

The Relevance of Contemporary Classical Interpretation in Strengthening the Concept of Maqāsid Syarī'ah

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Abstract: *Studies on maqāsid al-syarī'ah continue to face interpretive tensions between classical texts and contemporary thought, which often result in differences in how they respond to modern needs. Furthermore, the flexibility of maqāsid is often seen as opening up space for subjectivity, thereby requiring a more rigorous and systematic analytical framework. This study aims to examine the construction of maqāsid al-syarī'ah through classical and contemporary interpretations, analyze how differences among scholars shape the understanding of the objectives of Islamic law, and explore the relevance of maqāsid in the modern context. Using a library-based qualitative approach with hermeneutic analysis, this research involves in-depth reading, data classification, text interpretation, contextual analysis of authors, and fusion of meanings to achieve a comprehensive understanding. The findings show that maqāsid represents a dynamic conception of the objectives of Islamic law; variations in scholarly interpretations significantly influence ijtihād methods; and maqāsid al-sharī'ah remains highly relevant in addressing contemporary issues such as social justice and human rights. This study underscores the need for a more methodologically grounded application of maqāsid in public policy and legal reasoning. It highlights the potential for further empirical and interdisciplinary research to strengthen their implementation.*

Keywords: *Maqāsid Syarī'ah, Classical Interpretation, Contemporary Thought, Modern Relevance*

Introduction

Studies on maqāsid al-syarī'ah have developed significantly in both classical and contemporary literature. Most studies focus only on theoretical aspects without exploring a more comprehensive reconstruction of meaning across eras ([Güney, 2024](#)). In addition, previous studies tend to separate classical and contemporary thinking, thereby failing to provide a comprehensive synthesis of the relevance of maqāsid to issues of social justice, human rights, and modern policy. In the classical tradition, maqāsid are understood as the fundamental objectives of sharia, oriented towards protecting the five basic human needs: religion, life, intellect, lineage, and property. Meanwhile, contemporary thinking expands the scope of maqāsid as a normative framework that is responsive to modern social dynamics, including issues

of social justice, human rights, and public policy. This development shows that *maqāsid al-sharī'ah* is not static, but continues to undergo a reconstruction of meaning in line with the changing times.

However, most existing research still strictly separates classical and contemporary thought. These studies generally focus on theoretical or historical aspects without presenting a critical synthesis that methodologically connects the two traditions. As a result, understanding of how the meaning of *maqāsid* has been shaped across eras, and how differences in interpretation among scholars have influenced the application of sharia objectives in a modern context, remains relatively limited. This gap highlights the need for research that integrates classical and contemporary interpretations within a comprehensive analytical framework.

Maqāsid al-sharī'ah experts such as al-Shāṭibī, Ibn Āshūr, and Jasser Auda emphasize that the objectives of sharia are universal and must be contextualized in light of developments in the times (Atea, 2025). Al-Shāṭibī emphasized the importance of maintaining the five basic human needs (Rambe dkk., 2023), while Ibn' Āshūr expanded *maqāsid* into a framework for social reform. Jasser Auda added that *maqāsid* has a flexible systemic character, allowing it to be applied to global issues (Muhammadong Muhammadong, 2025). The differences in emphasis among these experts show that *maqāsid* is not only normative but also dynamic, requiring a multidisciplinary approach to understand its relevance fully.

The phenomenological approach is highly relevant to the examination of *maqāsid al-sharī'ah* because of its focus on understanding the meaning of human experience in a particular social context. Phenomenology enables researchers to interpret how sharia values are practiced and perceived in contemporary life, particularly in light of cultural dynamics and social change (Mukhlis Lubis, 2025). By understanding the subjective experiences of Muslim communities, this approach provides a more concrete picture of the extent to which *maqāsid* can function as ethical and legal guidelines. Thus, phenomenology becomes a means of connecting the normative objectives of sharia with an ever-evolving empirical reality.

This research approach relies on hermeneutic theory as the main foundation for critically interpreting classical and contemporary texts. Hermeneutic analysis enables an understanding of literal meaning, historical context, and the reconstruction of new understandings through a combination of perspectives between the interpreter and the text (Zayzay Jr, 2025). This theory asserts that understanding of the law is not static, but rather constantly interacts with social situations and human needs (Bohinich, 2021). By applying hermeneutics, research can evaluate the coherence between the objectives of sharia and modern reality, resulting in interpretations that are more comprehensive, relevant, and responsive to changing times.

Maqāsid Syarī'ah faces challenges when applied in a modern context, as there is often a conflict between normative legal texts and ever-changing social realities. On the one hand, *maqāsid* demands that Islamic law be directed towards maintaining benefit and preventing harm. Still, on the other hand, the determination of what is considered beneficial is often influenced by political, cultural, and specific interests (Majid dkk., 2023). This has led some scholars to argue that the use of *maqāsid* is too flexible and may deviate from the text. In contrast, others argue that rigid restrictions on the text actually hinder the sharia's responsiveness to new issues such as digital technology, the global economy, and human rights (Abdillah, 2025). As a result, there has been debate about the extent to which *maqāsid* can be used as a dynamic instrument of *ijtihad* without deviating from the principles of sharia, so that the application of *maqāsid* often becomes an area that is prone to subjectivity and requires a more rigorous and measurable methodology.

This study focuses on an in-depth analysis of how the meaning of maqāsid syarī'ah is constructed through the interpretation of classical and contemporary texts by scholars. In addition, this study highlights variations in interpretation among scholars and how these differences affect the framework for understanding the objectives of sharia. Furthermore, this study focuses on the extent to which the concept of maqāsid syarī'ah is relevant and can be applied to various issues in modern life. First, how is the meaning of maqāsid al-sharī'ah understood through the interpretation of classical and contemporary texts? Second, how do differences in interpretation among scholars influence the understanding of the objectives of sharia? Third, how is the relevance of maqāsid al-sharī'ah applied in the context of modern life?

This study is expected to produce a comprehensive understanding of how the meaning of maqāsid syarī'ah is formed through the interpretation of classical and contemporary texts, thereby providing a more complete picture of the philosophical basis of the objectives of sharia. This study will also reveal the influence of differences in interpretation among scholars on the diversity of perspectives in understanding maqāsid syarī'ah, both in methodological and applicative aspects. In addition, this research will produce an analysis of the relevance and application of maqāsid syarī'ah in the context of modern life, thereby contributing significantly to the development of a more adaptive, solution-oriented, and contextual discourse on Islamic law.

The implications of this study show that a more comprehensive understanding of maqāsid syarī'ah can enrich the approach to Islamic law, especially in facing modern social dynamics. By revealing the variations in scholars' interpretations, this study provides a basis for developing a more flexible methodology of *istinbāṭ* law without abandoning the principles of sharia. Furthermore, the analysis of the relevance of maqāsid in the contemporary context encourages the application of Sharia values that are more responsive to the needs of society, so that the results of this study have the potential to become an important reference in formulating policies, Islamic educational innovations, and more contextual and solution-oriented legal interpretations.

Method

This study uses a qualitative design based on a literature review with a hermeneutic approach, drawing on various sources, including books, journals, scientific articles, as well as classical and modern texts directly related to the study theme. Each source is selected based on criteria of relevance, credibility, and scientific authority, ensuring that the interpretation is grounded in strong academic research. The selected literature must provide a theoretical and historical overview that enriches the interpretation process ([Kulenović & Popović, 2025](#)). Thus, these sources not only serve as references but also as objects of in-depth analysis. Ultimately, all of these data sources serve as the main material, interpreted through a hermeneutic approach, to produce a more comprehensive understanding.

The data collection techniques in library studies research using a hermeneutic approach are carried out through several methods, namely (1) identification and selection of relevant literature, (2) in-depth critical reading, (3) extraction of key concepts and terms, and (4) grouping of data into analytical themes in accordance with the research focus. This process produces structured textual data that is ready for analysis. Each piece of information collected is critically analyzed to find implied meanings and relationships between ideas ([Smythe & Spence, 2012](#)). The result of this activity is a systematic collection of textual data, ready for further analysis within a hermeneutic framework. Thus, this technique ensures that the data obtained is relevant and supports the research objectives comprehensively.

The hermeneutic approach to data analysis proceeds through three interrelated core steps. First, text interpretation: understanding the literal meaning of the text and identifying key terms found in the literature. Second, analyzing the author's context and background, including historical, social, and intellectual contexts, as well as the position of the thinking within a broader scientific tradition. Third, new meaning or fusion of meaning, which is connecting the original meaning with the current situation to find relevance, provide criticism, or reconstruct meaning. These three steps ensure that the analysis is in-depth and contextual ([Crist & Tanner, 2003](#)). In this way, research can produce rich and meaningful insights.

The validity of data in library studies using a hermeneutic approach is maintained in several ways. First, triangulation of sources, which involves comparing various texts or authors' opinions to ensure that the information obtained is accurate and reliable. Second, maintaining consistency of interpretation, so that the meaning derived is consistent between the text, context, and analysis performed. Third, clarity of argumentation, where every meaning presented must be based on quotations from relevant sources ([Whitehead, 2004](#)). By applying these three principles, the research becomes more credible, the analysis is accountable, and the results have a strong scientific basis.

The results of the analysis are presented in a descriptive-analytical manner, combining text quotations, interpretations, and elaborations of meaning in a contemporary context. This presentation aims to systematically display the dynamics of maqāṣid syarī'ah thinking while demonstrating its relevance to modern issues. The research results are compiled by including quotations from relevant sources as the basis for analysis. Next, the text is interpreted to explain its meaning. Then, new interpretations are applied by connecting the findings to the current context or relevant issues. Finally, the relevance of the research results is presented to help readers understand the study's contribution to the development of science and gain a deeper understanding.

Discussion

Understanding Maqāṣid Syarī'Ah Through the Interpretation of Classical and Contemporary Texts

The definition of maqāṣid syarī'ah refers to the main objectives and purposes that Islamic law seeks to achieve in regulating human life. According to classical literature, such as the works of al-Shāṭibī and al-Ghazālī, maqāṣid syarī'ah aim to protect five main things: religion, life, intellect, lineage, and property ([Suryana & Muhajirin, 2024](#)). Meanwhile, contemporary literature emphasizes the relevance of maqāṣid in the modern context, including social justice, welfare, and human rights ([Mz dkk., 2023](#)). This understanding emphasizes that Islamic law is not only normative but also has practical objectives that are adaptive to changing times. Thus, maqāṣid al-sharī'ah becomes a dynamic and contextual framework for interpreting the law.

The history of the development of the concept of maqāṣid syarī'ah began in the classical era, when early scholars such as al-Juwaynī and al-Shāṭibī formulated the objectives of Islamic law to protect the basic interests of humans ([Nur dkk., 2020](#)). This concept then developed over time, encompassing a more systematic thinking about dharuriyyat, hajiyyat, and tahsiniyyat ([Nabila Keysha Mutmainah dkk., 2025](#)). In the contemporary era, scholars emphasize the relevance of maqāṣid to modern challenges, including human rights, social justice, and the welfare of the people ([Muhammad Faiz, 2025](#)). This development shows that maqāṣid is not only a normative framework but also an analytical tool adaptable to social and cultural changes. Thus, the concept of maqāṣid al-sharī'ah continues to evolve to respond to the needs of the times.

The classification of maqāsid al-sharī'ah is divided into several main categories with specific objectives for protecting human interests. First, dharuriyyat, which are basic needs that must be met for individuals and society to function properly, such as religion, life, reason, offspring, and property. Second, hajiyyat, which includes additional needs to alleviate hardship and improve the quality of human life. Third, tahsiniyyat, which are aspects that aim to beautify life through the development of ethics, morals, and social perfection ([Taufik, 2021](#)). This classification helps clarify the priorities of Islamic law and its relevance to human life. Thus, maqāsid syarī'ah serves as a comprehensive guide to the application of Islamic law.

Classical sources of data in maqāsid syarī'ah research include texts that served as the main references for earlier scholars. Examples include al-Shāṭibī's work, which systematically discusses the objectives of Islamic law ([Al Farahidy, 2022](#)), al-Ghazālī's work, which emphasizes the balance between sharia and maqāsid ([Kepplinger, 2024](#)), and al-Juwaynī's writings, which outline the basic principles of fiqh ([Widigdo, 2019](#)). The selection of these texts is based on their relevance to the research theme, the credibility of the authors, and their contribution to the development of the understanding of maqāsid. Analysis of these classical sources allows researchers to understand the historical and intellectual basis of the concept of maqāsid. Thus, classical texts become an important foundation for interpreting Islamic law in a contextual and in-depth manner.

The interpretation of classical texts in maqāsid al-sharī'ah research is carried out by analyzing the literal meanings and key terms of earlier scholars. This process aims to understand the author's original intent and the text's intellectual context ([Alias dkk., 2024](#)). Researchers examine important terms, argument structures, and legal logic used in classical texts. This analysis helps reveal the main messages and principles of maqāsid contained in classical literature. Thus, interpreting classical texts is an important first step in building an accurate and deep understanding of the objectives of Islamic law.

The interpretation of contemporary texts in maqāsid al-sharī'ah research is carried out by analyzing the concepts, ideas, and arguments presented in modern literature. This process aims to understand how contemporary authors interpret, develop, or adapt maqāsid principles in the current context ([Athambawa, 2025](#)). Researchers examine the approaches, methodologies, and reasons underlying each argument to capture its relevance and contribution to modern discourse. This analysis allows for an understanding of the dynamics of Islamic legal thought in the contemporary era and its relationship to the needs of today's society. Thus, the interpretation of contemporary texts is key to linking the classical heritage with relevant modern practices.

The analysis of the author's context in maqāsid al-sharī'ah research aims to understand the historical, social, and intellectual backgrounds of both classical and contemporary authors. By understanding the conditions of the times, the social environment, and the scientific traditions that underlie the text, researchers can more accurately capture the text's main intent and focus. This analysis also helps assess the relevance and application of the author's ideas to Islamic legal issues in their time and in the modern context ([Ali Abdulghani & Husayn Alrumayh, 2025](#)). Understanding the author's context enables a richer, more contextually informed interpretation of the principles of maqāsid syarī'ah. Thus, context analysis is an important step in the hermeneutical approach.

The integration of meaning in maqāsid syarī'ah research is done by connecting the understanding of classical texts with the modern context to find new relevance ([Habib, 2025](#)). This process allows researchers to examine how the principles of Islamic law formulated by earlier scholars can be applied or interpreted in light of contemporary conditions. Through this integration of meaning, the concept of

maqāṣid is understood not only historically but also explored for its contribution to current social, legal, and ethical issues. This approach helps construct a dynamic, contextually meaningful meaning. Thus, the fusion of meaning is an important step in bridging the classical heritage with modern challenges.

The comparison of classical and contemporary views in maqāṣid al-sharī'ah research is conducted by examining the concept's similarities, differences, and developments over time ([Didin Chonyta & Mohammad Jainuri, 2025](#)). Researchers analyze how classical scholars formulated the objectives of Islamic law and compare these objectives with the interpretations or adaptations advanced by contemporary thinkers. This analysis helps identify the continuity of basic principles and the changes or adjustments that have occurred in line with social, cultural, and intellectual developments ([Tahir & Hamid, 2024a](#)). By understanding these similarities and differences, researchers can assess the relevance and contribution of maqāṣid to modern Islamic legal practice. Thus, this comparison provides comprehensive insight into the evolution of maqāṣid syarī'ah thinking.

Criticism and evaluation in maqāṣid al-sharī'ah Research are carried out by presenting an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of textual interpretations. Researchers assess the extent to which the interpretations provided by classical and contemporary authors are consistent with the principles of maqāṣid and relevant to the current social context. In addition, criticism includes identifying weaknesses, such as a lack of argumentation or context that has been overlooked. This evaluation helps to confirm the validity and contribution of each interpretation to the understanding of Islamic law. Thus, criticism and evaluation are important steps in strengthening hermeneutic analysis and producing a more in-depth, contextualized meaning.

The relevance of the findings of maqāṣid al-sharī'ah research lies in its contribution to the practice of Islamic law and the handling of contemporary issues. The understanding gained from analyzing classical and contemporary texts enables a more contextual and adaptive application of maqāṣid principles. The findings of this study can assist scholars, legal practitioners, and policymakers in formulating rules aligned with the objectives of sharia, such as justice, welfare, and the protection of human rights. Furthermore, this research confirms that maqāṣid is not only a normative theory but also a practical analytical tool for solving modern problems. Thus, understanding maqāṣid syarī'ah provides relevant and applicable guidance for today's society.

Differences in Interpretation Among Scholars Affect Understanding of Sharia Objectives

The definition of sharia objectives or maqāṣid syarī'ah refers to the main aims and objectives that Islamic law seeks to achieve in regulating human life ([Asy'ari, 2022](#)). In general, maqāṣid serve to ensure the achievement of prosperity, justice, and the protection of the basic rights of individuals and society ([Tahir & Hamid, 2024b](#)). These objectives include the preservation of religion, life, intellect, lineage, and property, which form the basis for all Islamic legal rules ([Taufiqurohman & Fauziah, 2023](#)). Understanding maqāṣid syarī'ah enables an interpretation of the law that is not only normative but also contextual and adaptive to changing times. Thus, maqāṣid syarī'ah serves as a fundamental framework for formulating, applying, and assessing Islamic law as a whole.

The history of scholars' thinking about the objectives of sharia reveals the evolution of the concept of maqāṣid from the classical to the contemporary period. In classical times, scholars such as al-Juwaynī and al-Shāṭibī formulated maqāṣid to protect the basic interests of humans, including religion, life, intellect, lineage, and property ([SevgiLi, 2021](#)). This thinking developed over time, encompassing a more

systematic categorization of dharuriyyat, hajiyyat, and tahsiniyyat. In contemporary times, scholars emphasize the relevance of maqāsid to modern issues, such as social justice, human rights, and the welfare of the people. Thus, the history of scholars' thinking shows how the basic principles of Sharia law have been preserved and adapted to the needs of the times.

The differences in interpretive methodology between classical and modern scholars are evident in the approaches used to understand the objectives of sharia. Classical scholars tend to use a normative and textual fiqh approach, emphasizing nash and traditional legal principles ([Bahri, 2022](#)). Meanwhile, modern scholars often apply more contextual hermeneutic and ijtihad methods, taking into account social and cultural changes and contemporary needs ([Ichwan & Salisu, 2024a](#)). This approach allows for a more adaptive and relevant interpretation of the law in the face of contemporary challenges. These methodological differences demonstrate the dynamism of Islamic thought in its interpretation of maqāsid syarī'ah over time. Thus, the variety of approaches shapes how the principles and objectives of sharia are understood and applied.

The author's social and historical context plays an important role in shaping scholars' interpretations of sharia's objectives ([Syar'i, 2022](#)). The social, political, and cultural background at the time of writing their works influences the focus, priorities, and emphasis of their works. For example, certain social conditions may encourage scholars to emphasize aspects of security, welfare, or justice in Islamic law. Analysis of this context allows researchers to understand the reasons behind the differences in interpretation and the relevance of the maqāsid principle at that time. Thus, understanding the social and historical context helps to produce a more accurate, contextual, and critical interpretation of the scholars' thinking.

Differences in focus and priorities in understanding maqāsid syarī'ah are evident in the scholars' emphasis on the categories of dharuriyyat, hajiyyat, and tahsiniyyat. Some classical scholars emphasized dharuriyyat as basic needs that must be met to sustain human life ([Dede Nurwahidah dkk., 2024](#)), while hajiyyat and tahsiniyyat were considered complements that facilitate and beautify life ([Rauf, 2015](#)). On the other hand, contemporary scholars tend to balance these three categories in the modern social context, emphasizing aspects of welfare and justice ([Lai, 2023](#)). An analysis of these differences in focus helps to understand the variations in interpretation and priorities of the objectives of sharia. Thus, different focuses and priorities shape how Islamic law is applied in different situations.

The impact of differences in terminology and terms in understanding maqāsid syarī'ah is significant because it affects the interpretation of the objectives of sharia. Every scholar, both classical and contemporary, uses different terms to describe similar concepts, such as dharuriyyat, hajiyyat, or tahsiniyyat, which can lead to variations in meaning. These differences in terminology also reflect the author's cultural, social, and intellectual context, leading to a more diverse understanding of sharia's objectives. Analysis of terminology allows researchers to capture nuances of meaning that a literal reading might miss. Thus, a precise understanding of terminology is key to accurately and contextually interpreting maqāsid.

The influence of schools of thought and scholarly traditions greatly shapes scholars' interpretations of maqāsid syarī'ah, as each school of thought has its own framework, methodology, and legal priorities. For example, scholars from certain schools of thought may emphasize practical and textual aspects, while others emphasize a rational, contextual approach ([Döring, 2007](#)). These differences affect how we understand, prioritize, and interpret the objectives of Sharia law in various situations. Analysis of the influence of schools of thought and scholarly traditions helps explain the variations in interpretation and the continuity of Islamic legal

thought. Thus, intellectual affiliation becomes an important factor in shaping the understanding of maqāṣid syarī'ah.

Criticism and evaluation of differences in the interpretation of maqāṣid al-sharī'ah are carried out by assessing the strengths, weaknesses, and relevance of each scholar's interpretation. The strength of classical interpretations lies in their solid legal basis and consistency with the fiqh tradition. At the same time, their weakness may be limited to their historical context and lack of responsiveness to social change ([Ichwan & Salisu, 2024b](#)). Conversely, contemporary interpretations are more adaptive to modern issues and community needs, but sometimes give rise to wide differences in interpretation due to methodological flexibility ([Ichwan dkk., 2025](#)). This evaluation helps assess the contribution of each interpretation to the understanding of the objectives of sharia. Thus, criticism and evaluation provide a more comprehensive and contextual perspective on maqāṣid syarī'ah.

The implications for Islamic legal practice are evident in how differences in interpretations of maqāṣid syarī'ah affect the application of Sharia law and policy. Classical interpretations that emphasize text and basic principles tend to produce more normative and standard rules ([Heyes, 2024](#)), while adaptive contemporary interpretations allow the law to be applied contextually in accordance with social changes and community needs ([Barendregt dkk., 2022](#)). These differences can affect the flexibility, relevance, and effectiveness of Sharia policies in everyday life. Analysis of these implications helps to understand the relationship between Islamic legal theory and practice. Thus, variations in interpretation directly influence the application of maqāṣid principles in contemporary legal practice.

The relevance to the contemporary context is evident in the application of the understanding of the objectives of sharia, or maqasid al-sharia, to resolve modern issues. Classical concepts are adapted to address contemporary challenges, such as human rights, social justice, economic development, and environmental protection ([Uganda & Amina G., 2025](#)). The contemporary approach allows Islamic law to be dynamic and responsive to society's needs without neglecting its basic principles. This adaptation strengthens the role of maqāṣid as a normative and practical framework in legal decision-making. Thus, understanding maqāṣid syarī'ah becomes an important tool for connecting classical tradition with contemporary reality in a contextual and applicable manner.

The Relevance of Maqāṣid Syarī'ah Applied in the Context of Modern Life

The concept of maqāṣid syarī'ah refers to the main objectives and purposes that Islamic law seeks to achieve in regulating human life. In general, maqāṣid serve to ensure the welfare, justice, and protection of the basic rights of individuals and society ([Sumarta dkk., 2024](#)). These objectives include the preservation of religion, life, intellect, lineage, and property, which form the basis of all Islamic legal rules ([Ayumiati dkk., 2024](#)). Understanding maqāṣid syarī'ah enables an interpretation of the law that is not only normative but also contextual and adaptive to changing times. Thus, maqāṣid syarī'ah serves as a fundamental framework for comprehensively formulating, applying, and assessing Islamic law.

The foundation of maqāṣid syarī'ah comprises five objectives that form the basis of Islamic law in protecting human interests. First, to preserve religion as the foundation of faith and worship. Second, to preserve life in order to ensure the safety and sustainability of human life. Third, to preserve reason so that humans can think rationally and make the right decisions. Fourth, to preserve offspring through the protection of the family and the continuity of generations. Fifth, to preserve wealth in order to ensure economic welfare and social justice ([Mohd Nasir Bin Zakaria, 2025](#)). These five principles are interrelated and serve as guidelines in formulating, interpreting, and applying Islamic law comprehensively and contextually.

The modern perspective on maqāṣid syarī'ah emphasizes adapting classical concepts to contemporary circumstances. Experts are now revisiting basic principles such as necessity, virtue, and additional goodness to be applied to various social, economic, and political issues. Recent books show how maqāṣid can be a tool for analyzing ever-changing laws and responding to changing times, as well as for facing the challenges of globalization. With this adaptation, Islamic law remains relevant without forgetting its normative objectives. Therefore, current thinking connects classical values with the needs of today's society in a relevant and contextually appropriate manner.

The relevance of maqāṣid syarī'ah to human rights can be seen in its ability to provide a regulatory framework that protects and fairly fulfills individual rights. Principles such as protecting life, intellect, and property are closely aligned with the modern concept of human rights, which emphasizes security, freedom of thought, and economic well-being. By interpreting maqāṣid contextually, Islamic law can address challenges such as human rights violations, social injustice, and discrimination in the modern era. This approach allows integration of Sharia values with international human rights standards. Thus, maqāṣid syarī'ah becomes an important basis for ensuring fair and relevant protection of human rights.

The relevance of maqāṣid syarī'ah to social justice can be seen in its ability to promote balance in various aspects, namely economic, social, and legal. Several basic principles, such as protecting property, life, and offspring, serve as the basis for creating a fair distribution of resources, protecting vulnerable groups, and ensuring equal enforcement of the law. By interpreting maqāṣid contextually, Islamic law can be applied to reduce social inequality and maintain society's overall welfare ([Remanita & Kholis, 2023](#)). This approach allows sharia to remain relevant in facing modern issues and social complexities. Thus, maqāṣid syarī'ah serves as a guide to achieving real, practical social justice.

The application of the principle of maqāṣid syarī'ah in public policy can be seen from its use as a regulatory framework in drafting regulations that are fair and beneficial to society. Several key principles, such as protecting life, intellect, property, religion, and lineage, serve as guidelines for issuing policies that safeguard society's interests and help maintain social balance. With a contextual approach, maqāṣid allows policymakers to adapt rules to the challenges of modern times without forgetting the values of sharia. The implementation of this principle spans various fields, including economics, education, health, and law. Thus, maqāṣid syarī'ah plays an important role in ensuring that public regulations remain fair, effective, and in line with current conditions.

The adaptation of maqāṣid syarī'ah to social and cultural changes is evident in its flexibility in responding to the dynamics of modern society. Basic principles such as dharuriyyat, hajiyyat, and tahsiniyyat can be interpreted in accordance with the context and needs of the times, including changes in economics, technology, and social values. This flexibility allows Islamic law to remain relevant and capable of addressing new problems without losing sight of its normative objectives. Analysis of this adaptation shows how maqāṣid can be a tool for harmonizing Sharia tradition with today's reality. Thus, maqāṣid syarī'ah plays an important role as a dynamic legal guideline applicable in modern society.

The application of the principle of maqāṣid syarī'ah in the national legal system is evident in efforts to incorporate the objectives of Islamic law into existing legal practices. Several basic principles, such as the protection of life, property, reason, religion, and lineage, form the basis for drafting laws and regulations that are fair and beneficial to society ([Kholis dkk., 2022](#)). This integration process allows national law to continue to respect Sharia values while responding to the needs and complexities of modern society. With a contextual approach, maqāṣid helps balance

religious norms and the interests of society at large. Therefore, understanding *maqāṣid syarī'ah* plays an important role in creating a harmonious and relevant national legal system.

The role of *maqāṣid syarī'ah* in resolving contemporary issues is evident in its ability to serve as a normative framework for addressing modern challenges such as technology, the environment, and globalization. Basic principles such as preserving life, reason, property, religion, and lineage are used to evaluate the social, ethical, and legal impacts of these developments. By interpreting *maqāṣid* contextually, Islamic law can guide the formulation of sustainable and fair policies, regulations, and practices. This approach allows sharia to remain relevant and responsive to global changes. Thus, *maqāṣid syarī'ah* makes a significant contribution to resolving modern issues in an ethical and applicable manner.

Criticism and evaluation of the application of *maqāṣid syarī'ah* in modern life are carried out by looking at the strengths, weaknesses, and challenges that arise. Its advantages lie in its flexibility and relevance to current issues, such as social justice, human rights, and environmental protection. However, weaknesses may arise from differences in understanding, difficulties in integrating them with current laws, and resistance to change among some members of society. Another challenge is harmonizing Sharia principles with the various practical needs of modern life. By conducting criticism and evaluation, researchers can assess the extent to which *maqāṣid syarī'ah* can contribute to and be effective in addressing changes in society.

Conclusion

Based on the discussion, this study shows that: First, the understanding of *maqāṣid syarī'ah* from classical and contemporary texts confirms the continuity of the objectives of sharia, which are rooted in five basic principles, but with an expansion of meaning in accordance with the needs of the times. Second, differences in interpretation among scholars, whether in terms of methodology, social context, or scientific tradition, provide dynamics that influence the way *maqāṣid* are understood and applied in the practice of Islamic law. Third, this study affirms the relevance of *maqāṣid syarī'ah* in modern life, especially in policy-making, the protection of human rights, and responses to social change so that sharia remains adaptive and applicable.

The limitations of this study lie in its focus on literature alone, so the analysis does not yet include empirical data on the application of *maqāṣid* in society or legal institutions. In addition, the comparison of scholars' views remains descriptive and has not been analyzed more critically within an interdisciplinary methodological framework. Therefore, further research could focus on field studies, *maqāṣid*-based policy analysis, or the integration of socio-legal approaches to examine the effectiveness of its implementation. Comparative research across countries or *fiqh* traditions is also important for enriching our understanding of the dynamics of *maqāṣid al-sharī'ah* in a global context.

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The author hopes that this journal will contribute to the development of scientific discourse, particularly in strengthening the relevance of maqāsid syarī'ah in the contemporary era. May this paper be a charitable deed and open new spaces for dialogue on the study of interpretation and Islamic law today.

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