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ABSTRACT

This study aims to explore the relationship between human behavior and the climate change crisis from an Islamic ethical-theological perspective, specifically through the interpretation of the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs' Tafsir 'Ilmi. Climate change is a real global challenge, marked by rising global temperatures, melting ice, and increased intensity of natural disasters. Its impact is strongly felt in Indonesia, triggering seasonal shifts and declining agricultural yields due to soil degradation, all of which are direct consequences of exploitative human activities. Therefore, not only scientific solutions are needed, but also a strong moral and ethical foundation, which is provided by religious teachings.

This study uses the thematic interpretation method (maudu'i) to identify and analyze verses of the Qur'an in the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs' Tafsir 'Ilmi that are relevant to the relationship between humans and the environment. Tafsir 'Ilmi was chosen because of its approach of linking the signs of the Qur'an (āyāt kauniyah) with modern scientific discoveries, making it a significant source for interpreting contemporary issues such as climate change. Islamic theological foundations emphasize the role of humans as khalīfatullāh fī al-arḍ (God's representatives on earth) who hold the mandate to manage and protect the earth, not exploit it arbitrarily.

The climate crisis is seen as a manifestation of humanity's collective failure to fulfill its stewardship mandate. This is in line with the concept of fasād fī al-barr wa al-baḥr (destruction on land and sea) which is explicitly stated in QS. Ar-Rūm/30:41 as a result of human actions, which not only means physical destruction but also the disruption of the natural balance (al-tawāzun). The concept of mīzan (balance) in QS. Ar-Rahman/55:7–9 further emphasizes the fundamental principle that the universe was created in a state of proportion and that humans are prohibited from destroying that balance. Thus, this study is expected to formulate a solid theological foundation for Muslims to understand their moral responsibilities, encourage concrete mitigation actions, and contribute to efforts to preserve the sustainability of the earth.

Keywords: Scientific Interpretation, Climate Change, *Khalifah*, *Fasād*, *Mīzān*