

RETHINKING THE THOUGHT OF JAMALUDDIN AL-AFGHANI: INTELLECTUAL LEGACY FOR ISLAMIC REFORM IN THE MODERN MUSLIM WORLD

Nagib Romadhony

UIN Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten
242631110.nagibromadhony@uinbanten.ac.id

Masbuang

UIN Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten
242631110.masbuang@uinbanten.ac.id

Sholahuddin Al Ayubi

UIN Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten
Sholahuddin.alayubbi@uinbanten.ac.id

Andi Rosa

UIN Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten
Andi.rosa@uinbanten.ac.id

Abstract

This study aims to analyze the relevance of Jamaluddin al-Afghani's rationalist and Pan-Islamist thought in addressing the challenges of Islamic reform in the modern Muslim world. The background of the research is rooted in the need for Muslims to overcome intellectual stagnation, colonial subjugation, and geopolitical fragmentation through a rational and inclusive paradigm. This research employs a qualitative approach using library research methods, with descriptive-interpretative analysis of al-Afghani's works and related secondary literature. The findings reveal that al-Afghani placed rationality at the core of theological and socio-political reform, rejecting blind imitation (taqlid) and fatalism, while emphasizing ijtihad and education. His Pan-Islamist ideas served as a strategic foundation for the global revival of the Muslim ummah, transcending ethnic and national boundaries. His thought inspired later reformers such as Muhammad Abduh and Rashid Rida in shaping a modern, critical, and progressive Islam. Al-Afghani's intellectual legacy remains highly relevant in confronting contemporary issues such as extremism, authoritarianism, and identity crises within the Muslim world.

Keywords: Jamaluddin al-Afghani, Islamic rationalism, Pan-Islamism, Islamic reform, modern Muslim world.

Introduction

The relevance of Jamaluddin al-Afghani's thought in the context of Islamic reform in the modern Muslim world is a highly significant topic for scholarly discussion. Islamic reform requires a strong, inclusive, and contextual intellectual foundation in the era of globalization. Al-Afghani's ideas not only inspired the intellectual awakening of Muslims but also challenged stagnation and offered political, social, and religious reform concepts. Moreover, his thought