



## Yusa' Bin Nun In Search of Knowledge and Truth Perspective of Ibn Al Kathir and Al Maraghi's Interpretation of Surah Al-Kahfi ( 60-65 )

M. Safar Gani<sup>1\*</sup>, Mohammad Fattah<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> State Islamic University of Mataram , Indonesia

<sup>2</sup> Al Amien Prenduan University , Indonesia  
[egoonsglx@gmail.com](mailto:egoonsglx@gmail.com) <sup>1\*</sup> [fattah1973.mff@gmail.com](mailto:fattah1973.mff@gmail.com)

Author Correspondence: [egoonsglx@gmail.com](mailto:egoonsglx@gmail.com) \*

**Abstract.** Knowledge and understanding of truth play a pivotal role in shaping the character of youth. The Quran, as the primary source of knowledge in Islam, illustrates this through the story of Yusa' bin Nun, a companion of Prophet Musa, in Surah Al-Kahfi verses 60-65. This research analyzes the role of Yusa' bin Nun in the pursuit of knowledge and truth based on the interpretations of Ibn Al Kathir and Al-Maraghi. Using a qualitative approach and literature review method, the study focuses on two issues: the role of Yusa' bin Nun in seeking knowledge according to Ibn Al Kathir and Al-Maraghi, and the similarities and differences in their opinions. Ibn Al Kathir's interpretation highlights Yusa's loyalty and enthusiasm in seeking knowledge alongside Prophet Musa and Prophet Khidir. Despite facing peculiar actions, Yusa' demonstrates loyalty and conviction, inspiring the younger generation in their scholarly and spiritual journey. Al-Maraghi's interpretation emphasizes the moral role, enthusiasm for learning, and loyalty of Yusa' as symbols of spiritual values. This perspective underscores patience and perseverance in the scholarly journey, revealing that the pursuit of religious knowledge involves profound spiritual experiences. The results of this research provide a deep understanding of the role of youth in seeking knowledge and truth, portraying Yusa' bin Nun as an exemplar of loyalty, enthusiasm for learning, and spiritual experience. This story serves as inspiration for the younger generation, illustrating that the pursuit of knowledge is not merely about acquiring information but also involves profound spiritual experiences.

**Keywords:** Youth, Companion of Prophet Musa A.S, Knowledge and Truth.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Youth, as the younger generation, have a central role in the development of a nation's future. However, in the development of the times, the role of youth often declines, especially in the spirit of seeking knowledge and truth. This can have a negative impact on the progress of a nation. Factors such as changes in social values, the distracting influence of technology, and the lack of encouragement to seek knowledge can be the main causes of the declining role of youth.

Science, as knowledge gained through learning and exploration, is a key element in youth development. Youth have a great need for science, because knowledge not only opens the door to success but also provides a better understanding of the world. The search for knowledge and truth becomes an important aspect in a young person's life, preparing them to play a role in various fields such as education, economics, politics, and religion.

In the context of Islam, the Qur'an is the main source of knowledge and life guidance. One of the inspiring examples found in the Qur'an is the story of Yusa' (Yusa') bin Nun, a friend of Prophet Moses, who sought knowledge and truth. This story is found in Surah Al-Kahfi

verses 60-65. Yusa' shows loyalty, passion for learning, and confidence in seeking knowledge, inspiring the younger generation to travel on a scientific and spiritual journey.

I will not cease until I reach the junction of the two seas or "And when Moses said to his boy, But when they reached the junction of the two seas, they forgot their fish, (60) "I spend ages. and it took its way into the sea, slipping away. (61) And when they had passed, he said to his "Bring us our lunch. We have certainly suffered much fatigue in this journey of ours."boy, Have you seen when we took refuge in the rock? Indeed, I forgot the fish and "He said, (62) None but Satan made me forget to mention him, and he took his way into "what it contained. So they returned, retracing "That is what we were seeking."the sea, astonishing. (63) He said, their footsteps. (64) Then they found one of Our servants, to whom We had given mercy from Us, and had taught him knowledge from Us. (65)

*Meaning: "And (remember) when Musa AS said to his student, "I will not stop (walking) until I reach the meeting of two oceans, or I will walk for many years." So when they reached the meeting of the two seas, they neglected the fish, so the fish jumped and took its way to the sea. So when they walked further, Musa AS said to his student, "Bring here our food, indeed we have felt tired because of our journey." His disciple replied, "Do you know when we were looking for shelter in the rock earlier, I actually forgot (telling about) the fish and no one forgot me to tell about it except the devil and the fish took its way to the sea in a very strange way ." Musa AS said, "That is (the place) we are looking for." Then they both followed their footsteps again. Then they met a servant from among Our servants, to whom We had given mercy from Us, and to whom We had taught him knowledge from Us."*

In relation to the pursuit of knowledge, youth in this context refers to the young generation who have a key role in community development. Youth are characterized by energy, enthusiasm, and potential that can bring positive change. The pursuit of knowledge is not only about increasing knowledge but also about deep spiritual experience.

Truth, as a concept related to the pursuit of knowledge, includes an understanding of correct principles, morality, and good values. Young people who have an awareness of truth tend to be honest, responsible, and have high integrity. Truth shapes the character of young people and helps them make good decisions in their daily lives.

In the context of Islam, the story of Yus uf (Yusa') bin Nun provides a picture of the role of youth in seeking knowledge and truth. Yus a' is a young man who is full of enthusiasm and determination in following the Prophet Moses, achieving his goals despite facing various obstacles. Yusa', who is immortalized in the Qur'an, Bible, and Tanakh, became the successor to the leadership of the Children of Israel after the death of the Prophet Moses.

This research will analyze the role of Yusa' (Yusa') bin Nun in seeking knowledge and truth based on Surah Al-Kahf verses 60-65 in the books Tafsir Ibn Al Kathir and Tafsir Al-Maraghi. Through a qualitative approach and literature methods, this research will focus on two main problems: first, the role of Yusa' (Yusa') bin Nun in seeking knowledge according to the views of Tafsir Ibn Al Kathir and Tafsir Al-Maraghi; second, the similarities and differences of opinion between the two.

The focus of this research is relevant because a deeper understanding of the role of youth in seeking knowledge and truth can provide inspiration for the younger generation. The story of Yusa' (Yusa') bin Nun is expected to be an example of loyalty, enthusiasm for learning, and spiritual experience, providing a positive contribution to development of society and nation.

## **2. RESEARCH METHODS**

In this research, the focus is on understanding the role of the young companions of the Prophet Musa AS, as an independent variable in the context of interpreting and seeking knowledge and truth from the Al-Qur'an and the book of Tafsir, which acts as a dependent variable. The main subject is the text of Surah Al-Kahf verses 60-65 from the Koran, with the young friend of the Prophet Musa AS as the relevant focus subject. The main data was obtained from classical and contemporary Tafsir books, such as Tafsir Ibn Al Kathir and Tafsir Al-Maraghi, while secondary data sources involved literature such as M. Ali's "Jalan Ma'rifat Nabi Khidir AS" and "Story of the Prophet". A qualitative approach and type of library research are the basis for the methodology, with data collection techniques involving documentation methods, collecting information from various written documents. For data analysis, a comparative analysis method (muqaran) was used which compared the interpretation of Al-Qur'an verses by two interpreters, Ibn Al Kathir and Tafsir Al-Maraghi, accompanied by argumentative analysis with references to other written sources. This aims to produce a clear and clear picture of the role of the young companions of the Prophet Musa AS in the search for knowledge and truth from the Qur'an.

## **3. RESEARCH RESULTS**

### **a. The Role of Youth Companions of Prophet Moses AS in Surah Al Kahfi Verses 60-65 according to *Tafsir Ibn Kathir***

In the verses of Surah Al-Kahfi (60-65), Tafsir Ibn Kathir reveals the story of the young man, Yusa' bin Nun, who accompanied Prophet Musa AS in the search for Prophet Khidir. This

young man, as an example of obedience, showed extraordinary sincerity and loyalty to Prophet Musa AS, actively involved in the search for knowledge and truth. Allah says in QS. Al-Kahfi/18:61, describes when the two reached the meeting of two seas and the young man showed loyalty and enthusiasm in their journey.

Verse 62 shows the steadfastness of the young man as the journey continued. This young man was not only loyal and obedient, but also had the spirit and desire to seek higher knowledge. Prophet Musa (AS) asked the young man to bring food, indicating that their journey had caused fatigue . The young man showed steadfastness in the face of surprising events, affirming the sincerity and perseverance in the search for knowledge.

In verses 63-64, as they seek shelter, the young man shows patience and steadfastness in the face of the seemingly strange actions of Prophet Khidr. The young man does not question or doubt, showing fidelity in their scientific journey. Verse 65 is the climax of the story, showing the young man's deep understanding of Prophet Khidr, confirming that through his scientific journey, the young man gained extensive and profound knowledge of Allah's wisdom.

In a quote from Tafsir Ibn Kathir about Yusa' bin Nun, the young man is described as an example of loyalty, obedience and extraordinary spirit. Yusa' bin Nun, who was involved in the promise of Prophet Musa AS to find al-Khidr, showed loyalty and enthusiasm in the search for knowledge. The young man showed perseverance and enthusiasm for learning, remaining loyal even when faced with seemingly strange actions.

In their parting, Prophet Musa AS expressed his gratitude and deep impression on Yusa' bin Nun's guidance. At the peak of the story, the young man understood the meaning of Prophet Khidir's strange actions, showing a deep understanding of God's wisdom through a scientific journey with al-Khidir and Prophet Musa AS

The story of Yusa' bin Nun in Ibn Kathir's Tafsir became an inspiration for the younger generation, illustrating the importance of loyalty, the spirit of learning, patience, and confidence in the pursuit of religious knowledge, as well as providing a deep insight into the role of young people, companions of Prophet Moses (AS) in seeking knowledge and truth.

#### **b. The Role of Youth Companions of Prophet Moses AS in Surah Al Kahfi Verses 60-65 according to Tafsir Al Maraghi**

Tafsir Al-Maraghi's approach to the role of Yusa' bin Nun, the companion of Prophet Moses AS, in Surah Al-Kahfi verses 60-65, describes a spiritual journey filled with the values of loyalty, passion for learning, and obedience in the search for religious knowledge. Al-

Maraghi focused his analysis on the moral and spiritual aspects shown by Yusa' bin Nun, introducing the context of the verses and emphasizing the importance of Yusa's role in accompanying Prophet Moses AS

In starting his interpretation, Tafsir Al-Maraghi looked at the moral and spiritual aspects of Yusa' bin Nun in the story. Allah SWT says in QS. Al-Kahfi/18:61-65, which describes when they reached the meeting of the two seas and Yusa' and Prophet Musa AS neglected their fish, and their journey continued with the request of Prophet Musa AS to bring food.

Al-Maraghi's approach highlights the loyalty and learning spirit of Yusa' bin Nun in accompanying Prophet Musa AS. He is considered a role model for the younger generation in obedience to God's commands and learning spirit in seeking religious knowledge. Al-Maraghi explores Yusa's belief in Prophet Musa AS, especially when they faced difficult situations with Prophet Khidir.

Al-Maraghi emphasized that Yusa' bin Nun's loyalty and confidence reflected his steadfastness and high learning spirit in his scientific journey. The analysis includes the values of patience and wisdom practiced by Yusa' in facing challenging situations. Yusa's patience and wisdom become an example that should be followed in the spiritual and scientific journey.

In his view, Tafsir Al-Maraghi sees the role of Yusa' bin Nun in the search for knowledge and truth as a spiritual journey that requires loyalty, passion for learning, and high patience. For Al-Maraghi, the search for knowledge is not only about the accumulation of knowledge, but also about deep moral and spiritual transformation.

Al-Maraghi's view on the role of youth, especially Yusa' bin Nun, in the context of the search for knowledge and truth, highlights that the search is not just the acquisition of knowledge. The search for knowledge and truth requires a deep understanding of the spiritual and moral values contained in religious knowledge.

Tafsir Al-Maraghi sees the role of youth, especially Yusa' bin Nun, as an effort to gain a deep understanding of the spiritual values contained in religious teachings. His view emphasizes that the role of youth in the search for knowledge and truth is about guiding the young generation to not only pursue theoretical knowledge, but also to gain a deep understanding of the spiritual values contained in religious knowledge. Yusa' bin Nun is considered an example that inspires the younger generation in pursuing the true meaning of knowledge and religious truth.

Tafsir Al-Maraghi's view of Yusa' bin Nun's role is about loyalty, enthusiasm for learning, and patience as the core of seeking religious knowledge. He emphasized that the scientific and spiritual journey is not only about understanding the sacred texts, but also about

accepting and experiencing the moral and spiritual values contained therein. Yusa' bin Nun is an example that inspires the younger generation in seeking and understanding the true meaning of knowledge and religious truth.

#### **4. DISCUSSION**

In Surah Al-Kahfi Verses 60-65, the young companion of Prophet Moses AS, Yusa' bin Nun, played a central role in the search for knowledge and truth. Tafsir Ibn Kathir provides an in-depth interpretation of Yusa's journey with Prophet Musa AS to meet Prophet Khidir. Verse 60 marks the promise of Prophet Musa AS to find a special understanding from Allah that was possessed by Prophet Khidir. Pemuda Yusa' is described as an example of extraordinary sincerity and loyalty in this interpretation.

The journey begins in Verse 61, with Ibn Kathir highlighting Yusa's perseverance and spirit in seeking higher knowledge. In the midst of fatigue, in Verse 62, Yusa' shows patience and calmness. During the journey, Yusa' with Prophet Musa AS witnessed the strange actions of Prophet Khidir in Verses 63-64. Ibn Kathir emphasizes the loyalty and steadfastness of Yusa' in the face of the event that is difficult to understand.

The climax of the story occurs in Verse 65, indicating that Yusa' finally understood the wisdom behind the strange actions of Prophet Khidir. This interpretation emphasizes that Yusa's scientific journey led him to a deep understanding of God's wisdom. Yusa' bin Nun, as described in Tafsir Ibn Kathir, reflects loyalty, obedience, and high spirit in seeking religious knowledge, becoming an example for the younger generation. Tafsir Al-Maraghi, meanwhile, highlights the moral values and spirituality of Yusa' in the search for knowledge. Al-Maraghi emphasizes the moral and spiritual transformation of Yusa' which is reflected in his patience and wisdom in the face of confusing events.

A comparison between Tafsir Ibn Kathir and Al-Maraghi provides a comprehensive understanding. Both agree that Yusa' is an example of loyalty, perseverance, and passion for learning in the search for religious knowledge. Although Ibn Kathir's Tafsir focuses more on Yusa's scientific journey and the understanding of the wisdom behind the actions of Prophet Khidir, Al-Maraghi emphasizes the moral and spiritual transformation of Yusa' in facing difficult events.

Understanding the role of Yusa' in Surah Al-Kahfi can provide important implications for Islamic education. Yusa's example as a diligent, loyal, and enthusiastic young man in seeking knowledge is an inspiration for the young generation of Muslims. Islamic education should not only emphasize the technical knowledge aspect, but also develop the moral

character and spirituality of students. Through the role of Yusa' bin Nun, Islamic education can promote the values of loyalty, fortitude, and enthusiasm for learning, creating a generation that is intellectually intelligent and has noble morals.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

Yusa' bin Nun was a loyal young man who accompanied Prophet Musa AS in his search for knowledge from Prophet Khidir. obedience , and extraordinary enthusiasm, as well as his active role in studying. Despite facing strange actions, Yusa' remains calm, showing loyalty and strong belief in their scientific journey. In the end, Yusa' understands God's wisdom through his scientific journey, becoming an inspiration for the younger generation in pursuing scientific and spiritual journeys. Al-Maraghi's interpretation emphasizes the important role of Yusa' as a symbol of moral values, enthusiasm for learning, and loyalty. And According to Ibn Al Kathir, loyalty, enthusiasm for learning, and perseverance in gaining knowledge are emphasized, while Al-Maraghi highlights deep inner transformation, internalizing the spiritual values of religious teachings.

## **6. SUGGESTION**

The suggestions from this study include providing in - depth insights into the values of loyalty, enthusiasm for learning, and patience in the journey of seeking religious knowledge from the perspective of Tafsir Ibn Al Kathir and Tafsir Al-Maraghi. This can strengthen these values in interfaith relations, enriching dialogue and tolerance in society.

Using studies on loyalty, enthusiasm for learning, and patience as a guide for readers in understanding and implementing the teachings of tolerance in everyday life, in accordance with religious principles. This study can be an in-depth reference regarding the meaning of tolerance in social interactions between religious communities.

Encourage further research with in-depth analysis of aspects that are untouched or under-explored in this study. Further research development can enrich the scope of the discussion, confirm the accuracy of the data presented, and broaden the understanding of the importance of spiritual values in the scientific journey and the concept of tolerance in the context of religion and society.

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