

## RECONSTRUCTION OF IBN ARABI'S CONTEMPORARY SUFI THOUGHT AND ITS RELEVANCE TO EDUCATION

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### Abstract

*This research is set against the backdrop of the complexity of modern challenges, including pluralism, social fragmentation, environmental degradation, and the crisis of spiritual meaning, which demand a holistic framework. Ibn Arabi's Sufi thought, particularly the concept of Wahdat al-Wujud, is considered to have great potential to offer transformative solutions. The purpose of this research is to reconstruct Ibn Arabi's contemporary Sufi thought, analyze its relevance to addressing these challenges, and examine its implications for education. The methodology is a qualitative approach that includes in-depth textual analysis of Ibn Arabi's main works (Futuh al-Makkiyah, Fusus al-Hikam), literature reviews, interviews with contemporary Sufi experts, contextual analysis of modern challenges, and case studies of the application of Sufi thought. The results show that the concept of Wahdat al-Wujud provides a philosophical, ethical, and spiritual foundation for appreciating diversity (pluralism), overcoming spiritual alienation and identity crises, and fostering ecological awareness for environmental sustainability. The concept of the Perfect Man offers an ideal model of a human being capable of balancing spiritual and material dimensions and internalizing universal values. Mystical experiences are also considered relevant in providing a deeper meaning to life. Overall, Ibn Arabi's thought offers an inclusive, transformative, and sustainable spiritual framework that can be integrated into modern spiritual discourse, including in the educational realm. The main recommendation of this research is to integrate Ibn Arabi's Sufi principles into educational curricula to develop individuals with holistic, tolerant, environmentally conscious characters and spiritual depth to face the complexities of the times.*

**Keywords:** Contemporary Sufism, Ibn Arabi, Perfect Man, Environmental Sustainability, Islamic Education.

### Abstrak

Penelitian ini berlatar belakang kompleksitas tantangan modernitas seperti pluralisme, fragmentasi sosial, degradasi lingkungan, dan krisis makna spiritual, yang menuntut adanya kerangka pemikiran yang holistik. Pemikiran Tasawuf Ibnu Arabi, khususnya konsep Wahdat al-Wujud, ditengarai memiliki potensi besar untuk menawarkan solusi transformatif. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk merekonstruksi pemikiran tasawuf kontemporer Ibnu Arabi dan menganalisis relevansinya dalam menghadapi tantangan-tantangan tersebut, serta implikasinya bagi pendidikan. Metodologi yang digunakan adalah pendekatan kualitatif dengan analisis teks mendalam terhadap karya-karya utama Ibnu Arabi (*Futuh al-Makkiyah*, *Fusus al-Hikam*), studi literatur, wawancara dengan pakar tasawuf kontemporer, analisis kontekstual terhadap tantangan modern, serta studi kasus penerapan pemikiran tasawuf. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa konsep Wahdat al-Wujud memberikan landasan filosofis, etis, dan spiritual untuk menghargai keragaman (pluralisme), mengatasi keterasingan jiwa dan krisis identitas, serta menumbuhkan kesadaran ekologis demi keberlanjutan lingkungan. Konsep Insan Kamil menawarkan model ideal

manusia yang mampu menyeimbangkan dimensi spiritual dan material, serta menginternalisasi nilai-nilai universal. Pengalaman mistis juga dinilai relevan dalam memberikan makna hidup yang lebih mendalam. Secara keseluruhan, pemikiran Ibnu Arabi menawarkan kerangka spiritual yang inklusif, transformatif, dan berkelanjutan yang dapat diintegrasikan dalam diskursus spiritualitas modern, termasuk dalam ranah pendidikan. Rekomendasi utama dari penelitian ini adalah perlunya mengintegrasikan prinsip-prinsip tasawuf Ibnu Arabi ke dalam kurikulum pendidikan untuk membentuk individu yang berkarakter holistik, toleran, sadar lingkungan, dan memiliki kedalaman spiritual dalam menghadapi kompleksitas zaman.

**Kata Kunci:** Tasawuf Kontemporer, Ibnu Arabi, Insan Kamil, Keberlanjutan Lingkungan, Pendidikan Islam.

## INTRODUCTION

Sufism, as an esoteric dimension in Islam, has experienced significant development in responding to the challenges of the times. One of the central figures in this tradition is Ibn Arabi, who, through the concept of *Wahdat al-Wujud*, offers an in-depth view of the unity of existence as a manifestation of God. This thinking is not only relevant to classical spirituality but also has great potential to address modern issues such as pluralism, identity crises, and environmental sustainability. Thus, studying Ibn Arabi's thoughts is important for exploring the relevance of Sufism in facing the complexity of the contemporary world.

The contemporary era is characterized by the complexity of modern reality, which includes globalization, rapid technological development, materialism, secularization, identity crises, and pressing socio-environmental issues (Robertson, 1992). Globalization and technology, on the one hand, open up access to information and cross-border connectivity, but on the other hand, they also trigger cultural homogenization and increased competitive pressures (Friedman, 2005). Materialism and consumerism are increasingly entrenched in modern life, encouraging individuals to continue pursuing worldly pleasures and social status, which can ultimately lead to feelings of emptiness and dissatisfaction (Kasser, 2002).

Secularization, as a process of decreasing the influence of religion in public life, has also become an important characteristic of the modern era (Berger, 1967). Rationalism and science increasingly dominate human thinking, so that traditional religious beliefs and practices are often questioned. This can lead to an identity crisis and feelings of alienation, especially for individuals seeking deeper meaning and purpose in life (Taylor, 1989). In addition, social issues such as economic injustice, discrimination, environmental damage, and climate change are increasingly pressing, demanding comprehensive and sustainable solutions (United Nations, 2015).

In the midst of these challenges, Sufism appears as a relevant spiritual alternative (Chittick, 2007). Sufism, as the esoteric dimension of Islam, offers a path to achieving closeness to God through spiritual practices such as *dhikr*, meditation, and reflection

(Schimmel, 1975). Sufism emphasizes the importance of seeking meaning and purpose in life that transcends material and worldly pleasures, and teaches high ethics and morality based on love, compassion, honesty, and justice (Nasr, 1996). In the modern context, Sufism can be a source of inspiration for developing social and environmental awareness and promoting dialogue between religions and cultures (Hermansen, 2011).

Several studies have shown that the practice of Sufism can provide psychological and spiritual benefits for individuals, such as reducing stress, increasing happiness, and strengthening self-identity (Haque, 2004; Rothman, 2014). Apart from that, Sufism can also contribute to the development of a more just, peaceful, and sustainable society (Khan, 2015). However, research on the relevance of Sufism to facing the challenges of modern reality remains relatively limited. Therefore, this research aims to further explore how Sufism can make a positive contribution in overcoming the crisis of meaning, improving spiritual well-being, and solving socio-environmental problems in the contemporary era.

Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi (1165-1240 AD), a prominent Muslim Sufi, philosopher, poet, and theologian, was one of the most influential figures in the history of Islamic thought (Addas, 1993). His broad and profound contributions span ontology, cosmology, epistemology, and eschatology (Chittick, 1989). Ibn Arabi's thought, which is often complex and multidimensional, has sparked debate and diverse interpretations throughout history (Izutsu, 1966).

One of the central concepts in Ibn Arabi's thinking is *Wahdat al-Wujud* (Unity of Being), which states that there is only one ultimate Being, namely Allah SWT, and everything other than Him is only a manifestation or *tajalli* of that Being (Corbin, 1969). This concept has deep implications for the understanding of the relationship between God and the universe, as well as between humans and God (Austin, 1980). Ibn Arabi also developed a theory of *al-Insan al-Kamil* (Perfect Man), an ideal model of a human being who can fully realize his spiritual potential and reflect Divine characteristics (Murata, 1992).

Ibn Arabi's thoughts have influenced the development of Sufism, philosophy, and Islamic literature in various parts of the world (Hakim, 1981). His works, such as *Futuh al-Makkiyya* and *Spindle al-Hikam*, have been a source of inspiration for Sufis, philosophers, and Muslim intellectuals for centuries (Knysh, 1999). However, Ibn Arabi's thoughts are also not free from criticism and controversy. Several Sunni scholars and theologians accused Ibn Arabi of adhering to pantheism and deviating from orthodox Islamic teachings (Al-Ghazzi, 2000).

In the contemporary context, Ibn Arabi's thoughts continue to be an interesting object of study and debate (Hirtenstein & Tiernan, 1999). Many modern Muslim scholars and intellectuals view Ibn Arabi's thought as a source of inspiration for overcoming the spiritual and moral crisis humanity faces today (Nasr, 2007). Draft *Wahdat al-Wujud* can serve as a

basis for the development of environmental ethics centered on awareness of the unity between humans and nature. The Theory of al-Insan al-Kamil can inspire the development of holistic and transformative character education (Lumbard, 2016).

However, the interpretation of Ibn Arabi's thoughts also needs to be done critically and contextually, taking into account his historical, cultural, and intellectual background (Chodkiewicz, 1993). Research on Ibn Arabi and his thought remains relevant and important, given the complexity and depth of his ideas, as well as his broad and enduring influence on the history of Islamic civilization. Therefore, this research aims to examine in greater depth certain aspects of Ibn Arabi's thought and their relevance to the challenges faced by humanity in the modern era.

In the modern context, pluralism, social fragmentation, and environmental degradation are major challenges that require a cross-disciplinary approach. Ibn Arabi's thought, especially through the concepts of *Insan Kamil* and *mystical experience*, offers a philosophical and spiritual framework for understanding humans' relationships with God, one another, and nature. These concepts are not only metaphysical but also provide a practical basis for establishing harmony between the spiritual and material dimensions. Therefore, this research aims to integrate Ibn Arabi's thought into contemporary discourse to provide solutions to global challenges.

In a modern world characterized by pluralism, social fragmentation, and environmental degradation, we face a series of complex challenges that require interdisciplinary solutions. Pluralism, although a force that can enrich society, often creates tension and conflict due to differences in views and values. Social fragmentation, characterized by the splitting of society into isolated groups, threatens social cohesion and solidarity. Environmental degradation, resulting from the overexploitation of natural resources and a lack of ecological awareness, threatens the survival of humans and the planet.

In the midst of these challenges, Ibn Arabi's thoughts, especially through the concepts of Kamil human (perfect human) and mystical experiences, offer a philosophical and spiritual framework relevant to understanding human relationships with God, each other, and nature. Draft Kamil human describes the ideal human potential for achieving spiritual and moral perfection and reflects the divine qualities within him. Mystical experiences, as direct and personal experiences of God's presence, can provide a deep awareness of the unity of all things and a sense of responsibility towards all of creation.

These concepts are not only metaphysical but also provide a practical basis for establishing harmony between the spiritual and material dimensions. By understanding ourselves as part of a larger whole, we can develop an ethic centered on love, compassion, and justice. By realizing the spiritual potential within ourselves, we can overcome

materialistic and consumerist tendencies that damage the environment. By living mystical experiences, we can feel God's presence in everything and develop a sense of respect and responsibility for nature.

Therefore, this research aims to integrate Ibn Arabi's thought into contemporary discourse to provide solutions to global challenges. By exploring the spiritual and philosophical wisdom contained in Ibn Arabi's thought, we can develop a more holistic and sustainable approach to overcoming the problems we face today. This research will not only provide a deeper understanding of Ibn Arabi's thought but will also offer practical insights for building a more just, peaceful, and sustainable society.

This research focuses on an in-depth analysis of Ibn Arabi's main works, such as *Futuh al-Makkiyah* and *Fusus al-Hikam*, as well as contemporary interpretations of their key concepts. Using a hermeneutic approach and case studies, this research explores how *Wahdat al-Wujud* can be applied in modern life. In addition, interviews with contemporary Sufism experts provide further insight into the relevance of Ibn Arabi's thought for addressing issues such as pluralism, sustainability, and identity crises. It is hoped that this research will show that Sufism is not only theoretically relevant but also has practical applications in building a more inclusive and sustainable society.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The literature approach and text analysis in this research were carried out by examining Ibn Arabi's main works, including *\*Futuh al-Makkiyah\** and *\*Fusus al-Hikam\**, which became the basis for *Wahdat al-Wujud*'s thinking. This literature study includes an in-depth analysis of key concepts, including the unity of existence, *insan kamil*, and mystical experience. Apart from that, the research also involved searching secondary literature in the form of interpretations and criticism from contemporary Sufism scholars. This approach aims to understand the relevance of Ibn Arabi's thought in the modern context, with a focus on how these concepts can be applied to address global issues such as pluralism and ecology.

This research also pays special attention to the ethical dimensions of Ibn Arabi's thought, especially in relation to pressing global issues such as environmental sustainability and interreligious tolerance. In this context, the concept of the unity of existence is not only understood as a metaphysical principle but also as an ethical basis that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all beings. Thus, this research explores how the principles of Sufism can provide a framework for building a more harmonious relationship between humans and nature and for encouraging cross-cultural and religious dialogue. This approach broadens the scope of analysis, making it more relevant to the needs of modern society.

Text analysis was carried out using the hermeneutic method to understand the deep meaning of classical Sufism texts. This process involves critical reading of primary and

secondary texts, considering the historical and philosophical context of Ibn Arabi's thought. This research also employs a thematic approach to identify patterns of thinking relevant to contemporary challenges. Thus, text analysis not only explores philosophical meaning but also its potential applications in modern life, especially in building harmony between the spiritual and material dimensions.

In addition, this literary approach and text analysis involve a comparison of Ibn Arabi's thought with that of other contemporary Sufi thinkers. This was done to evaluate the extent to which Wahdat al-Wujud's theory can contribute to modern discourse. This research also integrates cross-disciplinary perspectives, including philosophy, theology, and religious studies, to enrich the analysis. With this approach, it is hoped that research can provide a comprehensive understanding of the relevance of Ibn Arabi's thought to addressing modern challenges, as well as offering practical solutions grounded in spirituality.

In the comparative study of Sufism, the method used involves a comparative analysis of Ibn Arabi's thought and that of contemporary Sufi figures. This research begins by identifying the main themes in Ibn Arabi's works, such as *Futuh al-Makkiyah* and *Fusus al-Hikam*, and then compares them with the ideas of modern figures such as Seyyed Hossein Nasr and William Chittick. This process is carried out through an in-depth literature review, which includes critical reading of primary and secondary texts. The goal is to identify similarities and differences in approaches to issues such as pluralism, spirituality, and ecology.

Furthermore, this research uses a hermeneutic method to understand the philosophical and theological context of each thought. This analysis explores the symbolic and metaphorical meanings in Ibn Arabi's texts, as well as contemporary interpretations of concepts such as Wahdat al-Wujud and *insan kamil*. With this approach, research seeks to evaluate the extent to which classical thinking can be adapted to answer modern challenges. This process also includes thematic analysis to identify thought patterns relevant to building harmony between the spiritual and material dimensions.

As part of a comparative study, this research also includes a critical analysis of criticisms of Ibn Arabi's thought by modern scholars. This is done to evaluate the validity and relevance of these criticisms in the contemporary context. The data obtained from this study were then compared with interpretations from modern Sufism figures to explore the potential for synthesis between classical and modern thought. Thus, this method not only helps understand conceptual differences but also explores the possibility of integrating thinking in responding to global issues.

Interviews with contemporary Sufism experts were conducted to explore in-depth perspectives on the relevance of Ibn Arabi's thought in the modern context. This interview was conducted in a semi-structured manner, with a list of questions that focused on the

interpretation of the concepts of Wahdat al-Wujud, insan kamil, and mystical experiences in the context of global issues such as pluralism, ecology, and identity crisis. Respondents were selected for their expertise in Sufism, both academic and spiritual practitioners. The interview process is conducted both in person and online, with an average session duration of 60-90 minutes, to ensure a comprehensive exploration of the topics discussed.

The interview process involves a hermeneutic approach to understand the expert's views in a philosophical and theological context. Each interview was recorded with the respondent's permission to ensure data accuracy, then transcribed verbatim. Data analysis was carried out using the thematic method, in which relevant thought patterns were identified and categorized into main themes such as spirituality, environmental sustainability, and social harmony. This approach allows research to integrate insights from experts into the theoretical framework of Wahdat al-Wujud while evaluating its potential application to contemporary challenges.

The selection of respondents was conducted using purposive sampling to ensure that the resource persons had relevant backgrounds and competencies in contemporary Sufism. Selection criteria include scientific publications, practical experience, and contributions to the discourse on modern Sufism. Apart from that, data triangulation was carried out by comparing interview results with primary and secondary literature on Ibn Arabi's thought. This aims to increase the validity and reliability of research findings and to ensure that the interviews make a significant contribution to understanding the relevance of Sufism in the modern context.

A contextual analysis of modern challenges is conducted by identifying the main issues relevant to Ibn Arabi's thought, such as pluralism, ecology, and identity crisis. This research employs a critical analysis of contemporary literature that discusses these issues, both in global and local contexts. The data collected includes journal articles, books, and research reports that address modern challenges. The analysis was conducted using the thematic method to identify the relationship between the concept of Wahdat al-Wujud and these issues. This approach aims to evaluate the extent to which Ibn Arabi's thinking can provide relevant solutions to the challenges of the times.

In addition, this research employs cross-disciplinary analytical methods to examine modern challenges from perspectives in philosophy, sociology, and ecology. Data from primary and secondary literature are analyzed, considering the historical and social contexts of the challenges faced. This process involves exploring the relationship between concepts such as insan kamil and mystical experiences with issues such as environmental sustainability and social harmony. With this approach, the research seeks to integrate Ibn Arabi's thoughts into contemporary discourse and to evaluate their relevance in the modern context.

To ensure the validity of the analysis, this research also employed data triangulation

by comparing the results of literature analysis with those from expert interviews and case studies. Data from various sources is analyzed holistically to identify patterns of thinking relevant to modern challenges. This process includes a critical evaluation of contemporary interpretations of the concept of Wahdat al-Wujud, with a focus on its application in establishing harmony between the spiritual and material dimensions. Thus, this contextual analysis not only provides theoretical insights but also offers practical guidance for dealing with the complexities of the modern world.

The case study method is used to explore the application of Ibn Arabi's thoughts, especially the concept of Wahdat al-Wujud, in the context of modern life. These case studies examine individuals or communities who adopt Sufi principles in their daily lives. Case selection was carried out using purposive sampling to ensure relevance to the research topic. Data was collected through participant observation, in-depth interviews, and analysis of related documents. This process aims to understand how concepts such as *insan kamil* and mystical experience are applied in practice and their impact on spiritual and material harmony in modern life.

Each case study is analyzed using a thematic approach to identify patterns of application of Ibn Arabi's thinking. Data obtained from observations, interviews, and documents were analyzed using triangulation to increase the validity of the findings. This research also considers the social, cultural, and economic context of the case study subjects to understand the factors that influence the application of the concept of Sufism. The analysis was carried out by connecting empirical findings with Wahdat al-Wujud's theory to evaluate the relevance and effectiveness of Ibn Arabi's thought in responding to modern challenges.

The results of this case study are used to explore the potential for integrating Ibn Arabi's thought into contemporary discourse. The data obtained were analyzed critically to assess the extent to which concepts such as Wahdat al-Wujud can provide practical solutions to global issues, including pluralism, ecology, and identity crises. This case study also provides insight into how mystical experiences and human principles can be applied in building social harmony and environmental sustainability. Thus, this method not only explores theoretical relevance but also offers practical guidance on navigating the complexities of the modern world.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

#### 1. Analysis of the Concept of Wahdat al-Wujud in the Context of Modern Pluralism

The concept of Wahdat al-Wujud developed by Ibn Arabi is highly relevant to modern pluralism. The understanding that all of existence is a manifestation of God provides a theological basis for appreciating diversity. In analyzing the texts *Futuh al-Makkiyah* and

*Fusus al-Hikam*, it was found that Ibn Arabi emphasized the importance of seeing everyone as a reflection of Divine existence. This supports an inclusive view of religious, cultural, and belief differences, which is an important foundation for building harmony in a pluralistic society.

In the context of modern pluralism, *Wahdat al-Wujud* offers a perspective that goes beyond the boundaries of identity. A hermeneutic analysis of Ibn Arabi's work shows that plurality is seen as an expression of one single reality, namely God. This view is relevant in facing global challenges such as inter-religious conflict and intolerance. Understanding that differences are part of Divine will encourages more constructive interreligious dialogue and reduces the potential for identity-based conflict. In addition, this approach provides space for deeper spiritual reflection, inviting individuals to see differences not as threats but as opportunities to enrich their understanding of God. In this case, *Wahdat al-Wujud* is not only a philosophical concept but also a tool of spiritual transformation that can help individuals and communities overcome prejudice and stereotypes, often the root of social tensions.

This research also found that *Wahdat al-Wujud* provides a philosophical basis for overcoming exclusivism in religious practice. Through interviews with contemporary Sufism experts, it was revealed that this concept can be applied to promote inclusive attitudes in an increasingly fragmented society. Experts emphasize that a deep understanding of the unity of existence can inspire individuals to see humanity holistically, thereby encouraging solidarity and cooperation across cultures and religions.

Studies in secondary literature show that modern pluralism often faces challenges in the form of a collective identity crisis. In this context, *Wahdat al-Wujud* can be a solution by emphasizing that individual and collective identity are not separate from Divine reality. This concept provides a spiritual framework for understanding diversity as a richness, not a threat. Thus, this approach is not only theoretical but also offers practical guidance for building a more inclusive society.

The results of case studies on the Sufi community show that the application of *Wahdat al-Wujud* in everyday life can create social harmony amid diversity. The community adopts the principle of unified existence to respect differences and promote cross-cultural dialogue. These findings indicate that Ibn Arabi's thoughts are not only philosophically relevant but also have a real impact in building a peaceful, pluralistic society. This underlines the great potential of Sufism as a spiritual solution to the challenges of modern pluralism.

## **2. Application of *Insan Kamil* Principles in Contemporary Social Life**

The research results show that the principle of "*Insan Kamil (Kamil Human)*" is highly relevant to building social harmony amid the complexity of contemporary society. In interviews with Sufism experts, it was found that "*Insan Kamil*" is seen as an ideal human

model who can balance the spiritual and material dimensions. This concept encourages individuals to internalize universal values such as justice, compassion, and social responsibility. In a modern context, the application of this principle can create individuals who are not only oriented towards personal interests but also contribute to collective welfare.

Case studies of contemporary Sufi communities show that the application of the principle of "*Insan kamil (Kamil Human)*" can strengthen social solidarity. The community adopts a holistic approach to social interactions, emphasizing the importance of seeing everyone as a reflection of the Divine. This is reflected in practices such as interfaith dialogue, social activities, and justice advocacy. These findings indicate that the principle of "*Insan kamil (Kamil Human)*" can serve as a basis for building an inclusive society that respects diversity and promotes cross-cultural cooperation.

Literature analysis shows that the principle of "Insan Kamil" is also relevant to overcoming the challenges posed by individualism, which often dominates modern society. In Ibn Arabi's works, "Insan Kamil" is described as a human being who is aware of his connection to God and others. This understanding encourages individuals to live meaningful lives by prioritizing spiritual values. In a social context, this principle can help reduce social fragmentation and increase a sense of responsibility towards the community.

Interviews with Sufism practitioners reveal that the application of the principle of "*Insan Kamil (Kamil Human)*" can have a positive impact on interpersonal relationships. Practitioners emphasize the importance of empathy and tolerance as manifestations of spiritual awareness. In everyday life, this is realized through mutual respect and support, regardless of differences in background. These findings show that the principle of "Insan Kamil" is not only philosophically relevant but also has practical applications in building harmonious social relations.

The results of the hermeneutic analysis of Ibn Arabi's texts show that "Insan Kamil" is responsible for maintaining a balance between the spiritual and material dimensions. In a contemporary context, this can be translated as an effort to create a just and sustainable society. This principle encourages individuals not only to focus on material achievements but also to consider their impact on the environment and future generations. In this way, "*Insan Kamil*" becomes the ideal model for facing social and ecological challenges in the modern era.

### **3. The Relevance of Mystical Experience in Responding to the Global Identity Crisis**

This research finds that mystical experiences, as described by Ibn Arabi, are highly relevant to addressing the global identity crisis. Mystical experiences rooted in awareness of *Wahdat al-Wujud* encourage individuals to transcend superficial identities and realize their deep

connectedness with God and all of creation. In interviews with Sufism experts, it was revealed that mystical experiences can help individuals overcome the existential alienation often at the root of identity crises by offering a more holistic, transcendental perspective.

Analysis of Ibn Arabi's texts, such as *Futuhat al-Makkiyah* and *Fusus al-Hikam*, shows that mystical experiences are not only individual but also have a social dimension. Awareness of the unity of existence encourages individuals to see identity as part of a greater Divine reality. In a global context, this is relevant to overcoming identity conflicts, which often stem from ethnic, religious, or cultural differences. Mystical awareness can be the basis for building harmony and solidarity amidst diversity.

Case studies of Sufism communities show that mystical experiences can help individuals find deeper meaning in their lives, thereby reducing tendencies toward identity crises. The community integrates spiritual practices such as dhikr and meditation to strengthen awareness of Wahdat al-Wujud. As a result, community members report an increased sense of connectedness to one another and the environment, which in turn helps them overcome feelings of isolation and a loss of direction in the modern world.

Interviews with contemporary Sufi practitioners reveal that mystical experiences can be an effective tool for transformation in addressing global identity challenges. Practitioners emphasize that this experience allows individuals to transcend narrow identity and discover a more universal essence of self. In the modern context, this is relevant to addressing the social and cultural pressures that often trigger identity crises by offering a more inclusive, transformative view.

A hermeneutic analysis of the concept of mystical experience in Ibn Arabi's thought shows that this experience can be a spiritual solution to the global identity crisis. Mystical consciousness allows individuals to understand their identity as part of a broader Divine reality, thereby reducing tendencies towards exclusivism and social fragmentation. In a contemporary context, this experience can be applied to build a more inclusive society in which individual and collective identities are understood as expressions of a unified existence.

#### **4. Contribution of Ibn Arabi's Thought to Environmental Sustainability Issues**

This research finds that the concept of Wahdat al-Wujud developed by Ibn Arabi is highly relevant to addressing the issue of environmental sustainability. In analyzing the texts *Futuhat al-Makkiyah* and *Fusus al-Hikam*, it was found that Ibn Arabi viewed nature as a manifestation of Divine existence. This view emphasizes the importance of maintaining harmony between humans and nature as a form of respect for God. In a modern context, this concept can serve as a spiritual basis for promoting ecological awareness and environmental responsibility.

Interviews with contemporary Sufism experts reveal that Ibn Arabi's thoughts can inspire a holistic approach to environmental issues. Experts emphasize that awareness of the unity of existence encourages individuals to see nature not just as a resource but as an entity with intrinsic value. This is relevant to overcoming environmental exploitation, which is often based on a materialistic paradigm, by offering a more inclusive and sustainable spiritual perspective.

Case studies of the Sufi community show that the application of *Wahdat al-Wujud* principles can create concrete sustainability practices. The community integrates Sufism values into daily activities, such as organic farming, conserving water resources, and reforestation. These findings show that Ibn Arabi's thoughts are not only philosophically relevant but also have a real impact in encouraging sustainable, environmentally friendly behavior.

Literature analysis shows that the concept of *insan kamil* in Ibn Arabi's thought is also relevant to environmental sustainability. *Insan Kamil* is seen as the guardian of harmony between the spiritual and material dimensions, including in his relationship with nature. In a modern context, this principle can be translated as individual responsibility for maintaining ecosystem balance and reducing negative environmental impacts, thereby creating a more sustainable life.

The results of this research indicate that Ibn Arabi's thoughts can contribute to the development of a new paradigm more oriented towards sustainability. By integrating the concepts of *Wahdat al-Wujud* and *insan kamil*, Sufism offers a spiritual approach that can complement scientific and technological efforts in overcoming the environmental crisis. This approach not only provides practical solutions but also deepens awareness of the importance of maintaining a harmonious relationship with nature as part of Divine reality.

## **5. Integration of Ibn Arabi's Sufism in Modern Spirituality Discourse**

This research finds that the integration of Ibn Arabi's Sufi thought, especially the concept of *Wahdat al-Wujud*, is highly relevant to modern spiritual discourse. In interviews with contemporary Sufism experts, it was revealed that this concept can bridge the gap between traditional spirituality and the modern need for meaning in life. Awareness of the unity of existence provides a philosophical basis for understanding spirituality as a universal experience that transcends religious and cultural boundaries. This is relevant in building dialogue across spiritual traditions that is inclusive and transformative.

Analysis of Ibn Arabi's texts, such as *\*Futuh al-Makkiyah\** and *\*Fusus al-Hikam\**, shows that spirituality in his thought is not limited to religious rituals but also includes a deep existential dimension. In a modern context, this approach can help overcome the spiritual emptiness often felt in a materialistic society. Awareness of *Wahdat al-Wujud*

encourages individuals to find the meaning of life through connectedness with God, others, and the universe, thereby creating a holistic spirituality.

Case studies of the Sufi community show that the application of Ibn Arabi's thought can create spiritual practices relevant to modern challenges. The community integrates Sufism values in daily life, such as meditation, dhikr, and self-reflection, which aim to strengthen awareness of the unity of existence. These findings suggest that Sufism can be a source of inspiration for individuals seeking inner peace and harmony in a world full of stress and uncertainty.

Interviews with contemporary spiritual practitioners reveal that Ibn Arabi's thoughts can be adapted to address the spiritual needs of the modern generation. Practitioners emphasize that concepts such as *insan kamil* and mystical experiences provide a framework for developing a spirituality relevant to modern life. This includes the development of empathy, tolerance, and social responsibility as manifestations of deep spiritual awareness, which ultimately enriches the discourse on modern spirituality.

This research also finds that integrating Ibn Arabi's thought into modern spirituality can enrich cross-disciplinary approaches, including psychology, philosophy, and ecology. Awareness of *Wahdat al-Wujud* offers a new perspective on the relationship between the spiritual and material dimensions. In this context, Sufism is not only seen as a religious tradition but also as a holistic approach capable of providing solutions to global challenges, such as the identity crisis, social fragmentation, and environmental degradation.

## CONCLUSION

This research confirms that Ibn Arabi's thinking, especially the concept of *Wahdat al-Wujud*, is highly relevant to addressing modern challenges such as pluralism, identity crises, and environmental sustainability. Through text analysis and interviews with Sufism experts, it was found that the concept of the unity of existence provides a theological basis for appreciating diversity, overcoming identity conflicts, and encouraging ecological awareness. This thinking is not only philosophical but also offers practical solutions that can be applied in building an inclusive, harmonious, and sustainable society.

Apart from that, this research also highlights how Ibn Arabi's thought can serve as a bridge between spiritual traditions and modern challenges. In the context of pluralism, the concept of *Wahdat al-Wujud* teaches that everything comes from the same source, so that differences in religion, culture, and identity should not be a reason for conflict, but rather an opportunity for mutual understanding. In environmental issues, Ibn Arabi's view of the unity of existence reminds humans that nature is an integral part of divine existence, so that excessive exploitation of natural resources is contrary to spiritual principles. Thus, this line of thinking can serve as the basis for building a deeper collective awareness of sustainability

and ecological responsibility.

The concept of insan kamil in Ibn Arabi's thought has also proven relevant to building social and spiritual harmony amid the complexity of the modern world. Research shows that insan kamil encourages individuals to balance spiritual and material dimensions, as well as internalize universal values such as justice, compassion, and social responsibility. In a modern context, this principle can be an ideal model for overcoming individualism, strengthening social solidarity, and creating a more inclusive and sustainability-oriented society.

The results of this research underline the great potential of Sufism as a holistic approach to facing global challenges. By integrating Ibn Arabi's thoughts into contemporary discourse, Sufism can become a source of inspiration for individuals and communities in their search for the meaning of life, in building harmonious relationships with others and the environment, and in overcoming social and cultural pressures. This research shows that Ibn Arabi's thoughts are not only historically relevant but also have significant practical applications in building a more meaningful and harmonious life in the modern era.

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