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## Research Paper

### Application of Moral Values in Organic Agriculture

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## Extended Abstract

### Introduction

Agriculture has long been recognized as a fundamental pillar of human civilization, playing a crucial role in food production and economic sustainability. However, the intensive use of synthetic chemicals, fertilizers, and pesticides in modern agricultural systems has raised concerns regarding their detrimental effects on human health, environmental sustainability, and biodiversity. In response, organic agriculture has emerged as an alternative approach that promotes sustainability, ethical responsibility, and ecological balance. From an ethical perspective, agriculture is not merely a means of production but also a human endeavor deeply intertwined with moral and religious values. In Islamic teachings, agriculture is emphasized as a noble pursuit that aligns with the principles of ethical labor, environmental stewardship, and community welfare. Organic farming, with its focus on sustainability and minimal environmental impact, resonates with the Islamic emphasis on purity, balance, and responsible resource utilization. This study explores the integration of moral values in organic agriculture, examining its ethical foundations, environmental implications, and socio-economic impact.

### Methods

This study adopts a qualitative research methodology, grounded in an extensive and systematic evaluation of diverse sources of knowledge, including peer-reviewed scientific journals, classical and contemporary religious texts, and established ethical theories related to agricultural practices. The research draws upon key Islamic teachings that emphasize environmental stewardship, the ethical treatment of natural resources, and the moral obligations of humans as caretakers of the Earth. It also integrates principles of sustainability

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as articulated in the field of organic farming, exploring how such approaches seek to balance productivity with the preservation of ecological systems. In addition, the study engages with scholarly debates and philosophical discourse on the moral responsibilities of farmers, examining how ethical reasoning influences decision-making in agricultural contexts. Special attention is given to case studies of organic farming initiatives that explicitly adhere to recognized ethical frameworks, whether derived from religious doctrine, environmental ethics, or social responsibility standards. These case studies are analyzed to illustrate practical applications of theory, demonstrating how ethically guided farming can contribute to environmental conservation, biodiversity protection, and the enhancement of food security. By synthesizing these perspectives, the research not only identifies the ethical foundations of sustainable agriculture but also highlights actionable strategies for promoting a morally responsible and environmentally conscious agricultural sector.

## **Results and Discussion**

Organic agriculture is rooted in four core ethical principles: health, ecology, fairness, and care. The principle of health emphasizes the well-being of soil, plants, animals, and humans, advocating for farming practices that avoid synthetic chemicals and genetically modified organisms. The principle of ecology underscores the need for farming systems that work in harmony with natural ecosystems, preserving biodiversity and reducing environmental degradation. Fairness in agriculture pertains to social justice, ensuring equitable access to resources, fair wages for farmers, and ethical treatment of laborers. The principle of care highlights the farmer's responsibility to safeguard future generations by implementing sustainable farming practices. In Islamic ethics, agriculture is regarded as a trust bestowed upon humans by God, necessitating its responsible management. The concept of Halal (pure and wholesome) food production aligns with organic farming principles, emphasizing natural growth processes and the avoidance of harmful chemicals. Islamic teachings advocate for sustainable land use, water conservation, and ethical trade practices, which are integral to organic farming models. Empirical studies on organic farming indicate that it enhances soil fertility, reduces environmental contamination, and mitigates climate change impacts by lowering greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, organic farming fosters local food systems, empowering small-scale farmers and ensuring food security. However, challenges such as lower initial yields, higher labor costs, and limited consumer awareness remain barriers to its widespread adoption.

## **Conclusion**

The integration of moral values in organic agriculture is essential for achieving long-term sustainability and ethical food production. By adhering to ethical principles, organic farming supports environmental preservation, public health, and social justice. Islamic teachings further reinforce these ethical commitments by advocating for responsible land stewardship, equitable resource distribution, and ethical labor practices. Policymakers, agricultural stakeholders, and consumers should collaborate to promote organic farming through education, incentives, and supportive policies that align with ethical and religious values. Future research should focus on developing innovative solutions to enhance the efficiency and accessibility of organic agriculture, ensuring its viability as a sustainable alternative to conventional farming systems.

**Keywords:** Agriculture, Organic production, Islam, Human, Ethics.

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