

# Examining and Elucidating the Functions of Hadiths in Theoretical Ethics

Ali Balvardi\* | Mohammad Taqi Sobhaninia\*\*

## Abstract

Ethics holds an exalted position in Islam, and hadiths constitute a rich source of ethical teachings. This research aims to elucidate and analyze the theoretical functions of hadiths within the theoretical structure of Islamic ethics, as despite their importance, a more precise investigation into their role in ethical theorizing is required. The findings indicate that hadiths possess multiple theoretical functions in Islamic ethics. These functions include: explaining and determining ethical propositions; elaborating upon and conceptualizing key ethical concepts; interpreting and clarifying the ethical verses of the Noble Quran; and complementing and supporting reason in ethical cognition by elucidating its limitations and providing divine guidance. Furthermore, hadiths serve as a source for evaluating ethical theories. In understanding these theoretical functions, this study emphasizes the indispensable role of this source in shaping and enriching the Islamic ethical system. A precise recognition of these functions paves the way for a more effective utilization of this valuable resource in future research and in formulating educational and promotional programs for Islamic ethics, while also contributing to a deeper understanding and more effective application of the ethical teachings of the Ahl al-Bayt (AS). This research is conducted using a descriptive-analytical approach.

## Keywords

Theoretical Ethics, Ethical Hadiths, Functions of Hadiths, Hadith.

\* PhD Candidate in Islamic Ethics, University of Quran and Hadith, Tehran, Iran.  
alibalvardi@outlook.com.

\*\* Associate Professor, University of Quran and Hadith, Qom, Iran. (Corresponding Author)  
sobhaninia.m@qhu.ac.ir