THE EPISTEMOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF TAFSIR IQTIṢĀDĪ

(The Study of *At-Tafsīr Al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* by Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī)

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Abstract: This article discusses the epistemological structure of *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* by Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī. The author of this tafseer is an economist, a researcher at the Center for Islamic Economic Studies University of Malik 'Abdul' Azīz, and is active in Al-Jam'iyah Ad-Dauliyah li Al-Iqtisād London. The author's background makes this book very interesting to study because not many economists have written tafsir studies. This article is a literature study employing a descriptive-analysis method and a historical-philosophical approach. This study shows that the interpretation of *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* was written in a *tartib mushafi* model, and predominantly used *tafsīr bi ar-ra'yi* with the nuances of the *tafsīr iqtiṣādī*. The nuances of the *iqtiṣādī* interpretation come from *tafsīr 'ilmī*, which shows scientific theories from the Qur'an. Through the *tafsīr iqtiṣādī*, Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī attempted to show that the Qur'an can be interpreted using an economic approach and argued that the Qur'an provides the existence of economic theories. Among these theories are *Musykilah an-Nadirah an-Nisbiyah* (relative scarcity), *at-Tafdīl az-Zamanī* (time preference), and *Ta'dzīm al-manāfi'* (profit maximisation).

Keywords: Tafsir *Iqtiṣādī*, *At-Tafsīr Al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī, Epistemology

Abstrak: Artikel ini mendiskusikan tentang struktur epistemologi kitab At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm karya Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī. Penulis tafsir ini adalah seorang ekonom, peneliti di Pusat Kajian Ekonomi Islam Universitas Malik 'Abdul 'Azīz, dan aktif dalam keanggotaan Al-Jam'iyah Ad-Dauliyah li Al-Iqtisād yang berpusat di London. Latar belakang penulis tersebut menjadikan kitab ini sangat menarik untuk dikaji. Hal ini karena tidak banyak ekonom yang menulis kajian tafsir. Dengan metode deskriptif-analisis, pendekatan historis-filosofis dan didasarkan studi kepustakaan ditemukan bahwa penafsiran At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm disusun secara tartib mushafi, dan secara dominan menggunakan tafsīr bi ar-ra'yi dengan corak tafsir iqtiṣādī. Nuansa tafsir iqtiṣādī berasal dari tafsīr 'ilmī yang ingin menunjukkan adanya teori-teori kelimuan dari Al-Quran. Dengan tafsir iqtiṣādī, Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī ingin menunjukkan bahwa Al-Quran dapat ditafsirkan dengan pendekatan ekonomi dan membuktikan adanya teori-teori ekonomi dalam Al-Quran. Di antara teori-teori tersebut adalah Musykilah an-Nadirah an-Nisbiyah (Kelangkaan Relatif), at-Tafdīl az-Zamanī (Preferensi Waktu), dan Ta'dzīm al-manāfi' (Maksimalisasi Laba).

Kata Kunci: Tafsir Iqtişādī, At-Tafsīr Al-Iqtişādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī, Epistemologi

1. Introduction

Epistemology is a study in the philosophy of science to collect validated knowledge. Epistemological studies can be carried out in interpreting the Qur'an to find out the methods of interpreting the Qur'an and validating the product of that interpretation. This is because the product of interpretation reflects the way of thinking, discourse, and the socio-cultural context when it is produced. In other words, the Qur'anic interpretation is a dialectical and interactional form between the reader, the Qur'an, and the specific context in which it is interpreted (Mustaqim, 2017).

Since the interpretation process is a dialectical result influenced by the context of its production, the Qur'an that was revealed in the past can be interpreted in the current context and is relevant for every era and context (Ayyazi, Zadeh, & Safi, 2011). The Qur'an can be a theoretical, technical, and practical solution when the Qur'anic interpretation takes into account the context of revelation, the linguistic context, the context of the structure of the verses discussed, the socio-cultural context of the Prophet's time, the modern scientific context, and the contemporary context of social life (Andi Rosa, 2017). *Maqashid* al-Qur'an can be found when partial, literal, formal, and doctrinal interpretations are abandoned (Mufid, 2019). Quraish Shihab explained that the Qur'anic interpretation could adapt to the present context and should collaborate and integrate with modern science and social sciences so that the Qur'an can be understood comprehensively (Shihab, 2007, p 169).

Integration of the Qur'an with modern science and social science can prove no dichotomy between religion and modern science and social science. When it does not accommodate science and social science in interpreting the Qur'an, the product of its interpretation will not touch the reality. Accommodating scientific and social science in the Qur'anic interpretation is urgent to reveal the integrative values in the Quranic verse and the divine legality of current scientific findings (Iskandar, 2016). Asma Barlas explained that the Qur'an also suggests that the best meanings cannot be generated by reading it in a selective, piecemeal, and decontextualised way or focusing only on its allegorical aspects. Instead, we need to read the text as a whole which allows us also to recognise its hermeneutic, thematic, and structural coherence and interconnection (Barlas, 2001).

One of the products of the integration of Qur'anic interpretation and modern science and social science is the *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* written by Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī. As an economist background, Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī interprets the verses of the Qur'an with an economic approach. The economic approach can be seen, for example, in interpreting verse 14 of Surah \overline{Ali} '*Imrān*. At the end of his interpretation of this verse, Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī stated that this verse implies a significant economic problem, he said:

Verse 14 in surah Ali-Imran shows that there are economic problems (relative scarcity) by economists who say that resources are limited while human needs and wants are unlimited.

The interpretation presented by Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī has similarities with *tafsīr 'ilmī*, but with a more specific form of approach, namely the *iqtiṣādī* (economics) approach. *Tafsīr 'ilmī* was born from the paradigm that scientific theories are contained in the Qur'an so that the Qur'an does not contradict common sense and science (Al-Żahabi, 2005, vol. 3, p. 417). Amīn Al-Khūlī explained that the *tafsīr 'ilmī* is an interpretation that assesses scientific findings according to the expressions of the Qur'an (Al-Khuli & Zayd, 2004, p. 28). According to Mir, the emergence of *tafsīr 'ilmī* was caused by two things: first, the desire to show that there is no conflict between the Qur'an and scientific findings; second, the desire to prove the so-called *Ijaz ilmi* in the Qur'an - that is, the desire to prove that the existence of verifiable scientific information in the Qur'an would shape the Qur'an as the Word of God (Mir, 2004).

Bustami Mohamed Khir explained that there are three views in *tafsīr 'ilmī*, namely: (1) supportive modernists; (2) rejectionist; and (3) moderate (Khir, 2000). According to him, one of those who support it is Muhammad Abduh; according to him, the Qur'an contains instructions that discuss social issues (*al-ijtimā'iyah*) and the universe (*al-kauniyah*); these instructions were not understood by Muslims when the Qur'an was first revealed. So it requires an interpretation that involves scientists in these fields (Abduh, 1993, vol. 5, p. 503). While one of those who refused was Muhammad Husein Tabataba'i, who explained that *tafsīr 'ilmī* was not an interpretation but *tathbiq*, namely scientific analysis using specific approaches such as *fiqh* (jurisprudence), philosophy, and others in understanding the Qur'an (Al-Tabataba'i, 1997, vol. 1, p. 6). The integration of the Qur'an with science or *tafsīr 'ilmī* is carried out to reveal the secrets of experience for the benefit of humankind. *Tafsīr 'ilmī* must involve authoritative experts in the field of the Qur'anic study, and not be done partially by taking a verse that is developed and linked to scientific discoveries. *Tafsir ilmi* also does not justify scientific theory with verses of the Qur'an, but to reconciles several verses to provide a comprehensive understanding in the form of "embryonic concepts" (Muslih, 2016).

Even though there were disagreements, the interpretation made by Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī was an attempt to make the Qur'an relevant for every time and place. This kind of interpretation fits the category of contemporary interpretation. Jansen classifies contemporary interpretation into three forms: (1) *Tafsīr 'ilmī*, an interpretation that seeks to adapt scientific discoveries to verses of the Qur'an; (2) *Tafsīr al-lughawi*, an interpretation that analyses the linguistic and philological aspects of the verses of the Qur'an; (3) *Tafsīr adabi ijtima'i*, an interpretation that analyses the social life of the Muslims (Jansen, 1980). Apart from that, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī's interpretation is interesting because of his background as an economist.

Therefore, it is essential to further analyse the epistemological aspects of *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* by Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī. This article attempts to analyse the epistemological aspects of *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*, which includes four parts: Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī's paradigm of thought, sources of interpretation, methods used in interpreting the Qur'an, and validity of interpretation. This research is a literature study using a descriptive-analysis method to determine the source, method, and validity of interpretation. The approach used is the historical-philosophical approach and the *Ulūm At-Tafsīr* approach.

2. Scientific Geneology of Rafiq Yūnus Al-Mașrī

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī was born in Damascus Syria on June 2, 1942. He started his career as a practitioner from 1961-1966 at the Ministry of Finance, then became a banker at an Industrial Bank in 1966-1978, and became a bureaucrat in the presidential office in 1978-1981. Apart from being a practitioner of economics, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī is an academic, namely as a researcher at the Center for Islamic Economic Studies, University of Malik 'Abdul' Azīz since 1981 until now and has been a professor at the Faculty of Economics and Management, University of Malik bin 'Abdul' Azīz Jeddah. In the organisational field, he became an active member of Al-Jam'iyah Ad-Dauliyah li Al-Iqtisād in London, serving as a spokesman for Majma 'Al-Fiqh Al-Islamī based in Jeddah. In 1417 H, the Islamic Development Bank awarded him in the field of Islamic Economics (Al-Masrī, 2019)

The intellectual sketch of Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī started in his hometown of Damascus, Syria then he took a bachelor's degree in accounting, Faculty of Commerce, at the University of Damascus. Furthermore, in 1975, he attended a doctoral program in development economics at the University of Rien France, with a dissertation title *Essay D'integration D'une Banque de Development Dans Une Siciete Islamique: Les Problems Que Pose la Conception Islamique de l'interet.* This dissertation was translated and published by Muasasah Ar-Risālah Beirut in 1407 H with the title *Maṣarīf At-Tanmiyah Al-Islāmy: "Muhawalah Jadidah fi Ar-Ribā wa Al-Fāidah wa Al-Bank.* Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī has produced various written works. Among his works are:

(1) Published by Dār Al-Basyīr Jeddah, Dār Al-Qalam Damaskus, Dār Asy-Syāmiyah Beirut: Al-'Ijāz Al-Iqtişādī li Al-Qurān Al-Karīm, 1426 H; Fiqh Al-Mu'āmalah Al-Māliyah, 1426 H.; Uşūl Iqtşād Al-Islāmī, 1426 H; Al-Jāmi' fi Uşūl Ar-Ribā 1422 H,Bai' At-Taqsīț: Taḥlīl Fiqhī wa Iqtişadī, 1418 H; Al-Maysīr wa Al-Qimār, 1413 H;'Ilm Al-Farāid wa Al-Mawāris: madkhal taḥlilī, 1415 H; Aḥkām Baī' wa Ṣirāi ḥali Al-Żahab wa Al-Fiḍah, 1420 H; Al-Khaţr wa At-Ta'mīn: Hal At-Ta'mīn At-Tijārī Jāiz Ṣar'an?, 1421 H; Al-Gazālī Iqtiṣādiyan, 1428 H; Al-Iqtiṣād wa Al-Akhlāq, 1428 H; Al-'Azmah Al-Māliyah Al-'Alamiyah, Hal Najid fi Al-Islām Ḥallan? 1431 H; At-Tamwīl Al-Islāmī, 1433 H; Al-Mażhab Al-Iqtiṣādiyah wa Al-Iqtiṣād Al-Islāmī, 1434 H; At-Tafsīr Al-Iqtiṣādī li Al-Qurān Al-Karīm, 1434 H;

(2) Published by Dār Al-Maktabī Damaskus: Buhūs fī Az-Zakāt, 1420 H; Buhūs fī Fiqh Al-Mu'amalāt; Buhūs Iqtişādiyah, 1420 H; Al-Auqāf Fiqhan wa Iqtişādiyan, 1420 H; Ar-Ribā wa Al-Hasm Az-Zamanī fi Al-Iqtişād Al-Islāmī, 1420 H; Bai' Al-'Urbun wa Ba'du Al-Masāil Al-Mustahdasah fīh, 1420 H; Syirkah Al-Wujūh: Dirāsah Tahlīlyah, 1420 H; Musyarakah Wasāil Al-Intāj fī Ar-Ribḥ, 1420 H; Asar At-Tadokhum 'ala Al-'Alaqāt At-Ta'āqudiyah fī Al-Maṣārīf Al-Islāmiyah wa Al-Wasāil Al-Masyrū'ah lil Himāyah, 1420 H; Munāqiṣat Al-'Uqūd Al-Idāriyah: 'Uqūd Taurīd wa Muqawalāt Al-Asygāl Al-'Āmah, 1420 H; Al-Najasy wa Al-Muzāyadah wa Al-Munāqiṣah wa Al-Mumārasah, 1420 H; Al-Islām wa An-Nuqūd, 1421 H; Ribā Al-Quruḍ wa Adilah Tahrīmuhu, 1421 H; Al-Maṣārīf Al-Islāmiyah, 1421 H; An-Nidām Al-Maṣrafī Al-Islāmi, 1421 H; Ishāmāt Al-Fuqahā fī Al-Furūḍ Al-Asāsiyat li 'Ilmi Al-Iqtiṣād, 1421 H; Buhūs fī Al-Iqtiṣād Al-Islāmī, 1421 H; Buhūs fī Al-Maṣārif Al-Islāmiyah, 1421 H; An-Nidām Al-Maṣrafī Al-Islāmī, 1421 H; Buhūs fī Al-Maṣārif Al-Islāmiyah, 1421 H; An-Namā fī Zakāt Al-Māl, 1426 H; Zakāt Ad-Duyūn, 1426 H; Al-Maḥṣūl fī 'Ulūm Az-Zakāt, 1426 H; Al-Majmū' fī Al-Iqtiṣād Al-Islāmī, 1426 H; Fasyl Al-Aswāq Al-Māliyah (Al-Būrṣāt), 1427 H; Galā-u Al-As'ār, 1429 H; Al-fikr Al-Iqtiṣādī Al-Islāmī, 1430 H; Maża Fa'ala Al-Iqtiṣādiyūn Al-Muslimūn, 1430 H; Al-fasād: Limažā lā Nuḥāribuh?, 1433 H; Al-Māliyah Al-'Āmah Al-Islāmiyah, 1434 H; An-Nuqūd fī Al-Işlāmā, 1434 H;

(3) Published by Muasasah Ar-Risālah Beirut: Maşraf At-Tanmiyah Al-Islāmī: Muḥawalāh jadīdah fi Ar-Ribā wa Al-Fāidah wa Al-Bank, 1407 H; Bai' Al-Murābahah li Al-Āmir bi Asy-Syirā fī Al-Maşārif Al-Islāmiyah, 1408 H; Ar-Ribā wa Al-Fāidah: Dirasāh Iqtişādiyah Muqāranah, bi Al-Isytirāk ma'a Muhammad Riyāḍ Al-Abrasy, 1419 H; Al-Fikr Al-Iqtişādī 'inda Al-Juwainī, 1421 H.

(4) Translations of foreign language books (French and English): *Kitāb Az-Zakāt (Qanunihā, Idaratihā, Muḥāsabatuhā, Murājaatuhā)*, published by the Center for Islamic Economic Studies, Malik University 'Abdul' Azīz Jeddah in 1404 AH; *Mustaqbal 'Ilm Al-Iqtiṣād min Manẓur Islāmī*, Muhammad Umar Chapra, published by Dar Al-Fikr, Damascus, 1426 H; *Taḥrīm Al-Fāidah: Hal Huwa Mutaṣawir fī 'Aṣrina Hadza*? Muhammad Umar Chapra, published by Dār As-Sa'udiyah, Jeddah, 1424 H; *Al-Muḍārabah: Ba'ḍu Al-Jawānib Al-Iqtiṣādiyah, ḍamna "Buhūś fī An-Niẓam Al-Maṣrafī Al-Islāmī"*, Muhammad Najatullah Sidiqi, published by Markaz An-Nasyr Al-Ilmī, Malik 'Abdul' Aziz University, Jeddah, 1424 H; *Al-Islām wa 'Azmah Al-Gharb*, Roger Garaudy, published by Dār Al -; 'Ilmi, Jeddah, 1403 H; *Mustaqbal Islām fi Al-Gharb*, Roger Garaudy, published by Dār Al -; 'Ilmi, Jeddah, 1405 H (Al-Masrī, 2019).

From these works, there are several studies of the Qur'an, namely: *al-'Ijāz al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qurān al-Karīm and at-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qurān al-Karīm*. In his blog, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī has uploaded a text of his writings in a tafsir study entitled *Nukatu Al-Quran*, a complete of 30 juz Qur'anic interpretation, but unfortunately, this book has not yet been published. These works show the seriousness of Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī in the field of Qur'anic studies despite his background as an economist.

3. Tafsir Iqtiṣādī Paradigm

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī argues that an interpreter must pay attention to the context. Current interpretations must be in the form of revisions from past interpretations adapted to the context at the time of writing (Al-Masrī, 2005, p. 7). According to him the verses of the Qur'an have two forms: first, the verses of *wasfiyah*, *kauniyah*, *qadariyah*, these verses characterise something as it appears and occurs; second, the verses of *qimiah syar'iyah*, these verses are in the form of orders or prohibitions, and these verses explain what is wanted and expected (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 6). From these two forms, various interpretations are produced. The scientific genealogy of an interpreter influences the content of interpretation, a *nahwu* (Arabic grammar) expert will interpret the Qur'an by deepening the discussion of *nahwu* and so will be an expert in *shorof*, *balaghah*, *fiqh*, and others (Al-Masrī, 2005, p. 17).

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī opinion of the Qur'an include: *first*, he supports the adage of the Qur'an *şālihun li kulli zamān wa makān*. Although it was revealed in a particular socio-cultural context and locality, the Qur'an has universal values that are always relevant for every era and place; *second*, he suggests the Qur'anic interpretation must be dynamic. The interpretation should not static but confirm the changing society and serve as a guide to humans in every era; *third*, he adheres to the integration of the Qur'an with science. *Tafsīr lqtiṣādī* as a form of contemporary interpretation is an attempt to make the Qur'an, not against common sense and science. The Qur'anic interpretation requires collaboration between scientists and scholars with different scientific backgrounds to produce a more comprehensive interpretation; *fourth*, he believes the Qur'an is a guideline for advancing civilisation. The Qur'an can provide problem-solving for the unlimited dynamics of society. Therefore, all problems can be solved by referring to the Qur'an (Al-Masrī, 2005, p. 18). The Qur'an can build a human civilisation through the human dialectical process with reality on the one hand and with the Qur'an text on the other. Interpretation of the Qur'an must depart from the reality that occurs, then return to theoretical revelation as a reference culminates in practical action (Ridwan, Syafrudin, & Mubarok, 2020).

To implement these relationships, the Qur'anic exegeses should be developed over time to be relevant in every age. Amin Abdullah explained that the Qur'an could guide the current disruptive era when the Qur'anic interpretation pays attention to the aspects of the wholeness of reality and scientific perspectives from various scientific disciplines that are possible to exist and develop. Changes in all fields are so rapid that they create interconnection of scientific networks, social life, culture, economy, and religion between the world's nations. Transdisciplinary science or scientific integration aims to minimise human problems. This scientific integration is three critical relationships between religion, philosophy, and science.

4. At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm: A general overview

Writing Techniques

The writing technique referred to is the writing systematics and references used. Three forms of systematic arrangement found in the process of the Qur'anic interpretation: *first, tartīb musḥafī,* namely the composition of the interpretation following the verse in the *musḥaf,* verse by verse and letter by letter; *second, tartīb nuzūlī,* which is based on the chronological order following the revelation of the verses of the Qur'an. The example of this interpretation can be seen in the *Al-Tafsir Al-Ḥādīs* by Muhammad 'Izzah Dārwazah; *third,* the *mauḍū'ī,* which is based on the main themes discussed. According to Islah Gusmian, the *mauḍū'ī* has two primary forms: *first,* a systematic presentation of coherence through the arrangement of the Qur'anic text; *second,* systematics of thematic presentations according to specific themes (Gusmian, 2013, p. 120).

In this Tafseer, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī arranges his writing according to the order of the Surah in the Qur'an, he gives a big title to distinguish each letter to be discussed. Although this Tafseer was written using *tartīb musḥafī*, not all verses in every Surah are interpreted. Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī chose verses which according to him, were related to economics/*Iqtiṣād*. He says:

Because this Tafseer is devoted to economic issues, this Tafseer does not describe all the verses and surah contained in the Qur'an.

The following are the surah and verses that are discussed in the *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*:

Tabel.1 List of letters and verses interpreted in At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm (Al-Masrī, 2013)

No.	Surah	Verses
1.	Al-Baqarah	30, 219, 220, 245, 275, 276,
		279, 282
2.	Ali 'Imran	14, 49, 122, 130, 199
3.	Al-Nisā	3, 5, 6,11, 32, 34, 161
4.	Al-An'ām	6, 56, 140, 141, 152
5.	Al-A'rāf	19, 58, 85, 96, 157, 188, 199
6.	Al-Anfal	41, 60
7.	Al-Taubah	28, 34, 60
8.	Yūnus	36
9.	Huīd	3, 6, 52, 61, 78
10.	Yūsuf	20 46, 55, 62, 67, 72.
11.	Ar-Ra'd	4, 11, 26.
12.	Al-Naḥl	71, 96, 112
13.	Al-Isra -	9, 16, 26, 29, 36, 84
14.	Al-Kahfi	22, 71
15.	<u> </u> Ţaha	124
16.	Al-Anbiya ⁻	37, 28
17.	Al-Mu'minuīn	3, 8, 33, 70, 71, 96.
18.	Al-Nur	33
19	Al-Furqān	67
20.	Al-Naml	32
21	Al-Qaṣaṣ	26, 55, 77, 79
22.	Al-Ruīm	39, 41
23.	Yasin	47
24.	Al-Ṣafāt	141
25.	Şad	23
26.	Al-Zumar	18, 49
27.	Fușilat	10, 49
28.	Al-Shurā	27, 38
29.	Al-Zukhruf	32, 54
30.	Al-Wāqiah	82
31.	Al-Hadīd	7, 11
32.	Al-Mujādalah	12
33.	Al-Hashr	7
34.	Al-Jum'ah	11
35.	Al-Țalāq	2, 3, 5, 7
36.	Al-Ḥaqqah	34
37.	Al-Ma'ārij	24
38.	Al-Mudathir	6
39.	Al-Qiyāmah	20, 21
40.	Al-Insān	27
41.	Al-Muțafifin	1

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42.	Al-A'lā	16
43.	Al-Fajr	7, 8, 11, 12, 20
44.	Al-'Alaq	6, 7
45.	Al-'Ādiyāt	8
46.	At-Takāthur	1, 8
47.	Al-'Aṣr	3
48.	Quraish	4
49.	Al-Ma'un	7
50.	Al-Falaq	5

Reference source

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī refers to many classical commentaries in writing *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*. He does not interpret a verse directly but first describes the interpretations of the classical commentaries. He says:

وقد أكتفي بالنقل عن الهفسرين السابقين، وقد أعلِّق على أقوالهم، كما قد أفسر على أقوالهم، كما قد أفسر بعض الآيات بتفسير جديد، فإن وقفت فيه فالحمد لله، وإن لم أوافق فأسأل الله العفو والمغفرة(Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 5).

I explained the previous interpretations of the ulama, then gave comments or responses to these interpretations, then I also added new interpretations to several verses, when I interpret it correctly I seek the God's mercy, but when my opinion is incorrect I asked forgiveness from Allah's Swt.

Apart from the book of Tafseer, Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence) books are often used as references in this Tafseer, especially when discussing muamalah issues. Below are the books that Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣtī refers to: Tafsir Ibn 'Arabi, Ahkām Al-Quran; Tafsir Al-Alūsī, Rūh Al-Ma'ānī; Tafseer of Ibn Jiziy; Tafsir Ibn Al-Jauzī, Zaad Al-Masir; Tafsir Ibn 'Asyur, At-Taḥrīr wa At-Tanwīr; Tafsir Ibn 'Abbās; Tafsir Ibn 'Atiyah, Al-Muḥarar Al-Wajīz; Tafseer of Ibn Al-Qayyim; Ibn Kašīr's commentary; Tafsir Abi Hayān, Al-Bahru Al-Muhīt; Tafsir Al-Biqa'ī, Naẓmu Ad-Durār; Tafsir Al-Bagawī; Tafsir Al-Jaṣaṣ, Aḥkām Al-Quran; Tafsir Al-Khāzin; Tafsir Ar-Rāzi, Mafātīḥ Al-Gayb; Az-Zuḥailī commentary; Tafsir Az-Zamakhsyarī, Al-Kasyāf; Tafsir Samīn Al-Halbī, Ad-Dur Al-Maṣūn; Sayyid Qutb's Tafseer, Fī Zilāl Al-Quran; As-Suyuți Tafsir, Ad-Dur Al-Mansur ,; Tafsīr Aṭ-Ṭabari; Tafsir Țanțawi Jauharī, Al-Jawāhir; Tafsīr Al-Qāsimī; Tafsīr Al-Qurtūbi; Tafsīr Al-Mawardī; Tasfīr Al-Marāgī ; Tafsīr Al-Manār (Muhammad 'Abduh and Muhammad Rasyīd Riḍā.

He also cited several book of 'Ulūm Al-Quran (Qur'anic sciences) namely Manāḥil' Irfan fī 'Ulūm Al-Quran, Az-Zarqani; Jawāhīr Al-Quran li Al-Gazālī; Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūm Al-Quran li As-Suyūtī; Al-Burhān fi 'Ulūm Al-Quran li Az-Zarkāsyi; At-Taṣwīr Al-Fannī fī Al-Quran li Sayyid Qutb; Dalāil Al-I'jāz li Al-Jurjānī. Fiqh books and books in the Islamic field: Ihyā 'Ulūm Ad-Dīn li Al-Gazālī; Adab Ad-Dunyā wa Ad-Dīn li Al-Mawardi; Al-Umm li Asy-Syāfi'ī; Al-Amwāl li Abī Ubaīd; 'Idatu Aṣ-Ṣabirīn li Ibn Al-Qayim; Al-Uqūd Ad-Duriyah li Ibn 'Abidīn; Al-Giyaši li Al-Juwainī; Fatāwā Ibn At-Taymiyah; Fatāwā Ibn Hajar Al-Makī; Fatāwā As-Subkī; Al-Majmū 'li An-Nawawi; Mukhtaṣar Kitāb Al-Buldān li Al-Hamżani; Maqāsīd As-Syari'ah li Ibn 'Asyūr; Muqadimāt Ibn Rūsyd; Muqadimah Ibn Khaldūn; Al-Mausū'ah Al-Fiqhiyah.

5. Methodology of At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm

Interpretation Method

The interpretation method is the form of explanation in the presentation of the interpretation used by the *mufassir* (exegete) when interpreting the Qur'an. There are four methods of Qur'anic

interpretation: (1) $ijm\bar{a}l\bar{i}$, a general interpretation (2) tahlili, a detailed presentation; (3) $muqa\bar{a}rin/intertext$; (4) $maud\bar{u}'\bar{i}/$ thematic interpretation (Baidan, 2011, p. 56-72).

Some of the interpretations in the *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm* are presented in the form of short and general (*ijmālī*). For example, in the interpretation of QS. *Al-Anfāl* verse 60, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī gives an interpretation of this verse, without previously mentioning *asbāb an-nuzūl*, studying linguistic aspects and others, he interprets:

فقوة الأمة تخيف أعداءها مَن ظهر منهم ومَن بطن! وضعفها يغري الأمم بالاعتداء عليها واحتلالها. وهذه القوة تتضمن القوة العلمية والاقتصادية والقوة التكنولوجية وسائر عناصر القوة اللازمة للأمة الإسلامية في مواجهة أعدائها(Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 100).

The detailed presentation form $(tahl\bar{l}l\bar{r})$ is also used in the *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*. For example, in the interpretation of QS. *Al-Baqarah* verse 275 and verse 276, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Masrī interprets it in detail, by discussing linguistic aspects, provides *asbāb an-nuzūl* (if any), mentions narrations about the verse, discusses *fiqhiyyah* issues (if any), and explains his opinion about the verse.

Intertext presentation (*muqaārin*) is also used in the *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm*. Rafīq Yūnus al-Masrī quotes many of the opinions and interpretations from previous scholars where he compares one opinion to the other. Several contemporary Qur'anic interpretations usually refer to the previous tafseer aim at either adding, criticising, or comparing opinions. Islah Gusmian argues that an interpreter can hardly avoid a relationship with other works of earlier interpretation in the process of interpretation (Gusmian, 2013, p. 249).

Judging from the whole verse being interpreted, the interpretation of this book uses three forms of presentation (global/*ijmālī*, *taḥlīlī*, *muqārin*/intertext). However, the global presentation form is more widely used than other forms of presentation.

Interpretation Pattern

The pattern of interpretation referred to here is the pattern and procedures used in the interpretation process. This pattern is the form of steps or aids used by *mufassir* in interpreting the Qur'an. The scholars used to divide tafsir into three: *tafsīr bi al-ma'sur, tafsīr bi ar-ra'yi* dan *tafsīr isyari* (Shihab, 2013).

The *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Quran al-Karīm* was written using *tafsīr bi ar-ra'yi*, which includes linguistic analysis (discussion of vocabulary, *naḥwiyah*), and economic analysis (the relevance of the Qur'an to economic issues). However, this method does not eliminate the use of *tafsīr bi al-ma'sur*, because, in this book, many explanations provide hadith narrations. However, *tafsīr bi ar-ra'yi* is the main pattern used in this tafseer (*min bāb al-taglīb*).

The use of *tafsīr bi ar-ra'yi* can be seen from linguistic analysis. For example, in interpreting QS. *Al-Baqarah* verse 276, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī explains the meaning of يَحْوَنُ which means الذهب ، يزيل ، إلا النامي /eliminate, remove (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 26). On QS. *Ali 'Imrān* verse 14, the word الذهب /gold comes from the word مالا النامي /gold comes from the word الذهب معوا/ التغرق /and the word Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī explained that the word الأهب /gold comes from the word الذهب , and the word gold and silver are derived from the words *Al-żihāb* and *al-infiḍaḍ*, to show that both will disappear or will not be eternal (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 41). On QS. *Al-An'ām* verse 141: Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī explains '*ataf* (conjunction) from the word ولا تسرفوا translated to the word (كلو), then the verse means "eat without overdoing it, a form of prohibition, a hint of kindness, or do not overdo in eating, or '*ataf* to (وعاتوا), which means: pay for the rights of the poor, without exaggeration (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 80).

The method of *tafsīr bi ar-ra'yi* can also be seen in the economic analysis (the relevance of the Qur'an to economics) conducted by Rafīq Yūnus al-Maṣrī. The purpose of economic analysis is to understand the Qur'anic text by using economics as an explanatory variable. This model of interpretation contains at least two things. *First*, The Qur'an address the economics or economic problems. *Second*, the findings of economic theories in the Qur'an are used as a reinforcing variable

that the Qur'an is a book of guidance, which regulates all human affairs, especially in economics and *mu'āmalah māliyah*.

An example in economic analysis can be seen in the discussion of Surah Al-A'la verses 16-17 about human's preference of worldly life compare to life in the hereafter. At the end of the presentation, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī explains that Humans tend to ' $\bar{a}jil$ or present rather than $\bar{a}jil$ or later. This human tendency according to economic terms is known as time preference (at-tafdīl az-zamanī). In the discussion of Surah Ali 'Imrān verse 14, related to human's desire for wealth, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī said that this verse shows the existence of economic problems called relative scarcity (*musykilah an-nadirah an-nisbiyah*). The message of this verse is in line with the opinion of economists who say that resources are limited while human needs and desires are unlimited (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 43).

Interpretation Nuances

The nuances of Qur'anic interpretation include fiqh, *tasawuf*, language, *adabi ijtima'i*, and others (Gusmian, 2013, h. 121). In some explanations, the nuances of interpretation are also called patterns (Shihab, 2007, p. 108).

The use of the word *al-Iqtişādī* in the title of the book shows Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī's tendency to interpret the Qur'an with economic nuances. The word *al-Iqtişādī* comes from the word *al-Iqtişād*, which is taken from the word *al-qaṣdu*, which means *al-'adlu wa al-istiqāmah* (fairness and consistency), while *al-iqtişād* is the science that discusses the production, consumption, and distribution, and describes the rules that related to things discussed (Majma' al-Lugah al-Arabiyah, 2005). The nuance of *iqtişādī* economics in this tafseer attributed specifically to the economic nuances due to the academic background of Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī who is an economist. Regarding the nuances of this *iqtişādī*, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī said:

فهناك تفاسير عامة كتفسير الطبري، وتفاسير فقهية كتفسير القرطبي، و تفسير لغوية كتفسير أبي حيان... ولا أعلم حتى الآن بوجود أي تفسير اقتصادي للقرآن الكريم. و قد سبق أن كتبت في الإعجاز الاقتصادي للقرآن، و أريد الآن أن أكتب في التفسير الاقتصادي، وهو من أعم من الإعجاز الاقتصادي و أوسع (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 5).

There is a *tafsīr 'āmiyah* (general) such as the Aṭ-Ṭabari interpretation, *fiqhiyah* interpretation such as the Al-Qurtūbī interpretation, and also a *lugawiyah* interpretation such as Abi Hayān's interpretation ... and I do not know until now what is called *tafsīr iqtiṣādī*. I have previously written about *Al-I'jāz Al-Iqtiṣādī li Al-Quran*, and what I want now is to write about the broader and more general *tafsīr iqtiṣādī* than *i'jāz iqtiṣādī*.

The examples of economic nuances in the *At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Quran al-Karīm* can be seen from the following examples of interpretation:

QS. Ali 'Imran[3]: 14

زُيِّنَ لِلنَّاسِ حُبُّ الشَّهَوَاتِ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ وَالْبَنِينَ وَالْقَنَاطِيرِ الْمُقَنْطَرَةِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَالْفِضَّةِ وَالْخَيْلِ الْمُسَوَّمَةِ وَالْأَنْعَامِ وَالْحَرْثِ ذَلِكَ مَتَاعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ حُسْنُ الْمَآب

Fair in the eyes of humans is the love of things they covet: women and sons; heaped-up hoards of gold and silver; horses branded (for blood and excellence); and (wealth of) cattle and well-tilled land. Such are the possessions of this world's life; but in nearness to Allah is the best of the goals (to return to).

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī explained that this verse shows that there are economic problems of relative scarcity (*Musykilah an-Nadirah an-Nisbiyah*), following the opinion of economists who say that resources are limited while human needs and wants are unlimited (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 43).

Another example in QS. *Al-Fajr*[89]: 20:

وَّتُحِبُّوْنَ الْمَالَ حُبًّا جَمًّا

And ye love wealth with inordinate love!.

وليس الممنوع حب المال من أصله، لأن حب المال حافز إلى الأنشطة الاقتصادية، وهو تعبير آخر عن المصلحة الخاصة، ولا مانع من السعي إلى المصلحة الخاصة، ما دام أنها لا تتعارض مع المصلحة العامة. فإذا تعارضتا قدمت المصلحة العامة على الخاصة. والعمل للمصلحة الخاصة في الحالات التي لا تتعارض فيها مع المصلحة العامة فيها خدمة خفية للمصلحة العامة، وهو ما سمي باليد الخفية. هذه الأية تدلّ على أن هناك مشكلة اقتصادية، أو مشكلة ندرة نسبية، لأن الناس يميلون إلى زيادة ثرواتهم وتعظيمها. وهو ما يعبر عنه الاقتصاديون بأن حجات البشر غير محدودة (والموارد محدودة)، وتدخل الشهوات فيما عبر عنه الاقتصاديون بالحاجات (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 287).

Loving property is not prohibited because the love of wealth is a motive for economic activity, and is an expression of individual desire/benefit; there is no prohibition against seeking personal benefit, as long as it is not in conflict with others. If contradictory exist, the public benefit must take precedence. When it is not against the collective desire, then the effort to generate personal benefit is *khidmah*/assistance that is not visible to the public benefit or the invisible hand." This verse also shows the existence of economic problems, or so-called relative scarcity, this is because people want to increase their resources. The economists explain that human desire is unlimited while resources are limited, human lust is defined by economists as *al-hajaat*/desire.

Another example in QS.*Al-A'lā*[87]: 16-17:

بَلْ تُؤْثِرُونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا (16) وَالْآخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ وَأَبْقَى (17)

Nay (behold), ye prefer the life of this world; but the Hereafter is better and more enduring.

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Mașrī said:

الإنسان يميل إلى العاجل، ويؤثر العاجل على الآجل. وهو ما يعبر عنه بالتفضيل الزمني، بلغة الاقتصاد الحديث. ولأجل أن يحول الله الناس من تفضيل الدنيا على الأخرة، إلى تفضيل معاكس، أي تفضيل الآخرة على الدنيا، فقد جعل الآخرة خيرا من الدنيا في النوع، وأبقى منها في الزمن (دار الخلود). يجب على المسلم أن يؤثر الآخرة على الدنيا عند التعارض، فإذا لم يكن بينهما تعارض جمع بينهما (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 284)

Humans tend to the '*ājil* (present) rather than the *ājil* (future) things. In economic terms, it is known as time preference (*at-tafdīl az-zamanī*). To order humans to give priority to the hereafter life, God made the hereafter better than the life in the world and made the hereafter an eternal life. When a conflict between life in the world and the hereafter, it is obligatory to prioritise the hereafter. Since the life in the hereafter has no conflict, and one can live there eternally.

6. Interpretive Validity

Eni Zulaiha explained several parameters to determine the validity and truth of an interpretation of the Qur'an, namely; first, the resulting interpretation is a solution and a response to society's problems; second, shows the universal values of the Qur'an; third, there are empirical facts and the resulting interpretation; fourth, there is a match between the propositions used (Zulaiha, 2017). In science, it is known that fact is used to validate truth, including correspondent theory, coherent theory, and practice theory (Wright & Hale, 1997). Although these theories are used in empirical sciences, they can validate an interpretation (Mustaqim, 2010, p. 290).

Correspondent theory

The correspondent theory holds that propositions are considered valid and accurate if they correspond to facts that exist in nature or the object of the proposition. Truth occurs when there is a correspondence between a statement or opinion with the object addressed by the statement or opinion (Sumantri, 2003, p. 57). In terms of Qur'anic interpretation, it is considered valid or correct if these interpretations are corresponding with existing empirical realities or scientific facts.

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī's interpretation departs from the paradigm that the Qur'an *ṣālihun li kulli zamān wa makān*. The Quran, which was revealed in the seventh century, with a specific socio-cultural context and locality, contains universal values that will always be relevant for every era and place. Thus, the Qur'anic interpretation must be dynamic, carried out with due regard to the current context, and can guide humankind in every age. From this paradigm, the interpretation made by Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī has conformity with the existing facts.

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī interprets the QS. *Al-Anbiya*[21]: 37 stated that humans prioritise *al-'ajil* (present) over *al-ājil* (future); there is a choice between 100 Lira (currency) taken today and 100 Lira taken tomorrow, but most people will take the 100 Lira given today. A trader sells a kilogram of apples for 50 Lira paid on the spot; when the buyer deferred the payment for the next day, the merchant will ask for an increase in the price. This verse shows the human instinct who likes present (*al-'ajil*), an immediate benefit, rather than future (*al-ājil*), deferred benefit, this is known in economics with the concept of time preference (*at-tafdīl az-zamanī*) or time value of money (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 171). In other words, this verse shows the theory of time preference (*at-tafdīl az-zamanī*).

The opinion of Rafiq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī regarding time preference (*at-tafdīl az-zamanī*) or time value of money is following the reality that occurs. The jurists of all schools discussed the practice of this theory in financial transactions such as *murabaha, bai ajil*, and others. According to Rafiq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī, *jumhur fuqaha* (the majority of Muslim scholars) has allowed price increases due to time changes, they say *ina li az-zaman hiṣatu min aś-śaman*, so that if the *'ajil* trade (payment on the spot) is more valuable than the *ajil* trade, the price increase in actual trade (future deferred payment) is acceptable. The term *at-tafdīl az-zamanī* (time preference) is a familiar concept and does not need to be contested (Al-Masrī, 2012, p. 202-203).

Siti Mujibatun explained that Rasulullah PBUH did and accepted the concept of time preference (*at-tafdīl az-zamanī*) or the time value of money. This acceptance can be proven: *first*, Rasulullah PBUH gave a discount or rebate to payments before the due date. Based on the Prophet's practice, discounts can be given for payment of debts prematurely, and discounts can also be given for prepayments with later delivery of goods. Whereas buying and selling with advance payment with later submission (*ba'i salam*/indent) and by giving a discount the legal price is permissible (*jāiz bi al-ijmā'*). *second*, it is permissible of buying and selling with the installment payment system (*ba'i bi tsaman ājil*). Even though the payment in *ba'i bi tsaman ājil* is gradual, economic logic would design the price higher above the market price. Indirectly what the Prophet Muhammad did was to tolerate the principle of the time value of money. The high and low price of an item is calculated by the time of payment (Siti Mujibatun, 2016). Likewise, contemporary Islamic financial institutions use mathematical instruments of annuities. The use of annuities as a representation of mathematical calculations in Islamic economics, in essence, still contains elements of the time value of money (Amir, 2019).

From the above analysis, which was carried out using the correspondence theory, the interpretation by Rafiq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī has conformity with existing facts and empirical realities. Therefore, the interpretation can be said to be valid and following the correspondent theory of truth.

Coherent theory

Coherent theory, also known as consistency theory, is based on the consistency of a proposition or statement. A proposition can be valid or accurate if it is compatible with other statements logically and comprehensively. The validity of a statement results from the suitability of the relationship between these statements (Bakhtiar, 2012, p. 116).

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Mastī's interpretation shows consistency with the established methodologies and interpretive rules as well as to the previous commentators and economists. This consistency can be seen from the presentation of the previous commentators' opinions in almost all discussions. For example, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī's interprets QS. Ali 'Imrān verse 14 quoted the words of Al-Māwardī (d. 450 H), which said that human desires are unlimited. When given a wish at that time, other desires will arise, then humans become captives of their unlimited lust and become slaves to their endless passions (Al-Masrī, 2013, p. 43). In economic problems, economic theories in the interpretation of Rafīq Yūnus Al-Mașrī are theories that previous economists have put forward. For example, when interpreting QS. Ali 'Imrān verse 14, he said that this verse shows the existence of economic problems called relative scarcity (Musykilah an-Nadirah an-Nisbiyah). This theory is well-established in economics; scarcity is the core of economic problems, scarcity is also a driving force for economic activity. Even the goal of economic activity is to satisfy human needs for goods and services. However, human needs are unlimited, while resources (goods and services) are relatively limited. This limitation makes resources relatively scarce to meet human satisfaction. Thus, scarcity becomes the subject of economic problems and becomes the definition of economics (Pass et al., 1994, p. 182). Scarcity is also considered an Islamic economic problem. In this regard, Monzer Kahf defines Islamic economics as the study of human efforts to obtain resources and use them through exchanges to fulfill needs (Kahf, 2002).

Likewise, when interpreting QS. $al-An'\bar{a}m$ verse 152, related to orphan's property, he quotes the in this verse trying to (بالتي هي أحسن) in this verse trying to protect the principal of one asset and investing the excess of the principal of the assets (Al-Masri, 2013, p. 83). The orphan assets should be raised or invested in getting a profit that ensures the orphan's life. This verse shows the maximising of profits from the assets of the orphan (Al-Masrī, 2005, p. 49). In line with this opinion, Zubair Hasan said Islam upholds the desire for personal gain if it is carried out within prescribed norms of behaviour. Maximisation, or the concept of maximising profits, is indispensable in economics and Islamic economics. This concept is a vital analytical tool. Economics is a theoretical construct developed to explain causal relationships between relevant variables, facilitate verification of results, and predict agent behaviour in response to changing conditions. Therefore, postulates are needed as an analytical tool to see changes in behaviour. Maximisation can be understood in a neutral sense as maximising the survival, work, equality, or pleasure that god might receive (Hasan, 2002). Aslan Gümüsay explained that Islam is an "entrepreneurial religion" because it enables and encourages entrepreneurial activity, namely, pursuing opportunities, taking risks, and innovation. An entrepreneur must be able to take advantage of the opportunities and resources they have to get the maximum profit and minimise losses (Gümüsay, 2015).

The pragmatic theory

The pragmatic theory considers a statement accurate or valid if the statement is functional in practical human life. In other words, a proposition can be said to be true if the proposition has direct use in human life (Bakhtiar, 2012, p. 115). Concerning the Qur'anic interpretation, an interpretation of the Qur'an is valid or correct if it can prove its benefits to society. The theory of pragmatism has several characteristics: first, it appears based on the assumption that the truth of an interpretation is not something that is finished; second, this theory appreciates scientific work; third, this theory is

critical of practical realities in society. Therefore, the theory is used to assess the validity of the Qur'anic interpretation when it is can be used to solve the human problem (Mustaqim, 2010, p. 298).

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Masīri's interpretation departs from the paradigm that the Qur'an is a guideline for advancing civilisation. The Qur'an must be a problem solver for the unlimited dynamics of society and become the driving force for the progress of human civilisation. With this paradigm, the interpretations made by Rafiq Yūnus Al-Mașrī are following the theory of pragmatism, which assumes that interpretation is considered correct or valid if it can have a direct impact on society. Economic theories, which are the result of Rafiq Yūnus Al-Maşıī's interpretation, are theories that can be applied in people's lives. For example, when interpreting QS. Al-Kahfi verse 79, he explained that this verse explains that when two choices are both harmful, and there is no possibility to stay away from both at the same time, but one of these options causes a more significant loss, then it is obligatory to choose an option of the least losses. This rule in fiqh is called islah al-mal bi ifsad badhuhu li salamat baqiyah (protecting property by destroying half of it for the safety of the other part) in ushul *fiqih* there is a rule of *akhafu ad-dhararain* (lessening the harm), and in economics, there is the concept of minimising of losses (taqlil al-khasair) (Al-Masrī, 2013, h. 167). The theory of minimising losses (taqlil al-khasair) can be a solution for society, thereby mitigating significant losses. Even the ability to minimise losses and take advantage of opportunities to gain profits is an entrepreneurial principle endorsed by Islam (Gümüsay, 2015). Therefore, the interpretation of Rafiq Yūnus Al-Mașrī is valid or accurate in the view of pragmatism theory.

As for the substance, the interpretation made by Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī in the At-Tafsīr al-Iqtiṣādī li al-Qur'ān al-Karīm is not so different from what is interpreted by other interpreters. Even Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī quoted many interpretations from previous commentaries. Apart from quoting the existing interpretations of the commentators, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī also refers to the narrations (hadiths of the Prophet) to strengthen his interpretation. The economics approach in the Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī interpretation ensures that there is an economic analysis in almost all his interpretations. This economic analysis is a form of bi al-ra'y interpretation. Thus, it can be said that the interpretation of Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī is an interpretation that combines the bi al-matsur interpretation and the bi alra'y interpretation.

Meanwhile, methodologically, the interpretation of Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī in his Tafseer uses a combination of the *tahlilī* and *ijmali* methods. In some verses, he interprets the *tahlili* method, but in some others, the interpretation used is the *ijmali* method.

From the above explanation, it can be said that the interpretation delivered by Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī is valid or accurate, whether it is analysed by the philosophy of science or the approach of the *ulum at-Tafsīr*. However, Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī's interpretation of the economic approach gives the impression of subjectivity. According to Quraish Shihab, one of the causes of errors in interpreting the Qur'an is the subjectivity of the commentators. Furthermore, Quraish Shihab explains the leading causes of mistakes in interpreting the Qur'an are: (1) the subjectivity of the commentators; (2) ignoring the context, *asbab an-Nuzul*, and *munasabah* between verses; (3) unaware of the object or subject of the verse under discussion; (4) lack of knowledge of Arabic language skills; (5) mistakes in applying the rules and methods of interpretation; (5) lack of understanding of the content of the interpreted verse (Shihab, 2013, p. 398-399). Thus, the subjectivity that is in the interpretation of Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī gives the impression that there is a slight imposition on the meaning of the verses being interpreted. The impression that there is an imposition of meaning is also noted in Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī's interpretation.

7. Conclusion

Rafīq Yūnus Al-Maṣrī's interpretation is a form of epistemological development of interpretation which aims to make the Qur'an relevant to every era. Methodologically, this interpretation combines the forms of *tahlili* and *ijmali* by quoting the previous tafsir (intertext). Meanwhile, the method of interpretation used is *tafsīr bi al-matsur* and *tafsīr bi al-ra'y*, with the predominance of *tafsīr bi al-ra'y*. The dominance of *tafsīr bi al-ra'y* can be seen when analysing *iqtiṣādī* (economics) in interpreting the

Qur'an verses. These economic analyses show a correspondence between the verses of the Qur'an and economic theories. Among these economic theories is the scarcity of QS. *Ali 'Imrān* verse 14, time preference in QS. *Al-Anbiyā* verse 37, *taqlil al-khasair* (minimisation of losses) in QS. *Al-Kahfi* verse 79, and others. However, these theories need to be analysed further from an Islamic economic perspective in subsequent studies.

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