

A COMBINATION OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ECONOMICS IN ONE SCIENCE

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Abstrak. Islam is not only a religion but also a comprehensive worldview that encompasses political and economic aspects. Islamic principles significantly influence the social, economic, and political structures in Muslim societies. This paper explores the interrelation between politics and economics within the Islamic context, focusing on Islamic economic principles and political perspectives. The study also examines the application of these principles in the governance and economic systems of Muslim-majority countries. The analysis highlights how political and economic changes influence each other and the importance of integrating political science and economics to develop a deeper understanding of governance and policy-making. Through interdisciplinary analysis, this paper provides insights into the relationship between politics and economics in Islamic contexts, contributing to the discourse on sustainable and equitable economic development.

Keyword: *POLITICAL SCIENCE, ECONOMICS*

INTRODUCTION

Islam is not only a religion, but also a worldview that includes political and economic aspects. Islamic principles play an important role in shaping the social, economic and political order in Muslim societies. In this paper, we will discuss the relationship between politics and economics in the Islamic context, focusing on Islamic economic principles and Islamic political views. We will also explore how these principles are applied in political and economic practices in Muslim-majority countries.

As we know that the performance of a country's economy is determined by many factors and three of the most decisive are: (1) the economic policies implemented by the government, (2) the environment in which the economy operates, and (3) the political economy system used.³ All

of these determinants of economic performance can change at any time, if the conditions in society change, both changes caused by people's perspectives (or ideologies), customs, or government regulations, as well as developments in information and communication technology. (García-Muiña et al., 2021)

Politics and economics are inseparable entities, interconnected with each other. The dynamics of the relationship between politics and the economy have been the concern of many researchers in academia. Political changes will affect economic life, and vice versa, economic life affects political life. Integrating Political Science and Economics into a single scientific entity can lead to a deeper understanding of the relationship between politics and economics in a social and policy context. This could include the development of an interdisciplinary approach that combines theories, methodologies and concepts from both disciplines. (Otu et al., 2023)

The statement reflects that the relationship between politics and economics is mutually influential, and an understanding of both is key to effectively managing society and government, including the influence of political change on economic conditions, the need to understand the political context to design effective economic policies, the importance of sustainable decision-making and the role of politics in it, the ability to build coalitions and convince about economic policies, and the importance of identifying common interests in creating policies that support equitable and sustainable economic growth in the realm of complex relationships between politics and economics. (Blyton et al., 2001).

Research Methodology

This study employs a qualitative research methodology, relying on a literature review and theoretical analysis to examine the relationship between politics and economics in an Islamic framework. The research is conducted through a review of existing academic sources, including books, journal articles, and relevant scholarly publications. A comparative approach is used to analyze different political and economic models in Muslim-majority countries, assessing their alignment with Islamic principles. Additionally, historical and institutional perspectives are considered to understand how Islamic economics and politics have evolved over time. The study integrates interdisciplinary methods, drawing from political science and economics, to explore the implications of political decisions on economic policies and vice versa.

DISCUSSION

1. Basics of Political Science

Political science is a branch of social science that deals with the theory and practice of politics and the description and analysis of political systems and political behavior. It is academic, theoretical, and research-oriented. Niccolò Machiavelli, who was an influential political scientist, focused on the study of the allocation and transfer of power in political decision-making. Political scientists generally deepen their understanding of the role and systems of government, be it in the context of national governments or international organizations. They also examine political behavior and the impact of public policies on variables including stability, justice, material well-being and peace. Some political scientists develop political science through positive political analysis with a focus on empirical data. In contrast, others encourage the development of this science from a normative point of view by providing specific policy recommendations. (Budiardjo, 2008)

Research in politics is often complicated by political scientists' active involvement in the political process itself. They often provide a framework that other commentators, including journalists, interest groups, politicians and participants in elections, use to analyze political issues and make choices. Political scientists can act as advisors to certain politicians or even be directly involved in politics as active politicians. They can be found working in various sectors, including in government, political parties, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), or political movements. In these various capacities, individuals with an educational background and training in political science can make valuable contributions and apply their expertise in a variety of settings, including think-tanks, research institutions, survey agencies, and the public relations field. (Budiardjo, 2008)

According to (Howdes Goodin et al., 1996) The political science outlook includes various perspectives and theories that help us understand and analyze political phenomena. Below:

a. Classical View

In politics, there is an amalgamation of citizens who aim to discuss and regulate all matters related to the common welfare of all members of society. Aristotle taught that the moral value of the common good has a higher priority than individual or private interests.

b. Institutional Outlook

The institutionalist approach refers to the main research focus that lies on the state. There are two main categories in the understanding of state institutions, namely democratic states that are at the point of "good governance", and authoritarian states that are at the point of "bad governance". Although there are different variations and terminology in this understanding, ultimately, the governance structures of these two types of state institutions can be classified as either "good" or "bad". This approach encompasses various aspects, including the nature of the constitution, issues of sovereignty, position, and the formal and juridical powers of state institutions such as parliament and so on. In other words, it involves both legal and institutional elements. The legal/institutional approach, often referred to as the traditional approach, began to develop in the 19th century before World War II. In this approach, the state becomes the main focus of research, especially in a constitutional and legal context.

This approach has five main characteristics or focuses:

- 1) Legalism: This includes legal aspects, such as the role of the central government in law formation.
- 2) Structuralism: A focus on major institutional structures or an emphasis on the importance of structures in determining individual behavior.
- 3) Holistic: Emphasizes studying the system as a whole rather than just examining individual institutions such as the legislature.
- 4) History or Historicism: Emphasizes analysis in a historical context, including socio-economic and cultural aspects.
- 5) Normative Analysis: Relates to analyzing normative aspects and the creation of good government as the main focus.

with state administration. Max Weber formulated the state as a human community that successfully monopolizes the use of legal physical coercion within a certain territory. The state is seen as the main source of the right to use legal physical coercion.

c. View of Power

Politics as the activity of seeking and maintaining power in society, (Robson). Political science as a science that focuses on the struggle to; Acquire and maintain power, Implement power, Influence others or oppose the exercise of power.

d. Functionalist View

Politics is the authoritative allocation of values, based on authority and therefore very binding for all people, (David Easton and Harold Lasswell) The functionalist view sees politics as the activity of formulating and implementing public policies.

e. Conflict View

Conflict: difference of opinion, debate, competition and even opposition and struggle in an effort to gain and/or maintain values. According to this view, politics is conflict. Because conflict symptoms are always present in society (in the political process).

Islamic Economics

2. Fundamentals of Economics

Economics is a branch of social science that studies the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services in society. Economics examines how individuals, firms, and governments make economic choices to allocate limited resources to meet their needs and wants. There are three economic ideologies that we write about namely:

a. Classical Economics

For centuries, humanity has faced severe economic challenges, with most people struggling to meet their basic needs. In the 18th century, the lives of the common people were considered to be "lonely, poor, disorderly, cruel, and short," according to the views of Thomas Hobbes. However, in 1776, there was a new ray of hope when the American Declaration of Independence cited the basic rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The same year, a monumental work, "An Inquiry into the Nature and Cause of the Wealth of Nations," was published in England by Adam Smith, a quiet professor who taught moral philosophy. This book, better known as "The Wealth of Nations," became the impetus for an economic revolution that would change the face of the Western world. (Adam Smith, 2019)

Adam Smith, born in Scotland in 1723, presented a universal formula on how to achieve financial independence and prosperity. His work served as an inspiration for leaders and citizens in developing economics and trade. "The Wealth of Nations" proposed a recipe to

liberate the working class from the harsh conditions outlined by Hobbes. This work was, in essence, a declaration of economic freedom. In the early 19th century, following the American Revolution and the development of the industrial revolution, the Western world experienced rapid growth. (Adam Smith, 2019)

Inventions such as spinning machines, looms, and steam engines saved time and money for employers and citizens. Real wages began to rise, and the standard of living for everyone, including the poor, improved. George Washington is considered the father of the new American nation, while Adam Smith is considered the father of a new science, economics. Smith formulated his model as a "system of natural liberty" which today is known as the "classical model." Smith's biggest challenge was convincing people, especially legislators, to adopt his new economic model. (Adam Smith, 2019)

The work "The Wealth of Nations" served not only as an educational tool, but also as a tool of persuasion. Adam Smith saw that in his time, the sustainability of progress was limited due to the powerful system known as mercantilism. Smith's work paved the way for freer economic thinking and changed the course of the Western world's economic development forever

b. Economy

A socialist economic system is an economic system that is fully managed and regulated by the state. Often referred to as a centralized economic system, because all aspects of the economy must be subject to regulation and command from the central government. The main principle of the socialist economic system is to achieve prosperity for all people with equal distribution, so that no more economic oppression occurs (Effendi, 2019)

It is important to understand that a socialist economic system does not mean that there is no individual freedom in economic activities. Individuals still have freedom, but it is very limited, and the government has a very large hand in supervising and regulating the economy. This is done to ensure that the social goal of general prosperity is achieved. (Tho'in, 2015)

There are several characteristics that describe the socialist economic system:

- 1) Collectivity and Togetherness: This system emphasizes togetherness or collectivity in the ownership and management of economic resources. People are expected to work together to achieve the goal of common prosperity.
- 2) The Big Role of Government: The government has a huge role in regulating, supervising, and managing the economy. Strategic economic decisions are often made by the government.
- 3) Production Patterns Determine Human Nature: Human nature in a socialist economic system is greatly influenced by the existing production patterns. Individuals tend to work according to the economic needs of the society.
- 4) Does Not Recognize Individual Property Rights: In this system, individual property rights over productive resources are often not recognized. Primary property is often owned or controlled by the state or a collectivity of people.

Socialist economic systems have advantages and disadvantages that must be considered. Key decisions in the economy such as resource allocation and wealth distribution are often in the hands of the government, which can ensure economic equity. However, some critics consider that this system can stifle innovation and individual motivation due to heavy interference from the government. In practice, socialist economic systems can vary from country to country depending on how they are implemented and the level of government control.

According to socialist economic principles, economic resources are considered very limited. Wealth is expected to be acquired through the empowerment of labor, which includes various sectors such as mining, agriculture, and others. In the context of a socialist system, all business sectors are owned and operated by the state, so there is no free market, supply and demand mechanisms do not apply, because the state is responsible for providing all the needs of society equally. Decision-making and problem formulation are taken care of directly by the government (Mujiatun, 2014) . In the socialist paradigm, work is considered a means to fulfill the needs of human life, including the achievement of prosperity and welfare. Workers, as owners of labor, are expected to obtain added value from their production (Qomar, 2019)

c. Islamic Economics

Islamic economics is a unique and ethical economic system that is firmly rooted in Islamic principles and values. It provides a

framework for economic activity that prioritizes social justice, equality, and the overall well-being of society. The system of life in Islam is regarded as universal, comprehensive and integral which provides overall guidance for human life. Islam, as a way of life, governs all aspects of life from the simple to the complex, including politics, economics, education, arts, social, culture, and more. Islam is considered a complete religion, regulating all aspects of life, including economic aspects (Fitria, 2016) . If the principles of the Quran and Hadith are used as the basis for a country's economy, it is expected that the national economy will run efficiently and in accordance with established rules. However, in reality, not all Muslim countries in the world apply these principles.

3. Combining Political Science and Economics in One Scientific Unit

Economics takes an open-minded and scientific approach to considering broad real-world issues, such as why, when economies grow richer, people often don't become happier. Economics is very mathematically rigorous, and you need to have an aptitude and enjoyment in math, along with strong analytical abilities.

This program combines the two complementary fields of economics and politics in a joint honors program, with about half of the program in each field. You will study political concepts and theories, will compare political phenomena in different cultures and countries, and answer broad theoretical questions about the political world. You will also gain a thorough grounding in the analytical methods of economics and will learn to apply these methods to a wide array of problems.

(Del Baldo, 2019) The study of the relationship between politics and economics is a topic that has been widely researched and debated in the social and economic sciences. This statement underlines some important points about the relationship between politics and economics:

- a. Political Maturity and Economic Progress: A country's ability to have mature and effective politics is often correlated with its

economic progress. This means that countries that have stable and well-functioning political systems are more likely to be able to create an enabling environment for sustainable economic growth.

- b. **Mutual Support:** Politics and economy are two mutually supportive entities. Stable and secure political conditions tend to create confidence for investors and businesses, which in turn can encourage investment and economic growth. On the other hand, strong economic growth can help create social and political stability.
- c. **Impact on Stock Market:** A favorable political situation can have a direct impact on the stock market. When political conditions are stable and safe, investors tend to be more confident in investing in the stock market, which can result in a rise in stock prices.
- d. **Conducive Political Conditions:** Conducive political conditions include political stability, strong law enforcement, security, and clear and consistent regulations. All these factors can provide certainty to businesses and investors.
- e. **Advanced Political and Economic Life:** An advanced and efficient political life can help address complex economic issues, such as fiscal and monetary policy, business regulation, and protection of individual economic rights.

Integrating Political Science and Economics in a single scholarly entity can lead to a deeper understanding of the relationship between politics and economics in social and policy contexts. This can include the development of an interdisciplinary approach that combines theories, methodologies and concepts from these two disciplines. In research conducted by (Alizadeh Emamzadeh, 2020) several elements that can form a scientific unity between Political Science and Economics:

- a. **Political Economy:** Focuses on analyzing the interaction between political decisions and economic consequences. It involves understanding how political policies, such as economic regulations, taxes, and budgets, affect the allocation of economic resources and the distribution of income.
- b. **Political Decision Theory:** Integrates economic aspects in the analysis of political decisions, such as theories of voter behavior

that consider economic interests and estimates of the economic benefits of political elections.

- c. **Economic Policy:** Understand the impact of economic policies on political processes and political stability. This may include evaluating the economic impact of fiscal, monetary, trade and other policies on political stability.
- d. **Economic Decision Making Theory:** Discusses the role of politics in the economic decision-making process, such as how political actors influence economic and investment policies.
- e. **Public Policy:** Involves economic analysis in the formulation and implementation of public policies. It includes evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of economic policies resulting from the political process.

Political and economic systems can also affect other aspects of society, including education, health and culture. For example, in a capitalist economic system, private companies have a large role in organizing the economy, which can affect social aspects such as employment and access to healthcare. On the other hand, in a democratic political system, people's participation in political decision-making can affect economic policy-making.

Therefore, an understanding of the relationship between the political and economic systems is important in effective policy analysis and planning in a society. Harmony between the two can promote social stability and well-being, while conflict or incongruence between the political and economic systems can produce tension and instability in society.

Conclusion

The relationship between politics and economics in Islam is deeply interconnected, influencing governance, policy-making, and economic development. Islamic economic principles emphasize social justice, equity, and ethical financial practices, which are crucial for sustainable economic growth. Political stability and governance based on Islamic values contribute to an economic system that aligns with ethical and social principles. The study highlights the need for an integrated approach that considers both political and economic factors to formulate effective policies. Understanding the dynamic interaction between politics and economics in the Islamic context is essential

for fostering stable and prosperous societies. This research contributes to the broader discourse on political economy by illustrating how Islamic principles can shape governance and economic frameworks for equitable development..

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