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**Abstract:** A great Indonesian scholar, Hamka was a politician, novelist, cultural activist and above all religious scholar. His scholarly works cover so many different areas, but he was most well-known as a Qur'anic interpreter. His *al-Azhar*, a book of Qur'anic interpretation has won him both fame and respect up to this time in Indonesia and abroad. This paper is particularly interested in exploring the content of this book and in discussing the basic ideas underlining it. It is also interested in discussing the method of Hamka in *tafsir*, *fiqh*, the general characteristics of the book as well as the epistemological relationship between *al-Azhar* and especially *al-Mana* by a great Egyptian scholar, Muhammad `Abduh. The paper particularly argues that Hamka and his thought have exerted a great influence on social, cultural, and intellectual aspect in Indonesia.

**Keywords:** Hamka, *tafsir*, *fiqh*, Muhammad `Abduh.



<sup>2</sup>. "Maninjau "

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<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> HAMKA, *Kenangan Hidup* (Jakarta: Bulan Bintang, 1974), p. 45.

<sup>3</sup> Panitia Peringatan, *Kenang-kenangan 70 Tahun Buya Hamka* (Jakarta: Pustaka Antara, 1983), p. 506.

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<sup>6</sup> Deliar Noer, *Gerakan Modern Islam di Indonesia* (Jakarta: LP3ES, 1980), p. 41.

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<sup>12</sup> Mahmud Yunus, *Sejarah Pendidikan Islam di Indonesia* (Jakarta: Penerbit Mutiara, 1979), p. 63.

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<sup>15</sup> HAMKA, *Ayahku; Riwat Hidup DR. H. Abdul Karim Amrullah dan Perjuangan Kaum Agama di Sumatera* (Jakarta: Uminda, 1982), p. 92.

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