
The Qur'an and Sunnah as Foundational Frameworks for Islamic Religious Education in the Modern Era

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Abstract

Objective: This study aims to explore the role of the Qur'an and Sunnah in the context of modern Islamic education, particularly in shaping moral, spiritual, and intellectual development, while addressing the challenges posed by technological advancements, globalization, and cultural changes. **Theoretical framework:** The study is framed around the central role of the Qur'an and Sunnah as the primary sources of guidance in Islamic education. The framework emphasizes the integration of these foundational texts into the educational process, providing both moral and intellectual guidance for the development of attitudes, behavior, and critical thinking in modern times. **Literature review:** Existing literature highlights the Qur'an as the primary source of Islamic teachings, providing theological, ethical, and educational foundations. The Sunnah is viewed as the practical explanation and implementation of Qur'anic teachings. Previous studies emphasize the need for incorporating these sources into modern education to address the moral crises and cultural challenges faced by Islamic societies. **Methods:** The research utilizes a literature review approach, analyzing existing academic works, religious texts, and educational theories to explore how the Qur'an and Sunnah contribute to the educational process in contemporary Islamic settings. **Results:** The study finds that the Qur'an serves as the core source of Islamic teachings, covering theological, ethical, and educational aspects, while the Sunnah supports and elaborates on the Qur'anic teachings. In modern education, particularly in Islamic Religious Education, the integration of Qur'anic values helps shape attitudes, behaviors, and critical thinking in alignment with Islamic principles. **Implications:** The Qur'an and Sunnah support critical thinking, moderate perspectives, and character development in the context of modern cultural changes. **Novelty:** This study highlights the crucial role of the Qur'an and Sunnah in contemporary Islamic education, offering a framework for their integration to address modern challenges.

Keywords: islamic education, qur'an and sunnah, modern era, islamic values, shaping moral.

INTRODUCTION

Contemporary issues faced by the system of education, religion, and Islam are very complex, including the impact of globalization, technological developments, and rapid socio-cultural shifts. The Qur'an and Sunnah are unparalleled foundations and play a crucial role in formulating an authentic and relevant paradigm for the Islamic education system [1]. Both

provide comprehensive answers to ontological, epistemological, and axiological issues related to the entire educational process. In the modern setting, both the Qur'an and Sunnah offer an answer that not only corrects from corner view standards, but also is easy to apply and appropriate in a modern context [2], [3]. The Islamic education system, which is based on Al-Qur'an and Sunnah, is capable fulfil need a generation that has strong faith and noble morals. Secularism, modern materialism, and the problem of value pluralism in modern society emphasize the need to return to the two main. The Quran, as a holy text, together with Sunnah, as an interpretation of the Quran, act as a solid foundation that can easily connect modern with divine values. Therefore, an in-depth study of their role is crucial for the development of the modern content, processes, and goals of the Islamic education system [4].

The progress of modern Islamic education cannot be discussed without the need to maintain the integrity teachings Islam in middle many information. Al-Qur'an and Sunnah functioning as a filter to ensure that context Education is rooted in the principles of monotheism and sharia [5]. These two instruments in Islamic history have demonstrated their ability to create great civilizations during the golden age. Today, new challenges arise with digitalization and the influence of other cultures on social media. Therefore, it is necessary to emphasize the role of the Quran and Sunnah in promoting and maintaining Muslim identity amidst globalization [6], [7]. Education based on the Quran and Sunnah is not merely the transmission of knowledge. The Quran and Sunnah provide guidance on how to address modern issues such as earth, technology, And right basic needs of man. Second instrument. In this context The Koran and Sunnah do not only stand in the light of history. The Koran and Sunnah stand in the light that serves as a guide in the context of the future [8].

The role of the Quran and Sunnah in building the foundation of Islamic education cannot be discussed without referring to the idea of revelation as the source of absolute truth. Revelation can be defined as the core epistemology that encompasses all educational processes [9]. In the contemporary world where relativism of knowledge prevails, the Quran and Sunnah are absolute truths independent of current intellectual trends. Therefore, a lack of adherence to these ideas in the educational process can result in a loss of direction and meaning for Islamic education. Therefore, their application in the educational process must be structured. This means that participant educate can recognize relatedness between religious knowledge and worldly knowledge in a non-dichotomous manner [10], [11]. Furthermore, the Quran and Sunnah encourage a learning process based on a combination of cognitive, affective, and psychomotor elements. In contemporary society, where effective moral development is a concern, these concepts provide a suitable solution to the current moral crisis [12].

The importance of the Quran and Sunnah in contemporary Islamic education can be seen in this modern period, when the Islamic world needs to educate the next generation capable of facing international competition without sacrificing Islamic values. In terms of the evolving guidance regarding the development of a balanced curriculum that combines religious knowledge with general knowledge, the Quran and Sunnah provide comprehensive directions Which comprehensive. Thus, Islamic education, guided by the Quran and Sunnah, produces knowledgeable, pious, and morally upright graduates. Facing the challenges of the digital era, graduates possess valuable ethics related to technology [13], [14]. Of course, Islamic education programs still focus on the harmony between seeking knowledge and loving God. This allows Islamic education programs to continue to evolve while adapting to change. Conversely, implementing Islamic education without prioritizing these two sources will result in the program's spirit and essence being lost [15]. The key to modern Islamic education is incorporating Islamic values derived from the Quran and Sunnah into an educational system shaped by Western ideology. These sources contain an ontological foundation that centers all knowledge on God.

Islamic education does not only aim to empower people with knowledge, but in Public 5.0, Islamic education Islam Also make an effort to transform humans into more humane individuals. Islamic teachings also provide ethical guidance for issues such as AI in Society

5.0. Furthermore, there is an emphasis on student-centered and humanistic learning strategies [16]. Therefore, one of the keys to rebuilding modern Islamic education is its reliance on primary sources. Education without these sources will lack spirituality because Islamic education makes an effort to empower man with knowledge and change, and they become a more humane person through Tazkirah. Education based on the Koran and Sunnah in classical Islamic ways has proven successful in instilling a civilized society. It is important to discuss the application of the methodology [17]. This in era modern. Texts that contain methodology education are adaptable, regardless of how they are applied. In the context of globalization, these texts form a strong foundation of identity for Muslims. An urgent transformation of methodologies based on the Qur'an and Sunnah is needed to ensure their relevance in the global context [18].

The reconstruction of Islamic education in modern civil society is a profound process when conducted through an ontological approach based on the Qur'an. The Qur'an defines life, purpose, and human creation. Education, according to the Qur'an and Sunnah, produces a just and civilized society. It provides an answer to the identity crisis of the modern era. It provides a platform for lifelong learning. Sustainable and eternal. Management of Islamic education based on the Qur'an and Sunnah helps provide a framework or operational system. Implementing such management in the modern era will provide efficiency to institutions or organizations. Therefore, practicing management based on the Qur'an and Sunnah is crucial for building sustainable institutions. A modern Islamic education curriculum must be formulated within the context of the Qur'an, Sunnah, and local culture. This formulation makes it context-oriented yet Islamic in essence. In a pluralistic society, such curriculum resources foster a tolerant society with adherence to monotheism. A curriculum based on Al-Qur'an and Sunnah educate inhabitant country Which aware of global However remain morally upright [19].

Therefore, this research aims to provide a foundation for Islamic education, which is sourced from the Qur'an and Hadith and provides a framework. Which wide For procedure determination, objective, principle, implementation, and evaluation. Basis. This is still valid until the moment. And emphasize achievement, morals glorious. Without a runway, education That Alone will lose its meaning [19].

LITERATURE REVIEW

The role of the Qur'an and Sunnah as the primary foundations of Islamic Religious Education has been widely discussed in classical and contemporary Islamic educational thought. Scholars consistently emphasize that Islamic education is not merely concerned with the transmission of knowledge but also with the holistic development of individuals, encompassing moral integrity, spiritual awareness, and intellectual maturity. In this context, the Qur'an and Sunnah function as the main runway that guides educational objectives, content, pedagogy, and outcomes, especially in responding to the complexities of the modern era [20].

The Qur'an is regarded as the central source of Islamic teachings, providing comprehensive guidance on theology, ethics, social relations, and education. Its educational dimension is reflected in its emphasis on reflection, reasoning, moral accountability, and the pursuit of knowledge. Qur'anic principles encourage learners to engage critically with reality while maintaining a strong moral compass rooted in divine guidance. In modern Islamic education, the Qur'an is often viewed as a framework for cultivating values such as justice, responsibility, moderation, and respect for diversity, which are increasingly relevant in a globalized and technologically driven world [20].

Complementing the Qur'an, the Sunnah plays a crucial role as the practical manifestation of Qur'anic teachings. Through the words, actions, and approvals of the Prophet Muhammad, the Sunnah translates abstract Qur'anic principles into lived educational practices. Educational literature highlights the Sunnah as a model for character formation, pedagogical

ethics, and social engagement. In Islamic Religious Education, the Sunnah provides concrete examples of teaching methods, moral conduct, and leadership that can be adapted to contemporary educational contexts without losing their normative essence. Modern challenges such as rapid technological development, cultural pluralism, moral relativism, and identity crises have prompted renewed attention to the integration of the Qur'an and Sunnah within educational systems. Studies in Islamic education stress that disconnecting religious education from its primary sources risks weakening moral guidance and spiritual depth. Conversely, integrating Qur'anic and Prophetic values into modern curricula is seen as a way to balance tradition and innovation, enabling students to navigate modern life while remaining grounded in Islamic principles [21].

Table 1. Literature on the Role of the Qur'an and Sunnah in Islamic Religious Education

Aspect	Key Scholarly Insights
Foundational Role	The Qur'an and Sunnah are widely recognized as the primary foundations of Islamic Religious Education, guiding educational aims, values, and outcomes. Education is understood as a holistic process that integrates intellectual, moral, and spiritual development rather than mere knowledge transmission.
Educational Function of the Qur'an	The Qur'an provides a comprehensive framework for education through its emphasis on reflection, reasoning, ethical responsibility, and the pursuit of knowledge. It promotes values such as justice, moderation, accountability, and respect for diversity, which are increasingly relevant in modern and globalized contexts.
Pedagogical Role of the Sunnah	The Sunnah serves as the practical implementation of Qur'anic principles, offering concrete models of teaching, character formation, leadership, and social interaction. It translates normative teachings into lived educational practices adaptable to contemporary settings.
Response to Modern Challenges	Islamic educational literature highlights the importance of integrating the Qur'an and Sunnah to address globalization, digitalization, cultural pluralism, and moral challenges. Their integration helps preserve moral guidance and spiritual depth amid rapid societal change.
Learning Orientation	Contemporary studies emphasize that education based on the Qur'an and Sunnah encourages critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and contextual understanding rather than rote learning. This approach fosters balanced perspectives and constructive engagement with modern realities.

Furthermore, contemporary literature underscores the importance of using the Qur'an and Sunnah to foster critical thinking rather than rote learning. Islamic education informed by these sources encourages inquiry, ethical reasoning, and contextual understanding. This approach supports the development of moderate and balanced perspectives, helping learners respond constructively to cultural changes and ideological extremes. Overall, the literature portrays the Qur'an and Sunnah as indispensable foundations for Islamic Religious Education in the modern era. Their integration is not limited to doctrinal instruction but extends to shaping attitudes, behaviors, and intellectual capacities. By positioning these sources as the main runway of education, Islamic pedagogy can effectively address modern challenges while preserving its spiritual and moral identity [22].

METHODOLOGY

This research uses a qualitative approach with a literature review method [23]. Where the method This This study was chosen because it aims to deeply examine the concepts, principles, and role of the Qur'an and Sunnah as the primary foundation for Islamic religious education in the modern era, based on theoretical studies and previous research findings.

Literature review allows researchers to analyze and synthesize various scientific ideas relevant to the research focus.

Source data in the study. This consists of secondary data, secondary Which obtained from national and international reputable scientific journals, academic books, theses, dissertations, as well as document supporters other topics relevant to the theme of education, Islam, the Qur'an, the Sunnah, and the challenges of modern education. Sources were selected selectively, considering both topic relevance and novelty of publication to ensure the quality of the study.

Data collection techniques included literature identification, critical reading, systematic note-taking, and grouping themes related to the role of the Qur'an and Sunnah in the curriculum, methodology, management, and character-building aspects of Islamic education. Furthermore, the data was analyzed using content analysis to identify patterns and match the findings of previous research [22].

Table 2. Research Methodology Framework

Component	Description
Research Approach	This study employs a qualitative research approach aimed at gaining an in-depth understanding of the role of the Qur'an and Sunnah as the primary foundations of Islamic Religious Education in the modern era.
Research Method	A literature review method is used to analyze and synthesize theoretical perspectives and previous research findings relevant to Islamic education, Qur'anic values, and Sunnah-based educational principles.
Data Type	Secondary data, consisting of scholarly and academic sources relevant to Islamic education and contemporary educational challenges.
Data Sources	National and international reputable journals, academic books, theses, dissertations, and supporting documents related to education, Islam, the Qur'an, the Sunnah, and modern educational issues.
Source Selection Criteria	Sources were selected selectively based on relevance to the research topic, academic credibility, and publication novelty to ensure data quality and reliability.
Data Collection Techniques	Literature identification, critical reading of selected sources, systematic note-taking, and thematic grouping related to curriculum, methodology, management, and character education.
Data Analysis Technique	Content analysis was applied to identify recurring themes, patterns, and conceptual relationships concerning the integration of the Qur'an and Sunnah in Islamic education.
Analysis Process	Data were analyzed descriptively and analytically by comparing various scholarly viewpoints and synthesizing findings to develop comprehensive conceptual insights.
Research Output	Conceptual and contextual conclusions highlighting the role of the Qur'an and Sunnah in strengthening Islamic Religious Education in the modern era.
Research Contribution	The study provides a theoretical contribution to the development of Islamic education by reinforcing Qur'an- and Sunnah-based values in response to contemporary educational challenges.

The analysis was conducted descriptively and analytically, comparing various scholarly perspectives and previous research findings to gain a comprehensive understanding. The results were then synthesized to produce conceptual and contextual conclusions. Using this method, the research is expected to provide a theoretical contribution to strengthening relevant Islamic religious education based on the values of the Qur'an and Sunnah in the modern era [23].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study show that the Quran and Sunnah play an important role. In paradigm education, Islam is modern. Al-Qur'an and Sunnah not only act as a guide or normative reference, together with other references, even in modern times, offering practical solutions to various challenges faced in modern education. In the context of globalization, the Quran and Sunnah today can maintain the preservation of Arab-Islamic identity in the context of increasing achievements in modern science. The results of the modern educational paradigm that is based on the Quran and Sunnah enable graduates to attain the highest level of academic competence while maintaining the highest integrity. The Quran and Sunnah once again serve as the best epistemology to address the challenges of the relativism of modern knowledge. This process eliminates any conflict regarding the integration of religious and general knowledge. The Quran and Sunnah play a crucial role in modern education, one that cannot be overshadowed or replaced by other sources. Any education that loses its orientation or purpose, along with this foundation, is meaningless. Therefore, enhancing the role of the Quran and Sunnah is a primary need for all educational institutions in the Arab-Islamic world [24].

Further discussion reveals how the role of revelation in the form of the Quran and Sunnah as sources of absolute truth offers a foundation. Which is suitable for studying Islam in an era of liberal thinking liberal. Both of them provide truth that is unaffected by changes in time or culture. In today's information-saturated world, the Quran and Sunnah serve as objective standards for truth. Quranic and Sunnah-based education in Islam trains students to distinguish between haq (truth) and batil (falsehood) [25]. Furthermore, both provide a learning process based on discussion and reflection. Both facilitate the development of critical thinking based on Islamic values. Because of that, in apply revelation in the Islamic education process requires uniform implementation. Education in Islam without revelation will lead to learning becoming secular and materialistic [26].

In terms of character formation in society, the Quran and Sunnah have a very dominant role. Present. Both have values that can be implemented in a way universal in social settings. Islamic education, which is based on the Koran and Sunnah, is able to develop individuals who have integrity, trust, and accountability. In the face of the moral crisis facing the world, both have comprehensive and sustainable answers [27]. Also give special attention special on connection between the right individual and the rights of the people. This helps build a balanced and civilized society. Therefore, any discussion of the role of Islamic education in character formation must refer to these two primary sources. An educational approach that does not refer to the values, sayings, or teachings of the Quran can cause a generation become selfish and materialistic. Thus, increasing the importance of both in character education is very important [28].

The relevance of Islamic education in the modern world is becoming increasingly clear as the crisis worsens in matter degradation moral and spiritual Which happen. The Quran and Sunnah are the best sources for overcoming this crisis through values-based education in the form of divine teachings. Both sources contain comprehensive teachings on integrated human development. The modern era demands a strong generation with good character [29]. The modern world we live in is filled with temptation and disturbance. The second source will bring peace and tranquility to the modern world. They highlight the importance of lifelong education. Therefore, the rise of modern Islamic education through these two sources becomes the main priority. Education in Islam, modern, which ignores the teachings of the Koran and Sunnah, will become meaningless [30].

The Koran and Sunnah, the main sources of Islam, continue to play an important role in Public 5.0, which very much depends on technology. Both of them provide the best foundation for utilizing information technology from an ethical perspective. An educational system based on the Quran and Sunnah can produce a generation that is technologically literate but remains pious [31]. Although the Quran and Sunnah provide solutions Effective,

comprehensive, and sustainable solutions in addressing the challenges arising from Society 5.0, they also emphasize the need for a balance between physical and spiritual development. This enables an educational system based on the Quran and Sunnah to be effective in the context of ongoing development. Therefore, the Quran and Sunnah play a vital role. In education technology. If sources the No considered in the field of technology, there will be a generation that is technologically advanced but morally poor [32].

The classical Islamic educational methodology, rooted in the Qur'an and Sunnah, is highly relevant in the context of modern education. This methodology carries versatile learning principles that are easily modified to suit modern needs. Islamic educational methodology, rooted in a classical approach, has the potential to produce effective and beneficial learning outcomes [33]. In the context of modern education, the Qur'an and Sunnah bring a student-centered approach imbued with spirituality. Furthermore, this approach also places a strong emphasis on discussion in learning. This approach leads to the development of critical thinking imbued with Islamic principles. Therefore, the modification and revival of this classic in education is very needed. Methodology education in Islam with A little implementation of Al-Qur'an and Sunnah precisely will monoton And No effective. Therefore, its application in educational methodology is very relevant [34].

The reconstruction of the concept of Islamic education based on the ontological approach of the Qur'an offers a very deep insight into the nature of education as an activity and process, without which human existence and the existence of the world would be impossible. The natural universe That Alone will lose meaning and mark existential [35]. The Qur'an, as an ontological text, centers the educational process and practice on the existence and essence of God as its central factor, essence, and significance. Islamic education built on the ontological essence and significance of the Qur'an can create and establish the significance and essence of human creation based on its existential purpose, meaning, value, and essence. In a public, civilized contemporary society, Al-Qur'an and Sunnah give an excellent opportunity and platform to build, develop, and shape good and appropriate behavior [36].

The practice of managing Islamic education based on the guidelines of the Quran and Hadith has had a significant impact on improving the quality of educational institutions. Second, source the form principles of management, which are fair and accountable. The management of Islamic educational institutions can produce quality output [37]. In today's competitive world, Islamic educational management based on the Quran and Hadith incorporates Sharia values. Both also highly value effective management. Based on these points alone, the strategic role of these two sources in educational management cannot be overstated. An Islamic educational system that fails to function in accordance with the principles of the Quran and Hadith will be doomed. These two sources play a very significant role in educational management [38].

The standard curriculum Which centered on Al-Qur'an and Sunnah, combined with local culture, shows a very positive response to meet the needs of modern civilization. On the other hand, the Qur'an and Sunnah, as the main components of the curriculum, cover values global and eternal. Related to a civilization that is diverse and cosmopolitan, both of them give guidelines that are centered on the principles of monotheism [39]. Furthermore, the Islamic education system with this curriculum has the potential to develop a globally educated generation with noble personalities. Furthermore, the priorities of the Qur'an and Sunnah regarding modern education center on providing education that embraces justice and equality. Therefore, to develop a modern curriculum for Islamic Religious Education (PAI), these two sources appear crucial and fundamental. If ignored, the curriculum will appear merely conventional. The contribution of these two sources to the curriculum is very dominant [40].

The foundation of Islamic education, based on the Qur'an and Hadith, offers a broad scope that encompasses the entire educational system. The Qur'an and Hadith discuss process education, which focuses on the formation of character and the development of an honorable

personality. The Islamic education system is based on Al-Qur'an, and Hadith can produce a generation Muslim And expert who can follow the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad [41]. In addition, both of them guide the development of a curriculum Which balanced. Because of that, studies Which more In-depth understanding of the foundations of Islamic education and understanding of the importance of Islamic education based on the Qur'an and Hadith are very important, because the lack of foundation in the Qur'an and Hadith can cause the Islamic education system to lose its concept and identity.

Table 3. Summary of Results and Discussion

Aspect	Key Findings
Epistemological Foundation	The Qur'an and Sunnah function as absolute and non-relative sources of knowledge, providing a strong epistemological basis to address relativism and integrate religious and general knowledge in modern Islamic education.
Educational Paradigm	Islamic education based on the Qur'an and Sunnah enables high academic achievement while preserving moral integrity and Islamic identity amid globalization and modernization.
Character Formation	Qur'an- and Sunnah-based education promotes integrity, trust, accountability, and social responsibility, offering sustainable solutions to contemporary moral and spiritual crises.
Critical Thinking	Both sources encourage reflective, discussion-based learning that fosters critical thinking grounded in Islamic values rather than rote memorization.
Technology and Society 5.0	The Qur'an and Sunnah provide ethical guidance for technology use, producing learners who are technologically literate yet spiritually and morally grounded.
Educational Methodology	Classical Islamic educational methodologies rooted in the Qur'an and Sunnah remain relevant and adaptable, supporting student-centered, dialogical, and spiritually enriched learning.
Ontological Perspective	Islamic education grounded in the Qur'an emphasizes God-centered ontology, giving meaning, purpose, and existential direction to educational processes.
Educational Management	Management principles derived from the Qur'an and Sunnah support fairness, accountability, effectiveness, and sustainability in Islamic educational institutions.
Curriculum Development	A curriculum centered on the Qur'an and Sunnah, integrated with local culture, promotes justice, equality, global awareness, and noble character while maintaining Islamic essence.
Overall Significance	The Qur'an and Sunnah are indispensable foundations for Islamic education; neglecting them leads to loss of identity, purpose, and moral direction in modern education systems.

Analysis

The data analysis in this study is based on a qualitative examination of thematic patterns derived from the reviewed literature and conceptual discussions contained in the analyzed file. The analysis focuses on identifying how the Qur'an and Sunnah function as the primary foundations, or "runway main," for Islamic Religious Education in the modern era. The data were interpreted through content analysis by categorizing key educational dimensions, including epistemology, curriculum orientation, pedagogical approach, character formation, and institutional management.

First, the analysis reveals that the Qur'an and Sunnah consistently emerge as the core epistemological sources in Islamic education. The reviewed data emphasize revelation as an absolute and non-relative source of knowledge that provides direction and meaning amid the dominance of relativism in modern educational discourse. This epistemological foundation

allows Islamic education to integrate religious and general knowledge without dichotomy, ensuring coherence between spiritual values and intellectual development. The Qur'an offers a comprehensive worldview, while the Sunnah operationalizes this worldview into applicable educational practices.

Second, in terms of curriculum development, the data show that the Qur'an and Sunnah serve as guiding frameworks for balancing religious teachings with contemporary knowledge. Islamic education grounded in these sources does not reject modern science or technology; instead, it contextualizes them within ethical and theological boundaries. The integration of Qur'anic values into the curriculum supports the development of moderation, responsibility, and justice, enabling students to engage with global challenges while maintaining Islamic identity. This approach addresses the need for relevance without compromising foundational values.

Third, pedagogical analysis indicates that education based on the Qur'an and Sunnah promotes active learning, reflection, and critical thinking. The data highlight that learning is not limited to memorization but involves discussion, contemplation, and moral reasoning. The Sunnah, in particular, provides pedagogical models that emphasize dialogue, compassion, and learner-centered approaches. These methods are considered adaptable to modern classrooms, including digital and technology-based learning environments, while preserving spiritual depth.

Fourth, character formation emerges as a dominant analytical theme. The data indicate that Islamic education rooted in the Qur'an and Sunnah prioritizes the development of integrity, accountability, and ethical awareness. In response to contemporary moral crises, these sources provide sustainable values that guide personal and social behavior. Character education derived from revelation supports the formation of individuals who are intellectually capable, spiritually grounded, and socially responsible.

Finally, the analysis of educational management shows that Qur'an- and Sunnah-based principles contribute to effective, fair, and accountable institutional governance. The data suggest that management models inspired by Islamic values enhance organizational sustainability and educational quality. This includes decision-making processes, leadership ethics, and long-term institutional vision aligned with moral objectives. Overall, the data analysis confirms that the Qur'an and Sunnah function as an integrated foundation for Islamic Religious Education in the modern era. Their role extends beyond doctrinal instruction to shaping epistemology, curriculum, pedagogy, character, and management. Positioned as the main runway, these sources enable Islamic education to respond constructively to modern challenges while preserving its spiritual and moral essence.

CONCLUSION

The Qur'an and Sunnah occupy an irreplaceable position as the primary foundations of Islamic religious education in the modern era. As the main normative and epistemological sources of Islam, both function not only as references for religious knowledge but also as comprehensive frameworks that guide curriculum development, pedagogical processes, institutional management, and character formation within Islamic educational systems. Their role is fundamental in ensuring that Islamic education remains authentic, value-driven, and aligned with its spiritual and moral objectives amid contemporary transformations. In the context of globalization, digitalization, and increasing value pluralism, Islamic education faces complex challenges, including moral relativism, identity fragmentation, and the commodification of knowledge. The Qur'an and Sunnah provide enduring principles that enable Islamic education to respond constructively to these challenges. Their teachings emphasize ethical integrity, intellectual balance, social responsibility, and spiritual consciousness, which are essential for navigating the uncertainties of modern life. By grounding educational practices in these sources, Islamic education is able to offer holistic solutions that integrate faith, knowledge, and action in a coherent manner. Furthermore, the

Qur'an and Sunnah play a strategic role in empowering every stage of the educational process. At the curricular level, they shape learning objectives that prioritize both intellectual excellence and moral development. At the pedagogical level, they inspire teaching methods that promote critical thinking, reflection, and ethical awareness. In terms of management and institutional governance, Qur'anic and Prophetic values such as justice, trustworthiness, and accountability strengthen the sustainability and credibility of Islamic educational institutions. Most importantly, these sources contribute significantly to character education, fostering learners who are intellectually capable, spiritually grounded, socially responsible, and morally upright. Islamic education that is firmly based on the Qur'an and Sunnah possesses the potential to produce generations who are not only intelligent and skilled but also resilient, principled, and pious. Such individuals are better prepared to contribute positively to society while maintaining their religious identity and ethical commitments. Conversely, when Islamic education becomes detached from these foundational sources, it risks losing its meaning, relevance, and transformative power. This condition may result in educational reforms that are technically advanced but spiritually and morally deficient. Therefore, the revival and sustainability of Islamic education are inseparable from the continuous reaffirmation of the Qur'an and Sunnah as its core references. Historical and contemporary evidence demonstrates that meaningful reform in Islamic education consistently returns to these two primary principles. In conclusion, maintaining the centrality of the Qur'an and Sunnah is not merely a theological necessity but a strategic imperative for ensuring the relevance, integrity, and sustainability of Islamic religious education in the modern era.

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Author's Contributions

Suwoko conceptualized the study and supervised the research process. Idham Cholid contributed to theoretical analysis and manuscript structuring. Arinda Shalsabila Banowati and Revalina conducted data analysis and interpretation. Zulfia Nafisa Zahra assisted in literature organization, editing, and final manuscript revision. All authors approved the final version.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this article. The research was conducted independently without any financial, personal, or institutional relationships that could influence the interpretation of data or the objectivity of the research findings.

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