Formative Methodology: A Transformative Approach at Research in Islamic Humanities and Social Sciences

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Abstract:
In the realm of scientific cognition, the manner of achieving reality and the method of accessing findings sometimes holds greater importance than the findings themselves, as the credibility and usefulness of findings depend on the methods employed by researchers in the research process. Formative methodology is a purposeful approach to research that seeks to identify reality (past/present/future) with a foundation in Islamic philosophy in general and Sadraean transcendent wisdom in particular. This methodology is based on the meta-theory of formation, which proposes a logic by accepting the fundamental principles of Sadraean wisdom (originality of existence, the gradation of existence, and substantial motion), in order to guide researchers in entering the human-social empirical sciences within the framework of Islamic thought. The method of this research is formative entity-recognition of the descriptive-inferential type, in which the researcher attempts to propose a cognitive device called the "Formative spherical coordinates system" by elucidating the components of Formative meta-theory and the methodology presumed in this meta-theory. This device provides a topological space that allows for the representation of observed event coordinates known as, Entity, in quantitative, qualitative, spatial, temporal, influential, affected, and other coordinates that facilitate the identification of intrapersonal and interpersonal events and the individual's transaction or what surrounds them. In this article, firstly, by introducing the Formative approach, Formative meta-theory, and the Formative spherical coordinates system, the research methods in this approach will be mentioned, and with the inference of the characteristics of Formative methodology, the implications of this methodology for the humanities and social sciences within the framework of Islamic thought will be discussed. According to the author of this writing, Formative methodology is a notable approach to dealing with the challenging questions of the nature of methodology and how research is conducted in Islamic humanities and social sciences.

Keywords: Ontology, Formative approach, Formative meta-theory, Formative methodology, Entitiology, Formative Entity-recognition, Formative ideagraphy.

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