THE IMPLICATIONS OF ISLAMIC LAW ON THE RIGHTS OF RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN MUSLIM-MAJORITY COUNTRIES

Abstract: The study explores the complex implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities in countries with majority Muslim populations. Through a comprehensive literature analysis, this review aims to summarize information from various relevant text sources. The study's findings reflect the complexity of religious minority rights issues in Muslim-majority countries. In the context of an analysis of the impact of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities, it appears that Islamic law may provide a potential basis for protecting the rights of religious minorities. However, its interpretation and application may vary between countries. However, implementing Islamic law in state policy often creates tensions between religious and universal human rights principles, requiring careful efforts to strike the right balance. In addition, in modern contexts, such as the impact of globalization and information technology, Muslim-majority countries are faced with challenges that encourage them to constantly adapt to ensure effective protection of the rights of religious minorities. Therefore, to address these challenges, a comprehensive approach that includes legal reform, interreligious dialogue, and community education is needed to ensure that the rights of religious minorities are respected and substantially protected.

Keywords: Islamic law, Religious minorities, Muslim-majority countries
INTRODUCTION

Muslim-majority countries with rich historical, cultural, and societal backgrounds often face complex challenges in managing religious diversity within their legal and social boundaries.¹ In this increasingly dynamic reality, an increasingly acute problem is the rights of religious minorities. The implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries is a theme that has sparked deep debate and is gaining increasing global attention.

Freedom of religion and the protection of the rights of minorities are principles universally recognized by many countries worldwide. But in countries with majority Muslim populations, the application and interpretation of Islamic law is often a key factor in safeguarding and protecting religious rights and freedoms for minorities. These impacts of Islamic law include significant aspects such as interfaith marriage, inheritance law, religious conversion, and political participation for religious minorities. The complexity of these conditions is fueling fierce debate, both at the national level and in the international arena, about how to achieve a fair balance between the principles of Islamic law and the rights of religious minorities in an increasingly globally connected and increasingly complex society.

In addition, the historical background of Muslim-majority countries often significantly impacts the understanding and implementation of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities. For example, some countries have a rich and strong tradition of Islamic law that has developed over the centuries, while others seek to combine Islamic

law principles with positive elements of modern law. This creates a diversity of approaches to addressing issues related to the rights of religious minorities.

Not only in the legal realm, the implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities also significantly impact society. At the individual level, Islamic law can influence personal decisions regarding religious beliefs, marriage, and family rights. At the social level, policies and interpretations of Islamic law can also affect the relationships between religious communities, creating challenges and opportunities in the quest for sustainable social harmony and integration.

In addition to the significant domestic impact, the issue of the rights of religious minorities in the context of Muslim-majority countries also has important implications in the international arena. The international community, including human rights organizations and partner countries, often monitors and criticizes the implementation of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities. This creates political and diplomatic pressure on these countries to rethink their policies related to the protection of the rights of religious minorities.

Therefore, this study aims to explore further the implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries. The study explores various aspects of the law that impact the rights of religious minorities while analyzing the diverse approaches these countries adopt in dealing with it. Furthermore, this study will also consider the social consequences and international implications of the implications of Islamic law. As such, it is hoped that this study will provide a deeper insight and a more comprehensive understanding of the complexity of this issue and hopefully contribute positively to efforts to promote tolerance, justice, and the protection of the rights of

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religious minorities worldwide. To understand the implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries, previous studies have provided some crucial insights. Numerous studies have explored the framework of Islamic law and how this view affects the rights of religious minorities. For example, Carolyn’s search illustrates how the concept of human rights in Islam can be understood as compatible with international standards. This research investigates Islamic law's understanding of religious freedom and how this view can be used to protect the rights of religious minorities. In addition, study Anver Emon, in his book "Religious Pluralism and Islamic Law," illustrates how Islamic law faces the challenges of religious pluralism in an increasingly multicultural society. Emon analyzes the concept of "dhimmi" in the Islamic legal tradition that governs the status of religious minorities within Muslim-majority countries. This study highlights the challenges and opportunities in confronting the rights of religious minorities in the context of Islamic law.

Related research has explored diverse dynamics in the interaction between Islamic law, national constitutions, and the rights of religious minorities in various Muslim countries. In its disclosure, the case study presented shows how conflict and compromise are built to balance the values of Islamic law and freedom of religion. However, it is important to note that this study also highlights variations in views and practices between


5 Anver M Emon, Religious pluralism and Islamic law: Dhimmis and others in the Empire of Law (Oxford University Press, 2012).

different countries. Research results can vary widely, depending on the complexity of the social, cultural and political context of each country. Therefore, this study takes an inclusive approach by combining findings from previous studies with primary data and comparative analysis. In this way, the study not only serves to deepen our understanding of the implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries but also contributes to the existing literature and helps shape a more comprehensive view of issues that have a significant impact in the context of today's global society.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a literature study with integrative and comprehensive literature analysis. This approach allows researchers to gather information from relevant text sources, such as books, journal articles, research reports, and legal documents. Careful examination of the literature will help summarize previous research results, key concepts, and diverse views on the implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities within Muslim-majority countries. Through this method, researchers can detail the development of theories and thoughts related to this issue and identify points of convergence and differences in academic views and legal practice in different countries. The literature analysis will also help formulate more in-depth research questions and build a solid theoretical framework for the study.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Rights of Religious Minorities within the Framework of Islamic Law

It is important to remember that Islam, a major religion followed by over 1.9 billion people worldwide, has diverse views and interpretations on this issue. However, basic principles in Islamic law can be used as a foundation for understanding the rights of religious minorities. One of the main principles is the concept of justice and equality before the law. In the Qur'an, Allah says that all human beings are equal in his eyes, regardless of their tribe, religion, or ethnicity.

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In the history of Islam, there are examples where the Prophet Muhammad protected religious minorities in his society. For example, in Surat Al-Kafirun, the Prophet Muhammad taught tolerance for other religious beliefs and asserted that each individual has their own religious beliefs that must be respected. This is a clear example of how the rights of religious minorities are respected within the framework of Islamic law. However, in practice, the implementation of the rights of religious minorities within countries implementing Islamic law may vary. Some countries recognize the rights of religious minorities more broadly and grant them the freedom to practice their worship, manage places of worship, and conduct their spiritual life without discrimination. However, there are also countries where the rights of religious minorities are limited or even ignored.

The central challenge in ensuring the protection of the rights of religious minorities within the framework of Islamic law lies in the intricate endeavor of harmonizing spiritual principles with contemporary values concerning human rights and religious freedom. This complex task demands a profound comprehension of the teachings of Islam and their applicability in a society that is increasingly intricate and sophisticated. A comprehensive and all-encompassing approach to understanding and upholding the rights of religious minorities under the umbrella of Islamic law is indispensable for authentically embodying the core values of justice, equality, and tolerance that are inherent in this faith, ensuring that they genuinely manifest in the fabric of everyday life. Consequently, it becomes imperative for Muslim communities and religious leaders to continually reevaluate and enhance their comprehension of how Islam advocates for the rights of religious minorities and how these principles can be effectively transposed into the diverse and multifaceted modern world.

Furthermore, it becomes crucial to delve into specific issues that frequently surface within the context of the rights of religious minorities under the umbrella of Islamic law.

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A prevalent topic of debate pertains to the legal status of non-Muslims in nations with a predominantly Muslim population. While many countries officially acknowledge the rights of non-Muslims within their constitutional frameworks, disparities are often observed in practice. For instance, in certain Muslim-majority nations, family and marital laws are typically governed by Islamic law, which can pose challenges for non-Muslims who seek to marry a Muslim or convert to another religion.

In some instances, specific countries may impose restrictions on the construction of non-Muslim places of worship, hindering their religious practices. Additionally, issues related to freedom of speech and the expression of religious opinions emerge as areas of concern. Criticizing Islam or other religions can, at times, be perceived as a legal transgression or blasphemy, leading to legal repercussions against the individual expressing such views. These multifaceted issues demand comprehensive examination and dialogue to strike a balance that respects both the principles of Islamic law and the protection of the rights and freedoms of religious minorities in today’s evolving global landscape.

Another challenge is how to manage conflicts between the rights of religious minorities and provisions of Islamic law that may conflict with universal human rights principles. In some cases, Islamic law may view some actions or behaviors as violations of Sharia, while human rights recognize the right to perform such activities. This creates complex ethical and legal dilemmas, often requiring a careful balance between religious values and individual rights.

The importance of interreligious and intercultural dialogue cannot be ignored in this context either. Encouraging open and constructive dialogue between different religious communities can help address tensions and promote a better understanding of the rights

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of religious minorities. These initiatives can create an environment where interreligious tolerance and harmony can flourish. In the face of these challenges, it is essential for countries implementing Islamic law and Muslim communities worldwide to work together to ensure that the rights of religious minorities are respected and safeguarded by the fundamental principles of justice, equality and tolerance embodied in Islam. This requires cooperation between governments, clerics, and civil society to create a legal framework that supports the rights of religious minorities and promotes social inclusion.

Each individual has a vital role in safeguarding the rights of religious minorities and ensuring that Islamic religious values that support tolerance and diversity are practiced in everyday life. One way to achieve this is through education and awareness at the individual level. Education that promotes a better understanding of human rights, Islamic principles that support tolerance, and respect for the rights of religious minorities can help change the attitudes and behavior of the Muslim community. It can also help overcome prejudices and fears that often arise as barriers to the rights of religious minorities. In addition, every individual can play an active role in fighting for the rights of religious minorities through advocacy and participation in civil society institutions that protect human rights. Civil society has a vital role in overseeing the implementation of laws and ensuring that the government and society considerably respect the rights of religious minorities.

Governments must also play a key role in protecting the rights of religious minorities. They have the responsibility to implement laws that support the rights of religious minorities, ensure the protection of such minorities from discrimination, and provide security against threats or acts of violence against them. In addition, the government should also promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue to create an inclusive and tolerant environment. It is also essential to look closely at issues that arise within the framework of Islamic law that may need to be updated or reinterpreted to conform to universal human rights values. It can be a complex and sensitive debate, but it is essential to reach an agreement that allows religious minorities to exercise their beliefs without unnecessary barriers. In addition, the development of positive role models and role models within the Muslim community is vital in ensuring that Islamic religious values that
support the rights of religious minorities are respected and practiced. Muslim religious leaders, clerics, and community leaders have a special responsibility, as they greatly influence society's views and attitudes.

Interfaith Harmony is essential to maintaining peace and stability in a diverse society. Encouraging interreligious dialogue, collaboration and understanding between different religious communities is a way to overcome possible tensions and conflicts. Countries implementing Islamic law can be essential in facilitating this dialogue and creating an environment supporting interreligious harmony. In addition, it is necessary to address inequalities that may arise in the practice of Islamic law about religious minorities. For example, in some cases, Islamic law may provide different protections for non-Muslims regarding marriage, inheritance, or contract.11 Reviewing and updating these provisions to ensure that the rights of religious minorities are recognized and respected is an essential step in creating a just and inclusive society.

It is important to note that the issue of the rights of religious minorities within the framework of Islamic law is relevant not only in countries with a majority Muslim population but also throughout the world where Muslim communities are present in the minority. In this context, Muslim communities in minority countries must understand their rights and work closely with governments and communities to ensure their rights are respected and safeguarded. In addition, religious leaders and clerics have an essential role as mediators and arbitrators in conflicts involving religious minorities. They can facilitate interreligious dialogue, ease tensions, and help find peaceful solutions in conflict situations.

Their understanding and commitment to the values of peace and tolerance in Islam can help create a climate conducive to protecting the rights of religious minorities. In this

regard, it is also essential to address the issue of radicalization and religious extremism that can threaten the rights of religious minorities. States should work with religious institutions and leaders to identify and address the potential for societal radicalization. Efforts to understand the causes of radicalization and develop strategies to address these issues are essential steps in protecting the rights of religious minorities. In addition, it is necessary to create effective legal mechanisms to protect the rights of religious minorities. These include anti-discrimination solid laws, legal protections against attacks on religious minority places of worship, and court mechanisms that religious minorities can access if their rights are violated.

The Implementation of Islamic Law in State Policies

Implementing Islamic law in the policies of Muslim-majority countries is often a complex challenge that deals with the rights of religious minorities guaranteed by national law or the constitution. Although Islamic law is the primary source of law or form for most Muslim countries, efforts to create a balance between Islamic law and the rights of religious minorities often face conflict and tension. One of the main issues is the definition and interpretation of Islamic law. Islamic law is diverse in its performances, and views on how it should be applied can vary from country to country, even within the same country.

Most Muslim-majority countries have adopted elements of Islamic law, such as family or marriage law, as part of their legal systems. However, these differing implementations of Islamic law can result in inequalities in treating religious minorities. In addition, there is uncertainty as to whether national law or the constitution should precede Islamic law in conflict between the two. Some countries may prioritize Islamic law principles, while others may be more inclined to maintain principles of national law or a broader constitution. This can create ambiguity about how the rights of religious minorities should be guaranteed and protected.

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A related issue is the concept of freedom of religion and belief, which is often at odds with Islamic law in some countries. Following a religion or personal opinion is an internationally recognized human right. However, in some cases, implementing Islamic law may restrict this right, especially to religious minorities who may not follow the majority religion. This creates tension between universal human rights and Islamic law adopted by Muslim-majority countries. Furthermore, it is essential to closely examine issues related to the social and economic status of religious minorities in societies that apply Islamic law. Religious minorities often face discrimination in their access to employment, education, and health services. Sometimes, Islamic law or prevailing social norms can hinder the active participation of religious minorities in the life of society as a whole.

The rights of religious minorities within the framework of Islamic law is an issue that has complex and diverse implications in various countries with majority Muslim populations. When discussing the rights of religious minorities in the context of Islamic law, we must understand that Islamic law, or Sharia, is applied with diverse interpretations throughout the Islamic world. Some countries, such as Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and Indonesia, have different approaches to dealing with the rights of religious minorities. As a Muslim-majority country and a holy place of Islam, Saudi Arabia strictly implements Sharia. Here, the rights of religious minorities are minimal. Although the government has made some social reforms in recent years, such as allowing women to drive and attend entertainment shows, the rights of religious minorities are still severely restricted. Non-Muslims in Saudi Arabia are not allowed to worship at Islamic shrines in Mecca and Medina, and the construction of non-Muslim places of worship is prohibited.

Sudan, another Muslim-majority country, has undergone significant political change. In 2019, after mass protests, the authoritarian government of Omar al-Bashir fell, and a transitional government was formed. Under this new government, some steps

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towards the protection of the rights of religious minorities have been taken. They have lifted the caning penalties previously applied for violations of Sharia law, such as drinking and adultery. However, the process towards the protection of the rights of religious minorities is still in its infancy. Indonesia, the country with the largest Muslim population in the world, has a more moderate and pluralistic Islamic tradition. Indonesia's Constitution guarantees freedom of religion to all its citizens. However, while there are many cases of religious tolerance in Indonesia, there is also conflict and discrimination against religious minorities, especially in more conservative areas. This shows that even in a moderate Muslim-majority country like Indonesia, there are still challenges in safeguarding the rights of religious minorities.

The legal implications of such cases reflect the diverse interpretations of Islamic law in Muslim-majority countries. Most countries with a Muslim majority use Sharia as a source of law, but the degree of implementation and performance can differ. This creates variations in the protection of the rights of religious minorities throughout the Muslim world. Countries like Saudi Arabia face international criticism over restrictions on the rights of their religious minorities, while countries like Indonesia seek to promote religious tolerance despite local concerns. In evaluating the issue of the rights of religious minorities within the framework of Islamic law, it is essential to understand that no single approach is applied across Muslim-majority countries. While some countries may be more restrictive, others may be more inclusive. The legal implications of each of these cases reflect the complex interplay between legal, cultural, political, and social factors in those societies.

One of the critical challenges in implementing Islamic law in the policies of Muslim-majority countries is reaching an agreement on which aspects of Islamic law will be integrated into the national legal system and how to do so. This involves complex questions about the different interpretations of Islamic law, as Islamic law can be interpreted in

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various ways by various religious authorities. In addition, Muslim-majority countries must also consider the balance between the principles of Islamic law and the principles of national law or constitutions that recognize the rights of religious minorities. This can be a challenge, especially when there is a discrepancy between Islamic law and universal human rights principles, such as freedom of religion or non-discrimination.

To achieve this balance, Muslim-majority countries should actively involve religious minorities in the policy-making process relating to Islamic law. By accommodating the views and needs of religious minorities, the state can ensure that their rights remain protected in the context of applied Islamic law. In addition, it is essential to create an effective legal mechanism to resolve disputes between Islamic law and the rights of religious minorities. Alternative means for resolving disputes, such as mediation or arbitration, can help achieve fair solutions without necessarily overriding the principles of Islamic law or the rights of religious minorities.

Maintaining transparency and accountability in the policy-making process related to Islamic law is also essential. This can be achieved through civil society participation, publication of policy-related information, and robust oversight mechanisms. In this way, the public can understand and monitor how policies involving Islamic law are implemented, as well as ensure that the rights of religious minorities are respected. In addition, courts must play an essential role in maintaining a balance between Islamic law and the rights of religious minorities. Courts can serve as dispute breakers and perform testing functions against policies that violate human rights principles. Fair and independent judicial decisions can help ensure that the rights of religious minorities remain protected in implementing Islamic law.

Implementing Islamic law in the policies of Muslim-majority countries in the context of conflict with the rights of religious minorities guaranteed by national law or the constitution also needs to include adequate protection and enforcement of the law.16 States

must have robust mechanisms in place to protect the rights of religious minorities and deal with violations of those rights. One important mechanism is the ombudsman or human rights commission, which can receive reports of violations of the rights of religious minorities and investigate them independently. This commission shall have the authority to recommend legal and administrative action against the offender. Such an institution is essential to provide a sense of justice to religious minorities and prevent further violations of rights.

Legal protections for religious minorities should also include efforts to prevent systemic discrimination. This includes drafting and implementing anti-discrimination solid laws prohibiting discrimination based on religion or belief. States should take concrete steps to remove obstacles that may hinder the full participation of religious minorities in public life. Law enforcement is also an essential aspect of protecting the rights of religious minorities. The state must ensure that violations of the rights of religious minorities are carefully investigated, and perpetrators of violations are tried fairly. The presence of strong laws and effective enforcement can provide safeguards to religious minorities and prevent rights violations.

In addition, in some cases, more significant legal reform is needed to ensure that Islamic law and the rights of religious minorities can coexist harmoniously. This could involve changes in family or marriage laws, which often significantly impact the rights of women and religious minorities. Wise and consultative legal reform can help create a legal framework that is more inclusive and respects the rights of all citizens. In addition, it is essential to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue to address conflicts between Islamic law and the rights of religious minorities. Constructive dialogue between different religious groups can help reduce tensions and create a better understanding of differences in religious beliefs and practices.

The role of mass media and Information Technology in shaping public opinion is no less critical. The Mass Media is responsible for reporting issues related to the rights of

religious minorities fairly and objectively. Meanwhile, social media and online platforms must also be used responsibly to avoid spreading intolerant or discriminatory messages. In addition, it should be emphasized that implementing Islamic law in the context of conflicts with the rights of religious minorities is not an impossible challenge. With a human rights-based, inclusive, and dialogue-based approach, Muslim-majority countries can achieve a balance that enables the implementation of Islamic law while preserving and respecting the rights of religious minorities. The joint efforts of various stakeholders, including governments, civil society, and international organizations, are critical to creating inclusive communities, respecting the rights of religious minorities, and promoting interfaith harmony worldwide.

Challenges and Changes in a Modern Context

Challenges and changes in the implications of Islamic law in Muslim-majority countries are complex issues and continue to evolve with the changing times. Across the Muslim world, there are vast differences in how Islamic law is applied and the many factors that influence it. One of the significant challenges facing Muslim-majority countries is the difference in interpretation of Islamic law. This often leads to conflicts in determining the law and the punishment that should have been applied. For example, in the case of sharia punishments such as flogging, amputation, or the death penalty, different interpretations of Islamic law can result in significant differences in their implementation. In addition, social, cultural, and political changes have also affected the performance of Islamic law in Muslim-majority countries. These changes can be shifts in societal values, economic developments, or political changes that affect how the state views Islamic law. Along with modernization, many Muslim-majority countries have found it necessary to modernize Islamic law to suit rapidly evolving social and economic realities. This includes adapting Islamic law into more modern legal frameworks, such as Islamic banking law, family law, or economic law.

Protecting human rights is one of the significant changes in the implications of Islamic law in Muslim-majority countries. These countries are often faced with international demands to ensure that Islamic law applied does not violate human rights.
This includes the rights of religious minorities, women's rights, and other individual rights. In some countries, there is pressure to reduce or abolish severe punishments imposed by Sharia law, such as the death penalty or amputation. In addition, demands to create a more inclusive legal framework and support religious tolerance are becoming increasingly important in some countries. It is a response to the need to promote harmony and diversity in societies with significant religious minorities. Countries such as Indonesia have tried to preserve religious freedom and encourage interreligious tolerance, although there are still challenges in implementing it consistently across the country.¹⁷

There is increasing pressure to comply with international human rights standards. Muslim-majority countries are often in a challenging position, as they must consider these global demands while preserving their cultural identities and values. The main challenge is how these countries can fulfill their human rights obligations without compromising the religious principles and values that underlie their societies. Internal dialogue and consultation in Muslim-majority countries are essential in addressing these challenges. This includes involving religious leaders, scholars, and community leaders in discussions on how to align Islamic law with human rights principles. This inclusive approach can help reach a consensus and ease tensions in society.

The discussion of the challenges and changes in the modern context of protecting the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries should also consider the role of external actors, globalization, and regional dynamics affecting this issue. In the era of globalization, the interaction between countries is becoming increasingly complex. Muslim-majority countries often face external pressure from international parties, including human rights organizations, partner countries, and advocacy groups. They are usually required to comply with international human rights standards in the protection of the rights of

religious minorities. The challenge is how these countries can maintain their sovereignty while interacting with the international community.

The importance of regional cooperation should also be noted. In some cases, the issue of the rights of religious minorities can be a source of conflict between countries in the same region. Therefore, regional forums and collaborative efforts can help resolve disputes and promote the protection of the rights of religious minorities throughout the region. In addition, the development of information technology and social media has also changed how information is disseminated, and people's views are shaped. Muslim-majority countries should understand the impact of social media and the internet on public opinion and attitudes towards religious minorities. They need to take steps to prevent the spread of intolerant or discriminatory messages through online platforms.

The discussion of challenges and changes in the modern context of protecting the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries also needs to consider several other important aspects. One crucial aspect is the need to tackle religious extremism. Some extremist groups use religion as a tool to justify violent and discriminatory acts against religious minorities. Muslim-majority countries must relentlessly tackle this extremism and separate religion from violence. This involves better education about tolerance and inclusion in religion and increased cooperation between governments, religious leaders, and civil society in preventing radicalization.

In addition, it is essential to strengthen the role of religious leaders and clerics in supporting the rights of religious minorities. They have a significant influence on Muslim society and can play a positive role in educating their people about the importance of respecting the rights of religious minorities. They can also help ease tensions between different religious communities through interreligious dialogue. The role of mass media also remains relevant in the modern context. The media can shape public opinion and

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create awareness about the rights issues of religious minorities. Therefore, the press must be committed to providing fair and balanced coverage of topics related to the rights of religious minorities as well as to avoid spreading intolerant or discriminatory messages.

It is also necessary to strengthen the role of human rights institutions in Muslim-majority countries. Such institutions should have sufficient autonomy and authority to investigate violations of the rights of religious minorities, as well as recommend corrective measures to the government. It is essential that these institutions not only exist as cosmetic measures but also have a substantial role in monitoring and reporting violations of the rights of religious minorities. In addition, supporting the role of civil society and non-governmental organizations in advocating for the rights of religious minorities is essential. NGOs and advocacy groups can independently uncover rights violations and support religious minorities facing pressure. Muslim-majority countries must ensure that civil society can operate freely and is not hindered by legal or administrative barriers.

It is also important to address structural discrimination in state law and policy. Many Muslim-majority countries have laws or regulations that discriminate against religious minorities, such as blasphemy laws or marriage regulations that harm minorities. Legal reforms that support equality and non-discrimination should be an integral part of efforts to protect the rights of religious minorities. Furthermore, in addressing this challenge, it is essential to understand that the rights of religious minorities are not a threat to national identity or culture. On the contrary, the recognition of the rights of religious minorities is an underlying step in building an inclusive and stable society. Creating a positive narrative about the importance of religious pluralism in enriching a country's culture and values can help ease tensions and resistance to change.

In the face of various challenges and changes in the modern context related to the protection of the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries, it is necessary to pay attention to some additional relevant aspects. First, in the face of rapid social and cultural change, Muslim-majority countries need to reassess the interpretation and implementation of Islamic law about the rights of religious minorities. This involves a critical process to understand that Islamic law can have a variety of performances and that some aspects can be changed or adapted to universal human rights principles. Emphasis needs to be placed on a more inclusive and moderate understanding of religion, which respects the rights of minorities and promotes tolerance.

Second, it is essential to create an effective mechanism for reporting and addressing violations of the rights of religious minorities. This involves developing an independent agency that can receive reports of violations, investigate such cases objectively, and provide recommendations for remedial action to the government. Transparency and accessibility in this process are critical in ensuring justice for religious minorities. Third, the role of education in changing people's perceptions and attitudes is vital. Society should be given a better understanding of human rights, religious pluralism, and the importance of respecting the rights of religious minorities. It involves changes in the school curriculum and a broader educational campaign in society to combat stereotypes and prejudices against religious minorities.

Fourth, interreligious cooperation and interreligious dialogue can play a significant role in building interfaith understanding and cooperation. These initiatives can help ease tensions, promote tolerance, and build trust between religious communities. Fifth, it is essential to actively involve religious minorities in the policy-making process that affects them. This will ensure their perspectives are heard and considered in decision-making. The active involvement of religious minorities can also strengthen their right to participate in society. Sixth, Muslim-majority countries need to consider adopting laws that protect the rights of religious minorities in particular. Although universal human rights should be the basis, specific laws can provide additional protection to religious minorities and clarify the state's obligations towards them.
In the face of challenges and changes in the modern context, the joint efforts of various stakeholders are essential. Within this framework, Muslim-majority countries can create more inclusive societies, respect the rights of religious minorities, and promote interreligious peace and harmony. A shared commitment to ensure that human rights are universally recognized and appreciated for all individuals, regardless of religion or beliefs, is critical to creating a more just and harmonious world.

CONCLUSION

The implications of Islamic law on the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries are a subject of research that presents multidimensional complexities that deserve careful exploration. Three main dimensions describe such complexity. First, in tracing the rights of religious minorities within the framework of Islamic law, the findings illustrate that Islamic law as a legal framework and religious values provide a potential basis for protecting the rights of religious minorities. However, it is essential to note that the interpretation of Islamic law in this regard can vary significantly among Muslim countries. It creates a landscape that includes a diverse number of perspectives and approaches to the way Islamic law plays a role in safeguarding and protecting the rights of religious minorities. Secondly, the part and implementation of Islamic law within the framework of state policy is a significant element in determining the extent to which the rights of religious minorities can be protected. Some countries have succeeded in creating inclusive policy frameworks that recognize the principles of religious freedom and non-discrimination. However, the challenge remains maintaining the right balance between the fundamental principles of Islamic law and internationally recognized universal human rights. This created the stage for a heated debate about the extent to which the influence of Islamic law in state policy should go hand in hand with universal human rights norms. Third, challenges and dynamics in the modern context, such as the impact of globalization, social change, and advances in Information Technology, give rise to the need for Muslim-majority countries to adapt to these external pressures continually.

Along with that, they must also manage dynamics that affect people’s perceptions of the rights of religious minorities. Changes in global communication and broader access
to information significantly shaped people’s understanding of the rights of religious minorities. Therefore, in the face of these complex dynamics, the study emphasizes the need for a holistic and inclusive approach in formulating policies and actions. This approach includes wise legal reform efforts, interfaith dialogue that builds mutual understanding, and informative community education. Thus, it is hoped that through this comprehensive approach, society will undergo a transformation that leads to greater inclusiveness and more substantial respect for the rights of religious minorities worldwide.

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