

Holistic Methods to the Formation of Integrity: their Significance in Civilizing the Community by Imam Al-Juwayni

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Abstract

This paper aims to shed light on the integrity value ideas that were specifically developed by Imam al-Juwayni since the fifth decade in the Hijri calendar through a holistic *usuli* thought method. It indeed has become a universal need throughout the time to realize the civilization of humankind in achieving the prosperity of life in the world and hereafter. Nowadays, our society is often blamed and scapegoated when such bad phenomena as bribery, abuse of power as well as the confusion in actions and behaviors occur thus deviating them from the true path of life. Therefore, Islam always nurtures and promotes the value ideas that should be practiced in comprehensive life of humankind. Some prominent figures in Islam have emerged to recommend some integrity values in order to form understanding besides elevating the quality of behaviors among the community members effectively. One of the figures who proposed the *usuli* method is Imam al-Juwayni. Based on a qualitative research including the historical studies and content analysis, the writer will illustrate some methods that are successfully used in gaining knowledge, understanding, awareness, wisdom and their appreciation. In this case, Imam al-Juwayni has been recognized to successfully outline the integrity value ideas as a practical system in creating the excellent generation.

Keywords: Integrity Value Ideas, Imam Al-Juwayni's Methods, Wisdom, The Excellent Generation.

Introduction

The method in determining laws and values based on the consistent and transparent concept of *sibgha ilahiyya* has been introduced by Imam al-Juwayni. *Sibgha ilahiyya* is the spark as the result of the God's blessing that covers three important elements in human, namely *tawhid* (Islamic theology), morals (noble morals) and *fiqh* (implementation of law/values). It covers *ahkam al-ilahiyyat* with the nature of *qur'anic*, *mawsu'ic* and *ijtihadic* (al-Durayni, 1997). It subsequently makes the process of studies much easier in extracting the syariat laws related to the implementation of *taklif shara'* and the achievement of *maqasid shariah* in its specific and general forms. In this case, there are five categories of *dawabit*, the *usuli* thoughts that can be applied holistically as the result of the *sibgha ilahiyya*. *Dawabit* in this study, according to the writer, can be perceived as the universal methods, borderlines, measurement standard or stringent conditions. The five categories of *dawabit* are: *taklif shara'*, *maslahah*, *istidlal*, *illat hukm al-asl* and *ta'arud* between the *nas* (essence).

The rationale in choosing these five categories is because they influence the situation, position, process and the creation of laws or values that want to be solved by the *mujtahid* or the moslem scholars who have expertise in issuing laws. This can be materialized if there is or there is no very clear explanation through al-Qur'an and al-Sunnah. In other words, it can happen either in *qat'i* or *zanni* way, for example; the difference in *maslahah* between an individual and the congregation. The same goes to the case when there are differences among the *mukallaf* themselves. These matters will involve the status of reception or rejection towards the laws based on the mistakes or *khilaf* that might happen. Meanwhile, the *mujtahid* will judge and evaluate based on their respective *dawabit*. All these issues need a solution with dignity to retain the holiness of the Islamic laws as well as to fulfill the demand of the implementation of *taklif shara'* and the achievement of *maqasid shariah*.

In conjunction with the matter, there are some mechanisms made to achieve the scope and pinnacle of the *ilm*, especially the values of *ilm al-din* that can form someone by having good personality with high integrity level. One method used by Imam al-Juwayni is *taqsim* (dividing/sectioning) since it can form a very solid and consistent *dawabit* (J. Milton Cowan, 1980, page 763). Therefore, Imam al-Juwayni (1991) mentioned three main mediums that can help the process of creating *dawabit*, for examples; *al-uqul* (*ma'rifa* or knowledge), *al-murshid ila thubut kalam sidq* (*murabbi* or teacher) and *adillat al-sam'iyyat* (*God revelation*).

Justification Of Imam Al-Juwayni In Malaysia

One of the greatest intellectual figures that can be referred to as example of *taqwa* (courtesy) and integrity is Imam al-Juwayni or Imam al-Haramayn. Both names are given to Abdul Malik ibn Abdullah ibn Yusof ibn Abdullah ibn Yusof ibn Muhammad ibn Hayyuyah al-Juwayni al-Naysaburi (1028-1085 AD). Juwayn is a village located in the district of Naysabur in northern Iran. It is well known as a recreational and tourist place as well as the farming valley located between two hills. Its opening has been completed by Yazid al-Jurshi in 28 AD. He has been sent by the governor of Basrah by the name of Abdullah ibn Amir ibn Kurayz during the reign of Khalifah Uthman ibn Affan. Imam al-Juwayni has successfully developed a new dimension in contemporary school of thought that leads to the development of human capital and life-long learning. The justification in choosing him in the Malaysian context is because he is an imam (expert for reference) from an Arab descendant who is well-known internationally thus

labeling him as Imam al-Haramayn (expert for reference both in Mecca and Medina). However, he comes from the ideology of Shafi'i that is very dominant in Malaysia. He is one of the leaders of al-Shafi'iyyah in Naysabur (Musa & Mun'im, 1950). He was also appointed as an officer of *hisbah* (monitoring and enforcement) under the instruction of Minister Nizam al-Malik (al-Juwayni, 1990, page: 9). His task was to monitor the implementation of rules and regulations in Syariah laws and manifestation of the values of *taqwa* during the reign of Sultan Alab Arsalan to ensure that they were practiced in the grassroots level (IbnKhalkan, 1949; al-Subki, 1964).

Imam al-Juwayni also made a lot of studies (*nazar*) as well as analyzed (*tahqiq*) an issue deeply by using his intuition and intellectuality (*basirah*). This can be further seen and observed in this research through the method in conducting *taklif shara'* and the achievement of *maqasid shariah*. The issue of integrity values that were developed by Imam al-Juwayni was raised as well as the relationship between the *dawabit* of his jurisprudence thoughts with the formation of human capital integrity model. Besides, it is important to see the suitability of the method in forming the integrity value ideas comprehensively and transparently in Malaysia.

Integrity Value Ideas

The following ideas are some of the integrity values according to *dawabit taklif shara'*, *dawabit maslahah*, *dawabit istidlal*, *dawabit illat hukm al-asl* and *dawabit ta'arud* between *nas* (essence).

Having *ilm* (knowledge) and adding *ma'rifa* (great knowledge)

In general, *ilm* and *ma'rifa* are integrity values that must be taken seriously by every normal person in order to achieve the level of *maqasid* or *maslahah* in accordance with the syarak (Islamic law). Besides, they can strengthen everyone's behaviors and attitudes in the eyes of the society since both of them are the pinnacle of revelation that can be achieved by everyone. The law of learning *ilm* is compulsory on male and female Moslems. Imam al-Juwayni (1991) gave some definitions on *ilm* according to the Moslem scholars as follows:

- i) *Tabayyun al-ma'lum*: to research or study matters or any known information (al-Juwayni, 1991).
- ii) Something that results in the owner deemed as *alim* (Shaykh Abu al-Hasan al-Ash'ari r.a). Abu al-Hasan al-Ash'ari is Ali bin Ismail bin Abu Bisyr Ishaq bin Salim bin Abu Musa al-Ash'ari. He has upheld the *hujja* (completion of proof) to involve al-sunnah. He passed away in 334 AD (al-Juwayni, 1991; Ibn Kathir, 1989).
- iii) Something which is legally possessed will be able to strengthen and improve the deeds and behaviors of someone (al-Ustaz Abu Bakar bin Fawrak). Abu Bakar bin Fawrak is Ahmad bin Musa bin Mardawayh al-Asbahani is a hafiz and an Islamic scholar in *usul* who was also good in hadith. He narrated from Abu Sahl bin Zayyad al-Qattan and many more. He passed away in 410 AD (Taqiyyuddin, 1987).
- iv) The Muktaizilah group give definition of *ilm* (knowledge) that is to believe in something according to the real truth through a peaceful soul.

That is why, the truth on *ilm* that is understood from the words of Imam al-Juwayni is a self-appreciation towards the meaning of *inshirah*, *thalj* and *thiqah*. The concept of *ilm*, in

general, can be the catalyst to the solution of every problem involving thoughts or principles of life by every person. Imam al-Juwayni (1991) further explained the concept:

ilm describes the shedding light of the bonds (problems) since it makes us have the feeling of relieved, comfortable and self-confident.

Therefore, *ilm* is not only information, but also a process of generating to the pillar or the base. That is why *ilm* is a way, method or values of life. Through the *ilm*, we will be able to identify some methods that can inform some spectacular inventions of the individual level, inventions of materials and journey of life (Subhi, 1982). Some of the values that every person with high knowledge must have are:

- 1) Can identify the weaknesses or mistakes of the parties who try to mislead him/her.
- 2) Firmly believe in anything known by him/her.
- 3) Calm and always feeling relieved to refuse any doubts that are raised.
- 4) Making or asking for any explanation on any doubts that are raised with soft voice and appropriate words.
- 5) Inviting the opponents to have a dialogue and discuss by using good and polite manners.

Allowing *Mu'jizat*

The meaning of *mu'jizat* from the linguistic point of view is *fawt* (going beyond) and *sabq* (passing). al-Sayuti (1979) had given the definition as a matter of breaking the tradition, with some challenges, safe from some resistance and disclosed by God the Almighty (Allah S.W.T) through the powers owned by His prophets or messengers. That is why, the writer opines that the meaning of enabling the *mu'jizat* is to recognize the truth of matter (*qarinat*) that exists beyond the sunnah that has been created by Allah S.W.T to this universe (*qarinat haliyya*). It happens because the *qarinat* is not bound and bowed to the normal causal matter. None of the normal humankind can reach the level of *mu'jizat* even though with his endless efforts except by the permission of Allah. The *qarinat* is merely the reward from Allah who chooses the type and time when it happens to prove the truth brought by His messengers in spreading the message of Islam (Muslim, 2008).

In his work entitled *al-Burhan*, Imam al-Juwayni has repeated the word *mu'jizat* for 31 times, especially when he discusses things related to *madarik al-ulum fi al-din*. Besides, he also describes that the concept of *mu'jizat* must be understood in the context of reasoning of the knowledge intrinsically. To him, *mu'jizat* is described as an action (*kun fayakun*) that solely belongs to Allah, breaking the tradition, and appeared as a request from someone deemed himself as a prophet. Normally, it is impossible to happen to normal or common people even though they try hard to do so. In this case, al-Juwayni (1991) mentioned:

The second theory for the affirmation of the concept of *mu'jizat* is the truth of the prophets that have been bestowed with *mu'jizat*. Although there is no time to describe conditions and their laws perfectly, our objective here is to illustrate that the *mu'jizat* is an action that solely belongs to Allah, breaking the tradition. Besides, It will not happen to others even though they try to make resistance. The clues for *mu'jizat*

are closely related to the description of *qarinat haliyya* that are related to knowledge of *badihiyyat*.

Values of *ta'abbudi* through *khushu'* and *tawadu'*

al-Juwayni (1991) has categorized the laws to two parts. Firstly, *ma yu'allal*, that is the law that has attributes or reasons (*illat*) behind it. Secondly, *ma la yu'allal* or having attribute of *ta'abbudi* (to make someone have an attribute of being *tawadu'* that is humble, submission to god, adheres to *taklif shara'*. Mustafa et. al. (1990), that is the law that has no reasons (*illat*) behind it but it is still implemented. On the value of *ta'abbudi*, he stated:

The Messenger of Allah or Prophet Muhammad P.B.U.H is one of the *muta'abbid* (doing *ibadat*) with matters related to *taklif* (task division) the same as other Moslems. If anyone says that it is because of its values, this is *hadhayan* (false) because according to the dignity of essence, *taklif* (task division) will become a specific item for matters of their rights. However, the involvement of values in some occasions will not get them rid of from the laws shared by the community. Moreover, the value is too little compared to the general laws. That is why every type of human being will undergo their own processes or levels according to their specific values. For example, women will become specific before the laws compared to men. Likewise, for those who are travelling or on journey, they are bound with specific law of journey which is different from people who are permanently staying or residing somewhere. The same goes to the *asnaf* (variety) of *mukallaf* or adults who are bound to practice the religious teaching.

Imam al-Juwayni explained the true meaning of *ta'abbudi* according to the Islamic law. He clearly used the term *ta'abbudi* for 55 times in some different places in the *al-Burhan*. This shows that the law in the form of *ta'abbudi* cannot have any *illat* or reason on its laws, but it must be implemented with humility and humbleness. Some examples of the *ta'abbudi* values as mentioned by Imam al-Juwayni are:

If the prophet Muhammad brought the Islamic laws, he was focused to explain the law, the basis of the Islamic law and explanation of the features of *ta'abbudi*. This is something compulsory to do. For those who *zan* (think of) something different from what has been explained, they must blame themselves. Imam Shafi'i mentioned about hadith narrators who narrated from the prophet Muhammad that the prophet decided on the rights of properties based on the witness and the pronounced oath; he said: this theory has its specific place as narrated since the pronouncement does not show the general laws. In this case, any *qiyas* (the teachings of the hadith are compared and contrasted with those of the Qur'an) cannot be used to face up with the dignity of *bayyinat* (evidence) since their position is based on the values of *ta'abbudi*.

Entertaining human's ability

Actually, there is no any conflict or dispute on the term *rabbani* (divine) with the term *insani* (human) in the measurement of value. These two terms deal with each other very closely.

This happens because the basis of *rabbani* exists in the human nature. Generally, every born baby to this world is deemed as having a basic nature, which is Islamic nature that brings the notion of full submission and humbleness to the God Almighty (al-Qaradawi, 2002).

The values in entertaining the ability of the human that is very limited is so significant since the main objective of the Islamic law is to live a better life based on the basic principles and elements of human. It needs to be entertained in line with their ability, starting from a child to an adult, with regard to their health state; sick or healthy, weak or strong, in joyfulness or hardship or whether someone lives as an individual or lives in a group. Therefore, every human is given the same chance to fulfill their wish and *maslahah* (public interest) that are granted by the Islamic law. Besides, one also has to look after their life by adhering to what is commanded by Allah and having good personal traits by practicing *taklif shara'* and their duties towards the God, themselves, family, Islam followers and human kind in general (al-Qaradawi, 2002).

Imam al-Juwayni stressed out that the ability of a human in implementing *taklif shara'* must be entertained in order to preserve *karamah* (dignity) of the human and their mind. The rationale is that, their position is noble and high that can overcome other creatures. In this case, Imam al-Juwayni (1991) said:

If you are asked, what is sound in your side on *taklif ma la yutaq* (impaired or disabled duties)? We answer: if it is meant to be with the *taklif* or *talab al-fi'l* (the demand to do), that is *ma la yutaq* which is impossible because what is demanded is very unlikely to happen. Conversely, if it is needed with *wurud al-sigha* (pronouncement only) and it does not mean *talab* (demand), as the word of God (al-Qur'an, al-Baqarah 2: 65) that means: *Be you monkey, despised and rejected*, this does not matter since the meaning of the *sigha* is We (Allah -Glorious and exalted is He) has made them the despised and rejected monkeys, so it happens to them as We wish.

Holistic Methods Of Imam Al-Juwayni

The *taqsim* method is one of the theories using thoughts between *nafy* and *ithbat* and has become practice in the genuine *nazar* or vow. It happens since the theories based on thoughts are divided into four categories (al-Juwayni 1997):

- a) Shedding light on *ghayb* (ignorance) based on *shahid* (verification).
- b) *Muqaddimat* (The Essentials of Islamic Philosophy) that produces certain outcomes.
- c) Methods of *sabr* and *taqsim*.
- d) Doing *istidlal* (to try looking for theories or the source of the laws that are still not known their source) using theories that are agreed towards a disputed theory.

Below are classical expressions made by Imam al-Juwayni on the application of *burhan*, *taqsim* and *istidlal*.

If an engineer builds an introduction in the form of diagram and then reveals with certain claims and are proved by basing on the introduction, so he needs to think it over in order to get the findings or outcomes. If he masters what he is looking

for, so the knowledge he possesses is based on the notion of the introduction. The same goes to the discussion on *adadiyyat* (number of digits).

Great writers often mention about *jism sakin* if it moves, so new thing will happen whereby it has never happened before. This is targeted without any *nazar* or vow. If his thought is correct from the perspective of *ithbat al-a'rad* (attribute), so he says: is this new thing compulsory or not? He then uses *taqsim* between *nafy* and *ithbat*, and then thinks either for a short or long time using the sharpness of his mind and his potential and he knows without any *wasilah* (an action to make us nearer to the thing we wish) and theory that by deciding that something must move is impossible. That is why the law used here is *mubah* (option). And then another new *taqsim* appears that asks whether any known matter involves in its substance or not. He then thinks again till the involvement is one of the law deemed *daruri*.

If the matter is certain, the *dawabit* of the objective of this *fasl* states that everything focused with consistent *taqsim*, although it is rather heavy and difficult to determine any one of them (*nazari* and *daruri*), so that is something that can still be explored by the intellect. If a *taqsim* is not consistent or may be consistent, but the view of the intellect does not meet its *illat*, even though through a long contemplation, so this is deemed as beyond the human intellect.

In conjunction with the matter, the method of *istinbat* of the law (to determine the Islamic law in accordance with theories in al-Qur'an and al-sunnah) which is applied holistically can smoothen the formulation of *dawabit* as well as create law and values. According to the work of *al-burhan*, the concept of *istinbat* is known as *istidlal*. That is why Imam al-Juwayni (1991) has set the concept of *istidlal* in the context of same meaning or *illat* that describes the laws that are suitable in accordance with the occurrence of thought without any agreed theory. He then added *illat* that is used as the basis of the law has actually been part of the *istidlal*. His unique expressions were recorded as follows:

All great Moslem scholars and the imams deemed as mujtahid have disagreed on *istidlal*, meanwhile it indeed has the same *illat* that describes the laws that are suitable for them in accordance with the intellect without any agreed theory. And the *illat* that is upheld has been implemented in the laws.

The Significance Of Method Of Imam Al-Juwayni In The Context Of Inculcating The Contemporary Integrity Values

The writer thinks that every value has its own strength and its respective formation base. The rationale is since it can be achieved by the intellect and practiced by every individual in planning their life in an institution or an organization. For this reason, the values can be used as pushing and driving factors within the individuals efficiently. At the same time, the values are able to form behaviors and encompass the direction of the individual to achieve a goal or a desired aspiration (Ismail & Hussin, 2007). Some examples of these values are contained in the twelve pillars of *National Institute of Public Administration* (1994). *The twelve pillars are as follows:*

- i. The value of time
- ii. The success of perseverance
- iii. The pleasure of working

- iv. The dignity of simplicity
- v. The worth of character
- vi. The power of kindness
- vii. The influences of examples
- viii. The obligation of duty
- ix. The wisdom of economy
- x. The virtue of patience
- xi. The improvement of talent
- xii. The enjoyment of creation

More interestingly, there is another profile of civil servant deemed as *jauhari* or thinking and talented civil servants for the success of the country in the future. Kang et. al. (2009) illustrated a diagram of the profile of civil servants needed by the country. The profile has been divided into two categories, namely the development of competence and the development of relevance. The development of competence itself is divided into two value dimensions, namely core and professional. Meanwhile, the development of relevance is divided into two other dimensions namely capacity and expansion.

Thinking and Talented Civil Servants

Core	Professional	Capacity	Expansion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attitude • Motivation • Discipline • Integrity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognitive • Knowledge • Skills • Communication • Teamwork 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer-oriented • High quality • High achievement • Competitive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visionary (forward looking) • Creative and innovative • Entrepreneurships • Partnerships

Source : Ooi Seong Kang, et. al.

Therefore, the Tenth Malaysia Plan has used a theme “transformation towards a high income and advanced nation, resilient and competitive” that is supported by for basic values as complements for the civilization. Those values are:

- To inculcate the culture of creativity and innovation
- To prioritize on fast action and decision making
- Value for Money
- Integrity Values

According to Hoon et. al. (2011), the categories of those values have been successfully combined and integrated into seven fields which aim at guiding the life of the multi-racial society and subsequently enhance the unity of the nation state in Malaysia. The seven fields mentioned are as follows:

- a) Values related to personal development
- b) Values related to family or kinship
- c) Values related to environment
- d) Values related to patriotism
- e) Values related to human rights
- f) Values related to democracy
- g) Values related to security and harmony

Conclusion

Generally, the research on the method of thoughts of Imam al-Juwayni in Malaysia has greatly given impacts towards the birth and existence of the integrity value ideas, especially in implementing them in the context of Malaysia society. It also proves the validity and reliability of *dawabit* of thoughts from Imam al-Juwayni that are sourced from the true divine revelation. Guided by some features of dignity as well as flexible methods through consistent *dawabit* categories, many issues related to the laws and the values of contemporary laws can be solved effectively. The relationship between the concepts of *sibgha ilahiyya*, holistic method with the birth and existence of value ideas that lead to the creation of excellent generation model collectively is very significant and relevant. Therefore, the meaningful and invaluable contributions from Imam al-Juwayni should be recommended to be evaluation reference, standard measure or the best model example to the current and future generation. All good things about these value ideas can be crystallized and implemented if every *mukallaf* (a Moslem bound to adhere to the true Islamic teachings) can appreciate the blessing of *ilm, ma'rifa* as well as having strength of high level of *basirah* (insights). These things will be obtained through implementing *taklif shara'* with diligence and sincerity besides achieving *maqasid shari'ah* earnestly.

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