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### **Mediating Authority: A Sufi Shaykh in Multiple Media**

This paper examines the intersection between the career of a Sufi Shaykh and the media. It focuses on Indonesia's most influential contemporary Sufi scholar, Habib Luthfi bin Yahya (b. 1947), and his engagement with different media forms over the course of his career. Habib Luthfi began as a Sufi Shaykh and a mobile preacher who provided religious guidance to rural Javanese communities. In 2003, a newly established bimonthly Islamic magazine, *AlKisah*, introduced a Q&A rubric dedicated to Sufism and requested Habib Luthfi to become its expert host. Having his own rubric allowed Habib Luthfi to become known as an authority of Sufism outside of his traditional *ṭarīqa* circle. In 2010, several of Habib Luthfi's disciples established the official website, Facebook page, and Twitter account of their Sufi master with the aim to spread his ideas. By presenting a short history of Habib Luthfi's engagement with different media forms and how his followers engage with such forms, the paper compares the contrastive relationship of authority formed in and through different media engagement. The paper interrogates how distinct forms of mediatization qualitatively transform a relationship of authority in contrasting ways, generating opportunities and excitements on the one hand, but also anxieties.