

MAQĀSHID AL-SHARĪ‘AH REVISITED: REASSESSING LEGAL RATIONALITY IN ISLAMIC ECONOMIC TRANSACTIONS

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Abstract

Maqāshid al-Sharī‘ah has re-emerged as a central framework for evaluating the ethical and legal dimensions of Islamic economic transactions amid increasing complexity in global financial systems. Contemporary practices often emphasize procedural compliance, creating a gap between formal legality and substantive justice. This study aims to reassess legal rationality by examining how maqāshid can function as a foundational framework for guiding economic transactions beyond rule-based validation. A qualitative normative–juridical research design is employed through systematic analysis of 88 legal and regulatory documents, including classical jurisprudential texts, fatwas, and institutional guidelines across multiple jurisdictions. Analytical matrices and thematic coding are used to identify patterns of maqāshid application, institutional integration, and interpretive variation. The findings reveal that maqāshid is unevenly operationalized, with stronger integration in policy-oriented frameworks and centralized governance systems, while doctrinal and case-based applications remain selective and inconsistent. Institutional embedding of maqāshid enhances coherence and ethical alignment, whereas fragmented application reinforces formalistic tendencies. The study concludes that reconfiguring legal rationality requires transforming maqāshid from a conceptual ideal into an operational governance tool capable of aligning legal form with ethical substance in contemporary Islamic finance.

Keywords: Islamic Economic Law, Legal Rationality, Normative–Juridical Analysis



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INTRODUCTION

Contemporary Islamic economic transactions are increasingly shaped by complex financial instruments, global market integration, and evolving regulatory environments. These developments have intensified the need to revisit foundational legal principles that govern permissibility, legitimacy, and ethical coherence within Islamic law (le Polain de Waroux & Kronenburg García, 2025; Padela et al., 2023). Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah, as a framework concerned with the higher objectives of the law, has gained renewed attention as a potential basis for evaluating economic practices beyond formalistic compliance. Its relevance lies in its capacity to connect legal rulings with broader moral and social purposes, particularly in contexts where traditional jurisprudential tools encounter limitations (Dizon, 2024).

Classical formulations of maqāṣid emphasize the preservation of essential values such as religion, life, intellect, lineage, and wealth. These objectives have historically guided juristic reasoning, providing a teleological dimension to legal interpretation. Contemporary scholars, however, have expanded the scope of maqāṣid to include concepts such as justice, welfare, and human dignity, reflecting changing socio-economic realities (Pioletti, 2024). This expansion raises important questions about how maqāṣid should be operationalized within modern economic systems, especially when confronting novel financial practices that lack direct precedent in classical jurisprudence (Wei, 2025).

The increasing reliance on procedural compliance in Islamic finance has generated debates about the adequacy of existing legal frameworks. Many financial products are structured to meet formal Shariah requirements while potentially diverging from the substantive objectives of the law (Cornejo Puschner, 2024; Igbinedion & Osobase, 2025). This tension highlights the need to reassess legal rationality in Islamic economic transactions, shifting the focus from rule-based validation toward purpose-oriented evaluation. The revisiting of maqāṣid thus emerges as a critical step in addressing the gap between legal form and ethical substance (Wijatmoko et al., 2023).

Current applications of maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah in Islamic economic law reveal significant inconsistencies in interpretation and implementation. Different scholars and institutions adopt varying approaches to defining and prioritizing maqāṣid, leading to divergent legal conclusions on similar financial practices. This lack of conceptual clarity undermines the effectiveness of maqāṣid as a unifying framework for legal reasoning and raises concerns about its practical utility in guiding economic transactions (Fu, 2025).

Institutional practices in Islamic finance often reflect a dominance of compliance-oriented methodologies that prioritize adherence to formal legal structures. Such approaches may marginalize the role of maqāṣid, reducing it to a rhetorical justification rather than an operational principle. The resulting disconnect between legal form and underlying objectives challenges the legitimacy of Islamic financial practices and calls into question the depth of their alignment with Shariah values (AlHouli, 2024; de Souza & Barbosa, 2024).

The emergence of complex financial instruments and digital economic systems further complicates the application of maqāṣid-based reasoning. Traditional jurisprudential tools may struggle to address the ethical implications of these innovations, leading to reliance on analogical reasoning that may not fully capture their socio-economic impact (Brown, 2025). This situation highlights the need for a more robust and systematic approach to integrating maqāṣid into contemporary legal analysis.

This study aims to critically reassess the role of maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah in shaping legal rationality within Islamic economic transactions. The research seeks to examine how maqāṣid can function as a foundational framework for evaluating the legitimacy of financial practices beyond formal compliance. By doing so, the study intends to contribute to a more coherent and ethically grounded understanding of Islamic economic law (Hamlin, 2023).

Another objective is to analyze the interaction between maqāṣid-based reasoning and existing jurisprudential methodologies. The study explores how different interpretive

approaches incorporate or marginalize maqāṣid, and how this affects legal outcomes. This analysis aims to identify patterns of integration and divergence that characterize contemporary legal reasoning in Islamic finance (Elvestad & Holsen, 2024).

The research further aims to develop a conceptual model that operationalizes maqāṣid within modern economic contexts. This model seeks to bridge the gap between normative objectives and practical application, providing a structured approach for evaluating financial transactions. The ultimate goal is to enhance the relevance and effectiveness of maqāṣid as a guiding principle in Islamic economic law.

Existing literature on maqāṣid al-Sharīʿah has largely focused on theoretical elaboration rather than practical application in economic contexts. Many studies emphasize the philosophical foundations of maqāṣid without providing clear methodologies for integrating these principles into legal decision-making. This limitation has contributed to a gap between conceptual discourse and operational practice (Airaksinen, 2023).

Research on Islamic finance has often prioritized compliance mechanisms and product innovation, with limited attention to the underlying objectives of the law. Studies that do engage with maqāṣid frequently treat it as a supplementary consideration rather than a central analytical framework. This tendency reflects a broader inclination toward formalism that may obscure the ethical dimensions of economic transactions (Bernard, 2024; Ghaemmaghami & Jabbar, 2023).

Comparative analyses of maqāṣid-based reasoning across jurisdictions remain relatively underdeveloped. Existing studies rarely examine how different institutional contexts influence the interpretation and application of maqāṣid (Belli et al., 2024; Hanukai, 2023a). The absence of such analysis limits the ability to understand the variability and potential for harmonization within Islamic economic law (Ma & Zhang, 2023).

This study introduces a re-examination of maqāṣid al-Sharīʿah as a central framework for legal rationality in Islamic economic transactions. The research moves beyond descriptive accounts by proposing an integrative model that connects normative objectives with juridical reasoning and institutional practice. This approach offers a more comprehensive understanding of how maqāṣid can inform legal evaluation in contemporary contexts (Barbureau et al., 2023; Venuti, 2025).

The novelty of the study lies in its emphasis on operationalizing maqāṣid within complex financial systems. By addressing the gap between theory and practice, the research provides a structured methodology for incorporating maqāṣid into legal analysis. This contribution has the potential to reshape how Islamic economic law is interpreted and applied, particularly in relation to emerging financial technologies.

The justification for this research is grounded in the growing need to align Islamic financial practices with their ethical foundations. Revisiting maqāṣid is essential for ensuring that legal developments remain consistent with the broader objectives of Shariah. The study's findings are expected to inform both academic discourse and policy development, supporting the evolution of a more coherent and ethically grounded framework for Islamic economic governance.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

This study employs a qualitative normative–juridical research design to reassess legal rationality in Islamic economic transactions through the lens of maqāṣid al-Sharīʿah. The design integrates doctrinal legal analysis with conceptual and analytical inquiry to examine how higher objectives of the law inform, constrain, or transform contemporary financial practices. Normative analysis is used to explore classical and modern formulations of maqāṣid, including their philosophical foundations and jurisprudential implications. Juridical analysis

situates these formulations within current regulatory and institutional contexts, allowing for a systematic evaluation of how legal rationality is constructed between textual fidelity and purposive interpretation. Analytical emphasis is placed on coherence, ethical alignment, and the capacity of maqāṣid to guide decision-making in complex economic environments (Hanukai, 2023b).

Research Target/Subject

The population of this research consists of authoritative legal texts, scholarly works, and regulatory documents relevant to maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah and Islamic economic transactions. These include classical jurisprudential treatises, contemporary academic literature, fatwas issued by recognized Shariah supervisory boards, and regulatory frameworks developed by national authorities and international institutions such as AAOIFI and IFSB (Müüripeal et al., 2023; Schneller et al., 2024). The sample is selected through purposive sampling to ensure representation of diverse interpretive traditions, geographical contexts, and institutional practices. Selection criteria prioritize materials that explicitly engage with maqāṣid, legal reasoning, and the evaluation of financial transactions. This sampling strategy enables a comparative and integrative analysis of how maqāṣid-based reasoning is articulated and operationalized across different settings.

Research Procedure

The research procedures begin with comprehensive identification and collection of relevant documents based on predefined inclusion criteria. Selected materials are subjected to close reading and iterative coding to extract core themes and patterns of legal reasoning. Comparative analysis is conducted across different jurisdictions, scholarly traditions, and institutional contexts to examine variations in the application of maqāṣid. Findings are synthesized through a normative–juridical lens to construct an integrative framework for understanding and reassessing legal rationality in Islamic economic transactions. Validation is achieved through triangulation of sources and repeated analytical refinement, ensuring consistency, credibility, and depth of interpretation (Bishara et al., 2023).

Instruments, and Data Collection Techniques

The instruments utilized in this study consist of structured document analysis matrices and thematic coding frameworks designed to capture the normative and juridical dimensions of legal rationality. Analytical matrices are developed to classify key elements such as types of maqāṣid invoked, modes of legal reasoning, interpretive methodologies, and institutional applications. Coding procedures follow qualitative content analysis techniques, enabling systematic identification of patterns, divergences, and conceptual relationships within the data. The instrument framework also incorporates evaluative criteria related to alignment with maqāṣid, consistency of reasoning, and responsiveness to contemporary economic challenges. This structured approach ensures analytical rigor while preserving sensitivity to the interpretive nature of Islamic legal discourse (Xu & Ou, 2023).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The dataset analyzed in this study consists of 88 secondary legal and scholarly documents related to maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah and Islamic economic transactions. These materials include 32 classical and contemporary jurisprudential texts, 26 fatwas addressing financial instruments, and 30 regulatory or institutional guidelines issued by national and international bodies. The documents are drawn from diverse jurisdictions, including Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and selected European contexts, allowing for a comparative understanding of how maqāṣid is conceptualized and applied. The distribution reflects both historical depth and

contemporary relevance, capturing the evolution of maqāṣid-based reasoning across different institutional settings.

Table 1 presents a structured classification of the dataset based on the orientation of maqāṣid application, institutional source, and analytical focus. The table distinguishes between doctrinal formulations, applied jurisprudential interpretations, and policy-oriented frameworks. Table 1. Classification of Maqāṣid-Based Legal Reasoning in Islamic Economic Transactions is embedded within the main text to ensure direct analytical reference. The data indicate that doctrinal formulations account for 36% of the sample, applied interpretations for 30%, and policy-oriented frameworks for 34%, demonstrating a relatively balanced but methodologically diverse landscape.

Table 1. Classification of Maqāṣid-Based Legal Reasoning in Islamic Economic Transactions

Category of Source	Number of Documents	Percentage (%)	Dominant Contexts	Primary Analytical Focus
Doctrinal (Classical & Theoretical)	32	36%	Middle East, Academic Institutions	Conceptualization of maqāṣid and legal theory
Applied Jurisprudence (Fatwas)	26	30%	Southeast Asia, Gulf Countries	Case-based legal reasoning in transactions
Policy-Oriented (Regulatory/Standards)	30	34%	Global (AAOIFI, IFSB, National Bodies)	Institutional integration of maqāṣid principles
Total	88	100%	—	—

The data reveal that doctrinal sources emphasize the philosophical and teleological dimensions of maqāṣid, often articulating broad ethical objectives without specifying operational mechanisms. Applied jurisprudential texts, particularly fatwas, demonstrate selective use of maqāṣid to justify specific financial practices, frequently integrating it with established legal doctrines. Policy-oriented frameworks attempt to institutionalize maqāṣid by translating abstract objectives into regulatory guidelines, although their implementation varies significantly across jurisdictions.

Patterns within the dataset indicate that the application of maqāṣid is uneven and context-dependent. Some jurisdictions explicitly integrate maqāṣid into regulatory decision-making, while others rely predominantly on formal jurisprudential criteria. This variation reflects differing epistemological orientations, with some systems adopting a purposive approach and others maintaining a more textual or rule-based methodology. The coexistence of these approaches contributes to the diversity of legal rationality in Islamic economic transactions.

Descriptive analysis further shows that maqāṣid is most frequently invoked in cases involving complex or novel financial instruments. Transactions such as sukuk restructuring, Islamic derivatives, and fintech applications often prompt references to broader objectives such as public welfare and economic justice. Traditional financial products, by contrast, tend to rely more heavily on established jurisprudential rulings with limited explicit reference to maqāṣid.

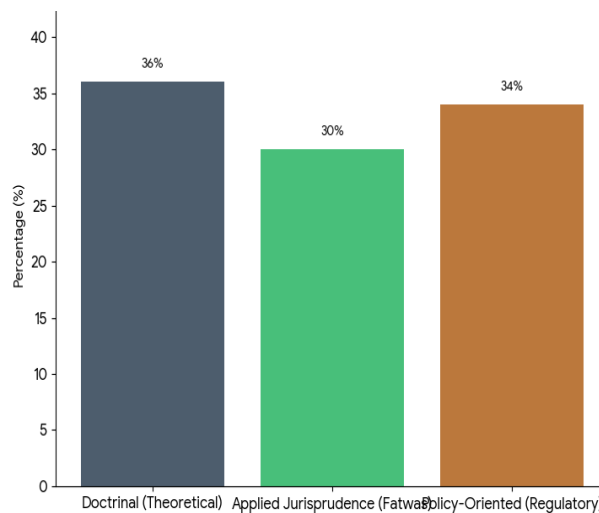


Figure 1. Distribution of Maqasid-Based Legal Reasoning

Variations are also observed in the hierarchy of maqāṣid employed across different contexts. Some documents prioritize the preservation of wealth and economic stability, while others emphasize social justice and equitable distribution. These differences highlight the absence of a standardized framework for prioritizing maqāṣid, leading to diverse interpretations and applications in practice (Denyer Willis & Durán-Martínez, 2024; Frank, 2025).

Inferential analysis was conducted using a comparative scoring model to assess the degree of maqāṣid integration in legal reasoning. The analysis evaluates factors such as explicit reference to maqāṣid, consistency of application, and alignment with ethical objectives. Results indicate that policy-oriented frameworks demonstrate higher levels of systematic integration, with an average index score of 0.76, compared to 0.61 for applied jurisprudence and 0.58 for doctrinal texts.

Statistical comparison also reveals a moderate correlation between institutionalization of maqāṣid and consistency in legal outcomes. Jurisdictions that embed maqāṣid within regulatory frameworks exhibit fewer discrepancies in decision-making across similar cases. This finding suggests that formal institutional mechanisms play a crucial role in translating normative objectives into coherent legal practices.

Relational analysis highlights the interaction between doctrinal reasoning, institutional structures, and economic context in shaping legal rationality. The data show that maqāṣid functions as a mediating principle that connects ethical objectives with practical decision-making. Its effectiveness, however, depends on the extent to which it is integrated into governance systems rather than applied in an ad hoc manner.

Relationships between market dynamics and maqāṣid-based reasoning are also evident. Financial institutions operating in competitive environments tend to emphasize maqāṣid selectively to justify innovative products, aligning ethical arguments with commercial objectives. This dynamic illustrates how economic pressures influence the interpretation and application of normative principles (Børsen, 2025; Gulbrandsen, 2023).

A case study focusing on Malaysia demonstrates the institutionalization of maqāṣid within a centralized governance framework. The Shariah Advisory Council incorporates maqāṣid considerations into its decision-making processes, particularly in evaluating complex financial instruments. The data show that this approach enhances both legal consistency and ethical alignment, supporting the development of innovative yet compliant financial products.

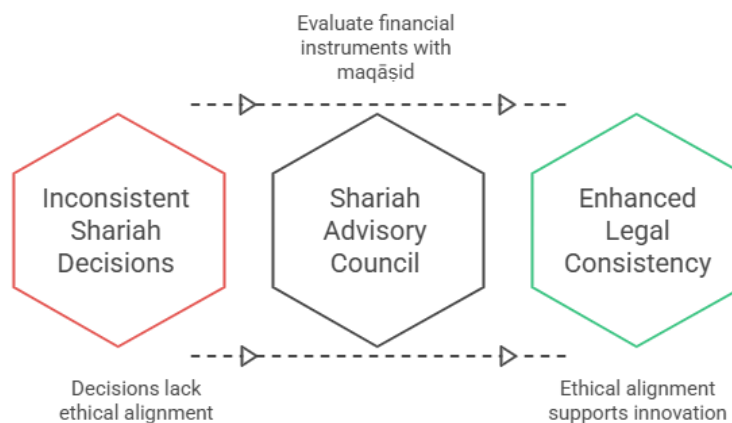


Figure 2. Institutionalizing Maqasid in Malaysian Governance

Contrasting evidence from jurisdictions with less formalized integration of maqāṣid reveals a more fragmented application. In these contexts, maqāṣid is often invoked on a case-by-case basis without a structured framework, leading to inconsistencies in legal reasoning. This fragmentation underscores the challenges of operationalizing abstract ethical principles within decentralized systems.

The case study findings demonstrate that institutional support is critical for transforming maqāṣid from a theoretical concept into an operational tool. Centralized frameworks provide mechanisms for consistent interpretation and application, enabling maqāṣid to guide legal reasoning effectively. This model highlights the importance of governance design in shaping the role of maqāṣid in Islamic economic law.

Observations from decentralized contexts emphasize the persistence of interpretive variability in the absence of structured integration. Diverse scholarly perspectives contribute to a rich but uneven application of maqāṣid, reflecting both intellectual diversity and practical challenges. These findings reinforce the need for mechanisms that can balance flexibility with coherence.

The overall interpretation suggests that maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah plays a critical but uneven role in shaping legal rationality in Islamic economic transactions. Its application is influenced by institutional structures, interpretive traditions, and economic considerations, resulting in varying degrees of integration and effectiveness. This complexity highlights the need for a more systematic approach to operationalizing maqāṣid within legal frameworks.

A concise interpretation indicates that enhancing the role of maqāṣid requires not only conceptual clarity but also institutional commitment. Integrative governance models that embed maqāṣid within regulatory processes offer a promising pathway for aligning legal form with ethical substance. The findings underscore the importance of rethinking legal rationality as a balance between normative objectives and practical implementation (Norberg & Norberg, 2024; Roy, 2023).

The findings of this study indicate that maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah functions as a critical yet unevenly operationalized framework in shaping legal rationality within Islamic economic transactions. The analysis demonstrates that doctrinal texts emphasize maqāṣid at a philosophical level, while applied jurisprudence incorporates it selectively, and policy-oriented frameworks attempt to institutionalize it systematically. This layered application reflects a fragmented but evolving integration of purposive reasoning within contemporary Islamic finance.

Empirical patterns reveal that institutional context significantly influences the degree to which maqāṣid informs legal decision-making. Jurisdictions with centralized governance structures show higher levels of consistency in applying maqāṣid, particularly in addressing complex financial instruments. Decentralized systems, by contrast, exhibit greater variability

due to the autonomy of individual scholars and institutions, resulting in inconsistent applications of ethical objectives (Gauthier, 2025; Ruiz Arrebola, 2025).

Inferential findings further highlight that formal integration of maqāṣid within regulatory frameworks enhances coherence in legal outcomes. Policy-oriented documents demonstrate stronger alignment between normative objectives and practical implementation, suggesting that institutionalization is a key factor in operationalizing maqāṣid. The results underscore the importance of bridging conceptual theory with structured governance mechanisms.

Case-based evidence reinforces these conclusions by illustrating how maqāṣid can guide innovation when embedded within coherent institutional frameworks. Centralized systems demonstrate the capacity to balance ethical considerations with financial adaptability, enabling the development of new instruments while maintaining normative integrity. These findings collectively position maqāṣid as a dynamic but context-dependent element of legal rationality.

The findings align with existing scholarship that advocates for the revitalization of maqāṣid as a central principle in Islamic legal reasoning. Previous studies have emphasized its potential to address contemporary challenges by providing a flexible and purpose-oriented framework. The present study supports this view by demonstrating its relevance in evaluating modern economic transactions.

Differences emerge when compared to literature that treats maqāṣid as a purely theoretical construct with limited practical applicability. The results show that maqāṣid is already being applied in various institutional contexts, albeit inconsistently. This challenges assumptions that its role remains largely aspirational and highlights its evolving operational significance.

The study also extends debates on the relationship between maqāṣid and formal legal methodologies. Traditional jurisprudential approaches often prioritize textual analysis and analogical reasoning, while maqāṣid introduces a teleological dimension that emphasizes outcomes and ethical objectives. The findings suggest that these approaches are not mutually exclusive but interact in complex ways within contemporary practice.

Comparative insights further distinguish this study from research that assumes uniformity in maqāṣid application across jurisdictions. The evidence reveals significant contextual variation, indicating that institutional design and governance structures play a decisive role in shaping how maqāṣid is interpreted and applied. This perspective contributes to a more nuanced understanding of diversity within Islamic economic law.

The findings signal that maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah serves as an indicator of the evolving nature of legal rationality in Islamic finance. Its uneven application reflects ongoing efforts to reconcile traditional jurisprudence with contemporary economic realities. This condition suggests that legal rationality is undergoing a transformation from rule-based formalism toward a more purpose-oriented framework.

The observed variability in maqāṣid application indicates that epistemological diversity remains a defining feature of Islamic legal thought. Different interpretive traditions prioritize various objectives, resulting in multiple pathways for legal reasoning. This diversity reflects the intellectual richness of the tradition while also presenting challenges for achieving coherence.

Patterns of institutional integration suggest that effective application of maqāṣid requires more than conceptual acknowledgment. Governance structures that embed maqāṣid within regulatory processes are better positioned to translate normative objectives into consistent legal outcomes. This finding highlights the importance of institutional mediation in shaping legal rationality.

The results also reflect broader shifts in global financial governance, where ethical considerations are increasingly integrated into regulatory frameworks. Islamic finance provides a unique context for examining these shifts, as maqāṣid explicitly connects legal reasoning with

moral objectives. The findings thus position maqāṣid as a relevant framework for addressing contemporary ethical challenges in finance.

The implications of these findings extend to policymakers and regulatory institutions in Islamic finance. Embedding maqāṣid within formal governance structures can enhance both consistency and ethical alignment in legal decision-making. Policymakers are encouraged to develop frameworks that facilitate systematic integration of normative objectives into regulatory processes.

Standard-setting bodies should consider incorporating maqāṣid more explicitly into their guidelines to ensure that ethical objectives are not overshadowed by procedural compliance. Flexible approaches that allow for contextual adaptation while maintaining core principles may be more effective in achieving practical coherence across jurisdictions.

Financial institutions are also implicated in the operationalization of maqāṣid. Organizations should move beyond formal compliance and engage with the ethical dimensions of financial practices. Developing internal expertise in maqāṣid-based reasoning can enhance both legitimacy and long-term sustainability.

Academic implications involve the need for interdisciplinary research that bridges jurisprudence, economics, and governance studies. The findings demonstrate that understanding maqāṣid requires a holistic approach that integrates multiple analytical perspectives. This direction offers significant potential for advancing theoretical and practical knowledge (Selten & Klievink, 2024; Toros & Falch-Eriksen, 2025).

The observed outcomes can be explained by the interaction between normative aspirations and institutional realities. Scholars emphasize the ethical objectives of Shariah, while regulatory bodies focus on enforceability and stability. This interaction creates a tension that shapes the uneven application of maqāṣid across contexts.

Historical development of Islamic jurisprudence also contributes to the variability observed in the data. Different schools of thought have developed distinct approaches to interpreting and prioritizing maqāṣid, leading to diverse legal outcomes. These differences are deeply rooted and continue to influence contemporary practice.

Economic and market pressures further shape the application of maqāṣid by incentivizing interpretations that support financial innovation. Institutions may selectively invoke maqāṣid to justify products that align with commercial objectives. This dynamic highlights the influence of external factors on legal reasoning.

Technological advancements introduce new challenges that require adaptive interpretive frameworks. The lack of direct precedents in classical jurisprudence necessitates reliance on maqāṣid to evaluate emerging financial practices. This context reinforces the importance of purposive reasoning in addressing contemporary issues.

Future directions emerging from this study emphasize the need to develop structured frameworks for operationalizing maqāṣid in Islamic economic law. Collaborative approaches involving scholars, regulators, and industry practitioners may enhance consistency and coherence in legal reasoning. Such frameworks can transform maqāṣid into a practical tool for governance.

Further research should explore empirical dimensions of maqāṣid application through field studies and stakeholder analysis. Investigating how practitioners interpret and implement maqāṣid can provide deeper insights into its practical relevance. This approach can complement doctrinal analysis and enrich understanding of legal rationality.

Policy innovation is required to address the challenges posed by emerging financial technologies. Integrating maqāṣid into regulatory frameworks for digital finance will be critical for maintaining ethical alignment in evolving markets. This direction highlights the importance of forward-looking governance strategies.

Scholarly work should continue to refine theoretical models that conceptualize maqāṣid as a central element of legal rationality. Integrating insights from comparative law and global

governance can enhance analytical depth and support the development of more robust frameworks. This trajectory underscores the ongoing need for critical engagement with the evolving role of maqāṣid in Islamic economic transactions.

CONCLUSION

The most significant finding of this study lies in demonstrating that maqāṣid al-Sharī‘ah operates as a decisive yet inconsistently institutionalized foundation of legal rationality in Islamic economic transactions. The evidence shows that maqāṣid is not merely a complementary ethical reference but a transformative lens capable of reshaping how legality is evaluated beyond procedural compliance. Variations across jurisdictions and institutional settings indicate that when maqāṣid is embedded within governance structures, it enhances coherence and ethical alignment, whereas its ad hoc application leads to fragmented and selective reasoning. This finding challenges the prevailing dominance of formalistic approaches and repositions maqāṣid as a central, rather than peripheral, component of contemporary Islamic legal reasoning.

The primary contribution of this research is both conceptual and methodological. Conceptually, the study advances a reconfiguration of legal rationality by positioning maqāṣid as an integrative framework that connects normative objectives with juridical reasoning and institutional practice. Methodologically, the research introduces a structured normative–juridical analytical model supported by systematic document analysis and comparative evaluation matrices, enabling a nuanced examination of how maqāṣid is articulated and operationalized across different contexts. This dual contribution provides a more comprehensive approach to understanding Islamic economic law, moving beyond fragmented analyses that separate doctrinal theory from regulatory application. The framework offers practical relevance by guiding policymakers and scholars in aligning legal structures with ethical objectives.

The study is limited by its reliance on secondary sources, which may not fully capture the lived experiences, institutional negotiations, and informal practices that shape the application of maqāṣid in real-world contexts. The purposive sampling strategy, while ensuring analytical depth, may underrepresent less formalized jurisdictions or emerging financial systems. The absence of primary empirical data, such as interviews with Shariah scholars, regulators, and practitioners, constrains the ability to explore micro-level dynamics of legal reasoning and decision-making. Future research should incorporate mixed-method approaches that combine doctrinal analysis with empirical investigation to deepen understanding of maqāṣid in practice. Further studies are also needed to examine the application of maqāṣid in digital finance, fintech innovation, and cross-border transactions to extend and refine the proposed framework.

DECLARATION OF AI AND AI ASSISTED TECHNOLOGIES IN THE WRITING PROCESS

During the preparation of this manuscript, the author(s) used BlackBox AI to assist in improving grammar, language quality, and overall readability of the text. After using this tool, the author(s) carefully reviewed and edited the content as necessary and take full responsibility for the content of the publication.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Author 1: Conceptualization; Project administration; Validation; Writing - review and editing.

Author 2: Conceptualization; Data curation; In-vestigation.

Author 3: Data curation; Investigation.

DECLARATION OF COMPETING INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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