

Innovative Approaches in Educational Methods

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Abstract:

This research paper examines new approaches to improve Islamic educational practices through their alignment with modern societal needs. This investigation explores different Islamic educational methods through their authentic origin restoration and application innovation and cultural context adaptation. The core research inquiry investigates what methods exist to bring innovation to Islamic education. The research utilizes a descriptive methodology which combines documentary analysis with literature and theoretical perspective review.

Key findings show that education goals continue to expand due to global changes that require teaching methods to be constantly adapted to meet the demands of the times.

Societal progress requires the renewal of the educational process as a key factor driving both development and reform programmes.

Research results indicate that Islamic education has developed several teaching methods in the past, but today it needs to integrate contemporary and authentic methods to maintain its effectiveness.

Renewing the educational process contributes to consolidating moral values among young people, teaches them how to adapt to the requirements of the times, and develops their abilities to seize future opportunities.

Educational programs must incorporate Islamic values in modern ways that communicate with contemporary youth through interactive applications that use technology as a primary communication channel.

The future development of educational practices depends on the integration of modern technology and scientific methods into Islamic education systems to meet growing educational needs.

Keywords: Education, Teaching, Renewal, Educational Renewal, Innovation in Education, Islamic Education, Instructional Methods, Educational Approaches, Pedagogical Practices.

INTRODUCTION:

The world today is witnessing complex and exceptional change through the development of value standards and conceptual frameworks that guide its rapid path towards growth. This transformation is evident in every aspect of human life, from culture and identity to development, resulting in beneficial and potentially harmful effects. The fields of science, technology, industry, engineering, religion, philosophy, literature, the arts, and behavioral and social sciences have all undergone profound change as a result of these transformations, which have demolished many deeply held beliefs and the principles and traditions associated with them, changing the way individuals and societies understand the world around them.

Societal change and future progress depend heavily on education (Sabagh, 2015). Education acts as an organized methodology that enables societies to train their youth to deal with current challenges and uncertain conditions in the future. Young people's values and habits are constantly influenced by environmental stimuli, and their choices are shaped according to what is consistent with their personal inclinations. Therefore, the education system has come to play a pivotal role in driving societal progress and bringing about developmental change, as any society that is unable to develop the education of its human resources will encounter an inability to achieve transformative accomplishments. Education functions as a dual-purpose system which both maintains cultural values and identity while transforming personal characteristics into forms that support social requirements. Education develops individuals through moral and psychological and intellectual and physical development until they achieve their maximum potential while learning to enhance their abilities and become better adapters to their environment. Education provides students with critical thinking skills and decision-making abilities that qualify them to face challenges and solve problems.

Educational institutions today face a complex set of challenges as a result of recent global changes. Education must now serve two purposes simultaneously: preparing learners to serve their communities on the one hand, and adapting to accelerating scientific and technological developments alongside social transformations on the other.

Contemporary education requires a fundamental transformation in its strategies and methods, and the innovation of new models that are compatible with the requirements of contemporary life and meet its renewed needs. The educational system needs to connect societal conditions with worldwide standards through unified efforts.

According to Abdullah (2020) educational renewal stands as a fundamental base for reform and development because it serves as a strategic framework for achieving progress. Educational renewal demands both maintaining beneficial educational elements and resolving existing shortcomings while ensuring educational practices match current societal requirements. Societies need to renew themselves because without this process they will fail to resolve fundamental issues such as underdevelopment alongside poverty and unemployment and weak economic growth and stagnant scientific research and declining moral values. The world together with history demands this essential concern which nations must adopt for sustainable advancement.

Educational methods play a vital role in developing students which experts have recognized across different historical periods. According to Abu Shanab (2013) educational approaches change in response to philosophical curriculum frameworks and social environmental factors. According to Makari (2023) educational practices in the present should dedicate their attention to scientific thinking development alongside ability growth and teamwork promotion and individual difference appreciation as well as hands-on discovery opportunities. The educational approach produces an all-encompassing learning experience which develops both problem-solving abilities and cognitive thinking capabilities.

The Islamic educational system possesses its own unique framework which derives its principles from the Qur'an and Sunnah according to Ahmed (2013). The authentic bases of this system include an all-encompassing understanding of the universe alongside knowledge of humanity and moral principles as well as knowledge. Through this comprehensive educational model early generations developed faith while learning knowledge which led them to establish Islamic civilization foundations that advanced scientific and cultural development and Western modern achievements. People from every generation can benefit from the Islamic approach because it functions as a universal and timeless educational structure.

Throughout history Muslim scholars and educators created multiple educational approaches which combined innovative ideas with spiritual foundations. These methods worked in alignment with human nature to support learners at different awareness levels and address their individual motivations to create morally sound fully developed individuals. The Islamic educational model combines spiritual principles with intellectual and social growth in contrast to materialistic models that focus mainly on utilitarian benefits.

Due to present rapid changes the world needs Islamic educational methods which can combine traditional values with modern approaches. Future generations will benefit from a foundation which satisfies their ambitions while protecting their cultural identity and core values and preparing them for success in a world that keeps changing.

Paper Problem and Research Questions:

Today, the Islamic world is witnessing a fundamental civilizational choice as a result of the rapid cognitive revolution and scientific progress, along with the development of information and communications technology and globalization. Numerous transformations in various aspects of life have destabilized value systems and endangered the essence of Islamic identity. The growing interest in education emerges as a fundamental mechanism because it lays the foundations for human development in line with rapidly changing realities. The education system is a vital tool for protecting cultural integrity, by developing values from the early stages of learning until full maturity.

These major transformations require teachers to face urgent difficulties that push them to reconsider traditional educational methods and search for new procedures that suit their own context. Therefore, it has become necessary to adopt value-based educational methods that create positive learning environments that teach young students essential virtues and prepare them to face rapidly changing societies through personality development, self-understanding, and future optimism.

Global attention has shifted towards educational transformation as an essential means of reshaping human patterns of thinking and behavior. This educational transformation requires a fundamental evaluation of current educational theories while updating teaching strategies to keep pace with current societal changes. Hence, the Islamic community must reconnect its educational system with its original

heritage while utilizing contemporary tools and technology and modern advancements for progress and revival.

The evolution of Islamic educational approaches requires investigation to fulfill the requirements of the third millennium and globalisation. The main research question emerges from this viewpoint as follows: The renewal of Islamic teaching approaches must address present-day educational challenges?

The study answers its main question through the investigation of these sub-questions:

1. Educational renewal rests upon philosophical foundations which define its essential objectives along with its fundamental characteristics.
2. What essential principles make up Islamic education and which fundamental goals define its base framework?
3. What obstacles exist in the present-day educational system of Islam?
4. The effectiveness and relevancy of Islamic teaching methods can be maintained through innovative approaches.

Objectives of the Paper:

The main purpose of this research paper focuses on developing innovative approaches to transform Islamic education methods. The primary goal of this paper generates multiple particular research objectives.

1. Study the philosophical foundation of educational innovation by explaining its fundamental principles together with its main targets and distinguishing features.
2. Study the basic educational principles of Islamic teaching together with its fundamental learning objectives and unique educational qualities.
3. The study identifies the main obstacles which Islamic education faces because of present-day developments.
4. Analyze how present-day educational methods interact with traditional Islamic instructional practices.
5. Present new educational models together with innovative practices which can improve the development of Islamic education.
6. The paper suggests practical solutions to improve Islamic educational methods so they become better suited for contemporary needs.

Significance of the Paper:

The importance of this paper emerges from several interrelated aspects:

1. **Relevance of the topic:** The paper addresses the innovation of Islamic educational methods, a matter of growing urgency in light of the profound structural transformations and challenges facing contemporary societies. Islamic education today is increasingly called upon to modernize and renew its methods, achieving harmony between authenticity and the evolving demands of the era, in order to effectively fulfill its educational objectives.
2. **Value of the renewal concept:** Educational renewal is a key driver of reform and progress, and this study contributes to the broader discourse on educational development by emphasizing the role of innovation in Islamic education.
3. **Contribution to the field:** The paper highlights the most prominent features of educational innovation within Islamic teaching methods, offering insights that enrich the academic and practical understanding of this area.
4. **Practical benefit:** The findings and recommendations can serve educators, curriculum designers, and those interested in authentic and contemporary Islamic instructional approaches by guiding them toward more effective methods.
5. **Research potential:** This study opens avenues for future research by encouraging scholars to explore innovative strategies in Islamic education, develop policies and programs for enhancement, and conduct both theoretical and applied studies that advance this vital field.

Paper Methodology:

The research methodology of this paper follows a descriptive approach which uses documentary analysis as its foundation. The research depends on structured examination of pertinent scholarly works and established theories and past research to understand educational renewal principles and their use in Islamic education. Through this methodology the researcher collects and structures information from reliable academic sources to produce findings which fulfill the study goals and address research questions.

Paper Terminology:

1. **Renewal:** The concept of educational renewal consists of deliberate purposeful efforts which aim to optimize educational activity outcomes. The process of introducing small improvements to current practices combines creative elements that enhance goal achievement while supporting educational vision goals. [33]
2. **Educational Renewal:** Educational renewal represents a structured approach which uses evidence-based techniques to enhance educational system performance and efficiency. The system receives its goal to adapt to current educational trends while meeting regional and international requirements through this process. This procedure depends on educational study outcomes together with present-day scientific knowledge and modern educational approaches and practices. Educational innovation establishes a connection with this process by creating fresh concepts that get transformed into workable educational methods to sustain ongoing beneficial transformation. [12][15]
3. **Educational Methods:** Educational methods consist of organized procedures that teachers or educators use to transmit knowledge alongside concepts values attitudes and skills to their learners. These educational methods utilize verbal or practical approaches together with multiple tools and resources to deliver content and reach learning objectives as effectively as possible. [1]
4. **Islamic Education:** Scholars have expressed multiple definitions regarding Islamic education which demonstrate their varied views. The complete set of principles derives from the Holy Qur'an and Sunnah together with Muslim community educational practices to develop an Islamic personality which addresses both material and spiritual needs. The definition of Islamic education according to Khalifa consists of an integrated intellectual structure based on Islamic principles which provides a systematic approach to guide individuals toward actions that follow Islamic teachings.

Procedural Definition of Innovation in Islamic Education Methods:

This research defines innovative Islamic teaching methods as a structured and planned process which modernizes and develops educational approaches in Islamic instruction while preserving both continuity and adaptability. The innovation path is based on experimental research supported by practical educational experience and creative teaching methods, ensuring its complete suitability to the needs and challenges of the times.

This curriculum aims primarily to address the problems of young people, while strengthening their identity and values through an educational system that achieves all the objectives of Islamic education.

Philosophy of Educational Renewal:

The philosophy of educational renewal is based on being an ongoing process aimed at improving education through direct interaction with the current educational reality and its challenges. Educational renewal is viewed as a cognitive summary developed by educational thinkers, philosophers, and scientists throughout the ages to enhance educational theory. This philosophy is inspired by future educational goals and current educational knowledge, while emphasizing the need for periodic adjustments to keep pace with the needs of societal progress.

Educational renewal works as a system for developing educational concepts and practices, so that they remain renewed and linked to the latest developments. This process remains dynamic and continuous, as people always seek to develop education to make it more effective and responsive to future needs.

Principles of the Philosophy of Educational Renewal: [15]

The philosophy of educational renewal is based on a set of fundamental principles, including:

The uniqueness of man: Man is distinguished from other living beings by his ability to think and contemplate, in addition to his continuous ability to develop intellectually.

Historical Continuity: Educational renewal does not represent a recent discovery, but rather arose with the development of educational thought in ancient times through the efforts of philosophers and educators who responded to the needs of growing societies and expanding cultures. This path has maintained its continuity across generations to be a guiding force that enhances educational outcomes.

Harmony with social reality: Educational renewal is fundamentally linked to real life circumstances. Its primary goal is to improve current social conditions, making its relationship with dominant social variables close and inseparable.

Basic beliefs and concepts: Renewal is based on a network of core beliefs and ideas that form the guiding principles for applying various educational methods.

The driving force for progress: Innovation acts as a driver that drives the educational process forward, providing it with the detailed directions and steps necessary to achieve its specific goals.

Characteristics of Educational Innovation: [15]

Planned and intentional: It is an intentional development activity that can be implemented partially or completely according to specific goals.

Related to improvement and creativity: It is fundamentally linked to the concepts of reform, development, advancement, creativity and innovation.

Based on scientific methodology: The planning and implementation stages are based on the principles and procedures of scientific research.

Supported by a structured intellectual framework: based on a scientific foundation that guides its practices and ensures their logical consistency.

Subject to experimentation and evaluation: Its application involves systematic experiments followed by continuous and objective evaluation to measure effectiveness.

Scalable and adaptable: It can be generalized and consolidated in different educational environments when proven successful.

Applicable in multiple contexts: Innovation emerges at the broader individual, institutional or social level.

Beneficial to the social system: generates tangible benefits for society as a whole, for specific institutions, or for individual learners.

Participatory, flexible and continuous: represents a dynamic process that encourages participation, adaptation and sustainable progress.

Driven by creative minds: It relies on those with distinguished intellectual and innovative abilities who are able to present practical and convincing ideas.

Locally rooted and globally aware: starts from within while benefiting from the experiences of other countries, taking into account economic, social and cultural differences.

Foundations of Islamic Education: [8]

The essence of Islamic education is rooted in the faith, which includes belief in God Almighty, His angels, His revealed books, His messengers, peace be upon them, and the Last Day, and appreciation of His good and evil. This rule constitutes the guiding principle towards raising an integrated Muslim personality. Islamic education is based on several intertwined foundations, including:

Philosophical foundations

It represents the theoretical basis of Islamic education, and reflects the characteristics of Muslim society derived from its faith, cultural heritage, and ancient traditions. These foundations form the general vision and educational goals in accordance with Islamic values.

Social foundations

It aims to meet individual and collective needs in areas such as economics, science and technology, while preserving the moral, religious and human dimensions of society's culture.

Psychological foundations

It focuses on understanding human nature, psychological and social characteristics, and various developmental factors across life stages. It also emphasizes meeting individual needs and addressing challenges while respecting identity and personal uniqueness.

Cognitive foundations

It relates to the nature and components of educational content, its sources and development, and its links to other scientific branches. It also includes aligning the curriculum with current educational policies and ensuring the practical application of knowledge to serve the learner and society.

Objectives of Islamic Education: [7]

Islamic education seeks to achieve a comprehensive set of goals that contribute to the development of the individual and society, the most prominent of which are:

Developing a balanced personality that is spiritually, intellectually and physically sound.

Instilling faith and good morals in the individual, based on Islamic values.

Enhancing human capabilities by encouraging creativity and innovation, and providing a supportive environment for discovering and developing talents.

Promoting social balance by giving each individual a constructive role within society.

Optimal use of resources to ensure their effective contribution to human development.

Combating ignorance, poverty and environmental degradation in a way that contributes to raising the level of social progress.

Ensure equal participation in development for both men and women, and protect their rights to actively contribute to the progress of society.

Characteristics of Islamic Education: [23]

Islamic education has unique characteristics that distinguish it from other educational systems, the most prominent of which are:

Divine origin: Its principles are derived from the guidance of God Almighty, which gives it honesty and permanence.

Inclusiveness: It deals with all dimensions of human life –spiritual, mental, physical, and social– and directs the individual's relationship with himself, with society, and with the world around him.

Moderation and balance: Maintains a balance between material and spiritual needs, this life and the hereafter, reason and conscience, and between rights and duties, avoiding extremism and neglect.

Humanity: Instills in the individual the values of compassion, justice, and respect for all people regardless of race or color, recognizing the common humanity of all as a creation of God.

Integrating authenticity and modernity: Preserving Islamic heritage and identity while being open to modern knowledge and innovations, enabling Islamic education to keep pace with contemporary scientific and technological developments, confront the challenges of globalization, and contribute to sustainable development and social progress.

Challenges Facing Islamic Education in the Current Era:

Islamic education today faces a complex set of challenges resulting from rapid transformations in the social, cultural, intellectual and technological fields. These changes require modernizing Islamic teaching methods to keep pace with the demands of contemporary life while preserving values and identity. The most prominent of these challenges can be summarized as follows:

Technological challenges and digital media

The tremendous growth in social media and technological advances have exposed younger generations to diverse cultures and beliefs, some of which conflict with Islamic principles. Young people have become more vulnerable to external influences, including digital addiction, which reduces face-to-face interaction and impairs the acquisition of values through personal experiences. Excessive use of smartphones, electronic games, and social media contributes to exacerbating the problem, along with targeted advertisements, misleading content, and the spread of fake news that distorts their vision of reality and affects their decisions in precise ways.

Cultural and social challenges

Modern societies are witnessing major changes in family roles and parental influence, in addition to the impact of globalization, which has produced multiple and intertwined cultures. Maintaining a distinct cultural identity has become more difficult, while promoting peaceful coexistence between diverse groups has become essential. Educators face the challenge of guiding young people in a world where moral values are viewed more as relative than absolute. The task is made more difficult by declining trust in traditional institutions such as family and school, peer pressure that focuses on financial success, the spread of extremism online, and high rates of corruption and crime.

Educational challenges

Many traditional curricula find it difficult to keep pace with the demands of modern society, and many teachers suffer from a lack of training in contemporary teaching methods. Some curricula focus on academic performance at the expense of moral education. Emerging fields such as biotechnology and artificial intelligence also raise complex ethical questions that require new frameworks for ethical guidance. Therefore, education must adapt to ensure that students are able to deal responsibly with these scientific and technological changes.

Economic challenges

Economic pressures affect the quality and duration of parents' interaction with their children, opening gaps in guidance and control. The high proportion of single-parent families and the increasing focus on financial success can also lead to the neglect of human and moral values. Financial stress and a consumer lifestyle encourage young people to prioritize economic benefit over ethical principles, undermining the ethical goals of education.

Psychological challenges

Young people today are exposed to multiple psychological pressures, such as isolation, cyberbullying, and intense competition in education and work, in addition to the social effects of high divorce rates. These factors contribute to increased rates of anxiety, depression, and other psychological problems, which in turn affect moral and personal development. This challenge is exacerbated by the lack of awareness and organized educational strategies to support mental health.

Innovation in Islamic Education Methods

One of the most prominent features of Islamic education is its unique balance between **authenticity and innovation**. Throughout history, Muslim scholars developed robust educational practices rooted in the Qur'an and Sunnah, which successfully achieved the objectives of Islamic education. Today, these objectives can benefit from contemporary educational methods without losing their authentic Islamic foundation. By integrating modern pedagogical approaches, Muslim societies can respond to the pressures of globalization, the rapid spread of information, and the growing educational needs of the modern world. This integration also supports the broader goals of sustainable development.

Below are **authentic Islamic educational methods** that have been developed or paralleled in contemporary education, demonstrating how innovation can emerge from traditional foundations:

1. Education by Example (Modeling and Social Learning):

Providing a **role model** remains one of the most influential methods in Islamic education. The Qur'an describes the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as the best example for believers. Psychologically, people naturally imitate those they admire. Modern educational psychology confirms that students adopt values and behaviors when they observe them in action. Teachers and parents, therefore, play a critical role in shaping children's character by modeling positive behavior, which helps bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-life practice.

2. Teaching through preaching and guidance (advice and guidance):

The method of teaching through good preaching and moral advice has always been firmly established in the Sunnah of the Prophet. The Book of God always calls us to preach with wisdom and good advice. Ancient scholars such as Al-Ghazali and Ibn Khaldun used it to meet students' intellectual, social and emotional needs. Today, we find a reflection of this approach in student counseling programs, which aim to raise balanced personalities, promote mental health, and consolidate moral values.

3. Education through dialogue and discussion:

Dialogue is a fundamental method in the Qur'an and Sunnah for instilling faith and moral reasoning. An example of this is God's discussion with the angels in the story of Adam, peace be upon him, which shows the importance of asking and thinking. In contemporary education, this is similar to Socrates' style of dialogue, brainstorming sessions, and academic discussions, which stimulate critical thinking, expression of opinions, and respect for difference.

4. Education by encouragement and intimidation (reward and punishment):

Islamic education recognizes the power of hope and fear as drivers of behavior. The Qur'an and Hadith mention reward for good deeds and warning against sins. Today, this principle is applied through positive and negative reinforcement, rewarding desirable behaviors and deterring harmful ones. When used wisely, this method promotes self-discipline, moral awareness, and consistent integrity.

5. Education by habit and practice:

Islamic teachings emphasize the formation of habits through practice and practical application, as in the saying: "Morals are established by habit." By constantly repeating good deeds, students settle them in their character. Modern education has been inspired by this principle in its behavior-based approach to training and application, where skills are transformed into lasting habits through repetition and practice.

6. Education through events and situations:

Big events leave a strong impact on students. Educational lessons have been drawn from historical battles and events in the Qur'an, such as the Battle of Uhud, to guide behavior and promote values. Today, we use event-based learning—including current realities and societal changes—as opportunities to instill values and develop decision-making skills. This approach evokes emotions, making moral lessons more memorable and impactful.

7. Education through cooperation and teamwork:

Our religion is based on the principle of cooperation and shared responsibility, and God has commanded us to cooperate in righteousness and piety. In modern education, we apply this principle through cooperative learning: working in groups, joint projects, and mutual support. This approach enhances communication skills, a sense of responsibility and leadership, and strengthens bonds between students.

8. Education by experience (learning by doing and experimenting):

Our teachings call for learning through direct experience, as Abraham, peace be upon him, did in his search for truth. Contemporary thinkers –such as John Dewey– have called for the importance of practical learning and self-discovery. This curriculum allows students to use their senses and mind to solve problems, instilling knowledge in the mind through practical application.

9. Self-learning and lifelong learning:

Islam urges the constant pursuit of knowledge, as stated in the Almighty's saying: «And say, "My Lord, increase me in knowledge."». Today it is called «lifelong learning», which enables an individual to keep pace with rapid changes and acquire new skills independently. Through self-learning, the student develops a sense of responsibility, research and analysis, which are essential skills in the renewed world of knowledge.

10. Education freely and independently (critical thinking):

Islamic education encourages freedom of thought and enables the individual to question and reflect within the framework of religious constants. Historically, there has been debate among scholars about independent verification of information. In our time, we know this as «critical thinking», which develops problem-solving, decision-making, and information analysis skills. By giving students space to think freely, we create leaders who can effectively contribute to the renaissance of society.

Through these methods, Islamic education can preserve its authenticity while embracing innovative practices. By drawing connections between classical methods and contemporary approaches, educators can better prepare learners to thrive in a world of rapid change, while maintaining the core mission of Islamic education: forming morally upright, knowledgeable, and socially responsible individuals.

11. Education through Stories (Storytelling Strategy)

Storytelling is one of the most **powerful and engaging methods in Islamic education**, as it presents lessons and values in a vivid, realistic, and emotionally moving form. The **Qur'an itself employs storytelling extensively** because of its profound effect on the human soul. Through stories, the Qur'an calls for **monotheism**, recounts the history of **past nations**, consoles and strengthens the heart of the Prophet ﷺ, proves the **truthfulness of his mission**, and establishes **belief in resurrection, reward, and the Last Day**. These stories also dispel doubts about divine justice and demonstrate **God's absolute power and wisdom**.

In the field of education, storytelling allows the learner to **live history with his mind, heart, and imagination**. It is far more effective than **rote memorization and traditional recitation** because the human soul naturally inclines toward **listening to narratives and historical accounts**. When a story is chosen wisely, it leaves a lasting moral and behavioral impact. Stories with **religious, moral, or ethical meanings** nurture goodness, empathy, and the spirit of charity within students.

Educators can **maximize the benefits of storytelling** by:

- Selecting meaningful narratives that **align with students' moral development**.
- Using stories from **Islamic history**, highlighting the **achievements of Muslims** in various fields to instill **pride in Islamic identity and heritage**.
- Integrating **proverbs, real-life experiences, and media-based stories** that carry educational value, making them relatable to youth.

Through **thoughtful storytelling**, educators not only **transfer values** but also **strengthen students' emotional connection** to their faith, cultivate **self-confidence**, and enhance **cultural awareness**.

12. Education Considering Individual Differences (Individualized Education)

Islamic education has long **recognized the uniqueness of each learner**, applying the principle of **individualized learning** centuries before the concept appeared in modern pedagogy. In **traditional mosque circles**, students were taught **according to their abilities, levels of understanding, and readiness**.

Learners joined circles that matched their intellectual capacity, ensuring that each student received knowledge in a manner he could comprehend.

Imam Al-Ghazali ably described the differences in human comprehension abilities, noting that some learners require longer periods of learning and greater effort because their sensory tendencies overwhelm mental readiness, while others absorb information quickly because mental light prevails over sensory perception.

Studies in educational psychology and modern personality science confirm this principle, indicating that each individual has a distinct personality shaped by a combination of genetics and environment, which affects his abilities, intelligence, behavior, and educational needs. By recognizing mental energies, innate tendencies, and personal tendencies, teachers can design learning experiences that suit the student's individual potential, helping him thrive and avoid frustration.

This path of differentiated education—originated in Islamic heritage—remains a necessity in contemporary education, because it ensures that knowledge reaches each learner in a way that suits his ability and takes into account his own pace and style of learning.

13. Teaching with examples (explanatory use and simile)

The use of examples is a classic method in Islamic pedagogy. The Qur'an and Hadith have often employed similes, analogies, and illustrative proverbs to simplify abstract concepts, highlight virtues, and guide human behavior. When an idea is presented in the form of an example or analogy, complex ideas become tangible and understandable and applicable, arousing the recipient's feelings and moral inclinations.

For example, the Qur'an uses proverbs to link what is unseen with what is tangible, making mental understanding compatible with sensory perception. The goal is not limited to simplification only, but extends to enhancing contemplation and reflection.

Modern education adopts a similar strategy, often known as «learning through simile» or «comparative clarification», with the aim of:

- Simplify abstract content and make it accessible to learners.
- Increase interaction by linking lessons to real life.
- Encourage reflection on ethical and practical applications of knowledge.

When used skillfully, examples and similes can **convey profound meanings in just a few words**, leaving a **lasting moral impact**. They help learners **visualize virtues, grasp truths quickly, and adopt positive behaviors** inspired by the lesson.

science has discovered in order to meet the rapid flow of information and educational, economic and social challenges, and to be able to achieve the objectives of sustainable development. These methods include:

Educational studies have discovered that to meet the rapid flow of information and educational, economic, and social challenges, and to achieve sustainable development goals, modern methods must be followed, including:

1. Education with community participation and interactive activities

This approach relies on linking classroom knowledge to real-life issues through learners' participation in community experiences, which enhances their sense of citizenship, belonging, and social responsibility. It also promotes the values of cooperation, altruism, and community service, which are fundamental Islamic values. Practical applications of this method are evident in:

Organizing workshops, seminars and dialogue sessions on contemporary social and educational issues, so that students learn about the real challenges and provide suggestions for solutions.

Holding competitions, exhibitions, and ethical development events that enhance awareness of positive values and encourage good behavior.

Hold open dialogue sessions with young people to express their opinions and participate in constructive discussions that develop critical thinking and communication skills.

Involve students in volunteer initiatives and community service projects, to translate religious and moral values into actions that serve people.

Organizing field trips to charities, community centers and cultural bodies, with interactive activities that consolidate lessons and strengthen community ties

2. Education by investing in modern technology

With the spread of smartphones and the development of digital technologies, it has become necessary to integrate digital tools into Islamic education. Interactive games designed to instill religious and moral values in an entertaining and effective way can be used, as well as videos and virtual simulations that

display moral scenarios. Social media platforms play an important role in spreading moral awareness, sharing experiences, and disseminating appropriate religious content. Digital applications and websites can also be developed that encourage ethical participation and the use of interactive media production such as short films, series, and games that reflect Islamic identity. Collaborating with digital influencers and young creatives also contributes to making these efforts more attractive to the new generation.

3. Education in arts, creativity and the sensory-mental approach

Integrating art and creative activities into Islamic education helps establish values in an unforgettable way. Drawing, designing, or using theater to represent moral situations allows children to engage emotionally and mentally. Exploring nature and enjoying its beauty on field trips also contributes to developing an aesthetic sense and stimulating spiritual contemplation of God's power and wisdom. This method emphasizes the worship of contemplation, which enhances faith and morals by contemplating the verses of the Qur'an and the wonders of the universe, as stated in the Almighty's saying:

«Do they not look at the camels, how they were created, at the sky, how they were raised, and at the mountains, how they were erected...»

Thus, looking at God's creatures becomes a motivation for humility, gratitude, and seeing the greatness of the Creator.⁴

4. Education with Psychological and Social Care

This approach focuses on supporting young people emotionally and socially to help them handle the pressures of modern life. It includes developing their communication skills, improving their ability to interact positively with others, and fostering emotional intelligence. By understanding the mental and emotional processes that influence behavior, educators can guide students toward more positive thinking and better decision-making. Providing psychological and social care also helps in building self-confidence, reducing stress, and preparing students to face life challenges with resilience and a balanced mindset.

5. Education with reflective thinking to solve problems

Reflective thinking is one of the modern methods that the American philosopher and educator John Dewey focused on, explaining its principles in his book *How We Think and How We Solve Problems*. He established five basic stages to solve any problem:

- Realize the problem.
- Clearly define and understand the problem.
- Develop hypotheses or possible solutions.
- Test these hypotheses.
- Reach conclusions and make generalizations.

This approach aims to encourage students to deal with real-life problems and think critically to find the best solutions. The teacher acts as a guide and supporter in this process, helping students collect, organize, and analyze information in a logical manner and reach correct conclusions. This approach contributes to developing problem-solving skills, enhancing the spirit of responsibility and intellectual openness, and the ability to benefit from the experiences of others while avoiding rigidity in thinking or bias.

6. Education through Role-Playing

Acting and simulation are exciting educational methods that make lessons vivid and realistic, as students perform specific roles or represent historical events. By embodying different characters, students are able to absorb values, understand behaviors, and communicate with experiences that may be far from their temporal or spatial reality. This method helps stimulate emotions, encourage self-reflection, and enable students to recognize positive and negative behaviors in society.

Representation is particularly effective in moral education, because it awakens conscience, promotes cooperation, and encourages young people to practice virtues and avoid harmful behaviors. It also provides a safe environment for self-expression, venting feelings, and developing empathy for others, which contributes to deeply and continuously consolidating moral values.

Findings and Suggestions

1. The modern world is experiencing rapid development, shaped by complex sets of values, ideas, and norms that have influenced established beliefs and traditions and changed the course of culture, identity, and human development in general.
2. Education is the most important basis for protecting identity and values, and it is the primary driver for the renaissance and growth of societies and planning for their future.

3. In light of current global transformations, the role of education has become more complex, as its main goal is to enhance the individual's ability to adapt to ongoing social changes and emerging challenges, while preserving moral values and cultural identity.
4. Modern education faces increasing pressure to renew its methods, strategies and policies, so that it can keep pace with the requirements and challenges of contemporary life.
5. Renewing education has become a strategic necessity, not an option, to achieve development and progress, support the growth of societies, and drive continuous reform and improvement.
6. Islamic education is an authentic and methodologically pioneering resource in the history of learning. It has provided a distinctive and well-established educational system that transcends the boundaries of time and space. Many modern educational methods can trace their origins to Islamic educational practices.
7. In today's world, Islamic education is an essential tool for preparing the multi-skilled Muslim individual, in line with the era of globalization and rapid information exchange.
8. The need to adopt authentic, modern, and innovative Islamic educational methods has become urgent, as they contribute to instilling moral values in the new generation, connecting them to their contemporary reality and preparing them to meet the challenges of the future.
9. Applying authentic and innovative Islamic educational methods will produce generations capable of contributing constructively to the development of society, interacting positively with the international community, keeping pace with the demands of the times, and overcoming the pressures of rapid change.
10. It has become necessary to enable Muslim teachers to use modern educational methods that are compatible with the transformations of the twenty-first century, as neglecting this matter reduces the effectiveness and impact of Islamic education.
11. Choosing the most appropriate educational method is one of the basic skills of any Muslim teacher, and when the method is compatible with the context, time and place of education, its impact becomes deeper, more useful and continuous.

Recommendations

The researcher proposes a set of recommendations to modernize Islamic education methods, which are as follows:

1. **Curriculum preparation:** Designing curricula that focus on Islamic education, its methods, presentation, and development, while utilizing modern interactive technologies that combine innovation and originality. These curricula aim to provide students with the knowledge and skills that qualify them to be responsible parents and active members of society.
2. **Qualifying teachers:** Organizing professional development programs to enhance teachers' knowledge and skills in applying innovative methods in Islamic education, enabling them to face challenges and respond to the requirements of the modern era.
3. **Strengthening the role of the family:** Educating parents about the importance of their role in shaping their children's personalities, through workshops and training sessions on modern educational methods and strategies for dealing with contemporary challenges, while emphasizing the importance of continuously monitoring children's learning. Cooperation with family counselors, psychologists, sociologists, and mosque preachers also contributes to supporting this role.
4. **Investing in media and digital platforms:** Employing media, social networking sites, and digital platforms to spread awareness of innovative Islamic education methods. This includes producing engaging content, organizing live broadcasts, creating discussion groups, launching interactive activities, conducting opinion polls, sharing educational resources, and showcasing successful educational models.
5. **Effective use of technology:** Developing comprehensive strategies to integrate modern technology and scientific methods into Islamic education, including designing interactive educational applications and programs that present Islamic education methods in an engaging manner. Emphasis should be placed on leveraging generative artificial intelligence, supporting Arabic-Islamic linguistic models, and ensuring the quality and accuracy of digital content, recognizing that technology has become the language of the times and a key factor in shaping the future.
6. **Promoting research and studies:** Support both theoretical and applied research on innovation in Islamic educational methods, and ensure that research outcomes are effectively used to develop curricula, training programs, and the overall educational environment.
7. **Encouraging knowledge exchange in educational innovation:** Increase efforts to organize conferences, workshops, and meetings in collaboration with universities, academic institutions,

governmental and non-governmental organizations, international bodies, and research centers to share best practices and experiences in Islamic educational development.

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