Prophet Abraham's earliest revelations in the holy **Quran and Jewish-Christian sources**

A. Pakatchi¹

Abstract

A careful observation of the character of Prophet Abraham (PBUH) as a pivotal character portrayed in Muslim, Christian, and Jewish resources, reveals that unlike Jewish and Christian sources which took a constrained note of Prophet's life, the time he spent in his fatherland has attracted relatively more attention than prophet's life in Sham (today Syria) in the holy Quran and Islamic sources. Owing to the scattered and incoherent nature of the narrations about Abraham's earliest revelations in the above mentioned religions, the present paper, without attempting to consider the cognitive trend of the anecdotes, aims to study the narrations in the form of separate stories and in due course structure them independently in the Quranic narrations in order to reconstruct each Quranic narration. This reconstruction is based on common indices obtained from previously studied sections. Such a comparison allows us to have a macro view of the reconstructed stories. Alongside the holy Quran, similar attempts have been made in Jewish and Christian sources to pave the way for a comparative analysis. Analyses show that thematic developments that focus on Abraham's confrontation with his people and the sufferings inflicted upon the holy prophet form the plot of majority of Quranic

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as well as Christian and Jewish stories. A smaller section of the stories is related to Abraham's challenges in his father house pertaining to Abraham's repentance for his father, while in the Christian and Jewish stories, the themes are developed based on the way Haran, Abraham's brother, was murdered. Abrahm's plea for repentance on the part of his father is a very good lesson to observe manners in parent-child relationships, specifically with regard to devious and aberrant parents and more particularly with respect to the way prophets behave with enemies of religion. Such a thematic construction is obviously different from the ones mentioned earlier; the distinction between the first observation in which unrelenting fight with blasphemy and the second observation in which there is a sense of moderation in facing up to atheists. This dual approach is prevalent in Quranic appreciation of the case, while, as observed in this study, the Jewish tradition fall a victim to the first observation (unrelenting fight with blasphemy).

Keywords: Abraham, iconoclasm, the stories of the prophets, apocrypha, Midrash



Iblis in Jewish, Christian and Islamic Beliefs

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Abstract

Belief in Satan has been given a special attention by monotheistic religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam). Therefore, it might be necessary to have a closer look at the moral and cognitive needs of humans to reach prosperity, distinguish obstacles and look for causes for deviations. In Judaism and Christianity, angels are ranked and Satan is of the most evil angels, although in Islam it is a creature expelled from the Heaven because of his vanity and feeling of supremacy over man. Nevertheless, this article aims to have a comparative analysis of the seductive and tempting approach of Satan to deceive men in monotheistic religions.

Keywords: Satan, Iblis, Satan, Samuel, Diabolis, the Angel of Death

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A content analysis of Muawiyah's letters to criticize and slander Imam Ali (PBUH)

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Abstract

What has been proposed in studies on Islamic history and the first Hijra century events, especially during Amir Al-Momenin's caliphate, are mostly statements of historical events which has led to overseeing of plenty of cultural and social aspects of those events and are merely bound to a report which explains the trend of events. It seems that what today can be a solution for understanding the events of that era is stating the ideas and theoretic basics of distinguished and well-known individuals including pros and cons on the rule of justice and righteousness through their speech and acts. Human language introduces his personality and a comprehensive precession of people's ideas through understanding discourse of each person and logically ordering of his words together and analyzing its content is probable. Also by a general look at the logic behind the rest of people words and analyzing its content, a restoring of a complete system and visualization of their viewpoints is possible. In other words, through a careful thought and logically ordering of words and sentences, speech and writings of people and analyzing the quantitative content of them their deep

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ideas can be realized. In this article, the authors attempted to have a careful investigation of content of Muawiyah's letters written to Imam Ali (PBUH). Muawiyah's critical comments are first stated and criticized. Then by reading between the lines, we hope to figure out one of the most important causes for mutiny and discord in the world of Islam in Muawiyah's political, intellectual, ideological, and moral line of thought.

Keywords: Amir al-Momenin Ali (PBUH), history of Islam, *Ghasetin* (the just), Muawiyah



A Survey on the Imamie's interpretive approach in metaphoric verses

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Abstract

Discourse schools facing verses in which features of creatures are associated to that of God's (metaphoric verses) have adopted different styles and methods. In the meantime, Imamie's Shiite interpreters, by rejecting any visualization and metaphors in God's Essence, generally use three main styles to interpret such verses: interpretation of verses, referring the metaphors to (Mohkamat), appeal to superficial without interpretation. Devising such methods, this article is due to evaluate the position of all Imamie's interpretations.

Keywords: metaphoric verses, Imamie, Tafsir, Tavil

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A Careful investigation on the concepts of war and peace

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Abstract

A large number of texts are available on the encouragement and supremacy of the concept of Jihad, associating the imagination to the mind that from jurisprudence viewpoint based in relation with non-Muslims is on war and jihad, as most of the Shiite and Sunni's jurisprudence crystallize and take note of. To prevent further abuse of the matter, this article, in addition to stating the true place of war and jihad in Islam, presents the universal mission of Islam which is a worldwide peace. Also a very important point here is that accepting peace and peaceful coexistence is not in contradiction of issues like rejecting the infidels' supremacy, cultural challenge with them and the necessity to have readiness for defense against their attacks.

Keywords: Jihad, peace, infidel, pagan, Muslim

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Principles and approach of Seyed Morteza in interpretation of Akhbar Ahaad: The Case of Amaali

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Abstract

- The focus of this article is on method and approach of Seyed Morteza, the distinguished Shiite scholar, in understanding and interpretation of Hadith and the Way of the holy Prophet. In this article the views of Seyed Morteza on validity and authenticity of Akhbar Ahaad (Hadith narrated by only one narrator) is investigated and through reference to traditions of Amaali's work, the method of Seved Morteza's Hadith-based jurisprudence, the means and methods he utilized in interpreting the Hadith are introduced as well. The paper claims that Seyed Morteza does not believe in argumentation of Akhbar Ahaad. But this does not reject the Hadith itself. Akhbar Ahaad is repeatedly has interpreted in scientific research, especially in the works of Amaali. Amaali's approach is in understanding and criticizing the textual traditions and not the documented Hadith. In his study, any probable meaning which has evidence in Arabic lexicon and language can be proposed. Seved Morteza selected Amaali's traditions on different basis and reasons such as: inclusion of strange and hefty words, existence of oddness and ambiguities in meaning of the Hadith, discriminations with the look of the verses, definitive Hadith, wisdom, or selection and explanation and interpretation of speech and jurisprudence basics.
- Keywords: Seyed Morteza, Amaali, Figh al-Hadith, interpretation, Hadith, Khabar Vahed

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A Critique on interpretive views of fakhre rāzi on Tabliq and Ekmal

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Abstract

By investigating the two verses of Tabliq and Ikmal and stating appropriate reasons, this article is to prove the view points and narrations of Imamie on the issue of Imamie succeed after prophet Mohammad. As Imamie believe that the two above verses, related to Imam Ali's Caliphate on the last days of Prophet Mohammad's life, revealed to his grand presence on the Qadir. By this approach, the text tries to better explain and prove this viewpoint with the help of rational, narrative and historical reasons. That's why after stating the viewpoint of the Imamie, the text mentions the words and ideas of five well-known Sunni's interpreters and by the Imamie's reasons, tries to challenge the five interpreters' words and ideas and also make an attempt to analyze and criticize them and prove their rejection. In contrast, it wants to make clear the supremacy and of Imamie's words in terms of validity and proves that only by this viewpoint different sections of two verses gain the most suitable and well-formed relation and harmony.

Keywords: Tablig, Ikmal, Ghadir, Sunni interpreters, Fakhr-e Razi

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