HARALD MOTZKI’S VIEW ON ḤADĪTH AUTHENTICITY
(Analysis Study of Harald Motzki’s Method of Ḥadīth cum Matn Analysis)

THESIS
Submitted to Ushuluddin Faculty in Partial fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of S-1 of Islamic Theology on Tafsir and Hadis Department

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WALISONGO
SEMARANG
2013
THESIS STATEMENT

I certify that this thesis is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this thesis. Other writer’s opinions or findings included in the thesis are quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

Semarang, November 21st, 2013

The Researcher

Muh Amiruddin
094211086
MOTTO

"كل أمر ذي بال لا يبدأ فيه ببسم الله فهو أبتر"
(H.R. Abu Hurairah)
DEDICATION

There is no ability and strength except with Allah’s willing. I am so conscious that this work would not truly complete without His help. So I would like to say *Alhamdulillah*, thank you Allah.

izzy I dedicated this thesis to my father and my mother (without your prayer, this work will not be completed [may Allah always be with you]), my sisters and brother (may Allah bless you).

izzy And especially I dedicate this work for my *kyai*; KH. M. Ma’ruf Irsyad (thanks to always teach and guide me in Allah’s way [may Allah be with you forever])

izzy I also dedicated this thesis to my beloved friends of FUPK-Depag (may Allah always unite us in one brotherhood) and KKC Indonesia.

izzy And I also dedicated this thesis to all of human beings, especially for Muslims in all around the world.

izzy Most special dedication for Prof. Harald Motzki (thanks for the support, knowledge, and information)
ABSTRACT

Title : HARALD MOTZKI’S VIEW ON ḤADĪTH AUTHENTICITY
(Analysis Study of Harald Motzki’s Method of Isnād cum Matn Analysis)

Researcher : Muh Amiruddin

Keywords : isnād cum matn analysis, common link, al-jarḥ wa al-ta’dīl, rijāl books, authentic ḥadīth, matn investigation

This research tries to investigate Harald Motzki’s method and his view of authenticity ḥadīth. Motzki conducts the ḥadīth analysis, with the aim of dating ḥadīth, analyzes ḥadīth through the aid of isnād cum matn analysis. This method is applied just for complex or interconnected ḥadīth transmissions because this method is focused on the existence of common link and matn investigation. His interpretation of common link phenomenon and dating method show his differences from his predecessors. His dating is not stopped to the common link himself, it will also be possible to be passed on common link’s informant if there is a reason for it. Then, his matn investigation, which analyzes the characteristic features by comparing its matns with the aid of common link’s existence, tries to open the independency of each matn transmission from the others in all probability of defection. It is because most of ḥadīth transmissions is orally and aurally delivered.

Comparing with Muslim ḥadīth criticism, Muslim ḥadīth scholars base mainly the reliability of transmitters on judgment of critic experts to them (al-jarḥ wa al-ta’dīl). While Motzki bases the reliability of transmitters mainly on the text. It is because Western scholarship doesn’t fully trust to rijāl books, especially its jarḥ wa ta’dīl. However, it doesn’t mean that he doesn’t use rijāl books any longer. They use them secondarily in consulting and checking up.

Motzki’s result of method application lead to his view of ḥadīth authenticity. He actually still admits the existence of authentic ḥadīth. But the term ‘authentic ḥadīth’, according to him, is very different from others. Term ‘authentic ḥadīth’ is not always labeled to the ḥadīth which reaches back to the
Prophet. It is because his research purpose is dating hadith. In the title of his article “The Musannaf of ‘Abd al-Razzāq al-Ṣan‘ānī as a Source of Authentic Aḥādīth of the First Islamic Century”, ‘authentic aḥādīth of the first Islamic century’ doesn’t mean that the ḥadīth really reaches back to the Prophet, but it means that the ḥadīth was really exist in that century, whether it is from the Prophet or not is still uncertainty.
PREFACE

All praises due to Allâh, the Creator of universe, the One who has guided me to finish this thesis. Peace and salutation be upon our Prophet Muhammad, the Messenger of Allâh.

This thesis entitled; “HARALD MOTZKI’S VIEW ON ḤADĪTH AUTHENTICITY (Analysis Study of Harald Motzki’s Method of Isnād cum Matn Analysis)” is submitted to Ushuluddin faculty as a partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of S-1 of Islamic Theology on Tafsir and Hadîs Department.

This paper would not finish without the support, help, guidance and advices from numerous people. Therefore, I would like to extend my deep appreciation to all those who have assisted me during my undergraduate study at State Institute for Islamic Studies (IAIN) Walisongo Semarang. Here, I would like to say thanks to:

1. DR. Nashihun Amin, M.Ag, the Dean of Ushuluddin Faculty of State Institute for Islamic Studies (IAIN) Walisongo Semarang who has permit the researcher to do and finish this thesis.
2. Prof. DR. H. Suparman, M.Ag (1st Advisor) and DR. Muhyar Fanani, M.Ag (2nd Advisor) who taught and guided me in finishing this thesis.
3. All lecturers of Ushuluddin Faculty of State Institute for Islamic Studies (IAIN) Walisongo Semarang who have given knowledge so the researcher is able to finish this thesis.
4. All who directly or indirectly helps the researcher, both moral and material, in finishing this thesis.
Finally, the researcher is aware that this thesis is far from perfectness. But the researcher hopes that this thesis can be useful for the researcher and all readers.

Semarang, 21st November 2013

The Researcher

Muh Amiruddin
### ENGLISH TRANSLITERATION SYSTEM

**(International Version)**

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1 Quoted from *Pedoman Penulisan Skripsi*, Fakultas Ushuluddin IAIN Walisongo, Semarang, 2013, p. 140-141.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER PAGE ........................................................................................................... i
ADVISOR APPROVAL ......................................................................................... ii
RATIFICATION ...................................................................................................... iii
THESIS STATEMENT .............................................................................................. iv
MOTTO .................................................................................................................. v
DEDICATION .......................................................................................................... vi
ABSTRACT ........................................................................................................... vii
PREFACE ............................................................................................................... ix
ENGLISH TRANSLITERATION SYSTEM ......................................................... xi
TABLE OF CONTENTS ......................................................................................... xii

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background ...................................................................................... 1
B. Statement of Problem ...................................................................................... 7
C. Aim and Significance of Research ................................................................. 7
D. Prior Research ................................................................................................ 8
E. Research Methodology .................................................................................... 10
   1. Type of Research ..................................................................................... 10
   2. Data Sources ............................................................................................ 10
   3. Data Collection ....................................................................................... 12
   4. Data Analysis .......................................................................................... 12
F. System of Writing .......................................................................................... 13

CHAPTER II: ḤADĪTH AUTHENTICITY

A. Meaning of Ḥadīth Authenticity .................................................................... 15
B. Urgency of Ḥadīth Authenticity ...................................................................... 19
C. Thought Development of Ḥadīth Authenticity .............................................. 21
   1. Thought Development of Ḥadīth Authenticity in Classical Islamic
      Scholarship .............................................................................................. 21
   2. Thought Development of Ḥadīth Authenticity in Western
      Scholarship .............................................................................................. 29
D. Criteria of Ḥadith Authenticity ................................................................. 35
   1. Criteria of Ḥadith Authenticity in Muslim Scholarship ............ 35
   2. Criteria of Ḥadith Authenticity in Western Scholarship .......... 37

CHAPTER III: HARALD MOTZKI’S BIOGRAPHY AND METHOD

A. Biography of Harald Motzki ................................................................. 40
B. Works of Harald Motzki ................................................................. 42
C. Dating Ḥadith Method ..................................................................... 45
   1. Dating on the Basis of the Matn ................................................. 45
   2. Dating on the Basis of the Occurrence of Ḥadīths in Collections ................................................................. 49
   3. Dating on the Basis of the Sanad .............................................. 50
   4. Dating with Sanad and Matn .................................................. 53
D. Basic Aim of Harald Motzki’s Dating ............................................. 54
E. Isnād cum Matn Analysis ............................................................... 57
   1. Term of Chain Analysis .......................................................... 57
   2. Concept of Chain Analysis ..................................................... 58
   3. Method Steps of Isnād cum Matn Analysis .............................. 62
   4. The Cases of his Method Application ..................................... 66

CHAPTER IV: ANALYSIS

A. Position of Harald Motzki’s View in Western Scholarship .............. 74
B. Reliability of Harald Motzki’s Method ............................................. 81
C. Harald Motzki’s View on Hadith Authenticity .................................. 89
   1. Harald Motzki’s Authentic Meaning ....................................... 89
   2. Harald Motzki’s Authenticity Criteria ...................................... 91
D. Harald Motzki’s View about the Earlier Western Theory .............. 93
   1. Backward Projection ............................................................. 93
   2. Argumentum e Silentio ........................................................ 94
   3. Common Links ................................................................. 94
CHAPTER V: CLOSING

1. Conclusion........................................................................................................... 96
2. Suggestion.......................................................................................................... 98

BIBLIOGRAPHY..................................................................................................... 100

CURRICULUM VITAE.............................................................................................. 105