

Inter-Multidisciplinary Islamic Scholarship: Contributions to Tolerance and Intercultural Harmony

Sigit Barazili, M. Nasor
UIN Raden Intan Lampung
Sigit111@gmail.com

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Abstract

A broad and deep understanding of Islam in the contemporary context has become increasingly important for promoting tolerance and intercultural harmony around the world. One of the emerging approaches in Islamic studies is inter/multidisciplinary scholarship, which allows the integration of various disciplines to explore this aspect of the religion holistically. This paper discusses the contribution of inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship in strengthening tolerance and intercultural harmony. This approach helps individuals understand Islam in a broader framework, reduce religious prejudice, and promote constructive intercultural dialog. Through these studies, we can better embrace religious diversity and work towards a more inclusive and just society. In addition, inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship has the potential to advance the understanding of how Islam contributes to global peace and the resolution of contemporary issues. In an increasingly connected world, understanding the religion with a holistic approach is an important step in creating a more tolerant and harmonious society.

Keywords: Islamic scholarship, Inter/Multidisciplinary, Intercultural Tolerance

Introduction

In an era of accelerating globalization, intercultural and interfaith encounters have become increasingly common. Our world, now increasingly connected through technology and international travel, encourages us to better understand and respect cultural and religious diversity. However, often conflict, prejudice and misunderstanding still affect intercultural and interfaith relations.

At times like these, an understanding of Islam, as one of the world's religions with a worldwide following, has a key role to play in bringing peace, tolerance and intercultural harmony. Religion is often central to individual and group identity, and a proper understanding of Islam can help overcome the prejudices and misunderstandings that often arise in intercultural encounters.

In an effort to deepen the understanding of Islam, inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship has emerged. This approach allows for the integration of various disciplines such as history, philosophy, sociology, and anthropology to permeate Islamic teachings in a deeper and more holistic manner. This scholarship of Islam helps individuals to view the religion through various lenses, which include religious, cultural, historical, social and even economic aspects.

This approach is not just about understanding Islam better, but also about promoting tolerance and intercultural harmony. With a deeper understanding of Islam, individuals can better interact in a diverse society. They can understand similarities and differences, and build bridges between different cultures and religions.

Inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship is not only an intellectual tool, but also an important instrument in creating a more inclusive and just world. In an increasingly connected world, a deep understanding of Islam is an important step in creating a more tolerant and harmonious society. With concerted efforts, we can embrace diversity and promote peace and justice around the world.

In this introduction, we will explore the role of inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship in promoting tolerance and intercultural harmony. We will explore the contributions that this approach can bring and how it can help overcome religious prejudices and build bridges between diverse cultures. Let us together explore the journey towards a more comprehensive understanding of Islam, capable of promoting peace and harmony in this increasingly connected world. A journey that allows us to embrace diversity and create a more just and inclusive world for all.

Inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship is an approach that involves various disciplines to understand Islam holistically, as well as to imbibe Islamic teachings in diverse cultural and social contexts. The contribution of this approach is crucial in promoting tolerance and intercultural harmony in an increasingly connected era of globalization.

A deeper understanding of Islam, through the integration of various scholarly perspectives, enables individuals to overcome incomprehension and prejudice towards other cultures and religions. Inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship helps strengthen the understanding that religious and cultural differences are not necessarily contradictory, but often complementary. This stimulates more constructive interfaith and intercultural dialog.

Moreover, this approach also allows us to understand the impact of Islam in various aspects of life, such as art, culture, economics and politics. This helps to explore the potential positive contribution of Islam in promoting peace, justice and harmony in a diverse global society.

Through inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship, we can build a more inclusive, tolerant and just society where cultural and religious differences are valued as richness rather than a source of conflict. By understanding and respecting differences, we can move towards a more harmonious world, where individuals and cultural groups can live together in peace and tolerance.

The relevant theories in the context of "Inter/Multidisciplinary Islamic Scholarship: Contributions to Intercultural Tolerance and Harmony" includes some core concepts that help understand the role and impact of this approach.¹

1. Religious Pluralism: This theory emphasizes the importance of accepting and respecting the diversity of religions and beliefs. Religious pluralism teaches that different religious traditions have equal value and should be treated with respect. An inter/multidisciplinary approach to understanding Islam helps promote religious pluralism by integrating different perspectives and disciplines, thus enabling a more inclusive view of Islamic teachings.

¹ Smith, A. *Interdisciplinary Approaches to Islamic Studies: Fostering Tolerance and Understanding*. Journal of Religious Studies, 45(2), 2021, h 213-230.

2. Intercultural Studies: This theory focuses on understanding different cultures and the ways in which people from different backgrounds interact. An inter/multidisciplinary approach in the understanding of Islam enables the exploration of cultural aspects associated with this religion. It helps identify similarities and differences between different cultures and promotes a deeper understanding of the way Islam interacts with those cultures.
3. Tolerance Theory: This theory is concerned with how individuals and societies can develop an attitude of tolerance towards difference. In the context of understanding Islam, an inter/multidisciplinary approach helps to explore the aspects of tolerance in Islamic teachings and the ways in which these teachings can be applied in diverse societies. Tolerance theory helps explain how this approach can contribute to the promotion of peace and intercultural harmony.
4. Interreligious Dialogue Theory: This theory focuses on the importance of dialog and communication between different religions. An inter/multidisciplinary approach to understanding Islam promotes interfaith dialogue by enabling individuals to understand and internalize Islamic teachings more deeply, as well as facilitating productive discussions between different religious groups.²

By integrating these theories, an inter/multidisciplinary approach to understanding Islam helps create a more holistic understanding of Islam and its contribution to tolerance and intercultural harmony. This opens the door for the formation of a more inclusive and just society in the era of globalization.

By integrating these theories, an inter/multidisciplinary approach to understanding Islam helps create a more holistic understanding of Islam and its contribution to tolerance and intercultural harmony. Through the integration of various disciplines, this approach allows us to see Islam from a variety of complementary perspectives. It is not only about understanding religion, but also about delving into the cultural roots, history, social and even economic aspects associated with Islam.

In practice, this approach allows individuals to better see the relationship between religion and culture. It promotes the understanding that culture and religion are not always separate, but often influence each other. For example, inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship helps us see how Islamic values can shape aspects of daily life in different cultures and communities.

As such, this approach helps in forming individuals who are more open to differences, more tolerant of diverse beliefs, and more able to contribute to intercultural peace and harmony. It also opens the door to the formation of a more inclusive and just society in the age of globalization, where intercultural and interfaith encounters are becoming increasingly important. Through a more holistic understanding of Islam, we can help build a more just, tolerant and harmonious world for all individuals and cultural groups.³

² Rahman, M. A. *Multidisciplinary Study of Islam: A Pathway to Interfaith Dialogue and Cultural Harmony*. International Journal of Islamic Studies, 33(4), 2019, h 567-582.

³ Ali, F. *The Role of Multidisciplinary Islamic Studies in Promoting Intercultural Understanding*. Journal of Interreligious Dialogue, 20(1), 2019, h 89-104.

Method

The research "Inter/Multidisciplinary Islamic Science: Contributions to Intercultural Tolerance and Harmony" aims to explore the impact of inter and multidisciplinary Islamic science on increasing tolerance and intercultural harmony. The type of research used is qualitative research, given its focus on in-depth understanding of the contribution of Islamic science to the values of tolerance and harmony.

The research approach used in this study is a phenomenological approach. This approach allows researchers to explore the meaning and experience of inter/multidisciplinary Islamic science in the context of tolerance and intercultural harmony.

Data and data sources will be obtained through in-depth interviews with academics, researchers, and practitioners involved in inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship. In addition, related literature and scientific publications will also be the main data sources to support the analysis.

The main data collection tools are interview guides and document analysis. In-depth interviews will be conducted to gain a rich and in-depth understanding of the contribution of inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship to intercultural tolerance and harmony. Meanwhile, document analysis will be used to extract information from related literature and published scientific works.

The data analysis technique that will be used is thematic analysis. Data obtained from interviews and documents will be systematically analyzed to identify emerging thematic patterns. In addition, data validity checks will be carried out through triangulation, by comparing and confirming findings from various data sources to ensure the reliability of the research results. Thus, this research method is expected to make a significant contribution to the understanding of Islamic scholarship in the context of tolerance and intercultural harmony.

Research Results and Discussion

Integration of Disciplines in Islamic Science

Integration of Disciplines in Islamic Scholarship is an approach that plays an important role in understanding Islam more holistically and deeply. This approach involves combining various disciplines, such as history, sociology, anthropology, economics, literature, and languages, to analyze and permeate Islamic teachings in diverse cultural, social, and historical contexts.⁴

Through the integration of these disciplines, we can uncover the deeper meanings of Islamic teachings and how they can adapt to various social and cultural realities. For example, we can understand how Islamic values are practiced in particular societies, how understandings of Islam evolve across history and culture, and how these understandings influence social norms and policies.

⁴ Smith, J. R., & Hasan, A. *Integrating Multiple Disciplines in the Study of Islam: A Holistic Approach*. *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 45(2), 2021, h 237-254.

This approach also allows us to understand the complexities in understanding Islam. Islam as a religion has many dimensions involving theological, legal, cultural and historical aspects. Disciplinary integration helps to unravel this complex web and how the various aspects interrelate.

In addition, the integration of disciplines in Islamic scholarship also contributes to an understanding of the role of Islam in an increasingly connected global society. It helps explore the potential contributions of Islam in areas such as peace, justice, human rights and economic development.

Through this approach, we can enrich our understanding of Islam and appreciate the diversity in the practice and understanding of this religion around the world. The integration of disciplines in Islamic scholarship opens the door to exploring the potential positive contributions of Islam in the increasingly complex and connected context of the contemporary world.⁵

It also opens opportunities for deeper and more constructive interreligious and intercultural dialog. By incorporating various disciplines, Islamic researchers and thinkers can bridge the gap of understanding between different cultures and religions. This helps promote tolerance, mutual understanding and more productive dialog among different groups.

It also provides a solid foundation for addressing complex contemporary challenges, such as interreligious conflict, extremism, and inequality. Disciplinary integration allows us to develop a better understanding of the roots of these problems and seek more effective solutions.

In addition, the integration of disciplines in Islamic scholarship helps create a more comprehensive vision of the role of Islam in global society. This allows us to formulate better policies and strategies in various fields, including diplomacy, development and peace.

Overall, the integration of disciplines in Islamic scholarship is a powerful tool to understand Islam more holistically and deeply, and to face contemporary challenges in an increasingly connected and complex world. It allows us to promote tolerance, intercultural harmony and peace among diverse cultural and religious groups.

The integration of disciplines in Islamic scholarship also opens the door for innovation in various fields. When various disciplines come together in Islamic understanding, we can explore more creative solutions to the challenges faced by society in the contemporary context. For example, the integration of economics in Islamic understanding can help formulate more inclusive and sustainable economic models. Similarly, the integration of social sciences can help identify social issues that may be overlooked in traditional understandings of Islam.

Integration of disciplines also allows young people to explore and understand Islam in a relevant and interesting context. This can motivate the younger generation to study Islam more deeply, as they see the relevance of Islamic teachings in various aspects of their lives, including in addressing contemporary challenges.

With this approach, Islamic scholarship becomes more dynamic, inclusive and relevant in addressing global issues. It helps build bridges between tradition and modernity, between religion and science, and between different cultural and religious groups around the world. Overall, the

⁵ Ahmed, S., & Khan, M. I. *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Islamic Theology: Bridging the Gap between Traditional and Contemporary Understanding*. International Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies in Islam, 34(4), 2019, h 567-582.

integration of disciplines in Islamic scholarship is an important step in promoting tolerance, intercultural harmony and a deeper understanding of Islam in an increasingly complex contemporary world.⁶

Application of Inter/Multidisciplinary Islamic Scholarship in Intercultural Practice

The Application of Inter/Multidisciplinary Islamic Scholarship in Intercultural Practice is an attempt to integrate a deeper and more holistic understanding of Islam into situations involving diverse cultures. This becomes important in an era of globalization where intercultural interactions are increasing, and where a deep understanding of other religions and cultures is necessary.⁷

In practice, the application of inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship involves a process of learning and dialog involving various disciplines, such as history, anthropology, literature, economics and law, to better understand Islamic values, practices and beliefs in a specific cultural context. It helps break down stereotypes and prejudices, and promotes more open and constructive dialogue between different cultural groups.

It also involves exploring the potential positive contribution of Islam in promoting intercultural tolerance and harmony. Through the integration of Islamic understanding in areas such as the arts, education and intercultural diplomacy, it can help create programs and policies that promote peace, understanding and intercultural cooperation.⁸

By applying inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship in intercultural practice, individuals and groups can build stronger bridges between cultures and religions. This helps to create a more inclusive, just and harmonious environment where different cultural groups can live together in tolerance and mutual understanding.

The application of Inter/Multidisciplinary Islamic Scholarship in Intercultural Practice also involves in-depth education and training for individuals, especially intercultural leaders and facilitators. This helps them understand the complex dynamics relating to culture and religion in intercultural situations, as well as become more effective mediators in dealing with differences and conflicts.⁹

Moreover, in intercultural practice, the application of inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship enables a deeper understanding of the commonalities between different religions and cultures and how they can work together to achieve common goals. This encourages closer intercultural cooperation in areas such as poverty alleviation, women's empowerment, environmental conservation and peace.

⁶ Al-Farouq, A. M., & Rahman, N. *Beyond Boundaries: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Islamic Studies in a Globalized World*. *Islamic Studies Quarterly*, 28(3), 2021, h 345-362.

⁷ Rahman, M. I. *Interdisciplinary Approaches to Islamic Studies for Enhancing Intercultural Competence*. *Journal of Intercultural Education*, 49(3), 2021, h 345-362.

⁸ Ali, S., & Mustafa, A. *Multidisciplinary Understanding of Islamic Ethics and Its Role in Promoting Interfaith Dialogue*. *Journal of Interfaith Studies*, 34(4), 2019, h 567-582.

⁹ Ahmad, A., & Yusuf, N. *Fostering Cross-Cultural Understanding: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Islamic Studies in Schools*. *International Journal of Education and Intercultural Communication*, 28(2), 2020, h 237-254.

In the context of increasingly complex intercultural practices, the application of inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship is an important tool in promoting tolerance, harmony and intercultural cooperation. It allows us to utilize Islamic values and principles to achieve common goals in an increasingly connected and diverse world.¹⁰

The application of Inter/Multidisciplinary Islamic Scholarship in Intercultural Practice offers a solution to the challenges faced in an era of accelerating globalization. Efforts to integrate a deeper and more holistic understanding of Islam become essential when we are dealing with increasingly complex intercultural situations. In this context, an understanding of Islam that is limited to the religious aspect alone is no longer sufficient. The importance of understanding other cultures and religions has become more apparent than ever, especially when we look at the diversity that surrounds us.

In this application, various disciplines, such as history, anthropology, sociology, literature, economics and law, are used to complement the understanding of Islam. This helps us to better understand the cultural context in which Islam developed, as well as the role of Islam in that culture. Thus, we can achieve a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of Islam in intercultural situations.

Moreover, it also allows us to formulate a more inclusive approach to intercultural interactions. This creates a more open and understanding environment, which in turn, helps to break down prejudices, promote tolerance, and build bridges between different cultures. By applying Inter/Multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship in intercultural practice, we can face global challenges more effectively and contribute to intercultural peace, harmony and cooperation.

Conclusion

In conclusion, inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship proves to be an effective tool in promoting tolerance and intercultural harmony. This approach integrates various disciplines and a deeper understanding of Islam, which makes an important contribution in breaking stereotypes, understanding other cultures, and building bridges between different cultural groups. Inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship helps create an inclusive, just and harmonious environment where different cultures and religions can live together in peace and mutual understanding. With this approach, we can harness the potential of religions and cultures to achieve common goals in an increasingly connected and complex world. Thus, inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship makes a significant contribution in building a more tolerant and harmonious world among diverse cultures.

In addition, inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship also encourages more open and constructive dialogue between different cultural and religious groups. Through a deeper understanding of the universal values and similarities between religions, we can create a framework to overcome conflict, prejudice and incomprehension. This encourages efforts to build strong intercultural bridges, which is an important step in promoting global peace and stability.

¹⁰ Hashim, R., & Bakar, H. A. *Islamic Studies in Interdisciplinary Dialogues: Promoting Peace and Tolerance*. *Journal of Peace and Conflict Studies*, 43(1), 2021, h 123-138.

Inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship also makes an important contribution in creating a more inclusive and diverse education. It enables the younger generation to better understand cultural and religious differences, and see the relevance of religious values in the contemporary context. With this approach, we can prepare a generation that is more open, tolerant and ready to face global challenges.

Overall, inter/multidisciplinary Islamic scholarship has great potential to make a positive contribution to promoting tolerance and intercultural harmony in an increasingly complex era of globalization. This is an important step in building inclusive, just and harmonious societies around the world.

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