



# The Meaning of Istiqamah in the Formation of the Personality of Muslim Teenagers Modern

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**Abstract:** This study aims to examine the meaning of istiqamah (steadfastness) in the context of the personality development of modern Muslim adolescents living amidst the challenges of globalization, technological advancement, and shifting moral values. Istiqamah, which means steadfastness in faith, good deeds, and principles, is an important pillar of Islamic teachings that guides people to remain consistent on the path of truth despite facing various trials. In today's fast-paced and dynamic modern world, the value of istiqamah is increasingly urgent as a foundation for character development in Muslim adolescents to prevent them from being swayed by the currents of secularism and hedonism. This study used a qualitative method with a library research approach through analysis of various classical and contemporary sources, such as the works of al-Ghazali and Ibn Qayyim al-Jauziyyah, as well as modern literature on psychology and character education. The results of the study indicate that istiqamah requires not only steadfastness in worship, but also in ethics, social behavior, and personal integrity. The value of steadfastness fosters a stable, responsible adolescent personality, capable of facing moral and social pressures with spiritual strength. This concept is relevant to modern Islamic education, particularly in shaping a young generation with strong, moderate character and a focus on divine values.

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## INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is an important phase in human development which is characterized by the search for self-identity, freedom of thought, and the formation of life values. In the modern context, Muslim youth face great challenges due to advances in information technology, social media, and cultural globalization that have both positive and

negative impacts. On the one hand, technological advances open up wide access to da'wah knowledge and opportunities. But on the other hand, there is also a spiritual crisis, moral degradation, and weakening of self-control. Phenomena such as consumptive behavior, individualism, and declining religious spirit are serious challenges in the formation of the character of modern Muslim adolescents. Haryono's research (2022) shows that

most adolescents experience a decrease in consistency in worship and social behavior due to the influence of social media. This strengthens the urgency of istiqamah values as a stable moral and spiritual guideline in the midst of the current of modernity.

Allah SWT says in QS. Fussilat [41]: 30–32 that those who remain steadfast (istiqamah) in faith and righteous conduct are affirmed by angels and promised Paradise as their ultimate reward. This verse emphasizes the central position of istiqamah as a core value in Islamic teachings. In the context of contemporary society, istiqamah serves as a moral and spiritual foundation for Muslim adolescents. It shapes individuals who are firm in their beliefs, possess strong integrity, and demonstrate consistency in practicing Islamic values amid various social and cultural challenges.

The rapid development of the digital era presents complex dynamics that can influence adolescents' character and worldview. Consequently, cultivating the value of istiqamah becomes increasingly relevant as a guiding principle that enables Muslim youth to navigate change while remaining anchored in authentic Islamic principles. Therefore, this study is significant in strengthening both the theoretical and practical foundations of Islamic character education. By emphasizing the value of istiqamah, the research contributes to the development of educational strategies that support the formation of resilient, ethical, and principled Muslim adolescents in the digital age.

## METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach with the library research method. This approach aims to understand the meaning of istiqamah through the analysis of literature sourced from the Qur'an, hadith, the classics of scholars, as well as modern scientific works on the education and psychology of Muslim adolescents.

1. Relevance to the theme of istiqamah and personality formation.
2. Publications in the last 10 years for modern literature.
3. The main source of classical books and indexed scientific journals.

The data analysis technique is carried out in a descriptive-analytical manner, namely depicting, comparing, and interpreting the concept of istiqamah in the context of adolescent character formation. The research steps include:

1. Identify key concepts of istiqamah in classical Islamic sources.
2. Analysis of the relevance of istiqamah values in the moral development of modern adolescents.
3. Synthesis of the results of the study to produce a conceptual model of formation personality based on istiqamah values.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### The Meaning of Istiqamah in the Qur'an and Hadith

Istiqamah comes from the root word qawama which means "steadfast" or "upright." In the Qur'an, this term is mentioned in QS. Hud [11]: 112 and QS. Al-Ahqaf [46]: 13. The Prophet PBUH said: "Say, I believe in Allah, then be istiqamah." (HR. Muslim). Thus, istiqamah is interpreted as a full commitment to live according to the teachings of Allah — both in worship, morals, and social interaction.

### The Views of Sufism Scholars on Istiqamah

Al-Ghazali in *Ihya' Ulumuddin* explains that istiqamah is a mental state that is consistent in obedience, unshaken by lust. Ibn Qayyim al-Jauziyyah affirms that istiqamah is the peak of spirituality after faith and piety, because it combines the dimensions of knowledge, action, and intention. Tafsir Al-Qurtubi views istiqamah as a form of consistency of faith and righteous deeds, while Malik Badri emphasizes the need for integration between Islamic spiritual values and modern psychology so that humans are able to maintain mental and moral balance.

### Adolescent Psychology and the Value of Consistency

According to Erikson, adolescence is a stage of identity versus role confusion of identity crisis that determines a person's moral and social maturity. In this context, the value of istiqamah functions as a psychological force that guides adolescents in the search for identity, based on faith.

Consistency in Islamic values forms a stable, resilient, and good-oriented character.

### **The Relevance of Istiqamah in Modern Islamic Education**

Islamic education functions not only to transfer knowledge, but also to form morals and spirituality. Therefore, istiqamah needs to be integrated into the educational curriculum through:

1. Habituation of worship and spiritual reflection.
2. Mentoring Islamic characters by teachers.
3. Culture of discipline and responsibility in schools.

In this way, istiqamah becomes a life value that shapes the integrity and moral responsibility of students.

### **Model of Istiqamah Implementation in Character Building**

The istiqamah-based personality formation model can be done through three approaches:

1. Spiritual: through dhikr, recitation, and muhasabah.
2. Social: through habituation of discipline, responsibility, and commitment.
3. Education: through the value curriculum and character training.

The three of them are balanced to produce Muslim teenagers who are istiqamah in thinking, behaving, and behaving.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

The meaning of istiqamah in Islam includes the dimensions of faith, morals, and social behavior that are consistent with the truth. For modern Muslim teenagers, istiqamah is a spiritual force that can lead them to face social pressures and moral challenges in the digital age. The value of istiqamah forms a strong personality, with integrity, and is not easily tempted by negative environmental influences. Islamic education plays a strategic role in instilling this value through example, habituation, and a sustainable spiritual approach. Thus, istiqamah is not only a moral teaching, but also an integral character formation system that gives birth

to a generation with a strong spirit, noble character, and ready to become an agent of positive change in modern society.

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The authors declare no conflict of interest

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