



## The Role of Wills in Controlling Social Culture from the Perspective of the Holy Quran

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### Abstract

Social culture is a set of values, beliefs, customs, symbols, and institutions that develop in a society over time and deeply influence the behavior, attitudes, and identities of individuals. Social culture is influenced by the evolution of society and social changes. Wills play a significant role in controlling social culture, and this influence can be observed in various forms such as shaping values and beliefs, changing customs and traditions, and altering behaviors. Since social culture plays a crucial role in shaping the collective and individual identities of individuals and in society's resilience against damages, the researcher seeks to explain the role of wills, namely the will of God and humans, in controlling social culture from the perspective of the Holy Quran. Through the examination of verses from the Holy Quran, 154 verses related to wills and 218 verses related to social culture were extracted. The main objective is to elucidate the role of wills in controlling social culture in society. This research was conducted using a qualitative method and based on the Grounded Theory, with software coding in MaxQDA and analysis of verses. The statistical community consisted of verses and interpretations and 120 experts in Quranic sciences and university professors, and efforts were made to select real relevant individuals in their fields. Data collection methods included library research and fieldwork based on questionnaires. SPSS and MaxQDA software were used for data analysis.

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Based on the research findings, in the realm of control and supervision, factors such as God's warning to humans, God's surveillance of hidden actions, human awareness of their behaviors on the Day of Judgment, recording and registering their deeds, God's specific knowledge of human actions, and in the realm of enjoining good and forbidding evil, factors such as the truthfulness of joiners of good, their upbringing and education, their truthfulness in enjoining good, their adherence to virtues, and the knowledge of joiners of good, hold greater importance.

**Keyword:** Holy Quran, Wills, Control, Culture, Society.

### **Introduction:**

The factor of willpower is utilized by enemies as a primary component in psychological operations within cultural affairs. Imam Khamenei (may God protect him) emphasizes this by stating, "If a nation is endowed with faith, raised with willpower, and taught the ability to make decisions, it will be victorious in all arenas—political, cultural, and military struggles." (Statements of the Supreme Leader, 06/15/1997). Given that the Holy Quran contains wise divine instructions, adherence to its eternal commands guarantees worldly honor and success in the hereafter. Therefore, it is appropriate to use the teachings derived from the enlightening verses of the Holy Quran as a model for overcoming enemies and to obtain clear, solid, and lasting strategies in the cultural domain. In this article, the researcher seeks to answer the question: What role does willpower play in managing and controlling social culture from the perspective of the Holy Quran? Hence, by referencing the verses of the Holy Quran, the role of willpower in controlling social culture will be examined, and appropriate countermeasures in the cultural field will be presented. The subject of willpower and social culture in the Holy Quran is vast; a thorough study of the Quranic verses revealed 154 verses related to willpower and 218 verses related to social culture, which were analyzed.

### **Research Methodology:**

This article, which aims to find practical solutions for controlling social culture from the perspective of the Holy Quran, uses a mixed-method grounded theory approach. Given that its ultimate goal is to apply the research results at various societal levels, particularly in optimizing cultural aspects, the research type is applied. The statistical population consists of Quranic verses, Quranic interpretations, 20 Quranic experts for assessing the questionnaire's validity, 120 respondents including Quranic scholars, university professors, and seminary teachers to answer the questionnaire ques-



tions. Field data were collected using questionnaires, and library data were gathered through document and record studies. SPSS and MAXQDA software were used for data analysis. Considering that the teachings of the Holy Quran are not limited to a specific time, the temporal scope of this research includes the Prophetic era, the time of the Imams, and the lives of Quranic scholars and commentators.

### Research Findings:

Based on the qualitative analysis of “the role of willpower in controlling social culture from the perspective of the Quran,” which is the main objective of the research, a dynamic process is required. In this process, the strategic category of divine will with concepts such as “Badaa, legislative, cosmic, compulsion, intrinsic and practical attributes, decree and destiny, will” and the central category of human will with concepts like “good and evil”—which are mechanisms for controlling social culture with the strategic category of divine oversight over human behavior and concepts like “manifestation of human behavior on Judgment Day, the importance of divine oversight, divine monitoring of human actions, the witnessing of divine entities over human deeds”—and the causal category of human oversight over each other’s behaviors with concepts like (guidance, affection, human dignity, justice, God-centeredness, truthfulness) and the central category of social control with concepts such as “encouragement, legality, vigilance, and divine limits” have significant impacts and contribute to achieving the ultimate goal and success in controlling social culture.

Based on quantitative analysis, the average response regarding the impact of divine will in controlling social culture (divine monitoring of human behavior) from the Quranic perspective is 4.68. It can be said that divine will has a significant influence on controlling social culture (divine monitoring of human behavior).

The concept of human will in controlling social culture (social control) with a score of 4.22 has the least impact on how wills influence social culture control (social control). By extracting the data averages and results from frequency means and percentages, it can be stated that 62.92% selected the option “very high,” 24.44% chose “high,” 10.69% selected “somewhat high,” and 1.94% chose “slightly high.” Thus, the absolute majority of the sample population (87.36%) considered the impact of will concepts on controlling social culture from the Quranic perspective to be at a desirable level.

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1. Based on the Friedman test in SPSS software, the following variables among 127 variables in the field of social culture control were identified as the most important and prioritized variables:

- Divine oversight: God’s warnings to humans, God watching over human secrets, humans





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