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Research Paper

## **Shariaty and Founders of Sociological Thought (The Investigation on the Relation between Shariaty's Thought and Pioneering Sociologists' Theories)**

**Reza Taslimi Tehrani**, Assistant Professor, Research Institute of Culture, Art and Communication. Email: [taslimi@ricac.ac.ir](mailto:taslimi@ricac.ac.ir)

### **Abstract**

The present article tries to investigate the effect of founders of sociological thoughts (Karl Marx, Max Weber & Emile Durkheim) on Ali Shariati's ideas. It also wants to clarify the criticisms of Ali Shariati on abovementioned masters. Documentary method and qualitative content analysis have been used as scientific methods to categorize Shariati's references to founders of sociology. These categories can be recognized as: religion, justice, alienation, colonialism, Asian production method, the features of new centuries, and Protestantism. The findings of this study show that there is a dynamic, symmetrical and mutual relationship between Ali Shariati's ideas and sociology founders' thoughts. Ali Shariati has not only accepted sociology founders' ideas in many cases, but also has criticized them in many places.

### **Conflict of interest:**

According to the authors of the article, did not have any conflict of interest.

### **Keywords:**

Critical thinking, Durkheim, Marx, Shariaty, Sociology, Weber.