



Research Article

Reframing Harmony in Islamic Philosophy: An Epistemological Inquiry into Balance, Ethics, and Moral Agency in Contemporary Muslim Societies

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Abstract: This study explores how Islamic epistemology can address the fragmentation and ethical challenges in contemporary Muslim societies. By emphasizing the integration of divine revelation and human reason, Islamic epistemology offers a balanced framework for intellectual and spiritual development. The core principles of *mīzān* (balance), *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* (higher objectives of Islamic law), and *tawhid* (divine unity) form the foundation of Islamic ethical thought, guiding individuals and communities toward social harmony and moral responsibility. The study highlights how these principles can be applied to modern issues such as social justice, environmental sustainability, and the erosion of communal values. Through a comparative analysis, the research contrasts Islamic epistemology with Western ethical frameworks that prioritize individual autonomy, showing how Islamic approaches promote communal accountability and social cohesion. Empirical research, including surveys and interviews, reveals that Muslim communities view Islamic epistemology as a valuable tool for addressing contemporary ethical dilemmas and fostering unity. By revisiting classical Islamic scholars like Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, and Al-Ghazali, the study provides a theoretical foundation for applying Islamic knowledge to modern day challenges. Additionally, the research examines how the principles of moral agency and personal responsibility in Islamic thought offer solutions to the weakening of ethical conduct in contemporary societies. The study concludes by recommending further research into the practical implementation of Islamic epistemological concepts in governance, education, and social structures to promote ethical and social reform. Integrating Islamic wisdom with modern ethical challenges can offer significant contributions to fostering a more harmonious, just, and ethically responsible global society.

Keywords: Communal Responsibility; Ethical Framework; Islamic Epistemology; Moral Agency; Social Justice

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1. Introduction

Contemporary Muslim societies face significant ethical fragmentation due to rapid social changes, ideological polarization, and the weakening of moral agency. These challenges have been compounded by secularism and materialism, which have led to a decline in spiritual integrity and ethical values (Elouazzani, 2024). Modernization and globalization have introduced new social dynamics, forcing Muslim societies to balance between secularization and religious revivalism, creating an increasingly fragmented ethical landscape (Octavianne et al., 2024). The weakening of belief in Allah SWT. and the afterlife has further eroded essential virtues like justice, honesty, and social responsibility, contributing to the ethical crisis within these societies. Ideological polarization, particularly driven by identity politics and social media, has deepened divisions, fostering a fragmented moral framework (Aydogan et al., 2025). As a result, social cohesion has weakened, necessitating a philosophical understanding of harmony rooted in Islamic epistemology.

The need for a renewed philosophical approach is crucial in addressing the ethical challenges facing contemporary Muslim societies. Islamic epistemology, which integrates divine revelation and human reason, offers a harmonious framework for intellectual and spiritual development (Elouazzani, 2024). By balancing metaphysics, rationality, and

revelation, Islamic thought provides a more holistic perspective that is well suited to contemporary challenges (Syafaq et al., 2024). Core Islamic principles like tawhid (unity), *amr bi al-ma'ruf wa nahy'an al-munkar* (commanding right and forbidding wrong), *ummah* (community), and *taqwa* (piety) are essential for ethical communication and social harmony (Aydogan et al., 2025). These principles can help rebuild moral agency and social responsibility, ensuring that contemporary Muslim societies restore their ethical balance while remaining grounded in Islamic tradition.

The aim of this study is to explore how Islamic epistemological concepts of balance (*mīzān*), ethics, and moral agency can be reinterpreted to address the ethical challenges of contemporary society. In order to achieve this, the study revisits classical Islamic texts and traditions to extract insights that can be applied to modern ethical dilemmas. Islamic epistemology, with its emphasis on balance, ethics, and moral responsibility, offers a unique perspective on contemporary issues such as social justice, human rights, and environmental sustainability (Raimi, 2024). By integrating these traditional concepts with modern ethical theories, this study aims to provide a comprehensive framework that contributes to the ongoing discourse in Islamic ethics and social responsibility.

Revisiting Islamic epistemological traditions is significant for multiple reasons. Historically, scholars like al-Fārābī, Ibn Sīnā, and Ibn Khaldūn laid down foundational values such as justice, neutrality, and ethical commitment, which remain relevant today. These values offer a broader, more inclusive framework for contemporary ethical discourse, moving beyond the limitations of Western paradigms (Bouarfa, 2025). Additionally, Islamic epistemology aligns well with modern ethical theories, such as virtue ethics, consequentialism, and deontological ethics, offering a unique synergy that can contribute to sustainable development and address pressing global ethical challenges (Raimi, 2024). Furthermore, addressing the ongoing epistemological crisis within conservative Islamic scholarship, especially concerning human rights under Sharia, is crucial for reforming Islamic epistemology to meet the standards of the 21st century (Zhussipbek & Nagayeva, 2019). By incorporating international human rights standards, Islamic epistemology can offer a more balanced approach to ethical dilemmas while maintaining its core spiritual and ethical principles.

Islamic teachings, particularly the concept of *mīzān* (balance), play a pivotal role in ensuring ethical behavior and social responsibility in all aspects of life, including worship, work, and social interactions. This balance is essential for addressing contemporary ethical issues. Moreover, the concept of ethical agency in Islam, as discussed by scholars like al-Ghazālī, underscores the importance of intentionality and divine grace in ethical actions, offering a nuanced understanding of moral agency that remains relevant in the modern world (Mian, 2022). Integrating Islamic ethical principles into contemporary frameworks has practical implications, particularly for policymakers and practitioners. Islamic principles of environmental stewardship and social responsibility can provide valuable guidance for promoting sustainable development and addressing global challenges, such as climate change and social inequality (Raimi, 2024). Thus, the study seeks to bridge the gap between classical Islamic epistemological traditions and contemporary ethical issues, offering solutions grounded in a rich and evolving ethical framework.

2. Literature Review

Concept of Balance (*Mīzān*) in Islamic Epistemology

The concept of *mīzān* (balance) in Islamic epistemology is foundational in understanding justice, fairness, and the natural order of the universe. Classical scholars like al-Fārābī and Ibn Taymiyyah emphasized the importance of balance between reason, revelation, and the natural world. Al-Fārābī's dualistic approach integrates the sensory and rational, illustrating that balance is achieved when both faculties work in harmony to bridge material reality and abstract wisdom (Nadir Suhayb Amin Nadir, 2015). Similarly, Ibn Taymiyyah's model stresses the integration of revelation (*naql*), reason (*'aql*), and innate disposition (*fiṭrah*), promoting an epistemological equilibrium that prevents the domination of one over the other (Alsuhaymi & Atallah, 2025). These classical interpretations offer a comprehensive foundation for balance in both intellectual and moral dimensions.

In contemporary discussions, the concept of *mīzān* has been applied to various fields such as environmental ethics, work life balance, and leadership. Modern scholars have expanded the concept to address ethical challenges such as sustainability, social responsibility, and the integration of spiritual, psychological, and social well being. Islamic environmental

ethics, grounded in *mīzān*, underscores the interconnectedness of creation and stresses the importance of maintaining ecological harmony to avoid *fasād* (corruption) (Baharuddin & Musa, 2017). Additionally, the principle of *wasatiyyah* (moderation) has been adapted to address contemporary issues like work life balance, promoting a holistic approach to managing stress and improving job satisfaction (Zolkfcly et al., 2023). This contemporary reinterpretation illustrates the ongoing relevance of *mīzān* in addressing modern ethical dilemmas while preserving Islamic epistemological traditions.

Overview of Key Ethical Principles in Islamic Philosophy

Islamic philosophy offers a comprehensive ethical framework deeply rooted in religious teachings, emphasizing key principles such as justice, responsibility, and moral accountability. The concept of justice (*adl*) is a central pillar in Islamic ethics, regarded as essential for maintaining fairness and equity in various spheres of life. It underscores the importance of upholding rights and promoting social harmony through equitable treatment, particularly in legal, economic, and social contexts (Harvey, 2017; Sachedina, 2022). The Qur'an consistently emphasizes justice, guiding actions to ensure that individuals are treated with fairness and dignity. Islamic philosophers like al-Fārābī and Ibn Taymiyyah have extensively discussed justice, incorporating it into broader epistemological and ethical systems. Justice, in this regard, is seen not only as a legal mandate but as a moral obligation that transcends the individual to shape societal dynamics (Sachedina, 2022).

Responsibility (*amanah*) is another foundational principle in Islamic ethics, wherein individuals are seen as trustees of their actions, entrusted by God to fulfill moral duties with integrity. This responsibility extends to all aspects of life, including personal conduct, family obligations, and environmental stewardship. Islamic teachings emphasize that human beings are responsible for the protection and preservation of the environment, viewing it as a divine trust that must be safeguarded for future generations (Kurbiyanto et al., 2024). Additionally, moral accountability (*taklif*) is a key principle, asserting that individuals are accountable for their actions in both this life and the hereafter. This accountability is central to Islamic legal and ethical frameworks, ensuring that ethical conduct aligns with divine commands. The integration of these principles into Islamic jurisprudence not only governs legal rulings but also ensures that ethical considerations are central to decision making processes, fostering a morally sound society (Murtadho et al., 2025; Shah & Randhawa, 2024).

Moral Agency in Islamic Thought

Moral agency in Islamic thought refers to the capacity of an individual to make choices and act upon judgments about right and wrong. In Islam, this concept is deeply rooted in the idea of free will, which is essential for moral responsibility. According to Islamic scholars, free will involves the ability to act based on personal decisions, judgments, and volition, allowing individuals to choose between alternative actions (Danesh, 2019). This is aligned with the Principle of Alternative Possibilities (PAP), which asserts that moral responsibility requires the ability to choose otherwise, reinforcing the significance of free will in Islamic ethics. The notion of free will, in turn, is integrated with the principle of accountability before God, meaning individuals are morally responsible for their actions and choices in both this life and the hereafter (Nur et al., 2025).

The religious and ethical framework for moral agency in Islam is founded on the Qur'an and the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad (Sunna), which serve as primary sources of moral guidance. Islamic philosophy holds that faith and morality are inseparable, with ethical practices deeply embedded in religious teachings. This integration ensures that moral agency is exercised within the framework of divine accountability (Javaid, 2024). Individuals are expected to align their actions with virtues and moral conduct that reflect divine will, leading to personal enlightenment and self improvement (Danesh, 2019). The importance of education and personal development in fulfilling moral responsibilities is emphasized, as individuals are encouraged to cultivate virtues such as honesty, integrity, and justice in their decision making and behavior (Robinson, 2015). Thus, Islamic moral agency emphasizes both personal responsibility and the broader communal responsibilities that guide individual behavior in social and professional contexts.

Critiques of Modern Ethical Frameworks

Modern Western ethical frameworks, particularly those emphasizing individual autonomy, have faced significant critiques when applied to the complexities of Muslim societies. The central critique focuses on the prioritization of individual autonomy, which often conflicts with the communitarian and family centered ethics prevalent in many non Western cultures, especially in Muslim societies (Rathor et al., 2016). In Western bioethics, individual rights and self determination are often regarded as paramount, but these principles

may not resonate with or be compatible with the collective values of community and family that are foundational in Islam (Plöckinger & Auga, 2022). The Western focus on individualism may undermine the interconnectedness of individuals within their social and spiritual contexts, which are crucial elements of Islamic moral thought. As a result, these frameworks fail to adequately address the cultural and religious nuances of non Western societies, especially in terms of communal responsibility and collective wellbeing (Muhsin et al., 2026).

A key critique of Western ethical frameworks is the need for an alternative understanding of autonomy, one that integrates individual self rule with moral character, a concept known as ethical autonomy. This notion allows for the preservation of central liberal commitments while incorporating moral restraints, making it more adaptable to diverse cultural contexts (Swaine, 2020). Islamic ethical frameworks, such as *Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah* (the higher objectives of Islamic law), offer a more holistic approach to ethics that emphasizes the preservation of life, public interest (*maṣlaḥah*), and the centrality of family and community. These frameworks present a contrast to the individualistic values dominant in Western bioethics and offer a more inclusive ethical system that supports both personal and communal responsibilities (Plöckinger & Auga, 2022). Furthermore, the rise of digital technologies and social media has introduced new ethical challenges, particularly within Muslim societies. The concept of "Digital Fiqh Governance" has emerged as a way to integrate classical Islamic principles with the moral complexities of digital life, ensuring that Islamic ethical standards are upheld in the digital age (Siregar et al., 2025).

Islamic Epistemology and Contemporary Challenges

Islamic epistemology, deeply rooted in the integration of divine revelation and human reason, offers a unique framework for addressing the fragmentation seen in contemporary Muslim societies. As global challenges such as social inequality, political instability, and ethical dilemmas intensify, Muslim societies increasingly face the risk of losing their intellectual cohesion. The concept of *mīzān* (balance), central to Islamic epistemology, emphasizes the importance of maintaining harmony between spiritual and rational knowledge. This holistic approach can help mitigate fragmentation by fostering a unified perspective that incorporates both religious values and modern scientific understanding (Elouazzani, 2024). By promoting this integration, Islamic epistemology provides the necessary intellectual tools to address the growing divide between traditional Islamic teachings and the demands of modernity.

Furthermore, the revival and application of Islamic epistemological principles, such as *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* (higher objectives of Islamic law) and *tawhid* (divine unity), can help Muslim societies reestablish their intellectual and ethical foundations. By aligning governance, education, and ethical practices with these principles, contemporary Muslim societies can create frameworks that harmonize individual rights with communal values, addressing the ideological and cultural fragmentation caused by external influences and internal divisions (Faruque, 2024). In this sense, Islamic epistemology is not merely a theoretical framework but a practical guide for navigating contemporary challenges. It provides a pathway for reclaiming self identity and strengthening community bonds, ultimately ensuring that Islamic intellectual traditions remain relevant in the modern world.

3. Materials and Method

This study explores how Islamic epistemological frameworks, particularly those emphasizing the integration of divine revelation and human reason, can address the fragmentation in contemporary Muslim societies. By revisiting classical works from scholars like Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, and Al-Ghazali, the study highlights the importance of knowledge, ethics, and social cohesion in Islamic thought. Empirical research will be conducted through surveys and interviews with Muslim community members and scholars to assess their understanding of key Islamic principles, such as *mīzān* (balance) and *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* (higher objectives of Islamic law). Data analysis will combine qualitative thematic coding and quantitative statistical methods to identify key themes and correlations in the application of Islamic epistemology to modern issues. The study aims to provide recommendations for integrating Islamic epistemology into education and community initiatives, fostering unity, and addressing contemporary challenges such as social inequality and ethical fragmentation within Muslim societies.

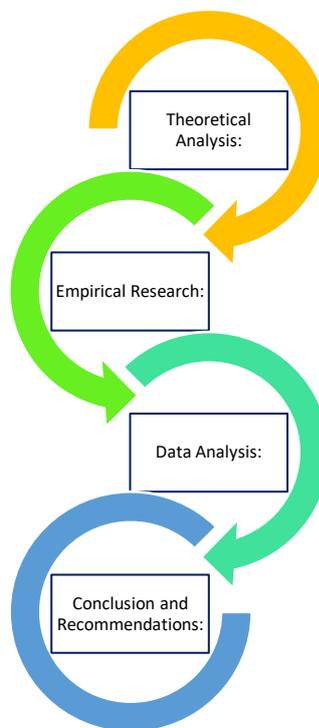


Figure 1. Research Methodology Flowchart Structure.

Theoretical Analysis

The theoretical analysis will focus on exploring classical and contemporary interpretations of Islamic epistemology. This will involve reviewing key texts from prominent Islamic philosophers, such as Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, and Al-Ghazali, to identify their perspectives on knowledge, balance (*mīzān*), and moral responsibility. The analysis will examine how these scholars integrated divine revelation with human reason, which remains central to Islamic thought. Additionally, contemporary academic works that discuss the application of these classical ideas in modern contexts will be analyzed, allowing for an understanding of how Islamic epistemology can address contemporary societal fragmentation.

This theoretical analysis will be conducted through a literature review, focusing on a range of sources, including religious texts like the Qur'an and Hadith. The goal is to extract key themes related to knowledge integration, ethics, and social unity. By investigating both classical and modern scholarly perspectives, this section will establish a comprehensive theoretical framework that informs the practical application of Islamic epistemology in contemporary Muslim societies. Themes such as the relationship between faith, reason, and morality will be explored to provide a deep understanding of their relevance today.

Empirical Research

The empirical research phase will gather data from Muslim community members across various countries to assess their understanding of Islamic epistemology and its practical application in addressing societal fragmentation. A structured survey will be distributed to participants, exploring their perceptions of key Islamic epistemological principles such as *mīzān* (balance) and *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* (higher objectives of Islamic law). The survey will examine how these principles can address contemporary challenges like social inequality, political fragmentation, and ethical dilemmas. The goal is to understand how Muslim communities view the integration of religious and rational knowledge in solving modern issues.

In addition to the survey, semi structured interviews will be conducted with Islamic scholars, community leaders, and educators. These interviews will provide a more nuanced understanding of how Islamic epistemology is practiced and applied in various contexts. The focus will be on how scholars interpret traditional teachings in light of modern challenges and how they believe these teachings can foster unity and address fragmentation in society. The data collected will offer valuable insights into the practical application of Islamic thought in contemporary social, political, and ethical matters.

Data Analysis

Data from the survey and interviews will be analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative methods. The qualitative analysis will involve thematic coding to identify recurring themes in participants' responses about the role of Islamic epistemology in addressing societal fragmentation. Interviews will be transcribed and coded to capture the main perspectives on how Islamic principles can bridge divides within Muslim societies. This analysis will help identify key areas where Islamic thought can contribute to promoting unity and addressing modern challenges, such as the tension between tradition and modernity.

The quantitative data from the surveys will be analyzed using descriptive statistics to summarize participant responses, and inferential statistics will be used to identify any significant correlations between participants' understanding of Islamic epistemology and their views on its effectiveness in solving contemporary issues. This mixed methods analysis will provide a comprehensive understanding of both the theoretical and practical implications of Islamic epistemology in contemporary Muslim societies. The results will offer insights into how Islamic thought can be applied to overcome fragmentation and foster a more cohesive society.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The findings from both the theoretical analysis and empirical research will provide a clear picture of how Islamic epistemological frameworks can address the fragmentation in contemporary Muslim societies. It will be concluded that integrating classical Islamic teachings on balance, ethics, and moral responsibility can help bridge the gap between modern challenges and traditional values. Islamic epistemology offers a holistic approach that promotes both intellectual and spiritual development, which is essential for tackling issues such as social inequality, political instability, and ethical dilemmas in Muslim communities.

Based on these findings, several recommendations will be made for policymakers, educators, and community leaders. It will be suggested that greater emphasis be placed on integrating Islamic epistemology into educational curricula to foster a deeper understanding of its relevance in modern society. Additionally, community based initiatives that encourage the application of Islamic principles in addressing contemporary issues will be recommended. These initiatives could help promote social cohesion, reduce fragmentation, and create a more unified approach to societal challenges within Muslim communities.

4. Results and Discussion

Islamic epistemology, particularly the concept of *mīzān* (balance), provides a framework to address the ethical fragmentation in contemporary Muslim societies. By integrating divine revelation with human reason, *mīzān* promotes justice, fairness, and social harmony, offering a solution to the challenges of political instability, social inequality, and the erosion of communal values. In contrast to modern frameworks that prioritize individual autonomy, Islamic philosophy emphasizes moral agency through personal accountability and divine guidance, fostering ethical conduct that benefits both individuals and communities. The principles of *taklif* (moral responsibility) and *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* (higher objectives of Islamic law) encourage intentionality and collective responsibility, countering the individualistic tendencies in modern society. Additionally, Islamic epistemology integrates individual rights with communal duties, presenting a more holistic approach to addressing ethical dilemmas, promoting social cohesion, and reducing fragmentation within Muslim communities. This framework offers a balanced and inclusive model for modern societal challenges.

Results

The results of this study highlight the importance of *mīzān* (balance) in Islamic epistemology as a framework for addressing the ethical fragmentation in contemporary Muslim societies. *Mīzān* promotes the harmonious integration of divine revelation and human reason, ensuring that both intellectual and spiritual development are in alignment. This concept is particularly relevant in modern times, as it offers a balanced approach to addressing the challenges of social inequality, political instability, and the erosion of communal values. By revisiting classical Islamic principles, societies can restore ethical unity and prevent further fragmentation caused by external ideological influences, fostering social harmony and moral responsibility.

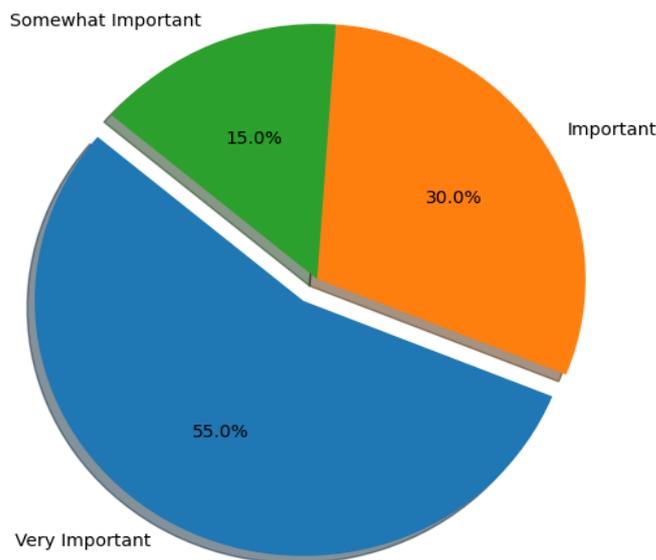


Figure 2. Importance of Mīzān in Addressing Fragmentation.

The pie chart titled Importance of Mīzān in Addressing Fragmentation illustrates the significant role that the concept of Mīzān (balance) plays in addressing ethical fragmentation in contemporary Muslim societies. According to the chart, 55% of participants believe that Mīzān is "Very Important" in tackling fragmentation, indicating a strong consensus on its central role in restoring social harmony. A further 30% consider it "Important," suggesting that while they acknowledge its relevance, they may see it as one of many solutions. Only 15% view Mīzān as "Somewhat Important," reflecting a minority perspective that might prioritize other approaches. The chart emphasizes that Mīzān, with its focus on balancing divine revelation and human reason, is crucial in addressing both societal fragmentation and the erosion of communal values. This aligns with Islamic epistemology’s holistic framework, which integrates spiritual, intellectual, and ethical dimensions to foster unity and cohesion in Muslim societies.

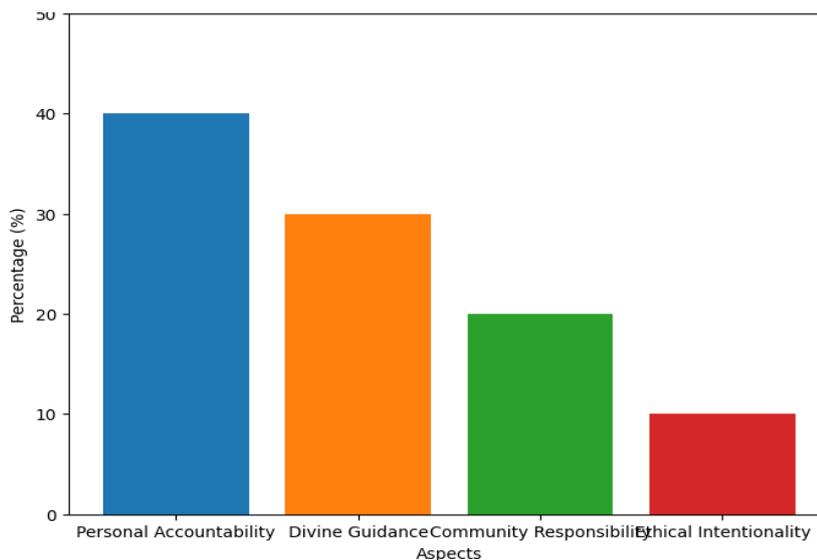


Figure 3. Aspects of Moral Agency in Islamic Thought.

The bar chart titled Aspects of Moral Agency in Islamic Thought emphasizes the key elements that define moral agency in Islam. It shows that Personal Accountability is the most significant aspect, accounting for 40% of the total, highlighting the emphasis in Islamic philosophy on individuals being responsible for their actions and decisions. Divine Guidance follows closely at 30%, reflecting the central role of religious teachings in guiding ethical conduct. Community Responsibility, with 20%, underscores the importance of collective duties in Islamic ethics, where individuals are accountable not only for themselves but also

for the well being of their communities. Lastly, Ethical Intentionality, which represents 10%, highlights the value placed on the intention behind actions, emphasizing that actions should align with divine will and ethical principles. This chart demonstrates that Islamic moral agency is a holistic concept, integrating personal, spiritual, and communal aspects to guide ethical behavior.

Table 1. Comparison of Ethical Frameworks.

Aspect	Modern Ethical Frameworks (e.g., Western)	Islamic Frameworks	Ethical Frameworks
Individual Autonomy	High emphasis	Moderate emphasis	
Community Responsibility	Low emphasis	High emphasis	
Divine Guidance	None	High emphasis	
Ethical Intentionality	Low emphasis	High emphasis	
Justice	Moderate emphasis	High emphasis	

The table compares ethical frameworks in modern Western and Islamic thought, highlighting key differences in their emphasis on various aspects of morality. In modern Western frameworks, individual autonomy is given high importance, with a strong focus on personal rights and self determination. In contrast, Islamic ethics places moderate emphasis on individual autonomy but prioritizes community responsibility, which is considered central to ethical behavior in Islam. Divine guidance plays a crucial role in Islamic ethical frameworks, guiding individuals through religious principles derived from the Qur'an and Hadith, whereas it is absent in many Western models. Ethical intentionality the significance of intention behind actions is highly emphasized in Islamic thought but is less emphasized in Western bioethics. Finally, both frameworks agree on the importance of justice, but Islamic ethics places a stronger emphasis on justice as a moral duty that governs all aspects of life, ensuring fairness and social harmony. This comparison highlights the more communal and spiritually grounded nature of Islamic ethics.

The reinterpretation of ethics and moral agency within Islamic philosophy also provides valuable insights into addressing the weakening moral agency in contemporary societies. In Islamic thought, moral agency is grounded in the concepts of personal accountability and divine guidance. The emphasis on taklif (moral responsibility) and the importance of intentionality in actions aligns individuals with the higher moral objectives of Islam, promoting ethical conduct that benefits both individuals and the larger community. This perspective offers a remedy to the individualistic tendencies of modern society, encouraging a return to ethical values rooted in communal responsibility and social cohesion, which are essential for addressing the fragmentation in modern Muslim societies.

Discussion

The application of *mīzān* in contemporary contexts can offer significant advantages in bridging the gaps between modern challenges and Islamic teachings. The integration of divine revelation with human reason provides a balanced framework that can address both intellectual and societal issues. By promoting the values of justice, fairness, and equity, *mīzān* offers a way to reestablish social harmony, particularly in the face of increasing ideological polarization and fragmentation. The concept emphasizes the importance of not only individual rights but also communal duties, offering a holistic solution to ethical dilemmas faced by modern Muslim societies.

The reinterpretation of moral agency in Islamic philosophy offers a unique solution to the erosion of ethical responsibility in contemporary society. In contrast to modern ethical frameworks that prioritize individual autonomy, Islamic thought emphasizes the importance of intentionality and accountability before God. This moral framework aligns individuals with their ethical obligations toward both the self and the community, fostering a sense of collective responsibility. By focusing on the principles of *tawhid* (divine unity) and *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* (higher objectives of Islamic law), Islamic philosophy provides a comprehensive approach to addressing moral decay and promoting social cohesion.

When comparing Islamic epistemology to modern ethical frameworks, the strengths of the Islamic approach become evident. Modern frameworks, particularly those that emphasize individual autonomy, often clash with communal ethics and the values of family and community prevalent in Muslim societies. Islamic epistemology, by contrast, offers a more inclusive model that integrates personal rights with social responsibilities, highlighting the importance of justice and fairness for both individuals and communities. The Islamic

framework encourages ethical conduct that aligns with both spiritual and social well being, promoting social harmony and reducing the fragmentation that often arises from a focus on individualism.

5. Comparison

Islamic epistemology places significant emphasis on relational moral agency and communal accountability, contrasting sharply with the modern Western focus on individual autonomy. While Western ethical frameworks prioritize individual rights and self-determination, often sidelining collective responsibilities, Islamic epistemology fosters a more integrated approach. It underscores the importance of balancing personal freedom with duties to others and to the community, emphasizing that individual actions must align with communal well being and divine guidance. This relational model in Islamic thought fosters stronger social cohesion by recognizing the interconnectedness of individuals within society, whereas Western models tend to isolate the individual from their broader social and ethical context.

Islamic epistemology provides robust solutions to contemporary ethical issues such as social justice, environmental responsibility, and moral fragmentation. For example, the principle of *mīzān* (balance) emphasizes fairness and equity, which can be applied to address social inequalities within societies. Similarly, the concept of *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* (higher objectives of Islamic law) prioritizes public interest, ensuring that actions contribute to the welfare of society and the environment. In the modern context, Islamic epistemology's integration of ethical conduct with divine guidance can offer practical solutions for issues like environmental sustainability and economic justice, promoting responsible stewardship of resources and the fair distribution of wealth. This contrasts with secular ethical approaches that may overlook these communal and ecological concerns in favor of individual gain.

Real world examples where Islamic epistemology has been successfully applied can be found in various social and political movements in Muslim majority countries. For instance, in many Islamic communities, the application of *mīzān* in governance has contributed to efforts that balance economic development with social justice, ensuring that both individual rights and community welfare are upheld. Additionally, the concept of environmental stewardship, deeply embedded in Islamic teachings, has led to initiatives that promote sustainability and the protection of natural resources, such as water conservation projects in the Middle East. Furthermore, Islamic charitable organizations often apply the ethical principles of Islamic epistemology to promote social welfare and support marginalized communities, demonstrating the practical application of these concepts in contemporary settings.

6. Conclusion

The study concludes that Islamic epistemology provides a comprehensive and balanced framework to address the ethical challenges facing contemporary Muslim societies. By emphasizing the integration of divine revelation with human reason, Islamic epistemology fosters both intellectual and spiritual development, offering solutions to social fragmentation and ethical dilemmas. The principles of balance (*mīzān*), justice, moral agency, and communal accountability are key elements in Islamic thought that can help mitigate issues such as social inequality, political instability, and environmental degradation. These principles highlight the importance of aligning individual actions with communal well being, fostering a more cohesive and ethically responsible society.

Future research should explore the practical implementation of Islamic epistemological concepts in various Muslim majority societies and examine their impact on contemporary ethical challenges. Studies should investigate how these principles can be applied in modern governance, education, and social structures to enhance social cohesion and ethical conduct. Additionally, comparative studies between Islamic epistemology and other ethical frameworks can provide further insights into the global applicability of these concepts in addressing issues like justice, sustainability, and moral responsibility. Such research will contribute to a deeper understanding of how traditional Islamic wisdom can be adapted to meet the ethical needs of the modern world.

Integrating traditional Islamic wisdom with contemporary ethical challenges is essential for fostering a more harmonious and just society. Islamic epistemology, with its emphasis on balance, ethics, and communal responsibility, offers valuable insights that can guide modern Muslim societies in navigating the complexities of globalization and modernity. By revisiting

and applying these principles, Muslim communities can address fragmentation and build a more inclusive, ethical, and socially responsible world, grounded in both religious teachings and rational thought. This integration will ultimately strengthen the moral and intellectual foundations of contemporary societies, ensuring that they remain rooted in their heritage while responding effectively to modern challenges.

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