The Paradigm of Tauhid And Educational Implications Morality of The 21st Century Generation

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to establish a monotheistic paradigm amidst the moral degradation occurring in the current millennial era. This study is a qualitative research, using literature data related to Tauhid, and the like. The data analysis used is descriptive analysis. The results of this research indicate that the current millennial generation (21st century) is a generation full of challenges and innovations, marked by technological advancements that facilitate access to desired goals. This has led to significant moral degradation in this generation, caused by the lack of application of monotheism in life. The paradigm of monotheism can be built through socialization and spiritual reinforcement as a means of self-control against negative influences

Keywords: Millennial, Moral, Monotheism.

Introduction

Humans were created by Allah as the best of creatures because they consist of desires complemented by reason. Other creatures, such as angels, were created only with reason, without desires. Animals were created with desires, without reason. So, humans are a balanced component between desire and reason. Desire is useful for maintaining the human side, such as hunger, which leads to the desire to eat. Humans are encouraged to work to sustain life, which gives rise to the drive to earn money and other desires. Meanwhile, reason functions as the axis and signal to distinguish between right and wrong. A clear mind will always send signals of truth, while a dirty mind will always push for negative energy.

Allah created desire and reason perfectly, with the main purpose of recognizing God and worshiping Him. When humans recognize their God, it will be easier for them to always be in truth and under God's guidance, and to attain the pleasure of inner peace. However, if the opposite happens, and humans cannot recognize their God, they will feel loneliness and emptiness in their souls, and in the worst case, they will idolize their desires to the point of leading themselves astray.

The world today is facing many crises, including monetary, food, and fuel crises, but the most important is the crisis of faith due to the lack of spiritual nourishment and the function of monotheism in daily life. Most people prioritize worldly interests over interests in the hereafter. So only the human traits that are worldly, such as hedonism, fashionism, and the satisfaction of sexual desires, among others, occur.

Almost no one can utilize the function and role of monotheism correctly and in accordance with the current state of humanity. However, if modern society applies monotheism in their daily lives, a prosperous society will be

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created, one that is peaceful, safe, and far from negative traits such as corruption, collusion, nepotism, and so on, including fraud and violations of religious, civil, and criminal laws.

In Islam, tauhid is a very important theme because it speaks about Allah, who is the center of everything. The concept of tauhid also has a doctrinal meaning about the purpose of human life that must be carried out within the framework of worshiping Allah. This doctrine is the foundation of Islamic teachings, because it is the concept of tauhid that will form the standard, which is the main concept in Islamic education, namely the standard of morals.

The standard of values (morals) for a believer that must be referred to is revelation, and emulating the Prophet and Messengers as examples. According to God, what is right is definitely right, and what is wrong is definitely wrong. The concept of monotheism is very important in this matter, serving as the center of belief for the faithful. As a result, the education of Tawhid must become the foundation of Islam entirely. This foundation of faith has actually been taught by Allah through a wise man whose name is mentioned in one of the surahs in the Qur'an, namely Luqman. The educational concept offered by Luqman encourages faith in Allah. In Surah Luqman, verse 13, Allah (monotheism) is mentioned as the first lesson.

Aqidah or tawhid is mentioned as the foundation of education in the above verses. After that, in the following verses, Luqman then teaches his son ethics and worship, including the command to be dutiful to parents and prohibitions. to refrain from arrogance, the command to establish prayer, and so on, based on the concept of Tawhid used as the foundation of Luqman's teachings, because other aspects, such as worship and morality, emerge as a result. The Qur'an shows that Allah made an extraordinary presentation about the three components. (akidah, ibadah, dan akhlak). This is mentioned in QS. Ibrahim: 24-25.

اَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ ضَرَبَ اللّٰهُ مَثَلًا كَلِمَةً طَيِّبَةً كَشَجَرَةٍ طَيِّبَةٍ اَصْلُهَا ثَابِتٌ وَّفَرْعُهَا فِى السَّمَاۤءِ

"Do you not see how Allah has made the parable of the good word?" (His analogy) is like a good tree, its roots are strong, its branches (towering) to the sky,"

تُؤْتِيْٓ اُكُلَهَا كُلَّ حِيْنٍ ۢ بِاِذْنِ رَبِّهَاۗ وَيَضْرِبُ اللّٰهُ الْاَمْثَالَ لِلنَّاسِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَذَكَّرُوْنَ

"and produces its fruit at all times with the permission of its Lord. Allah makes parables for mankind so that they may take heed."

From the above verse, faith (aspect of belief) is depicted as the roots of a very lush tree, with monotheism as its main root. The trunk, branches, and twigs represent Islam (aspect of worship), and the fruit is ihsan. (aspek moral). These roots not only determine the strength of a tree but also serve as a source of life, strength, fertility, and even the quality of its fruit, as this is where the tree receives its nutrients and nourishment. The creed functions as a measure of the quality of worship and the beauty of a Muslim's character. That is why monotheism is very important in Islamic education, especially in terms of forming good morals.

This research is expected to serve as knowledge and a reminder to always remember God, strengthen faith, and become a servant who is always on the right path.

Method

This research is of a qualitative type. The method used in this research is library research, which involves a series of activities related to library data collection methods, reading, note-taking, and processing research materials. The data sources used are various Islamic literatures

related to the teachings of Tawhid and similar subjects. Data collection techniques are carried out using various methods aimed at obtaining an in-depth understanding of the phenomenon being studied. The techniques used in this research involve data collection from various sources such as books, journals, and other literature. The data analysis technique is a method of analysis that focuses on data collection and processing. The analysis technique used in this research is descriptive analysis, which aims to analyze the problems related to the teachings of Tawhid, thereby generating a solution to address the current issues.

Resul and Discussion
Moral Degradation in the 21st Century
The 21st century is a digital era marked by rapid technological and informational advancements. The development of technology and information greatly influences all aspects of life, including education and morality, where technology has become an integral part of life.

The 21st century, which began in 2001, is marked by various significant changes and developments in many aspects of life, including technology, culture, economy, and environment. Here are some characteristics of the 21st century:

1. **Technological Advancement**: The digital revolution is changing the way people communicate, work, and interact. The internet, smartphones, and social media have become an integral part of daily life.
2. **Globalization**: Society is becoming increasingly connected globally, with the exchange of culture, information, and goods happening more quickly and extensively.
3. **Climate Change**: Environmental issues, especially climate change, have become a major concern, with efforts to create sustainable solutions and reduce carbon footprints.
4. **Innovations in Health:** New discoveries in the medical field and health technology, including telemedicine and personalized medicine, have significantly increased.
5. **Social Change**: The emergence of movements for equality and social justice, including issues of gender, race, and human rights.
6. **Politics and Geopolitics**: The dynamics of global politics are changing, with the emergence of new powers and challenges to the existing structures.
7. **Crisis and Uncertainty**: Various crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts, and political tensions, have widely affected society.

The 21st century is a time full of challenges as well as opportunities, with continuous innovation and change. If a person can manage technology well, then there will be many innovations that can be achieved. However, on the contrary, if a person is too enchanted by the sophistication of technology and cannot control, manage, and limit technology, then negative impacts will emerge that damage lifestyle patterns, quality, standards, and morals, which is commonly referred to as "Degradation."

Degradation of humanity in the 21st century encompasses various issues related to the decline in quality of life, moral values, and interpersonal relationships. Several aspects that can be identified include:

1. **Social Isolation**: Although technology makes communication easier, many people feel more isolated and lonely, especially among the younger generation.
2. **Economic Disparity**: Income inequality is becoming increasingly pronounced, with a small portion of the

population controlling vast wealth while many people live in poverty.

3. **Mental Health Crisis**: The increasing pressures of life, stress, and mental health issues have become serious concerns, with many individuals struggling to find balance.
4. Loss of Moral Values: In some contexts, there is a view that moral and ethical values are beginning to decline, with an increase in selfish and materialistic behavior.
5. **Violence and Conflict**: Armed conflicts, terrorism, and violence in various parts of the world impact the lives of many people, creating insecurity and trauma.
6. **Environmental Degradation**: Environmental damage threatens the quality of human life, with pollution, climate change, and loss of biodiversity directly impacting health and well-being.
7. The Influence of Social Media: Social media can affect mental health and self-image, with many people feeling pressured to meet unrealistic standards.

Addressing this degradation requires a collective effort from individuals, society, and the government to create a better and more inclusive environment for all. This can be achieved through socialization, understanding, and building a paradigm of monotheism as the main axis that can control excessive negative desires.

About the Concept of Tawhid

Tawhid linguistically is a form of mashdar from wahada – yuwahidu – tauhidan, which means to make one. As for tauhid in terms of terminology, it is the oneness of Allah in His Divinity, Lordship, Names, and Attributes. This means that tauhid has three types, namely:

1. **Tauhid Rububiyah**
   This type of Tauhid is a belief in the oneness of Allah's actions, which includes the belief that Allah is the creator of all beings, the provider of sustenance to all creatures, the one who gives life and takes it away; the belief in Allah's decree and predestination; and the belief in the oneness of His essence.

2. **Tauhid Asma' wa Sifat**
   This type of Tauhid is a belief in the oneness of Allah in His names and attributes as mentioned in the Qur'an and Hadith. There are several things that must be considered in the oneness of names and attributes, namely:
   a. Accept all the names and attributes of Allah
   b. Do not liken the names and attributes of Allah to the names and attributes of His creatures.
   c. Do not seek to know the essence of Allah's attributes.
   d. Worship Him according to the demands of His names and attributes.

3. **Tauhid Uluhiyah**
   The oneness of Allah in the purpose of the servant's actions in seeking closeness and worship, such as praying, repenting, relying on Him, and practicing other Islamic laws, is what is called tauhid uluhiyah. The three forms of monotheism are a unity and have a close relationship. In short, knowing Allah will be useless if a servant does not worship only Him, and worshiping Allah will not be realized without knowing His existence.

The Paradigm of Tawhid as a Solution to Moral Degradation

The teachings of tawhid, which emphasize the belief in the oneness of God and the relationship between humans and Him, can be an effective solution to address degradation in the 21st

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century in several ways:

1. Building Spiritual Awareness
   a. The Importance of Moral Values: The teachings of tawhid emphasize moral and ethical values that can help individuals evaluate their behavior and decisions, thereby reducing negative actions that harm themselves and others.
   b. Inner Peace: Understanding and practicing monotheism can provide inner peace, reduce stress, and improve mental health.
2. Development of Empathy and Solidarity
   a. Interconnectedness Among Humans: The teachings of monotheism emphasize that all humans are creations of God, fostering a sense of empathy and solidarity, and reducing egoism.
   b. Cooperation for the Greater Good: By understanding this interconnectedness, individuals are more likely to engage in positive social and environmental activities.
3. Encouraging Social Responsibility
   a. Concern for the Environment: The teachings of monotheism also encompass responsibility towards God's other creations, including the environment, which can encourage sustainable actions and protect the earth.
   b. Social Justice: Belief in God's justice can motivate individuals to advocate for social justice and help those who are less fortunate.
4. Character Education
   a. Value-Based Education: The integration of monotheistic teachings in education can help shape the character of children and adolescents, preparing them to become responsible and ethical individuals.
   b. Development of Social Skills: Education that includes monotheistic values can enhance social skills and cooperation among the younger generation.
5. Strengthening Communities
   a. Building a Healthy Community: The teachings of monotheism can bind society in shared values, creating a community that supports and strengthens each other.
   b. Intercultural Dialogue: By emphasizing the commonalities among humans, monotheism can serve as a foundation for constructive dialogue between various cultures and religions.
6. Overcoming Identity Crisis
   a. Search for Meaning in Life: The teachings of monotheism can provide meaning and purpose in life for individuals, helping them find an identity that is deeper than just social status or material wealth.
   b. Resilience: Understanding the oneness of God can provide strength and resilience in facing life's challenges.

By integrating the teachings of monotheism into daily life, both individuals and society can work together to create more holistic solutions to the problems faced in the 21st century, making this world a better and more civilized place.

Thus, Tauhid is very important for human life because through it, they can understand the meaning and purpose of their lives. Look at life in this modern era, where many people live without a clear purpose; they work. Working hard day and night just to acquire wealth, with that wealth they try to satisfy their insatiable desires, even though Allah says in His verse, "I did not create jinn and humans except to worship Me."

Conclusion

The modern generation today is part of the 21st-century generation, characterized by the existing technological advancements. The more advanced the technology, the easier it becomes to find access to achieve the desired goals. This progress certainly has both positive and negative impacts. The positive impact is that technology increasingly facilitates access to desired goals, while the negative impact is equally dangerous, especially when information and technology are used for negative purposes. This negative aspect is what causes the 21st-century generation to experience degradation. Based on the data obtained, the degradation of the 21st-century generation is caused by several factors, such as technological advancement leading to social isolation, economic disparity, mental health crises, conflict, violence, environmental degradation, etc. The decline in morals that is occurring can be addressed through the socialization and application of the teachings of monotheism. A monotheistic paradigm can be created in society if there is full awareness, mutual support, and reminders among one another.

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