

LANGUAGE AND ISLAMIC STUDIES

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LANGUAGE
AND
ISLAMIC STUDIES

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Forward

Prof. Dr. Mohamed Asin Dollah
Dean
Faculty of Leadership & Management

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CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF MUHAMAD RASHID RIDA'S POLITICAL THOUGHT

Dr. A. O. Shuriye*

1. PROLOGUE

Islam as an institution in which religion becomes an integral part of the system of governance and state may not sanction or recognize dichotomy between the two. Throughout the epochs of the Prophetic (622-632A.D) and the four rightly guided caliphs (632-661A.D) spiritual quality remained the determinant factor of political leadership a phenomenon that subjects the study of Islamic political science within the framework of religious ideology. The demise of the Ottoman Empire however marked the beginning of a new era in Muslim political science, the age of colonialism, eventually leading to disunity and predicament and the emergence of the present political quandary of the Muslim *Ummah*. Thus Muslim thinkers emerged in an attempt to find solutions to the aforementioned state-of-affairs. Few thinkers occupy prominent place in the history of contemporary Islamic political science as Muhammad Rashid Rida (1865-1935A.D), his views on political science are distinctive in harmonizing the liberal political ideas of his mentors namely, Afghani and Abduh, and that of his conservative students, such as, Hassan al-Banna. Besides, Rida synthesizes revivalist and nationalist schools in Islamic political science. This paper aspires to evaluate the epistemological framework of Rida's views on ummatic political science and his contribution to the Islamization aspect of the subject. Living

* Dr. Shuriye is an assistant professor of contemporary Islamic political thought currently at the department of science faculty of engineering International Islamic University Malaysia.