

**THE INFLUENCE OF CELIBACY ON ENHANCING THE SPIRITUAL
LIFE OF PASTOR: A CASE STUDY IN PAROKI SANTO MATEUS,
PARE**



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**THE INFLUENCE OF CELIBACY ON ENHANCING THE SPIRITUAL
LIFE OF PASTOR (A CASE STUDY IN PAROKI SANTO MATEUS,
PARE
THESIS**

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In Department of Comparative Study of Religions

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ABSTRAK

HIDUP SELIBAT DAN PENGARUHNYA DALAM PENINGKATAN KEHIDUPAN SPIRITUAL PASTOR: DI GEREJA KATOLIK PAROKI SANTO MATEUS, PARE

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Hidup selibat merupakan komitmen fundamental dalam kehidupan seorang pastor Katolik yang bertujuan untuk mengabdikan diri sepenuhnya kepada Tuhan dan pelayanan umat. Meskipun memiliki nilai spiritual yang tinggi, implementasi hidup selibat dalam konteks modern menghadapi berbagai tantangan, baik dari segi psikologis, sosial, maupun emosional. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini berfokus pada bagaimana hidup selibat berkontribusi terhadap peningkatan spiritualitas pastor serta bagaimana mereka mengatasi berbagai tantangan dalam menjalankan komitmen tersebut.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis pengaruh hidup selibat terhadap kehidupan spiritual pastor di Gereja Katolik Paroki Santo Mateus, Pare. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi tantangan yang dihadapi oleh pastor dalam menjalani selibat serta mengeksplorasi strategi yang mereka gunakan untuk mempertahankan komitmen tersebut dalam kehidupan sehari-hari.

Penelitian ini menggunakan jenis penelitian kualitatif dengan bentuk penelitian lapangan untuk memperoleh pemahaman yang mendalam tentang pengalaman pastor dalam menjalani hidup selibat. Data dikumpulkan melalui wawancara mendalam, observasi langsung, dan studi dokumentasi mengenai praktik selibat di Gereja Katolik Paroki Santo Mateus, Pare. Analisis data dilakukan dengan metode deskriptif-analitis, mengkaji bagaimana hidup selibat memengaruhi kehidupan spiritual pastor dari perspektif teologi dan psikologi.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa hidup selibat berkontribusi dalam meningkatkan spiritualitas pastor, terutama dalam hal kedekatan dengan Tuhan, disiplin spiritual, dan dedikasi pelayanan. Namun, para pastor juga menghadapi tantangan seperti kesepian, kebosanan, serta stigma sosial terhadap hidup selibat. Untuk mengatasi tantangan ini, mereka menerapkan berbagai strategi, termasuk refleksi spiritual, keterlibatan dalam komunitas, serta aktivitas produktif seperti membaca, menulis, dan berolahraga.

Penelitian ini menegaskan bahwa hidup selibat bukan sekadar kewajiban gerejawi, tetapi juga sarana peningkatan spiritualitas dan pelayanan pastor kepada umat. Meskipun terdapat tantangan yang kompleks, keberhasilan dalam menjalankan hidup selibat sangat bergantung pada dukungan komunitas gereja, pengelolaan aspek psikologis, serta penguatan dimensi spiritual secara berkelanjutan. Oleh karena itu, dukungan dari komunitas gereja dan pembinaan spiritual yang berkelanjutan sangat diperlukan agar pastor dapat tetap teguh dalam panggilan hidup selibat mereka.

Keywords: *Selibat, Pastor, Gereja Katolik, Tantangan.*

ABSTRACT
**THE INFLUENCE OF CELIBACY ON ENHANCING THE SPIRITUAL
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PARE**

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Celibacy is a fundamental commitment in the life of a Catholic priest that aims to devote himself entirely to God and the service of the people. Despite its high spiritual value, the implementation of celibacy in the modern context faces various challenges, both in terms of psychological, social, and emotional. Therefore, this study focuses on how celibacy contributes to the enhancement of pastor spirituality as well as how they overcome various challenges in living up to this commitment.

This study aims to analyze the influence of celibacy on the spiritual life of priests in the Catholic Church of Saint Mateus Parish, Pare. In addition, this study also aims to identify the challenges faced by priests in living celibacy and explore the strategies they use to maintain this commitment in their daily lives.

This research uses qualitative research with a form of field research to obtain a deep understanding of the experience of priests in living a celibate life. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, direct observation, and documentation studies regarding the practice of celibacy in the Catholic Church of Paroki Santo Mateus, Pare. Data analysis was conducted using descriptive-analytical method, examining how celibacy affects the spiritual life of priests from the perspective of theology and psychology.

The results showed that celibacy contributes to improving the spirituality of priests, especially in terms of closeness to God, spiritual discipline, and dedication to service. However, pastors also face challenges such as loneliness, boredom, as well as social stigma against celibacy. To overcome these challenges, they employ various strategies, including spiritual reflection, community involvement, and productive activities such as reading, writing, and exercise.

This research confirms that celibacy is not just an ecclesiastical obligation, but also a means of enhancing a priest's spirituality and service to the people. Despite the complex challenges, success in practicing celibacy is highly dependent on the support of the church community, management of psychological aspects, and continuous strengthening of the spiritual dimension. Therefore, support from the church community and ongoing spiritual formation are necessary for priests to remain steadfast in their celibate vocation.

Kata Kunci: *Celibate, Pastor, Catholic Church, Challenges.*

To Honorable,

Dean of Faculty of Ushuluddin

University of Darussalam Gontor-Ponorogo

Bismillāhirrahmānirrahīm

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Ponorogo, 9th of Rajab 1446
9th of January 2025

Supervisor,



Muhammad Nurrosyid Huda Setiawan, M.A.

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In partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Licentiate
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Wassalāmu'alaikum Wr. Wb.

Ponorogo, 2nd Sya'ban 1446
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DECISION OF THE EXAMINERS TEAM

The committee holds the thesis examination in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Licentiate in Comparative Study of Religions in the Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor on :

Day and date : Tuesday, 5th Sya'ban 1446/4th February 2025

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She has passed the thesis examination and is eligible for the Undergraduate program of the Department of Comparative Study of Religions in the Faculty of Ushuluddin.

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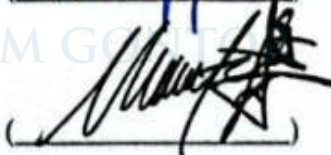


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DECLARATION

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I declare that this thesis is the result of my research, except where otherwise stated. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted as a whole for any other degrees at the University of Darussalam Gontor or other institutions. When otherwise found that this thesis is plagiarism, I am ready to accept any punishment according to the university's academic regulations.

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4th February 2025

Writer



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MOTTO

“The evangelical counsel of chastity received for the sake of the kingdom of God, which is a sign of the world to come and a source of abundant fertility in an undivided heart, carries with it the obligation of perfect temperance in celibacy.”

(Canon: 599)



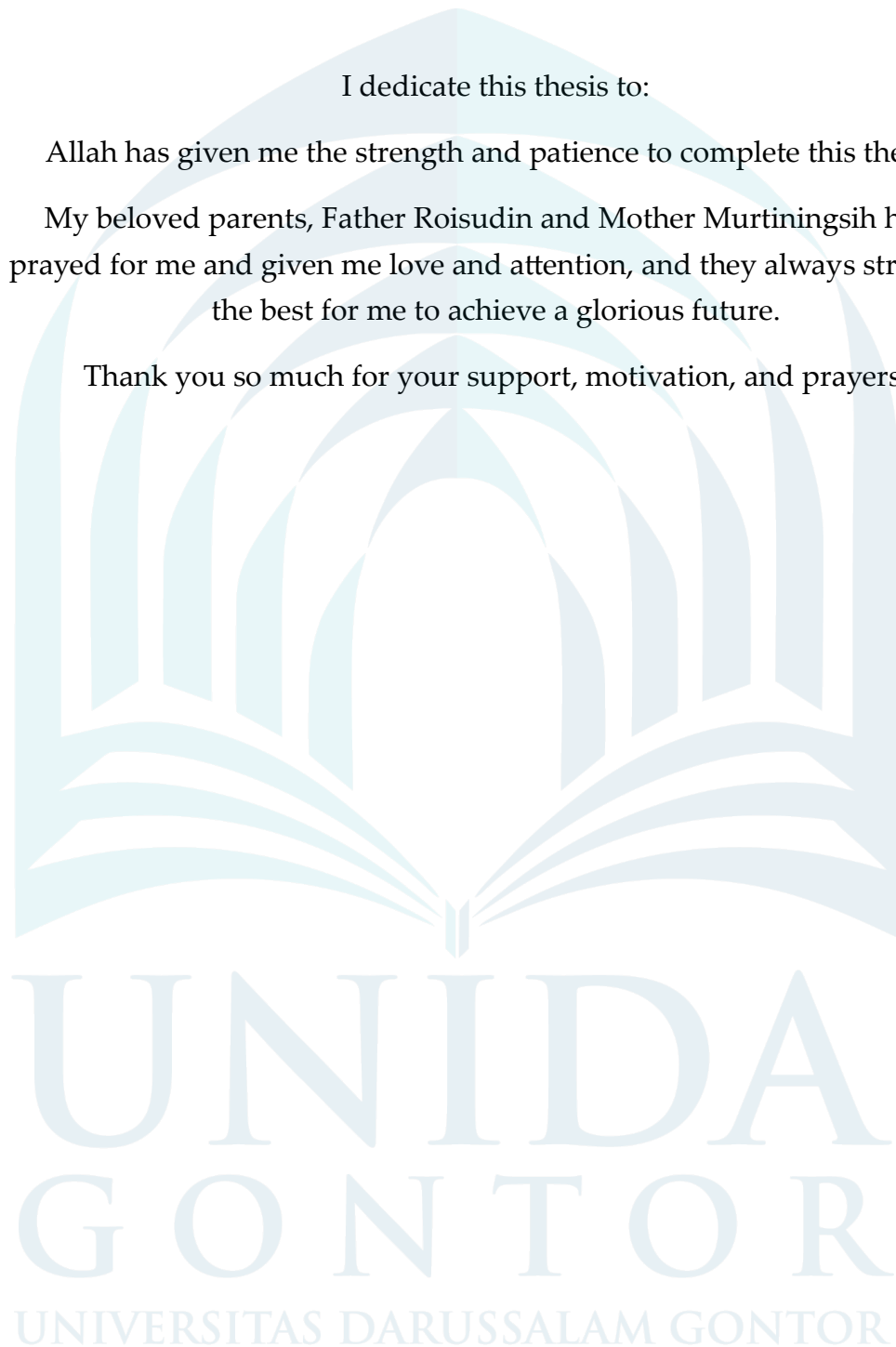
DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to:

Allah has given me the strength and patience to complete this thesis.

My beloved parents, Father Roisudin and Mother Murtiningsih have prayed for me and given me love and attention, and they always strive for the best for me to achieve a glorious future.

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The researcher is fully aware that this arrangement will not be successful without the contribution, motivation, encouragement, direction, and guidance of the various parties. Therefore, with all modesty, the researcher expresses thanks and high appreciation to:

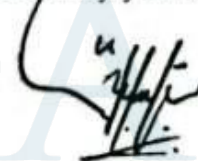
1. The Head Master of Modern Islamic Boarding School Darussalam Gontor, KH. Hasan Abdullah Sahal, Drs. KH. M. Akrim Mariyat, Dipl.Ed., Prof. Dr. KH. Amal Fathullah Zarkasyi, M.A.
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May Allah reciprocate a proportionate reward and bless them, and may this humble thesis be valuable and useful for the readers, especially for the writer/researcher.

Ponorogo, 9th of Rajab 1446 H
9th of January 2025 M

Sincerely yours,



(Nur Cholibah)

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