

AI and Islamic Knowledge: Access, Interpretation, and Trust

This research explores how artificial intelligence (AI) is changing the way Muslims access, interpret, and trust Islamic knowledge. With the rise of tools like chatbots, search engines, and AI-generated content, individuals can now receive instant religious information without relying on traditional intermediaries such as scholars or institutions. This shift creates both opportunities and risks. While AI improves accessibility and efficiency, it also raises concerns around accuracy, authenticity, and authority. It also makes Muslims careless when not auditing the information they are trying to gather as it could be irrelevant or misinformation.

The objective is to focus on three areas: how Muslims are using AI tools to access Islamic knowledge, how AI influences the interpretation of religious teachings, and how trust is formed or weakened when interacting with AI-generated content.

The research will use a simple approach. Surveys will be sent out in Salaam Spaces Community and will capture general user behavior and perceptions. Interviews will provide deeper insights into individual experiences and concerns. Content analysis will compare AI-generated responses with traditional scholarly sources to identify gaps or inconsistencies.

Success will be measured through a few key indicators: how widely AI is being used for Islamic knowledge, whether users believe the information is accurate, the level of trust placed in AI compared to scholars, and whether AI is influencing religious understanding or behavior.

The process is straightforward. First, define the target audience, such as students, general community members, and scholars. Then design and distribute surveys, followed by conducting interviews. Next, analyze AI-generated content against trusted sources. Finally, identify patterns, risks, and opportunities, and summarize the findings into clear insights.

The outcome is a high-level understanding of how AI is reshaping the way Islamic knowledge is consumed. It will highlight key risks, such as misinformation and over-reliance on AI, while also identifying opportunities to use AI responsibly to improve access and education within the Muslim community.