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**“The Concept of Istihsan (Juristic Preference)
as Reforming Characteristics of Islamic Law”**

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Istihsan (Juristic Preference) is an important principle in legislation in Islamic law that has evolved from *ra'y* (opinion) and *Ijtihad*. The principle of *Istihsan* has a vital role to play for justice and equity to prevail. While *Istihsan* in the eastern world is referred to preference based on discretion, in the western world, however, it is about equity and justice. Thus, the principle of *Istihsan* represents a worldwide phenomenon for future development in legislation. Since *nas* (text) has set out the general principles which are invariable, it is vital to interpret *nas* accordingly with the issues and aspects of contemporary periods. The main purpose of this research is to define where Islamic Law stands with regard to transformation and reformation with its relation to the concept of *Istihsan*. This paper is studied in two parts. The first part deals with the general overview of the concept of reform with special reference to an historical backdrop and its definition. The second part is devoted to the reform in Islamic law. Adequacy, characteristic structure, and aiding instruments for evolutionary process of Islamic law is investigated with the assessment whether Islamic law can deal with change, development, transformation, modernity, and reform despite of its divine character, with special emphasis on the Maqāsid al-Shāri'ah (objectives of the lawgiver). This study shows that Islamic law is open to reform, changes, modernity and can address and respond to issues for future legislation owing to its dynamic character.