

SPECIALIZATION IN HADITH (TAKHASSUS AL-HADITH) AT ISLAMIC STUDIES INSTITUTION IN INDIA

By:

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Abstract

This article discusses regarding the development of takhassus hadith programme practiced in Darul 'Ulum Deoband, Jamiah Mazahir al-'Ulum and Jamiah Sanabil. This article aims to analyze takhassus hadith syllabus used in this three Islamic institutions, its strength and weakness and the best methodology which can be adapted in the study of Hadith. The findings of this research show that takhassus hadith programme offered in these three Islamic institutions prove the rapid development of hadith studies in India. Some of the advantages the students obtained in this area are the combination of practical and theoretical lesson. They are exposed to theoretical study of hadith literatures such as turath as well as practical trainings in the subjects learned especially in the field of takhrij hadith, dirasat al-asanid and rijal knowledge.

Keywords: Al-Hadith Programme, Darul Ulum Deoband, Jami'ah Mazahir al-'Ulum, Islamic University of Sanabil, Fadilah Programme.

The Introduction of Darul 'Ulum Deoband

Islamic University of Dar al-'Ulum Deoband (Al-Jami'ah al-Islamiyyah Dar al-'Ulum Deoband) was established on 30th May 1867 due to the English colonization and the abolishment of Islamic rules in India. The university is situated in Deoband district, north of India.

The university was initially a small school with special concentration on Islamic sciences and the Arabic language. Al-Imam Muhammad Qasim al-Nanutawi (b.1297H). Rashid Ahmad al-Ganguhi (b.1323H), Zu'al-Faqar 'Ali (b.1322H) and Sheikh al-Haj 'Abid Husayn (b.1331H) were the main founders of this university. The University including the school of *Tafsir*, the school of *Hadith*, the school of *Fiqh*, *Qur'an*, students councils, *al-Dar al-Qadimah*, *al-Dar al-Jadidah*, *Dar al-Diyafah*, *al-Ruwaq al-Ifriqi al-Qadim*, *al-Ruwaq al-Ifriqi al-Jadid*, *al-Ruwaq al-A'zami*, *al-Ruwaq al-Asami*, *al-Masajid al-Thalathah*, *Maktabah*, *Ruwaq al-Malik Khalid bin 'Abd al-'Aziz* etc.¹

Presently, the university's library encompasses 250,000 books. The total number of its lecturers is about hundred along with 280 officers. The average number of *fatwa* (judicial decree) produced by the school of *fiqh* within one year is 25,000. From the early periods of its establishment it became famous due to its methodology used by al-Imam Ahmad bin 'Abd al-Rahim known as Sheikh Waliyullah al-Dihlawi who was known by his views about Islam, al – Quran and al - Sunnah. Since the beginning, the education, accommodation, food, medical treatments, clothes and books are free and without any charge.

Even though the school does not have strong financial resources, it managed to function systematically. The administrator of the university had rejected offer from the government for financial support. Hence, the school is directly supported by local and international Muslim communities. 50,000 students have

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¹ Muhammad Tayyib (1981), *History Of The Dar al-Ulum Deoband*, Hind: Dar Ulum Deoband, h. 115-118

graduated from this university from year 1283 A. H until 1422 A.H. From 1422-1423 A.H. the university has 3,025 students. The influence of Darul ‘Ulum Deoband on Islamic studies is clear when several graduates established more than 200,000 schools in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, etc. with the same approach applied in Deoband. One of the main courses of the school is hadith which is offered under Dar al-Hadith, followed by almost 800 students per year²

The Introduction of al-Hadith programme and specialization in al-Hadith Studies at Darul ‘Ulum Deoband

Al-Hadith program started on the last year of the study period. In the first year to the seventh year of the study, students will be introduced to numerous subjects related to Arabic Grammar, logic, Islamic jurisprudence, theology, tafsir and hadith (Prophet Saying). From the seventh year onwards, students will be exposed with al-Kutub al-Sittah (The Six Books of Hadith) including Sahih al-Bukhari, Sahih Muslim, Sunan Abu Dawud, Sunan al-Tirmizi and Sunan al-Nasa’i apart from Sharh Ma‘ani al-Athar by al-Tahawi, Shamail al-Tirmizi and Muwatta’ Malik. The students will not face any difficulties in learning al-Kutub al-Sittah because they have been exposed and taught to various hadith books such as Riyad al-Salihin, Bulugh al-Maram and Mishkat al-Masabih.³

Hadith studies program in Deoband was initially suggested by Riyasat ‘Ali al-Bajnuri. He was at that time the manager of academic department (*mudir al-majlis al-ta’limi*). His suggestion was then brought forward to the Majlis Istishari (Director’s Board). Al-Sheikh al-Sayyid As‘ad al-Madani, the chairman of the Hind Association of ‘Ulama and some of his members Majlis al-Istishari (director’s board) was then forwarded the idea of specialization in al-Hadith studies program to the Implementation Council and the University administrator to be implemented. The University administrator then asked Ustaz Ni‘matullah al-A’zami to implement the idea on the 1420H or 2000M.⁴

The number of students eligible to register in this program is limited to five in every year. The courses offered in specialization in al-hadith studies are the main courses that the students need to master. This is different with the courses offered in Dar al-hadith where the subjects are more towards the reading generalization of al-Kutub al-Sittah (The Six books of Hadith), Mishkat al-Masabih and Muwatta’ al-Malik. Below is the list of courses offered in Hadith studies program at Darul ‘Ulum Deoband⁵.

Table 1: List of Courses Offered in Specialization in al-Hadith Studies Program at Darul ‘Ulum Deoband

² Muhammad Tayyib (2001), *‘Ulama Deoband Ittijahuhum al-Dini wa Mizajuhum al-Mazhabi*, Hind: Dar al-‘Ulum Deoband, h. 76-79. See also Sayyid ‘Abd al-Majid al-Ghawri (2000), *A’lam al-Muhaddithin Fi al-Hind Fi al-Qarn al-Rabi’ ‘Asyar al-Hijri wa Atahrum fi al-hadith wa ‘Ulumihi*, Dimasyq: Dar Ibn Kathir, h.153-154. See also Barbara Metcalf (1978), *The Madrasa at Deoband : A Model For Religious Education In Modern India*, *Modern Asian Studies* 12, 1

³ Muhammad Tayyib (1981), *History Of The Dar al-Ulum Deoband*, Hind: Dar Ulum Deoband, h. 202-209

⁴ Muhammad ‘Affan al-Mansurfuri (1425H), *al-Hadith al-Hasan Fi Jami ‘ al-Tirmidhi*, Hind: Akadimiyyah Syeikh al-Hind, introduction part h. 5

⁵ Daftar Ta’limat Dar al-‘Ulum Deoband (Academic handbook), 2003.

Courses	Course Outline and Books Used (Muqarrar) (Year 1)	Course Outline and Books Used (Muqarrar) (Year 2)
Mustalah al-Hadith (Sciences Of Hadith)	Muqaddimah Ibn al-Solah	Tadrib al-Rawi by Imam al-Suyuti
Ilm al-Jarh wa al-Ta'dil (Criticism Of Transmitters)	Al-Raf ' wa al-Takmil by al-Laknawi	Madaris al-Ruwat wa Mashahir Asatizatiha ma 'a Talamizatihim wa Tabaqatihim by Ustaz Ni 'matullah al-A 'zami
Hifz al-Hadith (Memorization of Hadith)	300 ahadith	
Ilm al-Takhrij Wa Dirasat al-Asanid (Retrieval Of Hadith)	Usul al-Takhrij by Dr Mahmud Tahhan	Second chapter of the book by Dr Mahmud al-Tahhan Dirasat al-Hadith al-Sahih wa al-Hasan wa Fikrah Ibn al-Solah wa Dirasah Miqyas Ma 'rifat Rijal al-Hasan Lizatihi. Dirasah Tatbiq al-Amthilah Li Anwa' al-Ahadith al-Mukhtalifah
Mutala'ah wa al-Munaqasyah (Reading and Discussion)	Completion of task given by lecturer	Completion of task given by lecturer
Dirasat al-Mutun (The Studies of Text)	al-Fawa'id al-Muhimmah fi Mukhtalif al-Hadith	Abwab Muntakhibah min kitab I 'la' al-Sunan

Some of the lecturers responsible to teach students in specialization in al-Hadith studies at Darul 'Ulum Deoband are;

- 1- Mawlana Ni 'matullah al-A'zami
- 2- Maulana Habib al-Rahman
- 3- Ustaz Abdullah al-Ma 'rufi

Even though the program is new, the students of Hadith studies have produced two books which originally were given by their lecturers as assignments. The first book is "*Al-Hadith al-Hasan fi Jami 'al-Tirmizi: Dirasah wa Tatbiq* (Al-Hadith al-hasan In The Book Of Jami ' al-Tirmidhi: A Study And Practical) and was first published in (1425H)"⁶ Some topics discussed in the book are related to the types,

⁶ Muhammad 'Affan al-Mansurfuri (1425H), *op.cit*

meaning and the definition of a Hasan hadith according to al-Tirmizi, the position of Imam al-Tirmizi among the Ulama of Ummah and the critics towards Imam al-Tirmizi. This book comprises 401 hadith from numerous books. The contributors are as follows:

- a) Muhammad ‘Affan al-Mansurifuri
- b) ‘Abd al-Razzaq al-Amruhuwi
- c) ‘Ali Hasan al-Mazfarnaqri
- d) Muhammad As’ad al-A’zami
- e) Zahir al-Islam al-Barah Bankawi

The book was supervised by Sheikh Ni‘matullah al-A‘zami, Habib al-Rahman al-A‘zami and Abdullah al-Ma‘rufi and published by Akadimiyyah Sheikh al-Hind Dar ‘Ulum Deoband.

The second book entitled “Hasan Gharib Fi Jami ‘al-Tirmizi: Dirasah wa Tatbiq” discusses the concept of a Hasan Hadith, its types, and its status among the ulama articularly Imam al-Tirmizi, definition of Gharib hadith, its types and concepts as well as the definition of Hasan Gharib. The number of hadith analyzed in this book is 685 and all of them are taken from Jami ‘al-Tirmizi.⁷

The main contributors are as follows:

- a) Abu Sadiq al-Bangaladeshi
- b) Diya’ al-Haq al-Bangaladeshi
- c) Mu ‘in al-Islam al-Bangaladeshi
- d) Mushir ‘Alim al-Jampanani

The Introduction of Jami’ah Mazahir al-‘Ulum (The University of Mazahir al-‘Ulum)

The university was established at Saharanpur Town on Rajab 1483A.H (9th of November 1866). Ten thousands students have graduated from this university until now. Sa‘adat ‘Ali, Sheikh Ahmad Ali al-Saharanpuri and Sheikh Muhammad Mazhar al-Nanutawi were the founder of this university. The university’s board of director consists of several well known ulama such as:

- 1- Sheikh Iftikhar al-Hasan al-Kandahlawi
- 2- Dr Taqiyudin al-Muzahiri al-Nadwi
- 3- Sheikh Muhammad Talhah al-Kandahlawi
- 4- Su’ud Ahmad al-Gangohi
- 5- Muhammad Shahid al-Saharanpuri
- 6- Manzur Ahmad al-Kanburi
- 7- Muhammad Tayyib Ibrahimi
- 8- Ruh al-Haq Turji
- 9- Ghulam Muhammad al-Wistanuwi
- 10- ‘Abd al-Khaliq Nusayr al-Din
- 11- Rahmatullah al-Ansari
- 12- Ghulam Rafi’ Jamal al-Shirwani

These scholars had a particular relationship with Sheikh Waliyullah al-Dihlawi (m.1076H)⁸.

⁷ ibid

⁸ Zakaria Manzil,(t.t) *Jami’ah Mazahir ‘Ulum Saharanpur* ,Cetakan al-Jamiah al-Islamiah Mazahir al-‘Ulum h. 12-16

The system of education in this university is divided into several categories such as the preparation part (I'dadi), Secondary (al-Thanawi), advance (al-'Ali) and Tahfiz al-Quran (memorization of the Holy Quran). The university also has various specific courses on Hadith, Fiqh, Ifta', Arabic language and Tahsin al-Khat.

Some of the main subjects taught at the university are Ulum al-Qur'an al-Karim, Hadith, Mustalah, Fiqh al-Islami, Usul, 'Ilm al-Kalam, Sirah Nabi, Adab, Tarikh, Arabic Language disciplines like nahu, sarf and Ma'ani.

Main scholars in this university are:

- 1- Sheikh Khalil Ahmad al-Saharanpuri m.1346H
- 2- Sheikh 'Abd al-Latif al-Burqadawi
- 3- Sheikh Muhammad Zakaria al-Kandahlawi
- 4- Sheikh al-Mufti Sa 'id Ahmad al-Ajraruwi 1377H.
- 5- Sheikh Muhammad Yusuf al-Kandahlawi 1384H.

Facilities provided by the university are library, Dar al-Ifta', Qism al-Wa'z wa al-Irshad (advisory board). Students are also provided with uniform, foods, accommodation and free books. One of the most interesting facts about the university is that it does not rely on the government's aid in managing its operation. All university's funds (cost around 15 million rupees each year comes from other Muslims communities.

Prominent figures standing out from this university are:

- 1- Sheikh Abu al-Hasan 'Ali al-Husani al-Nadwi
- 2- Al-Sheikh 'Abd al-Fattah Abu Ghuddah
- 3- Al-Sheikh al-Allamah Ahmad bin 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Mubarak
- 4- Al-Sheikh 'Abdullah al-'Ali al-Mahmud
- 5- Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Namira
- 6- Dr Kamil Salamah al-Daqs.

The Development of the Study of Hadith at Mazahir al-'Ulum

When Mazahir al-'Ulum was established in 1870 Hadith studies was taught as well. The "Book of Mishkat al-Masabih" was initially taught, although the teachings of Sahih al-Bukhari were taught a year after that. Ahmad 'Ali al-Saharanpuri and Sheikh 'Inayah Ilahi were among the pioneer teachers who were interested to teach such subject. The influence of Sheikh Ahmad 'Ali al-Saharanpuri has raised the merit of the university in Hadith studies and it became one of the main institutions of hadith studies in India. He was then appointed to hold the position of "sheikh al-hadith" in 1291H. The main books or 6 primary books in the field of hadith were taught at the university. In 1871, Hadith programme was chosen as a part of the subject and Sheikh Jam'iyat 'Ali and Sheikh Jiragh 'Ali became the lecturers of the subject.

Around 300 students have completed their education in hadith studies each year. In this program students learn about al-Kutub al-Sittah (The Six Books of Hadith), Muwatta' through 2 riwayat, al-Shamail by al-Tirmizi and Sharh Ma'ani al-Athar by al-Tahawi.⁹

Specialization in Hadith Studies (Takhassus al-Hadith) at Mazahir al-'Ulum

In 1992, Maulana Muhammad Shahid al-Hasani offered different specialize of hadith studies. The idea was then agreed by the Council with two years study period given for Hadith program. Sheikh al-Muhaddith al-Kabir Zayn al-'Abidin al-A'zami was later appointed as the coordinator of this program. Below are some hadith courses offered at Mazahir al-'Ulum.¹⁰

Table 2: List of Courses Offered in Specialization in Al-Hadith Studies Program at Mazahir al-'Ulum

Courses	Books Used (Muqarrar) (First Year)	Books Used (Muqarrar) (Second year)
Classification of hadith	Qafw al-Athar fi Safwah 'Ulum al-Athar by Radiyuddin Muhammad bin Ibrahim al-Halabi al-Hanafi. Tadrib al-Rawi (j-1)	Tadrib al-Rawi (j.2) Man Yu'tamd Qawluhu fi al-Jarh wa al-Ta'dil by al-Zahabi Al-Mutakallimun fi al-Rijal
Retrieval of al-Hadith	Takhrij al-Hadith Nasyatuhu wa Manhajiyatuhu by Dr Abu Layth al-Khayr Abadi Takhrij 200 hadith from the book of Jam' al-Fawaid	Kitab al-Mabsut by Abu Bakar Muhammad bin Ahmad bin Abu Sahl al-Sarkhasi al-Hanafi
'Ilal al-Hadith	Al-Naw' no 33 min al-Taqyid wa al-Idah Sharh Muqaddimah Ibn al-Solah by al-'Iraqi Qa'idah fi al-Jarh wa al-Ta'dil Al-Raf' wa al-Takmil by al-Laknawi	
Mutun al-Hadith (The text of Hadith)	Jam' al-Fawaid min Jami' al-Usul wa Majma' al-Zawaid by Sheikh Muhammad bin Muhammad bin Sulayman	Jam' al-Fawaid min Jami' al-Usul wa Majma' al-Zawaid by Syeikh Muhammad bin Muhammad bin Sulayman
Al-Mutalaah wa Hifz Ahadith Mukhtarah (Reading	Muqaddimah Taqrib al-Tahzib Muqaddimah Awjaz al-Masalik	Muqaddimah Fath al-Bari & memorization of 20 hadith

⁹ ibid

¹⁰ Takhassus Hadith Sharif Ta'aruf, (Academic Handbook) 2001.

and Memorization of the selected ahadith)	Al-Sunnah wa Makanatuha fi al-Tashri ‘ al-Islami by Mustafa al-Siba ‘i Memorization of 20 hadith	
Names of Narrator		Fath al-Mughith by al-Sakhawi from chapter Al-Mu’talaf wa al-Mukhtalaf Until the chapter Talkhis al-Mutashabih Tahzib al-Kamal by al-Mizzi

Some lecturers of hadith studies at Mazahir al-‘Ulum are as follows:

- a) Mawlana ‘Abd al’Azim al-Dihlawi
- b) Mawlana Zayn al-‘Abidin al-A ‘zami
- c) Mawlana Yusuf al-Surati
- d) Mawlana Khalid al-A’zami

Following hadith studies at Dar ‘Ulum Deoband, students of hadith studies at Mazahir ‘Ulum have to complete their project assignments under the supervision of their lecturer to receive their certificate. They are given options to choose several research scopes provided by the lecturers such as;

- 1- To study sunnah and the way of defendance from anti-hadith movements.
- 2- To know the defense of fuqaha’(jurists) and muhaddithun (hadith scholars) from the attack and slandering towards their writings or views.
- 3- To study the books of hadith that has been recognized as a main source Hanafi sect
- 4- The main contribution of the Ahnaf Scholars particularly from Mazahir ‘Ulum and Deoband
- 5- How to defend from the Imam Abu Hanifah and his followers’ personality

Some examples of articles written by the students of hadith studies at this university are as follows;¹¹

- 1- The use of ‘*aql* in accepting and rejecting hadith by Muhammad Aman Allah al-Madrasi
- 2- The critic principle toward hadith among the followers of Hanafi Mazhab by Muhammad Khalid Sa ‘id al-Mubarakfuri
- 3- A Study on al-Shaz, al-Munkar from Jami ‘ al-Tirmizi book and Mujtaba al-Nasa’i by Muhammad Ridwan al-Ghujrati

¹¹ Muhammad Aman Allah, 2006. *Maqalat fi al-hadith*, Mazahir al-‘Ulum

The Introduction of the Islamic University of Sanabil and the Fadilah Program

The university offers various level of study which is the intermediate level for 3 years and the level of *Thanawiyyah* for the same duration.¹² Below are the hadith syllabuses for the level of *Thanawiyyah* in this university;

Table 3: List of hadith courses offered in *Thanawiyyah* Level at Islamic University of Sanabil

Courses	Books Used (Muqarrar) (First Year) <i>Thanawiyyah</i> / <i>Secndray</i>	Books Used (Muqarrar) (Second Year)	Books Used (Muqarrar) (Third Year)
Hadith nabi	Mishkat al-Masabih first juzuk with the memorization of 40 hadith from first phase Focus on the books of al- taharah, al- solah, al-sawm, al- zakat, fada'il al- Quran	Mishkat l- Masabih second juzuk with the memorization of 40 hadith. Focus on the books of al-Nikah ,al-‘Talaq, al- Ayman wa al- Nuzur, al-Qisas, al-Hudud, al-At ‘imah, al-Libas , al-Ru’ya, al- Riqaq, al-Fitan Ahwal al- Qiyamah , Bad’ al-Khalq , al- Manaqib	Jami ‘ al-Tirmizi and Sunan Abu Dawud For Jami ‘ al-Tirmizi, the focus will be on the books of al-Taharah, al- Solah, al-Sawm, al-Zakat, al-Haj, Abwab al-Janaiz, al-Ahkam, al- Sayd wa al-Adahi, al-Siyar, al- Shamail, al-Amthal , al-Da ‘awat For Sunan Abu Dawud, the focus will be on the books of Al-Jihad, al-Huruf al-Qiraat, al-Hammam , al-Libas, al-Tarajjul, al-Khatim, al- Wasaya, al-Ayman wa al-Nuzur, al- Faraid, al-Fitan wa al-Malahim, al- Adab, al-Nawm, al-Aqdiyyah, al- Ijarah, al-Buyu‘ , al-Imarah, al-Fay’
Mustalah al-hadith (The Sciences of Hadith)	Min atyab al- Minah fi ‘ilm al- Mustalah until al- Mabhath al-Jarh wa khatimah al-kitab	Nuzhat al-Nazar Sharh Nukhbah al-Fikar by Ibn Hajar	

The table above proves how students of *Thanawiyyah* level at the university were exposed to the several primary hadith books and in result making it easier for them to pursue their knowledge in a higher level.

The level of *al-Marhalah al-‘Aliyyah* or *al-Fadilah* offered at the university is different from the specialization of Hadith studies offered at *Darul ‘Ulum Deoband* and *Mazahir al-‘Ulum*. Even though it is not a specialization in Hadith studies, the credit hours offered for this hadith program is actually longer

¹² Al-Manhaj al-Dirasi li al-Jami‘ah al-Islamiyyah Sanabil wa Furu ‘iha (Academic Handbook), 2002.

than any other subjects which is approximately 16 hours per week. Below are hadith subjects taught at the level *al-Marhalah al-'Aliyyah* or *al-Fadilah*

Table 4: List of Courses Offered in *Fadilah* Program at Islamic University of Sanabil

	First Year	Second Year
1	<p>Sahih al-Bukhari (1st Juzuk)</p> <p>Sahih Muslim (1st juzuk)</p> <p>Selected Hadith from Muwatta' Malik which is from the book of zakat, al-Buyu', al-Qard, al-Musaqat, Kara' al-Ard, al-'Uqul, al-Qasamah</p> <p>Selected Hadith Sunan Ibn Majah which is from the book of Muqaddimah except al-Fada'il, al-Kafarat, al-Ahkam and al-Adab.</p>	<p>Sahih al-Bukhari (2nd juzuk)</p> <p>Sahih Muslim (2nd juzuk)</p> <p>Selected Hadith from Sunan al-Nasa'i which is from the book of Al-Ahbas, Kitab 'Asharah al-Nisa', al-Qasamah, al-Zinah, Adab al-Qudah, al-Isti'azah, al-Iman and Syara', al-Sayd wa al-Zabaih, al-Adahi, al-Ayman wa al-Nuzur, al-Jihad, al-Nikah, al-Talaq</p>
2	Usul al-Takhrij wa Dirasah al-Asanid by Dr Mahmud al-Tahhan (2 hours)	
3	Tadrib al-Rawi (1 st juzuk)	Tadrib al-Rawi (2 nd juzuk)
4		Al-Jarh wa al-Ta'dil –lectures

Students are required to write an academic writing consists of 30 pages before they can get the advance degree.

Hadith Studies at Islamic Higher Learning Institutions in India

Hadith programme offered in several Islamic higher learning institutions in India proves the rapid development of Hadith colleges in India. However, it cannot escape the lack and weaknesses that need to be alerted. Some of the advantages that the students of Hadith program at India's Islamic higher learning institutions get are the exposure towards 6 Primary Books of Hadith and Mishkat al-Masabih. Even though the teaching of those books is rather general, the students are able to acquire the knowledge of its contents which make them familiar with hadith of the Prophet PBUH

There are several weak points regarding the teaching of Hadith program in most of these Islamic higher learning institutions in India. For examples;

- a) The lack of understanding towards other field of Hadith as they only concentrates on reading hadith texts and not to other subjects such as *sanad, ilm al-jarh wa al-ta 'dil and 'ilal*.
- b) Teachers who are not professional in hadith studies teach this course which leads to unsystematic teaching such as the becoming of hadith subjects to Fiqh. They taught the book of Mishkat al-Masabih which is mostly related to the disagreements between Islamic sects. It would be harmful for hadith studies as make it closer to fiqh studies.
- c) The teachers and students mostly concentrate on theoretical aspects referring to Muqaddimah Sheikh 'Abd al-Haq al-Dihlawi, Sharh al-Nukhbah and Muqaddimah Ibn al-Solah.¹³

Generally speaking, these teaching weaknesses in hadith program is obvious among the majority of schools in Bangladesh, Pakistan, South Africa and Britain those follow the Deoband methodology. For specialization in al-Hadith studies, as part of the advantages, students can learn the combination of practical and theory lesson. Students not only exposed to the theoretical side of hadith books such as *turath* but also given practical trainings of the subjects learned especially in the field of *takhrij hadith, dirasat al-asanid* and *rijal* knowledge. The training given to the students will later transform into points and be printed as future reference. The advantages and weaknesses spotted from this program are actually come from a direct traditional teaching methodology. There are no Information Technology (IT) facilities like computer, internet and so forth in this school.

Conclusion

Specialization in hadith (*takhassus al-hadith*) in Islamic Institution in India shows a remarkable use of traditional system with special reference to the *thurath* books. In Dar 'Ulum Deoband, students has been exposed and taught to several main courses in hadith studies such as Mustalah al-Hadith (Sciences Of Hadith), *Ilm al-Jarh wa al-Ta'dil* (Criticism Of Transmitters), Hifz al-Hadith (Memorization of Hadith), *Ilm al-Takhrij Wa Dirasat al-Asanid* (Retrieval Of Hadith), *Mutala'ah wa al-Munaqasyah* (Reading and Discussion) and *Dirasat al-Mutun* (The Studies of Text). This courses are the main courses that the students need to master. This is different with the courses offered in Dar al-hadith where the subjects are more towards the reading generalization of al-Kutub al-Sittah (The Six books of Hadith), *Mishkat al-Masabih* and *Muwatta' al-Malik*. At the same time, the courses offered in specialization in hadith (*takhassus al-hadith*) in *Mazahir al-'Ulum* are not much different from which was offered in Dar 'Ulum Deoband. The courses are Classification of hadith, Retrieval of al-Hadith, 'Ilal al-Hadith, *Mutun al-Hadith* (The text of Hadith), *Al-Mutalaah wa Hifz Ahadith Mukhtarah* (Reading and Memorization of the selected ahadith) and Names of Narrator. The level of al-Marhalah al-'Aliyyah or al-Fadilah offered at the Islamic University of Sanabil is different from the specialization of hadith studies offered at Darul 'Ulum Deoband and *Mazahir al-'Ulum*. Even though it is not a specialization in hadith studies, the credit hours offered for this hadith program is actually longer than any other subjects which is approximately 16 hours per week. Students are also required to write an academic writing consists of 30 pages before they can get the advance degree. Regarding references, the *turath* books taught in this three main Islamic institutions are mainly the primary books of hadith written by *muta'akhirin* scholars such as Muqaddimah Ibn al-Solah by Ibn al-Solah, *Tadrib al-Rawi* by al-Suyuti, *Man Yu'tamd Qawluhu fi al-Jarh wa al-Ta 'dil* by al-Zahabi, *Tahzib al-Kamal* by al-Mizzi, *al-Raf' wa al-Takmil* by al-Laknawi and etc. This traditional system is the one that has given the world many distinguish scholars of hadith today.

¹³ Abu Sahban Ruh al-Quds al-Nadwi (2004) *Turuq Tadris al-hadith al-Sharif*. Lucknow

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