The Role of Information Technology on the Muslim Community in the Era of Globalization and Digitalizatio

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Abstract

In the era of globalization and standardization, Information Technology (IT) brought many changes in people's lives, it also influenced people's behaviour, communication, and lifestyle. The ability of IT in the business and community is to sustain in an increasingly competitive and global environment which largely influenced their capacity to access information as a resource and usage of advanced technologies. This paper analyzing the impact of IT on the Muslim community in the era of Globalization and Islamization. Several types of research have been done on IT and Islam, IT and behavioural and so on, while this paper specifically focusing on the Muslim community in the era of Globalization and Islamization. Information technology has undoubtedly become the central drive for the evolution of a modern Muslim society globally. The Muslim world or society, like the rest of the 'world', participates in the evolution, as well as the usage of using IT to obtain Islamic materials. Such materials include among others the translation of the Qur'an, Tajweed, Hadith, and Tafseer, which are available in word, audio, and video forms through digital content or via interactive chat rooms and forums. This paper focuses on Islamic literature globally accessible and assumes a vital role in spreading Islam all over the world. The paper recommends initiatives policy by government and NGO to promote IT technologies among Muslims around the world for a viable impact on society.

Keywords: Information Technology; Muslim; Community; Islamic Materials; Digitalization

Introduction

Knowledge and information are central key factors of any kind of research and development. The success and rapid advancement of digital technology, the technology, itself, and the way it is processed have undergone improvements and development. The American Library Association (1983) defined IT as 'the use of computers and other technology to create, arrange, archive, compile, and deliver information to consumers.' The computers are used for data processing and storage, while the telecommunications infrastructure provides information storage systems that allow users to access databases and connect them to other computer networks across the Internet at different locations. The translation of the Qur'an, Tajweed, Hadith, Tafseer, and Fiqh and other Islamic materials were available only in texts before digital technologies. The era of digitalization since the 1990s has changed the environment especially in Islamic learning resources and converted to digital platforms which easily distributed around the globe. Muslims easily accessed any type of Islamic materials and helped millions of people around the world. Since the era of globalization and digitalization, everyday thousands of people converting to Islam.

The role of Information and Islam

In the past, because of a lack of communication facilities, the dissemination of Islamic religious awareness in the Muslim world was minimal. The literature of Islamic has been transmitted by slates, greetings, journals, and other materials Dadamuhamedov, A. (2019). Nowadays, Islamic knowledge can be gained with the introduction of IT and ICTs even in the home. Advanced technology like TV, phones, the internet, and social media have therefore played a significant role in the propagation of Islamic religious information (Ajzen, Joyce, Sheikh, & Cote, 2011). Islamic services such as Qur'anic recitation, translation, and learning Arabic are gradually being accessible in software applications (Usman, Tjiptoherijanto, Balqiah, & Agung, 2017). The website was developed in the early 1990s and was primarily being used for email and text file-sharing purposes. As time progressed, most developed countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and others started to have online resources for research, education, and scientific purposes Dadamuhamedov, A. (2019). They also arranged online libraries that contain downloadable books for any field of interest, which is also available from every part of the globe for everyone.

At the beginning of the 21st century, the Internet has developed into the most common means of communication in the Muslim world for any reason (Wikipedia, 2015). Initially, the internet was popular for texting and networking, it has increasingly become famous for education and training. Nowadays most people have easy access to every detail and information. Many Muslim organizations utilized through websites and provided so much information and materials about Islam and made easy communication with each other Dadamuhamedov, A. (2019). Islamic novels, writings, Islamic seminars, Islamic discourses by well-known scholars, Qur'an

translation, and interpretation have been translated into digital formats (Usman, Tjiptoherijanto, Balqiah, & Agung, 2017). Currently, some sites provide free content. Social media like Facebook, WhatsApp, BB-messenger, Twitter, and so on have supported and facilitated Islam's propagation. Advancing IT makes learning easier, particularly in Muslim society, where computers and internet-connected mobile phones are used for online Islamic Classes and Lectures, and interactive Islamic Application Software in both Qur'an and Hadith formats enables the transmission and exchange of knowledge between Muslims (Ajzen, Joyce, Sheikh, & Cote, 2011).

A basic approach to inquiry is that the current method of distribution of information has never been followed and the enormous science and technical expertise in special regard to mass media have never been as influenced in the world as they are now. Similarly, the actions of extremism are today a cause referring to the Muslim community owing to less knowledge on the real traditions and teachings of Islam either by those people pretending to be Muslims or by Christian brethren. The abundance of ICTs today becomes a forum for fixing the mistake even more than the war on terror and other derogatory views of the Muslim community. This is an influence that has a dual expression of concern in Islamic ties and its teachings. Although the level of acceptability and adaptability of information technology to the Muslim world varies widely from one Islamic society to another. When one belongs to and based on the school of thought contained within Islam (Shaf'I, Maliki, Hambali, and Nafi) in the theological institution, more reasons were applied to it.

Most progressives are included in the Qadiriyyah Community, including standards that respond rapidly to the evolving conditions of the world such as Izzalah. Despite the categorization, Information Technology has become a driver of unification where Muslim networks were created to mend those gaps through social media. Today this is a huge influence on the Muslim community. There are also other reasons why IT has played a crucial role in Islam's transition to accommodate dissemination and harmony with the other side of the globe, both within Muslim culture (ummah). Therefore, to make it an art of writing form, the sub-sections below would include more detailed descriptions for better understanding.

Information Technology and its Role on Islamic Teaching

The main source of knowledge for Muslims is the Holy Qur'an, the book of God (Allah Subhaanuhu Wata'ala) which revealed to Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wa Sallam) through Angel Gabriel (Jibrail). The Holy Qur'an is the complete guide to all Muslims, with special regard to Islam and the Muslim world. The Holy Qur'an is made up of 114 chapters, and in chapter 2, Verses 2, Allah says of the Qur'an: "This is the Book, beyond any doubt (in its content), that guides those who worship God" (Al-Baqrah, V.2). Today the Qur'an is available on the internet in different forms and languages. Nowadays, Internet users grew regularly, so the world's amount increasing in the Qur'an use by Muslim ummah. Around two billion people used

the internet around the globe (Wikipedia, 2015). A lot of Muslims spend long hours listening, memorizing, studying the Holy Qur'an. Around 44% of Internet users worldwide were Asian countries with 60% of the Muslim population.

India and Indonesia, which have around 204 million Muslims respectively and 177 million Muslims, added to 140 million Internet users. Moreover, China and Malaysia have a large Muslim community and is among Asia's top ten Internet users. Nowadays, internet technology has a high impact on the Muslim teaching system. The Internet has provided many languages for people especially for Muslims as the Arabic language. The effect of the Internet on teaching, learning, and study was understood by the Muslim community to the degree that different Islamic websites were developed to share information among Muslims Dadamuhamedov, A. (2019). Online reading Qur'an, learning Arabic online, learning Hadith online, and even smartphone edition is available for download at apps-store. Besides, textual recitation of the Qur'an is also available on the internet (Usman, Tjiptoherijanto, Balqiah, & Agung, 2017). The translation and presentation of the Qur'an are also available in audio format in various languages for people who face difficulties in interpreting Arabic.

Hadith from Perspective of Information Technology

The Hadith refers to the sayings, actions, and the silent approval of the Prophet, Muhammad (Peace be upon him). Like the Qur'an, it was first collected and taught only from reading materials. Hence, various Islamic institutes on Hadith such as Sahih-Bukhari, Sahih-Muslim, Sunan Abu-Dawud, Malik, and collection according to the chain of transmitters are now available and accessible on the Internet in several languages which facilitate learning amongst Muslims and non-Muslim society. Hadith by extension is the way by which people learn how to perform purification, ablution, (mu'amalat) like daily interactions and good manners of behaviour towards one another. Such teachings of Hadith have impacted in many ways not only on the Muslim society but towards the relationship with others. The prevalence of the Internet has provided several avenues in which contemporary global challenges and changes that informed and adjusted to the aspirations of Islamic practices: ranging from issues of the neighbourhood to political contest and mode of worship. By information technology, therefore, the Muslim world has become informed on the events that occurred over the world, and thus learns the method of approach to Islamic behaviour, good deeds, manners, and discipline toward one another. Not only Muslims but non-Muslim can also gain benefits and knowledge of Islamic civilization. Internet technologies have made the world smaller and connected people to each other from all around the world.

Online Learning in the Muslim Community

The development of IT technologies had drastically changed the way of teaching and learning in the Muslim community. The use of IT provides a strong learning method that can alter the learning process so that many students are able to consider and gain knowledge in online learning classes and self-directed towards an Islamic worldview Alaugab, A. M. (2007). Nowadays, people learning the holy Qur'an and Islamic classes online by using IT software with lower costs. The proper recitation of the Holy Qur'an is respected by all Muslims and is important in Islamic worship such as prayers. Since the revelation of the Qur'an to the prophet (PBUH), the right form for reciting the Qur'an has been transmitted orally by teachers to learners of all ages. This approach was considered, until the twentieth century, the only way to study the Holy Qur'an (Sabry, & Bruna, 2007). The advanced technology has developed recording systems and electronic tools capable of maintaining the text and sound of the Qur'an in compliance with the Tajweed rule. It became possible to hear Qur'anic recitations recorded by genuine reciters Alaugab, A. M. (2007). Online courses become easy to attend classes and though at home where interactive lectures take place. Besides, computer programs support beginners and learners by listening while reading the accompanying text on the screen, enabling in Muslim community to engage in online courses and lectures delivered by well-known scholars worldwide in the form of e-learning.

The Role of IT Software and Application in the Muslim Community

Information Technology provides digitally Qur'an and Hadith through the medium of Islamic software such as in audio and text formats for many devices such as phones, iPad, and laptop. Islamic apps can be downloaded free of charge from the website, and it takes just seconds to download on tablets Hassan, & Khairuldin, (2019). Muslims living in non-Muslim countries who find it difficult to read hard copies of the Qur'an or other Islamic literature may use information technologies to their benefit. Information Technology changed the way for Islamic application software which developed for different categories of electronic devices such as laptops, phones that downloadable via the Internet. A good example of such software is the Adhan apps. Arabic learning software for those who want to understand and learn the Arabic language, Islamic Finder, Shamilah software, Qur'an, and Hadith software, and much more software that came into the Muslims society as a result of IT that significantly impact on the people's way of life more especially Islamic way of practice.

The Internet provides so many applications and materials online with access to a huge amount of data and information. It depends on the user's interest whether for a good purpose and positive information, objects, and images to the extent that the Internet becomes free access (Franceschelli, & O'Brien, 2014). Thus, using the Internet for the spread of knowledge and Islam is considered a positive aspect of the internet. In Muslims, the ummah needs to make a choice utilizing the internet responsibly, wisely, and intelligently. As a Muslim, our novel Prophet

Muhammad (Peace be upon him) said; "purify your intention in whatever you do and fear Allah" (40th Hadith). So, once it established this in mind will be guided by God throughout internet searching. God (Allah) has given us the freedom and the right to choose between good and evil is an ongoing test.

Allah Almighty says: "the human soul-the way he moulded it and inspired it with knowledge of its evil and it is good - bears witness to the fact that indeed he, who cleanses it (of all impiety) shall be successful while he, who corrupts it shall face doom." (Al-shams: 7-10). The problem of privacy in today's world technology has become a big issue where data, information, and correspondence are accessible without permission by a third party through the phone, laptop, and some other mass communication (Hassan, & Khairuldin, 2019). This technology-based infringement of privacy entails all the tools to hear people talk and read people's communication and, messages. It is illegal to listen to human communications using any mobile technology without authorization. Any contact between two people may be filmed and modified by a third party through the telephone, wireless or other means of communication. This issue is addressed by God (Allah) in (Qur'an, An-Nur, 27).

Information Technology as a Business Tool in Organizations

Since the business values of IT are established structures, IT seeks to use and help to monitor the costs of sales, operational and strategic operations to enhance management of logistics capital, alignment of supplier relationships, and value chain collaborations (Dai, Wang, Wan, and Imran, 2019). Furthermore, firms use IT to facilitate market participation, identify products and deepen relationships with customers and manufacturers, and measure consistency for better outcomes (Dewett and Jones, 2001; Dai, H. N., et al., 2019). Organizations understand the economic importance of IT and invest significant sums on an average of IT-related spending which exceeds overall budgets. Moreover, IT has various market benefits, evaluating IT spending on organizational and competitive advantages, and budget deals is a daunting activity that explores the impact of mixed performance cover (Gregor, Martin, Fernandez, Stern, and Vitale (2006); Dai, H. N., et al., 2019). IT competency and efficiency of job performance enhance effectiveness and established desired results and increased business performance.

According to Dehgani and Navimipour (2019), IT ventures offered significantly and reliably greater returns on investment, revenue growth, and industrial labour efficiency, and the implementation of strategic IT seemed to have long-term impacts on performance and investment long-term. Ghobakhloo and Azar (2018) pointed out that organizations assessing IT measurement and intangible consequences have viewed IT policies from the perspective of the business point of view which creates profitability and enhances sales growth (Shea, Dow, Chong, and Ngai, 2019). IT acquisitions and the durability of the competitive advantage of a business by the study of incremental changes in the performance indicators of performance firms listed as classic strategic IT customers Lin, Chen, and Hung (2019). Mikalef and Pateli (2017) stated that

the implementation of strategic IT increased in the retail sector, and it was observed that the minimal IT inputs to manufacturing and IT investments were calculating the IT's growth effect in the automotive industry Ghobakhloo and Azar (2018). In the business sector report, IT spending was linked with a decrease in total expenses, the IT was associated with a dramatic rise in the operational expense which is consistent with every enterprise's improved cost efficiency (Chuang and Huang, 2018).

IT affects the industry and IT favourably on intermediate variables including power usage, inventory turnover, and revenue performance, asset return, and market share Muawanah and Gunadi (2018). Media-recognized companies that use strategic information systems efficiently and measure the impact of IT on financial performance and sales- and profit-based productivity metrics. Based on Luftman, Lyytinen, and Zvi (2017); Khairudin, & Amin, (2019), IT expenditures contributed to average manufacturing costs, average overall costs, and higher average operational costs and market efficiency impact of IT across a systemic IT investment-electronic industry division. The value of IT content, IT expertise and control, market benefit, and acquisition costs, IT is a key component of a company's success in sustaining a competitive IT advantage and gaining productivity and effectiveness (Ghobakhloo and Azar, 2018).

Conclusion

This paper focused on the influence of IT in spreading Islamic awareness through online Islamic literature, the Qur'an, its recitation, reading, Tafseer, and the practices of the Prophet's (PBUH). Digital Technology offers Muslims the ability to receive Islamic education through interactive classes from their homes. Islamic games and videos are available to kids to understand Islam. This immersive app motivates Muslim kids to learn about Islam. In addition to listening to Islamic talks by influential Muslim world scholars or preachers, every Muslim and non-Muslim today will participate in online discussions on various Islamic topics as well. They have the right to raise questions and to share their beliefs. In the Muslim world, the importance of Religion in Islam is properly recognized. From the researchers' perspective, a centralized online open Islamic library should be created by the Muslim world to translate Islamic literature into every language for the global society.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no potential conflict of interest regarding the publication of this work. In addition, the ethical issues including plagiarism, informed consent, misconduct, data fabrication and, or falsification, double publication and, or submission, and redundancy have been completely witnessed by the authors.

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