



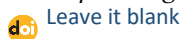
Research Paper

## Islamic Business Ethics on The Using Bots in The Completion of Daily Quests in The Game Growtopia

M. Khoirus Syifa', Nurul Huda, Lisa Aminatul Mukarromah

Universitas Nahdlatul Ulama Sunan Giri, Bojonegoro

Corresponding email: [Khoirusyifa0708@gmail.com](mailto:Khoirusyifa0708@gmail.com)



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### ABSTRACT

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The mechanism of using bots in the game Growtopia is indicated to violate the principles of Islamic business ethics according to Naqvi's theory. This is because the use of bots can create an imbalance within the game's ecosystem and cause losses to other players. The imbalance refers to the lack of sportsmanship among players. The losses suffered by other players include falling behind in virtual item productivity, and developers also experience losses as this can reduce the integrity of the game developers, who are perceived as unable to provide a healthy ecosystem for players. This research uses a descriptive-qualitative method with data collected through observation, interviews, and documentation. After conducting the research, it was found that the use of bots in Growtopia violates Islamic business ethics principles of balance, free will, and responsibility. While bots can provide efficiency in completing daily tasks, this ultimately undermines the integrity of the game and creates unfairness among players. The use of bots makes the game unfair because players using bots gain unreasonable advantages compared to those who play honestly. Growtopia imposes penalties in the form of bans on accounts detected using bots in the game.

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### Introduction

Today's technological advances force humans to live not only in the real world, but humans also have a new world called the digital world. In the digital world we can get many things, even we can also earn money from the digital world. We can also make transactions like in the real world. In addition, many also take advantage of the digital world as a place to have fun by playing online games. Online games can also be played by anyone from all walks

of life. There are also several types of online games that are in demand by people such as FPS games, MMORPGs, Simulators, Sandboxes, and others. Games that can be played casually are like simulator games and Sandbox, simulator games are like the name itself which carries the theme of simulation, can simulate being an animal, an object, to the desired job or life from start to finish. Meanwhile, the game with the Sandbox theme frees the player to create an item that is desired and that has been deprogrammed or provided by the game developer (Husnul Abdi, 2023).

This sandbox game can be played online and can meet other players between countries who free their players to be creative in such games. One of these games is Growtopia, in which players are free to create with predetermined limits such as the maximum items that can be made and also in the game in addition to being exempt from making any items, players can also make transactions between players with the "Trade" feature. Players who use bots to complete daily quests have the potential to violate the rules that have been determined by the developer of the Growtopia game. It has been conveyed at the beginning of the game that every player must obey the rules and regulations in the End User License Agreement (EULA). Otherwise, the player (player) will get sanctions from the developer.

Islam emphasizes the development of human characteristics that have a strong sense of morality in the context of relationships between individuals, society, and the environment. Where Allah expressly warns Muslims as followers of the Prophet. Or it can be described as an organism that has a sense of common purpose, has a clear direction and purpose, and collective laws that function as mediators or justifications. In the economic structure, in order for the quality of imbalance to cover all human effort, it is necessary to address some of the associated side effects, such as the interdependence between consumption, distribution, and production, which must be considered in order to reduce the effects of business cycle constraints on individuals. Therefore, cooperation and harmony are the basic principles that must be applied in economic activities. If conflicts arise in one region, then social harmony will spread to the entire community. Because of this principle, there will be various types of monopoly, excessive accumulation, inefficient use of resources, and concentration of economic power in the hands of certain individuals or groups.

This balance and fairness have not been able to be fully realized in the world of online games, one example of an obstacle to the realization of justice and balance is the increasing use of bots in the game Growtopia which violates user rules. Bots are used to perform automated actions in the game, such as farming, trading, or earning profits without the active involvement of the player. The use of these bots indicates a violation of the rules set by the game developer and can harm the gaming experience of other players. In the perspective of sharia economic law, the use of bots that violate the rules can be considered an unfair and detrimental act.

This practice is contrary to the principle of fairness in Islamic business ethics which emphasizes the importance of equality and fairness in economic transactions. The use of bots to gain an unfair advantage, such as mining resources or currency in the game without the active participation of the player, violates the principles of fairness and fair play in the game. The use of bots that violate the rules can also be considered an act of cheating or injustice in play.

Previous research entitled "Juridical Review of the Practice of Buying and Selling with the Real Money Trading System in the Growtopia Game" by Achmad Ubaidillah, The results of the study showed that the buying and selling practices that are commonly carried out by growtopia players from the Growtopia Indonesia Discord community violate both civil law and Islamic law on the object being traded in the halal aspect or violate existing regulations or not. It turns out that it is explained in the terms of use of Ubisoft's service that only gives users a non-exclusive license to use Ubisoft's content, which license cannot be transferred to other users or cannot be traded because users do not have absolute ownership rights to the object.(UBAIDILLAH, 2023). Civil Code article 1320 paragraph 4 and in Supreme Court Regulation Number 2 of 2008 concerning the Compilation of Sharia Economic Law article 76 paragraph 4 which both allude to objects that are halal or not, and also if viewed from the regulations of Ubisoft which holds the property rights, then players do not have the right to buy and sell virtual items in the Growtopia game which results in real money trading activities becoming illegal or illegal. Then in Islamic business ethics, according to Naqvi, Islamic business ethics has four axioms that must be fulfilled. The four axioms are unity, equilibrium, free will, and responsibility. Naqvi argues that the four principles are the basis of an act or not in accordance with Islamic business ethics, if there is one of the principles that is not fulfilled, the act is considered not in accordance with the principles of Islamic business ethics. From the previous research that the researcher has mentioned, it still has not answered the problems in the field. (Desiana & Afrianty, 2017)

## **Method**

This study uses a field research approach to collect data directly from the source. This method allows for in-depth qualitative analysis and belongs to the category of sociological research, aiming to unravel theories about the formation and function of law in society. In addition to primary data from interviews with interviewees who use bots in Growtopia, secondary data is obtained from literature, journal articles, books, and scientific publications.(Arif Tiro et al., 2020) The data consists of primary and secondary data. Primary data was obtained directly from interviews with Growtopia players on Telegram, including Kimina (@n334s), @patricksttarssg, @riandaaaaaaa, @sanaake, and @sip sip. Secondary data complements primary data and is obtained from documentation or records such as literature related to the research topic, serving as the foundation for analysis. Interviews are used as a data collection technique to get information from Growtopia players, whether they use bots or not. Documentation is also used as a recording of text, visuals, or significant individual works, making it easier for researchers to collect data in the field. The collected data is processed through evaluation (editing) to ensure completeness and relevance, classifying to arrange answers from respondents, verifying for data validity, qualitative descriptive analysis to describe the phenomenon being studied, and drawing conclusions to answer research questions. Data analysis was carried out with a descriptive analytical approach, focusing on Islamic business ethics towards the use of bots in Growtopia.

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Islamic Business Ethics Views on the Concept of Using Bots in Completing Daily Quests in the Growtopia Game**

In Islam, faith and business practices are closely intertwined, and require a deep understanding of Islamic ethics and sharia to understand the Islamic view of economics and

business. The use of bots to complete tasks or auto farming in online games like Growtopia has been a frequent subject of discussion. Various important ethical questions need to be analyzed from the point of view of Islamic business ethics because of this practice. The principles of morality recognized in Islam form the axiomatic theory of Islamic business ethics, which provides a framework for evaluating business actions and decisions.

The success of a business depends not only on the rules of conduct that are created and enforced, but also on the application of ethics that create norms of behavior. Ethics serves as a controlling tool for a person who manages a business, by applying moral principles and behavioral habits such as honesty, responsibility, and discipline, and treating everyone the same way. To determine whether a business activity is right or not, there are ethical rules called business ethics. When it comes to business, Islamic Business Ethics is a practice related to business. The term "Islamic business ethics" refers to the study of how a person conducts a business in a way that benefits both parties in accordance with the principles of Islamic teachings. (Mutmainah, n.d.)

Islamic business ethics is a practice related to business and refers to the study of how a person conducts a business in a way that benefits both parties in accordance with the principles of Islamic teachings. The use of bots in the Growtopia game must comply with the operational guidelines of the business in terms of Islamic business ethics. Individuals must follow the rules set by the Islamic religion when running a business. The principles of Islamic business ethics that govern business activities are unity or tauhid, balance, free will, responsibility, and courtesy. (Wardani & Ridlwan, 2022)

The following is an analysis conducted by researchers regarding the use of bots in completing daily quests in the game growtopia with Islamic business ethics: The concept of using bots in completing daily quests in the growtopia game according to an ethical review in business. Based on various ethics in doing business, the following is the analysis: first, Honesty means actually speaking, not denying anything. Honesty, is one of the pillars that must exist and be owned in every business activity. Being honest in business will benefit the company and bring a good name. Therefore, in order for a business to be successful, it is advisable to do business honestly. (Amalia & Yulianingsih, 2020)

Based on the results of the author's research, if analyzed from ethics, namely in being honest, the players when using the bot do not have this attitude which is shown when using the bot, the players commit a cheat or dishonesty in completing the existing quest. The players are unsportsmanlike in playing the game growtopia. This can harm several parties, both other players who complete quests in a sportive and honest manner as well as violating the rules that have been set by the game developer which prohibits the use of bots or third-party applications that can do auto farming and automate in-game operations.<sup>1</sup>

Second, Behaving well. One other term for good behavior is "hasanah", "Hasanah" means something that is liked or seen as good. (Zawawi, 2023) If analyzed according to the author's research, Players who use bots in the game Growtopia do not show good behavior because their actions are prohibited and detrimental to other players as well as the game developer.

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<sup>1</sup> Interview, Putri, (Growtopia Game Player), Bojonegoro, May 12, 2024.

Third, Use good language. Business has always been about interaction, so we will continue to interact with both business partners and customers.(Yunia, 2023) Good communication shapes interactions, and good communication will happen if we use good language. Good language will reduce miscommunication and offense due to inappropriate words. Based on the results of the research, it can be analyzed that the use of bots in this growtopia game is an action that uses good language. Because in the use of bots in the game, growtopia does not use language or words that are not polite.<sup>2</sup> Fourth, Be mature. Being mature means being open-minded and selfless. Maturity involves the ability to control emotions and make wise decisions.(Latubessy & Wijayanti, 2017) Based on the results of the study and analyzed based on adult attitudes, the use of bots in the Growtopia game is considered less mature because it does not reflect the level of psychological and emotional maturity required in dealing with situations and problems. In addition, maturity also involves a person's ability to take responsibility for the actions they take, and be able to learn from the experiences experienced.<sup>3</sup>

As for when analyzed based on the principles of Islamic business ethics according to Naqvi, the following is the analysis:

a. Unity

The principle of oneness is a form of vertical dimension as reflected in the concept of tauh}id which integrates all aspects of Muslim life, both in the economic, political, social and religious fields and attaches importance to the concept of consistency and overall order. Tauh}id is an all-inclusive concept. At the absolute level it distinguishes the khalik from the creatures, requiring unconditional submission to His will, but in human existence it provides a strong principle of unity because all mankind is united in obedience to Allah alone.(Desiana & Afrianty, 2017)

In an absolute sense, human life on this earth as a whole is in the concept of tauh}id which is only related to God.(Wardani & Ridlwan, 2022) This principle produces a belief in the unity of the world and the hereafter as well as the unity of mankind. This will lead an economic actor to not only pursue material profits, but also more eternal and eternal profits and avoid all forms of exploitation of fellow humans. Here it is clear the concept of human equality, which is the implication of tauh}id. The concept of human equality shows that Islam condemns human beings who are classy. So, the implication of this doctrine is that there is equality and brotherhood between human beings in economic activities, mutual help and cooperation in the economy.(Abdul Mannan, 2021). Based on the data obtained by the researcher from the results of observations and observations on growtopia game players who use bots, if analyzed with the theory of unity, it is appropriate because there is no behavior that denies unity or oneness in Islamic business ethics theory, especially the principle of unity.<sup>4</sup>

b. *Equilibrium*

In the context of balance theory, the principle of balance or the principle of mutual conditioning of pleasure (an taradhin) refers to a situation in which all parties involved in an

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<sup>2</sup> Interview, Susanto, (Growtopia Game Player), Bojonegoro, May 12, 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Interview, Alexha, (Growtopia Game Player), Bojonegoro, May 12, 2024.

<sup>4</sup> Interview, Susanto, (Growtopia Game Player), Bojonegoro, May 12, 2024.



agreement are satisfied and no one feels disadvantaged. This reflects a harmonious and fair condition in interaction or transactions.(Abdul Mannan, 2021)

Business ethics in Islam emphasizes the importance of balance and justice. Muslim entrepreneurs are expected to always use accurate scales in their transactions, as a manifestation of fair and ethical behavior.(Yunia, 2023) In every aspect of business, Islam prioritizes justice for all, including those who are less favorable. This justice is not only considered the right action, but is also expected to bring positive results. This consistent practice of justice is not only a noble act but also a step that brings a Muslim closer to piety.(Jumardi et al., 2021)

Balance can be judged from the impact caused by an action. When the negative impact caused is greater than the positive impact, it will make an act considered unbalanced.(Rujiansyah, 2017). Based on the data obtained by the researcher from the results of observations and observations on growtopia game players who use bots, if analyzed with the balance theory, it is not appropriate because there is a negative impact arising from the use of bots in the growtopia game by players to other players and game developers.<sup>5</sup>

#### c.Free Will

In Islam, every individual is indeed given the freedom to manage and utilize the resources they have to achieve prosperity in life. However, this freedom is limited by sharia principles that lead Muslims to not only seek personal gain but also pay attention to the common good, justice, and not harm others. Freedom in Islam must be in harmony with moral and social responsibility, and always within the framework of the commands and prohibitions of Allah SWT.(Xu & Zhang, 2020) . In Islam, humans are given the ability to think, make decisions, and choose their own paths, but with the understanding that this freedom is within the limits set by the Shari'a. Human beings are governed by the laws they make, but also by the laws of Allah SWT. Markets and other economic institutions are recognized as having an important role in Islam, with the principle that intervention is only carried out when necessary, such as by the government, to ensure justice and prevent exploitation.(Farma & Umuri, 2020) In Islam, human freedom is recognized as innate potential from birth. However, this freedom is considered limited and within the framework set by Allah, which is the only entity with absolute freedom. Therefore, every Muslim is expected to always follow the rules and procedures that have been determined in Islamic law, as taught by the Prophet.(Desiana & Afrianty, 2017)

In the framework of Islamic business ethics, free will is recognized as the right of every individual to make choices and decisions. However, this free will must be exercised within the limits set by Islamic law, which not only regulates individual actions but also ensures that such actions do not harm others and are within the framework of fair and mutually agreed upon regulations.(Bisnis & Perspektif, 2013)

The use of bots in Growtopia games that require third-party applications, when viewed from this perspective, is a violation of the principle of free will because it goes beyond the boundaries that have been agreed between players and game developers. Although in this principle there is free will, this freedom is also given Limits to create a conducive environment between players, This action has exceeded the limits that have been set by Growtopia and

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<sup>5</sup> Interview, Shandy, (Growtopia Game Player), Bojonegoro, May 12, 2024.

Ubisoft. Therefore, actions such as the use of bots are not in accordance with the principle of free will in Islamic business ethics which upholds free will for each individual or group but with the limits and regulations that have been set and agreed.<sup>6</sup>

d. *Responsibility*

In Islam, the concepts of individual responsibility and freedom complement each other. Islam teaches that every individual has the freedom to choose and act, but that freedom must be exercised with a high sense of responsibility. (E-issn & Muslimin, 2022) Freedom in Islam includes everything from freedom to choose beliefs to freedom in making wise decisions, including in business matters. Every action taken must be responsible not only in front of fellow humans but also before Allah SWT, who is the supreme judge of all decisions and actions. (Fadla, 2016)

In the context of Islamic business ethics, running a business with freedom does not automatically guarantee the achievement of goals or profits. Every entrepreneur is responsible for his actions, including in transactions, agreements, and buying and selling products. (Silviah & Lestari, 2022) In the case of using bots in games like Growtopia, players who choose to use bots must be held responsible for any violations of the rules that have been agreed upon. They must be prepared to accept the consequences of their actions, which can be sanctions from game developers or negative reactions from the player community. This responsibility reflects the principles of Islamic business ethics that emphasize accountability and consequences of every action taken.<sup>7</sup>

## Conclusion

The practice of using bots in the growtopia game has 4 stages, including: The first stage is the determination of the third-party application that will be used to run the bot in the growtopia game, the second stage is the selection of bot features provided by the third-party application, the third stage is the bot setting in terms of the duration and time of using the bot in the growtopia game, the fourth stage is the activation of the bot that has been selected and set by pressing the start button on the party's application display the third is to carry out the automation process. Regarding the regulations that have been set by the game developer in the first stage, the use of third-party applications is an act that is contrary to the regulations that have been set by the game developer.

The practice of using bots in the growtopia game when viewed from the ethics of doing business is an act that reflects bad, dishonest, immature behavior and disturbs the balance of the growtopia game ecosystem. This makes the use of bots in the growtopia game inappropriate and does not meet all the needs of ethics in doing business, including: behaving well, being honest, and being mature. However, the use of bots in the growtopia game can meet one of the ethical needs in doing business, namely using good language. It can be concluded that the practice of using bots does not meet 3 out of 4 kinds of ethics in doing business. Then according to the principles of Islamic Business Ethics, including unity, equilibrium, free will, responsibility. The use of bots in the game growtopia is considered

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<sup>6</sup> Interview, Putri, (Growtopia Game Player), Bojonegoro, May 12, 2024.

<sup>7</sup> Interview, Alexha, (Growtopia Game Player), Bojonegoro, May 12, 2024.

inappropriate in the principles of balance, free will, and responsibility. Because the use of this bot can be classified as an act that can disrupt the balance of the ecosystem in the game. However, the use of bots in the game growtopia can meet one of these four principles, namely unity, because in practice there is nothing that violates or contradicts the values of unity. However, this act is also an irresponsible violation and unwise behavior. In addition, the use of bots is an act that is not justified and violates the community guidelines and regulations set by the game developer. The use of bots can also make for a bad experience for players who are new to playing the game growtopia.

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