

Covering/Submission Letter

"The Role of Islamic Law, Constitution, and Culture in Democracy in the UAE and Indonesia"

Dear,

Editorial Team of Ahkam: Jurnal Ilmu Syariah

Yours faithfully,

I would like to introduce our review article, "The Role of Islamic Law, Constitution, and Culture in Democracy in the UAE and Indonesia". This article explores the influence of factors such as Islamic law, constitution, and culture on the model and implementation of democracy in the two countries.

This article finds that the United Arab Emirates (UAE) operates a more authoritarian political system with a strong influence on Sharia law. In contrast, Indonesia is implementing a more inclusive democracy that respects religious and cultural diversity and democratic principles guaranteed by the country's constitution. Cultural factors also play an important role in shaping the characteristics of democracy. In this context, the UAE is influenced by a federal monarchy system and social norms prioritizing loyalty to the ruling family. In contrast, Indonesia is influenced by ethnic, religious and cultural diversity and traditional values such as *gotong royong*.

The significance of this article is in understanding how Islamic law, constitution, and culture affect democracy in countries with Muslim-majority populations. These findings could assist these countries in their efforts to create a form of democracy that conforms to Islamic principles while supporting the rule of law, human rights and civil liberties.

The main challenge in this context is to build a democracy that adheres to Islamic principles while supporting the rule of law, human rights and civil liberties. In the UAE, this challenge lies in changing from an absolute monarchy to a more inclusive and participatory democracy that reflects Islamic values and principles. Meanwhile, in Indonesia, this challenge lies in integrating Islamic principles and values into the established democratic system without disturbing the principles and Pancasila.

Innovative solutions or steps taken include building wider dialogue and consensus, building strong democratic institutions, increasing understanding of democracy and Islam, respecting pluralism, and monitoring and evaluating implementation.

We hope this article will contribute to the understanding of democracy in countries with an Islamic background. We are very grateful for considering publishing this article in a scientific journal you manage.

Best regards,

Mohamad Hidayat Muhtar