

History as an Approach to Studying Islam: Methodological Perspectives in Islamic Studies

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Abstrak

Pendekatan sejarah adalah salah satu cara yang memiliki peranan penting dalam kajian Islam, terutama dalam memahami ajaran Islam dengan memperhatikan aspek waktu dan konteks sosial yang melatarbelakanginya. Dari sudut pandang historis ini, ajaran Islam tidak semata-mata dipahami sebagai dokumen normatif yang bersifat doktrinal, tetapi juga dianggap sebagai bagian dari kenyataan yang telah berkembang selama sejarah umat manusia. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan konsep pendekatan historis dalam studi Islam, menganalisis peran sejarah dalam memahami sumber-sumber utama ajaran Islam, dan menggambarkan berbagai manfaat penerapan pendekatan ini dalam kajian Islam. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pendekatan historis berperan penting dalam menjelaskan latar belakang wahyu Al-Qur'an, memahami konteks kemunculan hadis Nabi, serta mengikuti dinamika perkembangan pemikiran Islam dan praktik keagamaan dari masa ke masa. Dengan mempertimbangkan dimensi-dimensi sejarah ini, pemahaman mengenai ajaran Islam dapat menjadi lebih menyeluruh dan kontekstual. Penggunaan pendekatan historis juga berfungsi untuk menghindari interpretasi yang sempit terhadap teks-teks agama, karena setiap ajaran dianalisis dengan mempertimbangkan konteks sosial, budaya, dan politik yang ada pada periode tertentu. Dengan demikian, pendekatan historis dapat dianggap sebagai cara yang penting dan relevan dalam kajian Islam, terutama untuk memahami evolusi ajaran Islam dan dinamika peradaban Islam sepanjang sejarahnya.

Kata kunci: Pendekatan Sejarah, Studi Islam, Sumber Ajaran Islam, Metodologi Keislaman

Abstract

The historical approach is one of the most important methods in Islamic studies, especially in understanding Islamic teachings by considering the aspects of time and social context that underlie them. From this historical perspective, Islamic teachings are not merely understood as normative, doctrinal documents, but are also considered part of a reality that has developed throughout human history. This study aims to explain the concept of the historical approach in Islamic studies, analyze the role of history in understanding the main sources of Islamic teachings, and describe the various benefits of applying this approach in Islamic studies. The findings of this

study show that the historical approach plays an important role in explaining the background of the revelation of the Qur'an, understanding the context of the emergence of the Prophet's hadith, and following the dynamics of the development of Islamic thought and religious practices from time to time. By considering these historical dimensions, the understanding of Islamic teachings can become more comprehensive and contextual. The use of a historical approach also serves to avoid narrow interpretations of religious texts, as each teaching is analyzed by considering the social, cultural, and political contexts that existed during a particular period. Thus, the historical approach can be considered an important and relevant method in Islamic studies, especially for understanding the evolution of Islamic teachings and the dynamics of Islamic civilization throughout history.

Keywords: Historical Approach, Islamic Studies, Sources of Islamic Teachings, Islamic Methodology

Introduction

The study of Islam continues to experience significant developments in the academic world. Understanding Islam is no longer limited to the study of texts and normative teachings alone, but is now viewed as a complex phenomenon encompassing cultural, social, and civilizational dimensions. Islam serves not only as a guide for its followers but also as a value system that influences societal dynamics, cultural formation, and the development of world civilization. Therefore, the study of Islam cannot be conducted from a single scientific perspective but requires a variety of multidisciplinary methods and approaches. In this context, a historical approach is crucial because almost all aspects of human life are inextricably linked to the historical processes that underlie them. Through historical study, humans can understand past events more systematically, thereby explaining the development of phenomena more objectively. Therefore, utilizing historical methods in studying Islam is crucial for tracing the dynamics of the development of religious teachings and practices across various historical periods (Maharini, Hasibuan, and Harahap 2023).

Islamic studies is a field of study that continues to evolve in line with the dynamics of Muslim society. Initially, Islamic studies focused more on a normative-theological approach that emphasized understanding religious texts such as the Quran and Hadith. However, the development of modern science has encouraged academics to study Islam not only as a doctrinal system, but also as a historical and social phenomenon that has developed over the course of human history. Therefore, various scientific approaches have begun to be used in Islamic studies, such as sociological, anthropological, philosophical, and historical approaches (Sholikha, Syahidah, and Anwar 2023).

The historical approach is an important method in Islamic studies because religion did not emerge in a vacuum from social reality. Islamic teachings emerged within the context of specific societies and evolved along with changing social, political, and cultural conditions. By understanding this historical dimension, researchers can see how Islamic teachings were practiced by its followers in various historical periods and how interpretations of these teachings evolved over time (Hakim et al. n.d.). From a methodological perspective, the historical approach aims to reconstruct past events systematically and objectively through analysis of various available historical sources. This approach focuses not only on the chronology of events but also examines the factors underlying the emergence of a phenomenon in Islamic history. Through this approach, Islamic studies can be understood more

comprehensively because it considers the relationship between religious texts and the surrounding social realities (Pirdaus 2024).

Using a historical approach also allows researchers to understand the dynamics of the development of Islamic thought in various fields, such as Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh), theology, Sufism, and Islamic philosophy. History shows that these ideas did not develop statically, but were influenced by the social, political, and intellectual conditions of each period. Therefore, historical analysis is crucial for explaining the formation of various Islamic scientific traditions and their contribution to the development of world civilization (Farid and Iskarim 2024). Based on this background, a historical approach plays a crucial role in the development of contemporary Islamic studies. This approach not only helps understand Islamic teachings more contextually but also provides a systematic analytical framework for tracing the development of Muslim religious thought and practice over time. Therefore, the use of a historical approach in Islamic studies research is expected to yield a more objective, critical, and comprehensive understanding of Islamic phenomena (Kajian dan Interdisipliner 2021).

Research Methods

This research uses the method library research with the approach integrative review. This approach aims to collect, analyze, and synthesize various scientific sources related to the historical approach in Islamic studies to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the concepts being studied. This method was chosen because the research does not involve collecting field data, but rather focuses on analyzing theories, ideas, and research findings relevant to the discussion of the meaning of the historical approach in Islamic studies, the role of history in understanding the sources of Islamic teachings, and its contribution to the development of Islamic studies. The research data was obtained from various academic literature sources, such as accredited scientific journal articles, books on Islamic studies methodology, classical works by Islamic scholars, and scientific documents discussing the development of Islamic thought. This literature was obtained through various scientific databases, including: Google Scholar, GARUDA, and scientific journal repositories which contains Islamic studies. The literature search process was carried out using relevant keywords, such as *historical approach in Islamic studies*, *history in understanding the Quran and hadith*, as well as *methodology of Islamic studies*.

The literature selection was based on several criteria, namely relevance to the research focus, the credibility of the author and publisher, and its scientific contribution to the study of historical approaches in Islamic studies. The selected literature includes works discussing historical approaches in Islamic studies, the historical context of revelation, the development of Islamic scholarly thought in Islamic history, and the role of history in interpreting religious texts. Sources that are purely descriptive without adequate conceptual analysis were not used in this study. Once the relevant literature has been collected, the next stage is data reduction through a process of critical reading and in-depth analysis of each source. This stage aims to identify key concepts related to the historical approach in Islamic studies, particularly those related to the definition of the historical approach, the role of history in understanding the sources of Islamic teachings, and the contribution of the historical approach to the development of Islamic studies. The results of this analysis are then synthesized to gain a more systematic understanding of the historical approach in Islamic studies.

Results and Discussion

A. Understanding The Historical Approach In Islamic Studies

The historical approach in Islamic studies is a scientific method used to understand the teachings, practices, and development of Islamic thought through an analysis of the past events that underlie them. This approach emphasizes that Islamic teachings are not merely understood as normative, doctrinal texts, but also as phenomena that develop within the social and historical realities of humanity. Thus, the historical approach serves to explain the relationship between religious texts and their surrounding social, political, and cultural contexts (Rahman 2023). In academic studies, the historical approach plays a crucial role because Islam, as a religion, is present throughout human history. The Islamic teachings contained in the Qur'an and Hadith were not revealed in a space separate from social reality but rather interacted with the conditions of society at the time of revelation. Therefore, understanding the historical background of a teaching is a crucial step in gaining a comprehensive understanding of its message. Without considering this historical dimension, Islamic studies have the potential to become overly textual and lose analytical depth regarding the underlying social dynamics (Labib and Faqih 2024).

Conceptually, the historical approach in Islamic studies seeks to examine various past events by considering the elements of time, place, actors, and background of those events. Through this analysis, researchers can understand how Islamic teachings were practiced by society in specific historical contexts and how understanding of those teachings evolved over time. From this perspective, history is understood not only as a collection of past events but also as a means to understand the dynamics of the development of Islamic civilization (Maharini, Hasibuan, and Harahap 2023). In the discourse on the methodology of Islamic studies in Indonesia, the historical approach is often associated with the thinking of Amin Abdullah, who emphasized the importance of integrating normative and historical approaches in understanding religion. According to him, Islamic studies cannot rely solely on a textual approach but must also consider the social and historical contexts underlying the emergence of a teaching. With this approach, researchers can distinguish between universal teachings and religious practices that develop as a result of human interpretation within a specific historical context (Kepada et al. 2024).

A similar view was also expressed by Mukti Ali who introduced the approach *scientific-cum-doctrinaire* in religious studies. This approach combines a scientific perspective with a doctrinal understanding of religion. In the context of Islamic studies, this approach emphasizes the importance of using scientific methods, including a historical approach, to understand the development of Islamic teachings more objectively and comprehensively (Ushuluddin 2017). Methodologically, the historical approach serves as an analytical tool to distinguish between the normative and historical aspects of Islamic teachings. The normative aspect refers to teachings that are directly derived from revelation and are universal, such as the principles of monotheism, justice, and moral values contained in the Qur'an and hadith. Meanwhile, the historical aspect refers to religious practices or interpretations that develop in Muslim societies according to specific social and cultural conditions. By understanding the differences between these two aspects, researchers can avoid errors in understanding religious practices that develop in society (Theosofi and Nasution 2022). The historical approach is also closely

related to the study of the background of the revelation of the verses of the Qur'an (*asbāb al-nuzūl*) and the background of the emergence of the hadith (*asbāb al-wurūd*). Through this study, researchers can understand the circumstances and conditions behind the emergence of a teaching so that its meaning can be more accurately understood. For example, some verses of the Quran were revealed in response to specific events that occurred during the time of the Prophet Muhammad. Therefore, understanding the historical context is important for correctly interpreting these verses (Ridwan et al. 2024). Furthermore, the historical approach also involves a process of criticizing the historical sources used in the research. Source criticism aims to ensure the authenticity and credibility of the data used in the study. In the Islamic scholarly tradition, the method of source criticism has developed since the early days of Islam, particularly in the study of hadith. Hadith scholars developed the sanad and matan criticism method to assess the authenticity of a hadith. This method demonstrates that the Islamic intellectual tradition has had a scientific mechanism for assessing the validity of historical sources (Theosofi and Nasution 2022).

In a broader context, a historical approach also allows researchers to understand the development of Islamic thought over time. History records that Islamic thought has undergone dynamic development along with changes in the social and cultural conditions of Muslim communities. This development can be seen in various fields such as Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh), theology, Sufism, and Islamic philosophy. Through historical analysis, researchers can see how these ideas emerged, developed, and transformed across various historical periods (Study et al. 2019).

B. Characteristics of the Historical Approach in Islamic Studies

The historical approach to Islamic studies has several methodological characteristics that distinguish it from normative or theological approaches. These characteristics relate to understanding Islamic teachings through an analysis of historical dynamics, social contexts, and the development of Muslim thought over time. By understanding these characteristics, researchers can use the historical approach more systematically and scientifically in Islamic studies research. The first characteristic of the historical approach is contextuality. This approach emphasizes that every religious teaching or practice must be understood within the social and historical context that underlies it. In studies of the Qur'an and Hadith, this context is often referred to as *asbāb al-nuzūl* And *asbāb al-wurūd*. Through this contextual analysis, researchers can understand the reasons for the emergence of a teaching and the social conditions that influenced the process of revelation or the transmission of hadith. Thus, understanding religious texts is not ahistorical but always related to the social realities of a given time (Labib and Faqih 2024).

The second characteristic is chronological. The historical approach views the development of Islamic thought and practice as occurring gradually over a period of time. Therefore, analyzing the sequence of historical events is crucial for understanding the development of a concept or tradition in Islam. Through chronological analysis, researchers can see how an idea emerged, developed, and changed across various periods of Islamic history. For example, the development of Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh) thought from the classical, medieval, and modern periods demonstrates intellectual dynamics influenced by the social and political conditions of each period (Theosofi and Nasution 2022). The third characteristic is analysis of historical sources. In a historical approach,

researchers not only rely on religious texts as primary sources but also utilize various historical sources such as manuscripts, travelogues, works of scholars, and social and cultural documents related to the life of Muslim communities during a particular period. Therefore, historical research requires source criticism skills to ensure the authenticity and credibility of the data used. The tradition of source criticism has actually developed within Islamic scholarship, particularly in the science of hadith through the methods of sanad and matan criticism (Rahman 2023).

The fourth characteristic is analysis of social dynamics. The historical approach not only examines texts or documents as objects of study but also considers the social conditions that influenced the development of Islamic thought. This encompasses various factors such as politics, economics, culture, and interactions between civilizations. In Islamic history, for example, the development of science during the Abbasid period is inseparable from stable political conditions and the massive translation movement of scientific works from Greek and Persian civilizations. These conditions were crucial factors in the emergence of the rapidly developing Islamic intellectual tradition at that time (Study et al. 2019).

The fifth characteristic is distinction between normative and historical aspects. A historical approach helps researchers distinguish between universal Islamic teachings and religious practices that develop as a result of human interpretation within a specific historical context. Understanding this distinction is crucial to prevent researchers from equating social practices that develop within a society with normative teachings derived directly from revelation. Within the context of modern Islamic studies methodology, this approach is often associated with the thinking of Amin Abdullah, who emphasized the integration of normative and historical approaches in understanding religion (Kepada et al. 2024).

The last characteristic is interdisciplinary nature. The historical approach to Islamic studies often involves various other disciplines, such as sociology, anthropology, political science, and culture. This interdisciplinary approach allows researchers to understand religious phenomena more comprehensively, as religion cannot be separated from various aspects of human life. Thus, the historical approach serves not only to reconstruct past events but also to explain the relationship between religious teachings and the dynamics of Muslim social life.

C. Methodological Steps of the Historical Approach in Islamic Studies Research

In Islamic studies research, a historical approach is conducted through several systematic methodological steps. These steps aim to ensure that the research conducted has scientific validity and is able to produce an objective understanding of the phenomena being studied. The first step is heuristics, namely the process of collecting historical sources relevant to the research topic. At this stage, researchers seek various data related to the object of study, both primary and secondary sources. Primary sources can be classical manuscripts, religious books, historical documents, or archives directly related to the events being studied. Meanwhile, secondary sources can be books, journal articles, or previous research on similar topics (Rahman 2023).

The second step is source criticism. After collecting historical sources, researchers need to evaluate their authenticity and credibility. Source criticism is usually divided into two types: external criticism and internal criticism. External criticism aims to assess the authenticity of a document, while internal criticism aims to assess the content or

information contained within the source. In Islamic scholarly tradition, the process of source criticism is similar to the method of hadith verification carried out by scholars through the analysis of the sanad (chain of narrators) and matan (translators). The third step is interpretation. At this stage, researchers interpret the historical data previously analyzed. Interpretation is conducted by considering the social, political, and cultural contexts underlying an event. In Islamic studies research, interpretation often involves analyzing the relationship between religious texts and the social realities of Muslim society at a particular time (Maharini et al. 2023).

The fourth step is historiography, namely the process of compiling or rewriting historical events based on the results of the analysis conducted. At this stage, researchers present the research results in the form of a systematic scientific narrative to provide a clear understanding of the development of a phenomenon in Islamic history. Historiography serves not only to record past events but also to explain the causal relationships between various events that occurred in history (Theosofi and Nasution 2022).

D. The Role Of History In Understanding The Sources Of Islamic Teachings

The historical approach plays a crucial role in understanding the sources of Islamic teachings, particularly the Quran and Hadith. In academic studies, this approach serves as an analytical tool that helps explain the relationship between revealed texts and the social realities that underlie them. Without considering the historical dimension, religious texts can potentially be understood literally and detached from their accompanying social context. Therefore, the historical approach is a crucial method in Islamic studies to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the messages contained in the sources of Islamic teachings (Ridwan et al. 2024).

Methodologically, a historical approach allows researchers to examine how the Prophet's revelations and hadith emerged in specific social situations and how these teachings responded to the various issues facing society at that time. From the perspective of modern Islamic studies methodology, this approach also helps distinguish between universal normative teachings and social practices that developed as a result of Muslims' interpretations within specific historical contexts (Labib and Faqih 2024). Therefore, history serves not only as a record of the past but also as a tool for a deeper understanding of the meaning of Islamic teachings.

1. Understanding the Context of the Revelation (*Asbāb al-Nuzūl*)

One of the main roles of the historical approach in Islamic studies is to help understand the context in which the verses of the Qur'an were revealed, known as the *asbāb al-nuzūl*. This concept refers to specific events or conditions that formed the background for the revelation of a verse of the Quran. By understanding this background, researchers can understand the purpose and meaning the revelation intended to convey within the social context of society during the time of the Prophet Muhammad.

Studies on *asbāb al-nuzūl* is crucial because many verses of the Quran were revealed in response to specific events occurring in Arab society at that time. For example, some verses relate to social conflicts, family law issues, or interactions between Muslim communities and non-Muslim groups. Without understanding their historical background, these verses have the potential to be partially or even erroneously understood (Ridwan et al. 2024). In addition to helping understand the context in which revelation was revealed, a historical approach also allows researchers to distinguish between verses with a

universal scope and those related to specific events. This is crucial in the process of interpreting the Quran so that the messages contained within these verses can be applied relevantly to modern society. Thus, understanding the historical context does not diminish the universal value of the Quran but rather helps uncover the wisdom behind the establishment of a law or teaching in Islam.

2. Verification and Context of the Hadith (*Asbāb al-Wurūd*)

The historical approach also plays an important role in the study of hadith. In the study of hadith, history is used to trace the background to the emergence of a hadith, known as the term *asbāb al-wurūd*. This concept relates to specific situations or events that led the Prophet Muhammad to deliver a particular word or action. Furthermore, a historical approach is also used in the process of verifying the authenticity of hadith through the analysis of the sanad (chain of transmission) and the matan (chain of transmission). Hadith scholars developed the sanad criticism method to ensure that the chain of hadith transmission is truly connected historically from one generation to the next. This method demonstrates that the Islamic scholarly tradition has a very strict historical verification system to maintain the authenticity of the Prophet's teachings (Theosofi and Nasution 2022). In addition to sanad criticism, scholars also conduct matan criticism to assess the conformity of the hadith's content with Islamic principles and the social context of the Prophet's time. Through this approach, researchers can understand the psychological, social, and cultural circumstances underlying a hadith, thus distinguishing between the Prophet's actions as a messenger conveying revelation and his actions as a human being living within the traditions of Arab society at that time. This approach aligns with the thinking of Mukti Ali, who emphasized the importance of using scientific methods to understand religion more comprehensively (Ushuluddin 2017).

3. Dialectics between Text and Social Reality

History also shows that Islamic teachings do not exist in a vacuum, but always interact with the social realities of society. This interaction creates a dialectical relationship between the revealed text and the social conditions faced by humanity. From this perspective, revelation not only provides spiritual guidance but also offers solutions to various social problems faced by society at that time. Through a historical approach, researchers can observe how Islamic teachings responded to various social issues gradually and contextually. This demonstrates that Islam is a religion that is flexible in facing changing times without losing its fundamental principles. This understanding is crucial to prevent the emergence of overly literal or radical interpretations of religious texts, which often occur when texts are understood without considering their historical context (Maharini et al. 2023).

A historical approach also helps explain that the development of Islamic thought throughout history is the result of a dialogue between religious teachings and constantly changing social realities. This process gave rise to various intellectual traditions within Islam, such as the development of schools of jurisprudence, theology, and Sufism, each with its own distinct historical background. By understanding these historical dynamics, researchers can see that the diversity of thought within Islam is part of the intellectual development of Muslims throughout history (Ridwan et al. 2024).

E. Benefits Of A Historical Approach In Islamic Studies

The historical approach plays a crucial role in enriching Islamic studies because it

provides a broader and deeper understanding of Islamic teachings. Through a historical approach, Islamic teachings are understood not only as normative, doctrinal texts but also as part of a historical process that develops within society (Arif and Supriyanto 2025). This approach allows researchers to understand Islamic teachings by considering the social, political, and cultural contexts underlying their emergence, thus providing a more contextual and comprehensive understanding of religious texts. Therefore, Islamic studies are not limited to the textual dimension alone but also consider the historical dynamics that influence the development of religious understanding within society (Taufiq et al. 2025).

The historical approach also makes a significant contribution to explaining the dynamics of the development of Islamic thought throughout history. The development of Islamic thought cannot be separated from the social and intellectual conditions of society in each historical period (Basyar et al. 2026). From the time of the Prophet Muhammad through the classical and modern periods, scholars conducted *ijtihad* to respond to various issues that arose in society. This *ijtihad* process then gave rise to various schools of thought in the fields of *fiqh*, theology, and Sufism, which reflect the richness of intellectual traditions in Islam. By understanding the history of the development of this thought, Muslims can realize that differences of opinion are part of the dynamics of knowledge that actually enrich the intellectual treasure of Islam (Jurnal and Dan n.d.).

Furthermore, a historical approach also helps explain the development of Islamic civilization in various aspects of life. During the classical period, Islamic civilization made significant contributions to the development of global science. Many Muslim scientists played significant roles in various fields such as mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and philosophy, making the Islamic world a center of scientific development during its time. By studying the history of this development, it is possible to understand that Islamic teachings not only serve as spiritual guidance for its followers but also serve as a source of inspiration for the birth of intellectual traditions and the advancement of human civilization (Hidayat et al. 2024).

Furthermore, the various benefits of a historical approach in Islamic studies can be understood through several interrelated aspects. First, a historical approach helps understand Islamic teachings contextually because these teachings are understood not only as normative texts but also as teachings born within specific social, cultural, and political contexts (Adib n.d.). By understanding the historical background of the revelation and the emergence of *hadith*, interpretations of the Qur'an and *hadith* can be conducted more accurately and inseparably from the circumstances that underlie them. This makes Islamic studies more comprehensive because it is able to connect religious texts with the historical realities that surround them (Pirdaus 2024).

Second, a historical approach plays a role in explaining the background to the emergence of various religious laws and practices in Islamic society. Through historical studies, researchers can trace the process of the formation of a law or religious tradition and understand how Islamic teachings are interpreted and applied in the lives of the people. In this context, a historical approach is also closely related to the development of Islamic thought, as the various views of scholars that gave rise to schools of thought in the fields of *fiqh*, theology, and Sufism emerged in response to the social and intellectual conditions of their time. Thus, history demonstrates that differences of opinion within Islam are part of the intellectual dynamics that enrich the treasury of Islamic scholarship

(Maharini et al. 2023).

Third, a historical approach also plays a role in explaining the development of Islamic civilization and its contribution to the advancement of global science. During the golden age of Islam, various centers of knowledge flourished and produced Muslim scientists who made significant contributions in mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and philosophy (Maharini, Hasibuan, and Harahap 2023). Furthermore, a historical approach also encourages the growth of a critical and scientific approach in Islamic studies because research is conducted through analysis of historical sources, documents, and relevant academic literature. By understanding the historical journey of the Muslim community, society can also draw valuable lessons from various past experiences, both related to the progress and decline of a civilization. Thus, history serves not only to understand the past but also as a means of reflection in building a better future for the people (Santika, Azwara, and Yahya 2025).

Conclusion

The historical approach is one of the most important methods in Islamic studies, as it seeks to understand Islamic teachings, practices, and intellectual developments through an examination of the historical contexts in which they emerged and evolved. Through this approach, Islam is not merely viewed as a collection of normative doctrines or sacred texts, but also as a dynamic social, cultural, and political phenomenon shaped by particular historical circumstances. Consequently, Islamic teachings are analyzed in relation to the conditions, events, and societal transformations that influenced their interpretation and application throughout different periods of history. The historical approach is characterized by several key features, including contextuality, chronological analysis, critical examination of historical sources, exploration of social and political dynamics, distinction between normative and historical dimensions of religion, and an interdisciplinary orientation. These characteristics enable researchers to investigate Islamic phenomena comprehensively by integrating insights from history, sociology, anthropology, politics, and other related disciplines. Methodologically, the historical approach involves a number of systematic stages, namely heuristics (the collection of historical data and sources), source criticism (the evaluation of authenticity and credibility), interpretation (the analysis of historical meaning), and historiography (the reconstruction and presentation of historical narratives). Through these stages, research findings can be produced in a systematic, objective, and scientifically accountable manner. Furthermore, the historical approach plays a crucial role in understanding the primary sources of Islam, particularly the Qur'an and Hadith. Through the study of *asbāb al-nuzūl* (the occasions of revelation of Qur'anic verses) and *asbāb al-wurūd* (the circumstances surrounding the transmission of Hadith), scholars are able to comprehend the historical situations that gave rise to specific teachings and directives. Such contextual understanding allows Islamic teachings to be interpreted more accurately and applied more appropriately within contemporary social realities. In addition, the historical approach offers significant benefits for Islamic studies. It facilitates a more comprehensive and contextual understanding of Islamic teachings, explains the dynamics of Islamic intellectual development across different eras, and reveals the substantial contributions of Islamic civilization to the advancement of science, culture, and human knowledge. Therefore, the historical approach serves not only as a means of reconstructing past events but also as a valuable instrument for critical reflection. It enables Muslims and scholars alike to engage with religious teachings more thoughtfully, wisely, and relevantly in response to the challenges and transformations of modern society.

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