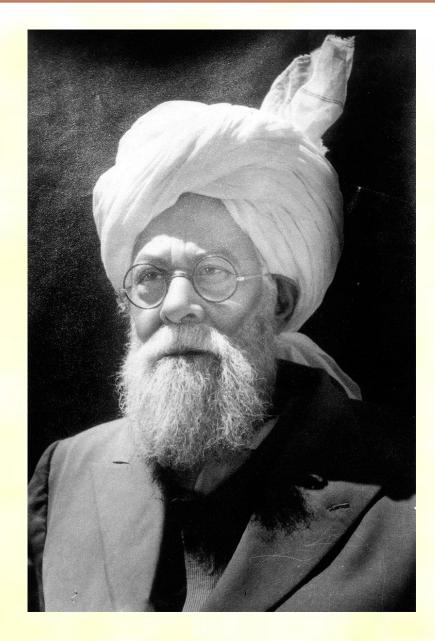


# Introduction to the Study of The Holy Quran (Part I)

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LECTURE QIADAT TALEEM MAJLIS ANSARULLAH UK

Introduction To The Study Of The Holy Qur'an MEDOX BRUEELEN DIVIDENTIALINESS





# An Introduction to the Study of the Holy Quran

Speaking about the book 'An Introduction to the Study of the Holy Quran', His Holiness emphasised the importance for Ansar members to understand why there is a need for religion, the purpose of Islam and to familiarise themselves with the study of comparative religions.





Huzur atba said: "The first part of the book 'An Introduction to the Study of the Holy Quran' covers comparative religions, the need for religion and the need for Islam and members of Majlis Ansarullah should be well versed in this and these concepts should be clear to them. They should all know what the differences are (between the religions), what the need of religion is and as to why there was a need for Islam to be established... If they become well acquainted with the first half of this book, then the Ansar will better understand many issues and they can then discuss and teach others." Click on the book to read it 13 June 2021, Meeting with National Amla Majlis Ansarullah, United Kingdom."





# ديب احب تفسير القسر أن حص اول

# Need of a New Translation and a New Commentary (2)

# Present Translation Fulfils the Need

Special Features of this Commentary (8)



# **Need of the Quran**



#### **Other Revealed Books**

- Christian / New Testament
- Jewish / Old Testament
- At the other end of Arabia lived the Iranians, and they also believed in a Prophet and a book. Zend-Avesta
- Hindu / India the Vedas had been adored for thousands of years.
- The Gita of Sri Krishna
- The Buddha.
- Confucianism in China.



Introduction To The Study Of The Holy Qur'an

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#### In the presence of all these books and teachings, did the world need another book?

#### Its answer will take many forms:



- 1. First, was not this division between religion and religion reason enough for the coming of yet another religion to unite all?
- 2. Secondly, was not the human mind to undergo a process of evolution similar to that which the human body had already gone through? And, just as physical evolution had ultimately become established, were not mental and spiritual evolution destined towards an ultimate perfection which was the very end of human existence?



3. Thirdly, had not earlier books become so defective that a new book had now become a universal necessity which was met by the Quran? 4. Fourthly, did earlier religions regard their Messages as absolutely final? Did they not believe in continued spiritual progress? Did they not continuously assure their followers of a coming Message which would unite mankind and lead them to their ultimate objective?



# The answer to these four questions is the answer to the question concerning the need of the Quran in the presence of earlier books and Messages.



# First, was not this division between religion and religion reason enough for the coming of yet another religion to unite all?



# **Religion has a twofold purpose**

# (i) it enables man to meet his Maker; and

(ii) it teaches him his duty towards his fellowmen.



Before the Holy Prophet of Islam, therefore, nobody addressed a Message to the whole of mankind; before the Quran, no book addressed itself to the whole of humanity.

All religions existing at the advent of Islam were not only different

but mutually contradictory



### **Bible: Old & New Testament**

#### The Bible talked not of God, but of the God of Israel.

# Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me.

I Samuel 25:32



#### **Bible: Old & New Testament**

Jesus also regarded himself as a Teacher for Bani Isra'il. I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Matthew 15:21-26

Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you. Matthew 7:6



#### **The followers of the Vedas**

If a Sudra happens to hear the Vedas then it is the king's duty to drop molten lead and wax into his ears; if a Sudra were to recite the Vedic Mantras the king should cut off his tongue and if he try to read the Vedas, the king should cut his body.

Gotama Smrti:12

Should anyone criticize the Vedas, turn him out of the country, that is, condemn him to a life-sentence.

Manu Dharm Shastra



#### Other Religions

Confucianism regard China as God's own kingdom. Zoroastrianism consider Iran centre.

<u>There are only two ways to resolve this division and disagreement</u> <u>between religions: either we must hold that there are several gods,</u> <u>or, if God is one, we must prove Him so. Or we must have these</u> <u>conflicting religions replaced by one Teaching.</u>



#### God Is One

➢ If the world has a Maker, He is and can only be one Maker.

Science builds itself on the belief that all natural and mechanical changes are expressions of one law.

The materialistic philosophers assert that God is One.



#### God Is One

- □ If God is one, why should we have so many different religions?
- □ Were they the product of the human brain?
- □ Was it because of this that every nation and every people worshipped its own God?
- □ If these religions were not a human product, why and how came this division between religion and religion?
- □ If ever there was reason for this division, was it proper that the division should continue?



#### **Religion–Not** a Product of Human Imagination

First, according to all ordinary standards the Founders were men of slender means. They had no power or prestige. Yet they addressed themselves to the great as well as the small and in due course they and their followers rose from a humble to a high position in the world. This proves that they were sustained and supported by a great Power.



#### **Religion–Not a Product of Human Imagination**

Secondly, all Founders of religions have been persons highly honoured and valued for the purity of their lives even by those who later, on the announcement of their claims, became their enemies.

I have indeed lived among you a whole lifetime before this. Will you not then understand?



#### **Religion–Not a Product of Human Imagination**

Thirdly, the Founders of religions did not possess those powers and accomplishments which ordinarily make for successful leadership. Yet what each taught turned out to be something in advance of his time, something pertinent and seasonable. Yet it is inconceivable that a person innocent of ordinary accomplishments, as soon as he begins to lie about God, should come to have such tremendous powers that his teaching dominates all other teachings current in his time. Such a development is impossible without the help of a powerful God.



## **Religion–Not a Product of Human Imagination**

Fourthly, when we consider what these Founders of religions taught, we find that it has always been contrary to all contemporary trends. This also proves that these Teachers were not a product of their times, but were Teachers, Reformers and Prophets in the sense in which they claimed to be.



#### **Religion–Not a Product of Human Imagination**

Fifthly, the Founders of religions have all shown Signs and miracles. Every one of them announced at the outset that his teaching would prevail and that those who might seek to destroy it would themselves be destroyed. They were without means and ill-equipped. Their teachings were contrary to firmly established beliefs and habits of thinking and provoked the fiercest opposition of their people. Yet they succeeded, and what they had foretold came to pass. These Teachers, therefore, were from God and what they taught was taught by God.



#### 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021



Difference between success of Worldly Leaders & Prophets

Prophet's success is foretold.

□ It is attributed to God from the beginning.

It stakes the Prophet's whole moral reputation

It is achieved in spite the worst opposition



#### Napoleon, Hitler and Chingiz Khan

They did not set themselves against any thought current of their

time.

They don't claim that God had promised them victory in spite of opposition

If they suffered defeat, they lost nothing.



#### **Difference between success of Worldly Leaders & Prophets**

- Loyalty and obedience are given only to religious Teachers.
- Many millions of human beings throughout the ages have done what these Teachers bade them do.
- Many millions have denied themselves what these Teachers forbade.
- These Teachers, therefore, were from God and what they taught was taught by God.



#### **Why Teachings of Various Religions Differ**

 when conditions remain the same, it would be absurd to issue different directions.

But when conditions change, variation of teaching is of the essence of wisdom.



#### **Why Teachings of Various Religions Differ**

- A Teacher in one country could not communicate his
- Message to other countries.
- God sent a Prophet to each country.

This made for division between religion and religion,



#### Why Teachings of Various Religions Differ

the human mind had not yet fully developed.

Every country had a teaching sent to it appropriate to

the level of development to which it had attained.



### **Jesus–Not a Universal Teacher**

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets. I am not come to destroy but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.



### **Jesus–Not a Universal Teacher**

I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of

Israel.

#### For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.



### Jesus-Not a Universal Teacher

It is said that Jesus exhorted his followers to go to other people:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.



### **Jesus–Not a Universal Teacher**

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets. I am not come to destroy but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.



# The Quran, to the whole of humanity

Before the Holy Prophet of Islam, nobody addressed a Message to the whole of mankind; before the Quran, no book addressed itself to the

whole of humanity. It is the Holy Prophet who declared:

Say, O mankind! truly I am a Messenger to you all from Allah.39



2. The second question is, was not the human mind to undergo the same process of evolution as the human body had already undergone? And just as the human body had ultimately reached a certain stability of form, was not the mind (and soul) of man destined similarly to attain to a stability which was its ultimate end?



## **Meaning of Civilisation and Culture**

<u>**Civilisation</u></u> is a purely materialistic conception. When material progress takes place, there comes about a certain uniformity and a certain ease in human activities. This uniformity and ease constitute civilisation.</u>** 

Transport, education, industry, scientific research, constitute progress in civilisation.



## **Meaning of Civilisation and Culture**

<u>**Culture</u>** is different from civilisation. Culture, in our view, is related to civilisation precisely as the soul of man is related to his body.</u>

Differences of civilisation are ultimately differences of material advance; but differences of culture spring from differences of spiritual advance.



# **Meaning of Civilisation and Culture**

Nominal Christian, otherwise an atheist, will associate far more easily with a bigoted Christian than he will with a nominal Muslim, otherwise an atheist, or with a bigoted Muslim.

A Christian artist who may have become an atheist in thought will still display a Christian influence in his paintings and his music. In fact, but for such influence, his art would seem as out of place as thistles in a rose garden.



#### **Civilisation and Culture**

#### **Different Periods of Civilisation and Culture.**

#### Jewish and Christian Cultures.



### **Civilisation and Culture**

The process and stages through which human civilisation and human culture had passed pointed to the fact that civilisation and culture are subject to the same law of evolution to which the human body was for long subject. It seems certain, therefore, that human civilisation and culture were to attain to an ultimate perfection in the same way in which the human body,



### **Civilisation and Culture**

after a long process of evolution, had attained to an ultimate perfection of form; and this alone indicates the need of Islam in the presence of other religions, the need of a religion which should provide an end to the evolution of human culture, an end which is embodied in the teaching of the Quran.



**3**. The third question, an affirmative answer to which establishes the need of the Quran, is: Had the earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

