seeking to understand the intersection between traditional Islamic jurisprudence and modern legal systems. In recent decades, the divergence between Islamic Moderat and Islamic Tradisional perspectives on law and education has sparked significant debate, especially in Indonesia where the Muslim population is the largest in the world. While Islamic law traditionally emphasized rigid adherence to established norms and texts, modern interpretations, particularly from the perspective of Islamic Moderat, advocate for a more flexible, context-sensitive

approach. The study of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah – the five categories of Islamic legal rulings: obligatory (wajib), recommended (mustahabb), permissible (mubah), disliked (makruh), and forbidden (haram) – offers insight into how Islamic law can adapt to contemporary challenges without losing its core principles.

In the scholarly work of Asmaret (2018), the need for a contextual perspective on Islamic law is underscored, particularly in relation to fatwas and legal rulings that consider societal changes (Asmaret, 2018). This view is shared by Fuady, who explores the Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah through the lens of normative reasoning and application in modern society (Fuady & Arafah, 2023). Shafi highlights the shifting dynamics of *Istinbāt al-Aḥkām* (juridical derivation of rulings), a method central to interpreting Islamic law, as new societal contexts require innovative approaches that do not disregard foundational texts but adapt them to current realities (Shafi, 2024). Fuady (2023) argues that contemporary interpretations of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah are not confined to classical methodologies but are being re-examined to address modern societal needs, especially in areas of social justice and human rights (Fuady & Arafah, 2023).

Despite the differences between Islamic Tradisional and Islamic Moderat, scholars like Asmaret contend that a productive discourse between these two schools of thought can yield a more comprehensive understanding of how Islamic law can serve both spiritual and temporal needs (Asmaret & Lahmi, 2024; Hidayah et al., 2024; Maula, 2019). For instance, Islamic Moderat often integrates *Maqasid al-Shariah* (objectives of Islamic law) with modern socio-political frameworks, advocating for a balance between tradition and the evolving needs of contemporary society (Handayani, 2023). In contrast, Islamic Tradisional continues to emphasize the significance of classical jurisprudential texts and practices, often with a focus on preserving the continuity of religious tradition in the face of modernization (Handoko et al., 2024).

The role of Islamic law in shaping contemporary policies, particularly in legal systems and educational structures, is further explored by Eid who discuss how modern Islamic legal thought must grapple with the complexities of globalization and technological advances. As Indonesian society seeks to reconcile its diverse cultural and religious values, it becomes clear that the future of Islamic law hinges on the ability to navigate the tension between preserving traditional principles and accommodating modern social realities (Eid & El-Gohary, 2015).

This paper aims to comprehensively analyze the Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah from both traditional and modern perspectives, exploring the implications of these approaches for legal practices and educational systems within the context of Indonesia. By examining the evolving nature of Islamic law in response to contemporary needs, this study seeks to contribute to the broader conversation on the role of Islamic law in modern societies.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research methodology for this study employs a qualitative approach, focusing on a comprehensive analysis of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah from both traditional and contemporary perspectives within Islamic law. The primary data collection method is a systematic literature review, which explores scholarly works, legal texts, and modern interpretations of Islamic law published between 2018 and 2024. This review includes sources from academic databases such as JSTOR, Google Scholar, Scopus, and ProQuest, emphasizing articles related to Islamic jurisprudence, Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah, and the Islamic Moderat and Tradisional schools of thought. The literature review will examine the five categories of Islamic legal rulings, with a focus on their contextual application in modern societies and their impact on legal and educational systems in Indonesia.

In addition to the literature review, a comparative analysis is conducted to highlight the differences and similarities between the Islamic Moderat and Tradisional approaches to interpreting Islamic law, particularly in the context of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah. The study will compare how both schools approach the interpretation of Islamic law and their stance on contemporary issues such as gender equality, human rights, and social justice. This analysis aims to explore the extent to which these perspectives influence the implementation of Islamic law in Indonesia, especially in legal and educational frameworks.

Furthermore, the research incorporates a case study analysis, examining specific examples of the application of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah in modern Indonesian society. This will include analyzing fatwas issued by Islamic legal bodies, such as the Majelis Ulama Indonesia (MUI), and educational practices in Islamic schools (madrasahs), where both traditional and modern interpretations of Islamic law are taught. The case studies will offer insight into the real-world impact of Islamic law and demonstrate how the two schools of thought are integrated into daily practices and policy decisions.

To complement the literature review and case study analysis, the study also includes semi-structured interviews with experts in Islamic law, education, and Indonesian legal studies. These interviews will provide valuable

professional insights into the challenges and opportunities of applying Islamic law in the modern context. The experts will include scholars of Islamic jurisprudence, practitioners of Islamic law involved in legal reform, and educators from Islamic educational institutions. These interviews will help contextualize the findings from the literature and case studies, offering a deeper understanding of how Islamic law is evolving in response to contemporary needs.

Finally, the data collected from the literature review, case studies, and interviews will be analyzed using thematic analysis. This method allows for the identification of patterns and themes within the data, focusing on key issues related to the implementation and interpretation of Islamic law, the differences between Islamic Moderat and Tradisional perspectives, and the role of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah in contemporary society. While the study acknowledges that its focus on Indonesia may limit the applicability of its findings to other countries, the comprehensive methodology ensures a thorough exploration of the topic within the Indonesian context.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This study has examined the comparative analysis of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah (the five legal rulings in Islam) within Islamic Moderat and Islamic Tradisional perspectives and their contemporary application in Indonesia. The findings of this research reveal key differences in the interpretation of Islamic law between these two schools of thought, influencing both the legal system and educational policies in the country. The research findings are drawn from extensive literature review, interviews with Islamic scholars, and analysis of current legal and educational trends in Indonesia.

Islamic Moderat vs. Islamic Tradisional Interpretation of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah

The study reveals that Islamic Moderat perspectives emphasize contextual understanding and adaptability in applying Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah, whereas Islamic Tradisional approaches prioritize strict adherence to classical texts and the interpretations of established scholars. The Islamic Moderat approach advocates for a flexible understanding of Islamic law that takes into account the dynamic nature of society, including modern legal concepts such as gender equality, social justice, and human rights. According to previous studies (Asmaret, 2018; Hidayah et al., 2024), the Islamic Moderat interpretation of the rulings, particularly regarding obligations (fard) and recommendations (mustahabb), aligns with contemporary social values while maintaining the core principles of Islamic jurisprudence.

On the other hand, the Islamic Tradisional perspective is more rigid, often relying heavily on classical jurisprudence. As noted by scholars like Suhada the Tradisional approach is focused on upholding traditional interpretations of texts, which can sometimes lead to resistance to reforms that challenge established norms. For instance, in issues concerning the role of women, such as inheritance laws or marital rights, Islamic Tradisional interpretations tend to be less flexible, adhering to the historical roles defined by classical jurists (Suhada et al., 2021)

Impact on Legal System and Policy Making

The findings of this study underscore how Islamic Moderat and Islamic Tradisional interpretations of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah influence the legal system and policy-making in Indonesia. The Islamic Moderat perspective has been instrumental in promoting reforms that emphasize justice, inclusivity, and human rights. As observed in the research by Wanto, the Majelis Ulama Indonesia (MUI), representing the Islamic Moderat viewpoint, has issued several fatwas that support gender equality and women's rights, such as fatwas permitting women to take leadership roles in the public sphere. This aligns with the view that Islamic law can be adapted to the current socio-political context without compromising its core ethical principles (Wanto et al., 2021).

In contrast, the Islamic Tradisional approach has led to a more conservative stance on legal reforms. The persistence of traditional interpretations can hinder legal advancements in areas such as personal freedom and gender equality. For instance, the Tradisional approach often resists changes to the existing inheritance laws, which favor male heirs over female ones, despite the evolving understanding of gender equality in other aspects of Indonesian law (Asmaret, 2018). This rigidity creates challenges in integrating Islamic law with the modern legal framework, especially in a pluralistic society like Indonesia, where diverse cultural and legal norms must coexist.

Differences in Educational Approach

The educational approaches in Islamic Moderat and Islamic Tradisional institutions also demonstrate significant differences in the interpretation and application of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah. Islamic Moderat educational institutions focus on critical thinking, discussion, and the integration of modern scientific knowledge with Islamic teachings. This approach, which is reflected in contemporary Islamic educational policies, aims to equip students with the skills to engage with global issues, such as environmental sustainability and social justice, through the lens of Islamic principles. This progressive stance

allows students to adapt Islamic teachings to the challenges of modernity while preserving the values of justice and compassion (Fuady & Arafah, 2023).

On the other hand, Islamic Tradisional educational institutions are more focused on the memorization and recitation of classical texts, such as kitab kuning. While this traditional approach preserves the foundational knowledge of Islamic law, it may not sufficiently prepare students for the complexities of modern social and political challenges. Scholars like Wanto argue that this method of rote learning, which emphasizes the authority of past scholars, limits students' ability to critically engage with contemporary issues, hindering their capacity to adapt to rapidly changing global dynamics (Wanto et al., 2021).

Fatwas and the Role of Islamic Legal Bodies

The fatwas issued by Islamic legal bodies like the Majelis Ulama Indonesia (MUI) play a critical role in shaping the contemporary application of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah. The Islamic Moderat perspective encourages the issuance of fatwas that respond to the contemporary needs of society, such as those addressing issues of public health, environmental concerns, and human rights. For example, the fatwa on the permissibility of vaccination in Islam reflects a pragmatic approach that balances religious principles with the practical needs of public health (Kustati et al., 2023).

However, Islamic Tradisional fatwas tend to be more conservative, often upholding strict interpretations of Islamic texts without regard to changing social conditions. The Tradisional stance may resist contemporary developments, particularly in areas related to personal rights and freedoms, which may not align with traditional interpretations of Islamic law (Suhada et al., 2021).

Social Implications of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah in Indonesian Society

The social implications of applying Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah in Indonesia reflect the tension between modernity and tradition. The Islamic Moderat approach promotes a more inclusive society, where Islamic principles are adapted to encourage social justice, gender equality, and the protection of human rights. In contrast, the Islamic Tradisional approach may lead to social divisions, as its rigid adherence to traditional norms can marginalize certain groups, particularly women and religious minorities.

The study highlights that in Indonesia's pluralistic society, a balanced approach that combines the flexibility of Islamic Moderat interpretations with the respect for Islamic tradition is essential for fostering a more harmonious and just society. The continuous dialogue between these two schools of thought is necessary for adapting Islamic law to contemporary needs while maintaining the ethical core of Islam.

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CONCLUSION

This study has provided a comprehensive analysis of Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah (the five legal rulings in Islam) from both Islamic Moderat and Islamic Tradisional perspectives, exploring their implications for contemporary legal and educational systems in Indonesia. The comparative analysis reveals significant differences in the approaches to Islamic law, which are reflected in both the legal framework and the educational methods used to transmit Islamic knowledge.

The Islamic Moderat approach demonstrates flexibility and adaptability in interpreting Al-Ahkam Al-Khomsah, allowing for the incorporation of modern values such as human rights, gender equality, and social justice. This perspective has proven to be beneficial in addressing contemporary challenges and ensuring that Islamic law remains relevant in a rapidly changing world. The Islamic Moderat approach to law is characterized by its emphasis on contextual understanding, with institutions like the Majelis Ulama Indonesia (MUI) issuing fatwas that are responsive to the socio-political realities of modern Indonesian society.

In contrast, the Islamic Tradisional approach adheres strictly to classical Islamic texts and the interpretations of early jurists. While this perspective preserves the foundational principles of Islamic law, it tends to resist change and innovation. This rigidity may hinder legal reforms in areas such as gender equality and human rights, and it may also limit the ability to address contemporary social issues in a way that aligns with global progress.

In the realm of education, Islamic Moderat institutions prioritize the development of critical thinking and dialogue, encouraging students to engage with both Islamic teachings and modern scientific knowledge. This approach equips students with the skills to navigate the complexities of the modern world. On the other hand, Islamic Tradisional education, with its focus on memorization and the study of classical texts, may provide a solid foundation in traditional Islamic knowledge but may not adequately prepare students for the challenges of a rapidly evolving society.

Ultimately, this study underscores the importance of a balanced approach that integrates the strengths of both Islamic Moderat and Islamic Tradisional perspectives. A dialogue between these two schools of thought is essential to ensure that Islamic law can adapt to contemporary realities while preserving its core ethical principles. The interaction between tradition and modernity in Islamic jurisprudence must continue to evolve to create a legal and educational framework that is both just and responsive to the needs of the modern world. Therefore, ongoing discussions and reforms in both legal and educational spheres are vital for fostering a more inclusive, equitable, and harmonious society in Indonesia.

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