



# Brotherhood Perspective of the Qur'an

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**Abstract:** Brotherhood is a basic concept in Islam that has been emphasized by the Quran as the basis for building harmonious relationships between human beings. In the perspective of the Qur'an, brotherhood is not just a blood bond, but rather a spiritual and moral bond that binds individuals. The definition of brotherhood in the Qur'an includes aspects such as mutual love, mutual help, and mutual respect for each other regardless of differences in ethnicity, race, ethnicity and social status. The Qur'an strongly emphasizes that all humans are part of one big family created by Allah SWT. Therefore, brotherhood in Islam demands to avoid division, conflict and discrimination. The Qur'an emphasizes that brotherhood is basically one that is based on faith in Allah and moral equality, not on racial equality or material wealth. Apart from that, the Qur'an provides concrete examples of how brotherhood should be applied in everyday life, such as through zakat, alms, sharing and an attitude of empathy towards fellow Muslims or fellow countrymen. Brotherhood in the Islamic perspective also teaches us to be loving, fair and not harm one another. In the context of modern society which is full of conflict and division, understanding brotherhood from the perspective of the Qur'an becomes very important. By understanding this concept, Muslims are expected to be able to build harmonious relationships, support each other and respect each other in order to create peace and justice in society.

**Keywords:** Al-Qur'an; Brotherhood

## Introduction

The Qur'an is the holy book of Muslims, namely the main source of teachings and life guidelines for millions of Muslims throughout the world (DeLong-Bas, 2022). Apart from being spiritual guidance, the Qur'an also presents a series of principles, values and ethical guidelines that cover various aspects of human life, including relationships between individuals, society and the universe. Brotherly relations among the Ummah are basically regulated in Islam using the term *Ukhuwah Islamiyah*. Islamic brotherhood is basically a brotherly relationship based on equality of principles and values of life which is based on an understanding of Islamic teachings as a whole. Islamic brotherhood between fellow Muslims without differentiating between groups. *Ukhuwah Islamiyah* only requires an attitude of life that is tolerant and respectful of one's outlook on life as long as it

does not conflict with applicable values and norms (Hasibuan et al., 2024).

Relationships between human beings are an obligation for us as living creatures in this world, starting with brotherhood and kinship within the family environment or outside the family environment, whether of the same faith or not. The importance of brotherhood is so important, in any of our sacred discussions the importance of building good relationships with others has been explained and knowing what the meaning and purpose of building brotherhood is, so that peace and harmony can be created (Hurrodiah & Yasir, 2021).

One very important aspect emphasized in the Qur'an is perspective on all the problems faced by humans, both in personal and social contexts. From issues of justice, truth, to the concept of leadership. The Qur'an provides a unique, equal and in-depth view of

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various issues relevant to human daily life. Brotherhood or peer relationships also provide an explanation that humans who have reproduced and procreated on this earth originate from one soul (*ahad*) (Al-Zamakhshari, 2000). This equality must be instilled in each person and individual so that family ties are not broken and avoid divisions and disputes due to existing differences such as language, skin color, race, ethnicity, etc. (Kaltsum, 2021).

This difference must be understood as a fundamental and logical consequence of the spread of humans to remote areas of the earth which is greatly influenced by all existing factors such as geographical, sociological and anthropological locations. The importance of maintaining human relations is so important that it is positioned after the command to be devoted to Allah SWT. The word piety refers to an attitude consisting of love and fear of Allah SWT. A big and strong feeling for him encourages a person to only do something that makes him happy and is afraid to do something he doesn't like so that we can live together in peace and tranquility (Haneef, 1993).

In this context, it is important to explore how the Qur'an views the world, humans and various phenomena of life from its own perspective. One of the central themes in the understanding of the Qur'an is the concept of brotherhood, which plays a key role in building harmonious relationships between human beings. In this discussion, we will explore the theme "Brotherhood from a Qur'anic Perspective", with a focus on the concept of brotherhood. We will explain the meaning, principles and implications of brotherhood according to the Quran. Apart from that, we will also present several concrete examples from Al-Qur'an verses that illustrate the importance of brotherhood in the context of daily life.

Through an in-depth analysis of the Qur'an's views on brotherhood, we will be able to explore valuable wisdom and lessons that can be applied in efforts to build a more inclusive, peaceful and harmonious society. Thus, it is hoped that this discussion can provide a deeper understanding of the wisdom of the Quran and its relevance in facing the challenges of the modern era. This brotherhood protects the rights of others and accepts differences in society. Brotherhood generally involves the concepts of justice, peace and equality. The thought in Islam that strongly supports tolerance is a belief in a natural religion, which is rooted in the flesh of all people and human goodness is a natural consequence of this principle in our daily lives (Anandari & Afriyanto, 2022; Azzis, 2019).

## Method

Based on the problems raised, this research is included in qualitative research and looking at the data collected, this research is included in library research, where all the data is from written materials in the form of

books, manuscripts, documents, the Quran, etc. Materials- The study material is related to the science of the Qur'an and interpretation, especially related to the brotherly perspective of the Qur'an (Auliya et al., 2020).

To obtain accurate data in this research, researchers used two data, namely primary data, where researchers understand and analyze the interpretation of verses in the Quran regarding religious moderation (Munandar & Amin, 2023). Secondary data, where researchers carry out an in-depth understanding of moderate religion through book literature, journal articles, magazines and so on (Hasan & Juhannis, 2024).

Meanwhile, data analysis techniques are used by researchers to obtain data accurately, namely by reducing data, presenting data, and drawing conclusions. So, the brotherhood perspective of the Al-Qur'an viewed from the verses of the Al-Quran can be used as an appropriate and objective research finding.

## Results and Discussion

### *The Nature of Brotherhood from a Qur'anic Perspective*

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ فَأَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَ أَخَوَيْكُمْ ۚ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ {١٠}

*Believers are truly brothers. Therefore, reconcile (improve relations) between your two brothers and fear Allah, so that you may receive mercy." t.* Qs. Al-Hujurat [49]: 10

Basically, brotherhood is actually bound by a strong heart of faith. Maintaining brotherhood is an obligation for every individual Muslim. In Qs. Al-Hujurat [49]: 10, Quraish Shihab explains that every Muslim individual is a brother even without ties of blood, descent or ancestry. Islam is the connecting chain of everything, so there is very little chance of feuds occurring among believers if they understand the meaning of brotherhood (Khadijah, 2021; Shihab, 2000).

In the Qur'an itself, there is the word Akh, this word in its single context is found 52 times, most of which have the meaning of sibling. As for the plural form, it consists of two types, the first is the word Ikhwan. This word is often used in the context of unrelated brotherhood, found 22 times, and some of it is combined with the word Al-Din. Furthermore, the word ikhwah occurs 7 times in the Qur'an and shows the meaning of brotherhood, descent, except in Qs. Al-Hujurat [49]: 10 (Faesal, 2022; Munawwir, 1984).

Fraternity has significant importance in building strong emotional relationships, social solidarity, and strengthening individual and group well-being. This also plays a role in reducing conflict, strengthening family relationships, promoting social justice, and

affirming religious values. Additionally, fraternities also provide important social and economic support to community members. Thus, brotherhood is not just an interpersonal relationship, but also the foundation of harmony and progress in society.

فَهَلْ عَسَيْتُمْ إِنْ تَوَلَّيْتُمْ أَنْ تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَتُقْطِعُوا أَرْحَامَكُمْ  
{٢٣}

*So what if you were in power you would cause damage on the face of the earth and break family relations." Qs. Muhammad [22]: 23*

Then the believers at that time said, "Why didn't a verse come down that ordered and invited us to fight?"? However, when the letter that orders war comes down, you will all see people whose hearts contain hypocrisy looking at you like the gaze of someone who has fainted from hatred and fear of death. Therefore, obeying Allah SWT and saying what is permitted by religion is good for them if it is obligatory for them to carry out jihad. Then, if they all believed in Allah SWT, that would be better for them than being hypocritical. So, what are those among you, hypocrites, if you come to power you will cause havoc on the earth and sever family ties with your relatives.

أَدْعُوهُمْ لِأَبَائِهِمْ هُوَ أَقْسَطُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ فَإِنْ لَمْ تَعْلَمُوا آبَاءَهُمْ  
فَإِخْوَانَكُمْ فِي الدِّينِ وَمَوَالِيكُمْ وَلَيْسَ عَلَيْكُمْ جُنَاحٌ فِيمَا أَخْطَأْتُمْ بِهِ -  
وَلَكِنْ مَا تَعَمَّدَتْ قُلُوبُكُمْ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا {٣٣}

*Call them (the adopted children) by (using) the names of their fathers; that is fairer in the sight of Allah, and if you do not know their fathers, then (call them as) your brothers in religion and your maula-maula. And there is no sin against you in what you make a mistake about, but (there is sin) what your heart intends. And Allah is Most Forgiving, Most Merciful" Qs. Al-Ahzab [05]: 33*

Allah did not make your adopted children your biological children, therefore call them by the names of their own biological parents (fathers), not their adoptive fathers. Such a call is fair according to Allah SWT. and you do not know the name of their biological father, then call them all your brothers in the same religion, and there is no sin on your part if you do not know the law regarding this. But what becomes a sin is if it is intentional and it is known that it is wrong.

After canceling the law on adopted children related to the previous verse, in this verse Allah SWT emphasizes that the position of a prophet is more important for a believer than just being the father of a child. In fact, he is more important than themselves because he always wants

goodness for all his people and thanks to him, blessings are also sent down. Likewise, with those who are blood related to each other or have a family.

*Hadith about Brotherhood*

عَنْ أَبِي عُمَرَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: الْمُسْلِمُ أَخُو الْمُسْلِمِ لَا يَظْلِمُهُ وَلَا يَخْذُلُهُ وَلَا يُسْلِمُهُ

This hadith was narrated by Abdullah bin Umar, may Allah be pleased with them both, who said: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said: "A Muslim is a brother to another Muslim; he does not oppress him, does not disappoint him, and does not hand him over (to the enemy). (Bukhari & Muslim).

Here is a brief explanation of each part of this hadith: A Muslim is a brother to another Muslim, this indicates that all Muslims are brothers in faith, which requires them to love and help each other; He does not oppress him, prohibits a Muslim from oppressing his brother, whether physically, mentally, or materially; He does not disappoint him, prevents a Muslim from disappointing his brother, meaning not abandoning him in times of need or neglecting him; and He does not hand him over (to the enemy), Prohibits a Muslim from handing his brother over to the enemy or causing him harm. This hadith emphasizes the importance of unity and solidarity among Muslims, and encourages avoiding acts of oppression, betrayal, and disappointment.

Thus, this hadith provides strong moral guidance for Muslims in interacting with fellow Muslims, by teaching mutual respect, support and protection of others in the Islamic community.

وَعَنْ أَنَسٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: لَا تَقَا طَعُومًا وَلَا تَدَا بَرُومًا وَلَا تَبَا غَضُومًا وَلَا تَحَا سَدُومًا ، وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ إِخْوَانًا ، وَلَا يَجِلْ لِلْمُسْلِمِ أَنْ يَهْجُرَ أَخَاهُ فَوْقَ ثَلَاثٍ . مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ

*Narrated from Anas r.a. said: Rasulullah s.a.w. said: do not break ties and do not turn your back and do not hate, and do not instigate and be servants of Allah as brothers, and it is not permissible for a Muslim to boycott fellow Muslims for more than three days. (Muttafaq Alaih)." (Buchari & Muslim).*

*Fraternity Coverage*

*Brotherhood among Muslims*

The explanation of "fellow Muslim brothers" refers to the concept of brotherhood taught in Islam. In this context, every individual who adheres to the Islamic religion is considered a brother or sister to others,

regardless of ethnic, racial or other background differences. This concept is based on Islamic teachings which emphasize unity, solidarity and compassion among its people.

In Islam, relations between fellow Muslims are commanded to be maintained with full respect, compassion and justice. This is reflected in many verses of the Quran and hadith of the Prophet Muhammad SAW. which emphasizes the importance of brotherhood in the Islamic religion.

#### *Fellow Muslims have several important implications*

Unity in Faith: Brotherhood in Islam is based on faith in Allah and recognition of Muhammad as the Messenger of Allah. Therefore, every Muslim is considered to have the same spiritual ties; Support and Well-Being: As brothers or sisters, Muslims are expected to support each other in good times and bad. They must be willing to provide aid, protection, and moral support to each other; Justice and Equality: The concept of brotherhood in Islam affirms that all Muslims have equal rights before the law and in society. There must be no discrimination or unfair treatment towards fellow Muslims; Peace and Harmony: Brotherhood in Islam aims to create peace, harmony and unity among Muslims. By loving, respecting and understanding each other, Muslims are expected to be able to live side by side peacefully; and In conclusion, the concept of "Muslim brothers" reflects the importance of strong, affectionate and mutually respectful relationships between individuals in the Muslim community. This is an integral part of Islamic teachings which emphasize the importance of unity and solidarity among its followers.

#### *Inter-Religious Fraternity*

The Qur'an teaches that all humans are part of one big family created by Allah SWT. Therefore, brotherhood is not only limited to fellow Muslims, but also includes good relations with all mankind. This concept is reflected in the verses of the Qur'an which emphasize the importance of being fair, sharing goodness, and treating everyone with compassion regardless of religion, ethnicity, or social background.

The Qur'an teaches that brotherhood is not just a social relationship, but also has deep spiritual and moral dimensions. True brotherhood is based on the bond of faith in Allah and loyalty to Him. Every individual's life always goes hand in hand with others, including the existence of religion and other religions which is a necessity for its adherents. Every religion teaches its followers to do good deeds in their lives, because the main goal of religion for its followers is salvation (Firdausiyah, 2021).

From the perspective of the Qur'an, brotherhood is not only between fellow Muslims, but also between religious communities. So, the Qur'an states that all

humans are brothers and sisters, so we are commanded to always maintain good family relations between each other. As in QS. An-Nisa [4]: 1.

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا  
زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ  
وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا {١}

*O people, fear your God who created you from one person (Adam) and He created from him his partner (Eve). From both of them, Allah produced many men and women. Fear Allah in Whose name you ask each other and (maintain) family relationships. Indeed, Allah always protects and cares for you. QS. An-Nisa [4]: 1*

Fostering an attitude of brotherhood between religious communities can be done in various ways, respecting and appreciating one another in any matter, including in the process of worship. This activity is carried out in order to create harmony and harmony between religious followers.

وَلَا تَسُبُّوا الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَيَسُبُّوا اللَّهَ عَدْوًا بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ  
كَذَلِكَ زَيْنًا لِكُلِّ أُمَّةٍ عَمَلُهُمْ ثُمَّ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِمْ مَرْجِعُهُمْ فَيُنَبِّئُهُمْ بِمَا كَانُوا  
يَعْمَلُونَ {١٠٨}

And do not curse (the deities) they worship other than Allah because they will then curse Allah beyond measure without (basic) knowledge. In this way, we make every community think that their work is good. Then to their Lord is their return, then He will inform them of what they have done. QS. A-l-An'am [6]: 108.

## Conclusion

Brotherhood, or *ukhuwah*, is an important concept in the perspective of the Quran which emphasizes the importance of strong relationships between fellow humans, especially fellow Muslims. Some conclusions that can be drawn from the perspective of the Qur'an regarding brotherhood include: Brotherhood as a Fundamental Concept: The Qur'an emphasizes that all humans are descendants of Adam and Eve without exception, so that humans have brotherhood as fellow creatures of Allah. This concept of brotherhood underlies human relations which should be based on love, justice and togetherness. Brotherhood in Faith: The Qur'an teaches that the strongest brotherhood is brotherhood in faith. All Muslims are considered brothers in the faith, and this brotherly relationship must be maintained and maintained by obeying Islamic

teachings, helping each other, and supporting each other in goodness. Tolerance and Diversity: Although brotherhood in the faith is highly emphasized, the Qur'an also emphasizes the importance of tolerance and respect for the diversity that exists, especially in Indonesia. The Qur'an encourages Muslims to live side by side with people who have different beliefs and cultures in peace and mutual respect so that there is harmony in life. The Importance of Justice: The Qur'an emphasizes that true brotherhood can only be realized in an atmosphere of justice. Therefore, Muslims are obliged to be fair and do good to everyone regardless of social, economic, religious and ethnic differences.

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The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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