

Mapping Religious Moderation: Bibliometric Analysis on The Trend And The Future Perspective Of Religious Tolerance

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Abstract. This article examines the importance of religious moderation within Indonesia's educational framework, especially given its diverse cultural and religious landscape. It addresses the rising challenges of intolerance and extremism that threaten social harmony, highlighting the need for a robust educational approach that promotes tolerance and respect for differences. Through a bibliometric analysis of international publications from the Scopus database, the research identifies key trends in the discourse on religious moderation and its educational implications. Findings indicate a growing interest in incorporating religious moderation into the national curriculum, emphasizing the need for teacher training and the development of inclusive educational materials. The article contributes to academic discourse by underscoring education's role in fostering a tolerant society. It also recommends further research on factors affecting the successful implementation of religious moderation education and advocates for exploring effective teaching methodologies to enhance students' understanding and practice of religious moderation, aiming for a more harmonious educational environment.

Keywords:

Religious Moderation,
Tolerance Education, Cultural
Diversity.

Introduction

The facts that occur in the field are various problems in the name of religion, one example is violence in the name of religion by looking at the views of Islamic teachings on violence that in the name of religion (Murtadho & Ruba, n.d., 2015), various things that are done refer to the religion adhered to by individuals which ends up destroying the unity and unity of Indonesia (Ibad, 2023; Salsabila et al., 2020), various things that are done refer to the religion adhered to by individuals which ends up destroying the unity and unity of Indonesia. (Ibad, 2023; Salsabila et al., 2020) Indonesia is a democratic country which has many provinces with diverse tribes, ethnicities, languages, cultures and there are 6 religions or beliefs that are the choice of the Indonesian people. Therefore, justice, awareness of the nation and state and an attitude of nationalism need to be instilled in society. This condition will provide richness in life experience because of the variety and will provide the best experience (best practices) on each individual. However, on the other hand, this is also a big opportunity for horizontal conflict with Indonesia's cultural diversity (Habibah et al.,

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2022). Therefore, of course it is very necessary to fortify a multicultural society with a strong and capable religious understanding to overcome increasingly complex problems.

As the times continue to experience change and renewal, the world is now starting to enter the era of society 5.0, this era is the impact of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 (Syarkati & Rifa'i, 2021). The development of changes in human civilization certainly does not only have an impact positive in accordance with what is expected, without realizing it, this situation will have implications for various new problems, one of which is reducing the sense of solidarity towards fellow humans as social creatures, the existence of groups that behave exclusively, explosively, intolerantly (Daheri, 2019). When the values of unity and tolerance fade, this means that various new problems will begin to emerge, one of which is religious issues, especially as Indonesian society is known for its people who have many cultures, customs and ethnic groups. This is closely linked to the ongoing rise of social conflicts rooted in religion within society. Examples include incidents of religious blasphemy, vandalism of places of worship, hate speech on social media, and mutual disparagement among different congregations (Lahmi et al., 2021).

The increase of these phenomena inevitably intensifies religious sentiment in Indonesia. Consequently, the sense of harmony and unity as a nation becomes fragile, often divided along religious lines. Ironically, many of the individuals involved in these conflicts are Muslims (Jamal, 2017). To create harmony in this diversity, the Indonesian government promotes religious moderation which is expected to suppress extremism and radicalism. Religious moderation is an understanding of tolerance which is to maintain peace, harmony and justice in implementing a belief. The attitude of tolerance in respecting differences and diversity in Indonesia is one of the attitudes in Religious Moderation (Wuri & Raisa, 2020). Religious moderation has an important role in building tolerance and diversity in a diverse society. In the context of globalization and plurality, diversity is a necessity that must be accepted and appreciated by every individual.

Religious moderation is an approach that emphasizes balance in religion, avoids extremism, and encourages an inclusive attitude towards differences. Education functions as a means to internalize the values of tolerance, respecting each other to live and develop in harmony (Ananda et al., 2024). Through religious moderation education, students are taught to appreciate differences and avoid exclusive attitudes that can trigger conflict. By internalizing the values of moderation, tolerance and diversity, the younger generation can be better prepared to face global challenges and contribute positively to building a more civilized and just civilization. Through this approach, generations of the nation are taught to see religion as a force that can unite, not divide. An attitude of tolerance formed through religious moderation can have a positive impact on society.

A study conducted by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution shows that societies that apply the principles of religious moderation tend to be more able to resolve conflicts peacefully (Silvestri & Mayall, 2015). In addition, adopting a tolerant attitude can reduce discrimination and build better social relations between

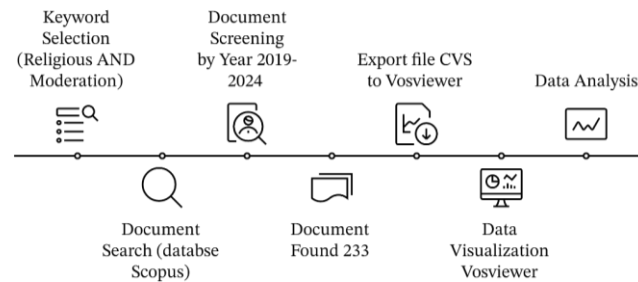
individuals, regardless of their religious background. The importance of this research is that it is designed to instill awareness that differences are part of harmonious living together, and that every individual has the right to practice their beliefs peacefully. In addition, religious moderation also encourages interfaith dialogue as a way to build tolerance and mutual understanding. What are the factors that cause increasing intolerance and social conflict with religious backgrounds in Indonesia, especially amidst the existing cultural and religious diversity? How can the implementation of religious moderation education form an attitude of tolerance and reduce inter-religious conflict among Indonesia's young generation? The aim of this article is to study religious moderation, how the application of religious moderation can form an attitude of tolerance towards the younger generation. It is hoped that this journal will provide readers with new insights on how to build an inclusive, harmonious and diversity-based society through a good and in-depth understanding of religious moderation. So, we can work together to overcome the challenges of multiculturalism and build a stronger Indonesia that is united amidst the differences and diversity that exist in this country

Method

In this study, researchers used data from international publications sourced from the Scopus database (www.scopus.com). The Scopus database is the main source for collecting publication documents related to the research. Scopus was selected due to its ability to facilitate researchers in tracking the advancements in global studies concerning the trends in religious moderation literature. The search process was conducted in December 2024. Searching and filtering was done using keywords related to the literature on Religious Moderation, namely Religious AND Moderatio, these keywords were chosen because they provide a broader coverage of the trend of religious moderation.

Figure 1 shows that this bibliometric analysis consists of five stages: keyword selection, document search ([Scopus database](#)) with related topics, limiting documents for the last five years 2019-2024, all subject areas, all document types, documents found, export CVS files to analysis tool Vosviewer, data visualization and data analysis. In accordance with the purpose of this research, which is to examine Religious Moderation in Indonesia in international publications, the first step is to determine relevant keywords. The words Religious AND Moderation were chosen as the main focus. The next step was to search for data in the time frame from 2019 to 2024 using these keywords, limiting the last five years because the data obtained is the latest data.

Figure 1. Data Analysis Process
Data Analysis Process



Source: Research results

A total of 233 documents pertinent to the research topic were identified. The data analysis concentrated on documents included in the Scopus database, chosen for its esteemed reputation and rigorous selection criteria. Scopus employs a strict policy and an independent panel of scientists to ensure that only high-quality documents are indexed. By utilizing Scopus as a data source, researchers gain access to top-tier literature. Once the data is filtered, the collected information is input into the Vosviewer analysis tool, which is utilized for bibliometric analysis to map the literature within the Scopus database (Ma'arif et al., 2023). Vosviewer allows for more in-depth visualization and analysis of the data to answer the research questions posed.

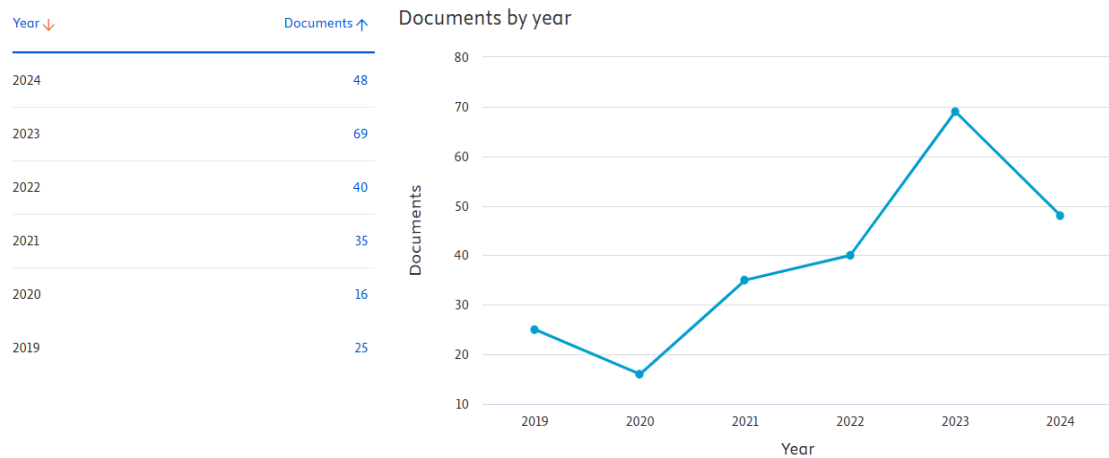
Results and Discussion

Results

Trend Of The Issue Religious Moderation

Several important factors can be considered in analyzing research trends, including the number of publications in the last five years (2019-2024), subject area, and country affiliation. These trends provide a general insight into the development and impact of research in the context of religious moderation. Based on the number of publications published on the topic, the research trends can be described as follows figure 2:

Figure 2. Trends Based On Publication By Year



Source: Research results

The trend of publications on religious moderation in the last five years (2019-2024) shows a fluctuating pattern but tends to increase significantly, reflecting the increasing attention to this topic.

In 2019, the number of publications related to religious moderation was recorded at 25 documents. This figure is the basis for the beginning of a relatively low research trend in that period. However, in the following year, 2020, the number of publications decreased to 16 documents. This decline may have been influenced by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected many sectors, including scientific research and publishing.

Entering 2021, there was a significant spike with 35 publications recorded, indicating a recovery and increased interest in the theme of religious moderation. This surge continued in 2022 with a total of 40 publications, showing that the topic is gaining more attention among academics, both in Indonesia and abroad.

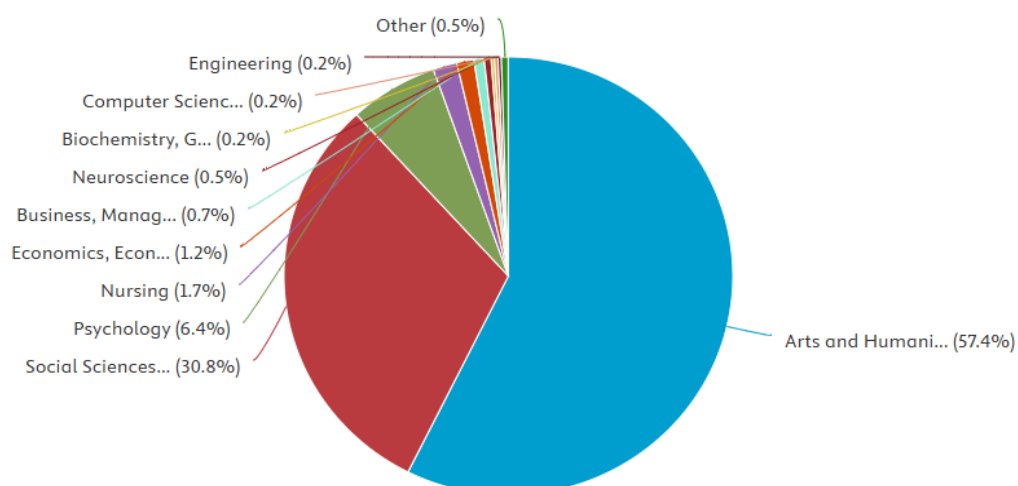
The year 2023 recorded the highest number in the publication trend, with 69 documents, indicating that religious moderation is becoming an increasingly relevant issue, both globally and in the context of multicultural Indonesia. The rise in the number of publications in recent years indicates a growing interest and focus among researchers on this subject. The surge in publications shows that the issue of religious moderation is increasingly relevant and interesting to academics. This increase may be related to the efforts of the government and various institutions to strengthen religious moderation in an increasingly pluralistic society (Rustandi & Kusnawan, 2023).

In 2024, although there is a decrease compared to the previous year (48 publications), this figure still indicates a high interest in religious moderation research. This decrease may reflect a consolidation in the topic, where many studies have been published and the field is beginning to enter the stage of in-depth analysis.

Overall, the publication trend from 2019 to 2024 shows a significant increase in attention to religious moderation, especially in recent years, indicating that the topic is increasingly relevant in the face of social and religious challenges in the modern era. Fluctuations, including the decline in 2020, can be understood in the context of external impacts, such as the pandemic. In general, however, these trends illustrate an important increase in research on tolerance, moderation and religious pluralism that can contribute to a deeper understanding of social dynamics in Indonesia and the world at large.

Publication trends by subject area show that the distribution of subject areas related to religious moderation research shows significant variation, with most publications concentrated in Arts and Humanities (57.4%) and Social Sciences (30.8%). This proposition reflects that studies on religious moderation and tolerance focus more on studies related to the humanities and social sciences, which are indeed the main domains in understanding social, cultural and religious dynamics as shown in figure 3 below:

Figure 3. Trends Based On Subject Area



Source: Research results

The trend of publications on religious moderation is distributed in the Arts and Humanities field, which accounts for more than half of the total publications (57.4%). This dominance reflects the important role of the humanities in studying themes related to religion, culture and tolerance. In this context, studies on religious moderation are often associated with philosophical, theological and historical analyses, which explore the ways in which religion and faith can bridge or even trigger conflict in society. Arts and Humanities provides a rich theoretical framework for understanding the dynamics of interfaith relations, both at the individual and collective levels. Research conducted in this field often focuses on the importance of values such as tolerance, pluralism, and religious freedom as part of efforts to achieve social peace in pluralistic societies (Hasan & Juhannis, 2024).

Furthermore, the Social Sciences field accounts for around 30.8% of the total publications. This dominance reflects the high relevance of religious moderation in social, political and anthropological studies. Research in this subject mostly leads to the study of how differences in religion and belief affect social relations in society, including in terms of intergroup interactions, government policies, and the role of religion in social development. The discipline also examines issues such as social segregation, tensions between religious groups, and efforts to create more inclusive and harmonious social integration (Abror, 2020). Thus, Social Sciences plays an important role in highlighting the role of religious moderation in resolving social conflicts and building interfaith harmony.

Psychology contributed 6.4% to religious moderation research, suggesting that despite its smaller proportion, psychological studies have a significant role in understanding individual dynamics related to attitudes of tolerance and intolerance. Psychology research in the context of religious moderation often examines psychological factors that influence individual attitudes towards religious differences, such as prejudice, stereotypes, and openness to differences (Kirana et al., 2022). These psychological studies can provide insight into how individuals form their views of other religions and how psychological interventions can be applied to promote inclusive attitudes and reduce religion-based conflict.

Field *Nursing, Economics, Econometrics and Finance*, as well as *Business, Management and Accounting* contributed smaller contributions to total publications, with percentages of 1.7%, 1.2%, and 0.7% respectively. Although the contributions are relatively small, research in these areas remains important for seeing how religious moderation is implemented in professional contexts. For example, in the field of nursing, the importance of respecting religious diversity in interactions between medical personnel and patients is a relevant issue. In the economic and management sectors, religious moderation can contribute to creating an inclusive work environment, where religious diversity is valued as an asset in creating innovation and harmonious social relations.

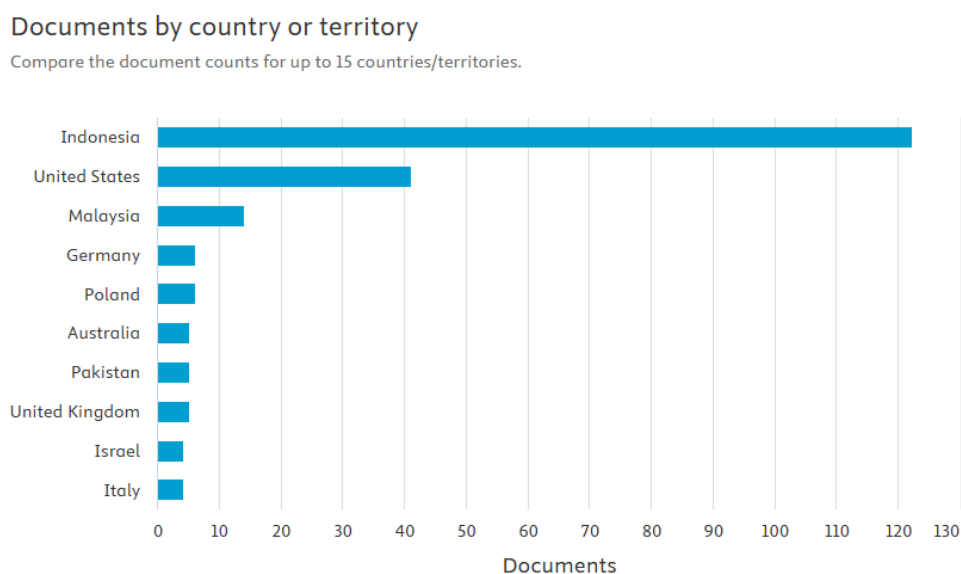
Fields like *Neuroscience, Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology, Computer Science, And Engineering* contributes a very small proportion of total publications related to religious moderation. This low percentage indicates that the topic of religious moderation is rarely discussed in the context of these scientific fields, which are more focused on technical and scientific aspects. However, in the development of technology and science, more and more interdisciplinary research is examining how technology can influence attitudes towards religious diversity, especially in the context of social media and digital applications.

The Other category accounts for 0.5% of total publications, covering subjects outside the aforementioned categories. Although the number of publications in this category is relatively small, it is still important to note that religious moderation is present in a variety of other disciplines that cannot be directly classified into the main fields.

Publication trends by subject area indicate that the study of religious moderation is predominantly within the realm *Arts and Humanities And Social Sciences*, with a primary focus on theoretical, social, and cultural studies that influence multicultural societies. Although other fields such as *Psychology And Nursing* make important contributions, the majority of research focuses on social and humanities aspects relevant to the dynamics of religious differences in social contexts. Therefore, the study of religious moderation is not only a growing academic domain in the social sciences and humanities, but also shows smaller but significant contributions from other disciplines that increasingly recognize the importance of religious tolerance in various sectors of life.

Analysis of country affiliations in publications related to religious moderation and education shows that Indonesia is the main contributor to this research, with more than 120 published documents. This figure reflects the significant level of involvement of Indonesian researchers in studying and introducing the concept of religious moderation in the educational context. The dominance of Indonesian publications also reflects how relevant this topic is in facing social and religious challenges in a very diverse and multicultural country like Indonesia, as illustrated in figure 4:

Figure 4: Trends In The Number Of Publications By Country Affiliation.



Source: Research results

Indonesia clearly dominates research on religious moderation with more than 120 publications. This fact is in line with the Indonesian government's efforts to promote the importance of religious moderation as an effort to build social harmony and prevent radicalization. The topic of religious moderation in Indonesia is seen as a strategic step to deal with potential social conflicts caused by differences in religion, culture and beliefs. In addition, the development of research in Indonesia is also driven by educational policies that integrate the principles of tolerance and religious moderation in the national education curriculum (Habibah et al., 2022).

The United States followed with 41 publications related to religious moderation, reflecting significant interest in the topic among American academics. American publications tend to explore religious moderation in the broader context of religious pluralism, as well as interreligious studies in highly diverse societies, such as in large cities. Despite the lower number of publications compared to Indonesia, the US contribution to this field remains significant, given its role as a country with a multiethnic and multireligious population.

Malaysia, as a country with a religiously and ethnically diverse society, also contributed 14 publications on the topic of religious moderation. Research in Malaysia is often concerned with the application of religious moderation values in educational and social contexts, as well as how religious moderation can help maintain harmony between Muslim and non-Muslim communities. Given the multicultural nature of the country, religious moderation research in Malaysia is highly relevant in maintaining social stability ([Farhana & Shapie, 2023](#)).

Countries such as Germany, Poland, Australia, Pakistan, the United Kingdom, Israel, and Italy show relatively small contributions in religious moderation publications, with less than 10 publications each. Nonetheless, research from these countries provides important perspectives on how religious moderation can be implemented in societies experiencing religious and ethnic pluralism, and how social and political challenges in these countries influence public and educational policies regarding religious moderation.

Publication trends by country affiliation show that Indonesia dominates research related to religious moderation and education, with more than 120 documents published. This reflects Indonesia's active role in developing the concept of religious moderation as a response to the social challenges faced by a diverse society. Other countries such as the United States and Malaysia also contributed significant publications, although in smaller numbers. Meanwhile, European countries and several other countries have contributed more limited publications on this topic, but still offer important perspectives in enriching global understanding of religious moderation.

The Setara Institute survey showed worrying findings regarding levels intolerance among Indonesian students, especially at high school level and equivalent. The survey, which was conducted from January to March 2023, involved 947 male and female students as respondents, as can be seen in (figure 5). The survey was carried out in five major cities in Indonesia, namely Bandung, Bogor, Surabaya, Surakarta and Padang. With a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 3.3%, this survey provides a representative picture of students' perceptions and attitudes towards issues of intolerance, religious tolerance, and acceptance of social and cultural values that exist in Indonesia ([Wardah, 2023](#)).

Table 1. Intolerance Of High School Students In Indonesia In 2023

Findings	Percentage (%)	Explanation
Active intolerant students	5,6%	The number of students showing active intolerance has increased compared to the previous survey (2.4% in 2016).
Students are exposed to intolerance	0,6%	The percentage of students exposed to intolerant views, although small, has also increased.
Students accept differences in beliefs	99,3%	Most students accept differences in beliefs with high tolerance.
Students accept racial and ethnic differences	99,6%	Almost all respondents accepted racial and ethnic differences without objection.
Students accept religious differences	98,5%	Most students accept differences in religion and belief.
Students who cannot resist religious insults	20,2%	Percentage of students who admit they tend to commit violence when faced with religious insults.
Students who consider Western countries as a threat	51,8%	More than half of students feel that Western countries (such as the US, UK, Australia) are a threat to Indonesian religion and culture.
Students who support the application of Islamic law	56,3%	Most students support the implementation of Islamic law as part of the social system.
Students who feel comfortable if all Muslim female students wear the hijab	61,1%	More than half of students feel more comfortable if all Muslim female students wear the hijab.

Source: Research results

Although the majority of students accept differences in faith and race, there are indications that active intolerance is increasing, with 5.6% of students classified as actively intolerant. In addition, a significant number of students also hold views that indicate disapproval of national values such as Pancasila, as well as support for the implementation of Islamic sharia in social life (Ananda et al., 2024).

This analysis shows that education in schools, especially related to religious learning and respect for differences, needs to receive more serious attention in order to avoid strengthening intolerance among students. The government and schools are expected to better monitor extracurricular activities that can be a channel for extreme views to enter.

Discussion

Bibliometric Analysis And The Future Perspective Of Religious Tolerance

Research and publication trends concerning religious moderation play a crucial role in advancing tolerance studies in the future. These investigations significantly enhance our understanding of how religious moderation fosters an educational environment that is inclusive, tolerant, and respectful of diverse beliefs. Such studies enable us to pinpoint effective practices and strategies for incorporating the values of religious moderation into curricula and learning processes. Additionally, trends in research on religious moderation help us recognize the challenges and opportunities for establishing a harmonious society where various religions and perspectives are embraced and respected.

The insights gained from this research provide a vital foundation for developing educational programs aimed at promoting tolerance, interfaith dialogue, and respect for religious diversity. Furthermore, this research contributes to shaping educational policies that advocate for religious moderation. The outcomes can serve as a guide in crafting policies and programs that embody inclusive values and support the implementation of religious moderation within educational settings.

In summary, research and publication trends on religious moderation are essential in shaping a future of education that is more inclusive, tolerant, and grounded in moderation values within a society rich in religious diversity. Several research trends related to these topics can be seen through analysis of relevant documents, which will be explained as follows:

Figure 5. Trends Based On The Topic Discussed In The Publication Document



Source: Research results

The central position of religious moderation in this research shows that this theme is the main focus in the study being analyzed. This indicates that religious moderation is not only relevant in academic contexts, but also reflects high interest

among researchers. The concept of religious moderation is a subject that continues to be studied and expanded, with the aim of understanding, developing and implementing the values of tolerance, inclusiveness and harmony between religions in society. Most of the research analyzed tends to directly or indirectly discuss various aspects related to religious moderation, including basic understanding, practical implementation, challenges faced, and impacts in various social and cultural contexts. This shows that religious moderation functions as an important basis in designing and directing research related to the dynamics of relations between religion and society.

The close relationship between religious moderation and tolerance illustrates that these two concepts intersect and strengthen each other. Religious moderation is often seen as an attitude of tolerance towards differences in religion and belief. Therefore, strengthening understanding of religious moderation means also strengthening the principles of tolerance which are the basis for creating a harmonious and peaceful society. The relationship between religious moderation and education, especially in the context of character education and learning methods, shows that education has a very important role in instilling the values of moderation. By integrating the concept of religious moderation in the education curriculum, society can be shaped to be more inclusive and tolerant from an early age. Education is considered an effective instrument for preparing a generation that understands and practices the values of togetherness between religions.

The linkage of religious moderation with research and university action shows that the academic world plays an important role in the development and application of this concept. Action-based research conducted in various educational institutions can test the effectiveness of programs designed to promote religious moderation in society. This also shows the importance of collaboration between academics and practitioners in developing policies and programs aimed at improving the quality of relations between religions. The relationship between religious moderation and social interaction between religions shows that religious moderation is not only related to individuals, but also to the social dynamics between religious groups in society. Research on religious moderation can dig deeper into the ways religious groups interact peacefully and constructively within a plurality framework.

This analysis indicates the need to develop a more structured educational curriculum to instill the values of moderation from an early age. A curriculum that integrates the concept of religious moderation can provide a strong foundation for building a society that is tolerant and respects diversity. Further research needs to focus on evaluating the effectiveness of programs aimed at promoting religious moderation in various contexts. This may include studies of the successful implementation of programs in different countries or cultures, as well as their impact on local communities.

Research on religious moderation really requires an interdisciplinary approach. Collaboration between various scientific disciplines such as religion, education, sociology and psychology can enrich perspectives and deepen understanding of the dynamics of religious moderation in society. Comparative studies between different countries or regions can identify factors that influence the successful implementation

of religious moderation. This approach is important for understanding the local and global context in implementing religious moderation. Is the research analyzed more focused on a particular area? How does the social, cultural and political context of the region influence the understanding and application of religious moderation? This understanding is very important to determine the extent to which external factors influence the dynamics of religious moderation. Are there differences in the way religious moderation is conceptualized and practiced across religions and faiths? This can enrich understanding of how each religion responds to challenges related to moderation in a plural society. How do religious figures play a role in promoting religious moderation? The role of religious figures is very crucial in guiding people to live their religious teachings in a moderate and tolerant manner towards differences. How do technological developments and globalization affect the challenges of promoting religious moderation? Globalization and technological advances bring new challenges to interfaith relations, both in terms of communication and interaction between previously separate groups.

Based on this analysis, it can be concluded that religious moderation plays a very central role in current academic research. This concept is not only important in social and cultural contexts, but also in the formulation of more inclusive education and community development policies. Analysis using tools such as VOSviewer provides a more comprehensive picture of the position on religious moderation, which can serve as a basis for further research in this area. It is hoped that further research can dig deeper into the implementation, challenges and impacts of religious moderation in global and local contexts.

Challenges and Policy Recommendations for Supporting Religious Moderation in the Context of Multicultural Tolerance

Intolerance in the education sector and society at large is a major obstacle to creating an inclusive environment. Within education, intolerance can take the form of discrimination against students based on their religion or ethnicity, which obstructs the achievement of educational goals founded on the principles of justice and equality. Beyond formal education, intolerance can negatively affect society, spark conflicts between religious groups, and harm social harmony. From the perspective of religious tolerance or intolerance, this is linked to attitudes and behaviors towards other religions, minority groups, and different religious elements. Tolerance of religious diversity is crucial for building a harmonious society, while intolerance towards other religions or minorities often stems from a lack of understanding, negative stereotypes, or the influence of religious extremism.

The root causes of religious intolerance can stem from various interconnected political, economic, and social factors. Intolerance frequently arises due to social inequality, where certain groups feel marginalized or hindered by economic injustice. Political elements also play a role, as rhetoric or policies can intensify polarization and trigger interreligious conflict ([Triandafyllidou & Kouki, 2013](#)). Additionally, distrust between ethnic and religious groups is a root cause of intolerance, which can be triggered by factors such as high religiosity, feelings of threat from other groups, radical sentiments, socioeconomic disparities, the spread of misinformation, and hate

speech. The combination of these factors creates a social environment vulnerable to interreligious conflict, thereby increasing the level of intolerance in society (Engstrom & Laurin, 2024).

The educational model of religious moderation is key to addressing intolerance. Religious moderation is a critical issue in education, considering the role education plays in shaping students' character and religious understanding (Ma'arif et al., 2023). In a society with diverse religions, education must take a leading role in instilling the values of moderation, tolerance, and respect for differences in beliefs (Downes & Cefai, 2019). However, implementing religious moderation in the education system faces several challenges, such as the influence of extremism, intolerance, and difficulties in integrating moderate values into the curriculum. Therefore, appropriate policies are needed to support inclusive and tolerant religious moderation education.

The primary challenge in implementing religious moderation in education is the presence of extremism and intolerance. Terrorism and violence carried out in the name of religion can influence students' views on religion, as well as contribute to societal polarization. In addition, religion-based intolerance and discrimination can also arise in educational settings, which in turn hampers the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment (Zaluchu et al., 2025).

To overcome this challenge, the first policy recommendation is to strengthen religious moderation education in the curriculum. This involves providing more training and development opportunities for teachers and educators to effectively deliver content that teaches the values of tolerance and respect for religious differences, while also countering negative stereotypes about specific religions (Setinawati et al., 2025). Introducing religious moderation early on is essential so that students can develop an inclusive understanding of religion from a young age.

The second recommendation is to foster interfaith dialogue and cooperation among educational institutions. Collaboration between educational institutions from various religious backgrounds can help create a learning environment that respects and honors differences. Interfaith dialogue also provides opportunities to bridge differing views and deepen understanding of various religions.

Another policy suggestion is to ensure that religious education promotes moderation and avoids extreme or fanatical views. Incorporating an understanding of religious pluralism and tolerance into the religious education curriculum can help nurture a generation that is more inclusive and appreciative of religious diversity. Moreover, collaboration between educational institutions, religious organizations, and moderate religious figures can enhance the understanding of religious moderation and promote the spread of tolerance values throughout society.

It is also important to engage the community and families in religious moderation education. Education does not only take place in schools but also at home and in the community (Hadiyanto et al., 2025). The involvement of parents and the wider community in supporting the values of religious moderation will strengthen the impact of education both inside and outside the classroom. Additionally, the policy recommendation should focus on creating an inclusive and safe educational environment, which includes effectively addressing and preventing religion-based

intolerance and discrimination (Naj'ma & Bakri, 2021). Schools must serve as a safe space for all students, free from threats or fear.

Furthermore, findings from prior research can offer useful insights, such as encouraging the integration of religious moderation principles into religious education curricula. Training teachers to utilize methods that support religious moderation, as well as developing curriculum guidelines that promote inclusivity and tolerance, are vital steps. Moreover, adopting dialogue-based and argumentative methods may be a valuable strategy, with recommendations for incorporating this approach into teacher training and national curriculum standards. Overall, policy recommendations should aim to cultivate an educational environment that fosters religious moderation and nurtures tolerance among students (Ali, 2023).

In conclusion, education plays a central role in advancing religious moderation in a pluralistic society. The existing challenges, such as intolerance, extremism, and interreligious tensions, can be addressed with appropriate policy interventions. By embedding the values of tolerance, interfaith dialogue, and respect for diversity in educational curricula, and by creating an inclusive learning environment, education can become a powerful tool for building a harmonious society that honors religious diversity.

Conclusion

This article discusses the importance of religious moderation in the context of education in Indonesia, especially amidst the existing cultural and religious diversity. This research identifies various challenges faced in implementing religious moderation, including the influence of extremism and intolerance which can influence students' views on religion.

Research findings show that religious moderation education needs to be strengthened in the curriculum. It is essential to prioritize teacher training and the creation of educational materials that promote values of tolerance and respect for diversity. This is crucial for fostering students' understanding of the significance of coexisting in a pluralistic society.

Future research should focus on a more in-depth investigation of the factors that affect the effective implementation of religious moderation education across different settings. This includes the role of society and family in supporting these values. Apart from that, further discussion needs to be carried out regarding effective learning methods in teaching religious moderation. In this way, more comprehensive insight can be gained about how to create an inclusive and safe educational environment for all students.

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