



Research Paper

Feasibility of Using Artificial Intelligence in the Process of Inferring Religious Rulings

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Abstract

Today, one of the most significant contemporary topics is artificial intelligence (AI). AI is a branch of computer science that simulates human intelligence, aiming to create intelligent machines capable of performing tasks that require human-like cognitive abilities. AI has entered and influenced various fields, including jurisprudence and inference. This article employs a descriptive-analytical method and utilizes library resources to analyze the capabilities of AI in accelerating the inference process and examines its various applications. Initially, the study analyzes the impacts of AI on reporting outcomes and altering foundational principles and jurisprudential tenets. It then investigates the role of this technology in preventing comparative errors and establishing a balance between technology and jurisprudence. The discussion also encompasses a comprehensive and qualitative perspective on jurisprudential sources, correcting the confusion between method and content, and identifying logical gaps in the process of inferring religious rulings through AI. Various methods and techniques for achieving these objectives are mentioned, including expert systems, natural language processing, machine learning, neural networks, and deep learning. The research findings indicate that utilizing AI can expedite and facilitate the inference process, enhancing accuracy and speed in this domain.

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Extended Abstract

1- Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI), as one of the most advanced and influential scientific achievements of our time, has created profound transformations in many fields, including technology, economics, health, and even humanities. This technology, which primarily simulates human intelligence in computer systems, can provide accurate, comprehensive, and rapid analyses of big data through complex algorithms and machine learning models. The increasing advancement of AI, especially in recent decades, has expanded the boundaries of knowledge and application to such an extent that even religious sciences, particularly the field of inferring Sharia rulings (*istinbāt al-ahkām al-shar'īyyah*), have not been left untouched by these developments. This necessitates addressing the role and capabilities of this technology in accelerating, improving accuracy, and comprehensiveness of the process of *ijtihad* and inference.

The inference of Sharia rulings, as one of the most complex intellectual processes in Islamic sciences, requires the use of diverse sources, precise analysis of texts, and identification of logical connections between principles and branches. In this context, AI, by providing tools such as Natural Language Processing (NLP), neural networks, and expert systems, has created new capacities to facilitate and enhance this process. On the other hand, challenges such as application errors, fundamental inconsistencies, and lack of comprehensiveness in examining sources are among the important issues that AI can effectively address.

This technology can improve the accuracy of the inference process by accelerating data analysis and identifying hidden connections between texts and principles, while also enabling faster addressing of emerging issues and novel topics. Furthermore, the use of AI in jurisprudential sciences can not only help improve research processes but also lead to more effective interaction between religious scholars and technology experts. Such interaction can pave the way for developing new methods for analyzing and interpreting religious texts, as well as providing principle-based responses to the challenges of emerging technologies. For instance, AI-based knowledge management systems can provide a suitable platform for convergence of opinions and resolution of conflicts by collecting and analyzing different perspectives.

This article comprehensively examines the capabilities of artificial intelligence in accelerating the process of inferring Sharia rulings. Initially, the concept of artificial intelligence and its history are analyzed to provide the necessary conceptual framework for understanding the position of this technology. Then, various applications of AI in jurisprudential sciences (*'ulūm al-fiqhīyyah*) and its effects on increasing the accuracy and speed of inference are examined. Subsequently, challenges related to the use of AI in jurisprudence (*fiqh*), such as potential errors in application and interference of principles, are discussed, and solutions to address them are presented. Finally, the role of this



technology in advancing comprehensiveness and qualitative analysis in jurisprudential sources and analyzing emerging issues is discussed, providing evidence and practical examples.

This research demonstrates that AI, despite some limitations, can be a valuable tool for enhancing the quality and quantity of the process of inferring Sharia rulings and provides an unprecedented opportunity for convergence of religious sciences and advanced technologies. This article, while presenting strategies for optimal use of AI in jurisprudence, strives to take an effective step towards adapting religious values to the requirements of contemporary life by opening a new horizon in this field.

2- Method

This research employs a descriptive-analytical method and has gathered its data from reliable library sources. In this study, while introducing AI tools such as Natural Language Processing, expert systems, and deep learning, the capabilities of each of these tools in the process of jurisprudential inference are analyzed. Additionally, through comparative analysis, the role of AI in reducing errors and increasing accuracy in inference is evaluated.

3- Result

The findings indicate that AI can assist in accelerating and improving the inference process in the following ways:

1. Reporting consequences and changing fundamental principles: AI, through rapid data analysis, provides the ability to predict the consequences of changes in fundamental principles (*'usoul*) and their impact on other jurisprudential rulings (*fiqh*). This capability helps jurists (*fuqahā*) make more accurate decisions.

2. Reducing application errors: One of the common problems in the inference process is errors resulting from incorrect application of fundamental principles to jurisprudential issues. AI minimizes such errors by accurately analyzing data and application patterns.

3. Enhancing comprehensiveness and qualitative analysis: One of the main challenges for jurists is the inability to comprehensively examine all relevant sources. AI, by analyzing and processing a vast amount of data quickly, enables a comprehensive and highly accurate examination of all relevant sources.

4. Reconstructing arguments: Many jurisprudential arguments in old texts are presented incompletely and without mentioning all premises. AI can reconstruct these premises by analyzing relevant principles and data, providing more complete arguments.

5. Examining emerging issues: AI, with its ability to quickly analyze new data and predict potential consequences, provides a powerful tool for examining novel and emerging issues.

4- Conclusion

The results show that AI can be used as an efficient and effective tool in accelerating and improving the process of jurisprudential inference. This technology, using tools such as Natural Language Processing and machine learning, can provide more accurate, comprehensive, and rapid analyses, thereby significantly increasing productivity in the inference process. Moreover, the ability of this technology to discover contradictions, reconstruct arguments, and predict the consequences of changing fundamental principles has made it an unparalleled tool in analyzing jurisprudential issues.



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6- Authors' contribution

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7- Conflict of Interest

Authors declared no conflict of interest

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