THE CONTEXTUALIZATION OF ḤIFZ AL-‘IRD
ON HOAX NEWS
(A Study on Imam Tājuddīn al-Subkī’s
Maqāṣid al-shari’ā)

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Abstract: This study examines Tājuddīn al-Subkī’s concept of ḥifz al-‘ird, as an essential part of maqāṣid al-shari’ā, and uses it to analyze hoax news. To limit this study, the authors focus on two crucial aspects. First, what is the concept of ḥifz al-‘ird according to Imam Tājuddīn al-Subkī? Second, how to contextualize ḥifz al-‘ird in the contemporary time to approach hoax news? This library research uses content and critical analysis to Tājuddīn al-Subkī’s thoughts, which are contained the works written by himself and those written by scholars after him. This study argues that al-Subkī initiated the concept of ḥifz al-‘ird (maintaining honor). As an essential part of maqāṣid al-shari’ā, ḥifz al-‘ird must be held in addition to five other main purposes, namely maintaining the soul, religion, reason, lineage, and treasure. According to al-Subkī, defending honor can be equated with keeping the lineage because the two have a close and robust relationship, especially when discussing adultery and qadhf/قذف (accusing people of committing adultery). The spread of hoaxes today is like qadhf in Islamic law. The hoax spread must be stopped because it causes damage to the life of society, nation, and state. Preventing injury and realizing benefits are at the core of maqāṣid al-shari’ā.

Keyword: maqāṣid al-shari’ā, ḥifz al-‘ird, maslaḥah, al-ḍarūriyyāt, hoax

DOI: https://doi.org/10.20414/ujis.v24i2.405

Introduction
FIQH AND UŠŪL FIQH scholars have agreed that the core objective of Islamic law (maqāṣid al-shari’ah) is to achieve the benefit,¹ so that a

¹ Imam al-Shāṭibī clearly stated that Allah’s intention to bring down the shari’ah (the rule of law) is nothing but to take advantage of and avoid damage (jalb al-maṣāliḥ wa dar’ul maʃasıd). In simpler language, the legal rules that Allah
popular expression emerged among them: “aynāmah kānat al-
maslahatū fathammā ḥukmu Allāh,” (where there is maslahat, there is
the law of Allah). Maslahat, which is in line with Islamic law
principles, can be used to consider the establishment of Islamic
law. The obligations in shari’ah must pay attention to maqāṣid al-
shari’ah, which aims to protect humans’ benefit.  

Furthermore, al-Ghazālī stated that the maqāṣid al-shari’ah that
must be maintained is in five forms, namely: maintaining religion
(hifz al-dīn), guarding the soul (hifz al-nafs), maintaining reason (hifz
al-‘aql), claiming descent (hifz al-nasl), and safeguarding property
(hifz al-māl). The five items that must be guarded or maintained are
known as al-kulliyāt al-khamsah or al-daruriyyāt al-khamsah. If
someone does an action to support the five aspects of the maqāṣid
al-shari’ah, it is called maslahah. Also, the attempt to reject all
wickedness related to the five elements maqāṣid al-shari’ah is called
maslahah.

Historically, in the seventh-century hijriyah, al-Imām Tājuddīn
al-Subkī gave rise to the concept of hifz al-‘irād as a vital part of
maqāṣid al-shari’ah. Al-‘irād which means excellent or praiseworthy
character must be maintained and guarded. According to al-
Subkī, the concrete form of hifz l-‘irād in the classical tradition
appears in the form of sanctions for qazf perpetrators, namely
people who accuse others of adultery. In this context, the
imposition of sanctions aims to prevent a person from accusing
others of committing religious prohibitions, arbitrarily, without
clear and authentic evidence. Although the concept of al-Subkī has
been raised for a long time and was “forgotten”, Subkī’s thought
determines are only for the benefit of mankind itself. Read in more detail; Abū
Iṣḥāq Ibrāhīm ibn Mūsā al-Gharnatī al-Shāṭībī, Al-Muwāfaqāt fi Uṣūl al-Sharī‘ah,
Juz 2 (Beirut: Dār al-Ma’rifah, 1975), 6; see also Abu Ḥāmid Muhammad ibn
Muḥammad al-Ghazālī, Al-Mustasfa min ʿIlm al-Uṣūl (Beirut: Dār al-Kutub al-
Ilmiyyah, n.d), 286.

2 Yūsuf Al-Qarāḍāwī, Al-Ijtihād al-Mu‘āṣir (Cairo: Dār al-Tawzī’ wa al-Nashr
al-Islāmiyyah, 1994), 68.

3 Yudian W. Asmin, Filsafat Hukum Islam dan Perubahan Sosial (Surabaya: Al-
Ikhlas, 1995), 229.

4 Ahmad Warson Munawir, Kamus al-Munawwir Arab-Indonesia (Yogyakarta:
Pustaka Progresif, 1984), 917.
deserves to be reincarnated”, in order to revive the *maqāṣid al-shari’ā* in the world.\(^5\)

One of the manifestations of *hifz al-‘ird* in the contemporary context is to keep speech from spreading hoaxes. Hoaxes have spread massively in society, along with the increasing use of technology today. Hoaxes can apply in the form of text, photos, and videos. A study revealed that hoax news has an impact on the mental health of people exposed to it, such as post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD), anxiety, and even acts of violence.\(^6\)

In religious terms, hoaxes can be equated with slander because both are conveying fake news. Islam insists that slander is crueler than murder.\(^7\) Therefore, Islam prohibits slander, and the perpetrator can be punished in the form of ḥad or taʿzir.\(^8\) Lately, hoaxes have been rampant in the cultural, social, economic, political and even religious fields. Hoaxes can destroy the life of society, nation and state.

To prevent the destructive effects of hoaxes’ spread, Islam through *maqāṣid al-shari’ā* prohibits hoaxes from protecting and preserving human dignity and honor. To strengthen the *maqāṣid al-shari’ā*, al-Subkī specifically came up with a brilliant idea, namely including *hifz al-‘ird* (maintaining honor) as one of the essential parts of *maqāṣid al-shari’ā* that must be guarded and maintained, especially in this modern age. Even though al-Subkī’s idea has

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\(^8\) The punishment of "ḥad" has been determined in the Qur’an and hadith, as in the case of *qadhf*. *Qadhf* is accusing another person of committing adultery. If the accuser cannot present four witnesses against the person accused of cheating, he will be punished 80 times, as said by Allah SWT in Surah al-Nur verses 4, 6, and 23. Ta‘zir is a punishment given by the government for violating the provisions that have been made by the government. In the context of this hoax, the government issued ITE Information and Electronic Transaction Law Number 19 of 2016, amending Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Article 28 Paragraph 1.
been raised for a long time and was forgotten for a relatively long time, the author thinks it deserves to be revived.

Several researchers have studied on the thoughts of scholars such as al-Gazālī, al-Shāṭibi, 'Izzuddin Ibn ‘Abd al-Salām, Ibn ‘Āshūr, Jasser Auda, in the field of Maqasid al-Shari'ah. Among these researchers are al-Raisuni, Abdurrahman Kasdi, Moh. Toriquddin, and Suansar Khatib. The results of their study show that classical scholars such as al-Gazālī and al-Shāṭibi constructed the maqasid sharia as guardianship of the five principles. The five principles are *hifz al-dīn* (guarding religion), *hifz al-nafs* (guarding the soul), *hifz al-ʻaql* (guarding reason), *hifz al-nasl* (guarding descent), and *hifz al-māl* (guarding property). Meanwhile, the results of Zul Anwar Ajim Harahap's research showed that the thought of 'Izzuddin ibn 'Abd al-Salām can be applied to the fields of worship, social, and morals. Other researchers such as Chamim Tohari stated that Ibn Asyur elaborated on the Maqasid Sharia with more universal contemporary themes such as fithrah, tolerance, benefit, equality, freedom. In addition, Retna Gumanti, and Muhammad Faishol elaborated on Jasser Auda's thoughts on the importance of an

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approach in studying Islamic law which includes six important components, namely cognitive nature, interrelatedness, wholeness, openness, multi-dimensionality, and meaningfulness. In addition, Hasamuddin MZ in his research attempted to include Hifz al-'Irdh as part of dharuriyyat.\textsuperscript{17}

Several previous studies on al-Subki’s thoughts regarding the contextualization of \textit{hifz al-'ird} as maqāsid shari‘a have not received serious attention. It cannot be denied that \textit{hifz al-'ird} is an inseparable part of the maqāsid shari‘a. The concept of \textit{hifz al-'ird} can be applied as a conceptual basis for preventing the spread of hoaxes that are rife today, as a side effect of the development of information and communication technology. This study aims to complement the shortcomings of existing studies. This study was conducted by analyzing the concept of \textit{hifz al-'ird} according al-Subkī and how the contextualization of \textit{hifz al-'ird} with hoax news that widely spread today.

This study assumes that al-Subkī has a distinction of thinking about \textit{hifz al-'ird} as part of \textit{maqāsid al-sharī‘a} that can be contextualized with human behavior today. If \textit{hifz al-'ird} is contextualized with hoaxes, \textit{maqāsid sharī‘ah}, in the perspective of al-Subkī, can be used as a conceptual basis. So, it can prevent the spread of hoax news that has the potential to damage the joints of social, national, and state life in the cultural, social, economic, political, and even religion. This preventive effort is carried out to maintain human dignity, which is the benefit values of the \textit{maqāsid sharī‘a}.

This study is a qualitative research based on library research that is carried out by relying on library data without an empirical examination. By applying a descriptive-analytical approach, the authors critically describe the substance of al-Subki’s thoughts on \textit{maqāsid sharī‘a}.\textsuperscript{18} The primary data of this study were books written by al-Subkī about \textit{maqāsid sharī‘a}. Meanwhile, secondary data were books written by others related to al-Subkī’s thoughts

\textsuperscript{17} Husamuddin Mz, “Hifzh al-‘Irḍ dalam Transformasi Sosial Modern (Upaya Menjadikan Hifzhu Al-‘Irḍ Sebagai Maqāshid Al-Dharūrīy),” \textit{At-Tasyri’}: \textit{Jurnal Ilmiah Prodi Muamalah} 11, no. 2 (2019): 119–132.

\textsuperscript{18} Noeng Muhadjir, \textit{Metode Penelitian Kualitatif} (Yogyakarta: Rake Sarasin, 2000).
about *maqāsid sharī’a*. The author analyzes the collected data using content analysis methods. The author applied a content analysis approach to analyzing the collected data\(^{19}\) through three stages: description, interpretation, and reflection.

**A Short Biography of al-Subkī**

Tājuddīn-Subkī or known as Imam al-Subkī, has the full name Tājuddīn Abd al-Wahhāb bin Taqīy al-Dīn ‘Alī bin Abd al-Kāfī al-Subkī. He is the son of Imam Taqīy al-Dīn al-Subkī (died in 756 AH / 1355 AD), who had served as a judge in Damascus. Imam al-Subkī was born in Cairo, Egypt, in 727 H / 1327 AD and passed away on Tuesday, the seventh of Dhulhijjah, in 771 H / 2 July 1371 AD in Damascus.\(^{20}\)

Al-Subkī’s journey to gain knowledge began in Egypt with a few shaykhs, including his father, a Damascus judge. From his father, al-Subkī studied *fiqh*, *usūl fiqh*, and Sufism. After he studied in Egypt, he continued his studies to Sham (Syria) to be precise in Damascus, where at that time, was known as the city of knowledge. He studied hadith from Imam Jamāl al-Dīn Yusuf bin Abd al-Raḥmān al-Mizzī al-Shāfi’ī. He also learned from Imam al-Dzahābī and Shaykh Shams al-Dīn bin Naqīb. Even though al-Subkī was still very young, namely eighteen years old, his capability and depth of religious knowledge were not in doubt. Therefore, Shaykh Shams al-Dīn bin Naqīb gave *ijāza* (permission) to al-Subkī to teach and issue fatwas and was even appointed to be a judge and preacher at Umawiy Damascus Mosque. At that young age, he could carry out duties as a scholar, judge, and high priest in Damascus. Important positions that al-Subkī held showed extraordinary achievements which were quite rare at that time.


When al-Subkī’s father was ill, al-Subkī was appointed to replace his father as a judge in Damascus. al-Subkī was the most prominent judge of his time. He is also a historian and researcher. Shihāb al-Dīn bin Hajjī praised him by confessing that Imam al-Subkī was a scholar who mastered various sciences, such as fiqh, usūl fiqh, hadith, and balāghah. Besides, al-Subkī is also an expert in poetry. Al-Subkī composed multiple essays quickly and distributed them during his life and people distributed them after he died. Among the works of Imam al-Subkī are Tabaqātus-Shāfi’īyyah al-Kubrā, Tabaqātus-Shāfi’īyyah al-Wuṣṭā, Tabaqātus-Shāfi’īyyah al-Ṣuḥrā, Jam’ al-Jawāmi’, Man’u al-Mawāni’ ʿalā Jam’I al-Jawāmi’, Al-Ashbāḥ wa al-Naẓāʾir, Raḥ’u al-Hājib min Mukhtaṣar Ibn Ḥājib, Sharh Minhāj Baiḍawī in the field of usūl fiqh which was later named al-Iḥbāj fī Sharḥ al-Minhāj, Qawā’id al-Dīn wa ‘Umdatul-Muwahḥidīn, Al-Fatāwā, and Al-Dalālahʿalā ’Umūm al-Risālah.21

Jam’ al-Jawāmi’, one of al-Subkī’s works, is one of the famous books in usūl fiqh, which is widely studied in Pesantrin in Indonesia. Besides, the book of Jam’ al-Jawāmi’ has the sharh (explanation), which many scholars have written. One of the scholar is Jalāl al-Dīn al-Māḥallī (died 884 AH), with the name of his book Sharḥ Jam’ al-Jawāmi’. al-Zarkashi (died 794 AH), with the title of his book Tashnīf al-Masāmi’sharḥJam’i al-Jawāmi’, Imam ‘Izzu al-Dīn Ibn Jama’ah al-Kinānī (died 819 AH), Imam al-Ghazzī (died 822 AH), and Ibn Ruslān (died 884 AH).

While serving as judge and high priest, al-Subkī had received slander from the Damascus government, resulting in al-Subkī being imprisoned for eighty days. Ibn Kathīr related that Imam al-Subkī experienced severe trials that had never been experienced by the previous judges. However, he also served as a judge several times, which no one had previously achieved in Damascus. He was known as a judge who specialized in balāghah and poetry. He was also known as a generous and patient person. As well as being a judge in Damascus, al-Subkī also taught at several

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madrasas schools in Damascus, such as Madrasah al-'Azizah, Madrasah al-'Adiliyyah al-Kubro, Madrasah al-Ghazaliyah, Madrasah al-Udhrawiyyah, Madrasah al-Nasiriyah, and Madrasah al-Aminiyah. On the 7th of Dzulhijjah in 771 H., al-Subkî passed away. At that time, he was 44 years old. al-Subkî died because of his illness.

**Dialectic of Ḥifẓ al-‘Irḍ in Maqāṣid Theory**

Maqāṣid theory did not just appear, but it was manifested through serious efforts and efforts (ijtihād) of the scholars in reading “God’s thoughts,” which contained in the texts of the al-Qur’ān. This effort is strengthened by the hadith, the second source of authentic Islamic law after the Holy Quran. The use of maqāṣid al-shari’ah as a spirit in establishing law has been practiced since the Prophet Muhammad’s lifetime, the companions’ era (ṣaḥābah), and tabi’īn.

Al-Juwaynî was the first to classify maqāṣid into three levels namely ḍarūriyyāt, ḥājiyyāt, dan taḥsīniyyāt. Al-Juwaynî also formulated the scope of al-ḍarūriyyāt al-khams, namely ḥifẓ al-din (guarding religion), ḥifẓ al-nafs (guarding the soul), ḥifẓ al-‘aql (guarding the mind), ḥifẓ al-nasl (guarding descent), and ḥifẓ al-māl (guarding wealth). The concept of al-Juwaynî was matured by his student, Abū Ḥamīd al-Ghazālî (d. 505 H).

Al-Ghazâlî strengthened and developed his teacher’s ideas, but it is still with his unique methodology and independent academic characteristics. Therefore, al-Ghazâlî deserves to be considered in the history of jurisprudence science in general and al-maqāṣid in particular. The significant contribution of al-Ghazali in the field of maqāṣid is very evident in his work, al-Mustashfâ min ‘Ilm al-usul. In this book, al-Ghazali discusses ta’līl al-akhâm al-shar’iyyah, whose orientation is focused on jalbu al-maṣlaḥah (gain benefit) or daf’u al-mafsadah (prevent damage). The focus of ta’līl al-

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22 The author uses this term as the term Paul Davies used to explain cosmic events in nature using a scientific approach. Read, Paul Davies, *The Mind of God The Scientific Basis for a Rational World* (New York: Touchstone, 1993), ix–xiv.

ahkām (legal justification) developed by al-Ghazālī is ta’līl almashlahāh, which includes the protection of maqāṣid al-shārī’. Al-mashlahāh, according to al-Ghazālī, is the protection and maintenance of the objectives of the shari’ah. All forms of mashlahāh that do not aim to protect the shari’ah are called mashlahāh al-gharībah, namely benefits that are not in line with the shari’ah. Therefore, mashlahāh al-gharībah must be discarded. On the other hand, all maslahas that aim to protect the meaning of shari’ah, as understood from the Qur’ān, Sunnah and ijmā’, can be used as evidence.24 Al-Ghazālī, following the method of his master, Imam al-Juwaynī, divided al-masāliḥ in terms of strength and clarity, namely darūriyyāt, ḥājiyyāt, and tahsīniyyāt. Descriptions of each level, along with examples, are unambiguous and detailed.

After al-Ghazālī, Fakhru al-Dīn al-Rāzī followed (d.606 H) with his work, al-Maḥṣūl. The maqāṣid theory that al-Rāzī offers is a reduplication of the concepts of al-Juwaynī and al-Ghazālī. However, a precious contribution from al-Razi is to defend the method of ta’līl al-ahkām argumentatively. It has been criticized and doubted by some of the jurisprudence scholars. Al-Rāzī’s concept of the al-ṭarūriyyāt al-khams hierarchy is different and inconsistent with the idea that has been put forward by al-Ghazālī. Al-Rāzī occasionally mentions the order of al-ṭarūriyyāt with single words, namely al-nafs, al-māl, al-nasab, al-dīn, and al-‘aql. And once upon a time using the plural form, namely al-nuṣūṣ, al-‘uqūl, al-adyān, al-amwāl, and al-ansāb. Also, al-Razī used the term al-nasab instead of al-nasl, even though the word al-nasl was more precise and valid. The word al-nasl is at the level of ḥājiyyāt al-‘āmmah, while the protection of al-nasab is a complement to the protection of al-nasl.25

After al-Rāzī, al-‘Amīdī (d.631 H), Ibn Ḥājib (d.646 H), al-Baydāwī (d.685 H), and al-Asnāwī (d.772 H) followed to see the term. They developed the maqāṣid theory with the tarjīh (weighting) pattern, which aims to do weighting when there is a conflict between one of the existing ḥarūriyyāt al-khamsah. When the hierarchy of al-ḥarūriyyāt is mentioned, the scholars after al-

24 Ibid., 159.

25 Al-Rayṣūnī, Naẓariyah al-Maqāṣid, 57.
'Amīdī tend to be free, not tied to anyone’s systematization. Al-Asnāwī, for example, he sometimes uses the systematization that al-Amidi did in order; religion, spirit, ancestry, and property. On the other hand, he also uses the order that Ibn Hajib offers, namely; religion, soul, mind, descent, and property.

In the following period, Imam al-Subkī came and made some modifications in ordering ḍarūriyyāt al-khamsah. Al-Subkī followed al-Ghazālī, but he replaced the term al-nasab with al-nasal similar to al-Rāzī. Apart from that, another critical thing that al-Subkī did was to include al-‘ird as an essential part of ḍarūriyyāt. So with these additions, ḍarūriyyāt became six, namely: hifz al-dīn, hifz al-nafs, hifz al-aql, hifz al-nasab, hifz al-mal, and hifz al-‘ird. The inclusion of al-‘ird as part of the ḍarūriyyāt had caused polemics among ulamā afterward. Some of them agreed, and some objected to the inclusion of hifz al-‘ird into ḍarūriyyāt. Ibn ‘Āshūr, for example, did not agree with these additions. According to Ibn ‘Āshūr, al-‘ird falls within the scope of al-hājiyyāt. Ibn ‘Āshūr also did not accept that hifz al-nasab was included in the range of ḍarūriyyāt unless it was meant to protect al-nasl. In contrast to Ibn ‘Āshūr, al-Shawkānī supported al-Subkī’s opinion that stated the addition of al-‘ird to be part of ḍarūriyyāt so that the number becomes six. Al-Shawkānī argued that most people spent all their power and effort in maintaining their honor as they guarded themselves and their property. Furthermore, al-Shawkānī concluded that based on hifz al-‘ird, Allah established and enforced criminal law for actors of qadhf because he tarnished the dignity of someone who could be more urgent than others.26 Al-Bannānī tried to mediate the difference of opinion by explaining that al-‘ird was an addition to al-Subkī by ordering them using waw al-‘atif. This method shows that al-‘ird has the same level as al-māl. At the same time, the other sorting uses the letter fā’,27 which indicates that each element stands alone and is at an independent level. The debate regarding al-‘ird among the scholar is fascinating. However, al-

27 Al-Bannānī describes the editorial used by al-Subkī in sorting the dharuriyat problem in the book Jam’ al-Jawāmi’, namely “wa al-dharūrī: ka hifz al-dīn, fa al-nafsi, fa al-aqlī, fa al-nasabi, fa al-māli, wa al-‘ird,”
Subkī’s view of al-‘irḍ deserves to be considered an essential part of the theory of maqāsid particularly when the maqāsid approach is related to the current millennial era. The idea of hifz al-‘irḍ (maintaining honor) that is forgotten can be actualized again under the times’ demands and developments.

**Tajuddin Al-Subki’s Thoughts on Hifz Al-‘Irḍ**

According to Tajuddin Al-Subki, hifz al-‘irḍ is an important part of the maqāsid shari‘ah theoretical framework, especially in the al-ḍarūriyyāt category. Al-Subki argues that al-ḍarūriyyāt is a very imperative because it directly relates to the needs of human life, both in the world and the hereafter. It is the first rank, which must be fulfilled and maintained, and is followed by the ḥājiyyāt and tahsinīyyāt. The ḍarūriyyat includes, first, hifz al-dīn (protecting religion). Second, it also covers hifz al-nafs (protecting the soul) which aims to be able to enforce the qīsās law for the perpetrators of the crime of murder. Third, hifz al-‘aql (protecting mind) which underlies the stipulation of liquor sanctions, in the form of punishments as much as 80 times of flogging for drinkers of liquor (khamr/wine). Fourth, hifz al-nasab (protecting descendants) underlies the punishment for the adulterer, namely whipping 100 times for the muḥṣan adulterer and stoning for the gairu muḥṣān adulterer. Fifth, hifz al-māl (protecting property) underlies the law of amputation of hands for thieves and robbers. Sixth, hifz al-‘irḍ (maintaining honor) underlies the establishment of qazf sanctions for people who accuse others of committing adultery without strong evidence.28

The prohibition of qazf, as part of hifz al-‘irḍ in al-Subkī’s view, can now be transformed into various forms of crime, such as slander, lying (hoax), insulting, mocking, inciting, bullying and the like. These forms of crime can disturb the honor of others, so that they have the potential to create conflict and a very large negative impact, both individually and collectively. Therefore, the position of hifz al-‘irḍ as part of ḍarūriyyāt within the theoretical framework of maqāsid shari‘a has a very significant role, to create and preserve peace and harmony in people’s lives.

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Contextualization of Imam al-Subki’s thought of Ḥifẓ al-ʿIrḍ in the Contemporary Era

In his work, Jamʿ al-Jawāmi’, al-Subki clearly states that ḥifẓ al-ʿird is in the sixth place, which is included in the al-ḍarūriyyāt category. Al-Subki said wa al-ḍarūriyyu; ḥifẓ al-dīn, fā al-nafs, fā al-aql, fā al-nasab, fā al-māl, wa al-ʿird (which is included in the category of al-ḍarūriyyāt is protecting religion, soul, mind, lineage, property, and honor). The position of al-ʿird (honor) in sixth place was considered new at that time. Previous scholars such as al-Juwaynī, al-Ghazālī, al-ʿAmīdī, al-Rāzī, and the ulamā afterward like Ibn Taymiyah, Ibn al-Qayyim, al-Shaṭībī, even the scholars who live today, stated that the category of ḍarūriyyāt is five, namely ḥifẓ al-dīn, al-nafs, al-nasl, al-aql, and al-māl. These five are known as al-ḍarūriyyāt al-khams.

Some scholars interpret al-Subki’s idea of ḥifẓ al-ʿird, saying that the word al-ʿird, which is preceded by wāwu (wa al-ʿird), shows that ḥifẓ al-ʿird has the same level or position as safeguarding property. Thus, it can be understood that al-ʿird is not included in the group of ḍarūriyyāt but belongs to the level of ḥājiyyāt because al-ʿird is complementary (mukmilah) of al-ḍarūriyyāt. On the other hand, ‘Abdurrahman al-Sharbīnī, who quoted al-Zarkashī’s ideas, said that al-ʿird was near related to maintaining descendants in general. Maintaining offspring is higher than protecting property. According to al-Sharbini, keeping al-ʿird (honor) is in two conditions, namely closely related to the prohibition of adultery and prohibition of qadhf (قذذف) so that al-ʿird is more closely related to maintaining the nasab. Therefore, according to al-Sharbīnī, protecting offspring takes precedence over protecting property if someone is required to choose between guarding offspring or property.30

By looking at the opinions that have been put forward, the writer argues that the word al-ʿird can also be read al-ʿaraḍ. The

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word ‘araḍ means wealth (al-matā’). Thus, al-‘aradh is a synonym for the word al-māl (treasure) as Allah says in al-Qur’ān surat al-Anfāl verse 67:

“It is not fit for a prophet that he should take captives unless he has fought and triumphed in the land; you desire the frail goods of this world, while Allah desires (for you) the hereafter; and Allah is Mighty, Wise.”

The word al-‘ird means a praiseworthy character or honor. The two words, both the word al-‘ird and a’rāḍ, have the same plural form, namely a’rāḍ. In this regard, it seems that there is a disagreement among scholars about whether ḥifz al-‘ird is included in the category ḥifz al-māl or ḥifz al-nasab. These differences of opinion need not be contested. Still, it can be combined that ḥifz al-‘ird does not stand alone as a component in ẓarūriyyāt, but it falls into the ḥājiyyat category of completing the position of ḥifz al-māl or ḥifz al-nasab.

Regardless of the differences that the authors describe, the authors view that the placement of the word al-‘ird is parallel to the five crucial points mentioned earlier. The alignment of al-‘ird’s position shows that al-‘ird is a part that has a substantial and high place in the maqāṣid stratification that must be maintained and maintained. Honor is faithfulness in living the truth, which can bring out dignity, and dignity makes everything honorable. Due to the importance of integrity, every Muslim is not only obliged to maintain his honor but also to protect the honor of others. An example of maintaining one’s honor is keeping one’s viewpoint from things that are forbidden to be seen. Meanwhile, an example of preserving others’ recognition is not allowed to accuse other people of committing adultery (qadhf) without four witnesses confirming the accusation.

In addition to this point, the reason for the addition of ḥifz al-‘ird by Imam al-Subkī is that the destruction of honor has significant consequences and impacts in individual and social lives. This impact must be prevented as early as possible so that life in the world can run safely, peacefully, and prosperously. Therefore, one of the wisdom of ḥifz al-‘ird, according to al-Subkī, is the prohibition of qadhf (accusing other people of committing adultery). If a person’s accusation is not proven, the accuser can be
subject to punishment in the form of had (criminal sanction). Moreover, the perpetrator of *qadhf* can be punished with as many as 80 whips, as mentioned in the Qur’an:

“Surely those who accuse chaste believing women, unaware (of the evil), are cursed in this world and the hereafter, and they shall have a grievous chastisement.”

“And those who accuse free women then do not bring four witnesses, flog them, (giving) eighty stripes, and do not admit any evidence from them ever; and these it is that are the transgressors.”

An accusation attitude is a despicable act, mostly when an accusation is made without valid evidence. In this case, accusing is equivalent to saying something that is not true or spreading fake news (hoaxes), rife in this digital era. Hoax means information that is engineered to cover up real information. A hoax is a form of cybercrime that looks simple and easy to do but has an extraordinary impact.

There are fundamental similarities between *qadhf* and hoaxes. Both are accusations or spreading news without clear evidence by using oral as the medium. However, along with the development of technology and information, the media for spreading hoaxes also developed. The spread of false messages is not only through verbal but also through print and electronic media.

The media is a practical, transparent, and efficient communication tool that plays an essential role in reform and change. The emergence of hoaxes cannot be separated from the development of media technology. The media have changed the means of communication to be faster to form what is often called a global village. The speed of communication tools affects the growth of social media. Social media has substantially changed the way of communication between people and individuals.

However, nowadays, social media is filled with fake and

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31 Q.s. al-Nūr/24: 23.
irresponsible news to achieve specific goals in terms of politics, education, economics, and even religion.

The impact of irresponsible accusations and rampant hoax news is that many parties feel offended, hurt, and wronged. These feelings lead to fighting, even murder. All damage caused by hoax news, regardless of the medium, must be stopped and given punishment, as is the punishment for qadhf actors.

In Indonesia, all forms of crime in hoax spread are regulated in Law Number 19 of 2016, amendments to Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Information and Electronic Transactions (ITE) Article 28 Paragraph 1. The contents are about criminal threats for anyone who deliberately and without the right to spread fake news and harm individuals or groups. It is stated in Article 28, Paragraph 1, as follows:

“Every person who deliberately and without right spreads false and misleading news that results in losses, will be sentenced to a maximum imprisonment of 6 (six) years and / or a maximum fine of Rp. 1,000,000,000, (one billion rupiah).”

In this article, it is implied that the prohibition of hoax news is an effort to maintain and guard against oral. The language of the media has the potential to spread the hoax news. Likewise, on the other hand, someone's demand to keep speech means the opposite. It is prohibited for anyone to lie, spread hoax, or slander. It can damage someone's honor. There are many verses of the Qur'an which affirm the importance of good, trustworthy, and honest speech. Likewise, a few hadiths of the Prophet emphasize keeping oral as an integral part of maintaining honor.

One of the traditions that is closely related to the prohibition of hoaxes is as follows: “Whoever is guarding (the limbs) that lies between the mustache and beard, that is, his mouth, and guards the one lying between his thighs, that person is guaranteed to enter Paradise.” The hadith was narrated by al-Hakim and al-Tirmidhi from the

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35 See, Law Number 19 Year 2016 Regarding Electronic Information and Transactions
hadith of Abū Hurayrah, with saḥīḥ degrees collected from two ways.

Two critical things in this hadith destroy one’s honor, namely the tongue (speech) and farj (genitals). Therefore, these two things must be maintained properly so that the goals of sharī’ah are maintained. According to al-Subkī, keeping oral as a medium in maintaining honor is an important way, as is the importance of preserving five other essential items. Keeping religion means keeping from apostasy, keeping the soul is the consequence of prohibiting killing without justified reasons, taking care of the offspring causes the prohibition of committing adultery, maintaining motivation leads to the banning of drinking liquor. Safeguarding property means prohibiting stealing. Keeping oral as a vital part of hifz al-‘ird causes the ban of qadhf. According to al-Subkī, keeping oral as a medium in maintaining honor is an important way, as is the importance of preserving five other important items. Keeping religion means keeping from apostasy; keeping the soul is the consequence of prohibiting killing without justified reasons, taking care of the offspring causes the prohibition of committing adultery. Maintaining motivation leads to a ban on drinking liquor. Safeguarding property means prohibiting stealing and keeping oral qadhf important part of hifz al-‘ird causes the prohibition of qadhf, gossip, ridicule, lies, slanders, etc.

In Islam, the hoax is classified as an act that is detrimental to others that can be subject to hudud punishment. Still, hudud is specifically for qadhf actions or spreading false news about someone who commits adultery. According to the Islamic perspective, ta‘zīr can be imposed on all accusations forbidden for every Muslim. Among the accusing accuses other people of theft, accusing others of drinking alcohol or making fake news against other people, individuals, and institutions, prohibiting hoax and qadhf. The following sanctions given to the perpetrators show Islam’s consistency and concern in maintaining the honor of both individuals and groups for humanity’s welfare in the world and the hereafter.

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37 al-Subkī, Hāshiyah, 280.
Conclusion

In the context of maqāṣid al-sharī‘a, one of the bright ideas that al-Subkī thought is to include the concept of ḥifẓ al-‘ird (maintaining honor) as an inseparable part of the five main things (al-ḍarūriyyāt al-khams) which must be guarded and preserved. Al-Subkī included the concept of ḥifẓ al-‘ird in the structure of al-ḍarūriyyāt. In addition to maintaining five other main things, namely protecting the soul, religion, mind, descent, and property, according to al-Subkī, maintaining al-‘ird is the same as preserving al-nasab. The two have a close and robust relationship, especially when discussing zinā (adultery) and qadhf (false accusation of cheating).

In today’s modern life, the case of qadhf can be likened to hoax news. Both are raising issues or news that are not valid. Hoax perpetrators can be given sanctions by the law. Using al-Subkī’s ideas, perpetrators of qadhf, includin the ones spread out from hoax news about somebody’s rumour of having affairs, are liable for punishment in Islamic law. Along with the development of science and technology, hoaxes’ spread is not only carried out through oral speech but often through print and electronic media. The media plays a big role in spreading hoax news, causing anxiety and damage in the community. Therefore, all forms of hoaxes must be stopped because that is the purpose of Islamic law or maqāṣid-al-sharī‘ah, to prevent damage and to reach maslahat (dar’u al-mafāsid wa jalb al-maṣālih).

References


