

MODERN ISSUES IN QUR'AN AND SUNNAH STUDIES

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**EDITED BY
DR. NOOR MOHAMMAD OSMANI**



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JIHĀD IN THE EXEGESIS OF MAWDŪDĪ AND SAYYID QUṬB

Retrieval on the Impact of Religious Extremism

Dr. S.M. Solihin*

Abstract

The paper attempts to reveal the causes of religious extremism among Muslims especially the youths. In many cases the tendencies of extremism are due to influences of the concept of *jihād* especially which are contained in the writings of Muslim movement leaders such as Sayyid Quṭb and Sayyid Abul ‘Alā Mawdūdī. It is inevitable that the writings of these two scholars are very influential especially among the Muslim youths. Both of them got directly involved in Islamic movement which can be regarded as the most effective tool in motivating the youths to dedicate their lives for the cause of religion. There are so many accusations against their writings especially which are related to the concept of *jihād* which, they regard it as source of extremism. The main aim of this paper is to analyze literature of *jihād* which are being used by many Muslim activists as the main curricular to develop crystallization of Islamic commitment.

Keywords: *Jihad, Sayyid Quth, Sayyid Mawdudi, Tafsir, extremism*

Introduction

The topic under the discussion is to trace the exegesis of the Qur’ān related to *jihād* and other terms similar to it such as *al-qitāl* (lit. physical clash or conflict in the battlefield) and *al-‘adāwah* (lit. the enmity) in the hand of two contemporary Muslim scholars, Sayyid Quṭb and Sayyid Abul ‘Alā Mawdūdī. Both of them were even considered as ideologues of Islamic movement whose thoughts give tremendous influence especially among the youths throughout the Muslim world.¹ The book of

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¹ Sayyid Abul ‘Alā Mawdūdī articulated his Islamic ideas through the establishment of *jama‘at Islāmī* which became famous in Indian subcontinent. As a thinker and prolific writer his ideas are very influential especially among the youth. His books were translated in several languages which were initially written in *Urdu*. Toward understanding Islam for instance, was translated into more than thirty languages and enjoyed