

The Islamic Vision of Development in the Light of *Maqasid Al-Shariah*

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The Vision of Islam

- The Vision of Islam:
 - To be a blessing for mankind (رحمة للعلمين)
- To promote the well-being (فلاح) of all
- Isn't this the goal of all societies?
- Yes! The difference lies in the concept of well-being and how it is to be realized.

How to Realize well-being (*Falah*)?

- By helping realize the *Maqasid Al-Shariah* (Objectives of the *Shariah*)

مقصود الشرع من الخلق خمسة، وهو أن يحفظ عليهم دينهم ونفسهم وعقلهم ونسلهم ومالهم، فكل ما يتضمن حفظ هذه الأصول الخمسة فهو مصلحة، وكل ما يفوت هذه الأصول فهو مفسدة، ودفعها مصلحة (الغزالي):

المستصفي، ١٩٣٧، ج ١، ص ١٣٩)

(Al- Ghazali, *al-Mustasfa*, 1937, Vol. 1, p.139; see also al-Shatibi.(d.790/1388), n.d.).

"The objective of the *Shariah* is the well-being of the people, which lies in safeguarding their faith (*Din*), their self (*Nafs*), their intellect (*'Aql*), their posterity (*Nasl*) and their wealth (*Mal*). Whatever ensures the safeguard of these five principles serves public interest and is desirable, and whatever hurts them is against public interest and its removal is desirable" (al-Ghazali, 1937, Vol. 1, p.139 and al-Shatibi, Vol. 1, p.38.

Some Clarifications:

1. Are these the only *maqasid*?
2. Are we bound by the sequence given by al-Ghazali?
3. Do we just safeguard or do we go beyond this to enrich and strengthen?
4. Are these *maqasid* independent of each other or are they interdependent?
 - The human self (النفس)
 - Faith (الدين)
 - Intellect (العقل)
 - Posterity (النسل)
 - Wealth (المال)

Figure I
Maqāsid* (Objectives of) *Al-Sharī'ah
Human Development and Well-Being
To be realized by ensuring the enrichment of the following five ingredients for every individual

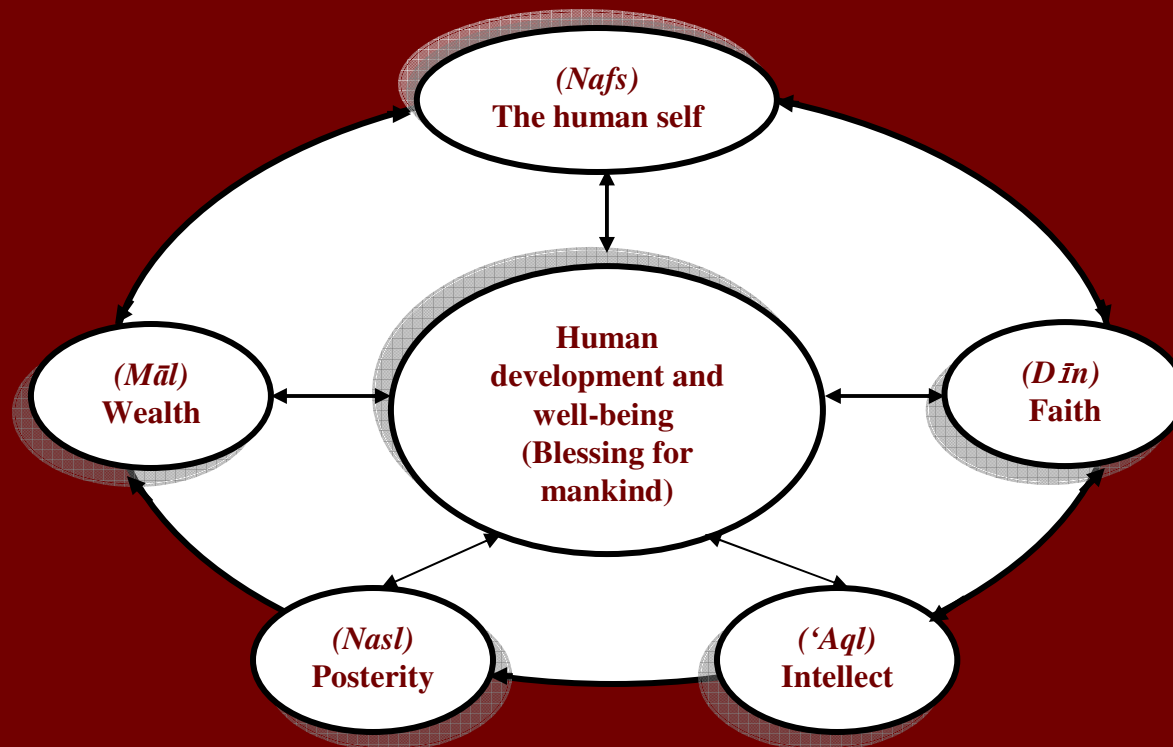


Figure 2

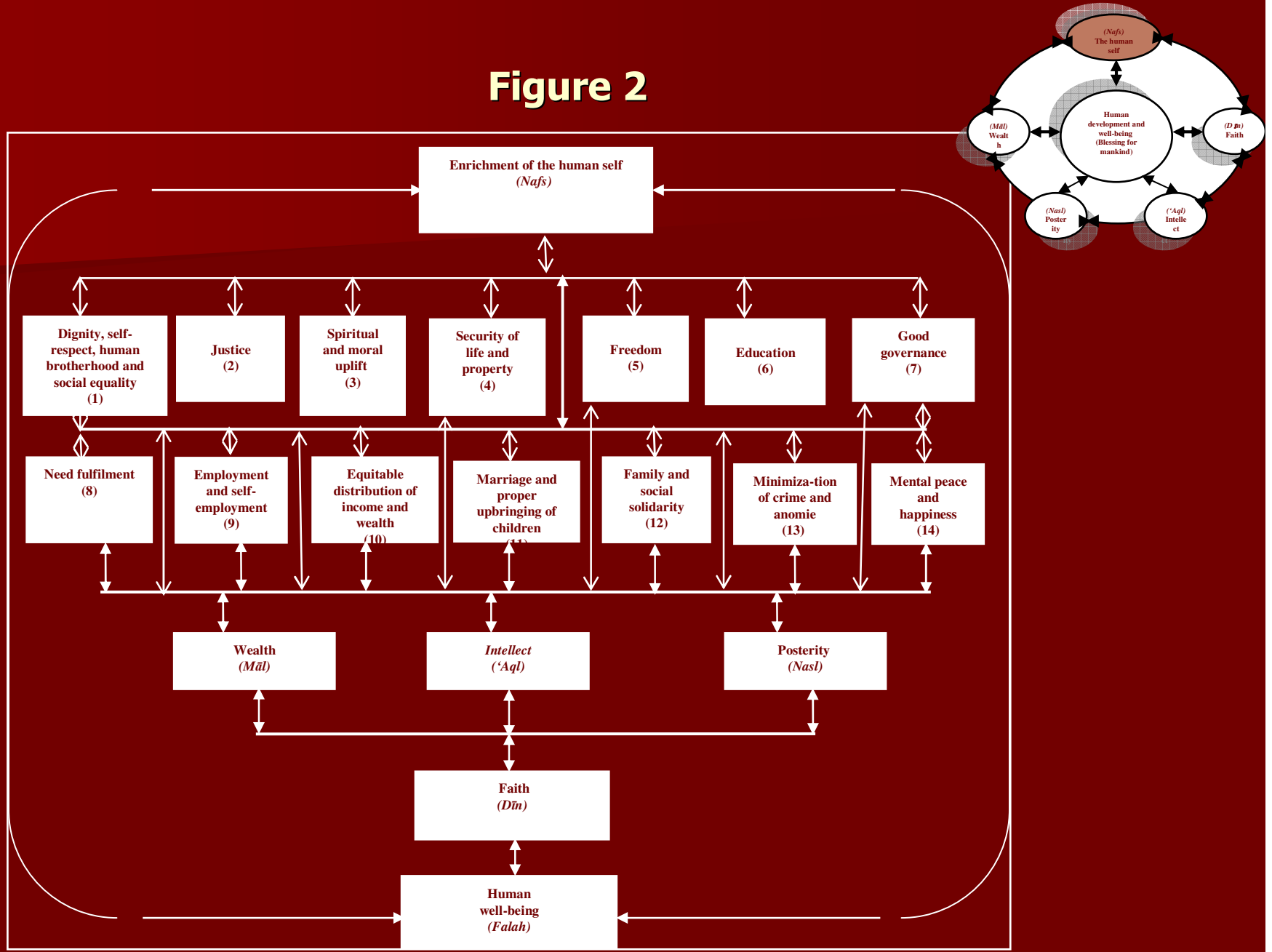


Figure 3

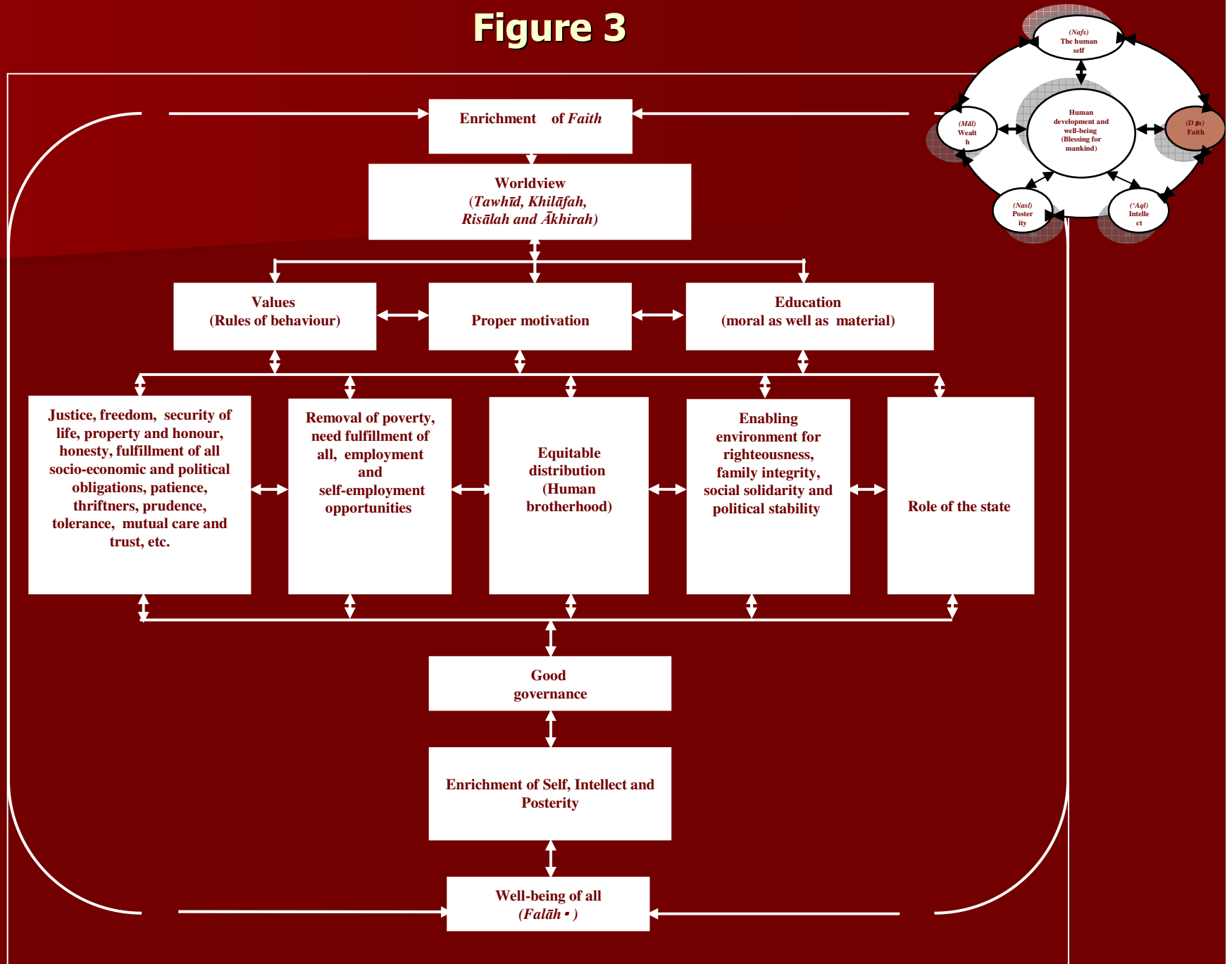


Figure 4

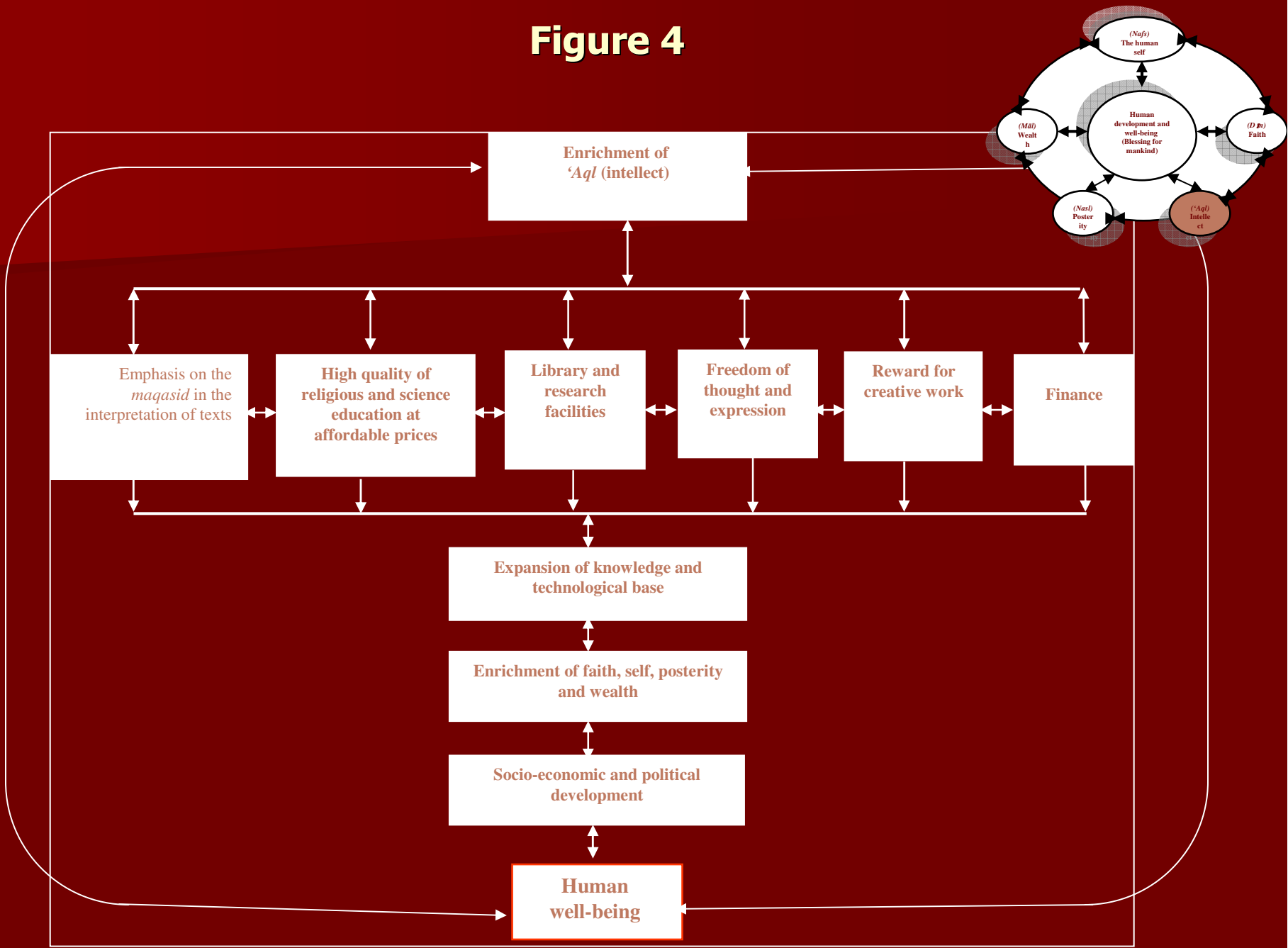


Figure 5

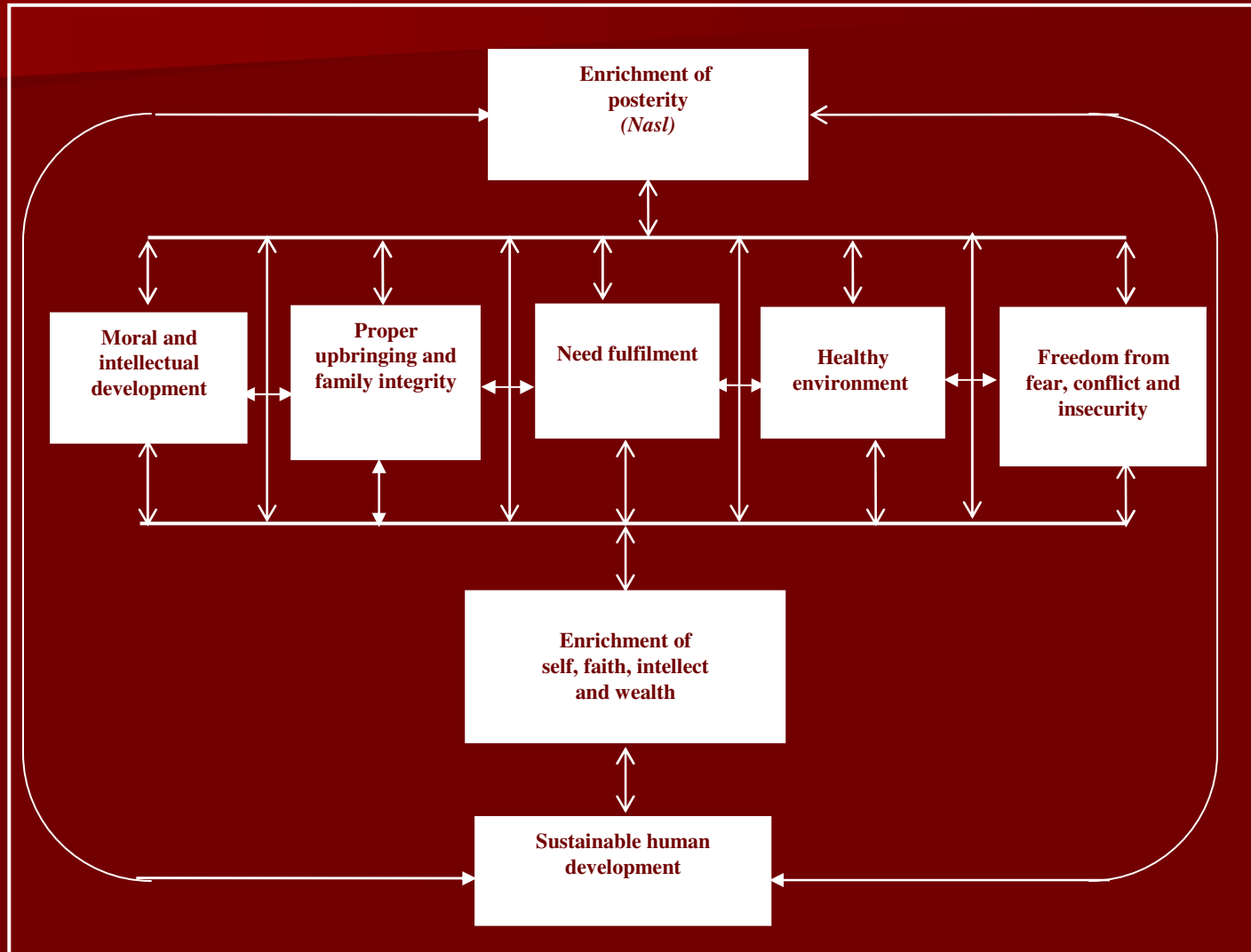
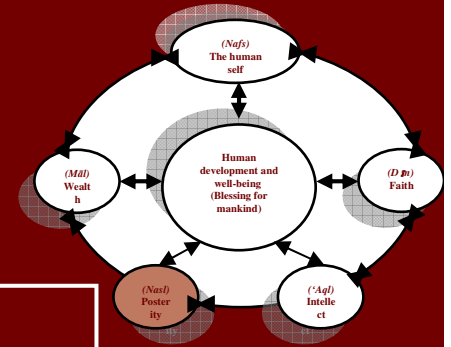


Figure 6

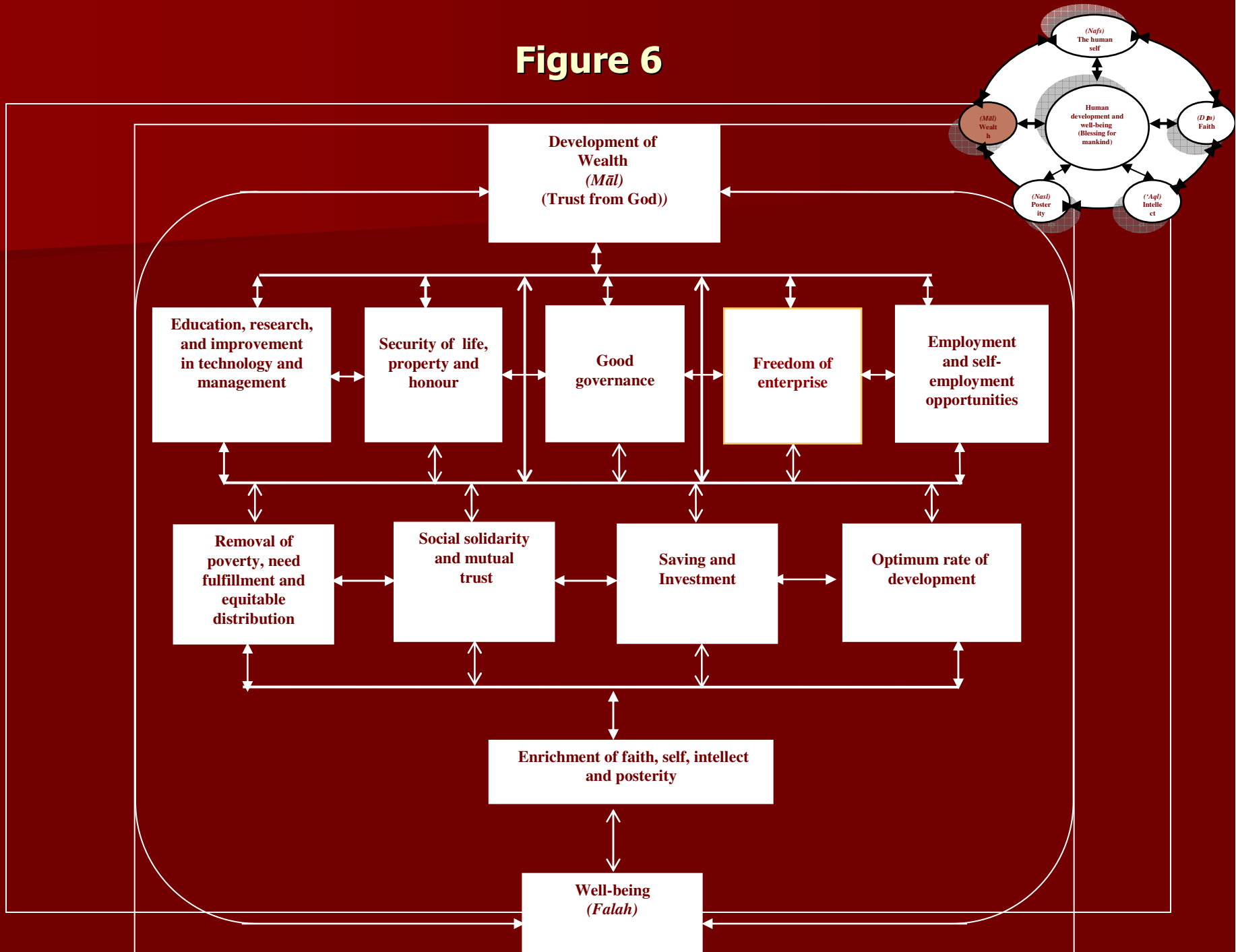
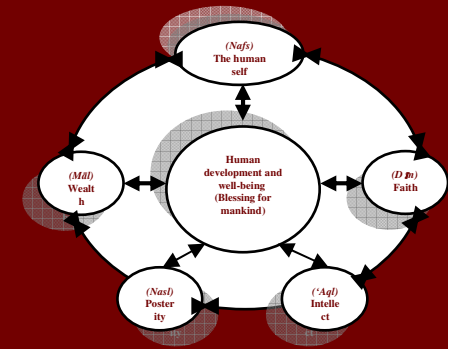


Figure 7
Human Well-Being:
The Light of *Maqasid al- Shariah*



FAITH (*DIN*)

INTELLECT ('AQL)

SELF (*NAFS*)

WEALTH (*MAL*)

POSTERITY (*NASL*)