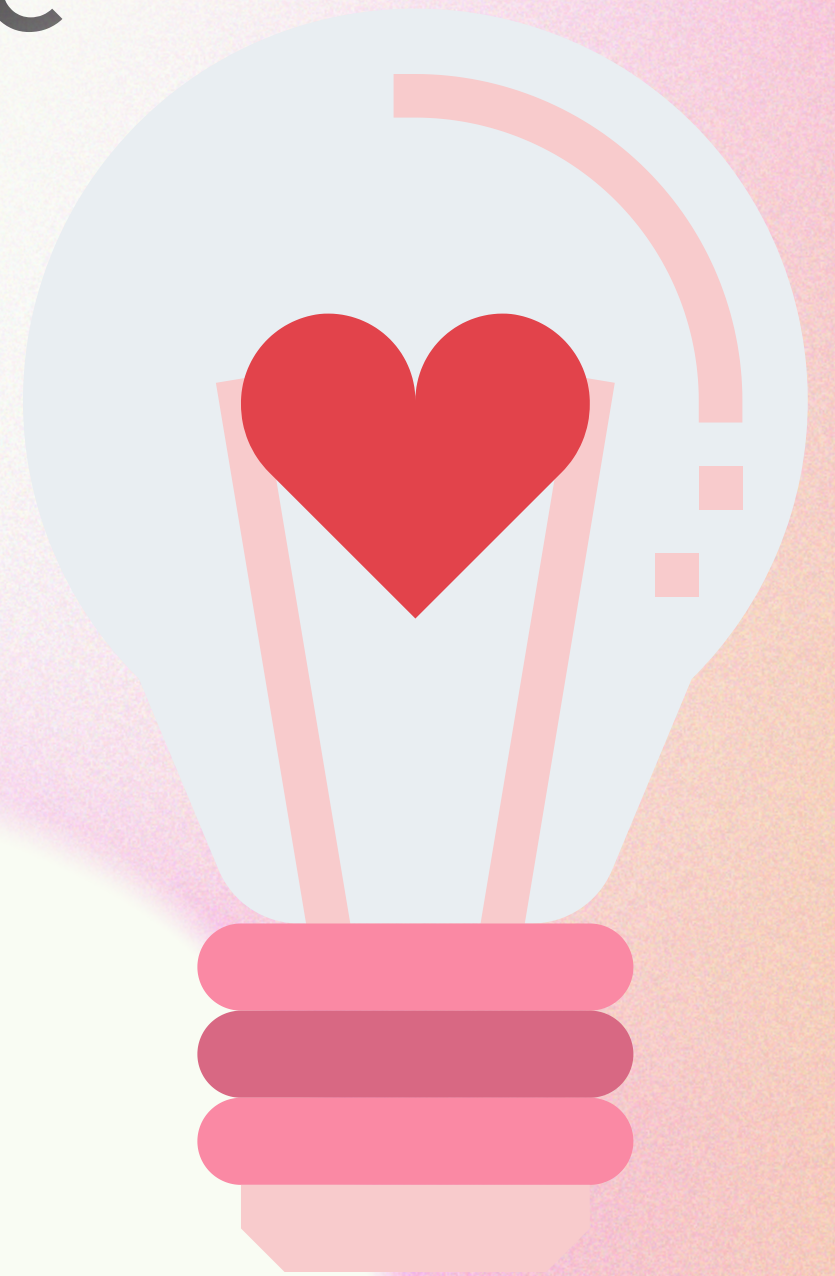
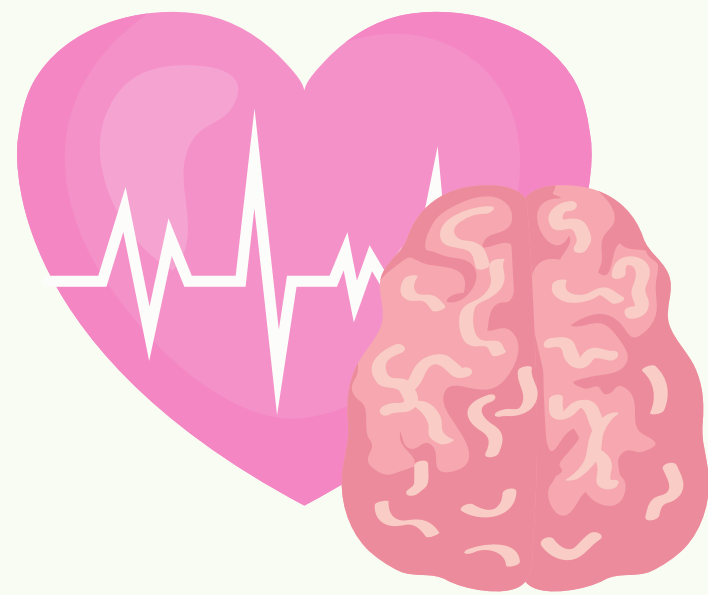


# Islamic Philosophy and Its Relevance in the Contemporary World

A Narrative Review on the Concept of 'Aql



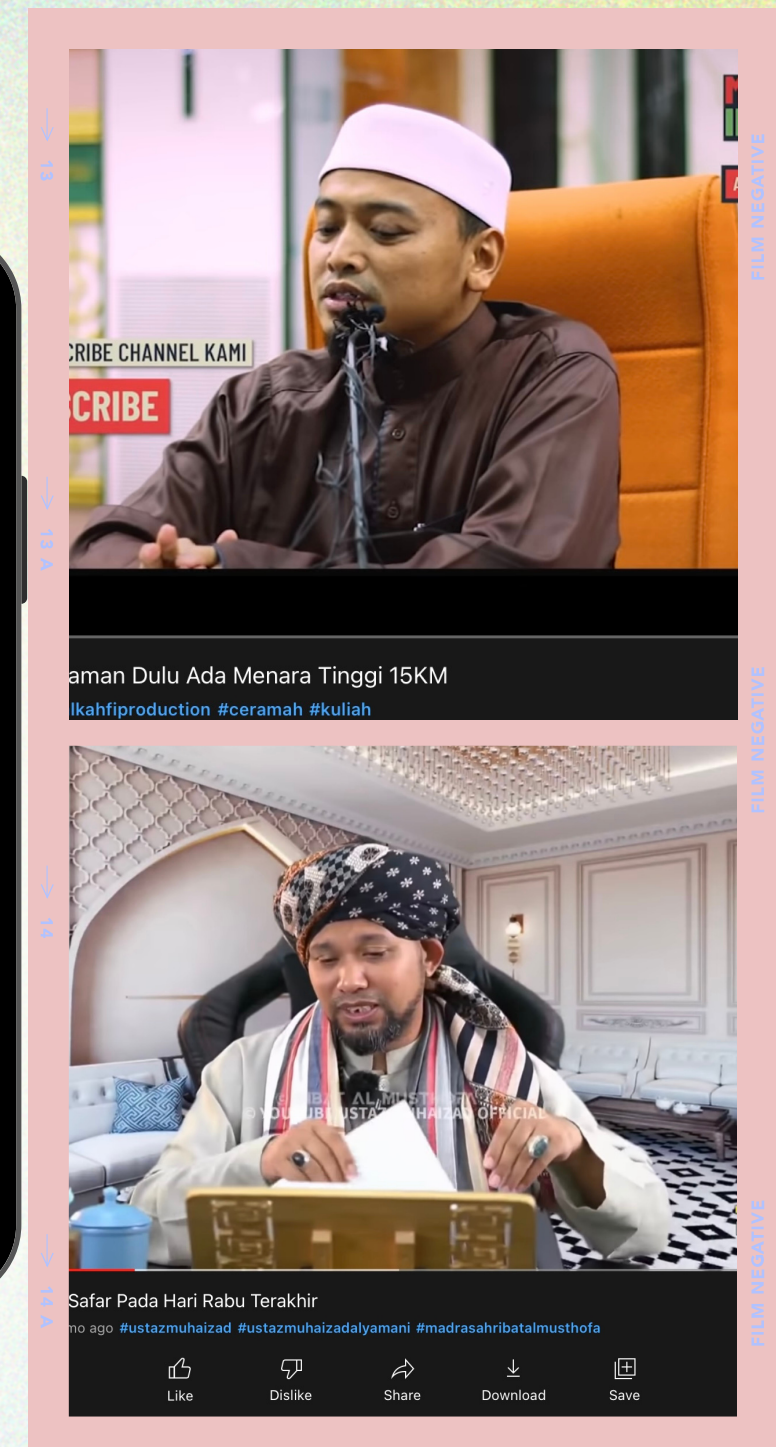
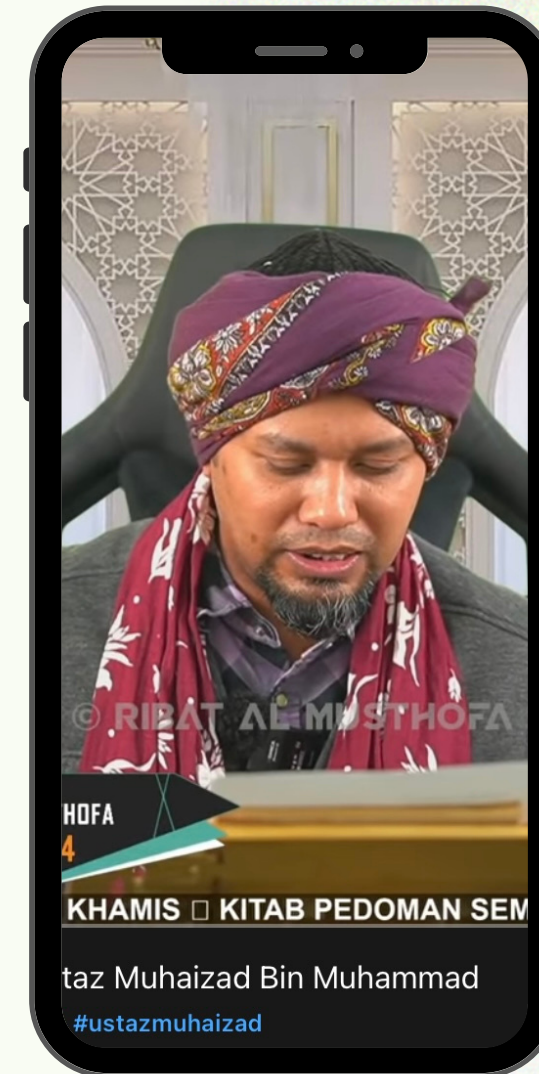
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**SCHOLARSHIP ADVANCEMENT  
PROJECT 2022**



# Introduction

- The impetus for this study was the popularity of famous religious teachers who had been making illogical statements
- The aim of this narrative review
  - to summarise and synthesise articles written on the concept of 'Aql
  - to disseminate findings for further actions





What does the  
existing literature  
inform on the  
concept of 'aql?

# Methodology

**Narrative literature review method to gain an insight of what have already been informed by existing research. A narrative literature review is a “systematic review that synthesizes the individual studies . . . systematically extracting, checking, and narratively summarizing information on their methods and results” (Petticrew & Roberts, 2008: 39).**





# Methodology



**This narrative review presented an overview of existing literature (Hodgkinson & Fords, 2014) on the concept of 'aql to inform decision making on the necessity of conducting further investigations on this topic.**



# 5-Step Methodological Framework

- 1 formulated a broad research question to guide literature search
- 2 searched the online databases using search terms that were inclusive enough to include relevant articles and exclusive enough to focus only the related topic
- 3 determined article selection criteria
- 4 reviewed and analysed the data
- 5 finally synthesized, summarized and report





# Search Procedures

## Databases

- Google Scholar
- My Jurnal
- Proquest

## Search Terms Used-Both Malay and English Terms

- 'Aql AND Quran
- 'Aql AND Islam
- Reason AND Revelation

## Search Result

- Initial search result=27000 articles
- Limited to first 400 articles
- Met selection criteria=130 articles
- Duplicates removed=127 articles
- Final relevant=61 articles



# Results

## Year of Publication

- Most active in year 2020—10 articles
- In 2017—8 articles
- In 2018—8 articles
- In 2019—7 articles
- In 2021—5 articles
- In 2014—4 articles
- In 2013—3 articles
- In 2007; 2012; 2016 & 2022—2 articles
- In 1979, 1987, 1991, 1996, 2000, 2010, 2011, 2015—1 article

## Research Methods Used

- Content Analysis



# Results

## 11 Themes

- 'Aql according to Muslim scholars—19 articles
- 'Aql, Revelation and thinking—13 articles
- 'Aql in the Quran—12 articles
- 'Aql and neuroscience—6 articles
- 'Aql in Islam—4 articles
- Hear and brain connection—3 articles
- 'Aql, nafs and Qalb—3 articles
- 'Aql and moral—2 articles
- 'Aql and aqidah—1 article
- Comparative analysis between Islam and Western concept of 'aql—1 article
- Role of 'aql—1 article

# Results

## Most studied past scholars

- Ibn Taymiyyah—4 articles
- al-Ghazali—3 articles
- al-Kindi, al-Farabi, Ibn Rushd—2 articles
- al-Tabari, Zamakshari, Miskawayh, Ibn Sina, Ibn Khaldun,—1 article

## Most studied contemporary scholars

- Nasr—2 articles
- Abduh, Harun Nasution, Taha Abd Rahman, al-Qaradawy, Sayyid Ahmad Khan, Fazlurrahman, Hasan Hanafi, Muhammad Quraish Shihab—1 article



# Analysis and Conclusion

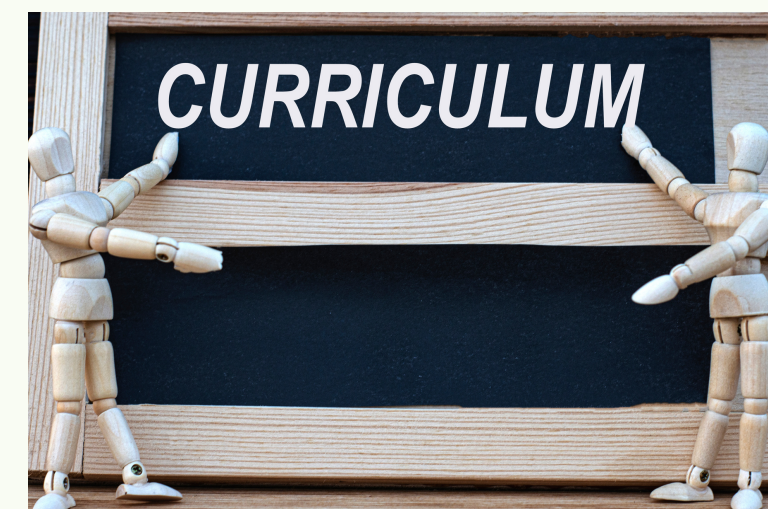
## Gap in Literature



No study was done to evaluate Muslims' understanding on the concept of 'aql according to Quran and Muslim scholars



No empirical studies were conducted to describe the present Muslims' understanding of role of 'aql and thinking in Islam



The abundance of studies on the concept of 'aql have not impacted the Islamic Education curriculum developers since Quranic verses on 'aql and thinking were not in the curriculum



- Further studies on the meaning of 'aql from the Quranic perspective. Most existing studies mentioned the Quranic verses on 'Aql but these verses were not unpacked to reveal the meaning of 'Aql and its functions
- Future research in examining the Muslims' understanding of the concept of 'aql and thinking in Islam to inform decision making in curriculum development
- Since 'aql is the core of human nature, therefore, it should be taught to Muslims at all levels of education





# Thank you!

Do you have any questions?