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Integrating Multicultural Values in Surah Al-Hujurat Verse 13: An Analysis of Ibn Kathir's Exegesis and Its Relevance to Contemporary Society

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Abstract

In the context of globalization, contemporary society encounters significant obstacles in fostering unity within variety, frequently leading to identity conflicts stemming from the

failure of individuals or groups to acknowledge and value differences. This study aims to analyze the concept of multicultural values in Al-Hujurat verse 13 through Ibn Kathir's Tafsir. The employed methodology is a literature review utilizing a content analysis approach. This study's findings indicate that, according to Tafsir Ibn Kathir, the passage suggests that multiculturalism promotes appreciation for diversity, with piety serving as the primary criterion for an individual's nobility, rather than ethnic or racial identity. Furthermore, Islamic teachings advocate for the establishment of a harmonious existence within variety and denounce all types of prejudice based on ethnic or cultural backgrounds.

Keywords: Multicultural Values, Interpretation, Ibn Kathir

Abstrak

Berangkat dari kompleksnya interaksi antarbudaya di era globalisasi, masyarakat modern menghadapi tantangan besar dalam membangun kesatuan di tengah keberagaman, sering kali terjadi konflik identitas akibat ketidakmampuan individu atau kelompok untuk menerima dan menghargai perbedaan. Tujuan penelitian ini untuk mengkaji konsep nilai multikultural yang terkandung dalam surah Al-Hujurat ayat 13 melalui analisis Tafsir Ibnu Katsir. Metode yang digunakan adalah studi kepustakaan dengan pendekatan analisis isi. Hasil penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa menurut Tafsir Ibnu Katsir, Ayat tersebut menyiratkan bahwa multikulturalisme mengajarkan penghargaan terhadap perbedaan, di mana takwa dijadikan sebagai ukuran utama kemuliaan seseorang, bukan berdasarkan identitas etnis atau ras. Selain itu, ajaran Islam mendukung terciptanya kehidupan yang harmonis di tengah keragaman, serta menolak segala bentuk diskriminasi yang didasarkan pada latar belakang etnis atau budaya.

Kata kunci: Nilai Multikultural, Tafsir, Ibnu Katsir

Introduction

The era of globalization, the global community faces the reality of increasingly complex cultural, ethnic, religious, and linguistic diversity (Sholahudin, 2019). This diversity poses its own challenges, especially in efforts to maintain social harmony. (Agustina Ari P et al, 2023). The existing differences often become a source of conflict that begins with misperceptions, stereotypes, and prejudices formed within society. (Murdianto, 2018). Efforts to build harmony through a better understanding of multicultural values are becoming increasingly urgent in the face of globalization challenges. Islamic teachings, as reflected in the Qur'an, contain important principles that are relevant in addressing these issues, especially related to social relations between nations and groups (Anatansyah Ayomi Anandari, 2022).

Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 indeed has a strong message related to multiculturalism. This verse emphasizes that humans were created from the same origin, namely from a man (Adam) and a woman (Eve), and then made into tribes and nations so that they may know one another. The meaning of "li ta'arafu" (to get to know one another) indicates that diversity is part of God's natural law, and differences should serve as a bridge to understand each other, not as a source of division (Firmansyah et al, 2023).

Tafsir Ibn Kathir explains that the differences in nations and tribes are a sign of Allah's greatness, not for boasting about one's origins or claiming superiority over certain groups. This interpretation highlights that glory in the sight of Allah is not measured by race or ethnicity, but by piety. This message is very relevant to the concept of multiculturalism, where differences should be appreciated and understood as a way to enrich social and cultural relationships. Thus, Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 from the perspective of Ibn Kathir's Tafsir teaches that differences among humans are God's will to encourage mutual understanding and cooperation, not to create conflict. This value serves as a solid foundation for building social harmony in a multicultural society.

According to Ibn Kathir, the diversity of tribes and nations among humans is not a reason to feel superior or inferior, but rather a testament to the greatness of Allah and an opportunity for humans to get to know each other and understand different cultures and values. He emphasizes that the superiority of humans in the eyes of Allah does not depend on ethnicity, skin color, or place of origin, but rather on the level of piety. This interpretation emphasizes that pride based on race or origin must be abandoned, as true nobility is determined by a person's spiritual and moral qualities. Research on multiculturalism from the perspective of classical exegesis is very important to address the social challenges arising from diversity. Ibn Kathir's Tafsir, as one of the main references in Islamic tradition, provides a perspective that aligns with the principles of inclusivity and universal brotherhood. By delving into Ibn Kathir's views on Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13, one can find philosophical and theological foundations that support the application of multicultural values in social life. Multiculturalism in Islam, as explained by Ibn Kathir, is not just about passively accepting differences, but also actively inviting people to recognize, respect, and build harmony within diversity. Ibn Kathir emphasizes that diversity is not merely a characteristic of humans, but also a

means to draw closer to Allah, so that through understanding diversity, humans can better appreciate the variety of Allah's creation. Ibn Kathir's perspective on Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 also demonstrates a profound appreciation for the essence of humanity as a whole. By getting to know and understand each other, humans can create healthy social relationships, avoid discrimination, and strengthen moral bonds within society. These values become an important foundation in formulating fair social policies that respect diversity, both at the local and global levels. Ibn Kathir's interpretation of multiculturalism makes a significant contribution to the development of inclusive Islamic thought that can respond to contemporary social dynamics. His interpretation emphasizes that Islamic teachings contain strong values of unity and brotherhood, which can serve as a guideline for Muslims in interacting with society from various backgrounds.

Although the study of multiculturalism in the Qur'an has been extensively discussed by scholars and academics, this research has its own uniqueness. Some previous studies, such as those conducted by (Moh.Noor. Hidayat, 2015), about "Internalization of Multicultural Values in Al-Razi's Tafsir in the Development of Tafsir Learning Approaches," has explored multiculturalism from a certain perspective. The similarity of this research with previous studies is the focus on the multicultural meaning in the Qur'an. However, the difference lies in the interpretation approach used.

This research uses Tafsir Ibn Kathir as the main foundation to examine multicultural values in Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13, which has not been extensively discussed in previous research contexts. While previous studies tend to use Tafsir Al-Razi, this research seeks to fill the gap by providing a new perspective from a different interpretative viewpoint, namely Tafsir Ibn Kathir, which has characteristics of a more literal and historical interpretation. Thus, this research makes an important contribution to expanding the understanding of multiculturalism in the Qur'an by offering a perspective that has not been widely explored. In addition, this research connects with the societal issues of the modern era.

Then the research conducted by (Azizah, 2020), about "Multiculturalism in the Qur'an" (Studi Penafsiran Quraish Shihab dan Muhammad Asad). The relevance of this research to previous studies is that the article conducted by the researcher in this study

has similar variables in explaining the meaning of multiculturalism and uses exegesis. However, the difference is that this research discusses the meaning and values of multiculturalism based on Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 and is analyzed using Ibn Kathir's tafsir. Meanwhile, previous research examined multiculturalism based on Quraish Shihab's interpretation and did not specify which surah was used as the reference. In addition, the advantage of this research over previous studies is that this research focuses on several surahs in the Qur'an and the discussion of multicultural meanings is examined specifically.

Therefore, this research is expected to clarify the understanding of multiculturalism in Islam, and the principles contained in the Qur'an can serve as a guide in addressing differences constructively. This research also aims to open a broader dialogue between classical Islamic heritage and modern challenges, so that the values of the Qur'an can remain relevant in building a peaceful and tolerant society. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the values of multiculturalism in Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 from the perspective of Ibn Kathir's Tafsir, as well as its relevance in shaping attitudes of diversity in modern society. This study is expected to make a significant academic contribution to the study of Quranic exegesis and multiculturalism, while also offering practical guidance to strengthen.

Theory

Definition of Multiculturalism

Etymologically, the term "multicultural" comes from Latin, where "multi" means many, and "cultura" means culture (Zaki, 2022). So, literally, multicultural refers to a condition involving cultural diversity within a society (Melati dan Hamdanah, 2024). In terminology, multiculturalism is a concept or idea that recognizes and appreciates the existence of various cultures within a region or country. This concept not only refers to the coexistence of cultures but also emphasizes the importance of mutual respect, tolerance, and cooperation among groups with different cultures, religions, ethnicities, and races. Therefore, based on these two meanings, multiculturalism can be concluded as an understanding that appreciates cultural diversity and promotes harmony and tolerance in a pluralistic society, where differences are seen as strengths, not obstacles to

social unity. The values of multiculturalism encompass various principles that support diversity and social harmony amidst cultural, religious, and ethnic differences. Some of these multicultural values include: mutual respect, tolerance, unity, mutual cooperation, and ethnic solidarity. Several indicators of multicultural values include the ability to adapt to differences, peaceful conflict resolution, building mutual trust, respecting differences, maintaining mutual understanding, open-mindedness, appreciating other cultures, and understanding inter-group interdependence (Nur Rahmi & Muhammad Tang, 2024).

Method

This research uses the literature review method, which is often referred to as library research. This method relies on the analysis of various written sources such as books, journals, articles, and other documents relevant to the topic being studied. This approach aims to obtain an in-depth understanding and present comprehensive information regarding the issue being investigated (Sugiyono, 2019). The approach chosen in this research is content analysis, which aims to identify and analyze patterns and hidden meanings in the collected texts. The data collection technique in this research was carried out by the researcher carefully rereading Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13, identifying parts of verse 13 related to multiculturalism, and concluding Ibn Kathir's interpretation on the theme. Subsequently, the data analysis in this research follows an approach developed based on the Winner and Dominick model. The steps in analyzing the data for this research include: describing the meaning of multiculturalism, sorting verses related to multicultural values in Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13, comparing the research results with the actual situation, and providing a brief conclusion of the research findings (Choiri, 2019).

Results

Biography of Ibn Kathir

Suriah Ibn Kathir, whose full name is Imad Ad-Din Abu Al-Fida Ismail ibn Umar ibn Kathir al-Qurashi al-Dimashqi, was born in the year 1301 AD (701 AH) in the city of Busra, Syria (Hamidah & Ahmad Zabidi, 2024). At a young age, he moved to Damascus, which at that time was the center of Islamic education. In this city, Ibn

Kathir studied under various great scholars, including Al-Mizzi and Ibn Taymiyyah, who greatly influenced his intellectual and religious views (Maliki, 2018). He is known as an intelligent and diligent learner in various branches of Islamic knowledge, such as tafsir, hadith, fiqh, and history (Sari, 2019).

Ibn Katsir is a very famous Quranic exegete. One of his major works is Tafsir al-Qur'an al-Azim, which to this day remains a primary reference in the field of Qur'anic exegesis. In his tafsir, Ibn Kathir combines various sources, such as other Qur'anic verses, hadiths, and the opinions of the companions and earlier scholars. He has his own strict method in interpreting the verses of the Qur'an, so his exegesis is considered accurate and based on strong evidence (Nabila Fajriyanti Muhyin dan Muhammad Ridlwan Nasir, 2023).

In addition to exegesis, Ibn Kathir also delved into the science of hadith. He studied critical methods in selecting authentic hadiths, which he used in his exegesis writing. Ibn Katsir frequently mentions relevant hadiths in understanding a verse, as well as explaining the authenticity level of those hadiths. His work in the field of hadith reflects his deep understanding and shows that he not only mastered the science of tafsir but also has credibility as a hadith expert (Rajab Sihombing, 2024).

Ibn Kathir is also known as a historian who wrote the monumental book titled *Al-Bidayah wa al-Nihayah*. This book narrates the history of the world from creation to the time of Ibn Kathir himself. *Al-Bidayah wa al-Nihayah* not only recounts historical events but also analyzes them from an Islamic perspective. This work has become one of the main references for Muslim historians in understanding the history of Islam and the world comprehensively. Ibn Katsir passed away in 1373 AD (774 AH) in Damascus, but his works continue to live on and remain influential to this day. His exegesis, Tafsir Ibn Katsir, has been translated into various languages and has become an important reading among Muslims worldwide. His method of tafsir, which emphasizes precision and the authenticity of evidence, has become a standard in modern tafsir writing. His influence in the fields of tafsir, hadith, and history shows that Ibn Kathir was a scholar with broad insights who left a valuable intellectual legacy for Muslims (Sunaryanto, 2022).

Overview of Tafsir Ibn Kathir

Tafsir Ibn Kathir is one of the most recognized and respected works of Qur'anic commentary in the Islamic tradition. Compiled by al-Imam Ismail bin Umar bin Katsir (Ibn Katsir) in the 14th century AD, this tafsir offers a comprehensive and in-depth explanation of the meaning of the Qur'anic verses. Ibn Kathir uses the approach of tafsir bil-ma'tsur, which interprets the verses of the Qur'an by referring to authoritative sources such as the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad, the narrations of the Companions, and the Tabi'in generation (followers of the Companions). This approach emphasizes the importance of understanding the Qur'an in accordance with the context of revelation and valid traditional authorities.

One of the characteristics of Tafsir Ibn Kathir is its systematic and evidence-based delivery method. Each interpretation of a verse is always followed by an explanation supported by other verses, hadith, or comments from companions and previous scholars. Ibn Kathir also often explains the historical background (asbabun nuzul) of certain verses, so that readers can understand the social and historical context when the revelation was revealed. This approach makes his tafsir not only rich in information, but also provides a more complete understanding of the messages of the Qur'an in theological, legal and social dimensions.

As Allah conveys in the Qur'an, Surah Al-Hujurat, verse 13, which states:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۗ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

Meaning: O mankind, indeed We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble among you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous. Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing and All-Aware.

Syu'uub word (شعوب) is the plural form of the word *syab* (شعب) namely a collection of several *qabilah* (قبيلة). *Qabilah* which is usually translated as *suku* is a collection of many family groups that are named *imarah* (عمارة). *Imarah* itself is a collection of many groups *bathn* (بطن), and below *bathn* ada *fakhd* (فخذ) until it finally reaches the smallest family. *Ta'arafu* word (تعارفوا) derived from the word 'arafa (عرف) which means to know (Muhammad Nasib Ar Rifai, 1999). So, it means getting to know each other. This is the basic principle of human relationships. That it is the divine law that humans are diverse.

Because Allah made them into nations and tribes. With that diversity, Allah desires that humans get to know each other. The closer the recognition of others, the more opportunities for cooperation and mutual benefit arise.

Discussion

The Meaning of Multicultural Values in Surah Al-Hujurat Verse 13 from the Perspective of Ibn Kathir's Tafsir

Multiculturalism generally refers to the cultural diversity present within a society (Melati dan Hamdanah, 2024). This diversity encompasses various elements, such as religion, race, ethnicity, language, and customs (A. Tabi'in, 2020). This concept emphasizes that society consists of various different cultural groups, not dominated by just one group, but living together in harmony (Yaqin & Mujab, 2024). That diversity is often associated with the concept of pluralism, which means the existence of various different elements that are equally valued and reflect the uniqueness of each group within the community (Najib Syaifullah, 2017).

According to Azyumardi Azra, multiculturalism is a worldview that acknowledges and accepts the reality of diversity in society and sees it as something positive (Wisnu Muhammad Hamzah et al, 2022). Multiculturalism encourages policies that support the acceptance of religious, ethnic, and cultural differences in everyday life (Syaifullah, 2017). This principle emphasizes the importance of tolerance, appreciation, and mutual respect among groups, so that a harmonious and just society can be realized without discrimination or judgment based on specific cultural or religious backgrounds. (Saripudin et al, 2022).

Therefore, the meaning of multiculturalism in Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 emphasizes the principles of equality and brotherhood among all of humanity. This verse explains that all humans are created from the same origin, then made into various nations and tribes so that they may know one another. This verse also emphasizes that glory in the sight of Allah is not based on social status, race, or ethnicity, but rather on a person's level of piety. Thus, diversity is part of God's will, aimed at strengthening the bonds between humanity through understanding and respect for differences. Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 conveys fundamental teachings about brotherhood and

equality among humanity, as well as Islam's perspective on diversity. In this verse, Allah Swt. reminds that all humans originate from the same source, namely Prophet Adam and Eve, which emphasizes that fundamentally they are one unity. According to Ibn Kathir, this message emphasizes that no nation or tribe is superior to another, because the differences among humans are the result of God's will. By understanding the same origins, humans are reminded to acknowledge that all humans are brothers, regardless of differences in tribe, race, or skin color. Those differences actually become a tool for getting to know each other and strengthening social bonds, not as a reason to incite division.

Ibn Kathir explains that the purpose of Allah creating various nations and tribes is so that they may know one another or engage in ta'aruf. The concept of ta'aruf does not merely mean knowing someone's name or origin, but rather refers to a deep understanding of the culture, traditions, and values upheld by other groups. With this understanding, it is hoped that an attitude of mutual respect and appreciation will be created. This interpretation shows that differences are a means for humanity to enrich their perspectives, not to create distance or hostility.

Moreover, Ibn Kathir emphasizes that this verse teaches equality and the value of piety as the measure of human dignity. In the Islamic view, social status, lineage, and background are not measures in determining a person's worth in the eyes of Allah SWT. What determines nobility is taqwa, or the quality of a person's faith and obedience to Allah. This message is very relevant in the context of diversity, as it emphasizes that physical differences should not be a matter of concern or a reason to look down on others. (Muhammad Tang S et al, 2020).

Based on the verse above, there are several things that must be avoided in society, such as belittling others, insulting, or giving derogatory nicknames that contain mockery. This message reminds us that a person is not valued because of their origins or background, but because of their virtues and piety. Thus, we are taught to judge others based on the moral and spiritual values they possess, not on their appearance, status, or background. This encourages us to build relationships that respect each other and acknowledge the equality of human dignity.

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Ibn Kathir also sees this verse as a call for tolerance and brotherhood. In a social context, this verse teaches that cultural, linguistic, and customary differences should be accepted with an open heart, and Muslims are encouraged to build good relationships with people from different backgrounds (Muhammad Alwi HS et al, 2021). This attitude reflects the multicultural values taught by Islam, where all of humanity is one big family created by Allah, with diversity as a means to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood. Thus, this verse serves as a foundation for harmonious relationships within a diverse society.

Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 conveys a strong message about unity, brotherhood, and human equality (Devi Agustina Nopita Sari & Muhammad Dwi Toriyono, 2022). According to Tafsir Ibn Kathir, this verse contains several meanings and values of multiculturalism as follows:

1. Equality and Universal Brotherhood: Ibn Kathir emphasizes that all humans originate from one ancestor, namely Prophet Adam and Eve. This underscores the equality of all humanity in the eyes of Allah, regardless of tribe, race, or origin. This principle underlies universal brotherhood, where every human being has the same dignity (Nabila Fajriyanti Muhyin dan Muhammad Ridlwan Nasir, 2023).
2. Diversity as a Means to Know Each Other: God created humans into nations and tribes not to boast or compete with one another, but so that they may know each other (لِتَعَارَفُوا). Ibn Kathir explains that this introduction is a way to understand and appreciate differences, thereby enriching human relationships and creating peace.

3. Piety as a Measure of Honor: In Ibn Kathir's view, a person's honor in the sight of Allah is not based on wealth, social status, or lineage, but rather on piety. This verse teaches that a person's standing before Allah is based on their worship and the goodness they perform. Taqwa is a value that transcends cultural and social differences, inviting people to compete in goodness rather than comparing ethnic or cultural identities.
4. Rejection of Racism and Discrimination: By stating that all humans come from one pair, Ibn Kathir sees this verse as a reprimand against arrogance or racism. All humans are creations of Allah, and there is no reason for one group to feel superior to another. Islam teaches to avoid excessive pride in ethnic identity or lineage, because in the eyes of Allah, only piety is valued.
5. The Value of Unity and Cooperation: This verse encourages humanity to unite and cooperate, utilizing existing differences as a strength to complement each other. By understanding differences and viewing them as a means to enrich social life, society can live together in harmony and mutual respect.

These meanings are very important in building an inclusive society, where diversity is valued, and unity is maintained based on piety and good deeds. Ibn Kathir's exegesis highlights fundamental messages that align with the principles of multiculturalism in Islam, namely brotherhood, justice, and respect for differences. Overall, Ibn Kathir's interpretation of this verse emphasizes that Islam highly values diversity as a sign of Allah's greatness that should be approached with tolerance, openness, and respect. The multicultural message in this verse aligns with the universal and compassionate teachings of Islam, which invite humanity to uphold unity, avoid discrimination, and build a just and peaceful society. By understanding and applying the values taught in this verse, Muslims are expected to become role models in building harmonious relationships and appreciating differences within a diverse society.

The Relevance of Multicultural Values in Surah Al-Hujurat Verse 13 to Strengthening Tolerance in the Modern Era

Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 provides a strong theological basis for developing attitudes of tolerance and mutual respect in diversity. In this verse, Allah Swt. states that

humans were created from the same origin, namely Prophet Adam and Eve, and then made into various tribes and nations. The purpose of this creation is for humans to get to know each other, understand, and appreciate the differences among them. This verse emphasizes that differences are not something that should cause conflict, but rather, as a means to enrich social interactions. This value is relevant in the increasingly interconnected modern society, where differences in ethnicity, religion, and culture have become very real in daily life (Firmansyah et al, 2023)

In the context of tolerance, this verse emphasizes that a person's dignity is not determined by their tribe or nation, but by their level of piety and deeds in the sight of Allah. This value becomes an important foundation for the creation of a just and equal society, where every person is valued not based on physical attributes but on moral quality and faith (Nufus et al., 2018). This perspective teaches that humans should not judge each other solely based on appearance or background, but rather on the values of goodness and sincerity in actions. Thus, Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 serves as a guide for humanity to develop an attitude of mutual respect amidst diversity.

This verse also contains the principle of social justice, which is highly relevant for creating an inclusive society. By showing that all humans are equal in the eyes of God, this verse eliminates the reason to differentiate one another based on ethnicity, nationality, or religion. This principle is very important to apply in modern society, which is often vulnerable to discrimination and division. The teachings of equality allow for the creation of a just social environment, where every individual has the same rights and opportunities to participate in social and economic life.

Furthermore, this verse teaches the importance of ta'aruf or getting to know each other, which is the first step in building healthy relationships between different groups. When people get to know each other and understand each other's cultural, religious, and traditional values, a sense of mutual respect emerges. In a diverse society, this ta'aruf process serves as a way to overcome prejudices and stereotypes that often become the root of social conflicts (Siti Aisah dan Mawi Khusni Albar, 2021).

Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 encourages people to embrace diversity and see it as a source of strength, not a threat. In the perspective of education, this verse provides a strong foundation for teaching values of tolerance and appreciating differences.

Education based on the principles of equality and mutual recognition helps the younger generation to grow with an inclusive attitude and full respect for others. Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 serves as an inspiration in multicultural education programs, where students are taught to appreciate differences and understand that every individual has the same dignity. Thus, this verse can serve as a guide to shaping a society that values diversity from an early age. In addition, this verse is also relevant in fostering harmony among religious communities. In an increasingly interconnected world, interfaith interactions are becoming more important, and the attitude of mutual understanding and respect is key to creating harmonious relationships. Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 provides a foundation for Muslims to respect the beliefs of others and live together in peace. When Muslims practice this principle, they can become role models in building a harmonious and respectful society amidst religious differences. Another important message from this verse is the effort to avoid fanaticism and chauvinism. When humans understand that they all originate from the same source, they are encouraged to refrain from feeling superior or judging others. This message is very relevant in the modern context where fanaticism and prejudice often trigger divisions.

By understanding and implementing the teachings in Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13, humans can develop humility and respect, which are the foundations of true tolerance. Overall, Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 is a highly relevant guide in fostering peaceful and harmonious human relationships. The message contained in this verse encourages humans to live in the spirit of brotherhood and equality, upholding the principle of mutual respect amidst diversity. By applying the values contained in this verse, society can create an inclusive, just, and tolerant social environment, where every individual feels valued and has the opportunity to live peacefully and with dignity.

Conclusion

Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13 conveys a profound message about the importance of understanding and appreciating human diversity. In the analysis of Ibn Kathir's tafsir, this verse emphasizes that humans are created with diverse ethnic, racial, and national backgrounds to get to know each other and strengthen social bonds, not to create divisions. The multicultural values highlighted in this verse include the recognition of similarities and differences among individuals. This recognition creates an awareness

that all humans have the same value in the eyes of God, with piety as the only measure of superiority. Furthermore, appreciating cultural and religious diversity is also emphasized in this verse, where Allah created these variations as a means to broaden perspectives and enrich human experiences. Diversity is not an obstacle, but rather a pathway to creating productive intercultural and interfaith dialogue. The relevance of these multicultural values is highly significant for modern society, which faces the challenges of globalization and high social mobility. Recognition and acceptance of diversity become key to reducing social conflicts and discrimination that often arise from the inability of some segments of society to accept differences. With values such as tolerance and empathy internalized from this interpretation, modern society can build more inclusive and harmonious social relationships. This social harmony is important in creating an environment that supports the development of all individuals regardless of their backgrounds. Moreover, these values also encourage the development of empathy and patience in interactions, which ultimately strengthen social bonds and maintain peace amidst diversity.

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