



Safeguarding Students' Faith: Understanding the Existence of Evil and Building Resilience Rooted in Islam



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Introduction for Educators

Understanding the existence of evil and suffering is essential for nurturing students' faith and resilience from a young age. Teaching this topic within an Islamic framework helps students recognize Allah's wisdom behind trials and tribulations, safeguarding their faith (iman) and certainty (yaqeen) as they confront life's challenges. **Addressing these complex questions is particularly important in a world where the issue of evil and suffering can sometimes lead to doubts and even disbelief, serving as a potential seed for atheism.**

This teaching approach enables students to comprehend why hardships exist, especially as they learn about struggles in their local communities and the broader Muslim Ummah, including in Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Yemen, East Turkestan, and other communities facing profound challenges. Grounding students in Islamic teachings on resilience, patience, and trust in Allah (tawakkul) equips them with a robust foundation, helping them to reconcile the presence of hardship with their faith.

Key Points:

1. **Strengthening Faith:** Helps students internalize Islamic teachings on patience, resilience, and reliance on Allah when witnessing or experiencing hardship, especially in global contexts affecting the Muslim Ummah.
2. **Fostering Critical Thinking:** Encourages deep analysis and understanding of theological principles, building a foundation for addressing complex realities faced by Muslims worldwide.
3. **Building Resilience:** Nurtures emotional and spiritual resilience, empowering students to navigate life's challenges without compromising their beliefs.

By exploring the wisdom behind trials and the existence of evil through the Quran and authentic Hadith, educators can help students build a mature, resilient, and well-informed faith. This approach strengthens their understanding of Islamic teachings on patience, resilience, and trust in Allah, equipping them to face adversity with confidence. It fosters empathy, a sense of solidarity with the global Ummah, and a deeper connection to Muslim communities enduring hardship. Addressing these challenging topics is essential to safeguard students' faith and protect against

doubt or disbelief, as grappling with the concept of evil can often lead to spiritual confusion. By nurturing a strong foundation rooted in Islamic teachings, educators enable students to develop a robust, enduring faith capable of withstanding life's trials and doubts.