

# Sufi interpretation in Islam: History, limitations, influences, and criticisms

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## Abstract:

In every era, the interpretation of the Qur'an reflects a diversity of approaches, depending on the scholarly expertise of the interpreters (mufasssir). One distinctive interpretative pattern is Sufi exegesis, despite its limited development due to challenging sceptical views. This research aims to address inquiries regarding the scope of Sufi exegesis, encompassing its historical emergence, limitations, differences in scholars' perspectives, and the terms "nazhari" and "ishari" Sufi exegesis. Employing qualitative methods and literature review, this study aligns expert views to achieve a nuanced understanding. The conclusion reveals that Sufi exegesis has deep-rooted origins since the early days of Islam, contributing to the development of Islamic spirituality and intellectual heritage. Despite its significance, critiques of symbolic and allegorical approaches raise questions about the clarity and certainty of Sufi interpretation. Research recommendations emphasize a more in-depth examination of empirical approaches in Sufi exegesis, integrating Sufi aspects with robust scientific methods, and exploring their social and moral impact in contemporary Muslim societies.

**Keywords:** sufi exegesis; Islamic history; Islamic scholars; contemporary Muslim societies.

## INTRODUCTION

In the context of the development of Islamic thought in the Middle Ages, the interpretation of the Qur'an experienced significant progress along with the emergence of various schools of thought (Abbas, 2015; Retnani, 2017). The Sufi movement, one of the schools that had a major impact on the interpretation of the Qur'an, made an important contribution to the formation of religious insight and understanding of the Qur'an (Arberry, 2013). Sufism, which grew out of ascetic and escapist practices following the political conflict following the Prophet's death, had a significant influence on the understanding of the Qur'an (Taleb, 2020). Sufi exegetes during this period developed a distinctive approach to interpretation, believing that behind the literal meaning of the Qur'an, there is a more essential inner meaning (Nasr, 1999). These mystical practices were interpreted as mystical theories by Sufi exegetes, resulting in interpretations that reflect the spiritual dimension in understanding the Qur'an. Two models of Sufi interpretation that emerged during this period were Sufi Nazhari (theoretical) and Sufi Ishari (practical) (Mojaddedi, 2000).

The main objectives of this study are to explain the history of the emergence of Sufi interpretation, identify the limitations of Sufi interpretation, explore the debate surrounding Sufi interpretation of Nazhari and Ishari, and record the books of interpretation that describe Sufi characteristics. By adopting qualitative methods and a

descriptive-analytical approach, this study aims to provide a more moderate understanding of the role of Sufi interpretation in the history of Qur'anic interpretation, as well as presenting its contribution in the context of Islamic thought.

The sustainability and relevance of this research lie in the importance of understanding the influence of Sufism on the interpretation of the Qur'an in the context of Islamic history (Hanafi, 2007). A deeper understanding of the Sufi framework and approach to interpretation can provide richer insights into the Islamic intellectual heritage. Furthermore, this research is also important for opening the door to discussions regarding the integration of mystical and scientific dimensions in the understanding of the Qur'an, which can provide a holistic understanding for Muslims. Thus, this research not only contributes to the academic level but also enriches the general understanding of the role of Sufism in the formation of the Islamic exegetical tradition..

## METHODS

This research uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive-analytical method (Lune & Berg, 2017), chosen to provide an in-depth understanding of the history, limitations, and debates surrounding Sufi interpretation in the context of the development of Islamic thought. In selecting data and sources, the focus is on Sufi commentaries from various periods, chosen to trace the evolution of Sufi thought. Furthermore, classical texts and Islamic history are used to provide historical context and a broader understanding of the phenomenon. The data collection process was conducted through a literature study (Mustari & Rahman, 2012), gathering information from classical literature, current research, and primary sources related to Sufi interpretation. An in-depth analysis of Sufi interpretation books was conducted to identify interpretation patterns and Sufi thought styles. In data analysis, a descriptive approach is used to provide a clear picture of the history of the emergence of Sufi interpretation, reveal the limitations it faces, and examine the debates surrounding it. Comparative analysis is then used to compare various Sufi interpretation books, identifying similarities and differences in Sufi approaches and thought.

Data validity is guaranteed through data triangulation, by confirming findings using information from various sources to ensure the accuracy and validity of research results. Research ethics are maintained through thoroughness and objectivity, ensuring the accuracy of research results and minimizing bias in interpretation.

The research results are presented in a comprehensive conclusion, formulating the research findings as a significant contribution to understanding the history, limitations, and debates in Sufi interpretation. By combining a qualitative approach and descriptive-analytical methods, this research is expected to provide a deeper understanding of the role of Sufi interpretation in the history of Qur'anic interpretation.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### History of Sufi Tafsir

Sufi interpretation traces its roots back to the time of the Prophet Muhammad and his companions, forming the basis of Sufi behavior, which has become the primary foundation of Sufi interpretation. Although the term "Sufism" only emerged in the second century AH by Abu Hashim al-Sufi, the values and principles of Sufism were already evident in the lives of the Prophet's companions, who chose a simple lifestyle and were diligent in their worship (Yunus et al., 2020). Islamic historians, such as al-Dhahabi (Al-Dhahabi, 1987), have shown that Sufi practices have existed since the beginning of Islam, with some companions even practicing Sufi lifestyles in their daily lives. This confirms that the roots of Sufi interpretation stem not only from philosophical reflection but are also closely connected to the lives of the Prophet's companions, who served as role models in the practice of Sufi values.

The continuity of these Sufi values can be found in Sufi teachings and practices to this day (Atjeh, 1989). Modern Sufis continue the tradition of the Prophet's companions, emphasizing the importance of simplicity, obedience, and perseverance in worship as integral parts of the spiritual journey. Thus, Sufi interpretation is not only a theoretical study but also a practical reflection of Islamic teachings that inspire behavior and attitudes in a spiritual context. Ignaz Goldziher (2010) states that Sufi interpretation is heavily influenced by the Sufi perspective, which emphasizes reflection on the general meaning of the Quran. Through this reflection, Sufis can find a foundation for building their schools of thought within the Quran, demonstrating that the specific principles of their schools of thought are rooted in the teachings of the Quran.

The emergence of Sufi interpretations was also influenced by the socio-political situation after the death of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). According to Muhammad Iqbal (Iqbal, 2013), a prominent Muslim thinker, Sufism was a silent form of protest against the political power of the aristocracy, social injustice, and formal religious dogma. Iqbal believed that Sufism succeeded in preserving Islam's spiritual heritage and providing a new nuance to the interpretation of the Qur'an by demonstrating the originality of Sufism as an Islamic teaching capable of bringing about social and spiritual transformation. The genealogy of Sufi interpretation involves a long history, with the development of Sufi thought dating back to the Abbasid dynasty. Although Sufi thought has existed for a long time, specifically Sufi-style commentary writing only emerged some time later (Wahyudi & Wahyudin, 2021). Sufis tended to combine their spiritual insights with allegorical interpretations of the Quran, making Sufi interpretation a means of understanding the profound meanings behind sacred verses.

In this process, they created a rich and profound intellectual legacy, which remains a source of inspiration for seekers of spiritual truth in Islam (M. P. Arifin & Misaeropa, 2019). In the middle period of Islamic history, particularly in the 9th to 12th centuries AD, Sufi interpretation reached its peak with the emergence of monumental works by prominent Sufi figures such as Ibn Arabi and al-Ghazali. Ibn Arabi, with his concept of *Wahdat al-Wujud* (Unity of Being), explained that everything that exists is a manifestation of a single being, namely God. His thinking created the view that the Qur'an is not only a practical guide, but also the key to understanding the essence of existence. On the other hand, al-Ghazali (Al-Ghazālī, 1996) emphasized the importance of personal spiritual experience and the revelation of divine secrets through contemplative practice. The development of Sufi interpretation also gave rise to a debate between two models: the Nazhari Sufis emphasizing inner understanding and the Ishari Sufis emphasizing the practical application of spiritual teachings in everyday life. This debate enriched the intellectual treasury of Islam and provided a foundation for further development in the understanding and practice of Sufism.

Thus, Sufi interpretation not only creates a rich intellectual heritage but also shapes currents of thought that have significantly impacted the understanding of Islamic spirituality. This legacy continues to evolve and inspires many Muslims in facing the challenges of modern life. A profound understanding of the Quran through Sufi interpretation plays a central role in guiding individuals toward spiritual growth and self-awareness (Arifin, 2019).

### **Historical limitations of the emergence of Sufi interpretation**

Differences in interpretation of Quranic verses often arise from the interpreters' tendencies in interpreting them. This is inextricably linked to their expertise and specific knowledge, resulting in their own distinct interpretations and characteristics (Affani, 2019). There are two main types of Sufi interpretations: Nazhari Sufi Interpretation and Ishari Sufi Interpretation (Mustaqim, 2005). Nazhari Sufi Interpretation involves a looser interpretive analysis, influenced by philosophy, and emphasizes intellectual intuition, although it is considered to deviate from the essence of religion. For example, Ibn Arabi's interpretation applies a philosophical approach to the verse about Prophet Idris (peace be upon him). According to him, Prophet Idris (peace be upon him) is a manifestation of a high-level understanding of the concept of humans as caliphs (leaders) on earth.

On the other hand, Ishāri Sufi interpretation places greater emphasis on the practical application of religious teachings in everyday life. This model encompasses practices of worship, ethics, and morality, with a focus on internal transformation and character improvement as integral parts of the spiritual journey. This type of Sufi interpretation is primarily illustrated in the works of al-Ghazali, who highlighted the moral and ethical values within the teachings of the Quran.

### **Scholarly debate about Sufi interpretation**

The existence of Sufi interpretation has not escaped controversy among scholars. Some critics argue that Nazhari's Sufi interpretation focuses too much on the philosophical dimension and tends to deviate from concrete religious teachings. On the other hand, Ishari's Sufi interpretation is sometimes considered too practical and insufficiently in-depth in exploring the metaphysical and symbolic dimensions of sacred verses.

On the other hand, Tafsir Sufi Ishari is a form of interpretation that does not ignore its outward meaning; however, it must be supported by a solid foundation that does not conflict with Sharia and common sense (Yahya et al., 2022). This practice involves spiritual training by a Sufi, both for personal benefit and for others, by interpreting the signs in the Qur'an. This practice merges into the heart, discusses occult matters, and obtains divine knowledge in the verses of the Qur'an.

Ishri Sufi interpretation emphasizes practical aspects of everyday life. Sufis who practice this type of interpretation strive to translate religious teachings into concrete actions and character transformation. They believe that through a deeper understanding of the verses of the Quran, one can shape a more meaningful and beneficial life for oneself and society. Spiritual practices in Ishri Sufi interpretation often involve meditation, contemplation, and reflection. Sufis believe that by delving into the meanings of sacred verses, they can attain a higher level of spiritual understanding. This aids in self-development and increases awareness of human existence within a broader context.

However, it must be acknowledged that Ishāri Sufi interpretation is not always without controversy. Some sceptics argue that these practical interpretations can vary significantly between individuals, and there is a risk of misusing religious teachings to achieve personal goals that may not always align with universal Islamic values.

Muhammad Husein adz-Dzahabi explained that the Sufi ishari interpretation can be applied, supported by the saying of the Prophet Muhammad SAW: "Every verse of the Qur'an has an external and internal meaning, each letter has a boundary, and each boundary has a special place that should not be considered as another place." However, adz-Dzahabi emphasized that this interpretation should only be carried out by people who have a deep understanding of religious sciences and have a tendency towards Sufism (Aji et al., 2021).

In this context, a solid understanding of religious knowledge is key. Ishari Sufi interpretation is not merely an attempt at random interpretation, but rather demands a combination of religious knowledge with profound spiritual experience. Only those who have embarked on the Sufi journey and possess a solid scientific foundation are considered capable of correctly understanding and applying this method. Al-Dhahabi's emphasis on a thorough understanding of religious sciences reflects a careful effort to prevent the misuse of Sufi concepts. In other words, Ishāri Sufi interpretation is not open to interpretation by anyone without adequate knowledge. It is an effort to ensure that the resulting interpretation remains within the framework of Sharia and does not lead to interpretations that deviate from Islamic religious norms. Accordingly, future research projects could explore the concepts and criteria necessary to meet the qualification standards for conducting Islamic Sufi interpretation. Developing more specific guidelines or frameworks could help select those qualified to conduct this interpretation, ensuring that only those who truly understand and live by the teachings of Sufism engage in such interpretation.

## **Influence and Criticism of Sufi Interpretation**

### **1. Aspects of Spirituality and Self-Awareness**

Sufi exegesis, a specialized branch of the Islamic exegetical tradition, plays a significant role in enriching the spiritual dimension of Islam. By emphasizing the inner aspects or hidden meanings of the Quran, Sufi exegesis dedicates itself to deepening the understanding of the relationship between humans and God. Its contributions to Islamic thought provide a foundation for individuals seeking a deeper spiritual experience. Ahmad (Khamid, 2020) describes Sufi interpretation as not merely a literal interpretation of Quranic verses, but rather a search for deeper meanings involving spiritual and material dimensions. Sufis, who engage in this interpretation process, believe that the Quran is not only a book of guidance but also a source of direct inspiration from Allah, harboring divine wisdom and spiritual secrets. Therefore, Sufi interpretation is a view that encompasses the mystical and profound aspects of Islamic teachings.

One of the hallmarks of Sufi interpretation is its emphasis on concepts such as *ma'rifah* (intimate knowledge of God), *ishraq* (enlightenment), and *muhabbah* (compassion). Sufis seek to experience God's presence directly through meditation, dhikr, and other spiritual practices. They believe that the Quran is the key to understanding spiritual reality and that each verse has a hidden meaning that can only be understood through direct experience with the divine presence. Sufi interpretation also highlights the concept of Sufism, which is the mystical dimension of Islam. Sufism teaches that the search for true truth cannot be achieved solely through intellectual knowledge but also involves direct experience and inner transformation. In this context, Sufi interpretation serves as a bridge between religious texts and personal spiritual experience. The importance of Sufi interpretation lies in its ability to provide a more holistic view of Islamic teachings. Sufism emphasizes aspects such as love, humility, and the divine presence as core to religious practice. Thus, this interpretation helps counterbalance the more formalistic or legalistic approaches found in conventional interpretive traditions (Firdaus, 2021).

Sufi interpretation also creates space for interfaith dialogue. By emphasizing the universal dimension of spirituality, this interpretation can serve as a meeting point between Muslims and followers of other religions who

value mystical and spiritual aspects in their search for the meaning of life. This can enrich interfaith understanding and strengthen diversity in global religious discourse. However, like other religious approaches, Sufi interpretation has also attracted criticism. Some critics consider it a deviation from more orthodox Islamic teachings, while others see it as a means to attain higher and deeper truths. The controversy surrounding Sufi interpretation reflects the complexity and diversity of Islamic interpretation. Overall, Sufi interpretation has had a significant impact on enriching and developing the spiritual dimension of Islam. By emphasizing the deepest meanings of the Quran and direct spiritual experience, this interpretation opens the door to a deeper understanding of humanity's relationship with God. While a source of inspiration for many individuals, Sufi interpretation remains a subject of controversy and critical reflection within Islamic religious discourse.

## **2. Intellectual Heritage**

Sufi exegesis creates a rich intellectual heritage, embodied in the monumental works of renowned Sufi figures such as Ibn Arabi, al-Ghazali, and Jalaluddin Rumi. These works not only play a crucial role in the context of spirituality but also contribute significantly to the development of Islamic art, literature, and thought. The ideas contained in Sufi interpretations often permeate the works of artists, poets, and thinkers, creating a strong creative tradition in the Islamic world. For example, the poetry of Jalaluddin Rumi reflects a deep understanding of the mystical aspects of Islam and has been a source of inspiration for many artists and writers. Sufi exegesis is not simply the interpretation of sacred texts; through its symbolic and allegorical approach, it opens the door to creative interpretation and profound reflection. This legacy transcends time, enriching the cultural and intellectual horizons of Muslims, even globally.

## **3. Social Transformation**

Sufi thought, particularly as reflected in Sufi interpretation, is not limited to theological matters but also has significant social implications. Sufis not only pursue a profound understanding of spiritual reality but also emphasize ethical and moral values that have the potential to shape positive social transformation (Gani, 2018). In Sufi interpretation, the term "*Ihsan*," or goodness, is at the heart of the teachings. Sufis believe that goodness extends beyond outward actions to the inner dimension. Goodness, in Sufi interpretation, involves good deeds performed with sincere and compassionate intentions, as a form of worship to God. This concept encompasses not only a vertical relationship with God but also a horizontal relationship with fellow human beings. *Adab*, or ethics, is also a central concept in Sufi thought. Sufis believe that a righteous and good life must reflect good *adab*. This includes polite, compassionate, and respectful behavior toward others. In a social context, *adab* teaches the importance of creating a harmonious and supportive environment.

One concrete impact of Sufi interpretation on society is the promotion of justice. Sufis emphasize justice as a primary value that must be embodied in everyday life. They teach that justice is not merely the prerogative of formal authorities or institutions, but also the responsibility of individuals to ensure that their actions and decisions reflect justice and truth. Furthermore, the concept of tolerance is highlighted in Sufi interpretation. Sufis understand human diversity as part of divine wisdom. In Sufism's view, differences in religious beliefs or practices should not be divisive but rather appreciated as part of the beauty of God's creation. Therefore, Sufi thought can be a unifying force in a diverse society, paving the way for interfaith harmony (Nafi, 2018). Sufi interpretation also encourages Muslims to actively engage in social service and charity. Sufis believe that love can be expressed not only through ritual worship but also through concrete actions that benefit fellow human beings. This includes participating in charitable activities, helping those in need, and contributing to the overall well-being of society. By integrating concepts such as *ihsan* (good character), *adab* (good manners), justice, tolerance, and compassion into Sufi interpretations, Sufis established a strong foundation for creating a more just and harmonious society. The social transformation advocated by Sufi thought encompasses not only the individual but also invites Muslims to collaborate in building better communities and improving social conditions that require attention.

However, while Sufi interpretations offer a profound and holistic view of Islamic teachings, it is important to remember that their implementation can vary and depend on the understanding and interpretation of each individual or group. Nevertheless, Sufi thought and Sufi interpretations continue to make a positive contribution in guiding Muslims toward values that promote goodness, justice, and harmony in society.



#### 4. Ambiguity and Uncertainty

One criticism of Sufi interpretation is that its symbolic and allegorical approach can lead to ambiguity and uncertainty in understanding sacred texts. Some critics argue that this can open the door to highly subjective interpretations.

#### 5. Potential for Error

Criticism of Sufi interpretations cannot be ignored, and some critics worry that the emphasis on the isnawi or supernatural aspects of these interpretations has the potential to be deviant and misleading. In particular, the mystical experiences often emphasized in Sufi interpretations can create uncertainty and open the door to interpretations inconsistent with established Islamic teachings. One frequent criticism is that focusing on personal experiences, especially those of a supernatural nature, can lead to highly subjective interpretations. Interpretations based on individual experiences can vary significantly and result in understandings inconsistent with widely accepted Islamic norms. This can create confusion within Muslim communities and lead to divisions in understanding religious principles (Hilal, 1979).

Furthermore, there is concern that Sufi interpretation, with its emphasis on hidden meanings, could lead to a misinterpretation or extreme understanding of Islamic teachings. Some critics believe that this interpretation could introduce mystical elements that are inconsistent with the clear texts of the Quran and Hadith that have been traditionally recognized by scholars. It is important to note that while Sufi interpretations have the noble goal of deepening the spiritual dimension of Islam, the risk of misunderstanding and deviation remains. Therefore, a judicious balance must be struck between seeking mystical experiences and adhering to the historically inherited framework of Islamic teachings (Wijaya, 2020). Furthermore, some critics argue that Sufi interpretations may tend to neglect the practical and legal aspects of Islam, which are also important from a religious perspective. In emphasizing the spiritual dimension, aspects such as sharia law and formal worship practices may receive insufficient attention.

Despite these criticisms, many Sufis and Sufi commentators themselves emphasize the importance of a balanced understanding of the mystical and practical dimensions of Islam. They argue that spiritual experience must be integrated with a solid understanding of Islamic teachings derived from recognized texts. In response to this criticism, Sufis often emphasize the importance of spiritual guidance and in-depth study of the Islamic scholarly tradition. They argue that guidance from experienced Sufi masters can help prevent deviation and ensure that mystical experiences are correctly understood and interpreted in accordance with Islamic teachings.

#### 6. Lack of Empirical Basis

Another criticism of Sufi interpretations is the lack of empirical basis in some interpretations, particularly those involving personal spiritual experience. Some scholars believe that interpretations that rely too heavily on personal experience can compromise the validity and validity of Islamic teachings. Despite criticism, Sufi exegesis remains an integral part of the Islamic intellectual tradition, contributing to diverse interpretations and understandings of the Qur'an. The sustainability and relevance of Sufi exegesis in the contemporary Islamic context continues to be a topic of discussion among Muslim scholars and thinkers.

#### Book of Sufi patterned interpretation

After the author observed several pieces of literature, he found the following Sufi interpretation books:

1. *Tafsir al-Quran al-'Azim* of Sahl ibn Yunus ibn 'Abdillah ibn Rafi' al-Tustari. Tafsir, which is considered to be the oldest work, only interprets certain verses that are considered to contain clues or hidden signals behind their apparent meaning (Syarifuddin, 2004).
2. *The Holy Quran* of Abu 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad ibn Husain ibn Musa al-Azdi al-Sulami or better known as al-Sulami. According to him, the Sufis never called what they wrote an interpretation, but an inspiration from Allah SWT, which is obtained after they meditate and meditate on the verses of the Qur'an.
3. *Lata'if al-Isharat*, or more popularly called Tafsir al-Qushayri, by Abd al-Karim ibn Hawazan ibn 'Abd al-Malik ibn Talhah ibn Muhammad al-Qushayri. In interpreting the Qur'an, he tries to keep referring to the Sharia, in this case, it is the Qur'an and the Hadith. In addition, al-Qushayri also always adheres to the tools of the science of interpretation, such as the knowledge of the Arabic language, Nahwu, and other tools of the science of interpretation (Mojaddedi, 2000).

4. *Tafsir al-Quran al-'Azim* The work of Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn 'Ali ibn Muhammad ibn Ahmad ibn 'Abdillah al-Ta'i al-Hatimi, better known as Ibn 'Arabi. The idea of *wahdat al-wujud* (the unity of being) is very strongly depicted in its interpretation.
5. *Ara'is al-Bayan fi Haqa'iq al-Qur'an* The work of Abu Muhammad Ruzbihan Ibn Abi al-Nasr al-Baqali al-Shirazi. In interpreting the verses of the Qur'an, al-Shirazi emphasized the Islamic meaning.
6. *Al-Ta'wilat al-Najmiyah* consists of five volumes. This interpretation was written by 2 authors, namely Najm al-Din Dayah or Abu Bakar ibn 'Abdullah ibn Muhammad ibn Shahid al-Asadi al-Razi (d. 654 H. and Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn Ahmad ibn Muhammad al-Samnani, he is usually nicknamed Ala' al-Dawlah al-Samnani (w. 736 H) (Al-Dzahabi, 2000).
7. *Ghara'ib al-Qur'an wa Ragha'ib al-Furqan* by Nizam al-Din al-Hasan ibn Muhammad al-Husayn al-Khurasani al-Naysaburi. This book draws heavily on the interpretations of Fakhr al-Razi's al-Kabir and al-Zamakhshari's al-Kashaf. He not only quotes the words of these two great commentators but also demonstrates the breadth of his own understanding and intellectual power. Al-Naysaburi also frequently criticized the opinions of these two commentators.
8. *Tafsir Ruh al-Ma'ani* the work of Shihab al-Din al-Sayyid Muhammad al-Alusi al-Baghdadi.
9. Hamka's *Tafsir al-Azhar*. Hamka brought a new concept to the world of Sufism, although he was not a Sufi who practiced spiritual asceticism. Hamka argued that the fighting spirit of Sufism needed to be articulated in a modern way modern (Damami, 2000).

## CONCLUSION

In this study, the author has investigated the history, limitations, influence, and criticism of Sufi interpretation in Islam, as well as several Sufi commentaries. The findings indicate that Sufi interpretation has deep roots dating back to the early days of Islam, with Sufi thought evolving over time. The influence of Sufi interpretation has been significant in the development of Islamic spirituality, contributing to its intellectual heritage and having the potential to bring about social transformation. However, criticism of symbolic and allegorical approaches and the potential for heresy raises questions about the clarity and certainty of Sufi interpretation. There are also concerns regarding the empirical basis of some interpretations, particularly those involving mystical experiences. Based on these findings, we recommend that future research projects more deeply examine empirical approaches to Sufi interpretation and their impact on the validity of Islamic teachings. Further research could explore how to integrate Sufi aspects with a robust scientific approach, allowing for clearer and more accountable interpretations. Furthermore, future research projects could further examine the social and moral impact of Sufi interpretation in contemporary Muslim societies. This would provide better insight into the role of Sufi interpretation in shaping the character and behavior of individual Muslims.

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