View

This Kibbitzer is based on the dissertation of a Malay-speaking student of Islamic Theology:

Original	Revisions
Abdul Ala al Mawdudi viewed that the desire to display one's good deeds itself proves that the person concerned does not truly believe in Allah.	1) Abdul Ala al Mawdudi stated that the desire to display one's good itself proves that the person concerned does not truly believe in Allah
	2) Abdul Ala al Mawdudi expressed the view that the desire to display good deeds itself proves that the person concerned does not truly belie Allah.
	3) Abdul Ala al Mawdudi viewed the desire to display one's good dee itself as proof that the person concerned does not truly believe in Alla

The problem here is a syntactic one: the verb *view* cannot take a that-clause as its complement. The revisions show 3 different ways around this difficulty:

1. Substitution of another verb such as *stated* or *gave it as as his opinion* for *viewed*.
2. Use of *view* as a noun followed by a that-clause. The following citations show some of the common patterns.
3.
4.   1 what went immediately before. The book endorses the view that any change in our system is likely to be slow
5.   2 outh Suffolk Conservative Association expressed the view that Tim Yeo has been a conscientious and effectiv
6.   3 of old masters, and his staff gradually formed the view that the painting should be cleaned. It was dirty
7.   4 f the German government and army privately held the view that the allies were bluffing. But as early as Apr
8.   5 onality. I am sure that Kant would also support the view that the question must be answered in the negative
9.   6 thin the next couple of years as consumers take the view that personal pensions are more costly than keepin
10. 7 occur in Edinburgh every year. Or you may take the view that it was something more terrifying. The man had
11. 8 e would agree more than the governor, who takes the view that the democratic process should have started de
12. 9 further complications. The US has long held to the view that the BWC was impossible to implement. This cou
13. 10 fall-out for the shares. The institutions took the view that it was a storm in a teacup and were reassured

   Of the verbs that collocate in these citations with *view*, the most appropriate in the context of the revision seems to be *express* (citation 2).

14. Use of *view* as a verb in the pattern *view X as Y*, as shown by the following citations:
15. 11 se also predicts that whoever pays will always be viewed as the true customer. If patients are not seen to
16. 12 canvass pupils. The importance of pupils' rights, viewed by social services as a cornerstone of the inspect
17. 13 ey don't see themselves as criminals, but they're viewed by the state as criminals. It's a complete disench
18. 14 polish up its poor image. Young people, he said, viewed engineering as a narrow and poorly paid profession
19. 15 hardly be bothered to disguise the fact that they viewed me as a complete waste of time.' But what many peo
20. 16 eriments. In the early nuclear age, radiation was viewed partly as a prospective miracle drug and partly as

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21. 17 itten report. Mr Donald said the 400-bed hospital viewed the matter as involving
    professional conduct, alth
22. 18 reener says they will not be combined. The market viewed the merger as sensible and
    overdue. Kevin Phillips
23. 19 and the best Austrian novel of the century. Corti viewed this project as his magnum opus.
    It was during fil
24. 20 emarried 20 years later). All the other operators viewed women as second-class citizens.
    They couldn't talk
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This gives us the third possible revision, which is perhaps the neatest of the three.

You might like to try rewriting the following sentence from the same dissertation using one of these three strategies:

He viewed that anyone who performs an act in defiance of Allah's guidance is guilty of rebellion and hence undeserving of Allah's reward.

Click here to compare your answer with mine.

20th May 1998   *Back to Kibbitzers*   *Consultant: Tim Johns*