

**“Jāhiliyyah” in the Qur’an according to Sa’id Hawwa’s
Tafsir: An Analytical Study of Political Impact**



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THESIS

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ABSTRAK

"Jāhiliyyah dalam Al-Qur'an menurut Tafsir Sa'id Hawwa: Kajian Analitis terhadap Dampak Politik"

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Karakteristik Jāhiliyyah menurut Sa'id Hawwa dalam *Al-Asas fi at-Tafsir* tidak terbatas pada periode sejarah pra-Islam semata. Lebih dari itu, ia merepresentasikan suatu kondisi yang berulang ketika nilai-nilai ilahi diabaikan dan hawa nafsu manusia lebih diutamakan. Penelitian ini berlatar belakang pada pemahaman bahwa karakteristik-karakteristik Jāhiliyyah seperti *Zhann al-Jāhiliyyah* (prasangka buruk berdasarkan kebodohan), *Tabarruj al-Jāhiliyyah* (mengeksplotasi emosi dan daya tarik fisik untuk manipulasi), *Hamiyyah al-Jāhiliyyah* (fanatisme buta dan loyalitas berlebihan pada kelompok), dan *Hukm al-Jāhiliyyah* (preferensi terhadap sistem hukum sekuler buatan manusia daripada hukum ilahi) masih relevan dan memengaruhi kondisi sosio-politik modern. Istilah Jāhiliyyah itu sendiri secara eksplisit disebutkan dalam Al-Qur'an pada Surah Ali Imran (3:154), Surah Al-Ma'idah (5:50), Surah Al-Ahzab (33:33), dan Surah Al-Fath (48:26). Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menggali lebih dalam karakteristik-karakteristik tersebut melalui tafsir Sa'id Hawwa dan menganalisis dampaknya terhadap politik kontemporer.

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengungkap karakteristik Jāhiliyyah sebagaimana dijelaskan oleh Sa'id Hawwa dalam kitab *Al-Asas fi at-Tafsir*. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk mengungkap dampak karakteristik-karakteristik Jāhiliyyah tersebut terhadap politik modern, termasuk bagaimana nilai-nilai tersebut termanifestasi dalam sistem pemerintahan, kebijakan publik, dan perilaku politik. Dengan memahami pandangan Sa'id Hawwa, penelitian ini diharapkan dapat memberikan perspektif baru dalam menganalisis tantangan-tantangan politik kontemporer dari sudut pandang ajaran Islam.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif dengan pendekatan studi kepustakaan (*library research*). Data dikumpulkan dari berbagai sumber tertulis seperti buku, dokumen, jurnal, dan literatur relevan lainnya, dengan fokus utama pada kitab *Al-Asas fi at-Tafsir* karya Sa'id Hawwa sebagai sumber primer. Penelitian ini juga menggunakan kerangka penelitian yang melibatkan analisis linguistik terhadap istilah Jāhiliyyah, pemahaman konteks historis, sosial, dan politik di balik konsep tersebut, pendekatan sosial kontemporer untuk menganalisis relevansinya di dunia modern, serta upaya untuk mengaitkan nilai-nilai Al-Qur'an dengan realitas modern.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Sa'id Hawwa mengidentifikasi karakteristik Jāhiliyyah tidak hanya sebagai kebodohan intelektual tetapi juga mencakup kebodohan moral dan etika, yang terus muncul dalam berbagai bentuk. Empat karakteristik utama yang dianalisis adalah: *Zhann al-Jāhiliyyah*, merujuk pada prasangka buruk dan kesalahpahaman tentang hikmah Allah; *Tabarruj al-Jāhiliyyah*, yaitu pamer dan mencari perhatian yang dalam konteks politik berupa eksploitasi emosi dan sensasionalisme; *Hamiyyah al-Jāhiliyyah*, berupa fanatisme buta dan loyalitas kelompok yang berlebihan sehingga mengabaikan kebenaran dan keadilan; dan *Hukm al-Jāhiliyyah*, yakni preferensi terhadap hukum buatan manusia yang bertentangan dengan hukum Allah. Dampak karakteristik-karakteristik ini terhadap politik modern antara lain adalah munculnya sekularisme, materialisme, ketidakadilan dalam sistem politik, nasionalisme ekstrem, sektarianisme, politik identitas, despotisme (*istibdad*), dan gerakan-gerakan ekstremis yang didorong oleh fanatisme. Hawwa menekankan pentingnya kembali pada nilai-nilai Al-Qur'an seperti keadilan, kebebasan yang bertanggung jawab, persamaan, dan musyawarah (*shura*) sebagai solusi untuk mengatasi pengaruh-pengaruh negatif ini.

Harapan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk memberikan kontribusi yang signifikan terhadap pemahaman konsep Jāhiliyyah dalam studi tafsir Al-Qur'an dan ilmu politik Islam. Diharapkan pula penelitian ini dapat menjadi sumber pendidikan bagi mahasiswa dan peneliti, serta memberikan wawasan yang relevan bagi para cendekiawan dan pembuat kebijakan dalam menerapkan prinsip-prinsip Islam untuk tata kelola modern dan keadilan sosial. Lebih lanjut, penelitian ini diharapkan dapat mendorong studi tematik yang lebih mendalam dalam interpretasi Al-Qur'an untuk merumuskan kerangka konseptual yang komprehensif dalam menghadapi pengaruh Jāhiliyyah dalam politik dan kehidupan sosial modern.

Kata Kunci: *Jāhiliyyah*, *Sa'id Hawwa*, *Al-Asas fi At-Tafsir*, Politik Modern, Tafsir Al-Quran

ABSTRACT
“Jāhiliyyah” in the Qur’an according to Sa’id Hawwa’s Tafsir:
An Analytical Study of Political Impact

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The characteristics of Jāhiliyyah according to Sa’id Hawwa in *Al-Asas fi at-Tafsir* are not limited to the pre-Islamic historical period. Rather, it represents a recurring condition when divine values are ignored and human desires are prioritized. This research is based on the understanding that Jāhiliyyah characteristics such as Zhann al-Jāhiliyyah (prejudice based on ignorance), Tabarruj al-Jāhiliyyah (exploiting emotions and physical attractiveness for manipulation), Hamiyyah al-Jāhiliyyah (blind fanaticism and excessive group loyalty), and Hukm al-Jāhiliyyah (preference for man-made secular legal systems over divine law) are still relevant and affect modern socio-political conditions. The term Jāhiliyyah itself is explicitly mentioned in the Qur’an in Surah Ali Imran (3:154), Surah Al-Ma’idah (5:50), Surah Al-Ahzab (33:33), and Surah Al-Fath (48:26). This study aims to dig deeper into these characteristics through Sa’id Hawwa’s tafsir and analyze their impact on contemporary politics.

The purpose of this study is to reveal the characteristics of Jāhiliyyah as explained by Sa’id Hawwa in the book *Al-Asas fi at-Tafsir*. In addition, this research also aims to reveal the impact of these Jāhiliyyah characteristics on modern politics, including how these values are manifested in government systems, public policies, and political behavior. By understanding Sa’id Hawwa’s views, this research is expected to provide a new perspective in analyzing contemporary political challenges from the perspective of Islamic teachings.

This research uses a descriptive research method with a library research approach. Data were collected from various written sources such as books, documents, journals, and other relevant literature, with the main focus on Sa’id Hawwa’s *Al-Asas fi at-Tafsir* as the primary source. The research also uses a research framework that involves a linguistic analysis of the term Jāhiliyyah, an understanding of the historical, social, and political context behind the concept, a contemporary social approach to analyze its relevance in the modern world, as well as an attempt to relate Qur’anic values to modern realities.

The results show that Sa’id Hawwa identifies the characteristics of Jāhiliyyah not only as intellectual ignorance but also includes moral and ethical ignorance, which continues to appear in various forms. The four main characteristics analyzed are: Zhann al-Jāhiliyyah, referring to prejudice and misunderstanding of God’s wisdom; Tabarruj al-Jāhiliyyah, i.e. showing off and attention-seeking which in the political context takes the form of emotional exploitation and sensationalism; Hamiyyah al-Jāhiliyyah, i.e. blind fanaticism and excessive group loyalty to the neglect of truth and justice; and Hukm al-Jāhiliyyah, i.e. the preference for man-made laws as opposed to God’s laws. The impact of these characteristics on modern politics includes the rise of secularism, materialism, injustice in the political system, extreme nationalism, sectarianism, identity politics, despotism (*istibdad*), and extremist movements driven by fanaticism. Hawwa emphasized the importance of returning to Qur’anic values such as justice, responsible freedom, equality and deliberation (*shura*) as solutions to overcome these negative influences.

This study is expected to make a significant contribution to the understanding of the concept of Jāhiliyyah in Qur’anic exegesis and Islamic political thought. It is also hoped that this research will serve as an educational resource for students and scholars while providing relevant insights for intellectuals and policymakers in applying Islamic principles to modern governance and social justice. Furthermore, this study aspires to encourage more in-depth thematic studies in Qur’anic interpretation to formulate a comprehensive conceptual framework for addressing the influence of Jāhiliyyah in modern politics and social life.

Keywords: Jāhiliyyah, Sa’id Hawwa, *Al-Asas fi at-Tafsir*, Modern politics, Qur’anic exegesis

To Honorable,

Dean of Faculty of Ushuluddin

Univeristy of Darussalam Gontor-Ponorogo

Bismillāhirrahmānirrahīm

Assalāmu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

It is my honor to present the thesis written by:

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The Title : "Jāhiliyyah" in the Qur'an according to Sa'id
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Impact

I declare that this thesis has been processed and corrected to fulfill the requirement for the degree of Licentiate in **Department Of Al-Qur'an And Tafsir Studies** in the Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor. Therefore,

I request that the thesis be examined soon.

Wassalāmu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

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20th February 2025 M

Supervisor,



(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sujiat Zubaidi, M.A.)

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Bismillāhirrahmānirrahīm

Assalamu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

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Impact

In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of licentiate
(S1) in the Faculty of Ushuluddin Departement of Al-Qur'an and Tafsir
Studies in the Faculty of Ushuluddin academic year 1445-1446/ 2024-2025.

Wassalāmu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Ponorogo, 03rd Ramadhan 1446 H
03rd March 2025 M

Dean of Faculty of Ushuluddin,



Syamsul Hadi Untung, M.A., M.L.S. ✱

NIY. 880063

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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 Tafsir and Quranic Science in the Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor on:

Day/Date : Thursday, 06th Ramadhan 1446 H / 06th March 2025
Place : University of Darussalam Gontor

The thesis was written by:

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He decided to grant him a pass in the thesis examination. Hence, he is eligible to be awarded Licentiate in **Department of Al-Qur'an and Tafsir Studies** at the Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor.

Chief of Examination Board,



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sujiat Zubaidi, M.A.

Secretary,



Ahmad Fadly Rahman Akbar, S.Ud., M.U.S.

1st Examiner : Dr. Ali Mahfuz Munawar, Lc., M.Hum



2nd Examiner : Ahmad Fadly Rahman Akbar, S.Ud., M.U.S.



DECLARATION

I here by,

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The Title : "Jāhiliyyah" in the Qur'an according to Sa'id
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I declare sincerely that this thesis initially belongs to my work and does not belong to another researcher for a different degree. Furthermore, this thesis is not a work published before, except for some parts with their original references.

Otherwise, if it is found that this thesis is plagiarism, I am ready to be ceased academically.

Ponorogo, 06th Ramadhan 1446 H
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Researcher,



(Umar Ibnu Wahid)

MOTTOES

من هدي القرآن الكريم

قال الله تعالى في محكم التنزيل - أعوذ بالله من الشيطان الرجيم - بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

ثُمَّ أَنْزَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ الْغَمِّ أَمَنَةً نُّعَاسًا يَغْشَى طَافِيفَةً مِّنْكُمْ وَطَافِيفَةٌ قَدْ أَهَمَّتْهُمْ أَنفُسُهُمْ يَظُنُّونَ
بِاللَّهِ غَيْرَ الْحَقِّ ظَنَّ الْجَاهِلِيَّةُ يَقُولُونَ هَلْ لَنَا مِنَ الْأَمْرِ مِنْ شَيْءٍ قُلْ إِنَّ الْأَمْرَ كُلَّهُ لِلَّهِ يُخَفُونَ فِي
أَنفُسِهِمْ مَا لَا يُبْدُونَ لَكَ يَقُولُونَ لَوْ كَانَ لَنَا مِنَ الْأَمْرِ شَيْءٌ مَا قُتِلْنَا ههنا قُلْ لَوْ كُنْتُمْ فِي بُيُوتِكُمْ
لَبَرَزَ الَّذِينَ كُتِبَ عَلَيْهِمُ الْقَتْلُ إِلَى مَضَاجِعِهِمْ وَلِيَبْتَلِيَ اللَّهُ مَا فِي صُدُورِكُمْ وَلِيُمَحَّصَ مَا فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ
وَاللَّهُ عَلِيمٌ بِذَاتِ الصُّدُورِ ﴿١٥٤﴾ (آل عمران / ٣ : ١٥٤)

أَفَحُكْمَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ يَبْغُونَ وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ مِنَ اللَّهِ حُكْمًا لِّقَوْمٍ يُوقِنُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾ (المائدة / ٥٠ : ٥٠)

وَقَرْنَ فِي بُيُوتِكُنَّ وَلَا تَبَرَّجْنَ تَبَرُّجَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ الْأُولَى وَأَقِمْنَ الصَّلَاةَ وَآتِينَ الزَّكَاةَ وَأَطِعْنَ اللَّهَ
وَرَسُولَهُ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيُذْهِبَ عَنْكُمُ الرِّجْسَ أَهْلَ الْبَيْتِ وَيُطَهِّرَكُمْ تَطْهِيرًا ﴿٣٣﴾
(الاحزاب / ٣٣ : ٣٣)

إِذْ جَعَلَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فِي قُلُوبِهِمُ الْحَمِيَّةَ حَمِيَّةَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ عَلَى رَسُولِهِ وَعَلَى
الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالزَّمَهُمْ كَلِمَةَ التَّقْوَى وَكَانُوا أَحَقَّ بِهَا وَأَهْلَهَا وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا ﴿٦٦﴾
(الفتح / ٦٦ : ٦٦)

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DEDICATION

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah who has granted me strength, patience, and clarity throughout the writing of this undergraduate thesis. With deep humility and immense gratitude, I dedicate this humble work:

To my beloved parents—my father, **Suhaimi**, and my mother, **Cut Aji**—whose unconditional love, endless prayers, and immeasurable sacrifices have been the wind beneath my wings. Your patience, sweat, tears, and unwavering support have been a source of strength in moments of doubt, and a light in times of darkness. You are the reason I kept going when the road felt heavy, and the ones whose silent prayers paved the way for my success. May Allah bless you both with good health, long life, and Jannatul Firdaus for all that you have given without ever asking in return.

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Though at times they may sound cliché, from your lips they bear weight and sincerity that resonate deeply. May Allah ease your path, bless your knowledge, and soon bestow upon you the title of **S.Pd**

This thesis is not merely a personal achievement, but a testimony to your love, sacrifices, and duas. *May Allah accept this as a deed of righteousness, and reward all of you with the best in this world and the Hereafter. Aamiin.*

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The researcher is aware that this arrangement would not be successful without various parties contribution, motivation, encouragement, direction, and guidance from the various parties. Therefore, with all modesty.

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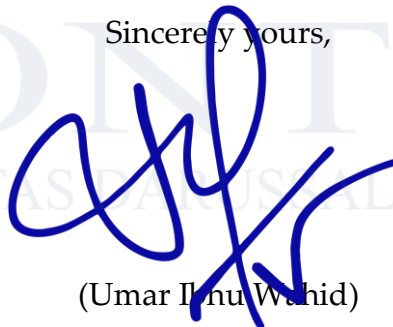
1. The Head Master of Islamic Boarding School Darussalam Gontor, **KH. Hasan Abdullah Sahal, Drs. KH. M. Akrim Mariyat, Dipl.A.Ed., Prof. Dr. KH. Amal Fathullah Zarkasyi, M.A.**, who allowed the researcher to study at University of Darussalam Gontor.
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4. Dear **Mr. Syamsul Hadi Untung, M.A., M.LS.**, as the Dean of Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor.
5. Dear **Mr. Mahmud Rifanuddin, S.Ud., M.Ag.**, as the Head of Department Al-Qur'an and Tafsir Studies at University of Darussalam Gontor.
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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 the writer/researcher.

Ponorogo, 21st Sya'ban 1446 H
20th February 2025 M

Sincerely yours,



(Umar Ibnu Wahid)