THE CONTRIBUTION OF ALAWIYYIN SCHOLARS IN GROUNDING ISLAM IN THE ARCHIPELAGO IN THE 15TH-16TH CENTURY AD

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Abstract
This study explains the contribution of the Alawiyin scholars in the Islamization of the archipelago in the 15th-16th centuries AD. The Alawiyin scholar or Bani Alawi was the descendant of Sayyid Alawi bin Ubaidillah bin Ahmad al-Muhajir who was connected to the Prophet Muhammad. They had played a major role in spreading Islam in the archipelago and contributed to the intellectual-spiritual development of Islamic civilizations in the archipelago. However, unfortunately, their role was not widely written by historians even though many classical scientific sources recorded their history. Therefore, this study provides new facts in revealing their contribution in spreading Islam in the archipelago through various works of literature of classical scholars who had recorded their contributions during the Islamization in the archipelago. This study was conducted using a literature study; with historical analysis to find historical data and facts about the contribution of Alawiyin scholars in the Islamization of the archipelago in the 15th-16th centuries AD. The findings of this study show that Alawiyin's contribution to the Islamization of the archipelago can be witnessed in their attempts to spread Islam, resulting in the birth of Islamic civilizations in the archipelago. They also helped to root Ahlussunnah wa Jama'ah, Syafii's sect (madzhab), and Sunni Sufism throughout the archipelago with wisdom.

Keywords: Alawiyin Scholar, Islamization, Nusantara, 15th-16th century AD

A. Introduction
The history of Islam Nusantara is one of the most exciting studies for researchers and historians from various countries around the world, ranging from the east to the west of the world; Arabia, India, China, to Europe. The study of Islam Nusantara itself is defined as the efforts of the scholars to ground Islam in the archipelago, which was preached and taught with compassion and the ability to blend in with local culture as the teachings of Islam Rahmatan Lil Alamin exemplified by the Prophet Muhammad.
when preaching in Medina. This statement was also justified by Harisudin, that Islam Nusantara is the face of Islam which is spread and has grounded its teachings in the archipelago.

Among the scholars who had a great influence in the spread of Islam in the archipelago were Walisongo, the most well-known Muslim figures until today. Walisongo themselves were the descendants of Alawiyyin or Bani Alawi, who was a descendant of Sayyidina Ali bin Abi Talib, the husband of Fatimah Az-Zahra, daughter of the Prophet Muhammad from the path of Sayyid Alwi bin Ubaidillah bin Ahmad Muhajir. In Zumrotul Mukaffa’s study, one of the scholars known as Walisongo, who was a descendant of Alawiyyin, was Ibrahim Asmarakandi, who came from Samarkand. He succeeded in spreading Islam in the archipelago with an Islamic moral approach so that it was easily accepted by the local community. Unfortunately, Mukaffa seemed to still hesitate to determine whether Shaykh Ibrahim’s origin was from Samarkand, Uzbekistan, or other places because he could not find any valid reference source. However, he believes that Sheikh Ibrahim contributed greatly to spreading Islam in Champa and the Archipelago. It was also believed by Khairul Azhar that one of Ibrahim Asmarakandi’s descendants named Sunan Bonang and Sunan Giri studied and preached Islam in Pulau Besar, Melaka, and its surroundings.

Likewise, according to Suparto, the scholars from Alawiyyin had succeeded in grounding Islam in the archipelago because of their sincerity and strength of faith, which were important assets in facing the challenges of Islamic da’wah in the archipelago. In addition, it was also because they were able to employ the archipelago’s culture and local wisdom as a means of da’wah that could penetrate the hearts of the people being preached to.

Unfortunately, previous researchers have not explained where the Alawiyyin who had succeeded in spreading Islam in the archipelago came from or how they contributed to building the Islamic civilization in the archipelago and grounding Islamic thoughts following the Aqidah of Ahlu Sunnah wa Jamaah and Syafi’i’s Sect (madzhab) in the field of Sharia. Therefore, the focus of this research will be on these issues, as well as the role of Alawiyyin scholars in grounding Islam in the archipelago, as evidenced by various kinds of literature that previous researchers have not revealed.

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B. The Islamization and the Entry of Alawiyin Scholars to the Archipelago

The history of when Islam entered and who brought it to the archipelago has various opinions among historians. According to Pij Nappel from Leiden University, Islam in the archipelago originated from Gujarat and Malabar because there was a group of Arabs who followed the Shafii's madzhab and propagated it across the Archipelago. This viewpoint was supported by Snouck Hurgronje, who also suggested that preachers from Malabar might have arrived in the Archipelago in the 12th century AD to spread Islam. Unfortunately, this argument was dubious, because Arnold claimed that Islam expanded throughout the Archipelago in the first century of Hijri. This was feasible due to a long-standing trading tie between the archipelago and the Arab world. Furthermore, Arab traders dominated the trading hubs in Sri Lanka (Sailan), Canton-China, allowing them to access the Archipelago.

Furthermore, Arnold's explanation corresponded to historical facts reported in trip literature of Arabs who arrived in the Archipelago far before the 12th century AD. Sulaiman al-Tajir, al-Sairafi, from the city of Sairaf in Iran, Persia, was one of them. In the 9th century AD, he landed in the Archipelago as an Arab Muslim trader. In his book 'Ajaib al-Dunya,' he wrote of his adventures while traveling in the Archipelago approximately 237 H or 851 AD. He sailed from al-Khalij in the Arabian Gulf to India, China, and finally the Archipelago. Furthermore, he had stopped in the Kulah Baar Archipelago, specifically Mamlakah Zabij, on the right side of India, on his trip around the world. They wore clothes such as towels (al-fuwath), scarves, or jarik. In this country, there were wells with very freshwater that they used for their daily needs, and they preferred healthy water to rainwater (unlike the Arabs, who were very happy with rainwater because it rains very rarely there).

In addition, records about the archipelago in the 9th century AD were also recorded by Abu Qasim Ubaidullah bin Abdullah Ibn Khuradzbib (820-912 AD); a historian and geographer from Khurasan. In his book entitled al-Masalik wa al-Mamalik, and he called the archipelago as Zabij and called its king as Maharaja. Interestingly, a century later, precisely in the 10th century AD, an Arab historian named Abu Hasan Ali bin Husain Ali al-Mas'udi (d.346 H / 957 AD), in his book Muruj adz-Dzahab wa Ma'adin al-Jauhar also once recorded the archipelago as Mamlakah Maharaja which was located in Bahr al-Shinfi and referred to its king as Malik al-Jazair. The king had many armies and many perfumes like kafur; camphor, 'aud; agarwood, qaranfu; cloves, as well as many other spices. He also recounted the beauty of the archipelago, which has many islands and is connected to a very wide sea, as if it were endless, many volcanoes are visible both at night and during the day, as if they were one with the sky, and has clear flowing rivers (as depicted in heaven in the Qur'an), which is very rare in Arab countries (Al-Taubah: 72, An-Nisa: 122).

Arab historians' records were some pieces of proofs that Islam in the archipelago did not come from Malabar and Gujarat, but rather from Arab countries, which

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8 Sir Thomas Walker Arnold, Al-Da’wah Ila Al-Islam; Bahts Fi Tarikh Nasyri Al-‘Aqidah Al-Islamiyah, Trans. by Hasan Ibrahim Hasan and Abdul Majid Abidin, Iii (Kairo: Maktabah Nahdah Mishriyah, 1935), 401.
9 Al-Sairafi, 39.
scholars and Arab Muslim traders carried with them.

In the 9th century AD, it was the golden age of the Abbasid civilization, which was headquartered in Baghdad under the leadership of Amirul Mukminin Harun ar-Rashid. Under his leadership, Baghdad became a center of education as well as an economic hub. Baghdad, with its Baitul Hikmah (House of Wisdom), was founded by Abu Ja’far al-Mansur Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ali bin Abdullah bin Abbas bin Abdul Muttalib bin Hasyim (d. 775 AD), developed rapidly during the time of Harun ar-Rashid (d. 809 AD), and advanced during the time of Abdullah Al-Mamun (d.833 AD), and became the world’s intellectual-spiritual.12 Baghdad was also a crossroads for traders from all over the world, which had resulted in the formation of Arab adventurers who sailed to discover new lands. Besides, they also had missions, one of which was to trade and preach the message of Islam. 13

Interestingly, the spread of Islam in the archipelago after Sairafi (9th century AD) and Mas’udi (10th century AD) was mostly carried out by scholars from the Alawiyyin circles. This was as explained by al-Idrisiy, one of the clerics descended from Sayyidina Hasan bin Ali bin Abi Talib. He, whose full name was Syarif Abu Abdillah Muhammad bin Muhammad bin Abdullah bin Idris al-Hasani, was a sailor and also an Arab scholar who had succeeded in reaching the archipelago in the 6th century H or coinciding with the 12th century AD. In his book entitled Nuzhatu al-Musytqaf fi Ikhtiraq al-Afaq which he wrote in 1154 AD, he explained in the book that in the archipelago he had visited the land of Waq-Waq; inhabited by black and unclothed residents (‘uryan that later named Irian). This area is now Papua. At that time, this country did not have many merchants and ships that stopped here.14

Idris’s experience in reaching the archipelago became a special motivation for Islamic scholars from the Alawiyyin family. Even one of the scholars from Damascus named Syamsuddin Abu Abdillah Muhammad Abu Talib al-Ansari al-Damasyqi (w.727 H / 1327 AD) who had succeeded in reaching the archipelago after Idrisy emphasized in his book Nukhbah ad-Dahr fi ‘Ajaib al-Barr wa al-Bahr, that the scholars of Alawiyyin had a major contribution in the spread of Islam in the archipelago or what he called the kingdoms in the far east (al-Mamalik al-Masyriyyah).15 In fact, according to him, Alawiyyin, or the descendants of Sayyidina Ali bin Abi Talib had reached the archipelago and spread Islam there since the reign of the kingdom of Umawiya in Damascus.16 Since then, the Alawiyyin scholars continued to arrive and become pioneers of da’wah in the archipelago, especially in Java; one of the largest islands in the archipelago, which has beautiful scenery and fertile soil with high rainfall, and produces many crops in the form of fruits, spices, various fragrances, and also has various types of animals.

According to Husain Muknis, Islamization in Java began in the 9th century AD,

15 Syamsuddin Abu Abdillah Muhammad Abu Thalib Al-Anshari Al-Damasyqi, Nukhbah Al-Dahr Fi ‘Ajaib Al-Barr Wa Al-Bahr (Turs: Matba’ah Imriteriyyah, 1881), 167–68.
16 Al-Damasyqi, 168.
followed by the Islamization in Peureulak in the 12th century AD, Samudera Pasai in the 12th century AD, and Aceh Darussalam in the 15th century AD. However, this viewpoint differed with De Graaf and Pigeaud, who claimed that Islamization in Java happened during the 11th and 13th centuries AD, after the Peureulak kingdom. They reasoned that the Land of Java at the time was an island crossed by numerous foreign traders, both Muslims and non-Muslims. As a result, Muslim traders who stopped in Java at the time or even lived there were able to do so. Moreover, two cities in Java such as Gresik and Surabaya, at that time had big ports that became the ports for various ships from abroad, so that these two cities became the entry gates for the spread of Islam in Java. This statement was confirmed by the existence of the tomb of Fatimah daughter of Maimun, who died on 7 Rajab 475 H or 1082 AD (11th century AD), and the tomb of Maulana Malik Ibrahim, who died in 822 H / 1419 AD (15th century AD). Both two tombs are located in Leran, Gresik, East Java.17

According to Hamid, the contribution of Alawiyyin in grounding Islam in the archipelago began at the end of the 6th century AH or the beginning of the 13th century AD. At that time, there was a Khawarij rebellion that attacked the city of Tarim, Hadramaut. Due to this incident, Sayyid Abdul Malik bin Alawi along with many other Alawiyin families left Tarim for India. In this country, their descendants then spread in several places such as Buruj, Ahmad Abad, and surrounding areas. These places came to be known as Gujarat.18 In this place, they became a large community and succeeded in developing the country's economy and politics.19

According to Ali Masyhur, Sayyid Abdul Malik was a cousin of Sayyid Muhammad bin Ali al-Faqih al-Muqaddam (564-653 H/1169-1255 AD); 20 one of the reformers in Tarim in the 6th century H or the 13th century AD. Their grandfather was al-Imam Sayyid Muhammad bin Ali bin Alawi Khalir who was known as Shahib Mirbath. He had four sons named Ali, Alawi, Abdullah, and Ahmad. Al-Faqih al-Muqaddam was the only son of Sayyid Ali, while Abdul Malik was the son of Sayyid Alawi (d.613 AD) with two other brothers named Sayyid Ahmad bin Alawi and Sayyid Abdurrahman bin Alawi.21

As for Hamid, Sayyid Abdul Malik, when he was in India, had a son named Abdullah who later became an influential leader in the Kingdom of India. In fact, he had ten thousand troops, so he was later given the title Azhamat Khan. Sayyid Abdullah Azhamat Khan had a son named Sayyid Ahmad Syah Jalal bin Abdullah 'Azhamat Khan, who was later appointed by the king of India as a minister. The word Jalal itself is a reference to the city of Jalal Abad in Gujarat. When there was slander in India in the 8th century H or the 14th/15th century AD, the sons of Sayyid Ahmad Syah named Sayyid Jamaluddin bin al-Husain, Sayyid Barakat Tsauuddin, Sayyid Yahya Kamaluddin, Sayyid Ali Muhyiddin Amir, Sayyid Amir Ibrahim al-Mujahid, Syarif Ghazi Zainuddin, Amir Ahmad Ali, Amir Abu Abdillah, Nasir Syifaul Arifin, Saladin

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18 Al-Hamid, Rihlah Jawa Al-Jamilah Wa Qissah Dukhul Al-Islam Ilu Syarq Asia, 15.
Muhammad, Sultan Akbar Nur, together with their wives, families, and servants, then left India.22

According to Ja’fari, Sayyid Jamaluddin al-Husain, one of Sayyid Ahmad Shah's sons, then moved from India to the east with his ship called Barakatul Islam. His ship then stopped at Campa after he learned that there were many Muslims who stopped or lived there. Campa when viewed from the sea route was a place halfway between India and China, so it became an important place for traders to rest. When Sayyid Jamaluddin was in Campa, he met his king, Jayavarman VII. There was a long discussion that led to the agreement of King Jayavarman VII with Sayyid Jamaluddin to help each other in dealing with the Siamese troops led by Paramkaya, who wanted to control the country of Campa. With the help of Sayyid Jamaluddin and his son Sayyid Ibrahim and his students, King Campa managed to defeat the Siamese troops, which had a good impact on his relationship with Sayyid Jamaluddin, so he was invited to stay in Campa. Since then, Islam that was taught by Sayyid Jamaluddin has grown in the country of Campa. As time went on in Campa, Sayyid Ibrahim, the son of Sayyid Jamaluddin, later married the daughter of King Jayavarman VII named Candrawulan. This marriage took place solemnly and sacredly because this was the first marriage that took place in Campa between an Arab descendant of the Prophet Muhammad and a native of Campa so that he was later called Sayyid Ibrahim Asmara. From this marriage, Sayyid Ibrahim was blessed with two children named Ali Rahmatullah and Ishaq.23

The data illustrated by Ja’fari was different from what was conveyed by Mukaffa, who said that Ibrahim Samarkandi came from Samarkand, Uzbekistan.24 However, Mukaffa's data was very weak. Even, he doubted and did not show any convincing literature stating that Sayyid Ibrahim Asmara came from Samarkand. His opinion was refuted by the information submitted by Hamid and Ja’fari, who has shown that Ibrahim Asmarakandi came of the Alawiyyin descent and he came from Yemen, not Uzbekistan.

Ja’fari then explained, Sayyid Jamaluddin with his three sons, Sayyid Ibrahim, Sayyid Ali Nur Alam, and Sayyid Barakat, preached in various cities in the archipelago. They moved from Campa to Sarawak eastward to Makassar, then Madura, and finally landed in Leran, Gresik, Java. In Java, he became the communication liaison between King Kertanegara Singsosari and King Jayavarman VII Campa. From here, he was allowed to live in Ampel and was known by the Javanese people as Sayyid Jumadil Kubra. From Java, Sayyid Jamaluddin then preached to Maluku, Bugis, and Wajo until he died in 736 H or 1335 AD.25 The da’wah that had been initiated by Sayyid Jamaluddin al-Husain was then continued by his students until there was a Kutai King who embraced Islam and changed its name to Sultan Idris.26

His two sons, Sayyid Ali Nur Alam and Sayyid Barakat, continued to preach in Java. As for Sayyid Ibrahim, he headed east until he arrived in Mindanao, the Philippines. In this city, at that time, there were many tribes. Each tribe had a leader. Thus, this supported Sayyid Ibrahim in teaching Islam, especially when interacting

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22 Al-Hamid, Rihlah Jawa Al-Jamilah Wa Qissah Dukhul Al-Islam Ila Syarq Asia, 21.
with them. He put forward the nobility of morality so that this attitude attracted them to know the teachings brought by Sayyid Abraham. Because of his preaching, many people converted to Islam. He married a second time to an indigenous daughter there and had a child named Paramaisuli. This daughter was later married by a student named Syarif Maraja or Syarif Maharaja, who later had two sons named Tabu Nawi and Mamalo, respectively. Both were then educated by Syarif Muhammad bin Ali Zainal Abidin.

After preaching in Mindanao, he returned to Campa and returned to Java with his sons, Ishaq and Ali Murtadla, to meet his two brothers, Sayyid Ali Nur Alam and Sayyid Barakat. Meanwhile, his third son, Ali Rahmatullah, remained in Campa to help his mother, Candrawulan, and was assisted by his two nephews; Sayyid Barakat's son, Malik Ibrahim, and Ali Nur Alam's son, Abdullah.

Sayyid Ibrahim Asmara then divided the task of da'wah to his children. Sayyid Makhduum Ishaq was sent to preach in Samudera Pasai, while Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah was sent to preach in Java. Maulana Sayyid Makhduum Ishaq bin Sayyid Ibrahim was known as a scholar who was very ascetic and very simple in terms of clothing and food but very knowledgeable in scientific matters. He had preached on the island of Java and lived for some time at the place of his brother Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah or Sunan Ampel. Not only that, but Syarif Makhduum Ishaq was also known as waliyu'llah whose prayers were known to be efficacious. Every time he prayed for a sick person, then Allah healed that person instantly. This was one of Allah's help when he preached Allah's religion. From Java, he went on to preach in Malacca and Johor and succeeded in inviting the king to convert to Islam so that the king later had the title Sultan Muhammad Syah bin Sultan Iskandar Syah.

Ja'fari explained that when Sayyid Makhduum Ishaq preached in Malacca in 800 H/1398 AD. At that time, Malacca was still led by Hindu. He originally came from Tumasik, who fled from the pursuit of the Siamese troops. So when he was met by Sayyid Makhduum Ishaq, he was invited to leave his old religion and embrace Islam. When he converted to Islam, he changed his name to Sultan Muhammad Iskandar Syah, then married the daughter of the king of Perlak Sultan Makhduum Alauddin Malik Muhammad Amin Shah II. Islam then quickly spread in the Johor region, and even Malacca later became a new power as the center of trade traffic in the archipelago at that time. Sayyid Makhduum Ishaq died in 805 H.

Meanwhile, in Ampel, Islamic da'wah was continued by Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah bin Ibrahim bin Jamaluddin al-Husain, who was believed to have come to Java for the first time when he was twenty years old in 804 H or 1401 AD, three years earlier after Sayyid Syarif arrived in 801 AH or 1398 AD with his son and brothers.

Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah's arrival was accompanied by his friend Abu Hurairah al-Mujahid; a son of King Campa who was a student of Sayyid Ibrahim; Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah's father. Abu Hurairah had a big role in helping Sayyid Rahmatullah or Sunan Ampel in the spread of Islam in Java. It was he who was sent by Sultan Abdul Fattah or Raden Patah to appear before King Brawijaya V, the ruler of Majapahit, to invite him to convert to Islam. He was also involved in open debates with Buddhist

27 Al-Ja’fari, Auliya Al-Syarq Al-Ba’id, 285.
28 Thahir Al-Haddad, Al-Madkhul Ila Tarikh Al-Islam, 278–79.
29 Al-Ja’fari, Auliya Al-Syarq Al-Ba’id, 300.
30 Thahir Al-Haddad, Al-Madkhul Ila Tarikh Al-Islam, 279.
31 Al-Ja’fari, Auliya Al-Syarq Al-Ba’id, 344.
32 Thahir Al-Haddad, Al-Madkhul Ila Tarikh Al-Islam, 280.
clergy and was able to defeat them in the debate with strong arguments, especially on the issue of human equality in Islam and Buddhism.33

Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah also preached in Palembang, which at that time was led by Aryadamar, son of King Wijaya. It was said that King Wijaya once married a woman, the daughter of a leader in Jambi, to strengthen the relationship between the two. The princess was a new convert to Islam which made the other queen angry and jealous and forced her husband (King Wijaya) not to marry her. Under these conditions, the king then sent the princess to his son, Arya Damar, who became the ruler of Palembang, to be willing to marry her. Once after Arya Damar converted to Islam, Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah was given the title Raden Rahmatullah. Since then, the Palembang Kingdom subsequently became an Islamic kingdom following the Islamic kingdoms in Sumatra, such as Peureulak and Samudera Pasai. At that time, the Kingdom of Sumatra was under Sultan Malik Ahmad bin Sultan Muhammad Malik Zahir, who had a lot of diplomatic relations with Islamic kingdoms in Sumatra, including Palembang, which was led by Sultan Abdullah (Aryadamar).34

After preaching in Palembang, Raden Ali Rahmatullah then returned to Ampel and built a pesantren (Islamic boarding school) in Ampel. Here, many students studied Islam with him, including Abdul Fattah and his brother's son Sayyid Muhammad Ainul Yaqin bin Maulana Makhdum Ibrahim (Sunan Giri) and many students from the surrounding community, until he was called as Sunan Ampel. He settled in Ampel until he died in 1479 AD. Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah's cousin or Sunan Ampel named Sayyid Malik Ibrahim bin Barakat bin Sayyid Jamaluddin al-Husain was also a person who played an important role in the process of Islamization in Java. He spread the religion of Islam in Leran, Gresik, until the end of his life and died in 822 H/1419 AD. Many gravestones were brought from Cambay at the time, according to the inscription on his marble tombstone.35 According to Fournie, the pesantren built by Sunan Ampel was the forerunner of an Islamic religious school in Java that succeeded in combining Islamic material with local culture,36 and this would later contribute greatly to the formation of the nation's culture.37

The role of Islamization of Java was then continued by the descendants of Sunan Ampel such as Maulana Ibrahim or Sunan Bonang, Sayyid Hasyim, Maulana Sayyid Ja'far Sadiq (Sunan Kudus), Maulana Zainul Abidin, and Sayyid Abdusshamad. While the descendants of Azhamat Khan from the lineage of Maulana Ishaq bin Ibrahim bin Jamaluddin al-Husain were continued by Abdul Qadir al-Fasi; attributed to Samudera Pasai in Aceh, Muhammad Ainul Yaqin, Maulana Ibrahim bin Ishaq, and Hasan Askari, as well as Sayyid Sulaiman bin Sayyid Ali Murtadla bin Sayyid Ibrahim bin Jamaluddin al-Husain.38

Sunan Ampel's student, who was also his nephew, was named Sayyid

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33 Al-Hamid, Rihlah Jawa Al-Jamilah Wa Qissah Dukhul Al-Islam Ila Syarq Asia, 22.
34 Al-Jafari, Auliya Al-Syarq Al-Ba'id, 300.
38 Al-Hamid, Rihlah Jawa Al-Jamilah Wa Qissah Dukhul Al-Islam Ila Syarq Asia, 24.
Muhammad Ainul Yaqin bin Sayyid Makhdum Ishaq. He contributed greatly to the Islamization of Java. He preached and founded a pesantren in Giri to teach Islamic religious sciences to his students until he was known as Sunan Giri. He was also known as a scholar who was an expert in the science of *aqidah* and *fiqh*. Among the students of Sunan Ampel, who was known as the founder of the first Islamic kingdom in Java, was Raden Fatah. It was he who founded the Demak Kingdom in 1478 and ruled until 1518. This also confirmed that the Alawiyyin scholars had a very large contribution to building a civilization in the archipelago, either through their descendants or through their students.

As for the Malay Archipelago and Mindanao, the teaching of Islamic religious sciences was carried out by Sayyid Zainal Abidin, Sayyid Muhammad Kabungsuan, and Sayyid Abu Bakar; student of Sayyid Makhdum Ishaq. According to Ja'fari, Sayyid Zainal Abidin was a descendant of Abdullah bin Alawi bin Muhammad Shahib Mirbath. Sayyid Abdullah was the brother of Sayyid Abdul Malik who was the progenitor of Sayyid Jamaludin al-Husain. The complete lineage was Sayyid Zainal Abidin bin Ahmad bin Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ali bin Abdullah bin Alawi bin Ali bin Muhammad bin Alawi bin Muhammad bin Abdullah bin Ahmad bin Isa bin Muhammad bin Ali bin Ja'far Sadiq bin Muhammad Baqir bin Zainal Abidin bin Husain bin Ali bin Abi Talib.

Sayyid Zainal Abidin first visited Malacca. Here, in addition to trading, he also preached to teach Islam to the local population. Finally, he married the king's daughter named Jasul Asiqin. From this marriage, he was blessed with four sons, each named Ali, Muhammad al-Akbar Kabungsuan, Muhammad al-Ashghar, and Hasan Zainal Abidin. Sayyid Zainal Abidin himself was later appointed to be *qadli* in the Kingdom of Malacca. To prepare his potential successor in preaching, he then sent his son named Abu Bakr to study in Mecca. Only a year in Mecca, he returned to Malacca. He then preached and taught Islamic religious sciences and wrote a book *al-Durr al-Manzhum*, which described ninety religious issues as a guide for the king in enforcing the law. He was a student of Shaykh Abu Ishaq al-Syairazi in Mecca at that time.

Ja'fari also explained that the Malacca Kingdom reached the peak of its glory during the reign of Sultan Qasim Muzaffar Shah, the successor of his father Sultan Iskandar Syah Dzulqarnain (d. 823 H). At the same time, Sultan Salahuddin died in Aceh, who was later succeeded by his son Abdullah, who married his uncle's daughter, Bahiyah bint Sultan Ali Zainal Abidin. Seven years later, Sayyid Zainal Arifin died in 830 H. Sayyid Zainal Abidin's preaching was continued by his sons in various places such as Mindanao, Brunei, and Sulu Sindaken. His *da'wah* was then followed by Sayyid Abu Bakr, who went to Sulu to meet his brothers. When he arrived in Sulu, he was greeted by King Sultan, who was a descendant of Sayyid Jamaluddin al-Husain. Therefore, he was later made *qadli* in his kingdom and *imam* at the Jami mosque. After His Majesty King died and had no male heir, Sayyid Abu Bakar was then appointed as...
his successor with the title Paduka Maha Sari Maulana Sultan Syarif al-Hashimi. At this
time, Islamic law could run and be accepted by the local community.\textsuperscript{45}

This note was also believed by Meerangani that the Alawiyyin scholars played a
major role in the spread of Islam in Malacca. This was also confirmed by Khairul
Azhar, if Sunan Giri, son of Maulana Ishaq and Sunan Bonang, son of Maulana
Rahmatullah, contributed to the spread of Islam in Malacca at that time.\textsuperscript{46} The
Islamization of Malacca by the Alawiyyin scholars also helped encourage the local
community to build mosques in Malacca.\textsuperscript{47}

In addition, in the notes of Ahmad al-Saqqaf, \textit{Tarikh al-Islam fi Banten}, among the
descendants of Azhamat Khan who played a role in the spread of Islam in Java;
especially West Java from Cirebon to Banten, was Syarif Hidayatullah or known as
Sunan Gunung Jati. His lineage was Maulana Sharif Hidayatullah bin Raja 'Umdah al-
Din Campa bin Ali Nur Alam bin Maulana Jamaluddin al-Husain al-Akbar bin Sayyid
Ahmad Shah bin Abdullah 'Azhamat Khan bin Abdul Malik bin Sayyid Alawi bin
Sayyid Muhammad Shahib Mirbath bin Sayyid Ali Khal'i bin Sayyid Alawi bin Sayyid
Muhammad bin Sayyid Alawi bin Abdullah bin Imam Ahmad bin Isa bin Imam Isa bin
Imam Muhammad bin Imam Ali Uraidli bin Imam Ja'far Sadiq bin Imam Muhammad
Baqir bin Sayyid Ali Zainal Abidin bin Sayyidina Husayn bin Ali bin Abi Talib with
Fatimah al-Zahra' daughter of the Prophet Muhammad.\textsuperscript{48}

From the lineage, it can be seen that Sunan Gunung Jati was also a descendant of
Sayyid Jamaluddin Husain so that he still had kinship ties with Sunan Giri and his
father Makhdum Ishaq and Raden Rahmat or Sunan Ampel and Sunan Gresik;
Maulana Malik Ibrahim. According to Ja'fari, at first, he lived in the Kingdom of
Samudera Pasai and then studied at Mecca al-Mukarramah. After returning from
Mecca, he headed to Pasai and then to Demak and became one of the scholars who
were close to Sultan Trenggono.\textsuperscript{49} Interestingly, in Farida's study, it was stated that the
synergy between the ulama and the Kings of Demak succeeded in strengthening
Islamic teachings in various fields such as faith, worship, as well as in the fields of
education, economy, military, government, art, law, and social society.\textsuperscript{50}

The Islamization carried out by Alawiyyin scholars in the archipelago succeeded
in grounding Islamic teachings and upholding Islamic norms in various aspects of
life,\textsuperscript{51} integrating Islamic teachings with local culture,\textsuperscript{52} and creating a society of peace,

\textsuperscript{45} Al-Ja'fari, 356.
\textsuperscript{46} Meerangani, “Peranan Ulama dalam Penyebaran Ajaran Islam di Pulau Besar, Melaka (The Role of Muslim Scholars in Spreading the Teaching of Islam in Pulau Besar, Melaka).”
\textsuperscript{48} Ahmad Al-Saqqaf, \textit{Tarikh Al-Islam fi Banten; Al-Mukhtar Al-Mashun Min 'Alam Al-Quran Mukhtarat Tis'ih 'Asyara Kitaban} (Jeddah: Dar Andalus Khadra’, N.D.), 895.
\textsuperscript{49} Al-Ja'fari, \textit{Auliya Al-Syarq Al-Ba'id}, 370.
\textsuperscript{52} Amrizal Amrizal, “Dimensi Sufistik dalam Pandangan Hidup Orang Melayu,” \textit{Akademika : Jurnal Pemikiran Islam} 21, No. 2 (16\textsuperscript{th} of October 2016): 275–90.
compassion, and mutual respect for one another.\textsuperscript{53} Besides, they also contributed to building civilization and became advisors (\textit{mufti}) in the kingdoms of the archipelago.

\textbf{C. Grounding the Aqidah of Ahlussunnah wal Jama’ah, Shafi’i’s Madzhab, and Sunni Sufism}

The Alawiyin scholars not only contributed to building Islamic civilization in the archipelago, but they also contributed greatly to the process of spreading the \textit{Aqidah of Ahlussunnah wal Jama’ah}, \textit{Syafii’s madzhab}, and also \textit{Sufism Sunny}. As explained by Habib Zain Sumaith, from the beginning, the scholars of the descendants of Sayyid Alawi bin Abdullah bin Ahmad bin Isa al-Muhajir had followed the Shafi’i’s \textit{madzhab}. Especially when Sayyid Ahmad Isa al-Muhajir moved from Basrah to Hadramaut in 319 AH / 931 AD, he played a major role in the spread of the Shafi’i’s \textit{madzhab} in Yemen.\textsuperscript{54} Among the evidence for the contribution of Alawiyin scholars in maintaining the Shafi’i’s \textit{madzhab} as the mainstream of Islamic legal thought in Hadramaut was that there were many books of the Shafi’i’s \textit{madzhab} that they wrote, such as the books written by Imam Abdullah bin Abdurrahman Baubaid (d. 603 H/1206 AD), Imam Muhammad al-Faqih al-Muqaddam bin Ali bin Muhammad Shahib Mirbath (d. 653 H/1255 AD), Imam Muhammad bin Said Basyukail (d. w.700 H/1300 AD), which was then continued by the \textit{fuqaha} (religious experts) from their descendants such as Alu Bafadl, Alu Bamakhramah, Sayyid Abdurrahman bin Mazru’, Alu Baqusyair, Alu al-Saqqa, Said Ba’asyin, Abdullah Basaudan, Abdurrahman al-Famous, and many others. They also helped establish many mosques and Islamic boarding schools as places of learning religious sciences, especially in the science of jurisprudence in the Syafii’s \textit{madzhab}. Thus, further confirming that their role in the spread of the Shafi’i’s \textit{madzhab} in various places, including in the archipelago was not in doubt.\textsuperscript{55} This was in accordance with the opinion of KH Hasyim Asyari, which he wrote in the treatise of the \textit{Sunnah wa Jamaah}.\textsuperscript{56}

Interestingly, in historical facts, the Syafii’s \textit{madzhab} has been developing since the beginning of the entry of Islam in the archipelago in the 9th century AD, and it was also recorded by Ibn Battuta when he stopped at the Kingdom of Samudera Pasai. He said that the \textit{fuqaha} who existed at that time were embracing Shafi’i’s \textit{madzhab}.\textsuperscript{57} Along with the growth of the Islamic empire in the archipelago and the increasing number of Alawiyin scholars, the Syafii’s \textit{Madzhab} increasingly existed and developed in the archipelago. Even the \textit{fuqaha} books written by Nusantara scholars from time to time were books affiliated with the Shafi’i’s \textit{madzhab} such as \textit{Shirath al-Mustaqim} by Shaykh Nururddin ar-Raniri, \textit{Miratu Thullab} by Shaykh Abdurrauf Sinkili, \textit{Hidayah} by al-Salikin Shaykh Abdussalam al-Falimbani,\textsuperscript{58} \textit{Nihayah Zain} by Shaykh Nawawi al-

\textsuperscript{53} A. Gani, “Pendekatan Sufistik dalam Pendidikan Islam Berwawasan Perdamaian,” \textit{Akademika: Jurnal Pemikiran Islam} 23, No. 2 (25\textsuperscript{th} of November 2018): 387–412.

\textsuperscript{54} Habib Zain Ibrahim Ibu Sumaith, \textit{Al-Manhaj Al-Sawi Syarh Ushul Thariqah Al-Sadah Ali Ba A’laawi}, I (Tarim: Dar Ilmi Wa Da’wah, 2008), 26; Al-Masyuhr, \textit{Syamsu Al-Zahirah Fi}, 55.

\textsuperscript{55} Ibu Sumaith, \textit{Al-Manhaj Al-Sawi}, 27.


\textsuperscript{57} Dzulkifli Hadi Imawan, \textit{The History of Islam in Indonesia; Kontribusi Ulama Membangun Peradaban dan Pemikiran Islam di Indonesia}, I (Yogyakarta: Diva Press, 2021), 10.

Bantani, Hasyiyah al-Tarmasi by Shaykh Mahfuzh al-Tarmasi, and many others.

As for the faith, the Alawiyyin scholars are followers and propagators of the Ahlussunnah wal Jama‘ah Asyairah creed, which was built by Imam Abu Hasan al-Asy‘ari in tearing down the arguments of groups that deviated from the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad. This teaching then spread in Yemen and was able to replace the Ibadiyah Khawarij teachings that had developed in Yemen before the arrival of Sayyid Ahmad al-Muhajir. From Yemen, the Alawiyyin scholars who preached in the archipelago also taught the Ahlu Sunnah wa Jamaah creed to the Javanese community. This dismissed the opinion of historians such as Rahman Zainudin and Widji Saksono, who believed that the creed of the Alawiyin scholars was Shiah. Thus, it needs to be emphasized that the Alawiyyin scholars or those in Java known as Walisongo were scholars who believed in Ahlu Sunnah wa Jamaah as the scholars who were their predecessors.

As for the issue of tariqat, according to Habib Zain, many of the Alawiyyin families followed the manhaj compiled by Imam Ghazali and Imam Syadzili as a way to God but did not deny the ideas of another tariqat that developed in the Arabian Peninsula. Imam Ghazali’s convenience was the influence of his teachers, such as Abu Ma‘ali al-Juwaini, and also Al-Baqilaniy, who were known as the assistants to the Ash‘ari school.

The integration of the thoughts of the Syafii’s madzhab in the field of Islamic law, Asyairah’s creed, and the Sunni Sufism of Ghazaliyah and Syadziliyah became da‘wah material taught by Alawiyyin scholars when they preached or grounded Islam in Indonesia because this school was able to explain God’s relationship with humans and taught it with peace. This could be seen very clearly since the beginning to the end in the Islamic kingdoms in the archipelago starting from Peureulak, Samudera Pasai, Aceh Darussalam, Demak, Cirebon, Banten, Mataram, Palembang, Banjar, and others. All of them in enforcing Islamic law relied on Islamic law contained in the Shafii’s madzhab as practiced by Shaykh Hamzah Fansuri, Shaykh Syamsuddin As-Sumatrani, Shaykh Dzulkifli Hadi Imawan, “Indonesian Ulama and Their Academic and Da’wa Contribution in the Islamic World in the 19th Century,” Indonesian Journal of Interdisciplinary Islamic Studies (Ijiis) 1, No. 2 (14 Februari 2019): 15–220, Https://Doi.Org/10.20885/Ijiis.Vol1.Iss2.Art8.


Abdurrauf al-Sinkili in the Kingdom of Aceh Darussalam,\(^{67}\) Shaykh Yusuf al-Makassari in the Kingdom of Banten,\(^{68}\) Shaykh Muhammad Arsyad al-Banjari in the Kingdom of Banjar,\(^{69}\) also Shaykh Muhammad Mahfuzh al-Tarmasi, and Shaykh Nawawi al-Bantani in the pre-independence era of Indonesia.\(^{70}\)

It was also increasingly clear that the relationship between the scholars of the archipelago and the Sayyid or habaib of Rasulullah’s descendants from the Alawiyyin family both in the archipelago itself and in the Arabian peninsula; Hadramaut, Doha, Jeddah, Makkah, Madinah, Egypt, Damascus, Turkey, were interwoven based on the integration of the Shafii’s madzhab, Asya’riyah’s creed, and Sunni Sufism.

Among the evidence for all of that was the works of the scholars of the archipelago from the early days to the present that always explain these three main things; Shafii’s fiqh, Ash’ari creed, and Sunni Sufism, as s intermediary in facilitating the study of Islam and grounding it in the archipelago as taught by the Prophet Muhammad which was accepted by the companions and passed on by the scholars from generation to generation.

D. Conclusion

Alawiyyin scholars were recorded in the history of Islam in the Indonesian archipelago as scholars who contributed greatly to the intellectual-spiritual development of Islam in the archipelago. Their presence in the archipelago was believed to have existed since the time of Daulah Umawiyah, and more and more when entering the 14th and 15th centuries AD in the archipelago. They played a major role in the Islamization of the archipelago, which was seen in their participation in building Islamic kingdoms in the archipelago such as the Kingdom of Demak, the Kingdom of Malacca, the Kingdom of Palembang, and others. In addition, the Alawiyyin scholars also succeeded in grounding the aqidah of Ahlussunnah wal Jamaah, the Syafii’s Madzhab, and the Sufism’s Order to the people of the archipelago. Furthermore, the integration of these thoughts was able to realize the people of the archipelago who love peace and compassion[.]

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