

The Relevance of Maulana Saeed Nursi's Thoughts in Responding to the Global Crisis Through the Qur'an

Muhammad Juni Beddu^{1*}, Muhammad Faisal², Muhammad Zakir Husain³, Hazem Mamoun⁴, Ita Tryas Nur Rochbani⁵

^{1,5} Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam Ibnu Sina Batam, Indonesia

² Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam Negeri Sultan Abdurrahman Kepulauan Riau, Indonesia

³ Sultan Syarif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA), Brunei Darussalam

⁴ Cairo University, Egypt

* jhuni_cairo@yahoo.co.id

Abstrak

Krisis global kontemporer, meliputi degradasi moral, disorientasi spiritual, krisis lingkungan, dan konflik kemanusiaan, menunjukkan keterputusan manusia modern dari nilai-nilai transendental. Dalam konteks ini, pemikiran Maulana Badiuzzaman Said Nursi (1877–1960) dikaji sebagai alternatif solusi berbasis Al-Qur'an. Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis secara tematik relevansi gagasan Nursi dalam karya *Risalah Nur* terhadap problem global modern. Metode yang digunakan adalah studi kepustakaan dengan pendekatan kualitatif-deskriptif, menggunakan analisis tematik terhadap teks utama *Risalah Nur*, serta sumber sekunder yang relevan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan tiga temuan utama. Pertama, konsep iman rasional dalam *Risalah Nur* dioperasionalkan melalui argumentasi logis-empiris yang berfungsi sebagai dasar penguatan kesadaran spiritual dalam menghadapi sekularisme. Kedua, integrasi wahyu dan akal ditunjukkan melalui kerangka epistemologis yang menempatkan sains sebagai sarana tafakkur, bukan entitas yang bertentangan dengan agama. Ketiga, konsep ukhuwah insaniyah dan etika tauhid melahirkan prinsip tanggung jawab sosial dan ekologis yang tercermin dalam ajakan menjaga harmoni manusia dan alam. Kontribusi kajian ini terletak pada perumusan pola konseptual hubungan antara iman rasional, integrasi ilmu-agama, dan etika sosial-ekologis dalam satu kerangka tematik berbasis *Risalah Nur*. Kajian ini menegaskan noveltnya bahwa internalisasi nilai-nilai Al-Qur'an melalui pendekatan rasional dan spiritual sebagaimana dirumuskan Nursi memiliki relevansi signifikan dalam berkeadilan, dan berorientasi pada keseimbangan antara aspek material dan spiritual.

Kata Kunci: Krisis Global; Pemikiran Islam; *Risalah Nur*; Saeed Nursi.

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Abstract

Global contemporary crises, including moral degradation, spiritual disorientation, environmental crises, and humanitarian conflicts, indicate the disconnection of modern humanity from transcendental values. In this context, the thought of Badiuzzaman Said Nursi (1877–1960) is examined as an alternative Qur'anic-based solution. This study aims to thematically analyze the relevance of Nursi's ideas in *Risalah Nur* to modern global problems. The research employs a library research method with a qualitative-descriptive approach, using thematic analysis of the main texts of *Risalah Nur* and relevant secondary sources. The findings reveal three main points. First, the concept of rational faith in *Risale-i Nur* is operationalized through logical-empirical arguments that function as a foundation for strengthening spiritual awareness in confronting secularism. Second, the integration of revelation and reason is demonstrated through an epistemological framework that positions science as a means of contemplation (*tafakkur*), rather than as an entity opposed to religion. Third, the concepts of *ukhuwah insaniyah* and the ethics of *tawhid* generate principles of social and ecological responsibility reflected in the call to maintain harmony between humanity and nature. The contribution of this study lies in formulating a conceptual framework connecting rational faith, the integration of religion and science, and socio-ecological ethics within a thematic perspective based on *Risalah Nur*. This study highlights its novelty by asserting that the internalization of Qur'anic values through the rational and spiritual approach formulated by Nursi remains highly relevant for building a just civilization oriented toward balance between material and spiritual dimensions.

Keywords: Global Crisis; Islamic Thought; *Risalah Nur*; Saeed Nursi.

INTRODUCTION

The contemporary world is facing a multidimensional crisis encompassing moral decline, spiritual disorientation, environmental degradation, and escalating humanitarian conflicts. Recent global reports, such as those published by the United Nations and the World Economic Forum, highlight that technological and economic advancements have not been accompanied by proportional ethical and social development. This imbalance is reflected in rising inequality, ecological crises, and declining trust in social institutions. Scholars in global ethics and religious studies argue that such crises indicate a deeper rupture between material progress and transcendental or spiritual values, thereby raising fundamental questions about the moral foundations of modern civilization (Mujtahid, et.al, 2024).

Existing studies on religion and modernity have extensively explored the tension between secularization and faith, including works within Post-secular Studies and contemporary Islamic thought. While several scholars have examined the ideas of Said Nursi, most studies tend to focus either on his theological contributions or socio-political context, rather than systematically linking his Qur'anic interpretation to contemporary global crises. Furthermore, there is limited research that employs a structured thematic analysis of *Risalah Nur* to articulate a conceptual framework connecting faith, knowledge

integration, and socio-ecological ethics. This gap indicates the need for a more analytically grounded and textually focused study (Febriyanti et al., 2025).

Based on this gap, the present study aims to examine the relevance of Nursi's thought in addressing contemporary global crises through a thematic analysis of *Risalah Nur*. Specifically, this research is guided by three main questions: (1) How does Nursi conceptualize rational faith (*iman*) in responding to the crisis of modernity? (2) In what ways does he integrate revelation and reason within his epistemological framework? (3) How do his concepts of human brotherhood and tawhid-based ethics contribute to addressing social and environmental challenges? These questions provide a clear analytical direction and define the scope of the study.

This study contributes by formulating a conceptual linkage between rational faith, the integration of religion and science, and socio-ecological ethics based on a thematic reading of *Risalah Nur*. Rather than making broad normative claims, the study focuses on demonstrating how Nursi's ideas can be systematically interpreted and contextualized within contemporary discourse (Nikmah, 2020). Thus, the significance of this research lies in offering a theoretically grounded and textually supported analysis that clarifies the relevance of Nursi's thought in responding to modern global crises, while maintaining consistency between research objectives, methodology, and findings (Darmadi, 2025).

One of the major weaknesses of the modern materialist approach is its tendency to separate scientific and technological progress from spiritual and moral values. As a result, modern civilization often experiences moral crises such as individualism, consumerism, social inequality, and the misuse of science and technology. In Said Nursi's perspective, this crisis emerges from the separation between reason and revelation, where knowledge is developed without ethical and spiritual guidance. Consequently, progress that is intended to improve human life may instead create injustice, social alienation, and environmental destruction (Annisaturrahmi, 2025; Zahratana, 2023).

The discussion of the failure of the modern materialist approach is relevant to this study because it explains the background of the global crisis that underlies the importance of the Qur'an as a comprehensive solution. Through *Risalah Nur*, Said Nursi emphasizes the integration of faith, reason, and morality as the foundation for rebuilding human civilization. In this framework, the Qur'an is understood not only as a religious text but also as a source of ethical and spiritual guidance capable of addressing contemporary social, moral, and ecological problems. Therefore, the integration of revelation and rationality becomes essential for creating a more just, balanced, and sustainable society.

The Importance of Said Nursi's Thought and the Study of *Risalah Nur* in the Modern and Global Context

Contemporary global crises, including moral degradation, spiritual alienation, environmental destruction, and humanitarian conflicts, reflect the growing disconnection of modern humanity from transcendental values. Although modernity has achieved remarkable progress in science and technology, it has not fully succeeded in providing inner peace, ethical balance, or social justice. Instead, modern civilization is increasingly characterized by materialism, secularism, and a crisis of meaning. In this context, the thought of Said Nursi emerges as an important intellectual and spiritual alternative grounded in Qur'anic values. Through his monumental work, *Risalah Nur*, Nursi offers a framework that integrates faith, reason, and ethical responsibility in responding to the challenges of modern civilization.

Nursi's thought is significant because it develops the concept of rational faith (*iman haqiqi*) through logical reasoning, empirical reflection, and cosmological analogies, making religious belief intellectually relevant within modern scientific discourse. Unlike secular approaches that separate religion from rationality, Nursi positions science as a means of *tafakkur* (contemplation) that strengthens awareness of divine truth. His epistemological framework demonstrates that revelation and reason are complementary rather than contradictory. In this regard, Nursi's perspective may be viewed as extending post-secular discourse by proposing not only the coexistence of religion and rationality, but also their epistemic integration within human consciousness.

The global relevance of studying *Risalah Nur* also lies in its socio-ethical dimension. Nursi emphasizes the principles of *ukhuwah insaniyah* (human brotherhood), justice, compassion, and ecological responsibility as practical manifestations of *tauhid*. These values encourage solidarity, peaceful coexistence, and harmony between humanity and nature in the midst of global fragmentation and environmental crises. Therefore, *Risalah Nur* is not merely a theological text, but also a conceptual framework that connects spiritual transformation with broader civilizational renewal.

Accordingly, the study of Nursi's thought contributes to contemporary academic discourse by offering an integrative paradigm that bridges faith, knowledge, and socio-ethical responsibility. Unlike previous studies that mainly focus on theological or historical aspects, this research positions *Risalah Nur* as a relevant and dynamic framework for addressing modern global crises. By integrating rational faith, the

harmony of revelation and reason, and socio-ecological ethics, Nursi's thought provides a meaningful alternative for constructing a more balanced, humane, and spiritually grounded civilization.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach with library research, as the focus is on text analysis and the ideas of prominent figures. This approach was chosen to delve deeper into the theoretical and normative concepts contained in the Qur'an and the works of Saeed Nursi, particularly *Risalah Nur*, in addressing the global crisis. The data sources in this study are divided into two categories: primary sources, namely the Qur'an; the works of Saeed Nursi, particularly the *Risalah Nur* (such as words, letters, and flashes); Secondary sources include books on contemporary Islamic thought, articles from national and international journals related to Saeed Nursi's thoughts, the global crisis, and the Qur'an's solutions; and symposium proceedings and related research reports.

Data collection techniques were conducted through documentation and literature research, through the identification, classification, and selection of texts related to the concepts of the global crisis, monotheism, conversion to faith, and the integration of reason and revelation, as well as the principles of justice and balance from the perspective of the Qur'an and its message of light.

The study applies a structured thematic analysis consisting of three main stages: open coding, axial coding, and selective coding. In the open coding phase, key concepts such as *iman* (faith), *tauhid*, reason-revelation integration, and socio-ethical responsibility were identified. Axial coding was then used to establish relationships between these concepts, followed by selective coding to construct a coherent conceptual framework. To enhance analytical reliability, this study employs source triangulation by comparing interpretations across primary texts and secondary literature. Additionally, a hermeneutic approach is used to interpret the texts contextually, ensuring that meanings are derived through iterative engagement between text, context, and theoretical perspective.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Roots of the Global Crisis from Nursi's Perspective

According to Saeed Nursi, the global crisis gripping the modern world is not merely an economic, political, or technological issue, but a fundamental crisis rooted in the destruction of faith and a humanistic outlook on life, and in this material state. Nursi argues that the very fabric of modern civilization has been woven with threads of epistemological and spiritual errors, primarily because it has systematically removed revelation from the public sphere and replaced it with a materialist-secular paradigm. This shift has profound implications, as it leads to a collective amnesia regarding the intrinsic values that once guided human existence. For instance, the rapid advancements in technology and the relentless pursuit of economic growth often overshadow the moral and ethical considerations that should accompany such progress. As a result, individuals find themselves adrift, lacking a compass that provides direction toward meaningful existence. The consequences of this paradigm shift are stark; humans have lost their orientation toward the meaning and purpose of life, as well as their moral responsibilities to one another and to the world around them (Saifan, 2025).

Said Nursi also emphasized that the global crisis is the result of a natural human crisis. This assertion invites us to reflect on the duality of human existence, where the spiritual and physical realms are often seen as opposing forces. In contemporary society, there is a marked failure to maintain a delicate balance between these two essential aspects of human life. The potential of the mind and desires is overdeveloped, as evidenced by the relentless pursuit of knowledge and material wealth, while the heart and soul are neglected, leading to a disconnection from deeper existential truths. This imbalance manifests in various ways, such as the rise of mental health issues, a sense of existential dread, and a pervasive alienation from oneself and from God. The irony is that despite unprecedented advancements in technology and science, individuals increasingly report feelings of loneliness and despair. The progress of civilization, therefore, does not equate to the attainment of happiness and inner peace; rather, it often exacerbates feelings of emptiness and discontent (Rosie, 2024)

In examining these themes, it becomes clear that the crisis articulated by Nursi is not just a theoretical construct but a lived reality for many. The disintegration of faith and the neglect of spiritual well-being have far-reaching consequences that extend beyond individual experiences to affect societal cohesion and global stability. For example, in a world where material success is often equated with personal worth, individuals may prioritize financial gain over community well-being, leading to social fragmentation and increased conflict. This scenario underscores the urgent need for a re-evaluation of our values and priorities, encouraging a return to a more holistic understanding of human existence that integrates both material and spiritual dimensions.

Furthermore, the implications of Nursi's insights extend into the realm of education and public policy. If we are to address the crises of our time effectively, we must cultivate environments that foster spiritual growth alongside intellectual development. This could involve integrating moral and ethical education into school curricula, promoting community service, and encouraging practices that nurture the soul, such as mindfulness and reflection. By doing so, we can begin to heal the rift between the material and the spiritual, paving the way for a more balanced and fulfilling existence.

In conclusion, Maulana Saeed Nursi's perspective on the global crisis invites us to confront the profound implications of living in a world that has largely abandoned its spiritual roots. The disconnection from faith and the neglect of our inner lives have resulted in a crisis that is both personal and collective. As we navigate the complexities of modern civilization, it is imperative that we seek a restoration of balance between our material pursuits and our spiritual needs. Only through this reconciliation can we hope to cultivate a society that values not just economic growth, but also the well-being of the human spirit, ultimately leading to a more harmonious and meaningful existence.

Said Nursi, a prominent thinker and theologian, highlights ideological conflict and social fragmentation as consequences of the erosion of brotherhood and empathetic values within society. In his work *My Letters of Light*, Nursi firmly asserts that the true enemies of humanity are not other nations or religions, but rather ignorance, spiritual poverty, and internal division. Within this framework, he invites reflection on how misunderstandings of Islam's compassionate teachings can lead to violence and extremism. He argues that such actions do not represent the true essence of Islam; instead, they are symptoms of a failure to comprehend and internalize the humanistic values embedded within the religion (Faiz, 2016).

A deeper examination of Nursi's perspective reveals that the roots of the contemporary global crisis are spiritual, epistemological, and anthropological in nature. In other words, the crisis extends beyond structural problems or the need for technological innovation, encompassing the fundamental necessity to reconstruct faith, restore spiritual values, and reintegrate Qur'anic teachings into all aspects of life. For instance, Nursi emphasizes the importance of education grounded in Qur'anic values – an approach that not only develops intellectual capacity but also shapes moral character. In this sense, education becomes a crucial instrument for addressing ignorance, which he identifies as a primary source of division and conflict.

Furthermore, through *Risalah Nur* (The Message of Light), Nursi proposes a robust framework that positions faith as the foundation of civilization and the key to humanity's

revival amid global crises. He maintains that only by returning to profound spiritual values can sustainable solutions to contemporary challenges be achieved. In the modern context, where many individuals experience a loss of meaning and direction despite rapid technological advancement, Nursi calls for a reexamination of life's purpose through the lens of faith. In this view, human actions should reflect values of compassion, justice, and brotherhood as taught in Islam.

The coherence of these ideas is essential for understanding Nursi's overall argument. He does not merely diagnose the problems facing modern society but also offers an integrated and comprehensive solution. By connecting spiritual, epistemological, and anthropological dimensions, Nursi demonstrates that the restoration of faith and Qur'anic values is not separate from daily life; rather, it must be embodied in all human actions. Accordingly, both interpersonal relationships and broader social interactions should be grounded in a deep understanding of Islam's compassionate teachings.

In conclusion, Nursi's thought provides a profound and holistic perspective on the challenges confronting contemporary humanity. By emphasizing the importance of faith, education, and Qur'anic values, he encourages a reflective engagement with both the self and society. His perspective suggests that solutions to global crises cannot rely solely on structural or technological changes, but must also involve the reconstruction of empathetic and compassionate human relationships. In addressing these challenges, a more spiritual and humanistic approach is required—one that aspires to foster a more harmonious and civilized world through a deeper understanding of Islamic teachings.

The Quran as a Universal Solution

The Quran is regarded in Islam not merely as a ritual scripture, but as a universal guide to life that offers comprehensive solutions to a wide range of human problems. This profound text is often seen as a beacon of light in the midst of darkness, providing clarity and direction in times of uncertainty. In the context of the global crisis, which encompasses moral, spiritual, social, environmental, and humanitarian crises, the Quran emerges as a miracle cell, or eternal miracle, relevant across time and space. This assertion is not merely a theological claim but is supported by the Quran's enduring ability to resonate with the human experience, regardless of cultural or temporal boundaries (Nurusshoumi, 2020). In Saeed Nursi's view, the Quran serves as a source of faith and civilizational development. The global crisis is essentially a crisis of faith and the

meaning of life; therefore, the solution offered by the Quran must begin with the reconstruction of monotheistic consciousness (Sahin, 2020).

Saeed Nursi, a prominent Islamic scholar, emphasized that the miracle of the Quran lies in its capacity to address the challenges of every era with universal and applicable principles. For instance, the Quran's teachings on justice, compassion, and community welfare provide a framework for addressing contemporary social issues such as inequality and discrimination. In a world grappling with the ramifications of climate change, the Quran's emphasis on stewardship of the earth and responsible consumption resonates powerfully, urging humanity to act sustainably. Nursi's insights compel us to recognize that the Quran is not static; it is a dynamic source of wisdom that adapts to the pressing needs of society.

In Nursi's view, the Quran serves as a source of faith and civilizational development. He argues that the global crisis we face today is essentially a crisis of faith and the meaning of life. This perspective invites a deeper examination of the spiritual void that often accompanies material wealth and technological advancement. In societies where consumerism reigns supreme, individuals may find themselves grappling with existential questions that the Quran addresses directly, such as the purpose of life and the nature of human existence. The solution offered by the Quran must therefore begin with the reconstruction of monotheistic consciousness, which Nursi posits as foundational to restoring both individual and collective well-being.

To illustrate this point, consider the concept of social justice as articulated in the Quran. The text implores believers to act justly and to care for the marginalized, echoing themes found in contemporary movements advocating for social equity. By fostering a sense of responsibility towards others, the Quran not only guides personal conduct but also lays the groundwork for a just society. This interconnectedness between faith and societal development highlights the Quran's role as a catalyst for meaningful change.

Furthermore, the Quran's teachings extend beyond individual morality to encompass broader societal structures. For example, its principles of charity and community support challenge the individualistic tendencies prevalent in modern societies. By promoting a sense of collective responsibility, the Quran encourages believers to engage with their communities actively, fostering environments where mutual aid and cooperation thrive. This holistic approach to social issues reflects the Quran's timeless relevance, as it speaks to the core of what it means to live in harmony with others.

The Quran stands as a profound source of guidance that transcends the boundaries of time and culture. Its ability to address the multifaceted crises facing humanity today underscores its status as an eternal miracle. Through the insights of Maulana Saeed Nursi, we are reminded that the Quran is not just a spiritual text but a comprehensive guide that offers solutions rooted in faith and the reconstruction of monotheistic consciousness. By embracing its teachings, individuals and societies can navigate the complexities of modern life, fostering a deeper understanding of purpose and interconnectedness. Ultimately, the Quran invites us to reflect on our roles in the world and to strive for a life that embodies the values of justice, compassion, and responsibility.

The Quran affirms that the purpose of human creation is to worship Allah Almighty: "I did not create the jinn and mankind, but that they may worship Me." (ad-Dzāriyāt [51]: 56). This verse shows that the Qur'an directs humans to place God as the center of life's guidance, so that all human activities—individual and collective—take place within the corridor of divine values.

In Saeed Nursi's view, Quranic justice is a direct manifestation of true faith. When faith is strong, justice becomes a moral imperative, not just a legal requirement. This principle is highly relevant in addressing social inequality and global conflict caused by greed and structural injustice (Wulan, 2025). The Quran also offers solutions to the environmental crisis by emphasizing the moral relationship between humans and nature. He views nature as a sign of God that must be preserved, not exploited destructively. Allah SWT says: "*And do not corrupt the earth after it has been revitalized.*" Said Nursi interprets these verses from an ecologic approach, positioning humans as responsible successors to maintain the cosmic balance.

Furthermore, the Quran offers solutions to the global peace crisis through the principles of compassion, brotherhood, and dialogue. Islam rejects violence and oppression as paths to change. Allah SWT says in the afterword: "*And We have not sent you (O Muhammad) except as a blessing to all the worlds.*" In his *Letter of Light*, Saeed Nursi emphasized peaceful advocacy and peacemaking as an application of Qur'anic values in a modern context. He argued that real change can only be achieved through enlightenment of faith and education, not through physical confrontation (Sahin, 2020).

Therefore, the Qur'an as a global solution offers a comprehensive approach encompassing spiritual, intellectual, ethical, and social dimensions (Arif, 2024). Maulana Saeed Nursi's ideas reinforced the importance of the Qur'an by demonstrating that global crises cannot be resolved without returning to revelation as a source of values and

meaning. The Qur'an is not only a solution for Muslims, but a universal guideline for humanity in building a just, balanced, and sustainable civilization (Rosie, 2024).

The Importance of Nursi's Ideas on Global Issues

Saeed Nursi's thought is crucial in addressing various contemporary global issues, particularly because his approach is rooted in the Qur'an but presented rationally, humanely, and contextually. Through his monumental work, *Risalah Nur*, Said Nursi presented a model of civilization that places faith as the primary foundation for solving human problems, without denying the role of reason, science, and social reality.

1. Relationship to Environmental Issues (Environmental Crisis)

In facing global environmental crises – such as climate change, ecosystem degradation, and the exploitation of natural resources – Said Nursi's thought offers a monotheistic ecological approach. Saeed Nursi views the universe as a cosmic book containing God's revelations (cosmological verses). Therefore, nature should not be treated as a mere object of exploitation, but as a divine order whose balance must be maintained (Muttakin & Mujahid, 2026)

2. Relationship to educational issues (cognitive orientation crisis)

In responding to the increasingly urgent global environmental crisis, such as climate change, ecosystem degradation, and the exploitation of natural resources, the thought of Said Nursi offers an ecological approach grounded in monotheism. Nursi views the universe as a cosmic book containing divine revelation, in which every element carries deeper meaning and purpose. From this perspective, nature is not merely an object to be exploited for human benefit, but a divine order whose balance must be preserved. Thus, the relationship between humans and the environment is understood as a spiritual and moral bond that must be carefully maintained.

A central aspect of Nursi's thought is the belief that every creation possesses intrinsic value that must not be neglected. For example, forests, often regarded merely as sources of timber or land for agriculture – are, in Nursi's view, complex and valuable ecosystems. They are not only habitats for diverse species but also play a crucial role in maintaining air quality and sustaining water resources. When trees are cut down without considering the consequences, it not only destroys habitats for flora and fauna but also disrupts the ecological balance that supports human life.

Furthermore, Nursi emphasizes the importance of maintaining harmony between humans and nature. In this regard, sustainable agricultural practices provide a concrete example of integrating ecological principles with human needs. Organic farming, for instance, focuses not only on food production but also on soil health, biodiversity, and long-term sustainability. By adopting environmentally friendly agricultural methods, humans can meet their food needs while preserving the quality of soil and water for future generations.

The transition from destructive resource exploitation to sustainable management represents a major challenge for modern society. In this context, Nursi's thought serves as a valuable guide. He encourages reflection on humanity's relationship with nature and consideration of the environmental consequences of human actions. For example, in energy consumption, renewable sources such as solar and wind power can be chosen, not only to reduce carbon emissions but also to honor divine creation by utilizing clean and sustainable resources (Khalawi & Nur, 2025).

A deeper analysis also highlights the role of education in fostering environmental awareness. Nursi's ideas can be integrated into educational curricula that combine environmental science with spiritual and ethical values. By equipping younger generations with both knowledge and moral awareness, it becomes possible to cultivate a society that is more responsible and caring toward the environment.

Nursi's thought offers a profound and holistic perspective for addressing the global environmental crisis. By adopting a monotheistic approach that values every aspect of creation as part of a divine order, humanity can not only respond to environmental challenges but also build a more harmonious relationship with nature. It is essential to recognize that maintaining ecological balance is a shared responsibility of individuals and communities. Through a deeper understanding of humanity's interconnectedness with the environment, we can contribute to the sustainability of the planet for future generations.

3. Relationship to the Cause of World Peace (Humanitarian Crisis)

Conflict, violence, and extremism represent some of the most formidable challenges facing the contemporary global order. These issues not only threaten international stability but also undermine the very fabric of societies, leading to a cycle of fear, distrust, and division among people. In this context, the teachings of Said Nursi emerge as a beacon of hope, advocating for a peaceful and pacifist approach to advocacy and social transformation. Nursi's philosophy is rooted in the belief that the

true enemies of humanity are not specific groups or nations but rather the pervasive forces of ignorance, spiritual poverty, and division that plague societies worldwide.

To understand the significance of Nursi's perspective, it is essential to delve deeper into the nature of these challenges. Conflict often arises from a lack of understanding and empathy between different cultures and ideologies. For instance, historical grievances and cultural misunderstandings can fuel animosity, leading to violent confrontations. In many cases, individuals and groups become entrenched in their views, perceiving others as adversaries rather than fellow human beings. This mindset perpetuates a cycle of violence, where the absence of dialogue and mutual respect fosters an environment ripe for extremism.

Said Nursi's approach offers a compelling alternative to this destructive cycle. He posits that the antidote to conflict lies not in confrontation but in fostering understanding and compassion. By emphasising education and dialogue, Nursi advocates for a transformative process that seeks to enlighten individuals and communities. For example, he believed that educating the youth about the principles of justice, mercy, and human fraternity – core tenets of Quranic values – could cultivate a generation capable of bridging divides and promoting peace. This educational endeavour is not merely about imparting knowledge; it is about nurturing a sense of responsibility towards others, encouraging individuals to see beyond their immediate interests and recognise their shared humanity.

Moreover, Nursi's rejection of ideological confrontation is particularly relevant in today's context, where polarisation is rampant. In many societies, individuals are often categorised by their beliefs, leading to a culture of 'us versus them'. Nursi's philosophy challenges this binary thinking, urging people to engage in constructive dialogue rather than resorting to hostility. He believed that through open communication, individuals could confront misconceptions and build a foundation of trust. This is illustrated in various interfaith dialogues that have taken place globally, where participants from diverse backgrounds come together to share their beliefs and experiences, ultimately fostering a sense of community and understanding.

The importance of strengthening faith as a means of civilisational change cannot be overstated. Nursi argued that genuine faith is a powerful motivator for positive action. When individuals are rooted in spiritual values, they are more likely to act with compassion and empathy towards others. This is evident in numerous humanitarian efforts led by faith-based organisations, which often mobilise communities to address social injustices and provide support to those in need. For instance, during crises such

as natural disasters or conflicts, religious groups frequently play a crucial role in delivering aid and promoting reconciliation, drawing on their shared beliefs to inspire collective action.

In addition, Nursi's vision of human fraternity encapsulates the idea that all people, regardless of their backgrounds, are part of a larger human family. This perspective is particularly vital in a world increasingly marked by division and strife. By fostering a sense of belonging and interconnectedness, individuals can transcend the barriers that often separate them. For example, initiatives that promote cultural exchange and collaboration among diverse groups can help dismantle stereotypes and build solidarity. These efforts not only enrich communities but also contribute to a more harmonious global society.

The teachings of Said Nursi provide a profound framework for addressing the pressing challenges of conflict, violence, and extremism in our world today. By emphasising the importance of education, dialogue, and faith, Nursi's philosophy encourages a transformative approach to social change that prioritises understanding and compassion over division and hostility. As we navigate the complexities of our global landscape, embracing these values is essential for building a more just and peaceful world, grounded in the principles of mercy, justice, and human fraternity. Ultimately, it is through collective efforts rooted in these ideals that we can hope to overcome the barriers that divide us and create a future where all humanity can thrive (Khalawi & Nur, 2025).

4. Relevance to global moral and spiritual issues

The global crisis we currently face is not solely characterised by economic instability or environmental degradation; it is profoundly marked by a pervasive spiritual emptiness and a crisis in the very meaning of life itself. In an age where technological advancements are rapidly reshaping our world, there exists a disconcerting disconnection between these advancements and genuine human happiness. This disconnection raises critical questions about the essence of our existence and the values that guide us. Prominent thinker Said Nursi posited that only a faith constructed with both consciousness and rationality can offer the inner peace and clarity of purpose that many individuals seek in these tumultuous times (Dewi, 2020). His insights resonate deeply in a society that often prioritises material success over spiritual fulfilment.

As we delve deeper into Nursi's philosophy, it becomes evident that his thoughts are not merely an abstract critique of modernity but rather a constructive framework for addressing the spiritual void that characterises contemporary life. He did not advocate for a rejection of modernity; instead, he envisioned a harmonious coexistence between faith and modern advancements (Rusyda, 2023). This perspective is particularly relevant as we navigate an era defined by rapid technological change, where the allure of innovation can sometimes overshadow the fundamental human quest for meaning and connection.

To illustrate this point, consider the phenomenon of social media, which, while connecting billions across the globe, often fosters feelings of isolation and inadequacy. The curated lives presented on these platforms can lead to a superficial understanding of happiness, where likes and shares become substitutes for genuine human interaction. Nursi's emphasis on a rational and conscious faith encourages individuals to look beyond the surface and seek deeper connections, not only with others but also with themselves and their beliefs. This approach advocates for a critical engagement with technology, urging individuals to harness its benefits while remaining vigilant against its potential to distract from the pursuit of true happiness.

Moreover, Nursi's teachings suggest that faith is not merely a passive acceptance of religious doctrine but an active engagement with one's beliefs. This engagement requires individuals to question, reflect, and ultimately cultivate a personal understanding of spirituality that resonates with their lived experiences. In a world where existential questions abound, this active participation in faith can provide a sense of agency and empowerment. For instance, individuals who engage in community service or social activism often report a heightened sense of purpose and fulfilment, illustrating how a conscious approach to faith can translate into meaningful actions that benefit both the self and society.

The interconnectedness of faith, purpose, and happiness is further underscored by the observation that many individuals who experience a profound spiritual awakening often report a significant shift in their overall well-being. This transformation can be attributed to the alignment of their values with their actions, creating a sense of authenticity that is often lacking in a consumer-driven society. Nursi's call for a rational faith encourages individuals to critically assess their values and motivations, fostering a deeper understanding of what constitutes a fulfilling life.

The global crisis we face today is intricately linked to a spiritual void and a crisis of meaning that demands our attention. Said Nursi's insights offer a valuable

framework for navigating this complex landscape, advocating for a conscious and rational approach to faith that embraces the benefits of modernity while addressing the deeper existential questions that arise in its wake. By fostering a deeper understanding of ourselves and our beliefs, we can cultivate a sense of inner peace and direction that transcends the superficiality of contemporary life. Ultimately, as we strive to fill the spiritual emptiness that pervades modern society, it is imperative that we seek not only to understand the world around us but also to engage meaningfully with the values that guide our existence. Through this journey, we can aspire to create a more harmonious and fulfilled life, one that integrates the wisdom of the past with the possibilities of the future.

CONCLUSION

This study answers the three research questions in a structured manner. *First*, regarding how Said Nursi conceptualizes rational faith, the findings show that iman in Risalah Nur is constructed through the integration of logical reasoning, empirical reflection, and scriptural grounding. This is evidenced by recurring textual arguments that frame belief as both a cognitive and transformative force. *Second*, concerning the integration of revelation and reason, the study demonstrates that Nursi develops an epistemological framework in which rational inquiry (*tafakkur*) and divine guidance operate complementarily, as reflected in repeated textual patterns linking intellectual reflection with spiritual awareness. *Third*, in relation to socio-ethical implications, the concepts of *ukhuwah insaniyah* and *tauhid*-based ethics are shown to generate principles of social responsibility, non-violence, and ecological awareness, supported by textual emphasis on combating ignorance, disunity, and moral decline. These findings collectively indicate that Nursi's thought forms a coherent conceptual model linking faith, knowledge, and ethical outcomes.

However, the relevance of Nursi's ideas to contemporary issues—such as environmental sustainability, education, and global peace—should be understood within the limits of this study. As a qualitative library-based analysis, the findings are conceptual rather than empirically generalizable. Therefore, while Nursi's framework provides a valuable normative and theoretical foundation, its practical application requires further empirical validation in specific socio-cultural contexts. Future research is recommended to (1) test the proposed conceptual model through case studies or field-based approaches, (2) compare Nursi's framework with other contemporary Islamic and post-secular theories, and (3) explore its application in policy-relevant domains such as education systems, environmental ethics, and peacebuilding initiatives. By clarifying both its

contributions and limitations, this study offers a more grounded and academically robust understanding of Nursi's relevance in addressing modern global crises.

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