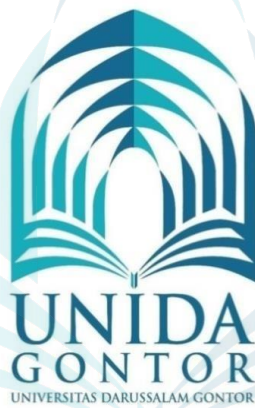


**VIRTUE ETHICS IN ALASDAIR MACINTYRE AND
SYED MUHAMMAD NAQUIB AL-ATTAS: A
COMPARATIVE STUDY**

THESIS

Submitted to the Department of Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy
for the Master Degree



By:

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**DEPARTMENT OF AQIDAH AND ISLAMIC PHILOSOPHY
POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR
PONOROGO-INDONESIA**

1446 H/2025 M

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SYED MUHAMMAD NAQUIB AL-ATTAS: A
COMPARATIVE STUDY**

THESIS

Presented to the Postgraduate Program of the University of Darussalam
Gontor in partial fulfillment of the requirements for completing a Master
Program in Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy

By:

Maulana Dzunnurraïn

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Supervisor:

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Muslih, MA.

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POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR
PONOROGO-INDONESIA**

1446 H/2025

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Abstrak

Maulana Dzunuurain, 2025, *Virtue Ethics in Alasdair MacIntyre and Syed Muhammad Naquib Al-Attas: A Comparative Study*. Pembimbing: Prof. Dr. Muhammad Muslih. M. Ag

Kata kunci: Alasdair MacIntyre, Syed Naquib Al-Attas, Virtue Ethics, Traditional, Character, Philosophical approach.

Virtue Ethics memiliki pendekatan yang berbeda dari dua mazhab etika lainnya, yakni deontologi dan teleologi (konsekuensialisme). Dengan menekankan pembentukan karakter moral, virtue ethics menawarkan solusi terhadap tantangan degradasi moral modern. Melalui perbandingan antara virtue ethics model Alasdair MacIntyre, yang berakar pada tradisi historis, dan model Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas, yang berbasis pada teologi dan adab, pendekatan ini dinilai mampu memberikan solusi yang kuat dan relevan dalam menghadapi krisis etika kontemporer.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk membandingkan virtue ethics model Alasdair MacIntyre, yang berlandaskan tradisi historis, dengan virtue ethics model Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas, yang berbasis pada teologi dan adab. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga berupaya menggali konsekuensi dan refleksi dari kajian komparatif tersebut, guna menawarkan wawasan yang lebih dalam mengenai relevansi kedua pendekatan dalam menghadapi tantangan etika kontemporer.

Penelitian ini merupakan studi kepustakaan yang mengadopsi pendekatan filosofis. Metode yang diterapkan dalam proses penelitian adalah analisis kritis. Pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui metode dokumentasi dengan memanfaatkan berbagai sumber, termasuk buku, jurnal, dan referensi lainnya.

Mengkomparasikan dua model virtue ethics yakni Alasdair MacIntyre dengan pendekatan tradisi-historis dan Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas dengan pendekatan teologis-rasionalis menghasilkan konsekuensi terhadap model etika berbasis karakter yang lebih kompleks. Komparasi ini memungkinkan amplifikasi dari etika berbasis karakter individu menuju model etika yang lebih sistemik. Selain itu, pendekatan ini juga membantu membaca virtue ethics MacIntyre, yang berlandaskan tradisi-historis, dalam keterkaitannya dengan Piagam Madinah, sebagaimana pendekatan tamaddun dalam pemikiran Al-Attas. Sebaliknya, unsur teologis-filosofis yang mungkin sulit dipahami dalam konsep MacIntyre menjadi lebih jelas ketika dibandingkan dengan pendekatan Al-Attas, yang menekankan dimensi teologi, dan adab.

Perkembangan kajian etika tidak akan pernah selesai, seiring dengan dinamika perilaku manusia yang terus berubah. Demikian pula, tafsir terhadap Al-Qur'an dalam merumuskan nilai-nilai etika masih terus berkembang dan belum mencapai titik final. Oleh karena itu, peneliti berharap bahwa model kajian virtue ethics terus dikembangkan, terutama dalam kerangka keilmuan kontemporer, agar dapat memberikan solusi etis yang relevan bagi tantangan zaman.

Abstract

Maulana Dzunnurraïn, 2025, *Virtue Ethics in Alasdair MacIntyre and Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas: A Comparative Study*. Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Muhammad Muslih. M. Ag

Keywords Alasdair MacIntyre, Syed Naquib Al-Attas, Virtue Ethics, Traditional, Character, Philosophical approach.

Virtue Ethics takes a different approach from the two other ethical schools, namely deontology and teleology (consequentialism). By emphasizing the formation of moral character, virtue ethics offers a solution to the challenges of modern moral degradation. Through a comparison between Alasdair MacIntyre's virtue ethics model, which is rooted in historical tradition, and Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas's model, which is based on theology and adab, this approach is considered capable of providing a strong and relevant solution to contemporary ethical crises.

This study aims to compare Alasdair MacIntyre's virtue ethics model, which is based on historical tradition, with Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas's virtue ethics model, which is rooted in theology and adab. Additionally, this research seeks to explore the consequences and reflections of this comparative analysis to provide a deeper understanding of the relevance of both approaches in addressing contemporary ethical challenges.

This research is a literature study that adopts a philosophical approach. The method applied in this study is critical analysis. Data collection is conducted through documentation methods, utilizing various sources, including books, journals, and other references.

Comparing the two virtue ethics models Alasdair MacIntyre's historical-traditional approach and Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas's theological-rationalist approach leads to a more complex character-based ethical model. This comparison allows for the amplification of individual character-based ethics into a more systemic ethical framework. Moreover, this approach helps contextualize MacIntyre's virtue ethics, which is rooted in historical tradition, in relation to the Medina Charter, much like Al-Attas's tamaddun approach. Conversely, the theological-philosophical elements that may be challenging to grasp in MacIntyre's concept become clearer when juxtaposed with Al-Attas's approach, which emphasizes theology, and adab.

The development of ethical studies will never reach a conclusion, as human behavior continues to evolve dynamically. Likewise, interpretations of the Qur'an in formulating ethical values remain in progress and have yet to reach a final point. Therefore, the researcher hopes that the virtue ethics model will continue to be developed, especially within the contemporary academic framework, to provide ethical solutions that are relevant to the challenges of the modern era.

OFFICIAL NOTE

To Honorable:

Director of Postgraduate Program

University of Darussalam Gontor

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi wa barakatuh

It is my honor to present this thesis written by:

Name : Maulana Dzunnurraïn

Reg. Number : 432022821010

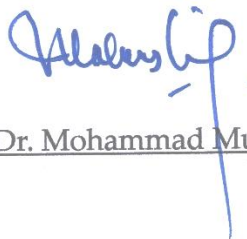
Department : Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy

The Title : Virtue Ethics In Alasdair Macintyre And Syed
Muhammad Naquib Al-Attas

I declare that this thesis has been processed and corrected to fulfil the requirement for completing the Postgraduate Degree in the Department of Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy. Therefore, I request that the thesis could be examined soon.

Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi wa barakatuh

Ponorogo, 9th March, 2025



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Muslih, M.Ag.

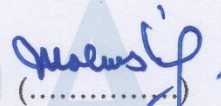
LETTER OF LEGITIMATION

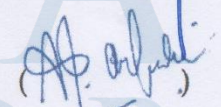
The Committee of thesis examination impartial fulfillment of the requirement of the degree Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy , having held the thesis examination on:

Day and Date : Saturday, 15 March 2025
Venue : Postgraduate Building 105
State the student below :
Name : Maulana Dzunnurraïn
Reg. Number : 432022821010
Program of Study : Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy
The Title : Virtue Ethics in Alasdair MacIntyre and
Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas: A
Comparative Study

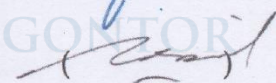
Has been successfully defended in front of the Board of Examiners and accepted apart of the requirements for a degree of Magister in Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy

1. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Muslih, MA. (Chairman)
2. Dr. Asep Awaludin, M.Ag. (Examiner I)
3. Dr. Muhammad Faqih Nidzom, M.Ag. (Examiner II)
4. Dr. Usmanul Hakim, M.Ag. (Examiner III)


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Postgraduate Program

كلية الدراسات العليا

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,

Assalamu 'alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh.

Hereby, the Postgraduate Program of University of Darussalam Gontor Ponorogo has received a thesis,

Entitled : Virtue Ethics in Alasdair MacIntyre and Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas: A Comparative Study

Researcher : Maulana Dzunnurain

Reg. Number : 432022821010

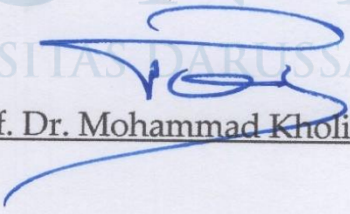
Program of Study : Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy

Declaring that he has been accepted as one of the conditions for obtaining a master's degree in Islamic Aqidah and Philosophy.

Wassalamu 'alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh.

Ponorogo, March 24th, 2025

Director of Postgraduate Program,


Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Kholid Muslih, M.A.

DECLARATION

I here by :
Name : Maulana Dzunnurraïn
Reg. Number : 432022821010
Degree : Magister
Program of Study : Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy

I declare sincerely that this thesis for a master's degree is original and purely my work and does not belong to other researchers for a different degree. Furthermore, this thesis is not a work published before, except for some parts with their original reference.

Ponorogo, March 6th, 2025

The Researcher,



Maulana Dzunnurraïn

NIM. 432022821010

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MOTTOES



قال الله تعالى:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

الحجرات (١٣)

وَلَقَدْ كَرَّمْنَا بَنِي آدَمَ وَحَمَلْنَاهُمْ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ وَرَزَقْنَاهُمْ مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَفَضَّلْنَاهُمْ عَلَىٰ كَثِيرٍ مِّمَّنْ خَلَقْنَا تَفْضِيلًا

سورة الإسراء (٧٠)

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُو اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ

اللَّهُ كَثِيرًا (21)

الأحزاب (١١)

وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَىٰ خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ (القلم) ٤

DEDICATION

Millions and countless thanks to My Lord Almighty,
Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala.

Prayer and greetings for the prophet Muhammad SAW
With the sincerity of my heart, I dedicate this thesis to
My beloved parents,
“Syahrudin and Euis Puja Sari ”

Who instilled in my conscience a love of effort and gratitude and filled me with a love of knowledge in life. Who taught me life, guided me with patience, loved me infinitely for a long time, cared for me with all affection, gave me the best upbringing, and nourished me with their pure advice. Therefore, I pray that Allah forgives their sins, elevate them to the highest rank, grant them success in their work, and may He bestows His mercy upon them.

And for my beloved brothers,
“Musthofa Awar Yusuf, Irfanudin Mudzki, Ali Syaroful Anam,
Afifatu Dzorifah, Fatimah Nur Hamdah, Ahmad Dhiaul ulami”

Those who encourage me a lot to seek knowledge and accompany me and entertain me always, their presence is a big encouragement in my life to become a better person. May Allah reward and grant them success in their affairs and guide them to goodness in their every step.

And I say thank you from a sincere heart to my beloved teachers and lectures of the University of Darussalam Gontor, who have motivated me to keep going and rise so that I can struggle and reach this stage.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to my beloved friends who have given me attention and advice and helped me during the work of this final project.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful, praise be to Allah the Lord of the world, the Owner of the Day of Judgment. Pray and peace be upon Prophet Muhammad SAW, his families, companions, and his followers.

With the mercy and blessing of Allah SWT, I could complete this thesis of Magister. Therefore, I would like to extend my deep gratitude to those in graduate study at the University of Darussalam Gontor. Besides, I wish to extend my appreciation due to the following:

1. The honor Headmasters of Modern Pesantren Darussalam Gontor, K.H. Hasan Abdullah Sahal, Prof. Dr. K.H Amal Fathullah Zarkasyi, M.A and Drs. K.H. M. Akrim Mariyat, Dipl.A.Ed, who has sincerely given me the most incredible opportunity to dedicate myself to this institution.
2. The Rector of the University of Darussalam Gontor, Prof. Dr. K.H. Hamid Fahmy Zarkasyi, M.A.Ed, M.Phil. and his vices and the whole lecturers of the University of Darussalam Gontor. This simple thesis is an outcome of the long journey process of my study in the hands of the Gifted.
3. The Director Postgraduate Program, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Kholid Muslih, M.A and his vices. The Head of the Magister of Aqidah and Islamic Philosophy Department, Dr. Muhammad Faqih Nidzom, S.Fil.I., M.Ag.
4. My worthy thesis supervisor Prof. Dr. Mohammad Muslih, MA., had sincerely taught me not only invaluable new knowledge but also everything, advised and motivated me when I was drowning in the confusion of doing a thesis project until I had done it perfectly.
5. For all the lecturers of Darussalam Gontor, for the priceless knowledge and education to be the real wise economist. And The invisible mentors in this thesis project for all critics, mentoring

6. So I would be remiss if I did not thank my classmates M. Sofian Hidayat, M. Ammar Tsaqib, M. Faishal Hibban, Maulana Dzunnurain, Ahmad Hisyam Syamil, Allam, Racha Suheib, Candra, Zulkifli, Sayyid Indallah, Hanif, Husain Zahrul Muhsinin, Iwan, M. Najib Abdussalam, Khairul Imadi, Sayadi, Syahrinal and all of mentors and friends at the PKU and Siman Postgraduate Dormitory to share and discuss. and all postgraduate friends who have struggled together to complete this master's study and always provided a lot of direction and suggestions, best friends during college in joy and sorrow.
7. And to my parents, who always support me with their prayers, financial assistance, and motivation. May this also be beneficial to the wider community.

I ask Allah to avenge their deeds, forgive their sins, write success for them, reward them with the best reward and happiness, and help them in their work. And may Allah reward them in proportion and bless them for them and bless them, and may this humble thesis be valuable and useful for readers, especially researchers. Finally, the researcher would like to offer her most profound respect and gratitude to all her companions for their support and help in completing this thesis. May Allah give great rewards in this world and hereafter.

Ponorogo, March 6th 2025

The Researcher,



Maulana Dzunnurain

UNIVERSITAS DARUSSALAM GONTOR