

A Critical Study of Popper's Falsifiability in Justifying Religious Propositions

*Ali Akbar Abdolahadi Moghaddam**

*Aflatoon Sadeghi***

*Mohammad Hossein Mahdavi Nejad****

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Abstract

The problem of this research is to investigate the application of Popper's falsifiability to justify religious propositions and the possible success of this application. Popper's philosophy of science has attracted the attention of Christian theologians and theologians due to the fact that it broke the authority of positivism, which generalized the empirical and inductive criteria for distinguishing science from non-science and turned it into a general criterion for meaning, and they relied on his opinions in philosophy. Science and epistemology have been used to justify religious propositions or refute scientific opinions that were against religious teachings. In this research, which was written with analytical-critical method, while examining the application of falsifiability theory in justifying theological propositions by various Christian theologians, objections to this application were presented in two basic and constructive areas. The findings of the research show that despite the capabilities of falsifiability for the rational justification of religious propositions, basic defects such as totalism, the lack of a specific criterion for knowledge, and structural defects such as the logic of skepticism that governs falsifiability and the impossibility of suspending religious knowledge until new knowledge is obtained, prevent falsifiability from being able to, defend the truth of religion and religious matters and will ultimately lead it to the abyss of relativism.

Keywords: theology; religious propositions; justification; philosophy of science; falsification; Karl Popper.

* PhD student, Department of Islamic Philosophy and Theology, Payame Noor University, Tehran, Iran.
Email: Abdolahadi@student.pnu.ac.ir

** Associate Professor, Department of Islamic Philosophy and Theology, Payame Noor University, Tehran, Iran.
Email: a_sadeghi@pnu.ac.ir

*** Associate Professor, Department of Islamic Philosophy and Theology, Payame Noor University, Tehran, Iran.
Email: mh.mahdavinejad@pnu.ac.ir



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