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**“An Islamic Approach to Identity and Morality in Education”**

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In order to discern a moral identity that is distinctly ‘Islamic’<sup>1</sup> this paper offers a theoretical comparison of the concept of the “individual” presumed in modern Islamic educational theory and in Western liberal moral educational theory.<sup>2</sup> The work of modern Islamic scholars problematizes the Western liberal educational premise that a moral universe is derived dialectically between individual and society. With consideration to Muslim students, modern Islamic education theorists aim to elaborate a coherent theory of the moral self which stands in contrast to Western liberal notions of the moral individual.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> It is necessary to clarify that I do not intend to essentialize “Islam” as embodying a solely particular kind or type of perspective, but instead that the Muslim authors in question champion a particular stream of Islamic thought that is rooted in a modern Sunni conception of Islam.

<sup>2</sup> Although this paper focuses on moral education the modern Islamic critique of general secular education has much overlap with secular moral education.

<sup>3</sup> These theorists are not mainly focused or interested in any universal education system, but one which is appropriate for Muslim students.