

A Comparative Study of the Contradictions in Hadith Terminology between Ibn Ṣalāḥ's Muqaddimah, al-Nawawī's at-Taqrīb, and Sharḥ Nukhbat al-Fikr

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ABSTRACT

This study conducts a systematic comparative analysis of the apparent contradictions in key hadith-science terms as defined in Ibn Ṣalāḥ's Muqaddimah, al-Nawawī's at-Taqrīb wal-Taysīr, and Ibn Ḥajar's Sharḥ Nukhbat al-Fikr. It aims to elucidate how each author defines and applies critical terms—such as ṣaḥīḥ (authentic), ḥasan (good), ḍa'īf (weak), and mudallis (obscured)—and to assess the impact of these definitional variances on the classification and acceptance of hadith. What are the substantive and methodological differences in the definitions and applications of major hadith-terminology terms across Ibn Ṣalāḥ's Muqaddimah, al-Nawawī's at-Taqrīb, and Sharḥ Nukhbat al-Fikr, and how do these differences affect the broader science of hadith authentication? The research adopts a historical-textual and comparative methodology. Key terminology is extracted from each text, and their definitions are analyzed in light of the original Arabic context. Comparative tables are constructed to map out definitional variances, followed by a critical assessment of the jurisprudential and practical implications of these variances for hadith classification and scholarly consensus.

Keywords: Ibn Ṣalāḥ's Muqaddimah, al-Nawawī's at-Taqrīb wal-Taysīr, and Ibn Ḥajar's Sharḥ Nukhbat al-Fikr, classification and acceptance of hadith.