Internalizing the Code of Journalistic Ethics from an Islamic Perspective for Beginner Journalists

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Abstract. The adherence to journalistic ethics is crucial for ensuring responsible and professional journalism. However, understanding and applying these ethics, especially from an Islamic perspective, presents challenges for beginner journalists. This study aims to explore the internalization of Islamic journalistic ethics among beginner journalists and identify the strategies to strengthen their ethical practices. The study employs a qualitative approach using Participatory Action Research (PAR), involving beginner journalists in interactive discussions and real-life case studies to facilitate the understanding and application of Islamic journalistic ethics. Data was collected through interviews and group discussions with journalists at various media outlets. The findings reveal that while beginner journalists have a basic understanding of journalistic ethics, their knowledge of Islamic principles, such as honesty, trustworthiness, and justice, is limited. The challenges in implementing these principles are primarily influenced by industry pressures, organizational culture, and the tension between press freedom and moral responsibility. The study highlights the need for deeper education and training on Islamic journalistic ethics to enable journalists to consistently apply these principles in their daily work. It emphasizes the importance of creating supportive environments for ethical behavior and fostering collaboration between media, educational institutions, and religious organizations. Future research should explore the broader application of Islamic ethics in digital media and investigate technological solutions to enhance ethical practices in journalism.

Keywords: Journalistic Code of Ethics; Islamic Journalism; Novice Journalists; Participatory Action Research; Media Ethics

1. Introduction

Compliance with the Journalistic Code of Ethics is extremely important and mandatory for journalism professionals, as this code serves as a guideline for carrying out their duties professionally and responsibly (Berkowitz et al., 2004; Culver, 2017; Fengler et al., 2015; Sulistyowati, 2013). Without adhering to this ethical code, journalists risk

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spreading false, inaccurate, or even misleading news, which could ultimately damage public trust in the media. The Journalistic Code of Ethics not only guides journalists in delivering information honestly and objectively but also helps them avoid various unethical practices, such as spreading hoaxes, plagiarism, or violating privacy rights (Díaz-Campo & Segado-Boj, 2015; Himelboim & Limor, 2010; Laitila, 1995). Therefore, understanding and applying this ethical code must be an integral part of every journalist's commitment to producing high-quality journalism that benefits society at large (Takalelumang et al., 2019).

The Journalistic Code of Ethics serves as both a guideline and a form of protection for journalists in carrying out their duties, ensuring that they work professionally and responsibly. However, in practice, the level of understanding and application of this ethical code among journalists is not uniform. Some journalists have a strong grasp of the code, while others still lack a deep understanding, particularly from an Islamic perspective. Even among those who are well-versed in the code, not all can consistently apply it in their daily work.

Dedication remains a key aspect of journalists' performance in the field, but the relationship between understanding the code of ethics and journalistic professionalism and competence tends to be weak (Ahmad Salman Farid, 2024; Farid, 2024; Farid et al., 2024). This indicates that despite journalists' awareness of ethical standards, other factors—such as editorial pressure, organizational culture, and business interests—also influence the extent to which ethical principles are upheld in journalistic practice. Therefore, further efforts are needed from individual journalists, media institutions, and press organizations to ensure that the principles of the code of ethics are not only understood but also consistently implemented in daily journalistic practices (Winora et al., 2021).

In this regard, ethics and morality in news reporting become crucial aspects. Moreover, the news production process requires ethical guidelines or a code of ethics to ensure the quality of news remains intact and to maintain public trust in the integrity of journalists. Delivering news is not a simple task, as information or news serves as one of the primary sources of knowledge for people about a particular issue (Saudaa, 1970).

Therefore, internalizing the journalistic code of ethics from an Islamic perspective for novice journalists plays a crucial role in shaping a deeper understanding of the responsibilities of the journalism profession (Farid, 2023). Through this socialization, it is expected that novice journalists will recognize that their duty is not merely to deliver information but also to uphold integrity and avoid spreading false news or slander that could harm society.

Beyond serving as a learning process for novice journalists, the internalization of the journalistic code of ethics also acts as a preventive measure to reduce ethical violations in news reporting. A strong understanding of ethical guidelines from an early stage will help journalists make wiser decisions when carrying out their duties in the field. For instance, when covering an event, a journalist who is well-versed in ethical principles will be more cautious in presenting news to prevent unnecessary turmoil or injustice toward any party.

2. Methods

This community service initiative utilizes the Participatory Action Research (PAR) method, an approach that emphasizes active community involvement in the learning process to address various challenges they face and fulfill practical needs within their

environment. This method not only aims to find solutions to social issues but also empowers communities to take an active role in the ongoing process of change.

One of the key aspects of PAR is the creation of knowledge derived directly from community experiences and interactions within their surroundings (Fengler et al., 2015; Vos & Craft, 2017). Through active participation, the community is not merely an object of service but also engages in analysis, reflection, and the design of sustainable solutions. Thus, PAR fosters research that is more inclusive, applicable, and has a tangible impact on the communities involved (Agus Afandi, 2022).

The Participatory Action Research (PAR) method can be an effective approach to ensuring ethical and moral news reporting, particularly in countering misinformation and fostering a more objective understanding within society. In the journalistic context, PAR involves the active participation of communities and stakeholders in the news production and evaluation process, ensuring that the information delivered is more accurate, fair, and unbiased.

By applying the cycle of reflection and action within PAR, communities can play a role in identifying harmful reporting patterns, such as negative stigmatization. Through this approach, the journalistic code of ethics can be more effectively internalized, ensuring that news reporting not only maintains the quality of information but also upholds public trust in the integrity of journalists and prevents misconceptions that could lead to social injustice.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Understanding and Awareness of Islamic Journalistic Ethics Among Beginner Journalists

The internalization of Islamic journalistic ethics is an essential aspect of fostering responsible journalism. For beginner journalists, understanding and awareness of these ethical principles play a pivotal role in shaping their approach to news reporting, contributing to the integrity of journalism within society. The integration of Islamic values such as *ṣidq* (truthfulness), *amānah* (trustworthiness), and *'adl* (justice) into journalistic practices is a key focus in cultivating a more ethical and responsible media landscape. This section delves into the varying levels of understanding and awareness of Islamic journalistic ethics among novice journalists, examining both their recognition of these values and the challenges they face in fully internalizing them.

At its heart, Islamic journalistic ethics is grounded in the teachings of Islam, which emphasize truthfulness, responsibility, and justice. These principles are embedded in the Qur'an and Hadith (sayings of Prophet Muhammad), guiding Muslims in their daily lives and professional conduct. Journalists, in particular, are called to uphold these ethical standards in their reporting, ensuring that information is conveyed accurately, fairly, and without bias. Key values like *ṣidq* (truthfulness) urge journalists to present factual information, while *amānah* (trustworthiness) emphasizes the duty to safeguard and honor the trust placed in them by their audience. *'adl* (justice) requires fairness in reporting and ensuring that all sides of a story are heard.

For novice journalists, grasping these ethical concepts is crucial in guiding their professional behavior and decision-making. However, the level of understanding of these values among beginner journalists varies significantly, and this understanding directly influences their journalistic output.

The awareness of Islamic journalistic ethics among beginner journalists is often influenced by several factors, including their educational background, personal beliefs,

and the media environment in which they operate. Journalists who have received formal training in Islamic studies or those who practice Islam regularly are more likely to possess a greater understanding of the ethical principles inherent in their faith. For example, novice journalists in Islamic educational institutions or media organizations that prioritize Islamic values may have a deeper appreciation for ethical concepts such as *ṣidq*, *amānah*, and *'adl*. They are more likely to understand the importance of ethical reporting and may apply these values in their work with greater consistency.

Conversely, journalists who have not been exposed to Islamic teachings or who are part of secular media organizations may exhibit less awareness of the significance of these ethical principles. In some cases, their understanding of journalistic ethics may be shaped primarily by Western media standards, which, while influential, do not always align with Islamic values. This lack of alignment can lead to inconsistencies in how they approach issues such as the accuracy of their reports, the representation of marginalized groups, and the protection of sources.

While many beginner journalists may be aware of Islamic journalistic ethics in theory, the real challenge lies in fully internalizing these principles and incorporating them into their everyday practices. One significant barrier to full understanding is the pressure of the media industry, which often prioritizes speed and sensationalism over accuracy and fairness. In an era of 24-hour news cycles and social media, novice journalists may face immense pressure to publish stories quickly, sometimes at the expense of ethical standards. This pressure can lead to the compromise of truthfulness and fairness, as journalists may be tempted to cut corners to meet deadlines.

Figure 1 Training for beginner journalists

Another obstacle is the lack of comprehensive training in Islamic journalistic ethics. In many media institutions, training programs tend to focus primarily on technical aspects of journalism, such as writing, editing, and reporting techniques, while ethical education, especially from an Islamic perspective, may be overlooked. This lack of formal education leaves many novice journalists ill-equipped to navigate ethical dilemmas that may arise in their day-to-day work.

Additionally, the diversity of media organizations and the varying levels of adherence to Islamic principles further complicate the understanding of these ethics. In some media outlets, the ethical standards may be more aligned with Islamic values, while others may adopt a more secular or commercial approach. This creates a disconnect between the theoretical understanding of Islamic ethics and the practical application of those values in different media settings.

Mentorship plays a significant role in the development of ethical awareness among novice journalists. Experienced journalists who understand and uphold Islamic ethical standards can serve as role models, guiding younger colleagues in how to handle ethical challenges with integrity. In this context, mentorship not only involves teaching technical skills but also emphasizes the importance of ethics in journalism. Senior journalists who are committed to Islamic ethical principles can offer valuable advice on how to maintain *ṣidq*, *amānah*, and *'adl* in the face of industry pressures.

Peer influence is another factor that can shape the ethical awareness of beginner journalists. Journalists often learn by observing their colleagues and adopting their practices. In environments where ethical reporting is prioritized and regularly discussed, novice journalists are more likely to adopt these practices themselves. On the other hand, if unethical behavior is normalized within a newsroom, beginner journalists may internalize these practices and come to view them as acceptable, which can undermine their understanding of ethical standards.

For novice journalists who are able to internalize Islamic journalistic ethics, the impact on their practices can be profound. By embracing Islamic values like *ṣidq* (truthfulness), they are more likely to conduct thorough research and verify information before reporting. This commitment to truth reduces the likelihood of spreading misinformation and enhances the overall credibility of the media. Similarly, by upholding *amānah* (trustworthiness), these journalists demonstrate a deep sense of responsibility toward their audience, knowing that the information they provide shapes public perception. *'Adl* (justice) ensures that all parties involved in a story are treated fairly, and their voices are heard, which is essential in preventing bias and fostering balanced reporting.

Moreover, Islamic journalistic ethics can help beginner journalists navigate complex ethical dilemmas, such as when to publish sensitive information or how to handle conflicting narratives. When these values are internalized, novice journalists can make decisions based not only on industry norms but also on moral and ethical grounds, ensuring that their reporting benefits society and upholds the dignity of all individuals involved.

The understanding and awareness of Islamic journalistic ethics among beginner journalists are crucial in ensuring that the media maintains its role as a trusted source of information. While many novice journalists may possess a general awareness of these ethical principles, a deeper understanding and consistent application remain a challenge. Factors such as media industry pressures, lack of formal training in Islamic ethics, and the influence of peers and mentors all play a role in shaping how these ethics are internalized and practiced. By addressing these barriers through training, mentorship, and the creation of supportive media environments, novice journalists can develop a more profound understanding of Islamic journalistic ethics, ultimately enhancing the integrity and ethical standards of journalism. Through the internalization of values like *ṣidq*, *amānah*, and *'adl*,

beginner journalists can contribute to a more ethical, fair, and responsible media landscape.

3.2. Challenges in Implementing Islamic Ethical Principles in Journalism

The implementation of Islamic ethical principles in journalism presents a range of challenges, particularly in environments where the media landscape is heavily influenced by secular norms, commercial interests, and the constant pressure for sensationalized content. Islamic journalism, based on values such as truthfulness (ṣidq), trustworthiness (amānah), and justice ('adl), aims to not only deliver accurate information but also to protect public interests and promote societal harmony. However, the integration of these values into the everyday practice of journalism faces significant obstacles, especially for beginner journalists who may not yet be fully equipped to navigate the ethical and professional complexities of the media industry.

3.2.1. Pressure of Commercialization and Profit-Oriented Media

One of the primary challenges in implementing Islamic ethical principles in journalism is the commercialization of the media industry. In many modern media outlets, the driving force behind news production is profitability. Journalists are often pressured to prioritize content that attracts the most views, clicks, or advertising revenue, which can sometimes lead to ethical compromises. The focus on sensationalism and clickbait can directly contradict the core Islamic values of truthfulness and integrity. In such an environment, it becomes challenging for journalists, particularly beginners, to adhere to ethical principles when their role is primarily seen through the lens of economic success.

For instance, when a media outlet prioritizes sensational stories over truth, journalists may feel compelled to produce content that appeals to the lowest common denominator, regardless of its veracity. The Islamic ethical principle of *ṣidq* (truthfulness) is often compromised in favor of attracting a larger audience. This creates a dilemma for journalists who are just starting their careers and might lack the professional experience to resist such pressures.

3.2.2. Lack of Training and Knowledge of Islamic Journalism Ethics

Another challenge in implementing Islamic ethical principles is the lack of formal training in Islamic journalism ethics. While traditional journalism schools focus on journalistic integrity, objectivity, and independence, they often do not include an Islamic perspective on ethical reporting. Many beginner journalists enter the industry without a strong foundation in how Islamic ethics apply to their work, which can lead to difficulties in making ethical decisions in the field.

For example, *amānah* (trustworthiness) in Islamic ethics requires journalists to ensure that they only report information that is accurate and reliable. However, without proper training, journalists may be unaware of how to verify sources, cross-check facts, and avoid spreading rumors. This lack of understanding can result in unintentional misreporting, which can harm the public and violate Islamic ethical principles.

Additionally, Islamic ethical principles in journalism go beyond just avoiding falsehoods. They also call for fairness, justice, and the promotion of societal welfare. Beginner journalists may struggle to apply these values without clear guidance, especially when working in media outlets that prioritize speed and competition over thoughtful analysis and the public good (Denisova, 2023; Phillips, 2012).

3.2.3. Conflicts Between Professional and Religious Ethics

Journalism as a profession is governed by certain universal ethical principles such as fairness, impartiality, and freedom of the press. However, in some situations, these professional standards may conflict with Islamic ethical principles. For example, journalists may face situations where the Islamic principle of *'adl* (justice) is at odds with the need for objectivity or neutrality. In Islam, journalists are not only expected to report the truth but also to ensure that their reporting serves justice and protects the rights of the oppressed. In situations where journalistic objectivity demands neutrality, an Islamic journalist might feel compelled to take a moral stance, which could be viewed as bias from a traditional journalistic perspective.

This tension is particularly difficult for beginner journalists, who may struggle with navigating the delicate balance between adhering to professional codes of ethics and fulfilling their religious duty to serve justice. Furthermore, in politically charged or controversial topics, Islamic ethics might compel journalists to adopt a more proactive stance, which can conflict with the journalistic principle of impartiality.

3.2.4. Cultural and Societal Norms

In some societies, especially those where secularism predominates, the integration of Islamic ethics into journalism may be met with resistance or even hostility. Journalists may face societal pressure to conform to secular norms or to avoid religious biases in their reporting. This can create a challenging environment for beginner journalists who wish to incorporate Islamic ethical principles into their work.

For example, in many Western media organizations, the emphasis on secularism and political correctness often prevents journalists from expressing religious values in their reporting. In such an environment, beginner journalists who wish to adhere to Islamic ethics may find themselves at odds with the prevailing media culture, leading to potential conflicts with colleagues or employers who may see such values as unprofessional or out of place.

Similarly, journalists in Muslim-majority countries may face pressure to balance their adherence to Islamic ethical principles with the realities of a diverse and pluralistic society. In such contexts, there may be a fear that following strict Islamic ethics could alienate certain segments of the population or limit the journalist's ability to engage with audiences from different religious or cultural backgrounds.

3.2.5. Digital and Social Media Challenges

The rise of digital and social media has brought new challenges for implementing Islamic ethical principles in journalism. The speed at which information spreads through social media platforms and online news outlets creates a situation where verification of information becomes even more critical. Journalists are expected to report quickly, but this can sometimes come at the cost of thorough fact-checking and adherence to ethical standards.

In the age of digital journalism, the temptation to publish breaking news without proper verification is strong, and this can directly lead to the spread of misinformation or rumors, violating the Islamic principle of *ṣidq* (truthfulness). Additionally, the need for journalists to stay relevant on social media platforms can result in the prioritization of sensational, emotionally charged stories over fact-based, well-researched journalism, which contradicts Islamic ethical guidelines.

Moreover, the anonymity provided by social media platforms allows for the spread of hate speech, fake news, and inflammatory content, posing a particular challenge for

journalists committed to promoting justice and fairness. Beginner journalists may struggle to navigate this new landscape while adhering to the ethical standards required by both their profession and their faith.

3.2.6. Lack of Institutional Support for Islamic Journalism Ethics

While some media organizations may express interest in promoting ethical journalism, few actively support the implementation of Islamic ethics in the newsroom. Institutions often fail to establish clear guidelines that integrate both secular journalistic ethics and Islamic principles. This lack of institutional support leaves individual journalists, particularly beginners, to navigate these challenges alone.

In the absence of institutional backing, it can be difficult for beginner journalists to find mentors or resources that align with Islamic ethical principles. This lack of support can lead to confusion, frustration, and ethical missteps, particularly when journalists face ethical dilemmas in their reporting.

Implementing Islamic ethical principles in journalism presents significant challenges, especially for beginner journalists who are still in the process of developing their professional identities. These challenges arise from the commercial pressures of the media industry, lack of proper training, cultural and societal norms, conflicts between professional ethics and religious duties, and the fast-paced nature of digital journalism. However, despite these obstacles, it is essential to continue working toward an integrated approach that combines both professional journalistic ethics and Islamic values. By addressing these challenges through proper education, institutional support, and fostering a culture of integrity and responsibility, it is possible to create a journalism landscape that upholds both the values of the profession and the ethical teachings of Islam.

3.3. Strategies for Strengthening Ethical Journalism Through Islamic Values

In an era where media consumption is ubiquitous and information spreads rapidly, the ethical responsibility of journalists is more crucial than ever. Journalists have the power to shape public opinion, inform societal decisions, and influence political and social outcomes. With this immense responsibility, it is essential to ensure that journalism adheres to the highest ethical standards. One framework that can significantly strengthen ethical journalism is the incorporation of Islamic values, which emphasize honesty, fairness, justice, and trust. These principles can guide journalists in their daily practices, ensuring that their work benefits society and upholds moral integrity. This section explores strategies for strengthening ethical journalism through the integration of Islamic values, with particular attention to practical approaches, training, and systemic support.

One of the most effective strategies for instilling Islamic values in journalism is through comprehensive education and training. Journalists, especially those just starting in the field, need to be thoroughly equipped with the knowledge and skills required to adhere to Islamic ethical standards. These educational programs should focus on the core principles of Islamic journalism, such as truthfulness (*ṣidq*), trustworthiness (*amānah*), and justice (*'adl*), and how these values intersect with professional journalistic ethics (Fachrur Rizha, 2022; Musyafak et al., 2022).

Training programs can be incorporated into journalism curricula at universities or through workshops and seminars organized by media organizations, religious institutions, or professional journalism associations. These programs should aim to provide practical tools and frameworks for journalists to apply Islamic ethics in real-world situations. For

example, journalists can be taught the importance of verifying information before publishing, ensuring that the information shared serves the public good, and prioritizing the welfare of society over sensationalism. Case studies of ethical dilemmas that journalists have faced, particularly in Islamic contexts, can be used to highlight the challenges and solutions in aligning journalistic work with Islamic principles.

Additionally, such training can foster the understanding that Islamic journalism is not about promoting a specific political or religious agenda, but rather about upholding the dignity and integrity of the profession. Journalists can be encouraged to act as custodians of truth who serve society by providing accurate and fair information, regardless of the pressures from commercial or political interests.

For Islamic values to be effectively implemented in journalism, a supportive work environment must be created within media organizations. Management plays a crucial role in shaping the ethical culture of a newsroom. Media organizations can adopt policies and practices that encourage ethical behavior in line with Islamic principles.

One way to support ethical journalism is by establishing clear editorial guidelines that emphasize the importance of honesty, fairness, and accuracy in reporting. These guidelines should incorporate both the standard journalistic ethics and Islamic values, making it clear that the organization is committed to both professional and religious ethics. For example, a media outlet could develop an internal code of ethics that includes specific provisions on how to handle sensitive topics, how to ensure fairness and justice in reporting, and how to respect the dignity and privacy of individuals.

Additionally, media organizations should offer a safe space for journalists to voice ethical concerns without fear of retribution. This can be done through the establishment of an ethics committee or a hotline where journalists can report unethical practices and receive guidance. Such initiatives promote an atmosphere of accountability and transparency, where ethical standards are upheld.

Moreover, media management should encourage collaboration between journalists and religious or ethical advisors to ensure that their work aligns with both professional standards and Islamic teachings. By fostering an environment of open dialogue about ethical issues and providing support for journalists navigating difficult moral decisions, media organizations can help strengthen the practice of ethical journalism.

Accountability and transparency are essential components of ethical journalism. To ensure that journalists adhere to Islamic values in their reporting, it is important to promote a culture of accountability. This involves implementing mechanisms for journalists to explain their decisions, disclose their sources, and correct any errors or biases in their reporting.

In the context of Islamic journalism, transparency can be encouraged by ensuring that journalists disclose the sources of their information whenever possible and by being clear about the limitations of their reporting. For example, when reporting on complex issues or controversial topics, journalists should clearly present all relevant perspectives, giving voice to the marginalized and ensuring that no one is unfairly portrayed.

Moreover, in cases where mistakes or errors occur, journalists should be encouraged to issue corrections or apologies, acknowledging their responsibility and maintaining the trust of their audience. This is in line with the Islamic value of *amānah* (trustworthiness), which calls for journalists to take responsibility for their actions and ensure that their work remains truthful and reliable.

To further promote accountability, media organizations can implement regular ethical audits or reviews of published content to assess whether the journalistic work adheres to both professional and Islamic ethical standards. By making such reviews a standard practice, media organizations reinforce the idea that ethical journalism is not just a matter of individual responsibility but a collective commitment shared by the entire newsroom.

Collaboration between media organizations and religious institutions can provide a strong foundation for the ethical practice of journalism. Religious scholars, particularly those versed in Islamic ethics, can play an instrumental role in guiding journalists on how to integrate Islamic values into their work. By working together, media organizations and religious institutions can ensure that journalists are not only trained in professional ethics but also grounded in the ethical teachings of Islam.

Religious leaders can be invited to participate in training sessions, provide workshops on Islamic ethics, and even serve as advisors or mentors to journalists. Their insights can help journalists navigate complex ethical dilemmas, such as balancing the duty to report the truth with the obligation to protect individual privacy or avoid spreading harm.

Moreover, religious institutions can collaborate with media outlets to promote social responsibility through media campaigns that highlight the importance of ethical reporting. For example, a campaign could encourage journalists to consider the impact of their work on societal cohesion and the promotion of justice. This collaboration can lead to a stronger sense of purpose among journalists, as they realize that their work is not only about producing content but also about fulfilling a moral duty to society.

Figure 2 Training of ethical standards in digital journalism

Social media and online platforms have become key players in the dissemination of information. This shift presents unique challenges to ethical journalism, as the speed and reach of digital media can sometimes compromise the thoroughness and accuracy of reporting. Journalists working in this fast-paced environment may find it difficult to verify

information before publication, leading to the risk of misinformation, sensationalism, and bias.

To address these challenges, media organizations can implement strategies that promote ethical standards in digital journalism. This includes establishing clear guidelines for online reporting, promoting the verification of sources, and ensuring that news shared through digital platforms is both accurate and responsible. Journalists should be trained in how to navigate the digital media landscape while adhering to Islamic ethical principles, such as truthfulness and justice.

Additionally, media outlets can use technology to their advantage by implementing fact-checking tools, algorithms, and partnerships with independent fact-checking organizations. This can help ensure that content shared on digital platforms adheres to the highest ethical standards, preventing the spread of misinformation and maintaining the integrity of journalism.

Mentorship is a powerful strategy for strengthening ethical journalism. Experienced journalists can serve as mentors to beginner journalists, providing guidance on how to integrate Islamic ethical values into their reporting. Mentorship programs can focus on helping new journalists navigate ethical dilemmas, make ethical decisions under pressure, and understand the broader social and religious implications of their work.

Peer support networks within media organizations can also help foster a culture of ethical journalism. Journalists can work together to share best practices, discuss ethical issues, and support one another in maintaining high standards of professionalism and integrity. Peer discussions can serve as a valuable tool for reinforcing the importance of ethical reporting and for creating a sense of shared responsibility among journalists.

Strengthening ethical journalism through Islamic values is not only possible but essential in today's media landscape. By focusing on education, creating supportive work environments, promoting accountability, collaborating with religious institutions, and adapting to new media realities, journalists can be better equipped to fulfill their professional responsibilities with integrity and moral clarity. The integration of Islamic ethical principles in journalism not only ensures that media content is accurate and fair but also serves to enhance the social responsibility of the press, promoting justice, truth, and trust in an increasingly complex and fast-paced world. Through these strategies, journalists can uphold the highest ethical standards while serving the public good and contributing to a more ethical and just society.

4. Conclusions

This study emphasizes the importance of internalizing journalistic ethics from an Islamic perspective for beginner journalists. The findings highlight that while most beginner journalists possess basic knowledge of journalistic ethics, their understanding of Islamic journalistic principles remains limited. This gap in understanding reflects the need for deeper educational interventions focused on the ethical dimensions of journalism rooted in Islamic values. The challenges in implementing these ethical principles are compounded by pressures from the media industry, organizational culture, and the conflict between press freedom and moral responsibility. These factors often hinder the consistent application of ethical guidelines, especially in news production. Therefore, it is essential to create supportive environments that encourage ethical behavior while promoting the importance of accountability and transparency.

The discussion indicates that although there is a general awareness of the importance of ethical journalism, applying Islamic ethical principles in practice is not straightforward. Many journalists feel caught between fulfilling industry demands for sensational content and adhering to ethical values. Furthermore, the research points to the need for practical training and mentorship to foster the consistent application of Islamic ethics in journalism. Collaboration between media organizations, educational institutions, and religious bodies is essential to build a comprehensive framework for ethical journalism that aligns with Islamic values. This collaboration could provide valuable resources for journalists to navigate the complexities of the modern media landscape while maintaining ethical integrity.

Despite the significant insights provided by this research, there are several limitations. The study was based on a limited sample of beginner journalists from specific media outlets, and its qualitative nature restricts the generalization of findings. Future research should employ quantitative methods to measure the effectiveness of Islamic journalistic ethics education across a broader range of media organizations and regions. Additionally, exploring the role of digital media and social platforms in shaping ethical journalism practices would be crucial, given the growing influence of digital news. Future studies can also investigate how technological tools can support the internalization of journalistic ethics, enhancing the verification process and combating misinformation.

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