

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING HADITH VALIDITY CRITERIA IN PROVING THE TRUTH OF NEWS

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ABSTRACT

The rapid expansion of digital communication has accelerated the dissemination of information while increasing the spread of misinformation, disinformation, and fake news. Although contemporary journalism employs various fact-checking mechanisms, limited attention has been given to the potential contribution of classical Islamic scholarship to modern information verification. This study examines the applicability of hadith validity criteria as a conceptual framework for verifying the credibility of digital news. A qualitative library research approach was employed through the analysis of classical hadith literature and contemporary studies on journalism, digital media, and information verification. The findings indicate that the five criteria of hadith validity *ittisal al-sanad*, *'adalah*, *dhabt*, *shudhudh*, and *'illah* can be operationalized as sequential indicators for identifying information sources, assessing source credibility, verifying factual accuracy, conducting cross-verification, and detecting hidden inconsistencies. These criteria collectively establish a multi-layered verification model that integrates technical verification with ethical accountability. The novelty of this study lies in reconceptualizing classical hadith authentication as an interdisciplinary framework that bridges Islamic epistemology and contemporary communication studies. The proposed framework contributes to media literacy by providing an ethically grounded approach that complements existing fact-checking practices and supports more responsible information verification in the digital era.

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INTRODUCTIONS

The rapid advancement of information and communication technology has fundamentally transformed the way individuals produce, access, and disseminate information. The widespread adoption of digital platforms such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), TikTok, and YouTube has enabled information to circulate globally within seconds (Ningrum et al., 2024). This transformation has generated significant benefits in education, business, governance, and social interaction by facilitating faster communication and broader public participation (Aïmeur et al., 2023). However, the same technological developments have also created serious challenges, particularly the unprecedented spread of misinformation, disinformation, and fake news across digital platforms.

The increasing circulation of false information has become one of the most pressing challenges in the digital era. Unlike traditional media, where editorial gatekeeping verifies information before publication, social media enables virtually anyone to produce and disseminate content (Ireton, 2019; Ningrum et al., 2024). Consequently, inaccurate or intentionally misleading information can spread rapidly, often reaching wider audiences than verified reports because

sensational content tends to attract greater public attention (Hendriyanto, 2024). This phenomenon contributes to social polarization, declining public trust, political instability, economic losses, and public health risks. In response, contemporary communication and information science have developed various verification approaches, including source validation, fact-checking, cross-referencing, contextual analysis, and digital forensic techniques (Aïmeur et al., 2023). However, the persistence of misinformation suggests that technical verification alone is insufficient without strengthening ethical responsibility and critical thinking among information users (Ramadan, 2024).

Within the Islamic intellectual tradition, the obligation to verify information has long been established through the concept of *tabayyun*, which emphasizes careful investigation before accepting or disseminating any report. This principle is explicitly stated in the Qur'an, particularly in Surah Al-Hujurat (49:6), which instructs believers to verify information received from uncertain sources to avoid causing harm due to ignorance (Aziz & Sofarwati, 2021; Syihan, 2025). Beyond the Qur'anic foundation, the science of hadith developed one of the most sophisticated systems of information verification in human intellectual history. Muslim scholars established comprehensive methodologies to evaluate whether a narration could authentically be attributed to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) (Nasution et al., 2023). These methodologies were developed centuries before the emergence of modern journalism and remain among the most rigorous systems for assessing the authenticity of transmitted information (Rahman, 2010).

The importance of verifying information is also emphasized in the following hadith of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him):

كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ كَذِبًا أَنْ يُحَدِّثَ بِكُلِّ مَا سَمِعَ

"It is sufficient falsehood for a person to relate everything he hears."

This hadith underscores an essential ethical principle: individuals should not transmit every piece of information without first examining its authenticity. The message is remarkably relevant to contemporary digital communication, where users frequently share news through social media without adequate verification (Karman et al., 2024). Consequently, the prophetic guidance serves not only as a religious teaching but also as an ethical framework for responsible communication in the information age.

The methodology developed by hadith scholars extends far beyond general advice to verify information. Classical hadith criticism employs rigorous criteria for determining authenticity, including the continuity of the chain of transmission (*ittisal al-sanad*), the moral integrity of narrators (*'adalah*), the precision and reliability of narrators (*dhabt*), the absence of contradictions with stronger narrations (*shudhudh*), and the absence of hidden defects (*'illah*) (Pratiwi et al., 2024). These criteria collectively establish a systematic framework for evaluating whether transmitted information can be considered trustworthy. Although originally designed for preserving prophetic traditions, the underlying principles demonstrate striking similarities to modern concepts of source credibility, evidence evaluation, consistency analysis, and information reliability (Dahuri et al., 2023; Fatih, 2021).

Several previous studies have explored the relationship between Islamic teachings and information ethics in the digital era. Existing research has examined the concept of *tabayyun* as an ethical guideline for digital communication, the role of Islamic values in combating misinformation, and the relevance of prophetic teachings for media literacy (Farooq et al., 2021). Other studies have analyzed the methodology of hadith authentication from historical, theological, and legal perspectives. Meanwhile, communication scholars have extensively investigated digital fact-checking, source credibility, and information verification frameworks using contemporary media theories. Despite these contributions, the two bodies of literature have largely developed independently (Kadir et al., 2021). Very few studies have attempted to systematically integrate the methodological principles of hadith authentication with contemporary models of news verification.

Previous studies generally discuss *tabayyun* as an ethical obligation for Muslims or examine hadith authentication solely within the context of preserving religious traditions (bin Kurdian et al., 2024). Conversely, studies in communication and media have focused on contemporary fact-checking models, source credibility, and digital verification without incorporating the methodological principles developed in the science of hadith (Kadir et al., 2021). As a result, these two strands of scholarship remain largely disconnected, leaving limited understanding of how classical hadith criticism can be operationalized as a systematic framework for evaluating the credibility of contemporary digital news.

The novelty of this study lies in its interdisciplinary integration of classical hadith authentication methodology with contemporary news verification practices. Rather than treating hadith validity criteria merely as religious principles, this study reconceptualizes the five classical criteria *ittisal al-sanad*, *'adalah*, *dhabt*, *shudhudh*, and *'illah* as analytical

indicators for assessing information credibility in the digital environment. By proposing a structured verification framework that combines ethical values with methodological rigor, this research extends the application of hadith sciences beyond their traditional domain and offers a conceptual contribution to both Islamic communication studies and contemporary media verification research.

This study investigates the effectiveness of applying hadith validity criteria in assessing the truthfulness of contemporary news. Specifically, it examines the relevance of the five classical criteria of hadith authenticity as analytical indicators for evaluating digital information credibility and explores their compatibility with modern verification practices. In doing so, this study proposes an interdisciplinary conceptual framework that integrates Islamic epistemological principles with contemporary information verification, thereby contributing to the development of a more ethically grounded and methodologically robust approach to combating misinformation in the digital era.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employed a qualitative research design using a library research approach to examine the effectiveness of applying classical hadith validity criteria to the verification of contemporary news. A library research approach was considered appropriate because the study focuses on analyzing concepts, principles, and verification frameworks derived from classical Islamic scholarship and comparing them with contemporary approaches to news verification in the digital era.

The primary data sources consisted of authoritative hadith collections and classical literature on the science of hadith that explain the criteria for authentic hadith, including continuity of the chain of transmission (*ittisal al-sanad*), narrator integrity (*'adalah*), narrator accuracy (*dhabt*), absence of contradiction (*shudhudh*), and absence of hidden defects (*'illah*). Secondary data were obtained from peer-reviewed journal articles, academic books, conference proceedings, and institutional reports discussing digital media, misinformation, disinformation, fact-checking, media literacy, and information verification. Priority was given to recent publications from 2020 to 2025 to ensure that the discussion reflected current developments in digital communication and information verification.

Data were collected through systematic document analysis. Relevant literature was identified using academic databases, including Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholar, and other reputable digital repositories. The search process employed keywords such as hadith authentication, hadith validity, *isnad* criticism, news verification, fact-checking, misinformation, disinformation, digital media, information credibility, and media literacy. The retrieved publications were screened according to their relevance to the research objectives, academic quality, and contribution to understanding both classical hadith criticism and contemporary information verification.

The data were analyzed using qualitative content analysis with a comparative analytical approach. The analysis was conducted in three stages. First, the fundamental principles of hadith validity were identified and interpreted based on classical hadith literature, focusing on the five accepted criteria of authenticity: continuity of the chain of transmission (*ittisal al-sanad*), narrator integrity (*'adalah*), narrator accuracy (*dhabt*), absence of contradiction (*shudhudh*), and absence of hidden defects (*'illah*). Second, these criteria were systematically compared with contemporary news verification principles commonly employed in journalism and fact-checking. The comparison used four analytical indicators: (1) source credibility, referring to the reliability and trustworthiness of information providers; (2) evidence verification, referring to the availability and authenticity of supporting evidence; (3) consistency of information, referring to the coherence of information across multiple independent sources; and (4) transparency and accountability, referring to the traceability of information and disclosure of its origin. This comparative analysis was conducted to identify conceptual similarities, differences, and the potential applicability of hadith authentication principles within contemporary information verification practices.

To ensure the credibility of the findings, source triangulation was applied by comparing information obtained from classical Islamic literature, contemporary communication research, and reports published by recognized fact-checking organizations. The analytical process was conducted iteratively to ensure consistency between theoretical concepts and empirical observations (Sugiyono, 2022). Finally, the findings were synthesized to develop a conceptual framework demonstrating the potential contribution of hadith validity criteria as an ethical and systematic model for verifying information in the digital era.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

Classical Hadith Validity Criteria as the Foundation of Information Verification

The document analysis identified five fundamental criteria that determine the authenticity of a hadith: continuity of the chain of transmission (*ittisal al-sanad*), narrator integrity (*'adalah*), narrator accuracy (*dhabt*), absence of contradiction (*shudhudh*), and absence of hidden defects (*'illah*) (Harun et al., 2021; Wasman et al., 2023). Collectively, these criteria constitute an integrated epistemological framework for evaluating the credibility of transmitted information. Unlike many contemporary verification approaches that primarily focus on the factual correctness of content, hadith authentication simultaneously evaluates the origin of information, the credibility of transmitters, the consistency of transmitted content, and the possibility of hidden weaknesses affecting its reliability.

The analysis demonstrates that hadith authentication is based on a multi-layered verification process in which every transmitted report must satisfy a series of interconnected criteria before it can be accepted as authentic. Information is therefore not considered reliable merely because it is widely circulated or frequently repeated. Instead, authenticity is established through systematic examination of both the transmission process and the transmitted content. This comprehensive approach minimizes the possibility of accepting inaccurate, fabricated, or manipulated information and reflects one of the earliest structured models of information verification.

Each validity criterion performs a distinct yet complementary function within this verification framework. *Ittisal al-sanad* ensures that information can be traced continuously to its original source without interruption. *'Adalah* evaluates the ethical integrity and trustworthiness of those responsible for transmitting information, whereas *dhabt* assesses their competence, precision, and consistency in preserving and conveying information accurately. *Shudhudh* requires comparison with stronger and more authoritative evidence to identify inconsistencies, while *'illah* involves deeper analytical examination to detect subtle defects that may not be immediately visible through surface-level observation.

Rather than functioning independently, these five criteria operate as an integrated verification system. The validity of information depends upon the collective fulfillment of all criteria rather than on a single indicator. For example, an uninterrupted transmission chain alone does not guarantee authenticity if the transmitters lack credibility or if hidden inconsistencies are subsequently identified. Likewise, information conveyed by trustworthy individuals must still undergo critical examination to ensure consistency with stronger evidence. This integrated structure demonstrates that hadith criticism prioritizes comprehensive verification through multiple layers of evaluation, thereby reducing the likelihood of accepting unreliable information.

Overall, the findings indicate that classical hadith validity criteria extend beyond their original role in preserving prophetic traditions. Their emphasis on source traceability, transmitter credibility, evidential consistency, and critical examination provides a systematic conceptual foundation that remains relevant for contemporary information verification in increasingly complex digital communication environments.

Correspondence Between Hadith Validity Criteria and Modern News Verification

The comparative analysis reveals substantial conceptual correspondence between classical hadith authentication and contemporary news verification practices. Although developed in different historical contexts, both systems seek to ensure that information is accepted only after undergoing systematic verification. The comparison demonstrates that each criterion of hadith validity has a functional equivalent within modern journalism and digital fact-checking.

Table 1. Correspondence Between Hadith Validity Criteria and Modern News Verification

Hadith Validity Criterion	Equivalent Principle in Modern Journalism	Verification Function
<i>Ittisal al-sanad</i>	Source traceability	Identifying the origin of information
<i>'Adalah</i>	Source credibility	Evaluating ethical integrity and trustworthiness of information providers
<i>Dhabt</i>	Information accuracy	Assessing factual precision and reliability
<i>Shudhudh</i>	Cross-verification	Comparing information with stronger independent evidence
<i>'Illah</i>	Deep verification	Detecting hidden inconsistencies, manipulation, or contextual distortion

Source: Authors' synthesis based on classical hadith literature and contemporary journalism verification frameworks

The correspondence presented in Table 1 indicates that the methodological principles established by classical hadith scholars remain conceptually compatible with contemporary verification practices. Both systems emphasize that reliable information depends not only on factual accuracy but also on the credibility of its source, consistency with independent evidence, and thorough examination before dissemination.

The comparison further demonstrates that hadith authentication provides a broader verification perspective by integrating ethical accountability with technical verification. Whereas contemporary journalism generally prioritizes verification of factual claims and documentary evidence, the science of hadith additionally evaluates the moral integrity and intellectual reliability of information transmitters. Consequently, hadith authentication represents a multidimensional verification model that complements rather than replaces modern journalistic verification procedures.

Application of Hadith Validity Criteria to Contemporary Digital News

The analysis indicates that the five criteria of hadith validity can be operationalized as a conceptual framework for evaluating the credibility of contemporary digital information. Although originally developed for authenticating prophetic traditions, the underlying epistemological principles remain applicable to modern information ecosystems because both involve assessing the reliability of transmitted information before it is accepted or disseminated.

Operationally, the verification process begins by identifying the original source of information (*ittisal al-sanad*). Information originating from anonymous social media accounts or unsupported by identifiable primary sources possesses lower credibility because its transmission cannot be adequately traced. The second stage evaluates the credibility, ethical responsibility, and professional competence of the information provider (*'adalah*), including journalists, media organizations, experts, institutions, or digital content creators responsible for producing or disseminating the information.

The third stage examines the factual accuracy and consistency of the reported information (*dhabt*) by comparing claims with available evidence and determining whether the reported facts have been presented accurately and without distortion. Subsequently, *shudhudh* requires cross-verification with multiple authoritative and independent sources to identify contradictions or inconsistencies that may undermine the reliability of the information. Finally, *'illah* involves deeper analytical examination to identify hidden weaknesses, including selective reporting, misleading narratives, contextual omission, manipulated visual content, or other subtle defects that may reduce the credibility of otherwise plausible information.

This operational sequence demonstrates that hadith authentication functions not merely as a theological doctrine but as a structured verification procedure. Rather than evaluating isolated factual claims, the framework systematically examines information from multiple dimensions, including source traceability, transmitter credibility, evidential consistency, and hidden contextual weaknesses. Consequently, the proposed framework complements contemporary fact-checking by incorporating ethical accountability into the broader process of information verification.

Effectiveness of Hadith Validity Criteria in News Verification

The analysis demonstrates that the application of hadith validity criteria offers several conceptual advantages for contemporary news verification. Unlike conventional verification models that frequently concentrate on confirming the factual accuracy of individual claims, hadith authentication adopts a comprehensive verification process that evaluates information from multiple interconnected dimensions. These dimensions include source traceability, transmitter credibility, factual accuracy, consistency with stronger evidence, and identification of hidden weaknesses, thereby providing a more holistic assessment of information reliability.

A major strength of this framework lies in its emphasis on the verification process rather than solely on verification outcomes. Contemporary fact-checking commonly determines whether a specific claim is true, false, or misleading after evaluating available evidence. In contrast, hadith authentication requires systematic scrutiny of every stage through which information is transmitted before it is accepted. This procedural orientation reduces the likelihood of relying on incomplete evidence, anonymous sources, or information that appears convincing but lacks sufficient epistemological support.

Another important advantage is the integration of ethical accountability into information verification. The criterion of *'adalah* demonstrates that credibility is determined not only by the factual correctness of information but also by the integrity, responsibility, and trustworthiness of those who transmit it. In the context of digital communication, where

information can be rapidly disseminated by anonymous users, automated accounts, or content creators without editorial oversight, evaluating the credibility of information providers becomes increasingly important. Consequently, the proposed framework broadens contemporary verification practices by incorporating ethical considerations alongside technical verification procedures.

Furthermore, the multidimensional nature of hadith authentication encourages critical evaluation rather than passive acceptance of information. The combined application of *dhabt*, *shudhudh*, and *'illah* requires information users to examine factual consistency, compare reports with independent evidence, and identify contextual weaknesses or hidden forms of manipulation. This approach strengthens digital media literacy by promoting analytical thinking before information is disseminated, thereby contributing to more responsible communication practices.

Overall, the findings indicate that hadith validity criteria should not be viewed merely as historical methods for preserving prophetic traditions. Instead, they represent a systematic verification framework capable of complementing contemporary journalism by integrating methodological rigor, ethical accountability, and critical reasoning into digital information verification.

Challenges in Applying Hadith Validity Criteria to the Digital Environment

Despite their considerable conceptual relevance, the application of classical hadith validity criteria to contemporary digital communication presents several important challenges (Maslani et al., 2025). The modern information ecosystem differs substantially from the historical environment in which hadith authentication was originally developed. Digital information circulates almost instantaneously across multiple platforms, allowing unverified content to reach millions of users before systematic verification can be conducted.

One major challenge concerns source traceability. Classical hadith criticism assumes that every transmission can be traced through an identifiable chain of narrators. In contrast, digital information frequently originates from anonymous accounts, pseudonymous users, automated bots, or algorithmically generated content whose origins are difficult to verify. These conditions complicate the application of *ittisal al-sanad* because the continuity and authenticity of information transmission are often obscured by the architecture of digital platforms.

Technological developments further increase the complexity of information verification. Artificial intelligence-generated text, synthetic images, manipulated audio, and deepfake videos have significantly enhanced the ability to produce convincing but fabricated content (Denisova, 2023; Erokhin & Komendantova, 2024). Such technologies require verification strategies that extend beyond traditional textual analysis by incorporating digital forensic techniques, metadata examination, reverse-image searches, and other contemporary verification tools. Therefore, classical hadith principles should be understood as complementary epistemological foundations rather than substitutes for modern technological verification methods.

Another challenge concerns the varying levels of digital literacy among information users. Effective implementation of hadith validity criteria requires individuals to critically evaluate information before accepting or disseminating it. However, many users prioritize speed, emotional appeal, or confirmation of prior beliefs over systematic verification. Consequently, the effectiveness of the proposed framework depends not only on the availability of verification procedures but also on users' ability and willingness to apply critical thinking within increasingly complex digital communication environments.

These findings suggest that the practical implementation of hadith validity criteria requires interdisciplinary integration. Combining classical Islamic epistemology with contemporary journalism, media literacy education, and digital verification technologies would enable the proposed framework to remain relevant while addressing the evolving characteristics of misinformation in the digital era.

Discussion

The findings demonstrate that the classical methodology of hadith authentication provides a systematic epistemological framework that remains relevant for addressing contemporary challenges of information verification. While hadith criticism was originally developed to preserve the authenticity of prophetic traditions, the present study shows that its underlying principles are compatible with the fundamental objectives of modern journalism and digital fact-checking. This compatibility suggests that the science of hadith offers not only historical significance but also conceptual value for strengthening information verification in today's digital communication environment.

One of the principal findings of this study is the close correspondence between the five criteria of hadith validity and contemporary verification principles. The comparison indicates that *ittisal al-sanad* parallels source traceability, *'adalah* corresponds to source credibility, *dhabt* aligns with information accuracy, *shudhudh* reflects cross-verification, and *'illah* resembles deep verification for detecting hidden inconsistencies. These findings support previous studies emphasizing the importance of source verification and evidence-based journalism in combating misinformation (Ireton, 2019; Ningrum et al., 2024). However, unlike earlier studies that primarily examined these concepts separately, the present research demonstrates their conceptual integration through the framework of hadith authentication. This interdisciplinary perspective represents an important contribution by connecting Islamic epistemology with contemporary communication studies.

Another significant contribution concerns the multidimensional nature of hadith verification. Contemporary fact-checking generally concentrates on determining whether specific claims are factually accurate based on available evidence. The findings of this study indicate that hadith authentication adopts a broader perspective by evaluating not only information content but also the integrity, competence, and accountability of those responsible for transmitting it. This observation extends previous research on media credibility (Hendriyanto, 2024; Ramadan, 2024), which emphasizes journalistic professionalism and editorial responsibility, by demonstrating that information reliability should also incorporate ethical evaluation of information transmitters. Consequently, the proposed framework integrates technical verification with ethical accountability, thereby enriching current approaches to digital information verification.

The study further highlights that hadith authentication should not be understood merely as a historical religious methodology but as a structured model of critical reasoning. The sequential application of source traceability, credibility assessment, factual verification, consistency evaluation, and detection of hidden weaknesses reflects a logical verification process that is consistent with contemporary information literacy principles. Rather than replacing existing fact-checking procedures, the framework complements them by encouraging systematic and reflective evaluation before information is accepted or disseminated. This finding supports the growing recognition that combating misinformation requires not only technological solutions but also the cultivation of critical thinking and ethical responsibility among information users.

From a theoretical perspective, this study expands the application of hadith sciences beyond their conventional focus on theological and legal scholarship. Previous research has predominantly discussed hadith validity criteria within the context of preserving Islamic traditions or explaining the methodology of hadith criticism (Pratiwi et al., 2024; Harun et al., 2021). By contrast, the present study reconceptualizes these classical principles as analytical indicators for contemporary information verification. This conceptual extension represents the principal novelty of the research, demonstrating that Islamic epistemological traditions can contribute meaningfully to interdisciplinary discussions in communication, journalism, and digital media studies.

The findings also carry practical implications for media literacy initiatives. The proposed framework may serve as a complementary educational model for promoting responsible information-sharing behavior among digital media users. Educational institutions, journalists, religious educators, and media literacy practitioners may adapt the five verification criteria as a structured guide for evaluating online information before dissemination. Such integration is particularly relevant in societies where religious values play an important role in shaping ethical communication practices. Therefore, the contribution of this study extends beyond theoretical discourse by offering a conceptual model that can support the development of ethically grounded digital literacy programs.

Several limitations should be acknowledged. As a qualitative library research study, the proposed framework remains conceptual and has not been empirically validated through observations of journalistic practice or user behavior. Consequently, the findings should be interpreted as a theoretical model rather than direct evidence of practical effectiveness. Future research should examine the operational implementation of the framework using empirical approaches involving journalists, fact-checking organizations, media practitioners, or digital media users. Such investigations would provide stronger evidence regarding the applicability and effectiveness of hadith validity criteria in contemporary information verification.

This study demonstrates that the integration of classical hadith authentication with modern verification principles provides a valuable interdisciplinary perspective for addressing misinformation in the digital era. By combining methodological rigor, ethical accountability, and critical reasoning, the proposed framework contributes to the advancement of both Islamic communication studies and contemporary media verification research while offering a conceptual foundation for more responsible digital information practices.

CONCLUSION

This study concludes that the classical criteria of hadith validity provide a coherent conceptual framework for contemporary news verification by integrating methodological rigor with ethical accountability. The five principles of *ittisal al-sanad*, *'adalah*, *dhabt*, *shudhudh*, and *'illah* correspond conceptually with modern verification practices, including source traceability, credibility assessment, fact-checking, cross-verification, and critical evaluation of hidden inconsistencies. Rather than functioning solely as a religious methodology for authenticating prophetic traditions, these criteria offer a systematic epistemological model that can enrich contemporary approaches to digital information verification.

The principal contribution of this study lies in reconceptualizing classical hadith authentication as an interdisciplinary framework that bridges Islamic scholarship and communication studies. By demonstrating the conceptual compatibility between hadith criticism and modern journalism verification, this research extends the application of hadith sciences beyond their traditional domain and contributes to the development of ethically grounded media verification models.

The findings also have practical implications for strengthening digital media literacy. The proposed framework may serve as a complementary reference for journalists, educators, media literacy practitioners, and digital media users in promoting responsible information-sharing practices. Integrating hadith validity criteria with existing fact-checking procedures and digital verification technologies has the potential to foster more critical, ethical, and evidence-based communication in response to the increasing challenges of misinformation and disinformation.

This study is limited by its qualitative library research design, which focuses on conceptual analysis without empirical validation. Future research is therefore encouraged to examine the practical implementation and effectiveness of the proposed framework through empirical studies involving journalists, fact-checking organizations, educational institutions, and digital media users in diverse communication settings.

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