Internet Usage from Islamic Perspective: A Preliminary Survey with First Year Medical Students, Kuantan Campus, Pahang 2015

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Abstract — Background: The internet today has become a greater part of every citizen’s life which helps many successful, although, many fall in failure if not utilize it carefully. The usage of the Internet is bringing welfare of mankind while avoiding different types of drawback, many of us unable to identify it. This study measured the level of Internet addiction (IA) among students and explored their perspectives on using the Internet based on religious background.

Methods: A cross-sectional descriptive study was done at IIUM, Kuantan Campus, Pahang in July 2015. A total of 103 first year medical students was organized purposely. Internet addiction of the participants was assessed using online questionnaires containing Internet Addiction Test-20. Benefits (7-items) and disadvantages (5-items) Internet usage from Islamic perspective was analysed with (12) relevant questionnaires pertaining basic themes of Islam such as, “Islamic Religion, Ibadah, Greeting, Social Responsibility, Muslim’s Issues, Ummah, Da’wah, Islamic Business, Al Quran, Hadith, Sunna, Islamic Study”.

Results: Prevalence of normal (5.8%, n=6), mild IA (48.5%, n=50), moderate IA (44.7%, n=46) and severe IA (1%, n=1) were resulted respectively. Mean (SD) age of students was 20.9 (0.5) years, 35.9% male, 64.1% female, 96.1% residents at dormitory, 48.5% using the Internet more than 7 years, 64.1% spend on line 2 to 5 hours/day and 78.6% Smartphone users. Regarding Islamic perspective, 80% of the users acknowledged that Internet usage can provide benefits in enhancing Islamic knowledge, while 20% disagreed with regarding positive Internet usages. For negative usages of the Internet, 60% of the users approved as negative and 40% recognized as it was beneficial.

Conclusion: Internet usage has been proven to be beneficial to all Muslims and it can be an effective tool for Da’wah activities, but it is highly recommended that it has to be utilized with a great caution while keeping the importance of the concept of Islamic teaching.

Key words: Internet Addiction, Islamic perspective, medical student, misconception, Da’wah

I. INTRODUCTION

The internet addition has been applied to the physical dependence on the internet and over use of the internet [1]. The prevalence of Internet addiction was ranged from 4.4% in China, 5% in Italy, 8.1% in Australia, 11% in Iran [2-5], 12% in US [6], 24 to 64% in Malaysia [7,8] respectively. Internet has been an important part of the development of Globalization that caters integration of all resources in a one single control meaning every information and knowledge can be accessed individually most of the cases [9]. The internet today has become a greater part of every citizen’s life which helps many successful, although, many fall in failure if not utilize it carefully. The usage of the Internet is bringing welfare of mankind while avoiding different types of drawback, many of us unable to identify it. Since the concept of religious ideology has been separated from politics, social life and economic administration, people love to expose the independent thinking and freedom of living without ethical and moral values. It indicates the influence of secularism in our ailing world to be recovered from its chronic disease of misconception cause by inappropriate usage of Internet and excessive influence of independent thinking without ethical and moral values [11] among medical students of International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). This study measured the level of Internet addiction (IA) among first year medical students at IIUM and explored their perspectives on using the Internet based on religious background.

II. MATERIAL AND METHODS

A cross-sectional study was done among 103 Year 1 medical students from Kulliyyah of Medicine at IIUM Kuantan Campus, Pahang from 29th June to 6th August 2015.

Exclusion criteria were those student does not use the internet at all. An inclusion criterion was year 1 Malaysian medical students in Kulliyyah of Medicine (KOM), IIUM Kuantan. Exclusion criteria were those student does not use the internet recently, the student in the research group and those who did not want to participate in this research.

Medical students nowadays utilize the internet facility to assist in their studies and increased accessibility of the internet, especially in campus area enables them to be connected almost all the time. This paper would provide suggestions saving our ailing world to be recovered from its chronic disease of misconception cause by inappropriate usage of Internet and excessive influence of independent thinking without ethical and moral values [11] among medical students of International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). This study measured the level of Internet addiction (IA) among first year medical students at IIUM and explored their perspectives on using the Internet based on religious background.
In a self-administered questionnaire, the section A consisted of the independent variables such as age, gender, resident status, duration of internet usage, types of gadget used and time spent on the internet per day. In the section B, the level of internet addiction was measured using young’s Internet Addiction Test (IAT) questionnaires as a research tool [12]. It was composed of 20 items with overall Cronbach’s α of 0.889 [13]. Each item has scored 0 to 5; 0 represents as ‘does not apply’, 1 for ‘rarely’, 2 for ‘occasionally’, 3 for ‘frequently’, 4 for ‘often’ and 5 for ‘always’. The cut-off point for internet addiction was the range of scoring 0-19 as normal, 20-49 as mild addiction, 50-79 as moderate addiction and 80-100 as severe addiction [12].

Students’ religious background on internet usage questions in the section C were created by the research group members and guided by Asst Prof. Dr. Maulana Akbar Shah from Kulliyyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Science, (IRKHS), (IIUM). Seven questionnaires on benefits and five questionnaires on the disadvantages of Internet usage from Islamic perspective were analysed with twelve constructed questionnaires pertaining basic themes of Islam, such as, “Islamic Religion, Ibadah, Greeting, Social Responsibility, Muslim’s Issues, Ummah, Daw’ah, Islamic Business, Al Quran, Hadith, Sunna, Islamic Study‖. The online questionnaire (Google form) was used to select the data from all the year 1 medical students (139 in number) apart from research group (28 students) purposively.

III. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Data analysis was done using IBM SPSS Statistics version 22.0. The descriptive statistics was done to measure the prevalence and to describe demographic characteristics, their positive and negative perspectives on the internet usage of the respondents were shown by frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation.

IV. ETHICAL APPROVAL

This study was approved by the Research and Ethics Committee, IIUM.

V. RESULTS

Among 103 year 1 medical students, the prevalence of normal user (5.8%, n= 6), mild internet addiction (48.5%, n=50), moderate internet addiction (44.7%, n=46) and severe internet addiction (1%, n=1) were resulted respectively. Mean (SD) age of year 1 medical students was 20.85 (0.53) years, 35.9% male, 64.1% female, 96.1% residents at dormitory, 48.5% using the Internet more than 7 years, 64.1% spend on the internet more than 7 years or more, 81 (78.6) were Smartphone users (table 1).

Regarding Islamic perspective, among seven questionnaires on the benefits of internet usage, 80% of the users acknowledged that Internet usage can provide benefits in enhancing Islamic knowledge, while 20% disagreed with regarding positive Internet usages. For negative usages of Internet with five questionnaires on disadvantages of internet usage, 60% of the users approved as negative and 40% recognized as it was beneficial (table 2).

TABLE 1. Socio-demographic characteristics of year 1 medical students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socio-demographic variables</th>
<th>n (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age in year: Mean (SD)</td>
<td>20.85 (0.53)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>37 (35.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>66 (64.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dormitory</td>
<td>99 (96.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With parents/spouse</td>
<td>4 (3.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of internet use</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 6 years</td>
<td>53 (51.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 years or more</td>
<td>50 (48.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time spend per day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 2 hours per day</td>
<td>17 (16.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 – 5 hours per day</td>
<td>66 (64.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 5 hours per day</td>
<td>20 (19.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types of gadgets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptop/ tablet</td>
<td>22 (21.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smartphone</td>
<td>81 (78.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 2. Internet usage from Islamic perspective by year 1 medical students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internet usage from Islamic perspective</th>
<th>PRO E</th>
<th>Wrong</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Internet allows us to download the application that can cater to the religious needs by acting as a reminder as well as to ease the Muslims in performing the Ibadah.</td>
<td>97 (94.2)</td>
<td>1 (1.0)</td>
<td>5 (4.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Greeting is Islamic Social responsibility; I can connect and greet my family and friends through internet even we are million miles apart.</td>
<td>99 (96.2)</td>
<td>2 (1.9)</td>
<td>2 (1.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Effective usage of the Internet is one of the acts that is not encouraged in our religion.</td>
<td>19 (18.4)</td>
<td>71 (68.9)</td>
<td>13 (12.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. I use the Internet to improve my knowledge that can solely give me benefits in this world.</td>
<td>65 (63.1)</td>
<td>28 (27.2)</td>
<td>10 (9.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Internet helps you to be updated with the latest news regarding Muslims’ issues, such as contemporary figh issues and suffering of defenceless Ummah.</td>
<td>95 (92.2)</td>
<td>6 (5.8)</td>
<td>2 (1.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Spreading gossips and rumours through social media is not supposed to be a sinful act.</td>
<td>24 (23.3)</td>
<td>73 (70.9)</td>
<td>6 (5.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. The creative method of spreading the Islamic messages over the Internet, for instance in the form of illustration, is one of the best methodologies of Da’wah.</td>
<td>96 (93.2)</td>
<td>4 (3.9)</td>
<td>3 (2.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. I prefer to spend time surfing the Internet whenever I feel stressed rather than reciting the Quran.</td>
<td>15 (14.6)</td>
<td>66 (64.1)</td>
<td>22 (21.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The concept of using internet to spread Da’wah paves a way to seek the pleasure of Allah, SWT.</td>
<td>88 (85.4)</td>
<td>8 (7.8)</td>
<td>7 (6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. The growth of E-commerce (online shopping and banking) has improved the way we do Islamic business transactions as it is much convenience.</td>
<td>77 (74.8)</td>
<td>11 (10.7)</td>
<td>15 (14.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. In enhancing true knowledge, usage of internet can be a waste of our time.</td>
<td>20 (19.4)</td>
<td>69 (67.0)</td>
<td>14 (13.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VI. DISCUSSION

Islamic perspective on internet usage

1. The internet allows us to download the application that can cater to the religious needs by acting as a reminder as well as to ease the Muslims in performing the Ibadah (worshipping).

Today Internet age is the age of information that every information is available over there either good or bad and right or wrong. Parents concern about their children’s access to internet which would harm them and deviate them from a true path. Thus, many do not allow their children to have an access to the internet. Many say, if they are not allowed, these children would remain apathetic and obsolete for lack of knowledge when comparing with those kids who have an access. It is parents, leaders and teachers need to remind their children constantly about wrongdoing, at the same time allow them to explore knowledge through the internet as it has unlimited knowledge. So, it is incumbent to remind our children to avoid immoral and harmful websites and items and visit beneficial sites and obtain true knowledge from the vast treasure of the internet. Parents are urged to bring up their children valuable and pious. They can be true Muslims maintaining righteousness, Amana, although they are exposed to any situation either good or bad, they will control themselves and try their best to be good Muslim. Allah, SWT said: “So remind, if the reminder should benefit; He who fears, Allah, will be reminded [14].”

2. The greeting is Islamic Social responsibility; I can connect and greet my family and friends through the internet even we are million miles apart.

Everyone wants to be a successful person in his/her life, so they work hard to materialize their dreams. One of the easiest ways to be successful is, one must have a value of friendliness and kindness while maintaining brotherhood. The sign of friendliness is greeting to whom we meet, either he/she is our good friend or bad one. Our Prophet, PBUH said: “when we meet each other we must greet each other”. Psychologically, if a person is greeted, he/she becomes happy and wishes to greet you back that grows friendship. This is the way we gain many friends and they become successful. Greeting through the internet and public media is quite effective than many other ways. Greeting inspires meaningful friendship when we greet to our closed one, particularly our parents and siblings. It gives more serious intimacy and deep anxiety when we wish to greet them. It gives more significance when the family is forced to be apart in remote, then one which to call others and longingly talk to them. Rather costly line phone, one should have access to the internet, otherwise, he/she is very much in trouble and depressed. So it is good to talk to them online or through social media and maintain closeness and pleasure as well as fulfill the responsibility of Islamic commitment. It is also important to know how to greet each other from the Islamic perspective. When we need to greet friends, greet them with sincerity and return your greeting better than their greeting, when they greet you or your greeting would not be less than theirs. Allah, SWT, said: “When you are greeted with a greeting, greet in return with what is better than it, or (at least) return it equally. Certainly, Allah, SWT is ever a careful account taker of all things [15].”

3. Effective use of the Internet is one of the acts that is not encouraged in our religion.

Generally, access to the internet by the youths is seen and thought as harmful by the majority of parents and some unreasonably comments that it is illegal in Islam to allow the children an access to the internet. It is untrue that usage of internet is illegal in Islam. Rather, it is encouraging to find knowledge through many ways including internet. For example, it is been quoted by our scholars at many occasion, find knowledge, even though we need to travel to China. Allah SWT, said in the holy Quran, regarding importance of knowledge as “Are those who know and those who do not know alike? Only the men of understanding are mindful [16].” Allah, is so merciful to mankind that he assigned Prophets to provide knowledge for their benefits and He said: “Certainly Allah conferred a benefit upon the believers when He raised among them a Messenger from among themselves, reciting to them His communications and purifying them, and teaching them the Book and the wisdom, although before that they were surely in manifest error [17].”

Since, we have come to know the importance of knowledge, then we make sure our children are allowed to explore knowledge from sources that is useful. The internet today has been a source of knowledge with different type of information including science and technology, studies of social science, Islamic studies, along with online library, encyclopedias and many more. In this contemporary world, internet is a source of enormous knowledge, but we should also not forget that it also has other unwanted sources of knowledge which can deviate our children to the wrong path. It is up to the users what their interest is and which website they want to visit. Parents are important to mold their children how to handle them. Those carefully and closely supervised from the beginning are the people successful in their lives. Therefore, allow them to have an access, but with closed monitoring. The response from the participants towards internet usage by Muslim students is positive and parents should allow it for their children.

4. I use the Internet to improve my knowledge that can solely give me benefits in this world.

As said earlier, internet has both beneficial as well as harmful information and knowledge. It is dependent on the user how he/she uses them for their own benefit or their community. But, the comments of many users according to this survey showed that it is useful and they benefited a lot from internet. It is also demonstrated that the majority of them realize there are a lot of variety of knowledge on the internet and they also know how to receive advantages from the resources of the internet. Today, it is witnessed many good individuals and organizations are endeavoring to upload unlimited bulk of knowledge and educational packages, including online
libraries indicating the significant centrality of the Internet. They have come to know how to benefit from the internet and many of them avoid sinful, ugly and non-advantageous websites, by contrast they are fewer than many useful websites. The most important reminder to the students and the youths is that the user of the internet must be thankful to their creator, the prophet PBUH and their parents who help them to have access to the internet. In that case they must meet the expectation of their benefactors. They must be sincere, pious and trustworthy towards, Allah SWT. In this regards, Allah SWT, says: “And when ye are told to rise up, rise up Allah will rise up, to (suitable) ranks (and degrees), those of you who believe and who have been granted (mystic) Knowledge. And Allah is well-acquainted with all ye do [18].”

5. Internet helps you to be updated with the latest news regarding Muslims’ issues, such as the suffering of defenseless Ummah, misconception in Islam and contemporary Fiqh issues.

After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, the Muslim world has been cut into pieces by the western colonial powers and there are 47 Muslim states still incapacitated under neo-colonialism. Muslim states could not still rebuild their one time famous civilization for many weakness created by themselves and lack of knowledge and sabotage caused by the western agenda. The consequences of these unwanted situations developed into violence, chaos and oppression in many Muslim states, like Iraq, Syria, Libya, Egypt, Turkey, Pakistan, Bosnia and the states where Muslim minority lives such as Myanmar, India, Thailand, Philippine, etc. Many contemporary Muslim scholars have started writing and uploading about the need for changes in Islamic ruling, the cause of the rise and fall of Islamic civilization. It all happened because we are not united. There have been many websites explaining about why they are being defeated, their weakness and ways for improvement, etc. In this case, our youths should visit these websites and prepare themselves for better tomorrow and future. In this regards, Allah SWT said: “The believers are but brothers, so make a settlement between your brothers. And fear Allah that you may receive mercy [19].” At the same time, there are needs of change in several Islamic rulings related to Muslim societies. These issues along with their solution were discussed by contemporary scholars and they can be accessed online. It is good for the majority of Muslims who cannot access the library and books, they can surf the internet and obtain necessary information accordingly.

6. Spreading gossip and rumors through social media is not supposed to be a sinful act.

This statement is absolutely wrong. The majority of participants well understood about backbiting and gossip which are illegal in Islam. However, many users of public media are found excessively practicing gossips and spreading rumors every day and every second. Allah SWT said: “O you who have attained to faith! If any iniquitous person comes to you with a [slanderous] tale, use your discernment, lest you hurt people unwittingly and afterwards be filled with remorse for what you have done [20].” This Aya of the Quran clearly comments about gossip that has to be scrutinized before it is being spread to others. These all information from Quranic teaching and Hadiths are now available in the internet and many magnificent individual and organizations have uploaded these type of knowledge and information through their respective website. New generations can have an access to these websites and learn them properly and apply them in their life as well as to teach others again as our Prophet Muhammad PBUH, said: “the best among you are those who learn the al-Qur’an and teach it back to others”. Here al-Quran means any benefiting knowledge.

7. The creative method of spreading the Islamic messages over the Internet, for instance in the form of illustration, debating manner and approaching the audience with soft and good manner is one of the best methodologies of Da’wah.

The best method of Da’wah is the method of the Prophet Mohammad PBUH, it has already been vindicated in the history of Islam where many people have been attracted to the fold of Islam. Existence of about 2 billion Muslims on earth are the perfect sign for successful method of the prophet. The method of the Prophet is attractive and authentic in nature with slow approach. It is acceptable to many because it contains the added value with noble attitudes holding the followers firmly and steadfastly. However, the speed of Da’wah in the 21st century has dropped to the extent that people show a lack of interest when Islam is propagated. Many people are seen to fail in their attempt towards Da’wah because they are no more enthusiastic and steadfast and probably lack of firm conviction in their attempt. Another practical ideology was the strategy of convincing manner and right approaches. In fact, these values and qualities are sort of creative methods which had been utilized by the prophet Muhammad PBUH and he was absolutely successful in his mission. In the 21st century, the internet is one of the assets can be utilized for the propagation of Islam through appropriate websites. Online teaching programme can also be organized for students and members of organization taking online correspondent courses. In the website of Da’wah, Islamic basic courses, illustration of Islamic events, historical places of Islam, diagrams, maps and slides explaining the process of Da’wah can be uploaded. It should also give basic information of Da’wah to onlookers and visitors too. In this regards, Allah SWT said: “(O Prophet), call to the way of your Lord with wisdom and goodly exhortation, and reason with them in the best manner possible, surely your Lord knows best who has strayed away from His path, and He also knows well those who are guided to the Right Way [21].”

8. I prefer to spend time surfing the Internet whenever I feel stressed rather than reciting the Quran.

It is an option for people to surf internet or read the Quran, as long as their intention is pure. It is true that surfing internet and gaining knowledge is indeed recommendable, but, it is only acceptable when a person is strictly looking for knowledge with sincere intention. Our prophet PBUH said all of our deed are beneficial when our intention of the act is sincere. It is significant to understand that internet is useful when it is used nobly as well as dangerous for it has a number of harms and evils. Particularly users of online social media
and services, Facebook, twitter, email can be cheated and sometimes their life is under threat that there are some unscrupulous people misuse information and photos of another for ransom and defamation. Therefore, one should not necessarily visit a harmful website or use social media just for fun. If they do it aimlessly or just for nothing, it will remove neither their stress, nor depression, rather it would add more problems on top of the existing distress. In this regards, Allah SWT, said: “Therefore (for) whomever Allah intends that He would guide him aright, He expands his breast for Islam, and (for) whomever He intends that He should cause him to err, He makes his breast strait and narrow as though he were ascending upwards; thus does Allah lay uncleanness on those who do not believe [22].”

If one think seriously and deeply, Stress is a result of not following a true and sincere way of life that is religion. Then it is also true that a person who follows the wrong path remains tensed. Numerous psychological researches have proved those people who do not believe in any God are more likely to fall ill. Modern medicine is now tending towards the realization of this truth. In this regards, (Patrick Glynn, 2010) put it: "Scientific research in psychology over the past twenty-five years has demonstrated that religious belief is one of the most consistent correlates of overall mental health and happiness [23]."

9. The concept of using the internet to spread Da’wah paves a way to seek the pleasure of Allah, SWT.

Internet and social media has been a significant tool that is being utilized for spreading Da’wah because the message sending from social media could reach many people at a time. Therefore, it is not wrong to advise usage of internet for the propagation of Da’wah activities. Traditional Da’wah spreading the Islamic message from mouth to mouth or teaching at study circle is quite successful methods, however, it will be more beneficial to use a creative Da’wah methodology to spread Islam using social media. Creative methodology is defined as the creation of a new method that is more applicable, practical, observant, and bringing many benefits in its assigned task. On the other hand, one of the creative methods of Da’wah is mentioned in the noble Qur’an, Surah An-Nahl, 16:125, where Allah (SWT), said: “call to the way of your Lord with wisdom and goodly exhortation, and reason with them in the best manner possible [24].” It is understood from the Ayah that when Da’ie talk to the audience, he must speak an appropriate language with acceptable manner, low tone, proper facial appearance, and right attitude. At the same time, he can earnestly express the Islamic message and values to the audience with full confidence along with logical theories and Quranic stories.

10. The growth of E-commerce (online shopping and banking) has improved the way we do Islamic business transactions as it is much convenience.

Web based business and trade activities have become popular in the world economy. Today, millions of business activities in the world are undertaken through internet services. Several millionaires such as Jack Ma from Alibaba internet Business Company from china, made a big fortune through internet shopping business. Initiating business through the internet is legal as long as it does not involve in the transaction of illegal foods, drinks, materials, and money, etc. The rules and regulations and the terms and conditions of business transaction have to be clearly mentioned in the agreement. It is also to be asked from the business partners and whoever involved in the transaction that the terms are acceptable and agreeable to both the seller and the buyer or all parties without any objection. Terms and conditions have to be clearly defined and placed in a special place on the page of the website which is easily visible. Muslim business personals and trade associations should deeply participate in the internet business because many western business associations have already made a great success. Since it is a legal and competitive work, it is advisable for Muslims to engage in this type of business. The most important message to all Muslim business personnel is to be moderate and fair in their transaction, because Allah SWT emphatically warn to those who do the business to be fair as he said: “O you! Who has attained to faith! Do not devour one another's possessions wrongfully - not even by way of trade based on mutual agreement and do not destroy one another: for, behold, God is indeed a dispenser of grace unto you! [25]”

11. In enhancing true knowledge, usage of internet can be a waste of our time.

Many thought surfing internet is a waste of valuable time and it can be harmful, particularly to Muslim youth who spent most of their time on internet without observing Islamic values. Of course, many Muslim youth has gone into the wrong path and many of them destroy their lives through the passage of illegal website and related activities such as drug abuse, drug supplies, and visiting porn sites and attracted to other illegal activities. Several groups have emerged to make internet prostitution business, trapping the youths, providing information online, where they invite them to practical participation in their respective places on the ground. Therefore, many Muslims feel using the internet is unsafe for their children. Participating in this survey indicated a negative view on enhancing knowledge through the internet. Generally the concept of participants seems acceptable, however exploring knowledge through the internet basis could also a good idea if parents consistently control their children on the use of internet because there are many fields of study already been uploaded in the internet and online libraries also are available. Particularly, Muslim children can learn Al-Qur’an and Sunna either in English or in Arabic where they would have many information about translation, exigencies and related Fiqh issues, including contemporary issues, such as Euthanasia, Plastic surgery, surrogacy, IVF as well as they can also learn Arabic language free online because it is a language every Muslim have to learn as al Quran and Sunna, the sources of Islam is Arabic. On the other hand, one can save time while taking reference and information from the relevant website rather than spending a long time in looking for references in individual books or in the library. By looking at both faces of the internet usage, it is understood that the internet has both looks of advantages and disadvantages. It is totally dependent on the user which side of the face they would like to choose. The following codes would highlight all of us to be true.
Muslims. “An adulterer will not commit adultery when he has full faith (in Allah), and a thief will not steal when he has full faith (in Allah) [26].”

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said “That which is lawful is clear, and that which is unlawful is also quite clear. Between these two is that which is ambiguous, which most people do not know. One who avoids the doubtful safeguards his faith and his honor [27].” The Prophet (s) said, “Shall I inform you about the people of Paradise? They comprise every obscure unimportant humble person, and if he takes the Allah’s Oath that he will do that thing, Allah will fulfill his oath (by doing that). Shall I inform you about the people of the Fire? They comprise every cruel, violent, proud and conceited person.”.- Narrated by Haritha Bin Wahh, [28].

12. Internet favors us to invade the privacy of other people disgraced them by spreading doubtful information.

There has been always termed and conditions for usage of the internet by the internet website providers. Many of the internet facilities and programmes such as Google, Gmail, Yahoo, Facebook, and Twitter are provided online for free use but the user must follow the terms and conditions. The reason is that they do not harm other users and damage reputation of their own and the providers. However, there are a large number of internet abuses available on a daily basis, misusing the facilities of other users, hacking important information of the government, banks and business companies where the government policies and money from the banks are misappropriated and stolen. In addition, hacking of personal information and photos can damage the reputation of many individual despite strict warnings about the dangerous consequences of hacking and careless behavior of the users. Hacking for individual and official websites are always taking place everywhere around the world which resulted inmeasurable problems, including losses of lives, money, properties and causing chaos, violence, terrorist attack, suicide bombing and wars or battle in a worst case. In this regards, Allah (SWT) said: “O you who believe! Avoid much of the assumption, indeed, some assumption (is) sin. And (do) not spy and (do) not backbite some of you (to) others. Would like one of you to eat (the) flesh (of) his brother, dead? Nay, you would hate it. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah (is) Oft-Returning, Most Merciful [29].”

Finally, it is not wrong to state that internet is similar to fire for both have the quality of good and bad or beneficial part and dangerous side. It is we who use it positively or negatively which would result, according to the intention. The most hated thing for everyone on earth is fear and Ibn Rushd (Averroes) said that “Ignorance leads to fear, fear leads to hate, and hate leads to violence. This is the equation [30]”. When this statement is taken seriously, it is well understood all type of fitsnah or problems are caused due to ignorance leading to violence. Therefore, the Prophet Muhammad PBUH remind the mankind that it is important to avoid being ignorant and be knowledgeable. Then we need to learn, thus said, learning, knowledge is compulsory for every Muslim. We know that many do not attain facility to learn like others, but at least one can do a little in his own way. If one cannot efforts like others, one must maintain himself to be a good person. He may not do much, but may be a small step is taken or he learns a sentence from al Quran. But he needs to do it in an excellent manner. That is called al-Ilisan, doing thing in its excellent manner. Our prophet said: “Allah loves, when one of you is doing something, that he/she does it in the most excellent manner [31].” Aristotle said: “Doing thing in excellent manner is a habit and it is what a person repeatedly does it [32].” It is believed that we as a human being can make many mistakes in our life, particularly for those whose finger is on the keyboard of computer or cell phone. With our fingertip, we can make good deed and a bad one as well. So our honesty is the key we can escape from the sin, as Thomas Jefferson said: Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.”

There is limitation in this study due to shortage of time and facilities, thus only year 1 medical students are selected to participate in it and it did not represent entire medical students of Pahang. The Islamic perspective questionnaire were created by the research members on the basis of level of understanding by the students.

VII. CONCLUSION

The prevalence of using internet among year 1 medical student was high and mostly accessed via their smart phones. The usage of internet has been positively acknowledged as advantageous by 90 percent of the user. This is an indication that it is important for enhancing Da’wah and teaching of Islam through internet application is a useful method which has to be endorsed by all authority concerns.

CONFICT OF INTEREST

The authors have no conflicts of interest to express in this study

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