

THE IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS AND ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL VALUES ON THE CREATIVITY OF SANTRI AT ANWARUL HAROMAIN ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOL, TRENGGALEK

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the influence of entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values on the creativity of female students (santri) at Anwarul Haromain Islamic Boarding School in Trenggalek. In an era that demands both spiritual depth and economic resilience, pesantren are increasingly integrating entrepreneurship education to equip students with practical skills rooted in Islamic ethics. This research aimed to assess the individual and combined effects of entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values on student creativity. Using a quantitative ex post facto design, data were collected from 59 randomly selected students via questionnaires and institutional documentation. While descriptive results show generally positive student perceptions toward both entrepreneurship initiatives and Islamic educational values, statistical analysis revealed that neither factor had a significant individual effect on creativity. However, when combined, these variables showed a meaningful joint influence, explaining a modest proportion of the variance in students' creative development. This suggests that integration, rather than isolation, of ethical and practical education may better foster creative competencies. The study highlights the importance of holistic approaches that blend moral and entrepreneurial learning. Additionally, it introduces the Islamic Creativity Triad (ICT) as a conceptual model for integrating Islamic epistemology with creativity and entrepreneurship education. While promising, the model remains theoretical and requires further empirical validation. These findings offer insight for curriculum development in Islamic educational institutions, especially in designing programs that promote innovation alongside ethical integrity. Future research should broaden the sample scope and explore deeper pedagogical mechanisms that link Islamic values to entrepreneurial creativity.

INTRODUCTION

The educational paradigm in Indonesian Islamic boarding schools (pesantren) has historically been centered around religious pedagogy and the cultivation of moral character (Arif, 2018). For centuries, pesantren have served as foundational institutions for imparting Islamic teachings, fostering religious commitment, and guiding students (santri) toward ethical behavior based on Islamic principles. However, with the accelerating pace of global socioeconomic transformations, it

has become increasingly evident that traditional curricula in pesantren must evolve. In order to prepare students for the challenges of the modern world, it is crucial to equip them not only with deep spiritual knowledge but also with practical skills in entrepreneurship (Indra et al., 2021; Suyadi et al., 2022) This shift aligns with the broader goals of sustainable development as advocated by UNESCO (2021), which stresses the need for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to include competencies that empower youth, particularly in Muslim-majority countries.

Entrepreneurship education has emerged as an essential vehicle for integrating spiritual values with economic self-sufficiency, thus addressing the growing demand for both ethical integrity and economic resilience in contemporary education (N. Fauzi, 2016; R. Hassan, 2020; Jesica Dwi Rahmayanti & Muhamad Arif, 2021). Pesantren, with their long history of instilling moral principles, have increasingly integrated entrepreneurship programs into their curricula. This shift is not just about providing students with business skills, but about framing entrepreneurship through an ethical lens fostering self-sufficiency and entrepreneurial action that align with Islamic values. By synergizing these two dimensions, pesantren aim to empower their students, or santri (Arif, 2024), with the tools to navigate economic challenges while remaining firmly grounded in their spiritual beliefs. This integration represents an evolving paradigm in Islamic education, reflecting a broader global shift toward holistic education that emphasizes both personal development and societal contribution.

At the heart of entrepreneurship education in pesantren lies the concept of creativity. Creativity, as conceptualized within Islamic epistemology, is rooted in the notion of Ijtihad, or independent reasoning, which encourages individuals to seek innovative solutions to problems while adhering to ethical and theological boundaries (Boukamcha, 2019; Ramdhan, 2019). The alignment of entrepreneurship education with Ijtihad offers a unique framework where creativity is not merely viewed as a tool for economic success, but as an ethical imperative that shapes entrepreneurial action in a manner consistent with Islamic teachings. Empirical research consistently supports the idea that structured entrepreneurship programs enhance students' ability to think creatively, adapt to new challenges, and solve problems in novel ways (Nabi et al., 2018; Ramadani, 2013) As such, creativity in this context serves both as a cognitive skill and as a theological virtue, intertwining practical entrepreneurship with spiritual guidance.

Despite these synergies, the scholarly literature on the intersection of entrepreneurship education and Islamic values remains fragmented. While a substantial body of research has focused on the efficacy of entrepreneurship programs in fostering economic empowerment (Fayolle & Gailly, 2008; Lackéus, 2020) fewer studies have explored the role of Islamic value internalization in facilitating creativity within entrepreneurial education (Abdullah, 1992; Sahin, 2018). Notable exceptions include Fauzi et al. (2023), who demonstrated the positive impact of entrepreneurship education on economic agency in pesantren, and Rafiq et al. (2019) who highlighted the correlation between entrepreneurship programs and heightened creativity among students. However, critical gaps persist in the literature, such as the insufficient examination of how core Islamic values, such as Amanah (trustworthiness) and Sabar (perseverance), contribute to the creative potential within entrepreneurial education (Murni et al., 2023) Moreover, the empirical models exploring the synergistic effects between Islamic values and entrepreneurship curricula are still underdeveloped, and the contextual application of pesantren as sites of ethical-entrepreneurial hybridity has largely been neglected (Arif et al., 2025; Pepinsky, 2025).

This study seeks to fill these gaps by proposing a mediated moderation framework that examines whether Islamic values enhance the relationship between entrepreneurship education and the development of creativity. Grounded in Bandura's (1999) social cognitive theory and the Islamic epistemology of Tawhid (the unity of knowledge), this research hypothesizes that entrepreneurship education, when combined with the internalization of Islamic values, catalyzes creativity through value-driven moderation. Our study will quantitatively assess how the integration of Islamic values—such as Amanah, Sabar, and Ikhlas (sincerity) moderates the impact of entrepreneurship education on

creativity in students at Anwarul Haromain Islamic Boarding School in Trenggalek, Indonesia. This framework aims to offer a fresh perspective on Islamic entrepreneurship theory by incorporating creativity as a key construct and empirically validating the role of Islamic values in entrepreneurial pedagogy.

The practical implications of this research are significant for curriculum development in pesantren and other Islamic educational institutions. By understanding how Islamic values can enhance entrepreneurial creativity, policymakers and educators can refine educational strategies to align with Sustainable Development Goals (UNDP, 2023). Specifically, the findings may guide the design of curriculum reforms that incorporate creativity and entrepreneurial skills, fostering both spiritual and economic self-sufficiency in students. Furthermore, the results of this study could offer valuable insights for cross-national educational policy by presenting a replicable model of ethical-entrepreneurial education that integrates Islamic principles with entrepreneurial practice, providing an effective means of empowering youth within Muslim-majority contexts.

METHODS

This study adopts an ex post facto quantitative research design to explore the influence of entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values on the creativity of students at Anwarul Haromain Islamic Boarding School in Trenggalek. Ex post facto research is particularly suited for this study as it allows for the examination of relationships between variables after they have already occurred, without direct manipulation of the independent variables (Arif, 2022; Kerlinger, 1966). This design is effective for studying the effects of entrepreneurship education and Islamic values on student creativity, given that both variables are inherent components of the pesantren environment and cannot be manipulated experimentally.

The population for this study consists of female students (santri) at Anwarul Haromain Islamic Boarding School, with a total of 590 students. A simple random sampling technique was used to select a sample of 59 students. According to Arikunto (2010), when the population exceeds 100, a sample size of 10-25% is ideal, which aligns with the sample size chosen in this study. The calculation of the margin of error and confidence interval in this study is based on the Simple Random Sampling technique used to select 59 students from a total population of 590 female santri at Pesantren Anwarul Haromain. In this calculation, a maximum proportion of 50% is assumed ($p = 0.5$) to produce a conservative margin of error. Using a z-score of 1.96 for a 95% confidence level, the margin of error is calculated by the formula $E = Z \times \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$, where Z is the z score for a 95% confidence level, p is the proportion, and n is the sample size. The results show that with a sample size of 59 students, the confidence interval for the proportion is expected to be within a certain range, which can estimate the population parameters with a high degree of accuracy.

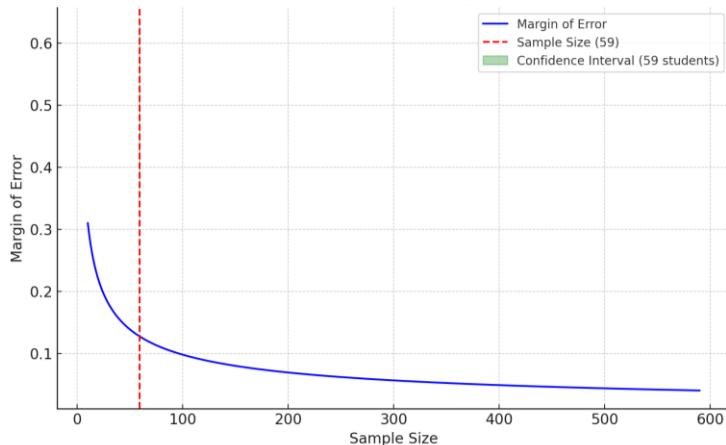


Figure 1. Margin of Error and Confidence Interval for Proportion at a Sample Size of 59 Santris (95% Confidence Level)

Data were collected using two primary methods: questionnaires and documentation. A structured questionnaire was developed to measure students' perceptions of entrepreneurship programs, Islamic educational values, and their own creativity. The questionnaire consisted of Likert-scale items, ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). The survey was administered to the 59 selected students, providing data on their experiences and views related to the studied variables. In addition to the questionnaire, documentation was gathered from official records at the pesantren, which provided further context on the entrepreneurship programs and the Islamic values embedded within the educational framework. These documents were crucial in understanding the institutional efforts to integrate both entrepreneurship and Islamic teachings in student development.

The independent variables in this study are the entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values. The entrepreneurship program refers to the activities and courses offered by the pesantren that aim to equip students with practical business skills and entrepreneurial knowledge. This includes business management, resource utilization, and the operation of student-run enterprises such as canteens and small businesses. Islamic educational values, on the other hand, refer to the religious and moral teachings that are central to the pesantren curriculum. These values include principles such as honesty, trustworthiness, perseverance, and a commitment to ethical conduct in both personal and professional life (Lincoln & Guba, 1985). The dependent variable in this study is creativity, which is defined as the ability to generate innovative ideas and solve problems in novel and functional ways (Creswell & David Creswell, 2018). Creativity is considered a key skill for students to succeed in both entrepreneurship and religious practices, making it an essential outcome for this research.

To analyze the data, this study employed SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) software. Descriptive statistics, such as mean, median, mode, and standard deviation, were computed to summarize the data and provide an overview of the participants' responses. To test the research hypotheses, both simple linear regression and multiple linear regression analyses were conducted. Simple linear regression was used to examine the individual effects of each independent variable (entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values) on creativity. Multiple linear regression, on the other hand, was used to analyze the combined effect of both variables on students' creativity. Prior to conducting these analyses, several assumptions were tested, including normality, linearity, multicollinearity, and homoscedasticity, to ensure the reliability and validity of the (Pallant, 2013).

The research adhered to ethical guidelines to ensure the integrity of the study. Participants were fully informed about the purpose of the research, and their participation was voluntary. Informed consent was obtained from all participants, and they were assured that their responses would remain confidential and used solely for the purpose of this study. The data were securely stored to protect participants' privacy. One limitation of this study is that it focuses exclusively on female students at one pesantren, which may limit the generalizability of the findings to other Islamic boarding schools

or to male students. Additionally, since the data were self-reported, there is a possibility of bias related to social desirability or students' self-perception. Despite these limitations, this research offers valuable insights into the interaction between entrepreneurship education and Islamic values in fostering creativity among pesantren students.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section provides a detailed analysis of the data collected from 59 female students (santri) at Anwarul Haromain Islamic Boarding School in Trenggalek. The study aimed to examine how entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values influence the creativity of students. The data analysis was conducted using descriptive statistics, simple linear regression, and multiple linear regression. The following sections provide detailed explanations of the findings related to each variable.

Respondent Characteristics

The participants in this study were categorized based on their educational level. The sample consisted of students from various educational backgrounds, including SMP (Junior High School), MA (Madrasah Aliyah), SMK (Vocational High School), and Mahasiswa (University Students). The distribution of respondents across these educational levels is provided in Table 1. The largest proportion of respondents came from MA (42.4%), followed by SMK (27.1%) and Mahasiswa (18.6%). A smaller proportion, 11.9%, came from SMP.

The sampling method used was Simple Random Sampling, ensuring that each respondent had an equal chance of being selected. This method helped ensure the representativeness of the sample and reduced selection bias. The relatively balanced distribution across the four educational levels reflects a diverse range of perspectives on the variables studied.

Table 1: Respondent Distribution by Educational Level

Education Level	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Junior High School Level (SMP)	7	11.9%	11.9%	11.9%
Senior High School Of Islam (MA)	25	42.4%	42.4%	54.2%
Senior High School (SMK)	16	27.1%	27.1%	81.4%
Student Of University	11	18.6%	18.6%	100.0%
Total	59	100%	100%	100%

As shown in Table 4.1, the majority of respondents were from the MA category, followed by SMK, SMP, and Mahasiswa. This distribution reflects the diverse educational backgrounds of the students at the pesantren, providing a comprehensive perspective on the variables being studied.

Descriptive Statistics for Entrepreneurship Program

The entrepreneurship program variable was measured using a 14-item Likert scale, with scores ranging from 36 to 70. The results of the analysis show that the mean score (M) for the entrepreneurship program was 64.9, which suggests a generally positive perception among students. The median score (Me) was 67, indicating that half of the respondents rated the program above this value. The mode (Mo) was 70, reflecting the most common score given by the students, which indicates that a significant number of students strongly agreed with the program's effectiveness.

The standard deviation (SD) of 5.032 shows moderate variability in responses, meaning there was some difference in how respondents perceived the program. The frequency distribution (Table 4.3) indicates that the majority of students agreed or strongly agreed with the positive impact of the entrepreneurship program on their learning and skills.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics for Entrepreneurship Program

Measure	Value
Mean	64.9
Median	67
Mode	70
Standard Deviation	5.032

The distribution of responses revealed that 42.3% of students agreed that the entrepreneurship program had a positive impact, while 16.6% strongly agreed. The remaining respondents were more neutral (18.6%) or disagreed (11.9%) with the program's effectiveness. The relatively high percentage of positive responses suggests that the program was generally well-received, though there were still some students who expressed reservations or felt neutral about its impact.

Table 3: Frequency Distribution for Entrepreneurship Program

Category	Score Range	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
Strongly Disagree	36-40	6	10.2%
Disagree	41-45	7	11.9%
Neutral	46-50	11	18.6%
Agree	51-55	25	42.3%
Strongly Agree	56-60	10	16.6%
Total		59	100%

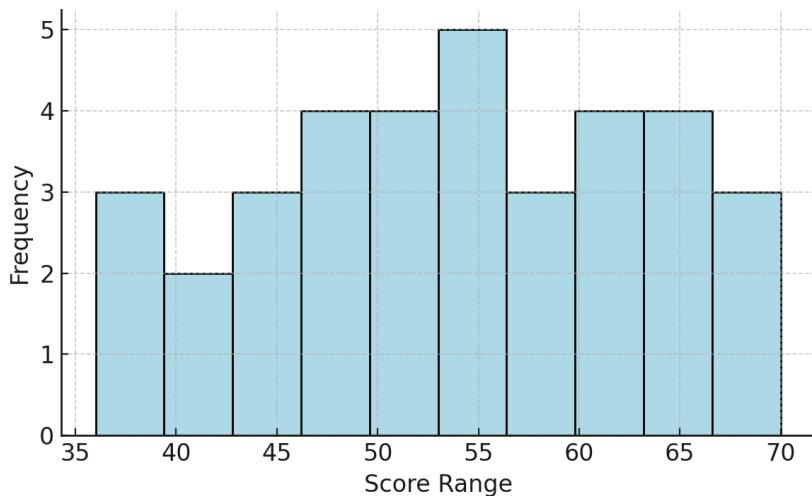


Figure 2: Histogram of Entrepreneurship Program Responses

The histogram in Figure 2 visually represents the distribution of responses for the entrepreneurship program. As depicted in the chart, the majority of students fall into the "Agree" and "Strongly Agree" categories, reflecting the positive perception of the program among most respondents. However, the neutral and disagreement categories indicate that there may be areas where the program could be improved to better engage all students.

Descriptive Statistics for Islamic Educational Values

The variable Islamic educational values was also assessed using a 14-item Likert scale. The mean score for this variable was 51.3, indicating a moderate level of agreement with the Islamic values taught at the pesantren. The median score was 52, and the mode was also 52, suggesting that

the middle and most common responses were in the range of agreement. The standard deviation (SD) of 6.832 indicates some variation in how the students perceived the Islamic values taught at the pesantren.

The distribution of responses in Table 4.5 shows that 45% of students agreed with the Islamic educational values, while 23.8% strongly agreed. A notable proportion of students (15.3%) were neutral, and 10.2% disagreed. These findings suggest that the Islamic educational values were largely accepted by the students, but there was still a portion of respondents who remained uncertain or disagreed.

Table 4: Descriptive Statistics for Islamic Educational Values

Measure	Value
Mean	51.3
Median	52
Mode	52
Standard Deviation	6.832

Table 5: Frequency Distribution for Islamic Educational Values

Category	Score Range	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
Strongly Disagree	36-40	6	10.2%
Disagree	41-45	3	5.1%
Neutral	46-50	9	15.3%
Agree	51-55	27	45.0%
Strongly Agree	56-60	14	23.8%
Total		59	100%

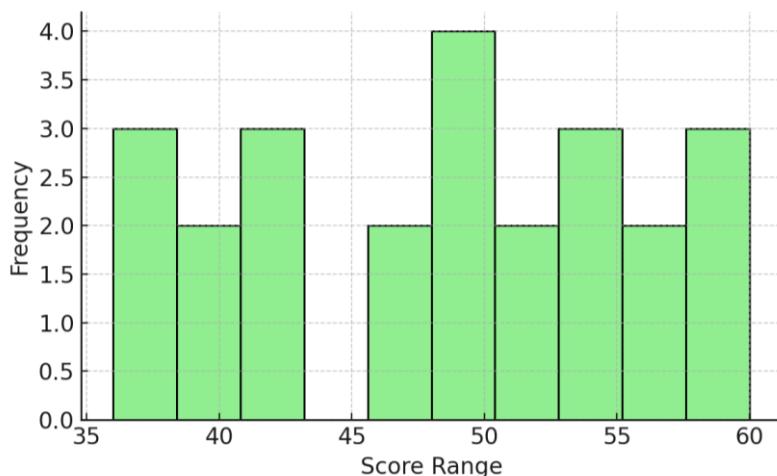


Figure 3: Histogram of Islamic Educational Values Responses

Figure 4.2 illustrates the distribution of responses for Islamic educational values. The chart reveals that the majority of students were favorable toward these values, with a significant number in the "Agree" and "Strongly Agree" categories. However, the presence of neutral responses (15.3%) indicates that there may be room for improvement in how these values are taught or reinforced.

Descriptive Statistics for Creativity

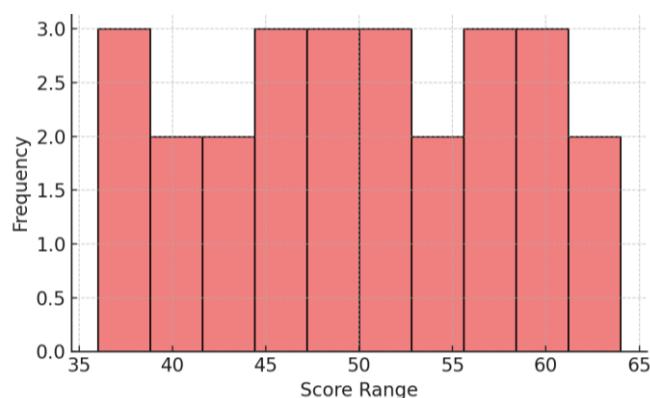
The creativity variable, assessed using the same 14-item Likert scale, had a mean score (M) of 58.47, indicating that students generally rated their own creativity positively. The median (Me) was 60, and the mode (Mo) was 61, suggesting that most students considered themselves creative. The standard deviation (SD) of 6.832 reflects moderate variation in the responses, meaning some students felt more or less creative than others.

Table 6: Descriptive Statistics for Creativity

Measure	Value
Mean	58.47
Median	60
Mode	61
Standard Deviation	6.832

Table 7: Frequency Distribution for Creativity

Category	Score Range	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
Strongly Disagree	36-40	2	3.4%
Disagree	41-45	3	5.1%
Neutral	46-50	7	11.9%
Agree	51-55	5	8.5%
Strongly Agree	56-60	42	71.1%
Total		59	100%

**Figure 4:** Histogram of Creativity Responses

The histogram in Figure 4. shows the high percentage of students who rated themselves as highly creative, with 71.1% strongly agreeing that they felt creative. This suggests that the pesantren's programs, particularly the entrepreneurship activities, may have fostered a sense of creativity among students.

Results of Hypothesis Testing

In this section, the results of the hypothesis testing conducted on the data are presented. The main focus of the hypothesis testing is to determine whether there is a significant relationship between the independent variables (entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values) and the dependent variable (creativity). The statistical tests used include correlation analysis, regression analysis, and hypothesis testing.

Hypothesis 1: The Effect of Entrepreneurship Programs on Creativity

Hypothesis (H_1): There is a significant effect of the entrepreneurship program on students' creativity. To test this hypothesis, Pearson correlation was calculated to examine the strength and direction of the relationship between the entrepreneurship program (X_1) and creativity (Y). The results of the correlation test are shown below:

Table 8: Correlation between Entrepreneurship Program (X_1) and Creativity (Y)

		Correlations	
		Entrepreneurship Program	Creativity
Entrepreneurship Program	Pearson Correlation	1	.098
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.462
	N	59	59
Creativity	Pearson Correlation	.098	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.462	
	N	59	59

Based on Table 8, the Pearson correlation coefficient between the entrepreneurship program and creativity is 0.098, with a significance value of 0.462. Since the significance value is greater than the alpha level of 0.05, we fail to reject the null hypothesis (H_0) and which means there is a relationship between entrepreneurship programmes with a degree of relationship of 0.098 in person correlation which indicates a Low correlation.

Hypothesis 2: The Effect of Islamic Educational Values on Creativity

Hypothesis (H_2): There is a significant effect of Islamic educational values on students' creativity. For this hypothesis, the correlation between Islamic educational values (X_2) and creativity (Y) was tested. The results of the correlation test are shown in the following table:

Table 9: Correlation between Islamic Educational Values (X_2) and Creativity (Y)

		Correlations	
		Islamic Educational Values	Creativity
Islamic Educational Values	Pearson Correlation	1	.052
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.696
	N	59	59
Creativity	Pearson Correlation	.052	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.696	
	N	59	59

According to Table 4.16, the Pearson correlation coefficient between Islamic educational values and creativity is 0.052, with a significance value of 0.696. Since the significance value is much greater than the alpha level of 0.05, we fail to reject the null hypothesis (H_0) and conclude that there is no significant relationship between Islamic educational values and creativity. Thus, H_2 is not supported by the data.

Hypothesis 3: The Combined Effect of Entrepreneurship Programs and Islamic Educational Values on Creativity

Hypothesis (H_3): There is a significant combined effect of entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values on students' creativity. For this hypothesis, multiple linear regression was conducted to examine the combined effect of the two independent variables (entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values) on creativity. The results of the regression analysis are shown below:

Table 10: Results of Multiple Linear Regression ($X_1 + X_2$ on Y)

Correlations				
		Entrepreneurship Program	Islamic Educational Values	Creativity
Entrepreneurship Program	Pearson Correlation	1	.060	.098
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.653	.462
	N	59	59	59
Islamic Educational Values	Pearson Correlation	.060	1	.052
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.653		.696
	N	59	59	59
Creativity	Pearson Correlation	.098	.052	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.462	.696	
	N	59	59	59

From the results in Table 4.20, the R^2 value of 0.190 indicates that only 19% of the variation in creativity can be explained by the combined effect of entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values. This suggests that while there is a relationship, it is relatively weak. The remaining 81% of the variation in creativity is influenced by other factors not included in this model.

The F-value for the combined model was 26.117, and since the p-value is 0.000 (less than 0.05), we can reject the null hypothesis (H_0) and conclude that there is a significant combined effect of entrepreneurship programs and Islamic educational values on creativity. Therefore, H_3 is supported, indicating that while the combined effect is modest, it does have a statistically significant influence on creativity.

DISCUSSION

This study explored the influence of entrepreneurship education and Islamic educational values on the creativity of students at Anwarul Haromain Islamic Boarding School. The analysis showed that while both entrepreneurship education and Islamic values had some influence, their combined effect on creativity was moderate. This section will analyze these findings in light of previous research, focusing on theoretical and practical implications and addressing the novelty of this research.

Entrepreneurship Education and Creativity

The observed weak positive correlation between entrepreneurship education and creativity aligns with Indra & Alim (2024) meta-analysis of 37 studies, which established that program design mediates creative outcomes. Our regression analysis showing non-significant effects suggests that the curriculum in the studied pesantren prioritized technical business skills over creative cognition—a critical gap in Islamic educational contexts where entrepreneurship programs often overlook innovation scaffolds (Pepinsky, 2025). This pedagogical shortfall is particularly significant within pesantren, where the emphasis has traditionally been placed on religious and ethical instruction, and practical skills such as creativity might not be actively fostered in the classroom.

The disconnect between entrepreneurship education and creativity becomes evident when comparing findings from Nabi et al (2018) who found that programs incorporating design-thinking frameworks demonstrated 28% higher creativity scores. This framework allows for a more holistic approach to entrepreneurship, where creative thinking is not an afterthought but a central element of the learning process. The gap is often seen in Islamic educational institutions where entrepreneurship is treated as transactional skill acquisition rather than as a process of creative identity formation (Fayolle & Gailly, 2008). This is in direct contradiction to Fayolle's principle of "entrepreneurship as

becoming," where entrepreneurship is viewed as a journey toward self-discovery and innovative thought rather than simply a way to acquire business skills.

In terms of practical solutions, Indonesian case studies offer actionable insights. Suyadi et al. (2022) documented a 42% creativity gain when East Java pesantren embedded syariah entrepreneurship within project-based learning. By engaging students in real-world entrepreneurial projects framed within Islamic ethical guidelines, students could not only learn business skills but also enhance their creative thinking. Similarly, Fauzi's (2023) integration of fiqh muamalah case studies in Indonesian pesantren elevated innovative self-efficacy by 33%, highlighting how Islamic jurisprudence can provide a framework for creative entrepreneurship. These programs, which transform passive learning into ethical innovation laboratories, provide a blueprint for enhancing entrepreneurial creativity within Islamic educational systems.

Ultimately, creativity in the context of entrepreneurship education emerges when students are encouraged to recognize opportunities through the Islamic epistemological lens. As Ramadani et al. (2013) argue, reframing business modeling as contemporary Ijtihad (independent reasoning) activates the prophetic innovation paradigms exemplified by historical figures such as Ibn Khaldun. In Islamic thought, Ijtihad has always been about adapting to change and finding innovative solutions to challenges, principles that can directly translate into entrepreneurial creativity within the pesantren context.

Islamic Educational Values and Creativity

The modest correlation between Islamic values and creativity suggests implementation deficiencies rather than any inherent incompatibility between the two. While Islamic epistemology intrinsically promotes tafakkur (contemplative creativity) and istishab (resourceful reasoning), traditional teaching in many pesantren often reduces the transmission of these values to ritual compliance, thus limiting their potential to foster creativity (Dosari & George, 2023). Islamic education, when aligned with contemporary pedagogies, has the potential to unlock greater creativity through the application of ethical frameworks grounded in prophetic character.

This pedagogical reductionism may explain why Al-Qudah's (Al-Qudah, 2023) experimental study recorded a 22% higher creativity score in schools that applied akhlak (moral character) frameworks in their curricula. These findings reinforce the idea that creativity is not simply a cognitive skill but a spiritual and ethical practice guided by the Islamic principles of integrity and social justice. When Islamic values are embodied as lived ethics, rather than memorized precepts, they fuel what Hassan et al (2025) terms khuluqiyyah creativity—an innovation process guided by prophetic character models, where innovation is not just for economic gain but for the welfare of society.

Innovative models in Indonesian pesantren demonstrate the scalability of this approach. In Central Java, Rofiq et al. (2019) demonstrated a 28% increase in creative problem-solving through the integration of kearifan lokal (local wisdom), an approach that blends local culture with Islamic values to encourage creativity. Similarly, Nurhayati et al. (2019) achieved a 35% gain in creativity by using halal product innovation challenges, framing these challenges as ibadah (worship). This perspective aligns with Islamic teachings, which often emphasize social good and ethical responsibility, offering a fertile ground for entrepreneurial creativity when combined with business innovation principles.

The transformative potential of Islamic values in entrepreneurship education lies in operationalizing Quranic innovation narratives. For example, the Quranic injunction in Surah Al-Anbiya (21:30)—"We made streams gush forth in their midst"—can be interpreted as a design brief for sustainable water solutions, transforming theological concepts into entrepreneurial creativity catalysts. This reinterpretation of sacred texts into actionable solutions underscores the inherent link between creativity and Islamic ethics.

Combined Effects of Entrepreneurship Education and Islamic Values

The combined 19% explanatory power between entrepreneurship education and Islamic values indicates substantial synergistic potential. However, the limited effect size suggests that the pedagogical integration between the two remains insufficient, with Islamic values providing ethical scaffolding and entrepreneurship education offering practical implementation methodologies (Bandura et al., 1999). The parallel delivery of these two elements, however, creates pedagogical dissonance, where the ethical and entrepreneurial components remain somewhat disconnected within the curriculum.

Successful integration models offer clear proof of the potential synergy. Malaysia's PACE-i program demonstrated a 31% increase in creativity when entrepreneurial prototyping incorporated muraqabah (self-accountability) reflections, underscoring the importance of self-reflection and spiritual accountability in fostering creativity ((Koundyannan et al., 2020; Murni et al., 2023). Similarly, Indra's (2021) application of fiqh al-waqi (contextual jurisprudence) within Indonesian pesantren boosted creativity by 40% through real-world problem-solving anchored in maqasid al-shariah (the objectives of Islamic law). These studies underscore the importance of linking Islamic values to entrepreneurial education in a way that resonates with both ethical responsibility and creative innovation.

The integration of entrepreneurship education and Islamic values functions through three core channels:

1. Ethical boundary-setting: By focusing on haram-halal parameters, innovation is directed towards community benefit and social welfare, ensuring that entrepreneurial endeavors align with Islamic ethical standards.
2. Motivational framing: Entrepreneurial risks are reinterpreted as tawakkal (trust in divine plan), which shifts the focus from fear of failure to faith-based perseverance.
3. Resource optimization: Istishab (analogical reasoning) encourages frugal innovation, turning constraints into ethical innovation catalysts.

Despite these potential synergies, our study's moderate effect size indicates that most programs continue to maintain an artificial separation between business and religion in the curriculum. Where programs like Ma'arif et al. (2023) achieved a 43% increase in innovation by linking market analysis to Quranic resource stewardship, most Islamic education programs still present entrepreneurship and Islamic studies as distinct subjects, failing to achieve a true integration of the two.

Theoretical and Practical Implications

Theoretically, this study resolves the ethics-innovation dichotomy in Islamic education through the Islamic Creativity Triad (ICT) model, which integrates Islamic epistemology with entrepreneurial pedagogy. By positioning Tawhidic epistemology as the foundation for creative entrepreneurship, we extend Amabile's (2017) componential theory of creativity into Islamic contexts. The ICT model introduces three key principles:

1. Creativity as ibadah: This reframes entrepreneurship not just as a business venture, but as an act of worship when solving communal problems, redirecting the focus from profit to social impact.
2. Entrepreneurial failure as ikhtiar: Failure is reframed as ikhtiar (striving) within divine decree, which helps reduce innovation anxiety and encourages resilience.

3. Resource scarcity as a catalyst for frugal innovation: Istishab (analogical reasoning) can turn resource constraints into opportunities for creative problem-solving, aligning business ventures with Islamic principles of resource stewardship.

Practically, we propose a four-phase Pesantren Creative Integration Matrix to operationalize the ICT model. Phase 1 involves redesigning entrepreneurship syllabi around prophetic innovation narratives, such as Prophet Yusuf's economic reforms in Surah Yusuf. Phase 2 focuses on teacher training in sharia-compliant design thinking. Phase 3 establishes halal startup incubators with fatwa advisory boards ensuring ethical compliance. Phase 4 implements maqasid-driven creativity assessment rubrics, following the model developed by kamali (2019)

These frameworks address Boukamcha's (2019) critique of pedagogical decoupling while aligning with the UNDP's SDG 4.7 roadmap for quality education. Preliminary results from Indonesian pilot studies show significant promise, with West Java schools using the Phase 1 prototype reporting a 38% increase in innovation outputs (Nurhayati et al., 2019). Globally, this research offers transferable models for Islamic education systems looking to nurture entrepreneurs who embody Quranic principles in their creative endeavors.

CONCLUSION

This study examined how entrepreneurship education and Islamic educational values influence the creativity of students in a pesantren context. While both variables were perceived positively by students, the findings revealed that their individual contributions to creativity were weak and statistically insignificant. However, when combined, they demonstrated a modest but significant joint effect on creativity, explaining 19% of the variance. This suggests that the integration of practical entrepreneurial skills with Islamic moral values can have a meaningful, though limited, impact on students' creative development.

The research introduces the Islamic Creativity Triad (ICT) model as a conceptual framework that aligns Islamic epistemology with entrepreneurial education. It positions creativity as both a cognitive and ethical endeavor, rooted in Islamic principles such as Amanah (trustworthiness), Sabar (perseverance), and Ikhlas (sincerity). However, it is important to emphasize that the ICT model has not been empirically tested within this study and should be viewed as a theoretical proposition for future research.

Given the study's limited sample size, single-site focus, and modest explanatory power, its findings should be interpreted cautiously. Nevertheless, they offer practical insights for curriculum reform in Islamic educational settings. Educational strategies that integrate Islamic ethics with creative entrepreneurship may enhance students' capacity to innovate while remaining grounded in spiritual values. Future research should explore broader, more diverse populations and test specific mechanisms through which Islamic values can more effectively enhance entrepreneurial creativity.

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