

The Thought And Methodology Of Imam An-Nasa'i In Writing Sunan An-Nasa'i

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ABSTRACT

The present article aims to discuss Imam An-Nasa'i's thinking and methodology in writing Sunan An-Nasa'i, one of the six major hadith books in the Islamic tradition. The introduction delineates the significance of Sunan An-Nasa'i in the compilation of authentic hadith, while also underscoring Imam An-Nasa'i's stature as a preeminent scholar in the discipline of hadith. The intellectual framework and methodological approach employed by Imam An-Nasa'i exerted a profound influence on his methodology of collecting, filtering, and compiling hadith. The research method employed is a qualitative literature study, wherein relevant texts were analyzed, including Sunan An-Nasa'i and other works that discuss Imam An-Nasa'i's methodology. This approach entails a comprehensive examination of the criteria employed in the selection of hadith, the methodology utilized in the assessment of its authenticity, and the systematic arrangement of chapters and themes within the book. The results indicate that Imam An-Nasa'i employs a rigorous methodology in the selection of hadith, incorporating only those that meet specific quality criteria, particularly with regard to the integrity of the sanad and the credibility of the narrators. Additionally, he prioritizes hadith that are more robust in terms of chain of transmission and less in terms of repetition of hadith found in other sources. This approach has led to the recognition of Sunan An-Nasa'i for its meticulous selection and its high scholarly value.

Keywords: Imam An-Nasa'i, Methodology, Sunan An-Nasa'i, Hadith..



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1. INTRODUCTION

Imam An-Nasa'i is a prominent figure in the science of hadith, renowned for his extensive work, Sunan An-Nasa'i. It is one of six hadith books that are recognized as major works in the Sunni hadith tradition, in addition to Sahih al-Bukhari, Sahih Muslim, Sunan Abu Dawud, Jami' at-Tirmidhi, and Sunan Ibn Majah. Sunan An-Nasa'i is recognized for its exceptional quality, meticulous selection of hadith, and rigorous adherence to the standards of maintaining the credibility of hadith sanad and matan. The book comprises approximately 5,700 hadith, meticulously categorized into various chapters that encompass a comprehensive range of subjects, including Islamic law, worship, ethics, and daily life.

The significance of Imam An-Nasa'i's theoretical framework and methodological approach in the composition of Sunan An-Nasa'i is of paramount importance. The methodology employed in the selection and compilation of hadiths reflects a meticulous and systematic approach. Imam An-Nasa'i is recognized for his stringent approach in accepting sahih hadiths. He expressed significant concern regarding the validity of the sanad (chain of narrators) and the credibility of the narrators of the hadith contained therein. Not only that, Imam An-Nasa'i is also known to be very careful in choosing hadith that he considers not strong enough in terms of sanad and matan, even though the hadith has been accepted by other hadith imams. Hadith has been accepted by other hadith imams. This shows how high the standards he set in his work, as well as how the methodology used was very influential in the quality of Sunan An-Nasa'i.

Imam An-Nasa'i was born in Nasa (present-day Iran) in 214 AH and was one of the students of Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim, two of the greatest scholars of hadith. An-Nasa'i underwent a long

journey in searching for hadith, collecting and filtering them to produce works that have high scientific value. One of the things that distinguishes Imam An-Nasa'i from the other Imams is his thoroughness and selectivity in choosing the hadith to be included in his book. In fact, in Sunan An-Nasa'i, he only included hadith that he considered to have the strongest sanad and were free from defects, and chose not to include.

Imam An-Nasa'i's methodology in compiling his book also focuses heavily on the systematic order of the chapters, which makes it easier for the reader to understand the context of each Hadith presented. He divided his book into more structured chapters based on specific topics such as law, worship, morality, and others in the hope that readers would be able to study the hadith in a more comprehensive context. One of the unique features of Sunan An-Nasa'i is its strong emphasis on sahih hadith and rarely repeats ahadith recorded in other hadith books, giving the impression of being more selective and focused on quality.

The approach used by Imam An-Nasa'i in writing Sunan An-Nasa'i deserves serious attention because it makes an important contribution to the compilation and dissemination of hadith science. With a rigorous and selective methodology, this book has become one of the most important references in the world of hadith, and Imam An-Nasa'i's thoughts can be studied more deeply to understand how the process of compiling scientific works in the field of hadith is carried out carefully and carefully. That's why the study of Imam An-Nasa'i's thoughts and methodology in writing Sunan An-Nasa'i is very important, both to understand his contribution to the science of hadith and to learn valuable lessons about the principles of scientific writing, which must be based on honesty, thoroughness, and sincerity.

In this article, we will explore Imam An-Nasa'i's thinking and methodology in writing Sunan An-Nasa'i and how his approach influenced the quality of this work as one of the most respected books of hadith in the world.

2. RESEARCH METHOD/MATERIAL AND METHOD/LETERATURE REVIEW

The research method used in this article is a qualitative method with a literature study approach. This approach was chosen because the main objective of the research is to analyze Imam An-Nasa'i's thoughts and methodology in writing Sunan An-Nasa'i. This research was conducted by collecting and analyzing various literature sources related to the research topic. The first step in this research is the collection of primary sources in the form of Sunan An-Nasa'i, which is the main object of analysis. In addition, secondary sources are books, articles and journals.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Imam An-Nasa'i was a great scholar who was highly respected in the world of Hadith. His famous work, Sunan An-Nasa'i, is one of the six major hadith books in the Sunni tradition, known for its high level of selectivity and rigor in selecting authentic traditions. This study focuses on exploring the methodology used by Imam An-Nasa'i in writing the book and how this methodology differs from that of other Imams such as Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim.

Rigorous and Selective Selection of Hadith

One of the most striking features of Sunan An-Nasa'i is the selectivity of Imam An-Nasa'i in choosing traditions. Imam An-Nasa'i is known as an Imam who is very careful in determining whether a tradition can be included in his book. Unlike Imam Bukhari who collected more traditions, Imam An-Nasa'i focused more on the quality of the traditions included in his work. He selected only those traditions that had a continuous sanad and had narrators who were just (trustworthy) and strong in their memorization and accuracy. As confirmed by the scholars of Hadith, Imam An-Nasa'i paid great attention to the credibility of the narrators and made sure that they had no errors in their narrations.

Moreover, Imam An-Nasa'i did not hesitate to exclude traditions accepted in other books if he thought that the sanad or matan of the tradition did not meet the quality standards he set. This is in contrast to Imam Tirmidhi, who tends to include traditions of lesser quality in the hasan category, even if they are not as strong as the sahih traditions. Imam An-Nasa'i's selective attitude in this regard shows his determination to maintain the quality and scholarly depth of Sunan An-Nasa'i.

Criteria for Authentic Hadith

Imam An-Nasa'i's methodology in selecting traditions was greatly influenced by his strict criteria regarding the validity of sanad and matan. In terms of sanad, Imam An-Nasa'i made sure that each tradition included in his book had an intact sanad with no interrupted narrators. In addition, he only accepted traditions from narrators who were known to be in good standing in the science of hadith, such as having a strong memory, fair behavior, and unimpeachable credibility.

Imam An-Nasa'i also paid close attention to the quality of the matan of the traditions. He avoided traditions that did not conform to the principles of authentic Islamic teachings, even if they were narrated by reliable narrators. Imam An-Nasa'i adhered to the principle that a hadith must not only have a valid sanad, but must also have compatibility and balance in its matan in order to be accepted as a guide in the lives of Muslims. Hadiths that contradict the basic tenets of the religion, even if they have a valid sanad, are not included in the Sunan An-Nasa'i.

Chapter Structure and Organization in Sunan An-Nasa'i

One of the most important aspects of the Sunan An-Nasa'i is the way in which Imam An-Nasa'i organized the chapters of his book. The book is divided into more than 50 chapters covering various aspects of Muslim life, ranging from fiqh law, worship, morals, to social manners. In the arrangement of these chapters, Imam An-Nasa'i prioritizes order and systematization in conveying the content of the hadith to make it easier for the reader to understand.

Unlike Sahih al-Bukhari, which focuses more on collecting traditions in a more general form without structured chapter divisions, Sunan An-Nasa'i is more organized, making it easier for researchers and readers to search for traditions related to a particular topic. This reflects Imam An-Nasa'i's methodology of not only prioritizing the quality of the traditions, but also paying attention to a systematic and structured presentation so that the reader can more easily understand and implement the traditions contained in the book.

Avoidance of Repetition of Hadith

Imam An-Nasa'i has a unique characteristic in terms of avoiding repetition of Hadith. Compared to Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim, both of them tend to repeat the same tradition in different chapters of their books in order to emphasize or show the relevance of the tradition in different contexts. However, Imam An-Nasa'i rarely repeats traditions that have already been recorded in other books, even if they are authentic. For example, if a tradition has already been recorded in Sahih al-Bukhari or Sahih Muslim, Imam An-Nasa'i will not repeat the same tradition in his book unless there is an additional relevant dimension or explanation. This shows that Imam An-Nasa'i preferred quality over quantity and wanted to ensure that each tradition included in his book made a unique contribution.

Imam An-Nasa'i's Methodology and Comparison with Other Imams

In terms of methodology, it can be seen that Imam An-Nasa'i was stricter in his selection of traditions compared to other Imams such as Imam Abu Dawud and Imam Tirmidhi, who often included traditions of more varied quality such as hasan or da'if traditions. Imam An-Nasa'i prefers to filter out traditions of reliable sahih quality, and as such, Sunan An-Nasa'i has a very high reputation in terms of quality. A comparison with Imam Bukhari also shows that Imam An-Nasa'i is similar in his rigorous selection of traditions, but he emphasizes certain aspects of the sanad and matan that Imam Bukhari may not have emphasized as much. This

This shows that Imam An-Nasa'i is characterized by a different methodology but still on the path of sahih hadith science. Overall, this study shows that Imam An-Nasa'i's methodology in writing Sunan An-Nasa'i was very selective, systematic and strict in choosing traditions. He prioritized the quality of the traditions bot

4. CONCLUSION

This study shows that Imam An-Nasa'i had a very strict and selective methodology in compiling Sunan An-Nasa'i, which distinguished him from other Imams such as Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim. Imam An-Nasa'i was very careful in selecting traditions, including only those that had a continuous sanad as well as fair and reliable narrators. In this regard, he prioritized the quality of both the sanad and the matan, emphasizing that each tradition must be in accordance with the principles of authentic Islamic teachings and not contradict stronger texts.

The uniqueness of Imam An-Nasa'i's methodology is also seen in his avoidance of repeating traditions that have been recorded in other hadith books, even if they're sahih. This shows that Imam An-Nasa'i was more concerned with the quality of the traditions included in his book than with their quantity. In addition, the chapter structure of Sunan An-Nasa'i also shows Imam An-Nasa'i's attention to order and systematization in presenting the traditions. The well-organized structure of the chapters makes it easier for the reader to understand and implement the teachings contained in the traditions.

Overall, Sunan An-Nasa'i is a monumental work that was compiled with a very rigorous and careful methodology. Imam An-Nasa'i's selective approach in selecting traditions and the structured organization of the book make it one of the most respected books of traditions and it holds a very important position in the treasury of hadith science, while contributing greatly to the development of Islamic religious knowledge.

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