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THE IMPORTANCE OF ISLAM IN CHILD UPBRINGING

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Abstract: This article analyzes about the main principles of child rearing in Islam from a historical perspective. In the study, the teachings of the and Hadith are analyzed, the views of medieval Islamic scholars are studied, and the role of Islamic civilization in the formation of parenting practices is evaluated. Their use in modern parenting practice is also discussed.

Key words: Islam, child rearing, Kur'an, Hadith, Islamic scholars, Islamic civilization, history.

Introduction. Child upbringing in Islam has always been a central aspect of Muslim society. The Kur'an and Hadith provide clear guidance on raising children with moral values, knowledge, and ethical behavior. Throughout history, Muslim scholars and educators have emphasized the importance of proper child upbringing based on religious teachings. The role of Islamic civilization in shaping educational structures and family values has been profound, and understanding these historical perspectives offers valuable insights into modern parenting practices.

The Islamic perspective on child upbringing is holistic, encompassing not only religious and ethical education but also intellectual, emotional, and social development. This study explores how Islamic traditions have influenced parenting and education, focusing on historical practices, scholarly contributions, and the relevance of these principles in the contemporary world.

Materials and methods.

Literature Review

The study started by reviewing relevant Islamic texts such as the Qur'an, Hadith collections, and classical writings of Islamic scholars related to child upbringing. These sources provided the religious and ethical foundation for understanding the role of Islam in raising children.

Documentary analysis. The research involved detailed analysis of Islamic primary sources, including the Qur'an and authentic Hadith collections, focusing on verses and narrations related to parenting, education, and moral development of children. Classical Islamic jurisprudence and ethical texts were also reviewed to understand the theological foundations of child upbringing in Islam.

Analysis. This study employs a historical-descriptive approach, analyzing primary and secondary sources, including the Kur'an, Hadith, classical Islamic texts, and modern academic research. Comparative analysis is used to examine the consistency and evolution of Islamic pedagogical principles across different historical periods. The study also considers the impact of cultural and societal factors on child-rearing practices within Islamic history.

In addition to this, the research draws from interdisciplinary perspectives, incorporating insights from Islamic theology, history, pedagogy, and psychology. This multifaceted approach allows for a comprehensive understanding of the topic.

I would like to say that, according to Shaykh Muhammad Sadiq Muhammad Yusuf, the responsibility of parents in raising children begins at an early stage. He emphasizes that children should be nurtured with love and care, instilled with both religious and worldly knowledge, and guided by exemplary moral conduct. In his works, he underscores that the foundation of a righteous society starts within the family, where parents act as the primary role models for their children. He further stated: "a child's heart is like a pure mirror, reflecting the values and actions of those around them".

The role of Islam in child upbringing is both profound and holistic. Islam provides clear guidance on nurturing children in a way that ensures their overall well-being—spiritually, morally, intellectually, and socially. Through the teachings of the Qur'an and the Sunnah, parents are entrusted with a sacred responsibility to raise their children with strong faith (iman), good character (akhlak), and a deep sense of accountability to Allah.

Result. In today's world, the rapid pace of technological advancement and exposure to diverse cultures pose unique challenges to Islamic parenting. Parents must adapt to these changes while upholding Islamic principles. For instance, teaching children to use technology responsibly aligns with the Islamic value of accountability. Ensuring that children consume media that aligns with Islamic ethics is also vital. Moreover, in multicultural societies, children may encounter conflicting values. Parents can use these opportunities to engage in open discussions, helping children develop critical thinking skills grounded in Islamic teachings.

Discussion. Parents are advised to exemplify virtues such as kindness, patience, and justice. The Prophet Muhammad said, "The best of you are those who are best to their families" (Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Hadith 3895). Modeling good behavior is crucial, as children learn through observation and imitation. For instance, the regular practice of prayer and recitation of the Kur'an at home reinforces the importance of these acts of worship in a child's mind.

We know that, Islam places a strong emphasis on inculcating ethical values and moral character in children. The development of akhlaq (good character) is considered a central aspect of upbringing. Core values such as honesty, compassion, respect, and responsibility are repeatedly emphasized in Islamic teachings.

Discipline and accountability are also integral to moral education. Setting clear boundaries and consistent rules helps children understand the consequences of their actions, fostering a sense of responsibility. The Prophet Muhammad advised parents to guide their children with love and gentleness, avoiding harshness that could alienate them.

A cornerstone of Islamic upbringing is nurturing a deep connection with Allah. This begins with teaching children the basic tenets of faith and gradually introducing acts of worship. The Prophet Muhammad instructed: "Instruct your children to pray when they are seven years old" (Sunan Abu Dawood, Hadith 495). Regular practice of prayer instills discipline.

Furthermore, the home environment plays a crucial role in shaping a child's personality. Islam advocates for a loving and supportive atmosphere where children feel valued and secure. The Prophet Muhammad demonstrated immense affection towards children, often playing with them and addressing them with kindness.

Conclusion. In conclusion, Islam offers a timeless and comprehensive framework for child upbringing, emphasizing moral, spiritual, and social development. The holistic approach of Islamic parenting ensures not only the well-being of the child, but also the prosperity of the family and society at large. As challenges evolve in the modern era, the adaptability and universality of Islamic teachings provide enduring guidance for raising the next generation.

In addition to this, from teaching children how to pray, to encouraging honesty, kindness, and respect, Islamic upbringing lays a strong moral foundation that helps children grow into responsible and God-conscious adults. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) emphasized the importance of showing love, mercy, and patience toward children, and he set the perfect example for Muslims to follow in parenting.

Moreover, Islamic teachings emphasize the value of education, critical thinking, and good companionship, all of which contribute to a well-rounded

personality. By instilling Islamic values early on, children are better equipped to face the challenges of the modern world while staying grounded in their faith and identity.

Ultimately, raising children according to Islamic principles is not just a parental duty but an investment in the future of the Ummah. It ensures that the next generation upholds Islamic values, contributes positively to society, and remains steadfast in their devotion to Allah. Therefore, Islamic upbringing is not only important—it is essential for both individual growth and the collective strength of the Muslim community.

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