



# The Role of Mediation in Resolving Divorce Cases Due to Physical Incapacity in Indonesian Sharia Courts: Banda Aceh Case Study

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## Abstract

This research examines the role of mediation in resolving divorce cases due to physical incapacity such as impotence at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court. With a qualitative approach and case study, this research explores the effectiveness of mediation supported by medical assessment in managing marital conflict. Data was collected through in-depth interviews, participant observation, and document analysis. The research results show that mediation is effective in reducing divorce rates and helping couples overcome impotence problems with appropriate therapy, while reducing social and psychological stigma. This research recommends integrating medical evaluation in mediation and increasing the capacity of mediators, emphasizing the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in mediation to support family well-being and integrity in Islamic family law.

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## **Keywords**

Divorce; Impotence; Islamic Family Law; Sharia Court

### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini mengkaji peran mediasi dalam menyelesaikan perkara perceraian karena ketidakmampuan fisik seperti impotensi di Mahkamah Syar'iyah Banda Aceh. Dengan pendekatan kualitatif dan studi kasus, penelitian ini mengeksplorasi efektivitas mediasi yang didukung oleh penilaian medis dalam mengelola konflik perkawinan. Data dikumpulkan melalui wawancara mendalam, observasi partisipan, dan analisis dokumen. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa mediasi efektif dalam menurunkan angka perceraian dan membantu pasangan mengatasi masalah impotensi dengan terapi yang tepat, sekaligus mengurangi stigma sosial dan psikologis. Penelitian ini merekomendasikan untuk mengintegrasikan evaluasi medis dalam mediasi dan meningkatkan kapasitas mediator, serta menekankan pentingnya pendekatan multidisiplin dalam mediasi untuk mendukung kesejahteraan dan integritas keluarga dalam hukum keluarga Islam.

### **Kata Kunci**

Perceraian; Impotensi; Hukum Keluarga Islam; Pengadilan Syariah

### **Introduction**

Indonesia, as the country with the largest Muslim population in the world, shows a unique integration between Islamic law and the national legal system, especially in the context of family law which includes aspects of marriage and divorce. In this legal framework, divorce due to physical incapacity, such as impotence, is often considered the last resort chosen after various attempts to resolve domestic conflicts have been unsuccessful. Legal practice at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court

illustrates that impotence is one of the substantive grounds for a wife to apply for divorce, as regulated in the Compilation of Islamic Law Article 116, which recognizes the wife's right to obtain separation if the husband is no longer able to fulfill his conjugal obligations. This legal process is not only an administrative action but also responds to a deep need for social justice and empathy in society.

The implications of divorce on the grounds of impotence, however, often extend far beyond just the separation between two individuals. The social and psychological impact of divorce is quite significant, especially for women and children in the families involved. Women, as the parties who most often file divorce lawsuits in this context, can experience social stigmatization and severe economic challenges post-divorce. Children, on the other hand, may face disruptions in their emotional and educational stability. Therefore, every divorce case requires a careful approach and in-depth consideration, not only in the legal context but also in the broader understanding of the well-being and integrity of the family, underscoring the importance of post-divorce social support and rehabilitation resources.

In the context of Islamic family law, mediation is often used as a crucial first step before entering a formal divorce process. This process not only aims to facilitate dialogue between husband and wife in conflict, but also to explore every possibility of restoring the relationship, which could prevent them from divorce. The use of mediation in the religious justice system in Indonesia has proven effective, where, according to data released by the Religious Courts, mediation has succeeded in reducing the divorce rate by up to 30% in recent years. This shows that mediation has significant potential to maintain family stability and prevent marital dissolution which often has a negative impact on the social structure and stability of children.

Furthermore, this mediation approach is in line with basic Islamic principles which emphasize the importance of

maintaining family ties. Islam considers divorce to be the final solution that can be taken after all attempts at reconciliation have been made and proven to have failed. Through mediation, couples are given the opportunity to openly discuss problems in their marriage in a supportive environment, where constructive solutions and reconciliation can be achieved. In many cases, mediation allows both parties to reach a mutual understanding or even agreement to continue their relationship, which can strengthen the family unit and support the principles of justice and mercy in Islam.

Therefore, the role of mediation is very important within the framework of the religious justice system in Indonesia. Effective implementation of mediation not only reduces the number of divorces, but also minimizes the social and economic impacts caused by divorce. The involvement of a mediator trained in Islamic law and family counselling can assist in finding a fair and ethical solution, which not only meets legal needs but also supports the emotional and spiritual well-being of the couple. Thus, implementing mediation becomes a proactive effort in managing family conflicts, in line with Islamic teachings which prioritize harmony and unity in family life.

In the context of Islamic law, mediation is a mechanism that not only supports solving legal problems but also functions as a means of preserving family relationships in accordance with *Maqasid Sharia*, which has the principle of protecting religion, life, reason, lineage and property. This principle guides the use of mediation as a tool to strengthen social structures and reduce conflict that has the potential to damage family ties. Sharia courts in Indonesia, by adapting a mediation approach, demonstrate their capacity to adapt to contemporary social challenges and changes in values occurring in society. This reflects a shift from simply deciding the law to also facilitating conflict resolution that supports family unity. Therefore, mediation is not only considered as a procedural alternative but as an integral part of

the application of Islamic law that is holistic and responsive to changing social dynamics.

Furthermore, this research seeks to explore and document mediation practices in Sharia courts that can be integrated into the divorce process to produce solutions that are more conciliatory and support family unity. Through this approach, the research aims to identify factors that influence the effectiveness of mediation and develop a methodology that can strengthen its role in reducing the negative impact of divorce. This research will examine how courts can utilize mediation to not only resolve disputes but also to support couples in identifying solutions that enable them to maintain their relationship or, in certain circumstances, separate in a way that is least detrimental to all parties involved. Thus, it is hoped that this research can provide evidence-based recommendations for legal policies that facilitate the implementation of mediation in the context of Islamic family law, in line with the values of community conservation and family integrity.

In the context of Islamic family law, divorce resulting from a medical condition such as impotence is often considered a last option when all attempts at reconciliation have failed. However, with advances in the medical field, many conditions previously thought to be irreversible can now be treated with effective therapies. Modern medical knowledge, especially in the field of urology, has given new hope to couples facing the problem of impotence. Medical interventions, including pharmacological therapy, psychological counselling, and other medical techniques, have been shown to successfully restore sexual function in a large number of cases. According to data released by the Indonesian Urology Association, around 60% of impotence cases can be overcome or improved through the right medical approach. This fact shows that the integration of medical evaluations in the divorce mediation process can be a crucial factor that helps couples make better decisions, by considering all available options before choosing divorce.

Therefore, this research will explore more deeply how medical evaluation can be integrated into the mediation process in sharia courts. This involves collaboration between medical experts, psychologists, and legal mediators to form a holistic approach in handling divorce cases related to impotence issues. By adopting this multidisciplinary approach, couples are given the opportunity to fully understand the medical and psychological aspects that may be affecting their relationship. Furthermore, this integration can provide a stronger basis for making decisions in favour of maintaining marital ties, in line with the principles of Islamic family law which prioritizes family harmony and integrity. This also shows the importance of adapting the family law system in response to developments in science and technology, especially in terms of overcoming health problems which were previously considered an obstacle to marriage.

This research aims to explore and analyse the potential of mediation combined with medical assessment in handling divorce cases triggered by physical incapacity in sharia courts. This approach is important, considering that divorce is not only the termination of a marriage relationship but also has broad social and psychological impacts. By integrating medical assessment in the mediation process, this study seeks to identify the extent to which medical intervention can facilitate conflict resolution in divorce cases, especially those related to physical disabilities such as impotence. This medical aspect is very important because advances in the medical field often offer new, previously unavailable solutions that can help couples restore sexual function, and thereby preserve the marriage.

It is hoped that the results of this research can contribute to the creation of effective policies that not only uphold the principles of Islamic law, but also pay attention to the psychological and social welfare of the individuals involved. It is hoped that these policy recommendations will provide a

framework for sharia courts to implement mediation supported by medical evaluation as part of the divorce process, so that divorce is no longer seen as the only solution but as the last resort after all mediation and treatment efforts have been attempted. Thus, this research not only paves the way for legal practices that are more empathetic and responsive to society's needs, but also helps in formulating strategies that can minimize the negative impacts of divorce, both from a social and individual perspective.

## **Methods**

To carry out research entitled "The Role of Mediation in Resolving Divorce Cases Due to Physical Incapacity in Indonesian Sharia Courts: Banda Aceh Case Study", the method used was a qualitative approach with case studies. Data will be collected through in-depth interviews, participant observation, and document analysis. Interviews will be conducted with judges, mediators and couples involved in the divorce process at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court. Observations will focus on the mediation process and interactions between the parties during the mediation session. Documents analysed will include court records, court decisions, and medical records related to impotence cases, all of which will help in understanding how mediation and medical evaluations are integrated into the divorce decision-making process.

Data analysis will use content analysis techniques to identify main themes from interview and observation data, as well as to categorize information from legal and medical documents. A triangulation approach will be used to verify the accuracy of data collected from various sources. This research aims to produce an in-depth understanding of the effectiveness of mediation supported by medical assessment in managing divorce cases involving physical disabilities in the sharia court environment. Thus, it is hoped that the results of this research can provide practical and useful recommendations for

developing mediation practices in sharia courts, as well as improving the quality of marital conflict resolution in the context of Islamic family law.

## **Results and Discussion**

### ***Effectiveness of Mediation in Reducing Divorce Rates***

In this study, the effectiveness of mediation in reducing the divorce rate in the Banda Aceh Sharia Court is analysed through an in-depth empirical approach. Based on data collected from interviews with judges, mediators, as well as analysis of various court documents, it was revealed that mediation has a significant role in reducing the frequency of divorce. The mediation process, which is carried out before the formal filing of a divorce case, provides an opportunity for couples to discuss issues in a more controlled and constructive environment. From the data obtained, it was recorded that around 30% of divorce cases were avoided through effective mediation sessions, where both parties, with the help of the mediator, found alternative solutions to divorce.

Further analysis shows that mediation not only functions as a means to resolve conflicts, but also as an educational platform that increases both parties' understanding of the consequences of divorce, both from a social, economic and psychological perspective. In some cases, mediators are successful in facilitating in-depth conversations between couples experiencing communication dysfunction, which is often the deeper root of the problem. This educational function is important, considering that a better understanding of the implications of divorce often leads both parties to reconsider their decisions. This shows the importance of the mediator's role not only as a mediator, but also as a counsellor and educator.

The success of mediation in reducing the divorce rate is also influenced by the quality and competence of the mediator. Data from observations shows that mediators who have expertise in



Islamic family law and good counselling skills tend to be more successful in facilitating mediation. These skills allow the mediator to not only direct the discussion, but also to identify and address psychological issues that may not be immediately apparent during the mediation.

This, along with an empathetic approach, helps in creating a supportive environment, where both parties feel heard and valued, which significantly increases the chances of a peaceful resolution. In addition, it was found that the success of mediation also depends on the willingness of both parties to participate openly in the process. Cases where both parties come with an open attitude and a desire to resolve the conflict, often result in more positive outcomes. However, in cases where one or both parties refuse to participate constructively, the success rate of mediation decreases. This emphasizes the importance of building awareness and understanding of the benefits of mediation among the community, so that this process can be more effective.

### ***The Impact of Medical Evaluations in the Mediation Process***

The impact of medical evaluation in the mediation process is very significant in the context of Islamic family law, especially in divorce cases based on physical incapacity such as impotence. Medical evaluations in these types of cases often serve as an important means of informing both parties about the underlying medical condition and possible therapies or treatments. In the context of mediation, the presence of objective and comprehensive medical information helps to facilitate open and informed discussions between husband and wife. When couples receive a clear picture of their medical condition and available therapy options, they are better able to make informed decisions about the future of their relationship. This can often lead to a more productive mediation space, where partners focus not only on current issues, but also on the potential for healing and repair of the relationship.

Furthermore, a medical evaluation can reduce any stigma or misunderstanding that may exist regarding physical disabilities such as impotence. In a society that may lack knowledge about this medical condition, impotence may be mistakenly interpreted as a problem of character or desire, rather than a health problem that can be overcome. The medical explanation provided during the mediation process helps clarify that this is a medical condition that has a variety of treatment options. Thus, medical evaluation helps in maintaining the honor and dignity of both parties, reduces misunderstandings, and paves the way for empathetic and practical solutions.

Furthermore, the integration of medical assessment into mediation supports the principles of *Maqasid Sharia* which seeks to protect the family and offspring. Providing medical solutions as part of mediation gives couples the opportunity to consider all reconciliation efforts before deciding to separate. This is very important in the Islamic context because it reaffirms divorce as a last resort. Thus, mediation supported by medical information not only addresses legal conflicts but also plays a role in the preservation of family relationships, offering couples various alternatives to maintain or even improve their relationship through health solutions.

The use of medical evaluations in mediation also supports couples' efforts to seek justice and a fair understanding of their situation. Justice, which is a core component in Islamic courts, is not only achieved through conflict resolution, but also through meeting health and psychological needs. When couples approach mediation with a complete and in-depth understanding of the medical condition at hand, they are more likely to feel that the decisions made during mediation are fair and take into consideration all aspects of their lives, including their health, well-being, and ability to continue as a family.

Ultimately, the impact of medical evaluations is evident not only in mediation success rates, but also in long-term outcomes

for couples who decide to stay together or who safely separate. In cases where therapy or medical intervention is successful, couples are often able to restart their relationship with greater understanding and respect for each other's needs. For those who decide to separate, the decision is based on a better understanding of limitations and possibilities, not on a sense of hopelessness or lack of information. Therefore, medical evaluations assist in ensuring that mediation decisions not only satisfy legal requirements but also support the holistic well-being of all individuals involved.

### ***Perceptions and Experiences of the Parties Regarding Mediation***

In-depth interviews with parties involved in mediation at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court revealed varying perceptions regarding the effectiveness of the mediation process in handling divorce cases due to physical disabilities such as impotence. Most respondents acknowledged that mediation provided a safe and private space for them to express their concerns and aspirations without pressure. Parties feel that mediation allows them to communicate more openly and honestly, which is often difficult in more formal court settings. This shows that mediation, as a process, is considered supportive by most respondents because it promotes constructive dialogue that focuses not only on solving problems, but also on in-depth understanding of the dynamics of their marriage.

In terms of satisfaction with the mediation procedure, the majority of respondents expressed their satisfaction with the way the mediator handled the session. Mediators who are specially trained in Islamic law and family counselling tend to receive high appreciation for their ability to direct discussions in a manner that is empathetic and respectful of Islamic values. This is important because it shows that the effectiveness of mediation depends not only on the formal process, but also on the competence and approach of the mediator. The parties felt that the mediator played an important role in reducing tensions and

helping them explore solutions they may not have considered before. When talking about the clarity of information provided during mediation, several respondents expressed that there were times when they felt that information about the legal consequences of their decisions was not completely clear.

This raises questions about how information is conveyed and understood during mediation. Although most believe the process is transparent, gaps in legal understanding may indicate a need for improvement in the way information is conveyed by mediators. The importance of effective legal education during mediation is critical to ensure that all parties have an adequate understanding of their rights and obligations under Islamic law.

As for the parties' impressions of conflict resolution, many felt that mediation gave them more control over the final outcome. This differs from court proceedings which are more confrontational and often seen as 'win-lose'. In mediation, parties have the opportunity to reach a 'win-win' agreement, which often involves compromise on both sides. This approach not only helps in maintaining better relationships post-divorce, but also in ensuring that the needs and welfare of children, if any, are better taken care of.

In conclusion, interviews with parties show that mediation, as a conflict resolution tool, is generally well received and has a number of clear benefits. However, there is room for improvement, especially when it comes to the delivery of legal information. Therefore, these results not only highlight the power of mediation as a practice in the context of Islamic family law, but also emphasize the importance of further development regarding mediator training and mediation procedures to increase effectiveness and fairness in resolving marital conflict.

### ***Obstacles and Challenges in Implementing Mediation***

The implementation of mediation in divorce cases at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court often encounters various significant

obstacles and challenges. One of the main obstacles identified through this study is resistance to the mediation process itself, especially from the parties involved. Many couples who reach the stage of divorce are often past the point where they hoped to resolve their conflicts amicably. This leads to defensiveness and a lack of trust in the proposed mediation process, thereby reducing the chances of achieving an effective resolution.

Additionally, a lack of understanding of the benefits of mediation contributes to low levels of active participation in this process. In addition to resistance from the parties involved, the mediator also faced challenges in adapting the mediation approach to the unique social and cultural conditions in Banda Aceh. Local cultures that value privacy and ethics in speaking about conjugal issues demand a highly sensitive and adaptive approach. Mediators need to have the ability to navigate social and cultural norms and facilitate dialogue that respects these values without compromising the effectiveness of the mediation itself. These challenges require special training and expertise that all mediators in sharia courts often do not possess.

Furthermore, institutional responses to issues that arise during mediation are often inadequate. Lack of resources, such as limited time for each mediation session and a shortage of trained mediators, results in suboptimal case management. This study shows that the relevant institutions have not fully supported the mediation process with the necessary resources. This reduces the effectiveness of mediation as a tool for resolving divorce amicably and hinders the full implementation of mediation's potential in the sharia justice system.

In a practical context, another challenge faced is the inability of mediation to always provide long-term solutions that satisfy both parties. In some cases, even though mediation is successful in finding a temporary solution, deep-seated issues that are not addressed during mediation often resurface, triggering the potential for divorce in the future. The success of mediation is not only judged by the success of avoiding divorce, but also by

the ability to comprehensively address the basic causes of the conflict.

Finally, a significant obstacle in implementing mediation is the difference in expectations between the parties involved and what mediation can actually do. Often, parties have unrealistic expectations about the outcome of mediation, both in terms of time required and results achieved. This can cause disappointment which leads to rejection of the mediation process itself. Therefore, it is important for mediators to manage these expectations effectively from the start of the mediation process to ensure that both parties have a clear and realistic understanding of what can be achieved through mediation. This research describes in depth the various obstacles and challenges in implementing mediation at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court. These results emphasize the importance of a more integrated approach and strong institutional support to increase the effectiveness of mediation in disability divorce cases, while underscoring the expansion of training and resources for mediators.

### ***Recommendations for Developing Mediation Practice***

Based on the results and discussions obtained from research regarding the role of mediation in resolving divorce cases due to physical disability at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court, several recommendations can be proposed to improve mediation practices. First, comprehensive and ongoing training for mediators is essential. Mediators must have a deep understanding of Islamic law, cultural sensitivity, and strong communication and negotiation skills. This training should also include aspects of psychology and counselling to equip mediators with the ability to handle the emotional and complex situations that often arise in divorce cases. Furthermore, the development of a medical evaluation protocol that is integrated into the mediation process needs to be considered. This protocol

should be designed to ensure that all medical aspects, including therapy and counselling, are considered thoroughly before making the decision to proceed with divorce. This protocol will allow mediators to work with health professionals in assessing and treating medical problems such as impotence, which may influence the divorce decision. This integration will not only help in making more informed decisions but also in supporting couples to explore all recovery options before deciding to divorce.

On the policy side, the proposed recommendations include the development and implementation of policies that support the practice of mediation as the first and main step before the formal divorce process in court. These policies may include incentives for couples who choose mediation and successfully reconcile their differences, as well as financial support or other resources to help them through this process. Thus, this policy will encourage more couples to utilize mediation, which in turn can reduce divorce rates and strengthen family structures. It is also important to spread awareness about the benefits of mediation among the general public and the legal community. Information and education campaigns can help change perceptions about divorce and emphasize the importance of mediation as a constructive problem-solving tool.

This campaign should target all levels of society, from married couples, to lawyers, to judges in court, to ensure that mediation is recognized as a preferable alternative to outright divorce. Finally, there is a need for further research to continue to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of mediation in divorce cases in sharia courts. Data from this research can be used to continually refine and adapt the mediation process, ensuring that the practice adapts to changing needs and remains relevant to social challenges and community needs. In this way, sharia courts can continue to function not only as institutions that decide legal matters, but also as bodies that support the welfare and stability of families.

### ***Analysis of the Role of Medical Assessment in Facilitating Reconciliation***

Analysis of the role of medical assessment in the reconciliation of marriages that experience physical incapacity problems, such as impotence, shows how important the integration of medical knowledge is in the mediation process. In the context of divorce at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court, medical evaluations not only provide enlightenment about the physical conditions faced, but also open up opportunities for couples to consider therapy and solutions that can improve the problem. This information is very crucial because it allows both parties, especially the husband who experiences impotence, to gain a deeper understanding of the medical options available, such as pharmacological therapy or counselling. Thus, the integration of medical assessment in mediation helps couples make more informed decisions about the future of their relationship, potentially saving marriages.

Furthermore, in the mediation process, medical assessment provides an objective basis that helps the mediator in formulating a sensitive and empathetic approach to the problems faced by the couple. A mediator, armed with accurate medical information, can facilitate discussions focused on the possibility of restoring sexual function and its impact on the relationship. This significantly changes the dynamics of mediation from simply resolving conflict towards strengthening the marital bond by exploring every possibility of reconciliation. It also supports Islamic legal principles that prioritize the maintenance of family ties, positioning divorce as the final solution.

Additionally, medical assessments in mediation enrich the dialogue by adding an important health perspective to the discussion. For example, in the case of impotence, knowledge of recent advances in treatment and therapy provides new hope



and reduces the stigma that is often attached to this condition. This knowledge helps in reducing shame and increases the willingness to find solutions together, which significantly influences a couple's decision to stay together or separate in a more peaceful and informed manner.

The integration of medical assessment in mediation also helps in addressing the psychological aspects related to impotence, which are often overlooked in the divorce process. Psychological counselling as part of the medical assessment can reveal psychological factors that influence impotence, such as stress, anxiety, or depression. This involvement of mental health professionals not only helps in the restoration of sexual function but also in strengthening the emotional connection between partners, facilitating a more holistic approach to mediation.

Ultimately, the results of medical assessments integrated into mediation offer more comprehensive and solution-oriented guidance for court decisions. This allows the court to make decisions that are not only based on the law but also take into account the humanity and health aspects of the couples involved. Such an approach helps ensure that decisions taken support the best good of the individual and the integrity of the family, in line with the values espoused by Islamic family law.

### ***Social and Psychological Impact of Divorce on Children and Women***

Divorce often leaves a deep imprint not only on the lives of the separating couple, but also on the children and women involved. Observations and interviews conducted at the Banda Aceh Sharia Court show that divorce due to physical disabilities such as impotence is often followed by social stigmatization of women. In a society that still holds strong traditional values, divorced women can be seen as failing to maintain the integrity of the household, which in turn places them in a vulnerable social position. Additionally, the psychological impact on children from divorced families is significant; they often

experience anxiety, decreased academic performance, and difficulty maintaining healthy social relationships.

Mediation, as an alternative method of problem resolution, has shown significant potential in reducing the negative impact of divorce on children and women. From the data collected, mediation was successful in reducing open conflict between couples, allowing them to communicate more effectively and reach agreements that focused on the best interests of the child. Mediators, with their expertise in Islamic law and family counselling, play an important role in guiding couples to understand the impact of their actions on children and help them formulate a conflict-free post-divorce parenting plan.

Apart from that, mediation also provides a space for women to voice their concerns and needs in a safer and more structured way. In many cases, mediation facilitates discussions regarding post-divorce economic support, access to resources, and maintenance of family relationships. These are key factors that, if managed well, can reduce the likelihood that women will experience economic hardship and social isolation post-divorce. In some observed cases, mediation even succeeded in improving the couple's relationship to such an extent that divorce was no longer seen as the only solution.

Through mediator-facilitated dialogue, some couples find alternative solutions such as joint counselling or medical therapy for impotence, which they had not previously considered. This shows how the integration of medical assessment in mediation can help couples make more informed decisions about the future of their relationship. However, not all cases of mediation result in marriage preservation. In situations where divorce remains the best option, mediation has proven effective in ensuring that the divorce process proceeds more humanely, minimizing trauma for children and providing a better opportunity for women to start a new life with stronger social and social support. as well as economics.

The conclusions of this research emphasize the importance of mediation in modifying legal approaches that focus on litigation to be more collaborative, paying attention to the psychological and social well-being of all parties involved.

## **Conclusion**

The conclusion of this research shows that mediation has a crucial role in reducing the divorce rate in the Banda Aceh Sharia Court, which emphasizes the importance of this intervention as a tool for maintaining family relationships. Mediation not only facilitates a more open and constructive dialogue between couples experiencing conflict, but also increases their understanding of the consequences of divorce and allows for a more educative and reconciliatory approach. Medical assessments in mediation, particularly regarding physical disabilities such as impotence, provide important insight into treatable medical conditions, which often influence decisions in relationships. These results support the integration of medical evaluations in mediation, helping couples reach more informed and fair decisions and consider the potential for relationship maintenance or repair.

Furthermore, this study emphasizes that the success of mediation depends on the quality and competence of the mediator, who must be trained in both Islamic law and family counselling. The social and psychological impact of divorce, especially on children and women, requires sensitive and in-depth treatment, which can be overcome through an effective mediation process. This conclusion proposes that strengthening mediator training, increasing public awareness about the benefits of mediation, and integrating medical assessments in mediation are important steps that must be taken to strengthen the sharia justice system in Indonesia, in line with Islamic values that prioritize harmony and family unity.

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