

## THE ANOMALY OF *GOOD-LOOKING* : THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPIRITUALITY AND EXTREMISM ON HADITH AND SOCIAL RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVE

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### Abstract

The stereotype of Islam as an extremist religion is often associated with adherence in a *good-looking* character to the practices of ritual piety. This study aims to discuss the Hadith that allegedly refers to the presence of *good-looking* phenomenon from the prophetic period. The study uses a descriptive qualitative research

design which relates to the basis of critical analysis through an interdisciplinary approach combining *isnād-cum-matn* and socio-religious phenomenology. The results indicate that the Hadith *good-looking* is *ṣaḥīḥ* (authentic) based on the review of its *sanad* transmission and examination on its *matn*. The *good-looking* trait is attributable to the emptiness of morality in the practice of Islamic spirituality. This vacuity is induced by religious insights focused solely on the theological and normative viewpoints. The solution is to spread moral teaching and moderate religious values proactively through different methods and techniques, such as virtual proselytizing in social media.

**Keywords:** Extremism, *Good-looking*, Hadith, Social Religious

## A. Introduction

Muslims who adhere to the ritual practices of their religious teachings are often portrayed to be associated with radicalism, intolerance, extremism, and even terrorism. This occurrence coincides with the controversy emerged from the statement of the Minister of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia (term of office 2019-2020) during a national seminar in Jakarta, Indonesia. He believed that religious radicalism often arose from Muslim groups that appeared pious and rigorous in their worship routines but having restrictive social relationships in contrast. At that time, he described it as *good-looking* (Asih, 2020). The claim appears to imply a schism between ritual piety and social piety. Although it is undeniable that some religious figures use the appearance of their ritual piety to attain political and economic advantage (Amir, 2019). Conceptually, someone who practices Islamic teachings and is dutiful in forming ritual worship will be protected from behaviors and attitudes that are considered to be vile and evil, as “...inna al-ṣalāh tanhā ‘an al-fakhsyā’ wa al-

*munkar....*" ("Indeed prayer prevents heinous and evil acts") (Q. 29:45).

On the one hand, a closer examination of the sacred texts of Islamic teachings reveals Hadith narrations that explicitly encourage Muslims to dress exclusively in the manner that characterizes the Prophet's "sunnah", as well as prohibitions against performing *tasyabbuh* or resembling the appearance of other religions (Sulaemang *et al.*, 2019). For example, a Hadith urges Muslims to preserve their beards and forbids the wearing of *isbāl* trousers (pants must not go beyond the ankles). On the other hand, Hadith narrations show that such appearances are associated with extremist Muslims. This abnormality has prompted the research's academic curiosity. Thus, it is critical to look into it using three primary questions: (1) How does the narration of the Hadith explain the relationship between ritual piety and violent practices in religion? (2) Why do the practices of religious violence tend to emerge from people who are obedient in practicing *good-looking* religious rituals?; (3) How to overcome the dangers that may arise from a *good-looking* way of religion? Finding answers to the above questions is important to avoid the wishful thinking that every devout Muslim who performs ritual acts of worship righteously is a part of terrorist groups.

A significant number of related studies on the subject have been carried out by concerned scholars including, Achilov and Sen (2017); Amir (2019); Ansor (2016); Rijal (2020); Slama and Barendregt (2018); Syam *et al.* (2020); and Wahib (2017). Specifically, their study focused on analyzing the relationship between ritual piety and identity politics as a variant of religious features between moderation and radicalism, focusing on Muslims in Indonesia. Their findings indicate that the basis of the distinction between moderation

and radicalism is determined by the way they understand religious texts. Moderate understanding is formed by or the result of a broader understanding of religious texts. Inversely, the radicalist's view was generated by their limited textual understanding of Islamic literature, specifically text of Qur'an and Hadith (Duderija, 2007; Wiktorowicz, 2005). By limiting their study on the textual meaning of these Islamic literature, they failed to understand the broader context between extremism and violent behavior. Without having a proper understanding of text messages, the positive meaning of the Prophet's message can be diverted easily. Other research related to hermeneutic analysis studies of al-Qur'an and Hadith on the act of violence in religion has been conducted by Afsaruddin (2008; 2009); Faisal (2018); Sanjev Kumar (2018); and Tabti (2019). They reveal that the act of religious violence is vulnerable to being influenced by the method of interpreting sacred texts they use. That is what triggers the emergence of Islamophobia which claims that Islamic teachings are synonymous with violence. Further tracing on these studies has revealed that there is minimal enough effort made on understanding the connection between the meaning of the Hadith reports on ritual piety and its implications on the practice of violence.

This research argues that the Hadith on the relationship between ritual act based on righteousness and religious violence is *ṣaḥīḥ* (authentic) based on *isnād-cum-matn* analysis. However, the context of the Hadith's history shows the historical fact that the relationship between the two is strange. On one hand, people who are obedient to ritual worship obey the religious teachings manifested in the revealed texts. On the other hand, this obedience still could trigger them to commit violence in the name of religion. This

tendency arises when a person is not equipped with enough sense of morality through broad insights in carrying out their religious teachings, making them strongly feel that they are on the absolute and the only true path.

## **B. Religiosity, Spirituality, and Morality in Religious Terminology**

The Muslim clergy frequently uses exclusive symbols in a definite pattern of religious lifestyle and identity to define their group. Consequently, some Muslim communities' dogmas about the way how to dress, speak, and act are among these emblems. First, they learn how to dress in the "sunnah" style, such as wearing anti-Islam pants, growing a beard, marking dark on the brow, wearing a cap, and so on. Second, they interact with the people around them using everyday conversations that they adapt from a variety of Arabic vocabularies, such as *anā* (me), *antum* (you), *akhī* (brother), and others. Third, they are more concerned with memorizing the Qur'an than analyzing its meaning. The *good-looking* term stated by the Minister of Religious Affairs appears to have replied to this phenomenon. He revealed that individuals who tend to show religious appearance, master Arabic, memorize the Qur'an (*hāfiẓ*), or what he calls *good-looking* can act as an agent of radicalism that needs to be monitored. This statement received a response accusing him of being an individual who was not competent to justify his statement (Asih, 2020).

It has to be admitted that religion is just one part of social identity, a concept that remains difficult to define universally. This is especially the case when we try to comprehend it within the framework of multiple religions of the world. Kimball (2002) mentions this concern in his definition of religion. He argued that when religious communities were

asked about the meaning of the term of religion, they tended to answer according to the religion they profess (Kimball, 2002). Larsen and Rinkel (2016) made a similar argument in their study, which found that between 79.4 and 97.9% of social workers describe religion in their way. It is a huge question that still raises issues in the study of religious dialogue. As a response, Kimball (2002) emphasizes that the concept of truth over religions will be decreased unless the differences factors between religions as a differentiating benchmark are open for discussion. Also, it will be very challenging to find a unification on the diversity of religions in the world. In addition, he also argues that there was a tendency for the definition of religion to be limited to ritual practices, worship, and transcendental obedience, which narrowed its scope down even more (Kimball, 2002). Thus, it is not enough to see spirituality only as one religious entity isolated from other entities representing religious articulation.

It seems that Koenig *et al.*, (2000) definition of religion in his book “Handbook of Religion and Health” is more appropriate to respond to Kimball’s anxiety on the subject. Koenig, *et al.* defined religion as a system of beliefs, practices, rituals, and symbols organized and designed to facilitate a close relationship with two elements, God as sacred or transcendent. The relationship between fellow beings to coexist with each other social community (Koenig *et al.*, 2000). This definition gives birth to two behaviors in religion, religiosity and spirituality. Suppose religiosity appears to be more general by simultaneously including individual and collective behavior. In that case, spirituality is more likely to lead to individual interests in performing only religious practices. Spirituality is a path taken by a person to understand the meaning of life through his relationship with

transcendental God, which is also known as ritual piety (Hogg *et al.*, 2010; Osman-Gani *et al.*, 2013). Thus, it cannot reflect religious terminology as a whole as spirituality or ritual piety represents only one fragment of the definition of religion.

One of the fragments of religion that are often forgotten is morality which functions as an adhesive aspect between religiosity and spirituality (Baumsteiger *et al.*, 2013). Morality is used as a simple concept to measure indicators of the values contained in a person's religious attitude, both in individual and communal spheres. Morality could give birth to values of truth that shape the character of spirituality in a servant's relationship with God. Likewise, morality also forms the values of social solidarity or brotherhood in an attitude of religiosity that connects people (Kimball, 2002). Therefore, without values of morality that link the values of religiosity and spirituality, violence could become part of the truth claimed against a particular religion.

### **C. Characteristics of Violence in Religion**

Before discussing the factors that underlie the emergence of violence in religion, it is important to look at the motivation or psychological orientation underlying people's tendencies to posit religion as a social identity. The study conducted by Henningsgaard and Arnau (2008) shows at least two major groups on this issue, namely, "extrinsic" and "intrinsic". In its simplest terms, intrinsic is a person's tendency to position religion as the goal of life and as the center of his identity (way of life). While extrinsic is the tendency for a person to position religion as a hegemonic tool to achieve the goals of various interests, be they social, theological, political, economic, or cultural (Henningsgaard & Arnau, 2008). This extrinsic attitude can have the opportunity to cause violence in religion

by certain religious groups, which are often associated using the term violent extremism (Hogg *et al.*, 2010).

However, violent extremism is often associated with widespread religious violence against certain religious groups. Wibisono *et al.* revealed that the term has failed to capture different interpretations, beliefs, and attitudes when defining the identity of violence in religion. Furthermore, they also emphasized multidimensional religious extremism that includes theological, ritual, social, and political dimensions of faith based on the diversity of religious groups. Therefore, in some cases, violence in religion does not have to be generalistic because there may be religious groups that are extreme in some dimensions but moderate in other dimensions, for example, radical in ritual but moderate in politics (Wibisono *et al.*, 2019). Religious violence or extremism is also often associated with the ideology of fundamentalism. The term fundamentalism in the literature of religious psychology is articulated as a religious ideology that understands literal revelation texts to be used to claim a single truth, feel part of the religious elite, and view secular or other religious groups as threats from outside (Cohen & Johnson, 2017).

The results of the preliminary investigation revealed historical facts that Hadith reports complied with Minister of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia statement. It can be seen in the following Hadith extracts;

إِنَّ مِنْ ضِعْضِي هَذَا، أَوْ: فِي عَقِبِ هَذَا قَوْمًا يَفْرُغُونَ الْقُرْآنَ لَا يُجَاوِزُ  
حَنَاجِرَهُمْ، يَمْرُقُونَ مِنَ الدِّينِ مُرُوقَ السَّهْمِ مِنَ الرَّمِيَّةِ، يَفْتُلُونَ أَهْلَ  
الْإِسْلَامِ وَيَدْعُونَ أَهْلَ الْأَوْثَانِ، لَعْنُ أَنَا أَدْرَكْتُهُمْ لِأَقْتَلَنَّهُمْ قَتْلَ عَادٍ

*Meaning: the Prophet said, «Among the offspring of this man will be some who will recite the Qur'an but the Qur'an will not reach beyond their throats (i.e., they will recite like parrots and will not understand it nor act on it), and they will renegade from the religion as an arrow goes through the game's body. They will kill the Muslims but will not disturb the idolaters. If I should live up to their time I will kill them as the people of Ad were killed (i.e., I will kill all of them)»* (<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:3344>).

A number of scholars argue that the Hadith narrative describes the prophecy of the Prophet regarding the characteristics of groups of Muslims who are devout to ritual worship but who are prone to violence in the name of religion. According to Muhammad b. 'Abdullāh al-Syaukānī, the Hadith narrations describe a group of Muslims who only present a symbolic appearance of piety but have very poor religious qualifications. They are simply concerned with the appearance of ritual piety and are unconcerned with social morality. These are the folks who are most at risk of having their religious piety used to justify violence in the name of religion (Al-Syaukānī, 1993, Vol. 7, p. 194).

The phenomenon of religious violence has long been a global concern, including Indonesia. When governments prepare counter-terrorism policies, they predominantly focus on reactive actions that are repressively oriented, such as military action and surveillance measures that are responsive to radicalized individuals or groups. Such a step is considered inaccurate, and instead of eliminating the notion of religious violence, it is precisely considered that this is increasingly convincing for certain individuals or religious groups to feel they are in the oppressed truth (Ghosh *et al.*, 2017). Thus,

it is difficult to solve the problem without making a radical identification by investigating the characteristics of religious violence they profess. Kimball (2002) mentions five main indicators that can be identified as part of the characteristics of religious violence. First, absolute truth clime, a religious attitude that tends to claim single truth and exclude other truths. Second, blind obedience, culturing an ideology against certain religious practices, and negatively marginalizing others. Third, establishing the ideal time, determining a certain time in the context of realizing the revival movement as a form of repressive resistance. Fourth, justifies any means, or does everything possible to realize a truth that they consider absolute. Fifth, declaring holy war or warfare as a solution to destroy all forms of evil in the world (Kimball, 2002). These five indicators are used to identify the relationship between ritual piety and aspects of religious violence embodied in the history of the *good-looking* Hadith.

#### **D. Method**

This study used a descriptive qualitative design based on the critical analysis paradigm and socio-religious phenomenology. The database of this research uses literature review or literature research that aims to trace information from the Hadith history about the relationship between ritual piety and the violence practice in religion. The primary data source used is a collection of pre-canonical, canonical, and post-canonical Hadith books. The canonical Hadith literature is *al-Kutub al-Tis'ah* (nine standard books on Sunni tradition, they are: *Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukārī*, *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*, *Sunan Abū Dāūd*, *Sunan at-Tumūzī*, *Sunan Ibn Mājah*, *Sunan an-Nasā'ī*, *Muwattā' Imām Mālik*, and *Musnad Aḥmad bin Ḥanbal*). *Pre-canonical* is literature that appeared before, such as the book *Muṣannaḥ Ibn*

*Abī Syaibah* and the book *Muṣannaḥ ‘Abd al-Razzāq al-San’ānī*. *Post-canonical* sources are Hadith literature that appeared after canonical literature or what is meant in this study is the book *Al-Mustadrak ‘alā al-Ṣaḥīḥain*. The limitation on the 12 pieces of literature was carried out because the books represented the Hadith literature which methodologically fulfilled the general standards of Hadith critics scholars. The secondary sources used are the literature *jarḥ wa ta’dīl* (scholar’s explanation of the status of *isnād*/chain of the transmitter), *syarah* Hadith literature (scholar’s description of the Hadith), and other literature related to this research.

Data collection was carried out using observation and documentation techniques. The observation technique is carried out by tracing primary data or the Hadith data through the help of two digital book applications, namely, *Al-Maktabah al-Syāmilah* version 3.64 and *Jawāmi ‘al-Kalīm* version 4.5. Both applications were chosen because they were considered effective and efficient in tracing the Hadith text in the primary literature. However, the application is only used for data exploration, but citing literature sources still refers to the original source. The Hadiths collected are then classified thematically to be documented in tabulated format to facilitate investigations at the data analysis level.

After the primary data is classified into tabulated form, then the data is analyzed using Motzki’s (2005) *Isnād-cum-Matn Analysis* approach, both at the *isnād* transmission line analysis level or the calendar. At the same time, the *matn* analysis is projected to trace the originals of the Hadith text. It was done to ensure that the Hadith studied was really at the *ṣaḥīḥ* (authentic) one. Furthermore, the characteristics of religious violence found in the Hadith are discussed using a hermeneutic-philosophical approach and dialogue with the concepts of religious, social

phenomenology, particularly the results of Kimball's mapping of the various characteristics of violence. The findings from this discussion are further examined through discussions with various previous studies to ensure a discursive aspect. The final step after conducting the discussion is to conclude the theoretical claims obtained in this study.

### **E. *Good-Looking* Articulation in the Hadith Review**

The study of authenticity is a crucial part of the study of Hadith. It distinguishes it from the Qur'anic studies because the Qur'an transmission has been agreed upon and believed by Muslims to be the text of the revelation transmitted communally (*mutawātir*). That is why the status of Hadith narration is not entirely claimed to have the status of *ṣaḥīḥ* (really can be relied on to the Messenger of Allah or the early generation of Islam) because the majority of Hadiths are narrated in a limited manner (*āḥād*). Likewise, in the narration of Hadith, some are narrated *lafzī* (uniform in structure), and some are *maknawī* (different in structure, but substantially the same). Therefore, before analyzing the meaning of the Hadith content, it is important to know the transmission of the narrative. It is done by analyzing the *isnād* (dating) to prove that the Hadiths studied were transmitted validly and authentically from the Prophet or the early generation of Islam in the 7<sup>th</sup> century of Hijriah.

#### **1. *Isnād* Analysis**

The search results using the keyword "*yaqra'ūna al-Qur'āna lā yujāwizu*" showed that there were 65 narrations recorded in 12 books, except in the book *Al-Muwaṭṭa Mālik*. Of the 65 narrations found, there are six

classifications of Hadith versions, namely, 1) narrations with a standard version using the clause “*yaqraūna al-Qur’āna lā yujāwīzu hanājirahum*” (“some who will recite the Qur’an but the Qur’an will not reach beyond their throats”) and “*yamruqūna min al-dīn kamā yamruq al-sahm min al-ramiyyah*” (“they will renegade from the religion as an arrow goes through the game’s body”); 2) a history that begins with a question about *al-Ḥarūriyyah*; 3) history as a background of the protest case committed by *Żulkhuwaiṣirah*; 4) narration which begins with the story of distributing Ḥunain’s spoils of war in *Ji’rānah*; 5) the narration which began with ‘Alī’s feud with *Khawārij* in *Nahrawān*; and 6) the history against which the distribution of gold was sent by ‘Alī from Yemen. However, the researcher chose to focus on the latest version. This version found as many as 11 historical paths that have identical text.

The choice of this version is because it is found in the phrase, which explicitly contains violent connotations. In addition, this version also has a detailed historical background (*wurūd*) and is included in the majority of authoritative Hadith books. One of the narrations chosen to be presented as the primary text for further explanation is the Hadith listed in the book *Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī* with Hadith number 3344 as follows:

قَالَ ابْنُ كَثِيرٍ، عَنْ سُفْيَانَ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنْ ابْنِ أَبِي ثَعْمٍ، عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ، قَالَ: بَعَثَ عَلِيٌّ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ، إِلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ بِذَهَبَةٍ فَقَسَمَهَا بَيْنَ الْأَرْبَعَةِ الْأَفْرَعِ بْنِ حَابِسِ الْحَنْظَلِيِّ، ثُمَّ الْمَجَاشِعِيِّ، وَعُيَيْنَةَ بْنِ بَدْرِ الْفَزَارِيِّ، وَزَيْدِ الطَّائِيِّ، ثُمَّ أَحَدِ بَنِي تَبَهَانَ،

وَعَلَّقَمَةَ بْنِ عَلَانَةَ الْعَامِرِيِّ، ثُمَّ أَحَدِ بَنِي كِلَابٍ، فَعَضِبَتْ قُرَيْشٌ،  
وَالْأَنْصَارُ، قَالُوا: يُعْطِي صَنَادِيدَ أَهْلِ نَجْدٍ وَيَدْعُنَا، قَالَ: إِنَّمَا أَتَأَلَّفُهُمْ.  
فَأَقْبَلَ رَجُلٌ غَائِرُ الْعَيْنَيْنِ، مُشْرِفُ الْوَجْنَتَيْنِ، نَاتِيءُ الْجَبِينِ، كَثُّ اللَّحْيَةِ،  
مَحْلُوقٌ، فَقَالَ: اتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَا مُحَمَّدُ، فَقَالَ: مَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ إِذَا عَصَيْتُ؟ أَيَأْمَنِي  
اللَّهُ عَلَى أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ فَلَا تَأْمُنُونِي، فَسَأَلَهُ رَجُلٌ قَتْلَهُ-أَحْسِبُهُ خَالِدَ بْنَ  
الْوَلِيدِ-فَمَنَعَهُ، فَلَمَّا وَلَّى قَالَ: إِنَّ مِنْ ضِعْضِيِّ هَذَا، أَوْ: فِي عَقِبِ هَذَا  
قَوْمًا يَقْرَأُونَ الْقُرْآنَ لَا يُجَاوِزُ حَنَاجِرَهُمْ، يَمْزُقُونَ مِنَ الدِّينِ مُرُوقَ السَّهْمِ  
مِنَ الرَّمِيَّةِ، يَقْتُلُونَ أَهْلَ الْإِسْلَامِ وَيَدْعُونَ أَهْلَ الْأَوْثَانِ، لَعْنُ أَنَا أَذْرَكْتُهُمْ  
لَأَقْتُلَنَّاهُمْ قَتْلَ عَادٍ

*Meaning: Narrated Abu Sa'īd: 'Ali sent a piece of gold to the Prophet (ﷺ) who distributed it among four persons: Al-Aqra bin H'Abis Al-Hanzali from the tribe of Mujashi, Uyaina bin Badr Al-Fazari, Zaid at-Ta'i who belonged to (the tribe of) Bani Nahban, and Alqama bin Ulatha Al-'Amir who belonged to (the tribe of) Bani Kilab. So, the Quraish and the Ansar became angry and said, «He (i.e., the Prophet) gives the chief of Najd and does not give us.» The Prophet (ﷺ) said, «I give them) so as to attract their hearts (to Islam).» Then a man with sunken eyes, prominent checks, a raised forehead, a thick beard and a shaven head, came (in front of the Prophet (ﷺ)) and said, «Be afraid of Allah, O Muhammad!» The Prophet (ﷺ) said «Who would obey Allah if I disobeyed Him? (Is it fair that) Allah has trusted all the people of the earth to me while, you do not trust me?» Somebody who, I think was Khalid bin Al-Walid, requested the Prophet (ﷺ) to let him chop that man's head off, but he prevented him. When the man left, the Prophet (ﷺ) said, «Among the off-spring of this man will be some who will recite the Qur'an but the Qur'an will not reach beyond their throats (i.e., they will recite like parrots and will not understand it nor act on it),*

*and they will renegade from the religion as an arrow goes through the game's body. They will kill the Muslims but will not disturb the idolaters. If I should live up to their time> I will kill them as the people of <Ad were killed (i.e., I will kill all of them)>* (<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:3344>).

The text of this Hadith tells that one time the Prophet (PBUH) distributed gold to a certain group sent by 'Alī bin Abī Ṭālib, but the portion of the distribution was protested by people from among the Quraish and Ansar tribes. One of those who protested and accused Rasulullah of being unfair claimed that Rasulullah did not have devotion to Allah. Rasulullah immediately refuted this accusation by stating, "*man yuṭī'illāh izā 'aṣaitu, aya'manūniy Allāhu 'alā ahl al-arḍi fa lā ta'manūnī*" (Who can obey Allah if I disobey Him, is it proper for Allah to trust me for the inhabitants of the earth when you do not believe in me?). Responding to this condition, Khalīd bin Walid, also present at the event, asked the Prophet for permission to kill the young man, even though the Prophet later forbade it. After that person passed, the Messenger of Allah then revealed the characteristics of certain groups that would emerge from that person's descendants. The Prophet conveyed these criteria in a metaphorical expression which states that

«...Among the off-spring of this man will be some who will recite the Qur'an but the Qur'an will not reach beyond their throats, and they will renegade from the religion as an arrow goes through the game's body. They will kill the Muslims but will not disturb the idolaters. If I should live up to their time> I will kill them as the people of <Ad were killed (<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:3344>)

Furthermore, to make it easier to understand the transmission lines and *takhrīj* (sources of history in the Hadith literature) of the 11 narrations, they are illustrated in the form of an *isnād* transmission scheme as shown in figure 1.

Figure 1 shows the narration of the Hadith, which consists of 11 transmission lines, that leads to the exact source of the *Ṣaḥābah* (Companions), namely Abū Saʿīd al-Khudrī (d. 63/682), as well as one *Tābiʿīn* (the next generation of companions) source, namely ʿAbd al-Raḥmān bin Abī Nuʿm (d. 100/718). He was a middle generation *Tābiʿīn* (*ṭabaqah al-wustā*) from Kufah who had the *ṣadūq* qualification. The students are Saʿīd bin Masrūq (d. 126/744) and ʿUmārah bin al-Qaʿqāʾ (d. 144/761) who are also both Kufic residents who lived during the junior generation of *Tābiʿīn* and had *ṣiqah* qualifications. Both of them convey history to different students. Saʿīd bin Masrūq conveyed to two of his students, namely Sufyān al-Ṣaurī (d. 161/777) a narrator with the qualifications of *ṣiqah ḥāfiẓ* and Salām bin Salīm (d. 179/795) who also had the *ṣiqah mutqin* qualification. Meanwhile, the path of ʿUmārah bin al-Qaʿqāʾ transmits the history to two of his students, namely ʿAbd al-Wāḥid bin Ziyād (d. 176/792) who qualifies as *ṣiqah*, and Muḥammad bin Fuḍail (d. 295/907) who qualifies as *ṣadūq*. The narrative of Saʿīd bin Masrūq is recorded in six works of literature; namely, *Al-Musannaʿ* by ʿAbd al-Razzāq al-Sanʿānī (d. 211/826), *Musnad Aḥmad* by Aḥmad bin Ḥanbal (d. 241/855), *Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī* by al-Bukhārī (d. 256/870), *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim* by Muslim bin al-Ḥajjāj (d. 261/874), *Sunan Abū Dāwud* by Abū Dāwud (d. 275/888), and *Sunan al-Nasāʾī* by al-Nasāʾī (d. 303/915). While, the narrative of ʿUmārah bin al-Qaʿqāʾ is recorded in the literature of *Musnad Aḥmad*, *Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī*, and *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*.



narrators in this Hadith *isnād* claimed *ṣiqah* by the scholars of Hadith criticism through the *jarḥ wa ta'dīl* method. Also, the years of death among each *isnād* are not much different, so they are considered to have the opportunity to meet each other to receive the narrations of Hadith during their lifetime. However, based on figure 1, three narrators tend to be in the *seeming common link* (collectors), namely 'Abd al-Raḥmān bin Nu'm and two of his students, Sa'īd bin Masrūq and 'Umārah bin al-Qa'qā'. Therefore, these three Hadith began to spread widely around the first half of the third century of Hijriah.

'Abd al-Raḥmān bin Abī Nu'm also known by Abū al-Ḥakam who was domiciled in Kufah, died around 100 Hijriah during the reign of 'Abd al-Malik bin Marwān (Al-Bustī, 1991). He was known as a *zuhud* and an expert in worship. He was also known to be diligent in fasting, and even Al-Mugīrah revealed that Abū al-Ḥakam had fasted for 15 consecutive days until he looked sick (Al-Aṣbahānī, 2004). Al-Nasā'ī and Ibn Ḥibbān claim him as *ṣiqah*, while Ibn Ma'in claims him as *ḍa'īf* (Al-Ḍahabī, 1963, vol. 2, p. 595). He also narrated Hadith from several companions such as Abū Sa'īd al-Khudrī and Abū Hurairah. However, not many Hadiths can be found in the collection he narrated (Al-Ḍahabī, 1986, vol. 5, p. 62). Sa'īd bin Masrūq and 'Umārah bin al-Qa'qā' are listed as two of his disciples. Sa'īd bin Masrūq died around the year 126 Hijrah or during the reign of 'Abdullah bin 'Umar bin 'Abd al-'Azīz in Iraq (Al-Bagdādī, 1968, vol. 6, p. 327). He also lived in Kufah, which was claimed *ṣiqah* by the scholars of Hadith (Al-Ḍahabī, 2003, vol. 3, p. 423). Likewise, 'Umārah bin al-Qa'qā' died around 144 Hijriah (Al-Bustī, 1991, p. 265). He is also domiciled in Kufah which is also agreed to be qualified

*siqah*. ‘Abd al-Wāḥid bin Ziyād and Jarīr bin Fuḍail narrated from him the traditions about Prayers, Testaments, and others (Al-Kalābāzī, 1986). In addition, he is also recorded as narrating Hadith with Sufyān al-Ṣaurī. Ibn al-Madīnī revealed that he narrated about 30 narration recorded from him (Al-Mizzī, 1980, vol. 21, p. 263).

Based on the review of the biographical history of the three *isnād* lines, there are no irregularities in the calendar and assessment of the *jarḥ and ta’dīl* among the three. They can be sure to transmit the Hadith history to one another. When referring to Juynboll’s (2008) *Common Link* theory, the dating of the transmission of this Hadith is considered not problematic. However, investigating the transmission of *isnād* alone is not sufficient when referring to the *Isnād-cum-Matn* Motzki (2005) theory because it is also important to examine the authenticity of the *matn* of Hadith. The aim is to trace the existence of text (*syāz*), both addition (*idrāj*) and subtraction (*nuqṣān*) contained in it. Therefore, the following discussion is projected to describe the analysis of the Hadith *matn*.

## 2. *Matn Analysis*

Although the Hadith is narrated from the same *ṣaḥābah* and *tābi‘īn*, there are two different versions of the text. The eight historical pathways contain redaction as narrated by al-Bukhārī, while the other three narrative lines have additional phrases as shown in the following Hadith:

أَلَا تَأْمُنُونِي وَأَنَا أَمِينٌ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاءِ، يَا تُبَيِّئِي حَبِيرُ السَّمَاءِ صَبَاحًا وَمَسَاءً،  
قَالَ: فَقَامَ رَجُلٌ غَائِرُ الْعَيْنَيْنِ، مُشْرِفُ الْوَجْنَتَيْنِ، نَاشِرُ الْجِبْهَةِ، كَثُّ

اللَّحِيَّةِ، مَخْلُوقِ الرَّأْسِ، مُشَمَّرُ الإِزَارِ، فَقَالَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ اتَّقِ اللَّهَ، قَالَ: وَيْلَكَ، أَوْلَسْتُ أَحَقَّ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ أَنْ يَتَّقِيَ اللَّهَ قَالَ: ثُمَّ وَلَى الرَّجُلُ، قَالَ خَالِدُ بْنُ الْوَلِيدِ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، أَلَا أَضْرِبُ عُنُقَهُ؟ قَالَ: لَا، لَعَلَّهُ أَنْ يَكُونَ يُصَلِّي فَقَالَ خَالِدٌ: وَكَمْ مِنْ مُصَلٍّ يَقُولُ بِلِسَانِهِ مَا لَيْسَ فِي قَلْبِهِ، قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: إِنِّي لَمْ أُؤْمَرْ أَنْ أَنْقُبَ عَنْ قُلُوبِ النَّاسِ وَلَا أَشَقَّ بُطُونَهُمْ قَالَ: ثُمَّ نَظَرَ إِلَيْهِ وَهُوَ مُعَفِّفٌ، فَقَالَ: إِنَّهُ يَخْرُجُ مِنْ ضِعْضِي هَذَا قَوْمٌ يَتْلُونَ كِتَابَ اللَّهِ رَطْبًا، لَا يُجَاوِزُ حَنَاجِرَهُمْ، يَمْزُقُونَ مِنَ الدِّينِ كَمَا يَمْزُقُ السَّهْمُ مِنَ الرَّمِيَّةِ، وَأَطْنَهُ قَالَ: لَكِنِ أَدْرَكْتُهُمْ لَأَقْتُلَنَّهُمْ قَتْلَ تَمُودَ

The underlined clause is not found in any other Hadith version. This version is found in a three-line narrative that comes from ‘Umārah bin al-Qa’qā’, while another version of the eight narrations comes from Sa’id bin Masrūq. There are three significant differences related to the Hadith between the version of Sa’id bin Masrūq and the version of ‘Umārah bin al-Qa’qā’. *First*, the version of ‘Umārah bin al-Qa’qā’ contains the phrase “*lā, la ‘allahū an yakūna yuṣallī*” which is not included in the version of Sa’id bin Masrūq’s narrative. *Second*, the Sa’id bin Masrūq version contains the phrase “*yaqtulūn ahl al-Islām wa yatrukūn ahl al-awsān*” which is not found in the narrated version of ‘Umārah bin al-Qa’qā’. *Third*, the version of Sa’id bin Masrūq which contains the phrase “*la’aqtulannahum qatl ‘ād*”, while the ‘Umārah bin al-Qa’qā’ version uses the phrase “*qatl šamūd*”.

However, it seems difficult to prove the occurrence of *idrāj* (insertion) or *nuqṣān* (reduction) between the two versions of Sa'īd bin Masrūq's narrative and the version of 'Umārah bin al-Qa'qā', because both are recorded in *Ṣaḥīḥain* (book al-Bukhāri and Muslim). Therefore, the phrases of "*yaqtulūn ahl al-Islām wa yatrūkūn ahl al-awsān*" and "*la'aqtulannahum qatl ād*" or "*la'aqtulannahum qatl ṣamūd*" are significant and substantive phrase in explaining the criteria intended by the Prophet. The phrase of "*la'aqtulannahum qatl ād*" or "*la'aqtulannahum qatl ṣamūd*" at the end of the entire Hadith suggests the regressiveness of the Prophet, so that the phrase of "*yaqtulūn ahl al-Islām wa yatrūkūn ahl al-awsān*" is a logical reason for the Prophet's statement. Even the promise of great rewards on the Day of Judgment for those who managed to kill him (Abū Dāwud, 2009, vol. 4, p. 244; Al-Bukhāri, 1993, vol. 4, p. 200; Al-Nasā'i, 1986, vol. 7, p. 119) also a proper legitimacy. This is reinforced by a narration of Abū Sa'īd which states that they are the worst beings (*syarr al-khalq wa al-khalīqah*) because their beautiful speech is not in tune with their bad behavior (*yuḥsinūn al-qīla wa yusi'ūna al -fi'la*), so that their presence is prone to causing conflicts that have an impact on the division of the people (Abū Dāwud, 2009, vol. 4, p. 243). The order to kill is a logical implication for their existence, which is potentially dangerous for Muslims. It is in line with the statement of the Prophet in other narrations that their appearance was related to divisions and conflicts among the people (Al-Naisāburi, 1990, vol. 2, p. 160-161).

Some other information also shows that the characteristics mentioned in the Hadith reports are

associated with the *Khawārij* group. One of them is the narration of ‘Alī bin Abī Ṭālib when discussing the characteristics of the *Khawārij* group. The characteristics in the history add information about physical characteristics such as the size of his body, which tends to be short, and lumps and white hairs on his arms (Abū Dāwud, 2009, vol. 4, p. 245). The Hadith also adds to the phrase of the oath uttered by ‘Alī bin Abī Ṭālib three times to confirm the legitimacy that these characteristics he heard directly from the Prophet. Likewise, another narration of ‘Alī bin Abī Ṭālib is found which is similar to that narration. However, this history does not show any specific explanation regarding the micro-historical context that underlies it. However, the other version of the Hadith added two criteria, namely “*ḥudaṣā ‘al-asnān sufahā al-aḥlām*” or being young, but having intellectual limitations, and “*yaqūlūna min qaḥuli khair al-bariyyah*” or having capable rhetorical communication skills. The information in this narrative is in line with the narrations conveyed by other narrations through the route ‘Abdullah bin Mas‘ūd (Ibn Abī Syaibah, 1409, vol. 7, p. 553; Ibn Mājah, 2009, vol. 1, p. 59).

On various occasions, the Hadith narrations were also conveyed by other Companions when responding to events or questions related to the criteria mentioned in this narration. For example, the history of Abū Sa‘īd al-Khudrī who conveyed the words of the Prophet when asked about the al-Ḥarūriyyah group, which was called a sect of the *Khawārij* group (Al-Bukhārī, 1422, vol. 9, p. 16; Al-Ḥajjāj 1991, vol. 2, p. 163; Al-Ṣan‘ānī, 1403, vol. 10, p. 146; Ḥanbal 2001, vol. 25, p. 351; Ibn Abī Syaibah 1409, vol. 7, p. 560; Ibn Mājah 2009, vol. 1, p. 60). The Hadith version that mentions this sect contains

additional information, namely “*yata’abbadūn*” or people who maximally perform ritual worship (Ibn Abī Syaibah, 1409, vol. 7, p. 557; Ibn Mājah, 2009, vol. 1, p. 60) and “*yata’ammaqūna fī al-dīn*” or people who are always diligent in their religious practice (Ḥanbal, 2001, vol. 17, p. 393). Therefore, the text of this Hadith can be considered *masyhūr* (famous) or *mutawātir maknawī* (narrated communally based on its meaning) among Muslims in the 7<sup>th</sup> century Hijriah because it was narrated from many narrators with similar substance meanings.

## F. The Characteristics of *Good-Looking*

From the overall Hadith text, it can be hermeneutically mapped into five characteristics as an indicator of the relationship between ritual piety and religious violence. This research calls it *good-looking*. The characteristics are mapped in the illustration table 1.

**Table 1:** Characteristics of *good-looking* in the text of Hadith

Nu.	Characteristics	Text of Hadith
1	Religious symbolism	“ <i>gā’ir al-‘ainaini</i> ”, “ <i>mahlūq al-ra’si</i> ” “ <i>musyrifal-wajnatani</i> ”, “ <i>nāti’ al-jabīn</i> ”, “ <i>nāsyiz al-jabhah</i> ”, “ <i>kaśś al-liḥya</i> ”, and “ <i>musyammār al-izāri</i> ” (Abū Dāwud 2009, vol. 7, p. 142; Al-Bukhārī 1993, vol. 3, p. 1219, vol. 4, p. 1581, vol. 6, p. 2702; Al-Ḥajjāj 1955, vol. 2, p. 741, 742; Al-Nasā’ī 1986, vol. 5, p. 87, vol. 7, p. 118)
2	Absolute truth monopoly	“ <i>ittaqi-llāh yā Muḥammad</i> ” and “ <i>ī’dil yā Muḥammad</i> ” or “ <i>innaka lam ta’dil</i> ” (Ḥanbal 2001, vol. 23, p. 123; Ibn Mājah 2009, vol. 1, p. 61)

3	Obedient to carry out rituals, without a solid religious knowledge base	“ <i>yaqra’ūna al-Qur’ān lā yujāwizu hanājirahum</i> ” (Abū Dāwud 2009, vol. 7, p. 142; Al-Bukhārī 1993, vol. 3, p. 1219, vol. 6, p. 2702; Al-Nasā’ī 1986, vol. 5, p. 87, vol. 7, p. 118)
4	Easy to change the belief	“ <i>yamruqūn min al-dīn kamā yamruq al-sahm min al-ramiyyah</i> ” (Abū Dāwud 2009, vol. 7, p. 145; Al-Bukhārī 1993, vol. 3, p. 1321, vol. 4, p. 1581, vol. 4, p. 1927; Al-Ḥajjāj 1955, vol. 2, p. 740, 741, 742, 744, 746, 747, 748; Al-Nasā’ī 1986, vol. 5, p. 87, vol. 7, p. 119; Al-Tirmizī 1975, vol. 4, p. 481; Ḥanbal 2001, vol. 2, p. 95, 114, 329, 411, 431, 453, 471)
5	Tend to take repressive actions	“ <i>yaqṭulūn ahl al-Islām wa yad’ūna ahl al-awsān</i> ” (Abū Dāwud 2009, vol.7, p. 142; Al-Bukhārī 1993, vol. 3, p. 1219, vol. 6, p. 2702; Al-Ḥajjāj 1955, vol. 2, p. 741; Al-Nasā’ī 1986, vol. 5, p. 87)

The first character embodies physical appearance as a symbol of ritual piety, as shown in the Hadith text, which mentions the characteristics of people who insult the Prophet. Friends described the person as having sunken eyes (*gā’ir al-‘ainaini*), prominent temples (*musyrif al-wajnataini*), thick beard (*kašš al-lihyah*), hair shaved so that his head was bald (*maḥlūq al-ra’si*), and his clothes lifted above his ankles (*musyammār al-izāri*). Another narration describes the way they dressed clean and tidy (*šaubāni abyadāni*) and had a prostration mark on their forehead (*baina ‘ainaihi ašar al-sujūd*) (Al-‘Ainī, 2001, vol. 18, p. 11; Ibn Al-Mulqin 2008, vol. 21, p. 521).

Second, it is easy to claim the mistakes of others using negative justifications, even the policy of the Prophet Muhammad as the messenger of Allah was also protested,

as seen in the phrase “*ittaqi-llāh yā Muḥammad*” or “*yā Muḥammad mā ‘adalta*”. This character is reinforced by the spirit of the claim of justification which is not accompanied by adequate intellectual capacity, as confirmed by another narration sourced from ‘Alī bin Abī Ṭālib which describes one of the characters predicted by the Prophet as “*ḥudasā’ al-asnān, sufahā al-aḥlām*” (Al-Bukhārī 1422, vol. 4, p. 200). Such low intellectual capacity causes them to be unable to properly understand the philosophical meaning and purpose of the Prophet’s policy, in this case, his policy not to share the spoils of war evenly. This is what underlies their accusations and insults against the Messenger of Allah, which they claim to be unfair. Therefore, their claim to truth has shifted from what it should be (Al-Qaṣṭalānī 1323, vol. 6, p. 59). The scholars even call their phrase “*kalimat ḥaqq urīdu bihā bāṭil*” (an expression that is cursory true but its true purpose is evil) (Al-Nawawī 1392, vol. 7, p. 173).

Third, ritual piety is simply symbolic, which has no implications for the practice of religious morality, as seen in the phrase “*lā yujāwizu hanājirahum*”. The Prophet in more detail mentioned the characters “*yaqra’ūna al-Qur’ān*” and “*tuḥqirūna ṣalātakum ma’a ṣalātihim, wa ṣiyāmakum ma’a ṣiyāmihim, wa ‘amalakum ma’a ‘amalihim*”, namely reading fluency and enthusiasm for worship that surpasses the average person so that other Muslims feel less good about the group’s worship. Apart from rituals, they also have high rhetorical abilities, and even their speech is dominated by revelation narratives as depicted in the Prophet’s words “*yaqūlūna min qauli khair al-bariyyah*” and “*yatakallamūna bi kalimat al-ḥaqq*”. However, Rasulullah claims “*yuḥsinūna al-qaula wa yusi’ūna al-fi’la*”, that their rhetorical abilities are not in line with their morals. That is why some scholars consider that behind the privileges of those

who are obedient in carrying out the ritual, they are suspected of having minimal or below average intellectual abilities (*sufahā al-ahlām*) (Al-Qaṣṭalānī, 1323, vol. 7, p. 486). Therefore, their proficiency in reading the Qur'an, as well as their persistence in carrying out ritual worship, is not directly proportional to their social behaviour in their religious life.

Al-Zarqanī also revealed that one of the factors of heresy here is their fluent reading of the Qur'an, but it is not accompanied by understanding and appreciation, even tends to reduce the meaning of the Qur'an (Al-Zarqānī, 2003, vol. 2, p. 19). Thus, the expression "*lā yujāwizu hanājirahum*" in the Hadith text does not mean that they only read the Qur'an without trying to interpret it. They do exactly that, but simultaneously, they reduce the meaning of the substance. The reduction in meaning they do is not because of *kufṛ* (heathen) background, but because of their stubbornness to open their insights into their knowledge. Al-Asybilī also claimed that it was suspected that it could be more dangerous than *kufṛ* itself (Al-Asybilī, 1992, vol. 1, p. 404). Lāsyīn also stated that the ignorance mentioned in the text of the Hadith was considered more dangerous because it was covered by a pious, *zuhud*, solemn appearance and capable rhetorical abilities, but his behavior was not directly proportional to his words (Lāsyīn, 2002, vol. 4, p. 444).

Fourth, the inability to maintain faith, making it easy to change beliefs. It is shown in the phrase "*yamruqun min al-dīn kamā yamruq al-sahm*". Another Hadith also mentions "*yakhrujūn min al-dīn*" which confirms that the diction "*yamruq*" connotes the meaning of their departure from religion, even though at the same time they are still Muslim. It was emphasized by the Messenger of Allah by analogizing their diversity as a bow that released quickly and pierced its

target but did not leave the slightest trace on the bow, animal flesh, or feathers. An expression is a form of metaphor or analogy which shows a sign that it is as if people who have these characteristics have a religion like a bow that is fired fast. It means that obedience to religious orders is their priority. However, just like a bow that has pierced an animal's body without leaving a trace or a drop of blood all over the bow, they can also leave religious orders from the base to the tip. At the beginning of the Hadith, this analogy is synchronous with the phrase stating that their Qur'an recitation is restricted to ritual or reading. In line, Al-Qastalanī revealed that they were fluent when reading the verses of the Qur'an, but did not make an impression on their hearts and behaviour (Al-Qaṣṭalānī, 1323, vol. 7, p. 486). Similarly, the analogy expressed by al-Zarqānī is that their connection with religion is like a person who only eats and drinks for the benefit of his throat but does not benefit his body's health at all (Al-Zarqānī, 2003, vol. 2, p. 19).

The phrase "*yamruqūna min al-dīn*", which means leaving Islam, is used as an argument by some scholars such as Ibn al-'Arabī to associate them as unbelievers (Al-Zarqānī, 2003, vol. 2, p. 19). It is different with al-Nawawī and al-Khaṭṭābī who are reluctant to position them as infidels because according to them, the characteristics described by the Messenger of Allah are not included in the character of unbelievers and hypocrites (Al-Qaṣṭalānī, 1323, vol. 7, p. 486; Lāsyīn, 2002, vol. 4, p. 444). They are different from unbelievers because they are like people who believe and diligently worship, also different from hypocrites who are reluctant to make *dhikr* (remember Allah), while they are obedient and diligent in doing *dhikr* in the morning and evening. As for Al-Khaṭṭābī stated that they are like believers but "blind and deaf", so it is easy for them to be misled (Al-Qaṣṭalānī, 1323, vol. 7, p. 486).

Fifth, committing acts of violence against fellow Muslims, as shown in the phrase “*yaqtulun ahl al-Islām wa yatrukūn ahl al-awsān*”. Their actions were claimed by the Messenger of Allah as treasonous acts that could cause chaos and division of the ummah, as stated in the phrase “*yakhrujūna ‘alā ḥīni furqatin min al-nās*” and “*sayakūnu fī ummatī ikhtilāf wa furqah*”. In response, the scholars considered the punishment they deserved was death. It appears in the Hadith text through the narrations of Abū Sa‘īd, Ibn Mas‘ūd, and ‘Alī bin Abī Ṭālib. The order is claimed to be an order which is obligatory through the oath sign used by ‘Alī bin Abī Ṭālib when conveying this narration to his student. Al-Nawawī also confirmed this claim; he considered that the scholars had agreed upon the Hadith narrative as the basis for the obligation to execute the Khawārij people and similar mess makers. In line , al-Qāḍī also emphasized that basically, it is not only the Khawārij group that must be put to death but also people who have the character of making heresy and confusion. Actually, he limited it specifically to the behavior of people who opposed the leader, violated congregational agreements, and damaged public facilities (Al-Uramī, 2009, vol. 12, p. 275).

The five *good-looking* characteristics extracted from the text of the Hadith, when linked to the indicators of religious violence formulated by Kimbal, can be found in some identical characteristics. It is illustrated in the visualization as in Table 2:

**Table 2:** Characteristic Relation between *Good-Looking* and Religious Violence

<i>Good-looking</i>	<i>Religious Violence</i>
Religious symbolism	<i>Absolute truth clime</i>
Absolute truth monopoly	<i>Blind obedience</i>
Obedient to carry out rituals without a solid religious knowledge base.	<i>Establishing the ideal time</i>
Easy to change the belief	<i>Justifies any means</i>
Tend to take repressive actions	<i>Declaring holy war</i>

The two groups of characteristics appear identical, even though each group has a different characteristic. Religious symbolism does not appear to be found in Kimball's characteristics, and *establishing the ideal time* is not found in the characteristics mentioned in the Hadith. However, the two groups of characteristics can complement each other to identify the characteristics of religious adherents who adhere to ritual or spiritual teachings but are prone to commit acts of violence in religion.

### **G. Discussion: Responding to the Characteristics of *Good-Looking***

The perfection of one's religiosity will not be realized if it is only armed with religious piety or spirituality without being equipped with moral values. Moreover, it tends to encourage the emergence of the religious violence practice. This morality can only be formed through an established scientific capital without limiting religious insight only to a theological perspective alone. When referring to the various *good-looking* characteristics illustrated in the Hadith history, it appears that the characteristics of the person mentioned in it are devoid of moral values. That is why the parameters of justice or truth he uses only considering aspects that are appeared normative or limited to ritual judgments alone. It is in line with Wahib's (2017) findings which perceive the Islamic ideological group Salafism tendency in Indonesia. The findings show that this group tends to impose their understanding to be applied by other Islamic groups. They carried out this action under the pretext of purifying Islamic teachings by transforming a dress style under the aesthetic characteristics of the Middle East (Arab State) and using Arabic as the primary language in Islam. Their purpose is to

create intimacy among the members of their group. However, at the same time, they distance themselves from Muslims who are different from their ideology (Wahib 2017).

This *good-looking* characteristic can not only be found in the religious activities of traditional community groups but has also been distributed through the practice of religious mediation in virtual social media. The religious nuances displayed in it are more specifically directed at the contestation of symbols of ritual piety (Amir 2019). Such phenomena can be seen from the various posts of religious community groups or organizations in Indonesia that are increasingly spreading such expressions. Every day, users post posts, *memes*, videos, and images on social media to emphasize their position of ritual piety. At the same time, they either present scorn for other ideologies or openly condemn the thoughts and practices of Muslims that differ from them (Slama & Barendregt, 2018). The emergence of this phenomenon cannot be separated from interpreting revelation texts that are understood in a simplified manner. Venkatraman (2007) revealed that extreme religious interpretations originate from the Islamic Revivalism movement group's reduction in interpretations of revelation texts. Through the term Jihad, they have legalized acts of religious violence that ostensibly originate from authoritative Islamic teachings (Venkatraman 2007). Faisal (2018) revealed that the reductionist act of interpretation caused such misinterpretation. Each religious group only debated the results of their interpretation at the level of surface meaning (literal meaning), but ignored the historical contextual aspect to obtain its significance.

A different response was shown by Sanjeev Kumar (2015), he argues that the discourse on terrorism is just a form of Western criticism of the Muslim world. They criticize

Islam as a religion that tends to teach violence. Additionally, he claims that such views appear superficial and stand on flimsy grounds. They have disguised a grand strategy by using the war against terrorists, which is subtly aimed at Muslims. To justify attacking Islam, they created ambiguous terminology such as the words *jihād*, *Dār al-Islam* and *Khilāfah*, which are associated as part of the concept of terrorism (Sanjev Kumar, 2015). In response to this, this research responds by showing that the Hadith studied has explicitly acknowledged the existence of these extremist groups. However, it must be admitted that the determination of violence against certain religious groups cannot be justified because the attitude of violence depends on the individual characteristics of each member of the religious group. This redaction refers to personal objects, not to communal objects. It means that each member of a religious group contains individuals who have extremist characteristics, whether from groups of the left, right, or even moderate. Thus, the characteristics proposed in this study can act as parameters of violence in various ways without looking at specific religious groups. It is in line with *al-Qāḍī's* affirmation that treason was not only born from the *Khawārij* group but could also arise from other different ideological groups (Al-Uramī, 2009, vol. 12, p. 275).

At the end section of the Hadith, there is an expression of the Prophet who criticizes people who have characteristics such as *good-looking* which is seen in the phrase "*la-'in anā adraktuhum la -aktulannahum qatl 'Ād*" ("If I should live up to their time' I will kill them as the people of 'Ad were killed"). This expression seems to show the impact of their movement, which is very dangerous because it can threaten the integrity of the people. However, this study does not recommend repressive measures to overcome them. This study is more in

agreement with the recommendations of Syam *et al.*, (2020) which reveal that utilizing violence to counter radicalism and terrorism is not appropriate or suitable with Indonesia's socio-cultural context. Historically, solving problems through acts of violence in Indonesia can only generate revenge and initiate new seeds of radicalism (Syam *et al.* 2020, p. 1-27). Thus, the ideal treatment is to proactively counter-narrative or dominate the narratives of moderate Islamic teachings, primarily through the interaction of virtual discussion spaces. Such narratives can be distributed through virtual social media services, given that people's religious enthusiasm tends referring to sources of religious teachings through virtual social media. However, it takes the right strategy to design effectively and measurably. Therefore, research on the counter-strategy of religious violence narratives through virtual social media is considerably recommended for further study in subsequent studies.

## H. Conclusion

The relationship between ritual piety and the tendency of religious violence shown through the *good-looking* characteristics is not a new discourse in Islamic thought. This phenomenon has appeared since the 7<sup>th</sup> century Hijriah or the prophetic era. Such narratives can be found in the Hadith narrations recorded in the authoritative Hadith literature such as *Musannaf 'Abd Razzāk al-San'ānī*, *al-Kutub al-Tis'ah*, and *al-Mustadrak 'alā Ṣaḥīhain*. The narrations recorded in the Hadith literature are also predominantly at the level of *ṣaḥīḥ*, even *masyhūr* to *mutawātir ma'nawī*. Thus, the claim to a relationship between ritual piety and the potential for religious violence or *good-looking* is not entirely wrong, even though such characteristics cannot be generalized to certain

religious groups. The characteristics of *good-looking* are individualistic, or each religious group may have members who share these characteristics. Identifying the five *good-looking* characteristics cannot be claimed partially or independently but applies as a whole. It means that it is not enough to use one characteristic to claim that someone has the characteristics of violence in religion, but that the characteristic is multifaceted. The tendency for each member of a religious community to develop these characteristics is induced by their variety which is free of religious moral standards. Morality comes from a broad religious perspective so that it does not merely judge the truth from a theological-normative point of view. Therefore, the proposed solution in this study to minimize the dangers of the *good-looking* religious phenomenon is to increase religious moderation narratives, primarily through virtual proselytizing on social media. It is because the dominance of Muslims is more intense in obtaining information on Islamic teachings through this media. However, this research has not yet reached the stage of formulating the right strategy for realizing this movement, thus, this study recommends further formulation to be followed up in subsequent studies.

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