

Abstract

This thesis discusses the defining of “Sunnī orthodoxy” (The Arabic term is Ahl al-Sunna wa al-Jamā‘a.) of two contemporary authorities of the Shādhilī Ṣūfī Order, one of the most important Ṣūfī orders in the Muslim world. Special attention is given to the analysis of their understanding of Islamic Theology, Law and Sufism. The first scholar is Shaykh Ali Gomaa, the previous Grand Mufti of Egypt. The second scholar is his student, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Ḥusayn. The thesis consists of three chapters. The first chapter discusses the history and teachings of the Shādhilī Ṣūfī Order in general. The second chapter describes and analyses the defining and understanding of the “Sunnī orthodoxy” of Shaykh Ali Gomaa. The third chapter describes and analyses the defining and understanding of “Sunnī orthodoxy” of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Ḥusayn. The thesis is methodologically based on analysis and interpretation of important mediaeval and contemporary Shādhilī works, including recorded lectures, sermons, interviews etc. Interaction with pertinent academic literature also forms a crucial component of the research.