

### Chapter III

#### MAINSTREAM OF THOUGHTS IN EGYPT

Concerning the analysis of a character which depicts an Egyptian character; it is appropriate to know the thoughts that influence the Egyptians in general. This short explanation about those mainstream of thoughts is excerpted and translated from an article written by Dr. Hasan asy-Syafi'i in a journal Islam, Negara dan Hukum (Heijer 53).

Pharaohism views the Egypt as the descendant of the great culture of Pharaoh's era. The view stresses that Egyptians must be proud with their own history. Its influence is found in much of literary field. The influence of this thought is strong among the Christian Coptic--the most popular Christian sect in Egypt--and few of the muslims. Now, the thought is only survive in academic field in universities. The Egyptian is hardly spoken about it except for the purpose of tourism.

Mediterranianism regards that the identity of the Egypt is part of the Mediteranian Sea cultures where the Europe becomes its part too. Their calls is that Egypt must adopt European culture. Europe is regarded as the

also the characteristic of the Egyptians. Egypt is not the birth place of big religions, but it has very close relation with their development. Egypt is known as having the old civilization if not the oldest. The relation between religion and civilization is clear. Egypt has the seed to love religion for very long time. When Islam gained victory against Rome and freed Egypt from its tyrant, Islam and its civilization were welcomed and the Arabic became its language. Islam is performed as an integral system of life. Although some of the Coptics remain with their religion, it is difficult to make distinction from one Egyptian to another in their daily activities beyond their religious duties.

## **CHAPTER IV**

# **OTHMAN BAYYUMI'S SACRED PATH**