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Da'wah Strategies in Responding to Social and Technological Change



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ABSTRAK

Tujuan: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis strategi da'wah dalam menghadapi perubahan sosial dan teknologi. Kajian ini didasarkan pada kenyataan bahwa pesatnya perkembangan teknologi informasi dan transformasi sosial telah mengubah pola komunikasi, interaksi sosial, serta akses masyarakat terhadap informasi keagamaan, yang sekaligus menciptakan peluang dan tantangan bagi da'wah kontemporer. **Metode:** Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode studi kepustakaan. Data dikumpulkan dari artikel jurnal, buku, prosiding konferensi, dan berbagai penelitian terdahulu yang berkaitan dengan da'wah, perubahan sosial, teknologi digital, dan komunikasi Islam. Analisis data dilakukan menggunakan analisis isi melalui tahapan identifikasi, klasifikasi, interpretasi, dan sintesis. **Temuan:** Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa strategi da'wah yang efektif meliputi pemanfaatan media sosial, penguatan literasi digital keagamaan, pengembangan da'wah yang moderat dan inklusif, penerapan pendekatan kontekstual yang disesuaikan dengan kebutuhan masyarakat, serta penguatan kolaborasi dengan berbagai pemangku kepentingan. Strategi-strategi tersebut memungkinkan aktivitas da'wah beradaptasi dengan dinamika komunikasi digital dan perubahan lingkungan sosial. **Implikasi:** Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa strategi da'wah yang adaptif dan berorientasi pada teknologi dapat meningkatkan efektivitas penyebaran da'wah serta berkontribusi terhadap pembangunan masyarakat yang berkelanjutan di era digital. Selain itu, temuan penelitian ini memberikan panduan praktis bagi para penda'wah, organisasi Islam, dan pembuat kebijakan dalam merancang program da'wah yang responsif dan inklusif terhadap peluang maupun tantangan yang ditimbulkan oleh transformasi sosial dan teknologi kontemporer.

Kata Kunci: Strategi Da'wah, Perubahan Sosial, Teknologi Digital

ABSTRACT

Purpose: This study aims to analyze *da'wah* strategies in responding to social and technological changes. The study is based on the premise that rapid developments in information technology and social transformation have reshaped communication patterns, social interactions, and access to religious information, creating both opportunities and challenges for contemporary *da'wah*. **Method:** This research employs a qualitative approach using library research. Data were collected from journal articles, books, conference proceedings, and previous studies related to *da'wah*, social change, digital technology, and Islamic communication. The data were analyzed through content analysis involving the stages of identification, classification, interpretation, and synthesis. **Findings:** The findings indicate that effective *da'wah* strategies include the utilization of social media, strengthening religious digital literacy, promoting moderate and inclusive *da'wah*, applying contextual approaches based on community needs, and fostering collaboration with various stakeholders. These strategies enable *da'wah* activities to adapt to the dynamics of digital communication and changing social environments. **Implications:** The study suggests that adaptive and technology-oriented *da'wah* strategies can improve the effectiveness of Islamic outreach and contribute to sustainable community development in the digital era. Furthermore, the findings provide practical guidance for *da'wah* practitioners, Islamic organizations, and policymakers in designing responsive and inclusive *da'wah* programs that address the opportunities and challenges of contemporary social and technological transformation.

Keywords: *Da'wah* Strategy, Social Change, Digital Technology

INTRODUCTION

Social change and technological advancement are closely interconnected phenomena that constitute key features of contemporary society. The unprecedented growth of information and communication technologies has generated fundamental transformations in multiple dimensions of human life, including social interaction patterns, educational systems, economic activities, and religious practices. These developments have significantly reshaped the way individuals communicate, access information, and engage with social and religious institutions in the modern era (Sinambela et al. 2025). The presence of the internet, social media, digital applications, and artificial intelligence (AI) has created a communication ecosystem that enables information exchange to occur rapidly, easily, and across vast geographical areas without being constrained by space and time. This development has significantly transformed communication dynamics in contemporary society, facilitating real-time interaction and expanding access to information on a global scale (Salsabila 2026). This condition has led society to become increasingly dependent on digital technology in fulfilling information needs, communication, and the development of social relationships. Consequently, digital platforms have become integral to everyday life, shaping how individuals interact, exchange knowledge, and maintain social connections in the contemporary era.

The development of digital technology has also transformed the way society accesses and understands religious information. In the past, religious knowledge was primarily obtained through Islamic study circles (pengajian), majelis taklim, Islamic educational institutions, or direct interaction with ulama and religious leaders (Cahyadi, et al. 2026). However, at present, people can access a wide range of religious information simply through electronic devices connected to the internet (Anshori and Gusnita 2026). Various digital platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, podcasts, and Islamic websites have become alternative sources for society in learning religious teachings. This ease of access provides significant opportunities for the dissemination of Islamic values to a broader and more diverse audience (Maulidna et al. 2025).

Da'wah, as an activity of inviting people toward Islamic values, plays an important role in shaping individual behavior and the social life of society. However, technological developments have transformed the characteristics of *da'wah* audiences. Today's society tends to access information more frequently through digital media rather than conventional media (Iryani and Syam 2023). Young people, as the largest group of digital technology users, tend to obtain religious understanding through the internet, social media, online videos, podcasts, and various digital applications. This condition requires *da'wah* practitioners to adapt their methods and strategies so that *da'wah* remains relevant to the needs of contemporary society.

In the context of Islamic *da'wah*, social change and technological advancement present both opportunities and challenges. Digital technology provides opportunities for *da'wah* practitioners and Islamic institutions to expand the reach of *da'wah*, enhance the effectiveness of message delivery, and establish more intensive communication with society. Through digital media, Islamic messages can be conveyed in various more engaging forms, such as videos, infographics, animations, podcasts, and other interactive content. The utilization of such technologies enables *da'wah* to reach segments of society that were previously difficult to access through conventional methods (Al ihsan Huda and Obianto 2025).

On the other hand, technological development also presents various challenges for *da'wah* activities. The rapid flow of information is often accompanied by the spread of hoaxes, hate speech, intolerance, and religious interpretations that are not in line with the principles of moderate Islam. In addition, social change characterized by increasing individualism, cultural globalization, and shifts in social values may influence people's understanding and practice of religious teachings (Yusuf and Musyafa 2026). Therefore, *da'wah* does not only function as a medium for conveying religious teachings, but also as a means of education and community development in addressing ongoing social transformations.

Various studies indicate that the utilization of digital technology can enhance the effectiveness of *da'wah* by expanding audience reach and facilitating access to religious content. A study by (Hogantara, Nirwana, and Fawwaz 2025) found that young people today are more interested in *da'wah* delivered through social media platforms. However, existing studies are still dispersed across various themes and have not yet provided a comprehensive overview of effective *da'wah* strategies in responding to social and technological change. Therefore, a literature review is needed to integrate findings from previous studies in order to obtain a deeper understanding of *da'wah* strategies that are adaptive to contemporary developments.

Based on the background described above, this article aims to examine various *da'wah* strategies that can be implemented in responding to social and technological changes, drawing on relevant research findings and literature. The study seeks to synthesize existing scholarly works in order to provide a comprehensive understanding of adaptive *da'wah* approaches in the contemporary digital era.

METHOD

This study employs a qualitative approach using library research. The literature review method is selected because the study focuses on the analysis and synthesis of various research findings and scholarly literature related to *da'wah* strategies in responding to social change and technological development. In library research, data are obtained from various relevant written sources, enabling the researcher to comprehensively understand the phenomenon under study without conducting direct field data collection (Haramain 2026). The data sources in this study consist of secondary data derived from scholarly journal articles, books, conference proceedings, theses, dissertations, research reports, and other academic documents addressing themes of *da'wah*, social change, digital transformation, social media, Islamic communication, and information technology development. The use of these various sources aims to obtain a broad perspective on the dynamics of *da'wah* amid contemporary societal changes.

Data collection was conducted through a systematic literature search across various academic databases: Google Scholar, Garba Rujukan Digital (GARUDA), and other online scholarly resources. The search employed keywords: *da'wah* strategy, digital *da'wah*, social change, information technology, social media, Islamic communication, and digital transformation. To ensure relevance and currency, the literature used was prioritized from publications within the last ten years, although several classical references with significant theoretical contributions were also included as conceptual foundations. Furthermore, the collected literature was selected based on several criteria, namely relevance to the research focus, credibility of the sources, quality of publication, and contribution to the discussion of *da'wah* strategies in addressing social and technological changes. Literature that was not relevant to the research theme or had low academic quality was excluded from the analysis process.

Data analysis in this study was conducted using content analysis. This technique is applied to identify, categorize, and interpret information contained in various literature sources (Sitasari 2022). The analysis process begins with the identification of relevant sources, followed by data classification based on the main themes of the study: social change, digital technological development, *da'wah* opportunities, *da'wah* challenges, and *da'wah* adaptation strategies. Subsequently, interpretation is carried out on findings obtained from various literature sources to identify patterns, trends, and relationships among concepts related to *da'wah* strategies in the digital era. This process enables a comprehensive understanding of how *da'wah* adapts to contemporary social and technological transformations (Fatimah, Zen, and Fitriasia 2025). This process enables a comprehensive understanding of how *da'wah* adapts to contemporary social and technological transformations.

RESULTS

Social Change and Its Implications for *Da'wah* Practices

Social change is a process of transformation occurring within society that encompasses changes in social structures, value systems, norms, patterns of interaction, and the behavior of individuals and groups. Such changes may occur gradually or rapidly, depending on the influencing factors (Sukmana et al. 2025). One of the most dominant factors driving social change in the modern era is the development of information and communication technology. Technological advancement has transformed nearly all aspects of human life, ranging from communication, work, and learning to religious practices. These changes have created a society that is increasingly open to diverse information, ideas, and cultures from various parts of the world (Tawaqal and Meltareza 2022).

The development of the internet and digital media has accelerated the process of globalization, leading to increasingly blurred geographical and cultural boundaries. Society today can access a wide range of information instantly through their digital devices. This condition has given rise to an information society, in which life is highly dependent on the production, distribution, and consumption of information. As a result, people's ways of thinking have become more rational, critical, and selective in accepting various types of information, including religious content. Religious authority, which was previously largely centered on ulama, Islamic boarding schools (*pesantren*), and religious institutions, has gradually shifted as individuals can now obtain religious knowledge from a wide range of digital sources available on the internet (Swastiwi 2024).

In the context of Islamic *da'wah*, social change has had a significant impact on the characteristics of the *mad'u* (the target audience of *da'wah*). In the past, religious knowledge was primarily obtained through direct interaction with ulama, study circles, *majelis taklim*, and mosque sermons. However, in the digital era, people tend to access religious information through social media, online video platforms, religious applications, podcasts, and Islamic websites. This shift has transformed *da'wah* communication patterns from one-way communication to two-way communication that is more interactive and participatory. Society is no longer merely a passive recipient of messages but also actively provides responses, comments, and critiques, as well as produces and disseminates religious content through digital media (Hardianto, 2025).

In addition to transforming *da'wah* communication patterns, social change also influences society's needs and expectations regarding *da'wah* content. Modern society tends to prefer *da'wah* materials that are

practical, contextual, and capable of providing solutions to various life challenges they encounter (Iftitakhurrohmah and Pratiwi 2025). Therefore, *da'wah* should not be limited to ritual and worship aspects alone, but must also address contemporary social issues such as social media ethics, family resilience, mental health, religious moderation, tolerance, environmental sustainability, and the impact of technological development on human life. In this regard, *da'wah* is required to be more adaptive and relevant to evolving social realities.

On the other hand, social change influenced by technological development has also given rise to various new challenges in society. Phenomena such as moral decline, decreasing social concern, increasing individualism, consumerist culture, hedonistic lifestyles, and dependence on technology have become increasingly evident in modern life (Aisy et al. 2025). In addition, the rapid flow of digital information also creates opportunities for the emergence of hoaxes, hate speech, intolerance, and the spread of extremist religious ideologies. These phenomena may negatively affect the quality of social life and religious understanding if they are not balanced with proper and moderate religious knowledge.

This condition makes Islamic *da'wah* increasingly strategic in modern society. *Da'wah* does not only function as a means of conveying religious teachings but also as an instrument of social transformation aimed at shaping a morally upright, tolerant, and socially aware society. In responding to ongoing changes, *da'wah* is required to provide both spiritual guidance and solutions to social problems arising from contemporary developments. *Da'wah* must serve as a moral force that directs society to utilize technological advancements wisely while remaining firmly grounded in Islamic values (Millasari, Asfufah, and Mujidah 2025).

Therefore, social change in the digital era should not be viewed merely as a threat, but also as an opportunity for the development of Islamic *da'wah*. Technological advancement can be utilized as a means to expand the reach of *da'wah*, enhance the effectiveness of religious communication, and build closer interaction with society. However, the success of *da'wah* in responding to such social changes largely depends on the ability of *da'i* and *da'wah* institutions to understand the characteristics of modern society and to develop innovative, adaptive, and contextually relevant strategies in line with contemporary developments.

The Role of Technology in *Da'wah* Transformation

The development of information and communication technology has brought significant changes to various aspects of human life, including the implementation of Islamic *da'wah*. Technology no longer functions merely as a communication tool but has become an integral part of modern society that influences how individuals access information, interact, and construct religious understanding. In the context of *da'wah*, technological advancement offers substantial opportunities to expand the reach of Islamic teachings while also enhancing the effectiveness of communication between *da'i* and *mad'u* (Rizqy et al. 2023).

Digital transformation has changed the pattern of *da'wah*, which was previously conducted predominantly through conventional methods such as sermons in mosques, Islamic study circles, and religious forums, into *da'wah* that utilizes various digital platforms. The presence of the internet enables Islamic messages to be delivered quickly and accessed anytime and anywhere. Various digital platforms such

as YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, X (Twitter), podcasts, and mobile-based applications have become new media widely used to convey *da'wah* materials to society. Through these platforms, *da'i* can reach a broader audience without being limited by space, time, or geographical conditions (Hasby, Munadi, and Hajiannor 2025).

The utilization of technology in *da'wah* offers several advantages that are not found in conventional *da'wah* methods. First, technology enables the global expansion of *da'wah* reach. While *da'wah* was previously limited to audiences physically present in religious gatherings, *da'wah* content can now be accessed by millions of internet users from various regions, including across national borders. This makes *da'wah* more inclusive and capable of reaching diverse social, cultural, and age groups (Siswanto et al. 2025). Second, the use of digital media can improve the efficiency of disseminating religious information. The cost required to produce and distribute digital content is relatively lower compared to organizing direct *da'wah* activities, which require venues, transportation, and various supporting facilities. With technological support, *da'wah* materials can be produced once and accessed repeatedly by the public without incurring significant additional costs (Hasanah 2024). This condition provides opportunities for *da'wah* institutions to optimize their available resources in spreading Islamic messages.

Third, technology enables the presentation of *da'wah* materials in a variety of more engaging formats that are in line with the characteristics of modern society. *Da'wah* is no longer delivered solely in the form of verbal lectures, but can be packaged through short videos, infographics, animations, podcasts, e-books, live streaming, and other interactive content. This variety of media allows *da'wah* messages to be conveyed more creatively, making them easier to understand and more appealing to different audiences, especially the younger generation who are active users of digital media. The use of visualization, graphic design, and multimedia technology has been proven to increase the attractiveness and effectiveness of delivering religious messages (Praselanova 2025).

In addition, technology also encourages more interactive forms of *da'wah* communication. Social media enables dialogue between preachers and audiences through comment features, direct messages, live streaming, and online discussion forums. This interaction provides opportunities for the public to ask questions, give responses, and discuss various religious issues they encounter (Santono et al. 2025). Thus, *da'wah* no longer takes place in a one-way manner, but rather develops into a more participatory and responsive communication process that addresses the needs of society.

Strategies of Da'wah in Facing Social and Technological Change

Social change and technological development have created new dynamics in the implementation of Islamic *da'wah*. Advances in digital technology have transformed patterns of communication in society, ways of accessing information, and the characteristics of *da'wah* audiences. This condition demands a transformation in *da'wah* strategies in order to remain relevant, effective, and capable of addressing the needs of modern society. *Da'wah* is no longer focused solely on delivering religious teachings in a conventional manner, but must also be able to utilize technological developments as a means to spread Islamic values widely and sustainably. Therefore, adaptive strategies are needed in response to social and technological change so that *da'wah* can function optimally.

1. Digital *Da'wah* based on Social Media

Social media has become one of the most influential communication instruments in modern society. Platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, X (Twitter), and podcasts provide great opportunities for preachers and *da'wah* institutions to deliver Islamic messages more widely to the public. The presence of social media enables *da'wah* to reach various age groups, educational backgrounds, and geographical areas that were previously difficult to access through conventional *da'wah* methods (Huda et al. 2025).

Digital *da'wah* strategies based on social media are implemented by utilizing various digital platforms as a means of disseminating religious messages that are educational, inspiring, and easy to understand. *Da'wah* content can be packaged in various forms such as short videos, infographics, animations, podcasts, digital articles, and live streaming (Siregar 2025). The use of diverse content formats allows *da'wah* messages to be more engaging and aligned with the characteristics of digital society, which tends to prefer concise, visual, and interactive information. In addition, the success of *da'wah* on social media greatly depends on the ability of preachers to understand audience characteristics and evolving digital communication trends. The use of communicative language, attractive design, and the delivery of content that is relevant to everyday life can increase audience engagement (Faqih et al. 2026). Thus, social media is not only a medium for disseminating religious information, but also a space of interaction that enables more dynamic religious dialogue and learning.

2. Strengthening Religious Digital Literacy

The rapid development of information technology has caused society to obtain information from various sources with varying levels of credibility. In this context, digital literacy becomes a very important need, both for preachers and for the public as recipients of *da'wah* messages. Digital literacy not only includes the ability to use technology, but also the ability to understand, evaluate, and utilize information critically and responsibly (Raharjo, Kom, and Kom 2024).

For preachers, strengthening digital literacy is necessary so that they are able to utilize technology optimally in *da'wah* activities. Skills in managing social media, producing digital content, understanding digital platform algorithms, and applying communication ethics in cyberspace are important competencies in the digital era. Mastery of these skills enables *da'wah* to be delivered more effectively and to compete with various types of information circulating in digital media (Ibad 2025). Meanwhile, for the public, religious digital literacy serves as a means to improve the ability to filter accurate and trustworthy information. Society needs to be equipped with the skills to identify credible information sources, verify the accuracy of religious content, and avoid the spread of hoaxes, hate speech, and content containing elements of radicalism (Humairah et al. 2025). With improved digital literacy, people can utilize technology as a positive medium for religious learning while also being protected from various forms of religious disinformation.

3. Moderate and Inclusive *Da'wah*

The digital era enables society to access various thoughts, ideologies, and religious perspectives from different parts of the world. This ease of access to information brings positive impacts in the form of broader

public insight, but on the other hand, it also has the potential to give rise to intolerant attitudes, exclusivism, and social conflict if not addressed wisely. Therefore, one of the important strategies in contemporary *da'wah* is to prioritize the values of religious moderation, tolerance, and inclusivity (Kadir 2025).

Moderate *da'wah* emphasizes the importance of a balanced attitude in understanding and practicing Islamic teachings. This approach avoids extreme positions, whether in the form of radicalism or excessive liberalism. Moderate *da'wah* seeks to present Islam as a religion that brings mercy to all creation (rahmatan lil 'alamin), upholding the values of justice, humanity, and peace (Fadly, Trisoni, and Yahya 2025). Furthermore, inclusive *da'wah* is also important in a pluralistic society. *Da'wah* is not only aimed at strengthening the religious understanding of Muslims, but also at building harmonious social relations with various groups in society. Through an inclusive approach, *da'wah* can play a role in strengthening unity, encouraging interfaith dialogue, and preventing conflicts arising from differences in views and beliefs.

4. Contextual Approach

The effectiveness of *da'wah* is greatly influenced by the ability of preachers to understand the social, cultural, and needs of the community that becomes the target of *da'wah*. Therefore, a contextual approach becomes an important strategy in facing continuously evolving social change. This approach emphasizes that *da'wah* messages must be delivered by taking into account the realities of people's lives so that they are easier to understand and apply in daily life (Sinambela et al. 2025):

In modern society, various issues such as changes in family patterns, the influence of digital media, mental health, moral crises, environmental concerns, and economic challenges are issues that are closely related to people's daily lives (Maghfiroh, Sahara, and Wahyuni 2024). Therefore, *da'wah* content needs to be connected to these various issues so that people can directly experience the benefits of Islamic teachings in addressing the problems they face. The contextual approach also requires the use of simple, communicative language that is appropriate to the characteristics of the audience. For example, the younger generation is more receptive to *da'wah* messages that are packaged in light and relatable language, supported by attractive visuals, and delivered through media they use in their daily lives. In this way, *da'wah* becomes more relevant, applicable, and capable of responding to the needs of contemporary society.

5. Collaboration with Various Stakeholders

The development of *da'wah* in the digital era cannot be carried out individually; rather, it requires collaboration among various stakeholders. The complexity of contemporary social and technological challenges demands synergy between preachers, educational institutions, religious organizations, government agencies, mass media, digital communities, and society at large. Such collaboration can be implemented through various initiatives, including the development of religious digital literacy programs, the production of high-quality *da'wah* content, training programs on the utilization of digital technology for preachers, and the organization of community-based *da'wah* activities. Cooperation with educational institutions can strengthen the integration of *da'wah* and character education, while collaboration with government agencies can support the promotion of religious moderation, social harmony, and the dissemination of values that foster peaceful coexistence within a diverse society (Zaman 2025).

In addition to expanding the reach of *da'wah*, collaboration also facilitates innovation in *da'wah* methods and media. Through collaborative efforts, various stakeholders can share resources, knowledge, and experiences, thereby enabling the development of more effective, innovative, and sustainable *da'wah* programs. Such partnerships contribute to enhancing the quality and impact of *da'wah* activities, ensuring their relevance and responsiveness to the evolving needs of contemporary society (Uyuni 2023). Therefore, collaboration constitutes a crucial strategy for strengthening the role of *da'wah* as a means of community development and guidance amid increasingly complex social changes and technological advancements. Through effective collaboration, *da'wah* can enhance its capacity to address contemporary challenges, promote positive social transformation, and contribute to the development of a resilient, informed, and harmonious society.

Overall, *da'wah* strategies in responding to social change and technological advancement must be adaptive, innovative, and oriented toward the needs of society. The effective utilization of digital media, the strengthening of digital literacy, the promotion of moderate and inclusive *da'wah*, the implementation of contextual approaches, and collaboration among various stakeholders represent strategic measures for enhancing the effectiveness of *da'wah*. These efforts can contribute significantly to guiding society toward a more religious, harmonious, and civilized way of life in the digital era. Furthermore, such strategies enable *da'wah* to remain relevant and responsive to contemporary challenges while reinforcing its role as a catalyst for positive social transformation and sustainable community development.

CONCLUSION

Social change and technological advancement have brought significant transformations to the implementation of Islamic *da'wah*. The rapid development of information and communication technology has altered patterns of social interaction, methods of accessing information, and the characteristics of *mad'u* (*da'wah* audiences), who are increasingly critical, open-minded, and dependent on digital media. These conditions require *da'wah* activities to adapt to contemporary developments in order to remain relevant and capable of addressing the needs of modern society.

The findings of this literature review indicate that technological advancement provides substantial opportunities for the development of *da'wah* through the expansion of communication reach, easier access to religious information, and the presentation of *da'wah* materials in more engaging and interactive formats. However, technological development also poses various challenges, including the spread of religious misinformation, increasing competition for information in digital media, the emergence of extremist ideologies, and the decline of social interaction quality due to the growing influence of digital culture.

To address these challenges, adaptive and innovative *da'wah* strategies are essential. Such strategies include the utilization of social media as a platform for digital *da'wah*, the strengthening of religious digital literacy among preachers and communities, the promotion of moderate and inclusive *da'wah* approaches, the implementation of contextual methods that align with societal needs, and the enhancement of collaboration among preachers, educational institutions, religious organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders. These strategies represent crucial measures for improving the effectiveness of *da'wah*

while reinforcing the role of Islam as a source of values and guidance in responding to ongoing social change.

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ETHICAL STATEMENT

This research is carried out by adhering to the principles of research ethics that uphold respect for human rights, human dignity, fairness in the treatment of research subjects, balance between benefits and risks, and scientific integrity, which includes honesty and openness in reporting data and research results.

AI DECLARATIONS

The authors declare that artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted tools were used to support the literature review process in the introduction, particularly for identifying relevant studies and improving clarity of synthesis. All interpretations, critical analyses, and scholarly judgments remain the full responsibility of the authors.