

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN ISLAM AS CATALYST FOR HUMANITARIAN PROGRESS

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ABSTRAK

Peran wanita dalam Islam telah menjadi subjek perdebatan yang luas, sering kali terbungkus dalam stereotip dan interpretasi yang terbatas. Namun, pandangan yang komprehensif tentang perempuan dalam Islam menunjukkan bahwa ajaran agama ini sebenarnya mempromosikan pemberdayaan dan keadilan gender. Paper ini menyelidiki bagaimana ajaran Islam memberikan landasan bagi pemberdayaan wanita, serta bagaimana kontribusi mereka menjadi katalis untuk kemajuan kemanusiaan secara keseluruhan. Melalui analisis terhadap teks agama, sejarah, dan konteks sosial, penulis menggali peran perempuan dalam Islam dalam berbagai bidang, mulai dari pendidikan dan ekonomi hingga politik dan kegiatan kemanusiaan. Dengan menggabungkan perspektif Islam dengan pandangan tentang kesetaraan gender dan keadilan sosial, paper ini menunjukkan bahwa pemberdayaan wanita dalam Islam bukan hanya penting untuk masyarakat Muslim, tetapi juga memiliki implikasi yang luas untuk kemajuan kemanusiaan secara global. Dalam konteks ini, pemberdayaan Wanita merujuk pada memberikan kekuatan, kesempatan, dan otonomi kepada perempuan dalam masyarakat Islam. Ini termasuk hak-hak mereka dalam bidang seperti pendidikan, ekonomi, politik, dan sosial, serta pengakuan atas kontribusi dan potensi mereka. Terkait dengan peran Wanita sebagai pendorong dalam kemajuan manusia menyoroiti bahwa pemberdayaan wanita dalam Islam tidak hanya memperbaiki kondisi perempuan itu sendiri, tetapi juga bertindak sebagai katalis atau pendorong untuk kemajuan kemanusiaan secara lebih luas. Ini mencakup dampak positif yang dapat dirasakan oleh seluruh masyarakat, termasuk peningkatan dalam hal pembangunan sosial, ekonomi, dan kemanusiaan. Jadi, dalam penelitian ini mengisyaratkan bahwa pemberdayaan wanita dalam Islam bukan hanya tentang kesetaraan gender dalam konteks agama, tetapi juga tentang bagaimana hal itu dapat mendorong kemajuan sosial, ekonomi, dan kemanusiaan secara keseluruhan.

Kata kunci: pemberdayaan Wanita, kemajuan manusia

ABSTRAK

The role of women in Islam has been the subject of extensive debate, often shrouded in stereotypes and limited interpretations. However, a comprehensive view of women in Islam shows that the teachings of this religion actually promote empowerment and gender justice. This paper investigates how Islamic teachings provide a foundation for the empowerment of women, as well as how their contributions become a catalyst for the progress of humanity as a whole. Through analysis of religious texts, history and social context, the author explores the role of women in Islam in various fields, from education and economics to politics and humanitarian activities. By combining an Islamic perspective with views on gender equality and social justice, this paper shows that women's empowerment in Islam is not only important for Muslim societies, but also has broad implications for the progress of humanity globally. In this context, Women's empowerment refers to providing power, opportunity and autonomy to women in Islamic societies. This includes their rights in areas such as education, economics, politics, and society, as well as recognition of their contributions and potential. Regarding the role of women as drivers in human progress, it highlights that women's empowerment in Islam not only improves the conditions of women themselves, but also acts as a catalyst or driver for the progress of humanity more broadly. This includes positive impacts that can be felt by the entire community, including improvements in social, economic and humanitarian development. So, this research suggests that women's empowerment in Islam is not only about gender equality in a religious context, but also about how it can encourage overall social, economic and humanitarian progress.

Keywords: women's empowerment, human progress

INTRODUCTION

Women's empowerment in Islam is a deep and complex theme that has attracted the attention of many researchers, thinkers, and activists. In an ever-changing global context, it is important to dig deeper into how Islam, as a religion that has significant followers throughout the world, views and treats women in society.

Islam is not only a religion, but also an ethical and moral framework that provides guidelines for individual and societal life. In its teachings, Islam emphasizes the principles of gender equality and social justice. However, the reality, especially in many societies that have historically been influenced by patriarchal culture, often shows a mismatch between religious principles and social practices.

In this context, women's empowerment in Islam becomes increasingly important as a catalyst for humanitarian progress. Understanding the role of women in Islam is not only important for understanding the richness and diversity of Islamic traditions, but also for formulating effective strategies in combating gender inequality, violence against women, and other social inequalities that often occur in Muslim communities.

Apart from that, lower educational conditions also affect the position of women as economic actors. Women experience marginalization due to limited education and skills. (Ratnasari, 2021).

This research aims to explore various dimensions of women's empowerment in Islam and how it can serve as a catalyst for humanitarian progress. By looking at aspects such as women's participation in public life, women's access to education and the economy, and women's role in promoting peace and justice, we can gain deeper insight into how Islam can be a source of inspiration for positive social change.

Through this research, we hope to make a meaningful contribution to promoting gender equality, social justice and humanitarian progress more broadly,

as well as strengthening a deep understanding of Islam as a religion that respects the rights and dignity of all individuals, regardless of gender.

The method in this research is to use qualitative methods, by collecting data through literature reviews and content analysis of related documents.

DISCUSSION

The word "empowerment" is a translation of the English "empowerment" empowerment comes from the word "Power" which means the ability to do, achieve, do, or make possible, the prefix "em" empowerment can mean strength within humans, a source of creativity. (Nursyaidah, 2020).

Empowerment is a series of activities to strengthen the power or empowerment of vulnerable and weak groups in society, including individuals who experience poverty, so that they have the empowerment to meet their physical, economic and social needs, such as: having self-confidence, being able to convey inspiration. , have a livelihood, participate in social activities, and be independent in carrying out their life tasks. (Nursyaidah, 2020).

Women's empowerment which seeks to create gender equality between men and women does not mean that women have to be the same as men, nor does it mean efforts to compete with or fight men. (Marwing & Yunus, 2021).

Empowerment is a concept that was born as part of the development of the mind of society and culture. (Jannah, 2011).

The propositions of the Qur'an that regulate gender equality are:

1. Regarding the nature of the creation of men and women, Surah al-Rum verse 21, Surah an-Nisa' verse 1, Surah al-Hujurat verse 13, which essentially states that Allah SWT has created humans in pairs, namely male and female, so that they live in peace and tranquility, so that they love and care for each other and love and love, so that many men and women are born and spread and so that they know each other. The verses above show that there is a reciprocal relationship between men and women, and nothing indicates the superiority of one type over another.

2. Regarding the position and equality between men and women, Surah Ali Imran verse 195, Surah an-Nisa' verse 124, Surah an-Nahl verse 97, Surah at-Taubat verses 71-72, Surah al-Ahzab verse 35. Verse These verses state that Allah SWT specifically appoints both women and men to uphold Islamic values by having faith, piety and charity. Allah SWT also gives equal roles and responsibilities to men and women in carrying out their spiritual lives. And Allah also gives the same sanctions to women and men for all the mistakes they commit. So in essence, the position and rank of men and women in the eyes of Allah SWT are the same, and what makes them not the same is only their faith and devotion. (Maslamah dan Suprapti Muzani, 2014 : 279).

Meanwhile, gender in the Koran according to Dr. Nasaruddin Umar in the *Journal of Islamic Thought on Women's Empowerment* (2000) there are several things that show that the principles of gender equality are in the Koran, namely:

1. Women and men are both slaves according to the QS. al-Dzariyat [51]: 56. In the capacity as servants there is no difference between men and women. Both have the same potential and opportunity to become ideal servants in the Qur'an who can be termed as pious people (*muttaqin*), and to achieve this degree of *muttaqin* is unknown. does not refer to one particular gender, meaning that both women and men have the same function as caliphs, who will be responsible for their caliphate duties on earth.
2. Women and men accept the initial covenant with God. Women and men both carry out trust and accept the initial agreement with God, as in the QS. al-A'raf [7]: 172, namely the pledge of God's existence witnessed by angels. Since the beginning of human history in Islam, there has been no gender discrimination. Men and women both declare the same divine vows. The Qur'an also confirms that Allah glorified all of Adam's children and grandchildren without distinction of gender. (QS. al-Isra' [17]: 70).
3. Adam and Eve were actively involved in the cosmic drama. All verses that tell about the cosmic drama, namely the story about Adam and Eve's

condition in heaven until they came out to earth, always emphasize the active involvement of both of them, with the use of pronouns for two people (*humā*), namely the pronoun for Adam and Eve.

4. Women and men both have the potential to achieve maximum achievement, there is no distinction between men and women, specifically emphasized in three verses, namely Ali Imran 195, al-Nisa' 124, al-Nahl 97. All three hints at the concept of ideal gender equality and emphasizes that individual achievements, both in the spiritual field and professional careers, do not have to be dominated by one gender alone.. (Maslamah dan Suprapti Muzani, 2014).

The Islamic belief in placing women in a position of honor and importance has existed since Islamic teachings entered the midst of the jahiliyyah tradition..(Pratama et al., n.d.)

In Indonesia itself, women can appear as government administrative leaders, both on a national and local scale, become leaders in companies, and have equal access, and it is not uncommon for women to fill government programs. Therefore, the fate and position of women should be up to each individual's choice. The norms of Indonesian society are very open to all women who want to actualize themselves in their respective environments. (Noorhayati, 2017)

Basically, women's empowerment is important due to several factors, namely:

- a. Development with a patrihal perspective results in women becoming powerless (unable to express the freedom they have).
- b. Women's education levels tend to be lower than men's.
- c. Reproductive rights tend to be forced.
- d. Women are left behind in the world of politics and so on.(Nursyaidah, 2020).

The research results show that in Islam, there are strong foundations for women's empowerment. The Qur'an and Hadith convey messages that support gender equality and provide fundamental rights to women. However, the

implementation of this concept is often hampered by cultural factors and patriarchal interpretations.

Women's empowerment in Islam has great potential to become a catalyst for humanitarian progress. When women are fully empowered, they can play an active role in community development and address various humanitarian problems such as poverty, education, health and peace.

CONCLUSION

Women's empowerment in Islam has great potential to become a driving force for human progress. However, to realize this potential, joint efforts from society, government and religious institutions are needed to ensure that women have equal access to education, work and decisions that affect their lives. Thus, women's empowerment in Islam can become a strong foundation for the progress of humanity as a whole. The suggestions that can be made for further research are how to develop forms of women's empowerment that can be carried out within the scope of Islamic society.

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Pendahuluan Islam merupakan agama rahmatan lil ' alamin yang mengajarkan kesetaraan antara laki - laki dan perempuan tanpa mendiskriminasi . Hal ini telah dibawa Islam sebagai. 40–50.

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