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# Digital Akhlak and Cyber-Ethics: A Systematic Literature Review on Navigating Moral Dilemmas in Virtual Spaces

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**Abstract**

The digital ethics crisis and moral dilemmas in virtual spaces have become significant threats to the modern social order. This study aims to formulate an integrative moral navigation framework by synthesizing the concepts of Digital Akhlak and Cyber-Ethics. Utilizing the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) method, this research analyzes 50 reputable academic publications from 2021 to 2025. Data indicates that technical-administrative approaches to cyber-ethics are insufficient without a foundation of intrinsic morality. The findings reveal that the functional revitalization of the values of Siddiq, Amanah, Tabligh, and Fathanah effectively mitigates destructive behavior in the online world. In conclusion, the synergy between external digital regulations and transcendental akhlak consciousness is the primary key to navigating moral complexities in virtual spaces. This study recommends integrating these values into global digital literacy curricula.

**Keyword**: *Digital Akhlak, Cyber-Ethics, Moral Dilemmas.*

## Introduction

The phenomenon of moral degradation in virtual spaces has currently reached an alarming level, where virtual interactions frequently disregard the fundamental principles of human civility and ethics. The reality of this issue is clearly evidenced by the high rates of cyber-bullying, the massive spread of disinformation, and the loss of privacy boundaries that trigger horizontal conflicts across various social media platforms. Virtual spaces, offering anonymity, tend to weaken individual self-control; consequently, behaviors considered taboo in the physical world become commonplace when performed behind a screen. The absence of physical presence in digital communication creates a psychological distance that makes users less empathetic toward the impact of their words or actions on others. This indicates a moral identity crisis where conventional ethical values are no longer perceived as binding within a fast-paced and transparent digital ecosystem. If left unaddressed, these toxic interaction patterns will not only damage the digital social fabric but also threaten the mental health and character integrity of the younger generation, who spend a significant portion of their time in cyberspace. Therefore, a profound reflection is required on how *akhlak* values can be reintegrated into the digital behavior of modern society to mitigate the negative impacts of increasingly uncontrollable communication technology.

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Literature facts demonstrate that existing ethical frameworks are often partial and have yet to provide comprehensive answers to the complex moral dilemmas in virtual spaces. Although the discourse on digital ethics has evolved, many classical theories fail to handle the rapid evolution of artificial intelligence and algorithms that manipulate user perception. Several studies emphasize that a formal legal approach alone is insufficient to change internet user behavior without being grounded in a strong internal foundation of morality (Prasetiyo et al., 2021). On the other hand, there is a significant gap between the theoretical understanding of cyber-ethics and the practical implementation of *akhlak* in the daily lives of digital users (Hadi & Husna, 2023). Dominant Western ethical theories in the literature often emphasize individual rights and freedom of expression but lack the spiritual dimensions and transcendental responsibilities inherent in the concept of *akhlak* (Musa et al., 2022). The inability of current literature to unify the technical dimensions of cyber-ethics with religious moral values creates a void in guidance for individuals navigating moral ambiguities on the internet. Thus, a systematic literature review is necessary to synergize these two aspects to create a more holistic and applicable behavioral standard in facing contemporary challenges.

The primary objective of this scientific article is to conduct a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) to formulate an integrative framework between *Digital Akhlak* and Cyber-Ethics in navigating moral dilemmas in virtual spaces. Through a rigorous SLR method, this study seeks to map the latest literature trends from 2021 to 2025 to identify key variables that influence an individual's ethical decisions within digital environments. Furthermore, this research aims to explore how *akhlak* values—such as honesty (*siddiq*), trustworthiness (*amanah*), and civility—can be revitalized and adapted into cyber-ethics protocols that have thus far tended to be administrative and secular. By identifying gaps in previous research, this study is expected to provide a theoretical contribution to the development of digital-based character education curricula that are more relevant to contemporary challenges. Moreover, the results of this research are intended to provide practical recommendations for platform developers, educators, and policymakers in creating a more humane and dignified digital ecosystem. Achieving this goal is crucial to ensuring that advancements in information technology progress hand-in-hand with the maintenance of human moral integrity as the primary subject in digital civilization.

The importance of conducting this research is based on the argument that without clear moral navigation, virtual spaces will continue to be a battleground of conflict that erodes social cohesion and human civilization at large. The fact that technology evolves much faster than legal regulations places ethical responsibility back on the individual as the end-user. The hypothesis of this study states that integrating the concept of *Digital Akhlak* into the Cyber-Ethics framework will result in a more effective moral self-defense mechanism than relying solely on technical filters or legal oversight. The foundation of this argument is strengthened by the reality that moral dilemmas in cyberspace often involve gray areas that cannot be reached by black-and-white rules, thus requiring moral intelligence that is both intuitive and reflective (Sari & Wardani, 2024). Given the research objective to formulate moral navigation guidelines, the urgency of this study lies in its ability to provide a roadmap for society to interact healthily amidst information disruption. Success in formulating this framework will be a vital foundation for the sustainability

of a digital civilization that is not only intellectually smart but also noble in character. Therefore, a deep exploration of the relevant literature is a strategic step that cannot be delayed to save the future of human interaction in the virtual world.

**Literature Review**

The concept of *Digital Akhlak* represents an extension of the terminology of *akhlak* within the Islamic tradition, adapted to the scope of human interaction in virtual spaces. Fundamentally, *Digital Akhlak* is defined as a set of moral values, character, and commendable behaviors derived from revelation and sound reason, internalized by individuals while operating digital technology. In contemporary literature, this concept is viewed as a form of transcendental consciousness where every activity in cyberspace—despite being anonymous—remains under divine supervision (*muraqabah*) and carries eschatological implications (Hasan et al., 2023). Unlike secular digital ethics, which primarily emphasizes compliance with community rules or positive law, *Digital Akhlak* prioritizes internal integrity and sincere intentions in communication. Researchers assert that *Digital Akhlak* encompasses a spiritual dimension that guides individuals to maintain their own dignity and that of others, even in the absence of direct physical supervision (Mursyid & Rahmah, 2024). Thus, this concept serves as an intrinsic moral fortress for internet users facing unlimited information flows. The consistent application of *Digital Akhlak* is expected to create a digital ecosystem that is not only technically productive but also blessed and dignified in terms of human values.

The manifestation of *Digital Akhlak* in social media user behavior can be categorized into several key dimensions that reflect the quality of an individual's character in the virtual public sphere. The first categorization includes *Siddiq* (digital honesty), which manifests in the user's caution when disseminating information and a commitment not to produce fake news or hoaxes. The second dimension is *Amanah* (trustworthiness), where users possess the awareness to maintain the confidentiality of others' personal data and respect intellectual property rights in every shared content (Fauzi & Rohman, 2022). Furthermore, the manifestation of *Tabligh* is reflected in providing educational, inspiring, and soothing information, rather than provoking hatred or discrimination. Finally, the *Fathanah* (wisdom/intelligence) dimension is realized through critical digital literacy, where individuals are able to distinguish between benefit (*maslahah*) and harm (*mudarah*) before interacting on digital platforms (Zulkhairi et al., 2021). This categorization demonstrates that *Digital Akhlak* is not merely an abstract theory but a series of concrete actions measurable through one's digital footprint. Through these manifestations, Islamic ethical values can be transformed into inclusive digital behavior competency standards for all levels of society. Implementing these categories is crucial in the effort to build a more ethical and harmonious cyber civilization amidst global disruption challenges.

Cyber-Ethics is defined as a branch of practical philosophy that studies human behavior in computer and internet environments to determine standards of right or wrong in digital actions. This concept involves studying the moral responsibilities of users, service providers, and technology developers in managing access to information and human interaction. According to recent literature, Cyber-Ethics functions as a regulative compass attempting to bridge the "law lag" that often occurs due to the rapid innovation of information technology (Floridi, 2021). The primary focus of cyber-ethics includes privacy protection, data security, justice in access, and

intellectual property rights within a global ecosystem that knows no national borders. Unlike *akhlak*, which is rooted in theology, Cyber-Ethics is often based on universal principles such as utilitarianism or deontology to evaluate the social impact of a technology (Tavani, 2023). However, these two concepts complement each other in providing layered protection for human dignity in the cyber world. A deep understanding of Cyber-Ethics is essential for individuals to exercise their digital rights without violating moral obligations toward others. Therefore, cyber-ethics is seen as a primary pillar in equitable and sustainable global internet governance.

The manifestation of Cyber-Ethics in modern information technology practices can be grouped into several critical areas that are the focus of ethicists and IT practitioners. One of the most dominant manifestations is ethics in the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), which demands algorithmic transparency to avoid bias or discrimination against certain groups (Hagendorff, 2022). Additionally, the manifestation of cyber-ethics is evident in personal data privacy protection policies, where technology companies are required to obtain explicit consent before processing user information in accordance with accountability principles. Other categories concern cybersecurity ethics, which prohibit hacking actions that harm system integrity, and ethics in citizen journalism, which demand objectivity and information verification (Bynum, 2021). These practices show that cyber-ethics has been integrated into technical system designs and operational protocols across various digital industries. These manifestations also include collective efforts in combating cyber-bullying and hate speech through fair content moderation systems. By understanding these categorizations, stakeholders can formulate digital policies that are more responsive to evolving social dynamics. Consistent application of cyber-ethics manifestations is a prerequisite for creating a safe and trusted virtual space for all users.

Moral dilemmas in virtual spaces are defined as complex situations where a conflict occurs between two or more valid moral principles, forcing individuals to choose difficult actions amidst the uncertainty of consequences. In the digital context, these dilemmas often arise from tensions between freedom of expression and the protection of others' honor, or between data transparency and the need for privacy. Literature states that virtual moral dilemmas have unique characteristics because they are influenced by the speed of interaction and the wide reach of the impact caused by a single simple action (Schoemaker, 2021). Individuals are often trapped in dilemmas when deciding whether to reveal a painful truth publicly or maintain social harmony by remaining silent. This definition emphasizes that a moral dilemma is not just a choice between good and bad, but a choice between two values that are equally important in less-than-ideal situations (Lazar, 2022). The inability of individuals to identify and resolve these dilemmas can lead to cognitive dissonance and deep moral regret. Therefore, understanding the structure of virtual moral dilemmas is an important first step in formulating appropriate navigation strategies in the cyber world.

The manifestation of moral dilemmas in cyberspace often appears in the form of contemporary phenomena such as *cancel culture*, where the digital society is faced with the choice of collectively punishing someone's wrong behavior but risking the violation of that individual's human rights. Another categorization of these dilemmas is found in the use of Big Data for marketing purposes, which creates a conflict between business efficiency and consumer privacy autonomy (Martin & Shilton,

2022). Furthermore, moral dilemmas manifest in content curation algorithms that prioritize user engagement over information accuracy, thereby triggering filter bubbles and political polarization. At the individual level, these dilemmas often occur in the form of self-disclosure, where a person feels hesitant between presenting themselves as they are or building an ideal image that might be false for the sake of social recognition (Krasnova et al., 2021). Each category of these dilemmas demands high moral reasoning skills so that individuals do not merely follow the biased majority. These manifestations prove that virtual space is a very dynamic battlefield of values requiring a solid navigation framework. By mapping these various manifestations of moral dilemmas, this SLR study can provide practical guidance for users to make responsible decisions amidst digital ambiguity.

## Method

The object of this research focuses on the phenomenon of moral dilemmas and ethical crises occurring in virtual spaces, specifically related to user behavior within the contemporary digital ecosystem. The identified problems include the disharmony between advancements in communication technology and the mental and moral readiness of individuals, manifesting as violations of cyber-etiquette and the degradation of human values. This study views virtual space not merely as a technical tool, but as an ecological environment that shapes human mindsets and actions; thus, the research object encompasses the dynamic interaction between digital identity and the integrity of *akhlak*. The direction of literature observation is aimed at various case studies regarding how moral dilemmas are negotiated by internet users when facing ambiguous situations, such as the dissemination of unverified information or personal conflicts of interest on social media. By establishing the digital moral crisis as the primary object, this research attempts to dissect the root causes from a broader and deeper ethical perspective. Identifying this object is crucial to ensuring that the systematic literature review process remains relevant to the practical need for solutions for today's digital society. Therefore, the boundaries of the research object include literature discussing the intersection between cyber-ethics and principles of morality that are both universal and religious in nature.

This study is a type of library research that employs a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach as the primary framework for objectively collecting and synthesizing data. Primary data in this study are sourced from reputable scientific journal articles published between 2021 and 2025, which specifically discuss a series of cases involving cyber-bullying, privacy dilemmas, and ethical degradation in virtual spaces. The use of primary data from the literature allows the researcher to obtain solid empirical and theoretical evidence regarding the effectiveness of various moral navigation models previously tested by experts (Kitchenham & Charters, 2021). Meanwhile, secondary data types include supporting information from textbooks, official institutional research reports, and other scientific documents that strengthen the understanding of key terms such as *Digital Akhlak*, Cyber-Ethics, and Moral Dilemmas. Through the integration of both data types, SLR research is capable of providing a more comprehensive and in-depth overview compared to traditional literature reviews, which are often subjective. This approach was chosen for its ability to provide a synthesis of evidence with minimal bias and a high level of reliability for subsequent scientific development. Consequently, this methodology ensures that the

research findings have an argumentative basis that is academically and practically accountable in the fields of educational technology and digital ethics.

The fundamental theory used as the primary source of information and assumption in this research is **Media Ecology Theory**, further developed within a contemporary context by digital communication experts. Although the theoretical roots originate from the thoughts of **Marshall McLuhan**, the substance of this theory in 2021 literature emphasizes that media is an environment that comprehensively conditions human perception and behavior (Postman & Strate, 2021). This theory assumes that changes in the form of media will automatically alter the social structure and moral value systems of society, as media is not a neutral container but a shaper of the ecosystem of life. In this research, Media Ecology Theory is used to analyze how virtual space, as a "new environment," creates unique moral dilemmas not found in traditional face-to-face interactions. The researcher argues that ethical failures in the digital world are often caused by the inability of individuals to adapt to the speed and anonymity of that environment. By utilizing this theory, the research can map the causal relationship between digital platform design and the moral responses of users through the lens of adaptive *akhlak*. The use of this theory provides a strong philosophical foundation to explain why the revitalization of moral values is an absolute prerequisite for navigating life in the era of information technology disruption.

The research process was carried out in a structured and transparent manner through SLR stages, beginning with the formulation of specific research questions concerning how *Digital Akhlak* mitigates moral dilemmas. The researcher developed a research protocol including search strategies across electronic databases such as Google Scholar, Scopus, and DOAJ using predetermined keywords. Inclusion criteria for this study include journal articles published within the last five years (2021-2025), written in English or Indonesian, and focusing on digital ethics or moral education (Page et al., 2021). Conversely, exclusion criteria were applied to articles that did not undergo a peer-review process or lacked direct relevance to virtual moral navigation. Data collection techniques involved extracting critical information from each selected literature, including author names, publication years, methodologies used, and key findings related to cyber-ethical challenges. Once relevant literature was identified, the researcher performed a rigorous study quality assessment to ensure that only high-quality sources were included in the data synthesis stage. These systematic stages aim to minimize the risk of selection bias and guarantee the validity of the formulated moral navigation framework. Through this process transparency, other researchers can replicate this study to strengthen existing findings in the future.

The data analysis technique in this research employs in-depth content analysis to identify patterns, relationships, and important information contained within the collected literature. This process began by coding narrative data to discover dominant themes related to the implementation of *Digital Akhlak* and the resolution of moral dilemmas in the cyber world. Content analysis allows the researcher to process qualitative data into structured categories, thereby facilitating the observation of development trends in cyber-ethics from year to year (Krippendorff, 2024). The researcher carefully studied expert arguments to extract the most effective moral navigation principles for facing destructive behavior in virtual spaces. Furthermore, this technique involves interpreting literature data to build a new synthesis that addresses the research objective regarding the formulation of a holistic ethical

framework. Through the analysis of inter-variable relationships, this research can demonstrate how the value of spirituality in *akhlak* correlates positively with the digital maturity of internet users. The results of this content analysis are then arranged narratively to provide a clear picture of ethical solutions to the encountered problems. The use of this technique ensures that research conclusions are not drawn prematurely but are based on systematic and comprehensive data processing.

## Results and Discission

### Results

The data description from the literature review on *Digital Akhlak* indicates that this concept is positioned as an internal foundation for controlling user behavior in cyberspace. The data reveals that key variables in *Digital Akhlak* encompass personal integrity, honesty in information, and respect for the dignity of fellow users regardless of physical boundaries. Several studies emphasize that *Digital Akhlak* is rooted in an individual's awareness of divine supervision (*muraqabah*), which is transformed into responsible digital actions (Aziz et al., 2022). The literature also describes that the development of this digital character is carried out through a continuous process of internalizing values, involving the roles of family education and formal institutions. Data shows a positive correlation between a person's level of religious understanding and their tendency to exhibit polite behavior on social media. Furthermore, the literature review identifies that *Digital Akhlak* functions as a natural filter against negative content before external technology does so. This description provides an overview that the power of morality is a key element in maintaining the stability of human interaction in the virtual world. These findings confirm that without the foundation of *akhlak*, digital technology tends to be used for purposes that damage the social order.

The explanation of data from the study of *Digital Akhlak* clarifies that the working mechanism of these values within internet users occurs through deep cognitive and affective stages. Explanations in the literature show that individuals with strong *Digital Akhlak* will perform a self-verification process before sharing information to avoid the ongoing sin (*dosa jariyah*) of spreading fake news (Mubarak et al., 2023). Furthermore, the data explains that the primary motivation behind this ethical digital behavior is not merely compliance with platform rules, but the drive to maintain spiritual and social health. Researchers explain that the practice of *Digital Akhlak* manifests in the choice of words that do not offend others' feelings when debating in comment sections. Additionally, the literature explanation includes how the concept of *tabayyun*, or clarification, becomes the primary protocol for users in responding to controversial information. This explanation also touches on the aspect of digital role-modeling, where public figures who practice *Digital Akhlak* are able to provide a significant positive influence on their followers. Thus, the data explains that *Digital Akhlak* acts as a moral operating system that regulates how humans treat technology as a means of worship and benefit.

The relation between the descriptive and explanatory data regarding *Digital Akhlak* and the reality of the research problem indicates a wide gap between ideal theory and field practice. Although the literature describes *Digital Akhlak* as a preventive solution, reality shows that many internet users are still trapped in impulsive behaviors that harm others due to weak digital self-control (Pratama & Hamid, 2024). This relationship explains that problems like cyber-bullying and the

spread of hoaxes occur precisely because the values of *Digital Akhlak* have not been functionally internalized within the contemporary digital ecosystem. The reality encountered in society shows that anonymity often overrides the moral consciousness learned in the physical world. This data relation reinforces the argument that the revitalization of *akhlak* in virtual spaces is urgently needed as a navigation step against the widening moral crisis. Literature findings provide a basis for the importance of bridging theoretical understanding with practical implementation so that ethical crises can be effectively mitigated. Therefore, the connection between data and reality confirms the urgency of this research to formulate a more applicable moral navigation framework for users.

The data description from the literature review on Cyber-Ethics presents various operational standards and codes of ethics designed to regulate the governance of interaction in the cyber world. Data shows that Cyber-Ethics encompasses broad areas such as data privacy, intellectual property rights, algorithmic accountability, and justice in digital access for all layers of society (Floridi, 2021). The literature describes that this ethical framework is generally developed by international organizations and technology companies as a guide for users and system developers. The primary focus of Cyber-Ethics data is on protecting individual rights from the misuse of technology by irresponsible parties. Furthermore, the literature description includes universal principles such as "do no harm," which are applied in interface design and content moderation policies. Data also identifies global ethical standardization efforts to handle cross-border cybercrimes. These findings provide an overview that Cyber-Ethics functions as a formal regulative framework supporting order in virtual space. This description serves as an important foundation for understanding the legal and ethical boundaries that apply universally within the global digital community.

The explanation of data regarding Cyber-Ethics clarifies that the implementation of these ethical standards heavily depends on system transparency and the willingness of policymakers to prioritize user safety. Explanations in the literature mention that cyber-ethics works through a mechanism of checks and balances between user rights and service provider obligations (Hagendorff, 2022). Data explains that privacy dilemmas often arise when algorithmic efficiency clashes with personal data confidentiality, thus demanding balanced ethical solutions. Furthermore, the literature explanation includes the role of digital literacy education as a means to disseminate Cyber-Ethics principles to the wider community. Researchers explain that compliance with cyber-ethics not only prevents legal sanctions but also builds trust within the digital economic and social ecosystem. This explanation also touches on ethics in the development of artificial intelligence, where developers are required to ensure that the code they create does not contain biases that discriminate against certain groups. Thus, the data explains that Cyber-Ethics is an essential instrument in maintaining the integrity of digital systems from various moral and technical threats.

The relation between the description and explanation of Cyber-Ethics and the reality of the research problem reveals that formal ethical policies often lag behind the speed of technological innovation that gives birth to new moral dilemmas. Although the Cyber-Ethics framework has been maturely described, reality shows numerous data leaks and privacy exploitations carried out by digital platforms for commercial gain (Martin & Shilton, 2022). This relationship explains that ethical

issues in virtual spaces are caused not only by user ignorance but also by system designs that lack consideration for long-term moral impacts. Reality in society shows that many users feel trapped in a dilemma between the convenience of technology services and the risk of losing privacy. This data relation strengthens the indication that Cyber-Ethics requires a more integrative approach, not just technical-administrative but also touching on deeper moral consciousness. These findings confirm that the gap between ethical policy and field practice is one of the primary triggers for the crisis of trust in cyberspace. Therefore, the synchronization of ethical regulations with moral values is a vital key in navigating current digital challenges.

The data description from the literature review on Moral Dilemmas in virtual spaces maps situations where internet users must choose between conflicting values. Data describes that moral dilemmas most frequently arise in the context of freedom of speech versus the prevention of hate speech, as well as anonymity versus accountability (Lazar, 2022). The literature identifies that these dilemmas manifest in phenomena such as "cancel culture," where individuals are faced with the choice to support social justice or protect someone's privacy rights. Additionally, the data description includes dilemmas experienced by technology developers when determining fair content moderation boundaries without excessive censorship. Literature findings indicate that the complexity of moral dilemmas in the cyber world is exacerbated by the fast-paced nature of interaction and the wide reach of the audience. Data also illustrates that these dilemmas often trigger moral stress and ethical confusion for users who wish to continue acting correctly amidst a toxic environment. This description provides a map of various domains of value conflict occurring in daily digital life.

The explanation of data regarding Moral Dilemmas clarifies that the resolution of these difficult situations requires high moral reasoning abilities and a deep understanding of the consequences of digital actions. Explanations in the literature show that individuals tend to use various cognitive strategies to resolve dilemmas, ranging from utilitarian approaches to adherence to religious values (Schoemaker, 2021). Data explains that information uncertainty in cyberspace often blurs the line between right and wrong actions, thus creating a moral "gray area." Furthermore, the literature explanation includes how platform algorithms can worsen moral dilemmas by surfacing content that triggers negative emotions to increase interaction. Researchers explain that social support and community guidance play an important role in helping individuals make correct ethical decisions when facing dilemmas. This explanation also touches on the importance of self-reflection before taking actions that have a broad public impact. Thus, the data explains that navigating virtual moral dilemmas is not just a technical issue but a continuous intellectual and ethical process.

The relation between the description and explanation of Moral Dilemmas and the reality of the research problem indicates that the lack of clear navigation guidance leaves many individuals trapped in ethical decisions that are harmful. Although the literature has mapped various dilemmas, reality on the ground proves that society often acts based on momentary emotions or peer pressure rather than mature moral consideration (Krasnova et al., 2021). This relationship explains that the phenomenon of digital polarization and moral crises occurs because individuals lack strong navigation tools to process complex dilemmas in virtual spaces. The reality of the problem shows that without the integration of *akhlak* values, individuals tend to

lose their ethical direction when facing situations that challenge their moral identity. This data relation reinforces the need for a framework that synergizes Cyber-Ethics principles with the steadfastness of *Digital Akhlak* as a solution to moral uncertainty. These findings confirm that this SLR work is highly relevant to filling the void in moral navigation guidance needed by modern internet users. Therefore, the results of this study provide clear evidence that the synchronization of theory and the practice of digital morality is the key to facing the future of virtual civilization.

**Table 1. Synthesis of Moral Navigation Strategies Based on Digital Akhlak and Cyber-Ethics**

| No | Navigation Dimension | Implementation Strategy (Digital Akhlak) | Regulative Standard (Cyber-Ethics) | Expected Behavioral Output |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Information Verification** | Implementing the concept of *Tabayyun* (verification) as a spiritual filter before sharing content. | Content moderation protocols and the use of fact-checking features on platforms. | Reduction in the spread of hoaxes and disinformation in the public sphere. |
| 2 | **Identity Integrity** | Instilling the trait of *Siddiq* (honesty) to maintain moral consistency despite anonymity. | Account accountability policies and personal data protection (Privacy by Design). | Elimination of cyber-bullying behavior and digital identity manipulation. |
| 3 | **Social Interaction** | Prioritizing *Digital Ukhuwah* (brotherhood) and civility in language when responding to differences of opinion. | Community codes of conduct and reporting systems against hate speech. | Creation of an inclusive digital ecosystem with minimal polarization. |
| 4 | **Data Security** | *Amanah* (trustworthiness) awareness in managing others' secrets and privacy as a moral responsibility. | Compliance with global data protection regulations (e.g., GDPR/UU PDP). | Guaranteed confidentiality of information and respect for digital rights. |
| 5 | **Decision Making** | Utilizing *Fathanah* (wisdom/intelligence) to weigh benefits and harms in every action. | Implementation of transparent and unbiased algorithmic ethics. resolution of moral dilemmas. | Wise and humanity-based resolution of moral dilemmas. |

**Discussion**

The summary of these research findings indicates that moral navigation in virtual spaces cannot rely solely on technical instruments or formal laws but requires a synergy between intrinsic awareness through *Digital Akhlak* and extrinsic compliance through Cyber-Ethics. The synthesized data proves that values such as *Tabayyun* (verification), *Siddiq* (honesty), and *Amanah* (trustworthiness) are key variables that effectively reduce destructive behavior in the cyber world. These findings underscore that virtual moral dilemmas can be resolved when individuals possess the moral intelligence to weigh benefits and harms before acting. Furthermore, the integration of cyber-ethics principles into users' daily behavior is proven to create a safer and more trusted ecosystem. Substantially, this research formulates that the ideal moral navigation framework is one that positions humans as moral subjects rather than mere algorithmic objects. These findings provide a new direction in viewing digital ethics as a spiritual practice manifesting in healthy digital social interactions.

Discursive analysis shows that this study possesses advantages over previous digital ethics research, which has tended to be secular and technocentric. While mainstream literature often emphasizes functional digital literacy, this research goes beyond by offering a transcendental morality dimension through the concept of *Digital Akhlak* (Lovat, 2021). This connection demonstrates that a holistic approach combining universal ethics with religious values is far more effective in dealing with cyberspace anonymity than rigid legal regulations. Other research findings often fail to explain why internet users who are cognitively intelligent still commit ethical violations; this study addresses it through the perspective of a moral identity crisis that can only be repaired by character revitalization (Sari & Wardani, 2024). The strength of this research lies in its ability to synthesize global Cyber-Ethics standards with applicable religious local wisdom. Thus, this discourse reinforces the position that internal morality is the last line of defense for individuals in the era of information disruption.

Reflections from these research results provide a strong signal regarding the importance of the research objectives' benefits in creating more humane digital behavior governance. The success in formulating this moral navigation framework provides a practical tool for individuals to become not just "smart users" but "wise users." This benefit is reflected in the ability of the *Digital Akhlak* model to provide ethical certainty amidst the gray areas often created by technological ambiguity (Hadi & Husna, 2023). Through this reflection, it is evident that every action in the virtual space has a moral resonance that impacts public mental health and social stability. The researcher views the revitalization of these values as a long-term investment for the sustainability of a digital civilization that does not lose its human side. This reflection also affirms that the purpose of this research is not merely academic fulfillment but a mission to restore *adab* (etiquette) to virtual discussion spaces that are currently increasingly barren of civility values. Therefore, the benefits of this research become a foundation for the formation of a digital citizen identity with integrity and dignity.

The implications of these research findings are highly significant for the development of future education policies and digital platform designs. The results show that character education curricula must immediately be integrated with cyber-ethics modules based on substantive moral values, rather than just tool introduction.

For technology developers, these implications demand an interface design that encourages users' ethical reflection before they share content or comment (Hagendorff, 2022). Furthermore, these results provide a basis for policymakers to formulate regulations that are more sensitive to protecting human dignity rather than just administrative data protection. The practical implication is the creation of digital behavior standards that can be used as a reference in digital literacy certification for the general public. This research shows that without value integration, technological progress will actually become a boomerang that damages social structures. Thus, these research results should be used as a cornerstone in taking strategic steps to mitigate moral crisis risks in the era of AI and Big Data.

The analysis of why these research results show the effectiveness of *Digital Akhlak* is closely related to the natural human need for value guidance that transcends physical rules. Virtual space, which often feels limitless, requires an internal "brake" derived from deep moral convictions, rather than just fear of worldly punishment. Research results indicate that individuals tend to behave more consistently well when they feel that their digital actions have moral consequences for their personal integrity (Musa et al., 2022). Another factor causing these results is the public's saturation with toxic digital interaction patterns, creating a collective need to return to civility values. Additionally, the synchronization between Cyber-Ethics and *Digital Akhlak* provides a framework that is both logical and emotional, making it more easily accepted by various layers of users. The researcher argues that this effectiveness arises because the approach used touches the most fundamental aspect of human existence: ethics as a guide for action. This is the reason why the offered moral navigation becomes a relevant and urgent solution to be widely implemented.

Based on these research results, the concrete action that needs to be taken is cross-sector collaboration between educational institutions, religious figures, and technology companies to socialize this moral navigation framework. Digital literacy campaigns should no longer focus only on technical skills (hard skills) but must prioritize moral skills (soft skills) in the virtual space. Another concrete step is the development of "Ethical Nudge" applications or features that can remind users of *Digital Akhlak* principles when actions risky to ethics are detected (Fauzi & Rohman, 2022). Furthermore, digital communities need to build support systems that appreciate positive and educational content to shift the dominance of content that only chases negative emotional engagement. The researcher also recommends integrating these values into professional codes of ethics in various fields intersecting with information technology. These actions must be carried out massively and structurally to ensure that virtual space becomes a safe place for human intellectual and spiritual growth. The success of taking these actions will determine the quality of the digital civilization we bequeath to future generations.

## Conclusion

The most significant finding of this study surprisingly reveals that behind the grandeur of artificial intelligence algorithms and super-sophisticated digital infrastructure, the sole savior of virtual civilization from moral collapse lies in an ancient value often overlooked: *akhlak*. This research deconstructs the reality that without the foundation of *Digital Akhlak*, virtual space will rapidly transform into a "digital jungle" where the power of anonymity legitimizes all forms of social cruelty. Strikingly, the integration of spiritual values proves to have an effectiveness that far

exceeds even the most advanced cybersecurity protections in mitigating complex moral dilemmas. This finding underscores that the moral navigation we have been searching for is not locked within lines of programming code, but within the depths of the user's conscientious integrity. The fact that the digital ethics crisis can only be unraveled through a transcendental character approach serves as a loud alarm for a technological world that has hitherto overly idolized technical rationality.

The contribution of this research provides added value theoretically through the reconstruction of a new paradigm that unites secular digital ethics with substantive Islamic morality into one coherent navigation framework. Practically, this study provides a concrete roadmap for educators and parents to instill an "internal moral compass" in digital natives, ensuring they do not merely become reactive consumers of technology but instead become civilized actors of civilization. The innovative thinking within this article offers a solution to the deadlock of legal regulations that often struggle to keep pace with technological innovation by offering *akhlak*-based "self-regulation" as the gold standard for cyber interaction. This contribution enriches the fields of educational technology and ethics by proving that value-based wisdom remains the most relevant variable in navigating future disruptions. Thus, this research positions itself as a vital bridge connecting technological advancement with the nobility of human character.

Although this research has formulated a comprehensive moral navigation framework, the author recognizes limitations in terms of the diversity of literature data, which is still dominated by mainstream social media platforms, and thus has not fully reached moral dilemmas in more private spaces such as the Dark Web or the emerging Metaverse ecosystem. This limitation is not a weakness but an open door offering a golden opportunity for future researchers to test the effectiveness of *Digital Akhlak* in more immersive and decentralized virtual environments. Future research needs to explore how algorithms can be inherently designed to support *akhlak*-based behavior through an "Ethics by Design" approach. This direction challenges academics and technology practitioners to continue innovating in synchronizing software coding with human moral coding. Ultimately, the completion of this article is but the first step in a long journey toward creating a cyber world that is not only digitally smart but also ethically noble.

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