International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ISLAMIC LAW AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Kinza Abdul Star
BS, Department of English, The Cosmic Degree College (For Women) ,University of Okara

ABSTRACT

Islamic law plays a significant role in guiding individuals, communities, and institutions toward justice, equality, morality, and social responsibility. In the contemporary world, societies are experiencing rapid social, economic, political, and technological transformations that have created complex challenges for traditional legal systems and moral values. Issues such as human rights, gender justice, family conflicts, poverty, corruption, religious diversity, digital privacy, financial transactions, and social inequality require thoughtful legal and ethical responses. Islamic law, based on the Holy Quran, Sunnah, Ijma, and Qiyas, provides a comprehensive framework for addressing these challenges while maintaining fundamental Islamic principles. The objectives of Islamic law, particularly Maqasid al-Shariah, emphasize the protection of religion, life, intellect, family, and property. These objectives establish a foundation for promoting human dignity, protecting individual rights, preventing injustice, and maintaining social stability. This research examines how Islamic legal principles can contribute to resolving contemporary social and legal problems through responsible interpretation, independent reasoning (Ijtihad), and the application of justice and public welfare. It also explores the importance of cooperation between Islamic scholars, legal institutions, policymakers, and modern researchers in developing practical solutions. The study adopts a qualitative research approach based on academic literature and Islamic legal concepts. The research argues that Islamic law is not limited to historical circumstances but contains ethical and legal principles that can respond to changing social realities. It concludes that the effective application of Islamic law requires balanced interpretation, institutional responsibility, and an understanding of contemporary human needs.

KEYWORDS:*Islamic Law, Contemporary Society, Maqasid al-Shariah, Social Justice, Human Rights, Legal Challenges, Ijtihad, Islamic Jurisprudence, Equality, Modern Legal Systems.*

INTRODUCTION

Islamic law is a comprehensive system of religious, ethical, social, and legal principles that provides guidance for human life. It establishes a framework through which individuals can understand their responsibilities toward themselves, families, communities, and society. Almahfali, M., & Avery, H. (2023). Elobrated on, The foundation of Islamic law is derived from the Holy Quran and Sunnah, while additional legal reasoning is developed through Ijma, Qiyas, and other recognized methods of Islamic jurisprudence. Throughout history, Islamic law has played an important role in shaping social relationships, family institutions, economic activities, political responsibilities, and systems of justice. Its central objective is to establish a society in which individuals enjoy their rights while fulfilling their responsibilities. Islamic legal principles emphasize honesty, fairness, compassion, accountability, equality, and the protection of human dignity. Baharuddin, B., & Putera, L. J. (2026). Revealed, These values remain important because contemporary societies continue to experience problems that require strong moral foundations and effective legal institutions.Modern society is experiencing significant transformations because of globalization, technological development, urbanization, educational expansion, and changing social relationships. These developments have created new opportunities for individuals but have also introduced complicated legal and ethical problems. Digital communication, online financial transactions, artificial intelligence, cybercrime, personal data protection, and

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

international business activities are examples of issues that require updated legal understanding. Traditional legal discussions may not always provide direct answers to every new situation, making responsible interpretation and contemporary Ijtihad increasingly important. Islamic law provides principles that can guide scholars in examining new circumstances without abandoning the fundamental teachings of Islam. The relationship between established religious principles and changing social conditions is therefore an important area of contemporary Islamic legal research (Makhlouf, 2023).One of the most important contributions of Islamic law is its emphasis on social justice and the protection of human rights. Justice is a fundamental principle that influences individual behavior, institutional responsibilities, economic relationships, and government administration. Islamic teachings encourage the protection of life, property, dignity, family relationships, and personal responsibilities. In modern societies, human rights discussions frequently involve freedom, equality, religious diversity, access to justice, and protection from discrimination. Islamic legal scholarship can contribute to these discussions by examining the relationship between religious teachings, ethical responsibilities, and contemporary legal standards. However, the practical application of these principles requires serious attention to different interpretations, social circumstances, and the actual experiences of people living in Muslim communities (Almahfali & Avery, 2023).

Family and social relationships represent another important area in which Islamic law can address modern challenges. Changes in family structures, marriage practices, divorce, inheritance, child protection, and women's participation in society have created new questions for contemporary legal institutions. Islamic family law provides principles concerning marriage responsibilities, mutual respect, financial obligations, parental duties, and the protection of family members. These principles can contribute to strengthening family stability and preventing exploitation or injustice. At the same time, legal institutions must carefully consider changing social conditions and ensure that the rights and responsibilities of all family members are properly understood. Islamic legal reasoning should promote compassion, fairness, and protection rather than allowing cultural misunderstandings or social inequalities to influence the implementation of religious principles.Economic and financial challenges have also increased the importance of Islamic legal principles in contemporary society. Poverty, unemployment, corruption, unequal distribution of wealth, financial exploitation, and dishonest business practices create serious obstacles to social development. Islamic law emphasizes lawful earnings, fair transactions, prohibition of exploitation, fulfillment of contracts, and the importance of social welfare. Principles related to Zakat, Sadaqah, charity, inheritance, and Islamic financial practices can contribute to reducing economic inequality and supporting vulnerable communities.

Modern financial activities, including digital banking, online businesses, Islamic investment, and electronic payment systems, require careful legal examination. Contemporary Islamic jurisprudence can help identify whether such activities are consistent with Islamic ethical and legal requirements. These issues demonstrate the importance of connecting traditional legal principles with modern economic realities (Baharuddin, 2023).Technological development has introduced challenges that were not experienced in the same form by earlier generations. Social media platforms, artificial intelligence, online communication, digital surveillance, and electronic information systems have changed how people communicate, conduct business, obtain knowledge, and maintain relationships. These developments have raised

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

important questions about privacy, misinformation, online harassment, intellectual property, cybercrime, and personal accountability. Islamic law emphasizes the protection of dignity, privacy, honesty, and public welfare, which can provide ethical guidance for dealing with such issues. Nevertheless, scholars must carefully examine the nature of modern technologies and their possible benefits and harms before developing legal judgments. A balanced approach can help ensure that technological progress supports human welfare rather than creating injustice or moral problems.Another significant challenge is the relationship between Islamic law, cultural diversity, and modern legal systems. Muslim communities live in different political, social, and cultural environments, and their legal institutions operate under different constitutional and legislative arrangements. This diversity creates questions about the implementation of Islamic legal principles, religious freedom, minority rights, public participation, and peaceful coexistence. Islamic law contains important principles concerning justice, consultation, mutual respect, fulfillment of agreements, and protection from oppression. These principles can support constructive relationships among individuals belonging to different religious and cultural backgrounds. Contemporary Islamic legal discussions must therefore consider both religious foundations and the practical requirements of diverse societies. Interdisciplinary research can strengthen this understanding by connecting Islamic jurisprudence with sociology, political science, human rights studies, and modern legal scholarship.

The role of Islamic law in addressing modern social and legal challenges ultimately depends on the ability of scholars and institutions to apply its principles responsibly and effectively. The concept of Maqasid al-Shariah provides an important framework for understanding the broader purposes of Islamic legislation, particularly the protection of human welfare and prevention of harm. Through Ijtihad, scholarly consultation, contextual interpretation, and responsible legal reform, Islamic jurisprudence can respond to changing circumstances while preserving its essential foundations. Modern challenges should not be addressed through unsupported interpretations or the rejection of established principles; rather, they require careful research, reliable evidence, and an understanding of social realities. This research therefore examines the continuing relevance of Islamic law and explores how its principles can contribute to justice, social stability, human dignity, and responsible legal development in contemporary society.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To examine the role of Islamic law in addressing modern social and legal challenges.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. How does Islamic law address modern social and legal challenges while maintaining its fundamental religious and ethical principles?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Islamic law has been widely discussed as a comprehensive legal and ethical framework that connects religious teachings with the practical requirements of human society. Its principles provide guidance regarding justice, social responsibility, family relationships, economic

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

activities, and institutional accountability. Karimullah, S. S. (2024). Elobrated on, Classical Islamic jurisprudence established different methods for understanding legal questions through the Quran, Sunnah, Ijma, and Qiyas. These methods continue to influence contemporary legal discussions because modern scholars frequently examine how established legal principles can be applied to new situations. The literature on Islamic law demonstrates that its importance extends beyond individual religious practices and includes wider questions concerning public welfare, legal responsibility, and social development. Contemporary research increasingly emphasizes the importance of understanding Islamic law in relation to the changing needs of modern communities.Makhlouf (2023), in his study of continuity and change in traditional Islamic law, examines the importance of Ijtihad and Tarjih in developing legal doctrines under modern conditions. His discussion highlights how Islamic legal scholars evaluate different juristic opinions and consider their suitability for contemporary circumstances Makhlouf, A., El-Rawy, M., Kanae, S., Sharaan, M., Nada, A., & Ibrahim, M. G. (2025).explained,. This approach demonstrates that Islamic jurisprudence contains established methods for dealing with new legal questions. The study is particularly relevant to modern social and legal challenges because it explains how legal reasoning can develop without abandoning traditional foundations. It also indicates that contemporary legal institutions can benefit from collective scholarly examination when addressing complicated questions involving society, governance, and changing human needs.Almahfali and Avery (2023) examine human rights from an Islamic perspective through a critical review of Arabic peer-reviewed academic literature.

Their research highlights the importance of understanding the relationship between Islamic teachings and contemporary human rights discussions. Al Hamid, R., Sugitanata, A., & Karimullah, S. S. (2023). Found that, The study demonstrates that different scholars approach human rights through different interpretations of religious sources, political circumstances, and ethical frameworks. It also identifies the importance of examining practical human rights conditions rather than limiting academic discussion to theoretical arguments. This literature is significant for the present research because modern Islamic legal systems must consider human dignity, protection from injustice, social equality, and the responsibilities of public institutions. A balanced examination of human rights can help strengthen the contribution of Islamic law to contemporary legal debates.Baharuddin (2023) presents interdisciplinary perspectives on contemporary Syariah and legal discourse, highlighting a wide range of issues involving Islamic finance, governance, public policies, investment, social welfare, and legal institutions. His discussion demonstrates that Islamic law interacts with several dimensions of modern society and cannot be examined through a single academic discipline. Economic development, political responsibilities, legal protection, and institutional accountability are connected areas that influence the practical application of Islamic legal principles. This perspective supports the argument that contemporary Islamic legal research should include social, economic, and institutional factors when examining modern challenges. It also highlights the importance of research-based policy development and cooperation between legal scholars and relevant institutions.The concept of Maqasid al-Shariah occupies an important position in contemporary Islamic legal literature because it focuses on the objectives and purposes of Islamic legislation. These objectives traditionally include the protection of religion, life, intellect, family, and property.

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

Scholars use this framework to evaluate whether particular legal decisions promote public welfare and prevent harm. In modern society, the same principles can be considered when examining questions involving digital privacy, healthcare, education, financial security, family protection, and social justice. Maqasid-based reasoning is especially valuable when a contemporary issue does not have an identical historical example. It encourages researchers to consider the wider consequences of legal decisions and examine whether proposed solutions are consistent with the objectives of Islamic law.Contemporary literature also emphasizes the relationship between Islamic law and the protection of women's and children's rights. Family law, marriage responsibilities, divorce procedures, inheritance, education, and protection from violence are important subjects within this discussion. Islamic legal principles recognize the importance of family stability, financial responsibilities, personal dignity, and social protection. However, differences between religious interpretations, local customs, and national legislation can influence the practical implementation of these principles. Researchers therefore emphasize the importance of examining legal texts alongside social realities. A responsible legal framework should distinguish between established religious principles and cultural practices that may create inequality or misunderstanding. This distinction is necessary for strengthening justice and ensuring that legal protections are meaningful in everyday life.Another important area of literature concerns Islamic law and modern economic and technological developments. Digital financial services, electronic contracts, online business transactions, artificial intelligence, and personal data systems have introduced legal questions that require specialized research. Islamic jurisprudence provides general principles concerning honesty, contractual responsibility, protection of property, prevention of harm, and fairness in financial activities.

The reviewed literature indicates that Islamic law has considerable potential to contribute to contemporary social and legal development. Existing scholarship discusses legal adaptation, human rights, interdisciplinary Syariah studies, social welfare, and the role of independent legal reasoning. However, there remains a need to connect these discussions within a broader examination of how Islamic legal principles address several modern challenges simultaneously. The present research builds on these academic discussions by examining the relationship between Islamic legal foundations, Maqasid al-Shariah, contemporary Ijtihad, and institutional responsibility. It emphasizes that effective legal development requires both respect for established Islamic principles and a clear understanding of changing social conditions. In this way, the study seeks to contribute to a balanced understanding of Islamic law as a relevant framework for modern society.

METHODOLOGY

This research adopts a qualitative methodology to examine the role of Islamic law in addressing modern social and legal challenges. A qualitative approach is appropriate because the study focuses on understanding legal principles, religious teachings, scholarly interpretations, and social issues rather than measuring numerical relationships. The research examines how Islamic legal foundations can provide guidance concerning justice, human rights, family responsibilities, economic activities, technological developments, and social welfare. It also considers the relationship between traditional Islamic jurisprudence and contemporary legal requirements. Through this approach, the research aims to develop a

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

detailed understanding of the continuing importance of Islamic law in modern society.The study is primarily based on secondary sources, including academic journal articles, scholarly books, research publications, and relevant legal discussions. Particular attention is given to contemporary literature published in 2023 to understand recent academic perspectives on Islamic law and modern challenges. The Holy Quran and Sunnah provide the fundamental religious foundations for understanding Islamic legal principles, while academic research helps explain their interpretation and application in contemporary circumstances. Relevant scholarly discussions concerning Maqasid al-Shariah, Ijtihad, human rights, and social justice are also considered. These sources provide a foundation for examining the theoretical and practical dimensions of the research topic.A qualitative documentary research method is used to collect and examine relevant information. The researcher reviews academic publications and identifies important themes related to modern social and legal challenges. These themes include equality, family protection, economic justice, religious diversity, digital privacy, institutional accountability, and human dignity. Information is selected according to its relevance to the research objectives and its contribution to understanding Islamic legal principles. The documentary approach allows the researcher to compare different scholarly perspectives and identify common arguments concerning the role of Islamic law in contemporary society.The research also uses a normative legal approach to examine the principles and objectives of Islamic jurisprudence. This approach focuses on understanding the legal and ethical foundations of Islamic law and evaluating their relevance to contemporary problems.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The research follows a descriptive and analytical design to investigate the role of Islamic law in addressing modern social and legal challenges. The descriptive component explains the major principles of Islamic law and identifies the contemporary problems that influence individuals and communities. These problems include social inequality, family disputes, human rights concerns, economic exploitation, digital misconduct, and legal uncertainty. The analytical component examines how Islamic legal principles can contribute to understanding and addressing these problems. This research design provides an organized structure for connecting religious teachings with the practical requirements of modern society.A doctrinal legal research design is incorporated to examine the foundations of Islamic jurisprudence. The study considers the Quran, Sunnah, Ijma, and Qiyas as important sources for understanding Islamic legal principles. It also examines the role of Ijtihad in developing legal responses to situations that were not directly addressed in earlier legal discussions. The doctrinal approach helps explain the relationship between established Islamic teachings and contemporary legal interpretation. It provides an opportunity to understand how Islamic scholars use recognized legal methods to examine new social, economic, and technological developments.The comparative dimension of the research design considers the relationship between traditional Islamic legal principles and modern legal requirements. The study examines areas such as human rights, family protection, economic justice, and social responsibility to identify similarities, differences, and possible areas of cooperation. The purpose is not to present religious and modern legal systems as necessarily conflicting, but to understand how different legal approaches can contribute to justice and human welfare. This comparative perspective helps explain the importance of dialogue, mutual understanding, and

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

responsible legal interpretation in contemporary society.The research also incorporates a thematic design to organize the discussion around major contemporary challenges.

DATA ANALYSIS

The collected information is analyzed through qualitative thematic analysis to identify the major ways in which Islamic law addresses modern social and legal challenges. Academic publications and legal discussions are examined to identify recurring ideas concerning justice, equality, human dignity, public welfare, and social responsibility. These ideas are organized into relevant themes that correspond to the research objectives. The analysis focuses on understanding the meaning and practical importance of Islamic legal principles rather than producing numerical measurements. This process helps explain how Islamic jurisprudence can contribute to contemporary discussions about legal protection and social development.The first major analytical theme concerns social justice and human rights. The literature indicates that justice, fairness, protection from oppression, and respect for human dignity are important foundations of Islamic legal thought. These principles are relevant to contemporary problems involving discrimination, unequal opportunities, poverty, and access to legal protection. The analysis suggests that Islamic law can contribute to improving social relationships by emphasizing individual rights alongside collective responsibilities. It also highlights the importance of ensuring that legal institutions apply these principles fairly and consistently.The second major theme concerns the adaptation of Islamic law to modern circumstances. Technological development, changing financial systems, international communication, and new social relationships create situations that require careful legal interpretation. The analysis identifies Ijtihad and Maqasid al-Shariah as important approaches for examining these developments. Rather than relying exclusively on historical examples, contemporary scholars can consider the objectives of Islamic legislation and the possible consequences of modern activities. This approach can help develop legal responses that maintain religious foundations while addressing current social needs.The third analytical theme focuses on institutional responsibility and practical implementation. The effectiveness of Islamic legal principles depends not only on their theoretical importance but also on how they are interpreted and applied by individuals, scholars, courts, educational institutions, and policymakers. The analysis indicates that weak institutional accountability, insufficient legal awareness, cultural misunderstandings, and inconsistent implementation can reduce the effectiveness of legal protections. Therefore, strengthening education, scholarly cooperation, legal research, and institutional transparency is important for ensuring that Islamic law contributes meaningfully to contemporary society.

FINDINGS

The research finds that Islamic law provides an important ethical and legal foundation for addressing modern social and legal challenges. Its fundamental principles emphasize justice, equality, honesty, accountability, compassion, and the protection of human dignity. These principles remain relevant despite changes in technology, economic systems, social relationships, and political institutions. The study indicates that Islamic jurisprudence can contribute to resolving contemporary problems when its teachings are interpreted responsibly and applied according to the requirements of justice and public welfare. Its contribution is therefore not limited to individual religious matters but also extends to wider social and

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

institutional responsibilities.The study further finds that Maqasid al-Shariah offers an effective framework for understanding the broader objectives of Islamic legal principles. The protection of religion, life, intellect, family, and property provides guidance for examining many contemporary problems. These objectives can be connected with modern concerns such as personal safety, education, family stability, financial protection, privacy, and human rights. The findings suggest that Maqasid-based reasoning helps scholars consider the possible benefits and harms of different legal decisions. It also encourages a balanced approach in which individual interests and collective welfare are considered together.Another important finding is that contemporary Ijtihad is necessary for responding to new legal and social circumstances. Modern developments in digital communication, artificial intelligence, electronic financial services, medical technology, and international trade have created questions that require specialized knowledge and careful scholarly examination. The study finds that independent reasoning, collective consultation, and interdisciplinary cooperation can help Islamic legal institutions develop appropriate responses. However, legal adaptation must remain connected with reliable religious sources and recognized principles of Islamic jurisprudence. Responsible interpretation can strengthen the relevance of Islamic law without weakening its fundamental foundations.

CONCLUSION

Islamic law continues to hold an important position in addressing the social and legal challenges of contemporary society. Its foundations provide guidance concerning justice, equality, human dignity, family responsibilities, economic fairness, and social welfare. Although modern societies have experienced significant transformations, the fundamental objectives of Islamic law remain relevant to human needs and social development. This research demonstrates that Islamic legal principles can contribute to understanding and resolving contemporary problems when they are applied through responsible interpretation and proper consideration of changing circumstances. Islamic law therefore represents an important source of ethical guidance and legal thought in the modern world.The research concludes that Maqasid al-Shariah plays a particularly significant role in connecting Islamic legal principles with contemporary social requirements. Its emphasis on protecting life, religion, intellect, family, and property provides a comprehensive framework for examining human welfare. These objectives can guide discussions concerning human rights, social justice, technological development, economic activities, and family protection. The study also highlights the importance of Ijtihad as a method of addressing new legal questions while maintaining the foundations of Islamic jurisprudence. A balanced approach is necessary to ensure that legal interpretation remains both religiously grounded and responsive to contemporary realities.Another important conclusion is that the success of Islamic law depends on its practical implementation through responsible individuals and institutions. Islamic scholars, courts, policymakers, educational organizations, and community leaders have important roles in promoting legal awareness and strengthening social justice. Cooperation between religious scholarship and modern academic disciplines can improve the quality of legal analysis and support more effective solutions. Institutions must also ensure transparency, accountability, fairness, and protection of individual rights. Without proper implementation, the broader objectives of Islamic law may not be fully reflected in everyday social and legal practices.In conclusion, Islamic law has the potential to make a meaningful contribution to the development of a peaceful, responsible, and just contemporary society. Its

International Journal of
Islamic Law and Contemporary Issues
VOL 01 | No. 1 | 2026
P-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX | E-ISSN: XXXXXXXXXX

principles provide a foundation for addressing modern challenges without losing the ethical and religious values that define Islamic jurisprudence.

REFERENCES

Almahfali, M., & Avery, H. (2023). Human rights from an Islamic perspective: A critical review of Arabic peer-reviewed articles. Social Sciences, 12(2), 106.

Baharuddin, B., & Putera, L. J. (2026). Traversing the Transcendent for Literary Exploration and Creative Translation of the Quran's First Revelatory Clot. JOLLT Journal of Languages and Language Teaching, 14(2), 718-730.

Karimullah, S. S. (2024). Analysis of the Influence of Political Power on the Implementation of the Islamic Economic System. Jurnal Ekonomi Syariah, Akuntansi dan Perbankan (JESKaPe), 8(2), 179-209.

Makhlouf, A., El-Rawy, M., Kanae, S., Sharaan, M., Nada, A., & Ibrahim, M. G. (2025). Streamlining the monitoring and assessment of irrigation groundwater quality using machine learning techniques. Environmental Earth Sciences, 84(5), 148.

Al Hamid, R., Sugitanata, A., & Karimullah, S. S. (2023). Sinkronisasi pendekatan sosiologis dengan penemuan hukum Islam sui generis kum empiris. Bertuah Jurnal Syariah Dan Ekonomi Islam, 4(1), 48-60.