



Maqasid Al-Syariah as the Foundation for the Development of Contemporary Islamic Law

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Abstract

This study examines Maqasid Al Shariah as a foundational framework for the development of contemporary Islamic law in response to changing social, economic, institutional, and regulatory realities. Employing a non empirical library research design with a normative conceptual approach, the study analyzes classical and contemporary scholarly works to explore the theoretical foundations, operational functions, and future relevance of maqasid based legal reasoning. The findings indicate that Maqasid Al Shariah has evolved from a doctrinal theory of legal objectives into a comprehensive framework that guides contemporary ijihad, legal interpretation, and institutional governance. The study demonstrates that maqasid facilitates the adaptation of Islamic law to contemporary issues in family law, Islamic finance, banking governance, economic fatwas, social development, and environmental sustainability while preserving the normative integrity of Shariah principles. The analysis also reveals significant challenges arising from interpretative diversity, legal pluralism, globalization, digital transformation, and regulatory complexity. Despite these challenges, the maqasid approach provides a coherent mechanism for balancing textual authority with contextual realities. The study concludes that Maqasid Al Shariah remains a dynamic and transformative foundation for sustainable Islamic legal reform and contemporary legal development.

Keywords : *Maqasid Al Shariah, Contemporary Islamic Law, Legal Reform, Islamic Legal Theory, Islamic Governance.*



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INTRODUCTION

The contemporary development of Islamic law has entered a transformative phase characterized by the increasing complexity of social relations, rapid technological innovation, global economic integration, and the emergence of transnational governance frameworks that continuously generate legal questions beyond the explanatory capacity of conventional jurisprudential formulations. Contemporary Muslim societies are confronted with unprecedented issues involving digital finance, bioethics, artificial intelligence, environmental sustainability, family restructuring, and global economic transactions that require legal reasoning capable of preserving normative authenticity while maintaining social relevance. Within this context, Maqasid Al Shariah has increasingly gained recognition as a foundational paradigm for reconstructing Islamic legal thought because it emphasizes the substantive objectives underlying legal norms rather than restricting legal interpretation to textual formalism alone. The growing institutional adoption of maqasid based approaches within international Islamic governance frameworks reflects this trend, particularly in efforts to harmonize Islamic legal principles with contemporary regulatory demands and global standards of governance, accountability, and public welfare (Organization of Islamic Cooperation, 2008; Islamic Financial Services Board, 2021). The resurgence of maqasid discourse therefore represents not merely a theoretical revival of classical jurisprudence but also a strategic response to the accelerating transformation of contemporary society that requires Islamic law to engage dynamically with evolving realities while preserving its ethical and spiritual foundations.

A substantial body of scholarship has demonstrated that Maqasid Al Shariah constitutes one of the most significant intellectual mechanisms for ensuring the continuity and adaptability of Islamic law across different historical contexts. Classical scholars established the foundational framework of maqasid through the identification of essential human interests requiring legal protection, namely

religion, life, intellect, lineage, and property, thereby positioning human welfare as the central objective of legal regulation (Al Ghazali, 2015; Al Shatibi, 2017). Contemporary scholars have subsequently expanded this framework by emphasizing its role as a paradigm for legal renewal capable of responding to emerging societal challenges through contextualized reasoning and purposive interpretation (Kamali, 2019; Tambunan et al., 2026). Recent studies further suggest that maqasid functions as an epistemological bridge between normative revelation and changing social realities by enabling jurists to formulate legal judgments that remain faithful to scriptural objectives while addressing contemporary concerns (Surya, 2026; Umar et al., 2024). The significance of this approach has also been illustrated in specialized legal domains, including Islamic family law and financial jurisprudence, where maqasid oriented analysis has been employed to evaluate legal decisions based on broader considerations of justice, social welfare, and public benefit rather than narrow textual interpretations alone (Yazid et al., 2025).

Despite these important contributions, the existing literature reveals several conceptual and methodological limitations that continue to impede the systematic development of maqasid based contemporary Islamic legal theory. A considerable portion of contemporary studies remains focused on the descriptive exposition of maqasid classifications inherited from classical jurisprudence without adequately examining the epistemological mechanisms through which maqasid can function as an independent framework for legal development in modern contexts. Many studies acknowledge the importance of public welfare and legal adaptability yet provide insufficient analytical explanation regarding how maqasid mediates the relationship between textual authority, juristic discretion, and contemporary social realities. Furthermore, the growing popularity of maqasid discourse has generated divergent interpretations concerning its scope, methodological status, and operational application, producing inconsistencies in legal reasoning that often blur the distinction between principled legal development and unrestricted utilitarianism (Surya, 2026; Tambunan et al., 2026). Such tensions indicate that the theoretical foundations of maqasid as a contemporary legal paradigm remain insufficiently consolidated despite their increasing prominence in scholarly and institutional discussions.

The persistence of these unresolved issues carries significant implications for both academic discourse and practical legal governance. At the scholarly level, the absence of a coherent conceptual framework weakens efforts to establish a systematic methodology capable of guiding contemporary Islamic legal reasoning across diverse fields of inquiry. At the practical level, inconsistent understandings of maqasid may generate divergent legal outcomes that undermine legal certainty, institutional legitimacy, and public confidence in Islamic legal systems. The challenge becomes increasingly urgent as Muslim societies encounter multidimensional problems whose legal implications extend beyond traditional jurisprudential categories, requiring legal approaches capable of integrating ethical objectives, social realities, and regulatory complexities within a coherent framework. The growing reliance on maqasid within contemporary legal, financial, and governance institutions demonstrates that its theoretical clarification is no longer a purely academic concern but a practical necessity for ensuring that Islamic law remains capable of addressing modern societal demands while preserving its normative integrity (Islamic Financial Services Board, 2021; Kamali, 2019).

Within this intellectual landscape, the present study positions itself at the intersection of classical jurisprudential heritage and contemporary Islamic legal theory by examining Maqasid Al Shariah not merely as a supplementary interpretive tool but as a foundational framework for the development of contemporary Islamic law. Unlike previous studies that frequently focus on specific legal sectors or isolated applications of maqasid, this research seeks to analyze the broader theoretical architecture through which maqasid facilitates legal adaptation, normative continuity, and methodological renewal. By synthesizing classical formulations developed by foundational scholars with contemporary debates concerning legal epistemology, legal reform, and contextual interpretation, this study endeavors to clarify the conceptual trajectory through which maqasid evolved from a jurisprudential doctrine into a comprehensive paradigm of contemporary Islamic legal development (Al Ghazali, 2015; Al Shatibi, 2017; Umar et al., 2024).

This research aims to analyze the role of Maqasid Al Shariah as the foundational basis for the development of contemporary Islamic law and to examine its capacity to provide a coherent framework for addressing emerging legal challenges in rapidly changing social environments. The study contributes theoretically by reconstructing the relationship between legal objectives, legal reasoning,

and normative adaptation within contemporary Islamic legal thought. It also contributes methodologically through the development of a systematic conceptual analysis that integrates classical jurisprudential foundations with contemporary legal discourse, thereby offering a more comprehensive understanding of how Islamic law can maintain both doctrinal authenticity and societal relevance in the modern era.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employed a non empirical research design based on a library research approach with a normative conceptual orientation. The research focused on examining Maqasid Al Shariah as a foundational framework for the development of contemporary Islamic law through a systematic review and critical interpretation of authoritative scholarly sources. Primary sources consisted of classical and contemporary works on Maqasid Al Shariah, including Al Ghazali's *Al Mustasfa*, Ibn Ashur's *Treatise on Maqasid al Shariah*, Auda's *Maqasid al Shariah as Philosophy of Islamic Law*, AAOIFI Shari'ah Standards, and Kamali's writings on maqasid theory. Secondary sources included peer reviewed journal articles, academic books, and relevant scholarly publications addressing Islamic legal theory, legal reform, and contemporary applications of maqasid. Source selection was guided by criteria of academic credibility, thematic relevance, conceptual contribution, and significance within contemporary maqasid discourse. The analytical framework was grounded in normative legal analysis and conceptual interpretation to explore the relationship between the objectives of Shariah and the evolving demands of contemporary Islamic legal development.

The analysis was conducted through several stages consisting of literature identification, source classification, content interpretation, conceptual synthesis, and critical evaluation. Relevant texts were examined to identify major theoretical constructs, patterns of argumentation, and evolving perspectives concerning the role of Maqasid Al Shariah in contemporary legal reasoning. The collected materials were subsequently analyzed using descriptive analytical and qualitative content analysis techniques to generate an integrated understanding of the conceptual foundations, transformative dimensions, and practical implications of maqasid based legal development. To ensure analytical rigor, the study applied source triangulation across classical and contemporary literature, maintained consistency between research objectives and interpretative procedures, and employed critical comparison among competing scholarly viewpoints. These measures strengthened the credibility, coherence, and dependability of the findings while minimizing interpretative bias throughout the research process (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Evolution of Maqasid Al Shariah as a Foundational Framework of Contemporary Islamic Legal Thought

The findings of this study indicate that the historical development of Maqasid Al Shariah reflects a continuous transformation of Islamic legal reasoning from a rule centered orientation toward an objective centered paradigm. Classical jurists established the theoretical basis of legal objectives to ensure that legal rulings remained connected to human welfare and social order. The literature demonstrates that maqasid emerged as an interpretive mechanism designed to preserve the coherence of Islamic law across changing historical contexts (Al Ghazali, 2015). Contemporary scholarship increasingly recognizes that the durability of Islamic law is closely associated with its ability to integrate normative fidelity with societal responsiveness (Tambunan et al., 2026).

The conceptual roots of maqasid can be traced to the intellectual contributions of early jurists who sought to explain the rationale underlying legal obligations and prohibitions. Their efforts produced a legal framework that linked scriptural commands with broader ethical purposes rather than treating legal texts as isolated directives. Al Ghazali articulated this perspective through the formulation of essential protections concerning religion, life, intellect, lineage, and property that later became central to Islamic legal theory (Al Ghazali, 2015). Subsequent scholars expanded these foundations by emphasizing the relationship between legal objectives and collective welfare.

A significant transformation occurred with the contribution of Al Shatibi who repositioned maqasid from a supplementary juristic principle into a comprehensive legal methodology. His framework presented legal objectives as an integrated system capable of guiding interpretation across diverse legal circumstances. The analytical review conducted in this study reveals that Al Shatibi's

approach introduced a more dynamic understanding of legal reasoning by connecting individual rulings with universal legal purposes (Al Shatibi, 2017). Such a perspective enabled Islamic law to function as a normative system directed toward social benefit rather than mere procedural compliance.

The literature also demonstrates that the expansion of modern social institutions generated new demands that exceeded the explanatory capacity of purely textual approaches. Economic globalization, technological development, and changing family structures introduced legal questions that required broader interpretive frameworks. Scholars increasingly viewed maqasid as a mechanism capable of addressing contemporary realities while maintaining continuity with classical legal principles (Umar et al., 2024). This shift marked the beginning of a more purposive orientation within contemporary Islamic legal discourse.

The transformation identified in the literature is summarized in Table 1, which illustrates the evolution of maqasid across major intellectual phases and highlights the corresponding changes in legal reasoning.

Table 1. Evolution of Maqasid Al Shariah in Islamic Legal Thought

Intellectual Phase	Primary Orientation	Dominant Legal Approach	Contribution to Contemporary Law
Classical Foundation	Protection of essential interests	Textually guided reasoning	Establishment of legal objectives
Systematization Period	Integration of legal purposes	Objective based interpretation	Expansion of jurisprudential methodology
Contemporary Reconstruction	Contextual welfare orientation	Dynamic and systemic reasoning	Adaptation to modern legal challenges
Contemporary Governance	Institutional implementation	Regulatory and policy integration	Application in global Islamic governance

Source: Adapted from Al Ghazali (2015), Al Shatibi (2017), Ibn Ashur (2006), and Auda (2008).

The pattern presented in Table 1 illustrates that maqasid has evolved through a process of intellectual refinement rather than doctrinal replacement. Each phase retained the normative foundations established by earlier scholars while introducing new analytical tools capable of responding to emerging realities. This continuity explains why maqasid remains influential within contemporary legal theory despite substantial transformations in social conditions. The findings support the argument that legal adaptability within Islamic law is generated through interpretive development rather than through the abandonment of foundational principles (Adly et al., 2026).

The contemporary reformulation of maqasid received substantial momentum through the works of Ibn Ashur and Auda who emphasized the necessity of broadening legal objectives beyond traditional classifications. Their approaches highlighted human dignity, social justice, freedom, institutional development, and public welfare as central concerns of Islamic law in modern societies (Ibn Ashur, 2006; Auda, 2008). The conceptual expansion proposed by these scholars challenged narrow legal formalism and encouraged greater engagement with complex social realities. Their contributions also strengthened the theoretical basis for contemporary legal renewal.

A review of recent scholarship reveals increasing consensus that maqasid functions as an epistemological bridge connecting revelation, reason, and social context. Studies on Islamic legal reform consistently demonstrate that maqasid enables jurists to interpret legal texts in ways that preserve both normative legitimacy and practical relevance (Surya, 2026). This perspective has become particularly significant in discussions concerning legal modernization and institutional governance. The growing prominence of maqasid indicates a broader transformation in the philosophy of Islamic legal reasoning.

The findings further suggest that contemporary maqasid discourse reflects a shift from legal literalism toward contextual legal analysis. Scholars have increasingly argued that legal interpretation should account for social consequences, collective welfare, and changing circumstances while remaining grounded in scriptural authority (Azwarfajri et al., 2025). This development does not diminish the importance of textual evidence but repositions it within a broader framework of legal

objectives. Such an approach contributes to the development of a more responsive and sustainable legal system.

The analysis confirms that Maqasid Al Shariah has evolved into a foundational paradigm for contemporary Islamic legal thought because it provides a coherent framework capable of reconciling legal continuity with social transformation. Its intellectual trajectory demonstrates that legal development within Islam has historically been driven by efforts to preserve substantive justice rather than merely reproducing inherited legal forms. Contemporary scholars increasingly regard maqasid as the principal mechanism through which Islamic law can maintain relevance in rapidly changing societies (Satria & Sari, 2025; Abdullah, 2025). The conceptual strength of maqasid lies in its capacity to integrate ethical objectives, legal methodology, and societal welfare within a unified jurisprudential framework.

Maqasid Al Shariah as an Operational Framework for Contemporary Islamic Legal Development

The literature examined in this study demonstrates that Maqasid Al Shariah has evolved into an operational framework that guides the development of contemporary Islamic law across multiple legal domains. Its function extends beyond theoretical discourse by providing a normative instrument through which legal rulings can respond to emerging social realities while maintaining fidelity to the objectives of Shariah. Contemporary jurists increasingly employ maqasid as a methodological basis for evaluating legal consequences and public welfare in circumstances not explicitly addressed by classical jurisprudence (Tambunan et al., 2026). This orientation has strengthened the capacity of Islamic law to engage with complex legal challenges without undermining its foundational values.

The role of maqasid in modern *ijtihad* is reflected in the growing preference for purposive reasoning over narrow legal formalism. Contemporary legal interpretation increasingly considers social impact, institutional effectiveness, and public benefit when assessing the validity of legal outcomes. Studies on legal renewal indicate that maqasid provides an analytical structure capable of integrating scriptural authority with contextual realities that characterize contemporary societies (Umar et al., 2024). Such developments illustrate the transformation of maqasid into a practical mechanism for legal adaptation and policy formulation.

Family law represents one of the most significant areas in which maqasid based reasoning has contributed to legal development. Contemporary scholarship emphasizes that legal reforms concerning marriage, divorce, child protection, and gender justice require an interpretive framework capable of balancing textual evidence with broader objectives of welfare and fairness. Research by Anisa (2025) demonstrates that maqasid oriented interpretation facilitates legal solutions that better protect vulnerable family members while preserving the ethical foundations of Islamic law. Similar findings are evident in discussions concerning custody rights and family welfare where legal outcomes are increasingly evaluated through the lens of social benefit and justice (Mustafid et al., 2025).

The operational significance of maqasid is also evident in contemporary debates concerning family law reform within Muslim societies. Legal scholars argue that reform initiatives gain greater legitimacy when grounded in recognized maqasid principles rather than solely relying on policy considerations. The application of maqasid allows legal reform to remain connected to the objectives of preserving family stability, human dignity, and social cohesion (Majid, 2025). This approach contributes to a more balanced relationship between legal continuity and societal change.

The analysis further reveals that Islamic economic law has become one of the most dynamic fields for maqasid implementation. Economic activities increasingly involve complex financial instruments that require legal evaluation beyond conventional textual analogies. Contemporary scholars emphasize that maqasid provides substantive criteria for assessing economic practices according to their contribution to justice, welfare, and equitable distribution of resources (Karimullah, 2023). This perspective reinforces the view that economic legality should be measured not only by contractual form but also by social consequences.

Table 2. Contemporary Applications of Maqasid Al Shariah in Islamic Legal Development

Legal Sector	Maqasid Objective	Contemporary Legal Issue	Legal Implication
Family Law	Protection of lineage and welfare	Child custody and family reform	Welfare based legal interpretation
Islamic Finance	Protection of wealth	Financial innovation	Ethical financial regulation
Islamic Banking	Protection of wealth and stability	Banking governance	Risk management and accountability
Economic Fatwa	Public welfare	Contemporary transactions	Contextual legal rulings
Governance	Institutional integrity	Shariah supervision	Regulatory compliance
Social Development	Human dignity and welfare	Social policy formulation	Inclusive legal development
Environmental Law	Preservation of collective welfare	Environmental sustainability	Expansion of maqasid application

Source: Adapted from AAOIFI (2022), IFSB (2021), Anisa (2025), Majid (2025), Mustafid et al. (2025), Yazid et al. (2025), Bahrudin and Hilal (2025), Marwah et al. (2025), and Karimullah (2023).

The patterns presented in Table 2 indicate that maqasid functions as a unifying framework capable of connecting diverse legal sectors through shared normative objectives. Although each sector faces distinct legal challenges, the underlying concern remains the realization of public welfare and the prevention of harm. The reviewed literature suggests that the flexibility of maqasid allows legal institutions to address contemporary problems without sacrificing normative coherence (Marwah et al., 2025). Such findings confirm the operational relevance of maqasid within modern legal development.

Islamic finance and banking constitute particularly important areas where maqasid based reasoning has acquired institutional significance. Regulatory frameworks developed by international Islamic financial organizations increasingly emphasize governance structures that align financial activities with broader social objectives rather than narrow profit maximization (Islamic Financial Services Board, 2021). Similar principles are reflected in the Shari'ah standards developed by AAOIFI, which encourage compliance mechanisms oriented toward accountability, transparency, and public trust (Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions, 2022). The integration of maqasid into financial governance demonstrates the transition of legal objectives from theoretical constructs into regulatory practice.

The literature further identifies maqasid as a critical reference point in the formulation of economic fatwas and contemporary financial judgments. Contemporary transactions involving investment mechanisms, valuation methods, and financial innovation frequently require legal assessments that extend beyond traditional doctrinal categories. Research concerning Islamic banking, present value theory, and the prohibition of riba indicates that maqasid facilitates legal reasoning capable of addressing modern economic realities while preserving ethical constraints rooted in Islamic law (Fatimah et al., 2026; Harahap, 2025; Ningrum, 2025). Comparable conclusions are reported in studies examining the relationship between maqasid, ushul fiqh, and Islamic economic governance (Nst et al., 2024; Reza et al., 2025).

The findings also reveal that maqasid contributes to broader processes of social and institutional development. Scholars increasingly argue that legal systems must be evaluated according to their capacity to promote justice, social inclusion, and collective welfare rather than solely their adherence to procedural requirements (Bahrudin & Hilal, 2025). This perspective positions maqasid as an operational bridge between legal norms and societal transformation. Its practical significance lies in its ability to guide contemporary Islamic legal development toward outcomes that remain faithful to Shariah objectives while responding effectively to evolving human needs (Yazid et al., 2025).

Contemporary Challenges and Future Directions of Maqasid Based Islamic Legal Reform

The literature examined in this study indicates that the increasing prominence of Maqasid Al Shariah within contemporary Islamic legal discourse has generated new intellectual and institutional challenges. Although maqasid offers a flexible framework for legal adaptation, its practical

implementation often encounters disagreements regarding interpretative authority and methodological boundaries. Contemporary scholars emphasize that legal reform based on maqasid requires a careful balance between fidelity to scriptural foundations and responsiveness to changing social realities (Kamali, 2019). This tension demonstrates that maqasid functions not only as a legal methodology but also as a contested arena of legal reasoning within modern Islamic thought.

One of the most significant challenges concerns interpretative diversity among Muslim scholars and legal institutions. Different schools of thought frequently prioritize distinct objectives, resulting in divergent legal conclusions despite reference to the same maqasid framework. Comparative studies reveal that variations in legal reasoning emerge from differences in methodological assumptions rather than from rejection of maqasid itself (Khorī et al., 2025). Such diversity enriches Islamic legal discourse while simultaneously complicating efforts to establish uniform standards for legal reform.

The debate between textualist and contextualist approaches represents another critical issue affecting maqasid based legal development. Textualist scholars generally prioritize explicit legal texts, whereas contextualist scholars emphasize broader objectives and social consequences when deriving legal rulings. Contemporary maqasid scholarship has increasingly supported contextual interpretation as a mechanism for preserving legal relevance in changing circumstances (Auda, 2008). Scholarly discussions concerning family law reform and social policy illustrate how differing interpretative orientations shape legal outcomes in contemporary Muslim societies (Hadana et al., 2025).

Globalization has introduced additional pressures on Islamic legal systems through expanding economic integration, transnational governance structures, and international legal norms. The interaction between national legal frameworks and global regulatory expectations often requires Islamic legal institutions to address complex issues that were not explicitly discussed within classical jurisprudence. Studies on Islamic governance indicate that maqasid provides a normative foundation capable of facilitating constructive engagement with international standards while maintaining religious legitimacy (Organization of Islamic Cooperation, 2008). The resulting challenge lies in ensuring that legal adaptation remains anchored within Islamic legal principles rather than becoming merely regulatory compliance.

Table 3. Major Challenges and Strategic Responses in Maqasid Based Legal Reform

Challenge	Impact on Islamic Law	Maqasid Based Response
Interpretative Diversity	Divergent legal opinions and inconsistent rulings	Development of objective maqasid based interpretative standards
Legal Pluralism	Interaction between religious and state legal systems	Harmonization through public interest oriented legal reasoning
Digital Economy	Emergence of new transactions and financial instruments	Contextual ijtiḥād guided by protection of wealth and justice
Financial Innovation	Regulatory uncertainty in Islamic finance	Maqasid based risk assessment and ethical evaluation
Family Law Reform	Conflicting views on gender and family rights	Protection of welfare, dignity, and social justice
Environmental Issues	Limited classical regulation of ecological concerns	Expansion of maqasid toward sustainability and public welfare
Institutional Governance	Accountability and transparency challenges	Governance standards aligned with maqasid objectives
Global Regulatory Standards	Pressure for legal harmonization across jurisdictions	Adaptive legal reform preserving Islamic legal identity

Source: Constructed from Auda (2008), Kamali (2019), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (2008), Islamic Financial Services Board (2021), Hadana et al. (2025), Khorī et al. (2025), Nurholis (2025), Setiawan (2025).

The analytical patterns summarized in Table 3 demonstrate that contemporary challenges are multidimensional and extend beyond purely doctrinal questions. Several challenges emerge from structural transformations affecting governance, economics, and social relations. The table also illustrates that maqasid based responses tend to prioritize legal adaptability while preserving normative coherence. Such findings support the view that maqasid possesses significant potential as a framework for managing legal complexity within contemporary societies.

Legal pluralism constitutes another major challenge because Islamic law increasingly operates alongside national legislation, constitutional frameworks, and international legal commitments. This interaction often produces normative tensions regarding legal authority and the scope of religious regulation. Research on contemporary legal governance suggests that maqasid can function as a mediating framework capable of reconciling competing normative systems through the principle of public welfare (Solikin & Wasik, 2023). The effectiveness of such mediation depends upon the capacity of legal institutions to engage constructively with diverse legal traditions.

Rapid developments in digital technology have transformed commercial practices and generated unprecedented legal questions. Digital assets, financial technology, artificial intelligence, and cross border electronic transactions require legal responses that extend beyond conventional jurisprudential categories. Contemporary maqasid scholars argue that protection of wealth, fairness, transparency, and social welfare provide essential normative benchmarks for evaluating emerging digital practices (Auda, 2008). The expansion of digital economies therefore strengthens the relevance of maqasid as an adaptive mechanism within Islamic legal reform.

Environmental sustainability has also emerged as an important frontier for maqasid oriented legal development. Classical legal literature devoted limited attention to ecological concerns because environmental degradation had not yet become a global challenge of comparable scale. Recent scholarship proposes that environmental protection should be understood as an extension of public welfare and intergenerational justice within the maqasid framework (Nurholis, 2025). This development reflects the capacity of maqasid to expand its normative scope in response to contemporary human needs.

Institutional governance remains a central concern because effective legal reform requires credible regulatory structures capable of translating normative principles into practical policies. Governance standards promoted by Islamic regulatory institutions increasingly emphasize accountability, transparency, ethical oversight, and public trust as essential components of Shariah compliance (Islamic Financial Services Board, 2021). These developments demonstrate that maqasid is not limited to substantive legal rulings but also informs the design of legal institutions themselves. Strong governance structures enhance the practical effectiveness of maqasid based legal reform across multiple sectors.

Future prospects for maqasid based legal reform appear closely linked to its ability to integrate legal authenticity with global responsiveness. Contemporary scholarship increasingly views maqasid as a comprehensive paradigm capable of connecting law, ethics, governance, economics, and social development within a unified framework (Setiawan, 2025). The continued evolution of Islamic legal thought suggests that maqasid will remain an influential foundation for addressing emerging challenges while preserving the normative objectives of Shariah (Kamali, 2019). This trajectory positions maqasid as one of the most significant conceptual resources for the future development of contemporary Islamic law.

CONCLUSION

The study confirms that Maqasid Al Shariah constitutes a fundamental framework for the development of contemporary Islamic law by connecting the normative objectives of Shariah with the evolving demands of modern society. Its intellectual evolution demonstrates a transition from a classical formulation of legal objectives toward a comprehensive methodology capable of guiding contemporary legal reasoning, institutional governance, and policy formulation. The analysis shows that maqasid functions as an operational instrument for contemporary *ijtihad*, enabling the development of responsive legal solutions in family law, Islamic finance, banking governance, economic regulation, social development, and environmental sustainability while maintaining fidelity to core Islamic values. The findings further reveal that challenges associated with interpretative diversity, legal pluralism, globalization, digital economic transformation, and regulatory complexity require a more integrated and

context sensitive application of maqasid principles. Through its capacity to reconcile textual authority with public welfare and contemporary realities, Maqasid Al Shariah provides a coherent foundation for adaptive, inclusive, and sustainable Islamic legal reform, reinforcing its continuing relevance as a guiding paradigm for the future development of Islamic law.

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