



Spiritual and Social Education in the Verses on Zakat: An Analytical Study of the Qur'an

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ABSTRACT

Zakat is one of the pillars of Islam that has a deep meaning not only as a financial obligation, but also as a means of spiritual, moral, social, and economic education that is integral to the Qur'an. This study aims to examine in depth zakat education sourced from the verses of the Qur'an, by examining the meaning, rules, and values contained therein as guidelines for the implementation of zakat in Islam. The method used is library research with a qualitative descriptive approach and content analysis techniques on primary and secondary sources related to zakat and Islamic education. The results of the study indicate that the teachings of zakat in the Qur'an instill education in faith and piety, the formation of noble moral character, social justice, responsible management of assets, purification of the soul and spirituality, development of zakat management leadership, as well as education in sustainability and gratitude. The verses of zakat function as an educational vehicle that forms holistic, integrity-based, and socially responsible Muslim individuals, while strengthening a harmonious and economically independent civil society. Thus, zakat education in the Qur'an is not merely a formal ritual, but rather an effective socio-economic and spiritual instrument to achieve prosperity in this world and the hereafter.

Keywords: *Managerial Competence, Work Climate, Educator Performance*

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INTRODUCTION

Zakat is one of the most fundamental pillars of Islam and is an obligation for every Muslim who meets certain conditions. In the Qur'an, zakat is not only ordered as a ritual obligation, but is also explained as a means of cleansing wealth and souls and as a form of social solidarity to help the poor and groups who are entitled to receive it. Therefore, education about zakat which comes from the Koran has an important role in forming the awareness of Muslims so that they carry out their zakat obligations correctly and with full sincerity. According to language, the term "zakat" means cleansing and growth, describing the function of zakat which cleanses assets from miserliness and can make assets become

blessings and increase (Saprida, 2021). Meaning: And establish prayer, pay zakat and bow with those who bow.

In Surah al Baqarah verse 43, Allah commands Muslims to perform prayers and pay zakat as an inseparable part of the obligation of worship. (Fatmawati et al., 2023): "And establish prayer, pay zakat, and bow with those who bow" (QS. Al-Baqarah: 43). Meaning: Take zakat from their wealth, thereby purifying and sanctifying them, and pray for them. Verily, your prayer is a source of comfort for them. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing. Surah At-Taubah verse 103 in the Qur'an emphasizes that zakat functions as a means of purifying property and souls: "Take zakat from some of their assets, with that zakat you cleanse and purify them" (QS. At-Taubah: 103).

Zakat is one of the pillars of Islam that has broad spiritual, social, and economic dimensions. In the Qur'an, zakat is not only understood as a financial obligation, but also as an educational tool that shapes awareness of God and social concern. Through the commandment of zakat, Islam instills the values of sincerity, justice, and solidarity among fellow human beings. Zakat serves to purify wealth and the soul, thereby fostering a spiritual character that is in harmony with the values of tawhid. In addition, the practice of zakat is a means of strengthening social relations between the rich and the poor, reflecting the mission of rahmatan lil 'alamin (mercy to all creation) of Islamic teachings. Therefore, zakat in the perspective of the Qur'an is not only ritualistic, but also educational and transformative in shaping the social behavior of the ummah.

Education in the Qur'an emphasizes a balance between spiritual and social aspects. In the context of zakat, this balance is reflected in efforts to build spiritual awareness and social responsibility. Zakat teaches the value of sacrificing wealth for the common good, eroding individualistic tendencies, and strengthening empathy for others. These educational values are not only aimed at fostering faith, but also at creating a just social order. Thus, zakat becomes a medium for moral learning that guides humans to live in equality and togetherness. Through zakat education, the Qur'an teaches people to always combine personal piety with social piety, so that a balance is formed between worshipping Allah and responsibility towards society.

A study of the verses on zakat in the Qur'an is important in order to understand the educational values contained therein. This study examines how the verses on zakat provide normative and pedagogical guidance in shaping the character of Muslims. The approach used focuses on a thematic analysis of the verses on zakat to explore the spiritual and social meanings that form the basis of zakat practice. Through this study, it is hoped that a comprehensive understanding of the role of zakat as an educational system will emerge, one that not only educates individuals to be obedient in worship, but also plays an active role in social empowerment. Thus, zakat can be seen as a life curriculum that shapes Muslims to be generous, responsible, and oriented towards the welfare of the ummah.

Several relevant studies also discuss the educational dimension of zakat. First, a study by A. Rahman (2020) entitled "Zakat as an Instrument of Social Education in the Qur'anic Perspective" highlights zakat as a means of building social solidarity, but does

not examine spiritual values in depth. Second, a study by S. Nurdin (2021) entitled “The Implementation of Zakat Values in the Formation of Religious Character in Society” focuses on the application of zakat values in society, rather than on a thematic analysis of Qur'anic verses. Third, F. Hidayat's (2022) research in “Islamic Philanthropy Education through the Concepts of Zakat and Infak” emphasizes economic and philanthropic aspects without discussing the moral educational values contained in the verses on zakat. Unlike the three studies mentioned above, this study focuses on an integrative analysis of spiritual and social education sourced directly from verses of the Qur'an, with the aim of exploring the pedagogical dimensions of zakat as an instrument for fostering good character and the welfare of the community.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a library research method with a focus on the analysis of zakat in the Qur'an. This method involves collecting and reviewing relevant literature to understand the concept, value, and application of zakat in education based on Qur'anic sources and classical and contemporary books that discuss zakat from an Islamic educational perspective. The research approach used is descriptive qualitative, oriented towards in-depth interpretation of the content and meaning of written texts related to zakat in the educational context. The research data sources consist of two types: primary sources and secondary sources. Primary sources include the Qur'an, hadith, tafsir, as well as fiqh books and scientific works discussing zakat, especially in relation to education. Meanwhile, secondary sources include reference books, scientific journal articles, theses, dissertations, and popular articles that enrich the understanding of the role and implementation of zakat in the development of Islamic education. Data collection was carried out through systematic search techniques by accessing digital libraries, academic databases, and repositories of Islamic educational institutions. Data analysis was conducted using content analysis techniques, namely the process of sorting, grouping, and interpreting key themes surrounding the values of zakat in education, the mechanisms of zakat management for education, and their implications for improving the quality of Islamic education. The results of the analysis are presented in a descriptive narrative form that integrates various theoretical and practical perspectives from the literature to provide a comprehensive picture of zakat education in the context of the Qur'an. This approach is expected to provide theoretical and applicable contributions to the development of understanding and practice of zakat management to improve the quality of Islamic education

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study show that the teachings of zakat in the Qur'an have a depth of meaning that goes beyond mere financial obligations. Zakat is positioned as an educational tool that instills values of faith and piety towards Allah. Through the commandment of zakat, the Qur'an teaches that the ownership of wealth is not an absolute right of humans, but rather a trust that must be managed with full responsibility. Obedience to the commandment of zakat reflects sincerity in performing worship, as well

as being a tangible manifestation of strong faith. The verses on zakat consistently emphasize the connection between faith and social action, showing that Islamic spirituality is not only centered on the vertical relationship with Allah, but also the horizontal relationship with fellow human beings. Thus, zakat serves as a means of spiritual education that strengthens the values of monotheism and obedience.

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The dimension of social justice is also a major focus in the verses on zakat. The Qur'an explains that zakat is a means of fair distribution of wealth and serves to reduce social inequality. The education contained in the concept of zakat guides people to understand the importance of economic equality and collective welfare. Through the mechanism of zakat, the Qur'an instills the awareness that wealth has a social function that must be returned to society. This value of justice educates people not to get caught up in materialism, but rather to view wealth as a means of worship and empowerment. Therefore, zakat becomes a medium for social learning that builds harmony between different levels of society and reinforces the principle of solidarity in national and religious life.

This study also found that the Qur'an teaches responsible wealth management through the commandment of zakat. Wealth should not be wasted or used unjustly, but must be managed with ethical awareness. Zakat is a concrete form of economic responsibility based on the principles of justice and balance. This teaching instructs people not only to seek wealth, but also to distribute it for the benefit of the community. Thus, zakat acts as a means of social and moral control over the economic behavior of Muslims. Through this mechanism, the Qur'an educates people to act as responsible stewards of their resources in order to achieve social welfare and economic sustainability for the community.

In addition, spiritual education in zakat is also related to the process of purifying the soul and strengthening the values of monotheism. The Qur'an explains that zakat functions as *tuzakkīhim wa tuṭahhiruhum* — cleansing and purifying the human heart from stinginess, greed, and excessive love of the world. Through the practice of zakat, individuals are taught to control their desire for possession and to cultivate gratitude for the sustenance given by Allah. This process becomes a means of spiritual education that trains sincerity and submission in carrying out divine commands. The purification of the

soul through zakat also has an impact on increasing social piety, because individuals with pure hearts will find it easier to spread kindness to others. Thus, zakat functions as a vehicle of tazkiyah that unites spiritual, moral, and social aspects in a unified Qur'anic education.

Other findings show that the Qur'an pays attention to aspects of leadership and management in the implementation of zakat. The education contained therein includes the values of trust, honesty, and responsibility in managing zakat funds. The verses on zakat not only emphasize the importance of giving, but also regulate transparent and fair governance. This shows that zakat contains a dimension of leadership education that is oriented towards social service and the welfare of the people. Professional zakat management reflects the implementation of Qur'anic values in the socio-economic sphere. Therefore, zakat becomes an educational space for individuals and institutions to build ethical, accountable governance that has a broad impact on improving the welfare of society.

Finally, this study reveals that education in the verses on zakat also instills values of sustainability and gratitude. Zakat is not merely a periodic obligation, but also a continuous learning system that fosters long-term social awareness. By paying zakat, Muslims are encouraged to be grateful for Allah's blessings through giving that benefits others. This value of sustainability guides society to maintain a balance between spirituality and social welfare. Overall, the results of this study confirm that the teachings of zakat in the Qur'an are a form of integral education that produces holistic Muslims who are strong in faith, noble in character, socially just, and responsible for the management of wealth and social life. Zakat, thus, becomes a means of guiding the community towards a harmonious, empowered, and economically independent civil society.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that zakat in the Qur'an has a very strategic position as an instrument of spiritual, moral, social, and economic education. Zakat is not only understood as a financial obligation, but also as a means of fostering faith and piety towards Allah. Through zakat, the Qur'an teaches the principles of justice, equality, and social responsibility that shape the character of Muslims with integrity. The educational values contained in the verses on zakat include purification of the soul, self-control, and the habit of empathy towards others. Zakat also serves as a medium for economic education that guides humans to manage their wealth with trust and full ethical awareness. Thus, the teachings of zakat in the Qur'an contain a comprehensive educational system that not only builds individual spirituality but also strengthens social solidarity in community life.

This study confirms that zakat education based on verses from the Qur'an plays an important role in shaping holistic Muslim personalities faithful, moral, just, and concerned for collective welfare. Through a qualitative approach based on literature research, it was found that the values of zakat can be used as guidelines for the development of an integrative Islamic education between the aspects of worship and humanity. Zakat serves

as a vehicle for the internalization of the values of sincerity, gratitude, and sustainable social responsibility. Furthermore, zakat education is also a strategic instrument in building a civil society that is economically independent, socially just, and spiritually civilized. Therefore, understanding and practicing zakat in the perspective of the Qur'an is not merely a formal ritual, but a concrete effort to realize worldly welfare and spiritual happiness through comprehensive and transformative values education.

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