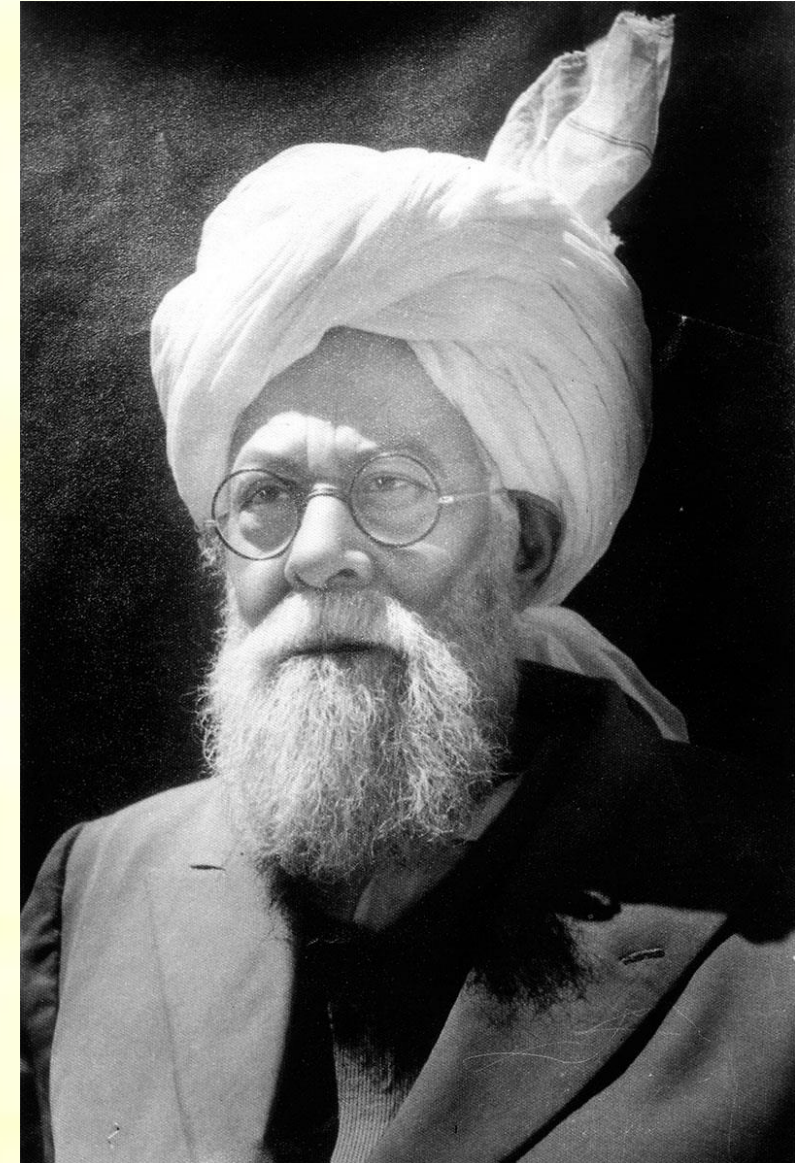
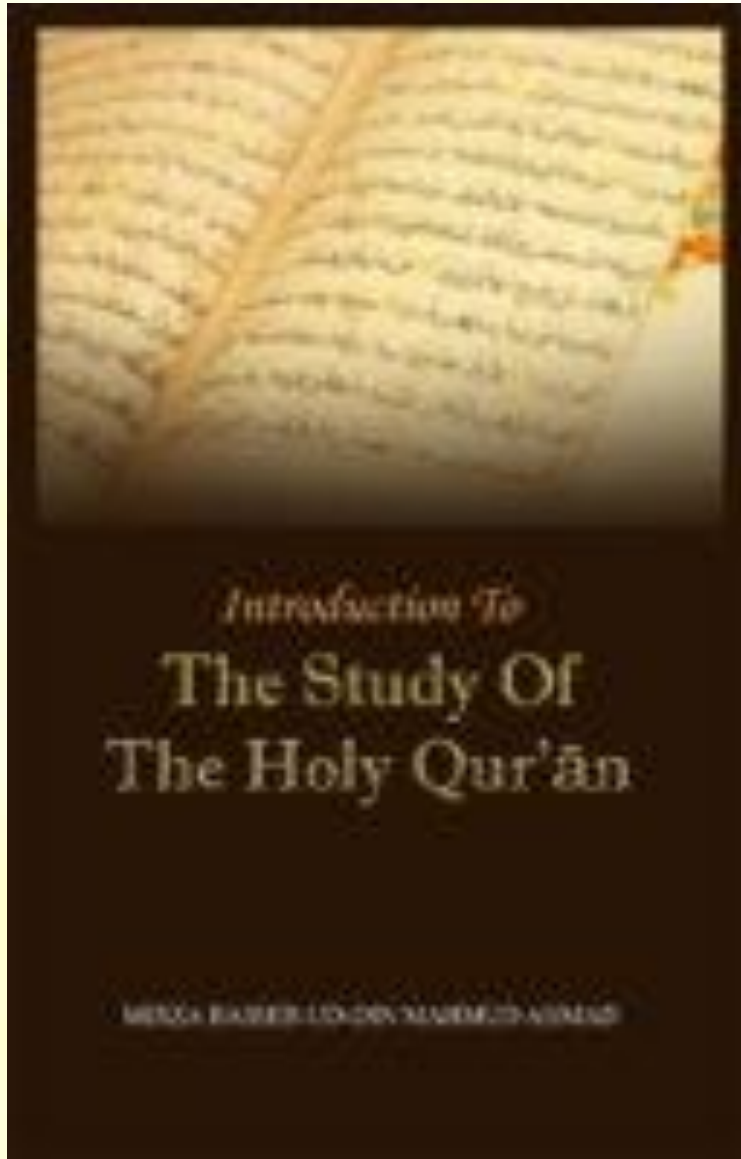


Introduction to the Study of The Holy Quran (Part I)

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LECTURE QIADAT TALEEM MAJLIS ANSARULLAH UK



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.”**

(13 June 2021, Meeting with National Amla Majlis Ansarullah, United Kingdom.)



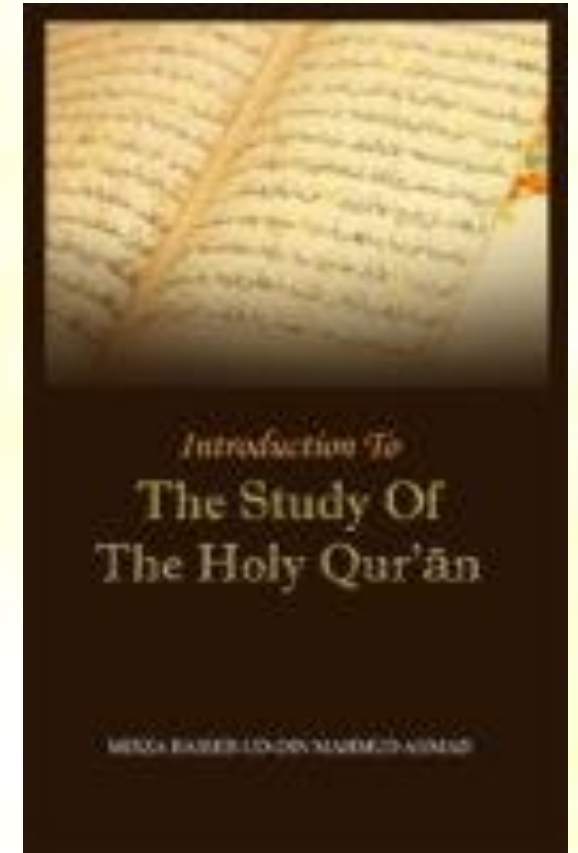
دیباحہ تفسیر القرآن حصہ اول

- ❖ 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.



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.

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?

25th October 2021

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

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1. First criteria of a book is freedom from external interference.
 2. A revealed book is superior.
 3. God is sheer guidance.
 4. A book originally revealed by God may come to suffer from human interference.
 5. If the contents of a book have suffered additions and subtractions at human hands,
 6. then that book can no longer serve as a guide.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE *Old Testament*

THE LAW (PENTATEUCH)	HISTORY (HISTORICAL)	POETRY (WISDOM)	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS
GENESIS EXODUS LEVITICUS NUMBERS DEUTERONOMY	JOSHUA JUDGES RUTH 1 SAMUEL 2 SAMUEL 1 KINGS 2 KINGS 1 CHRONICLES 2 CHRONICLES EZRA NEHEMIAH ESTHER	JOB PSALM PROVERBS ECCLESIASTES SONG OF SONGS	ISAIAH JEREMIAH LAMENTATIONS EZEKIEL DANIEL	HOSEA JOEL AMOS OBADIAH JONAH MICAH NAHUM HABAKKUK ZEPHANIAH HAGGAI ZEPHARIAH MALACHI

The Three Kinds of Books in the New Testament

Historical

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts

Pauline

TO CHURCHES:

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians

TO INDIVIDUALS:

1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

General

Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude
Revelation

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT - 39 Books

LAW - 5

GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY

POETRY - 5

JOB
PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
SONG OF SOLOMON

MAJOR PROPHETS - 5

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
EZEKIEL
DANIEL

HISTORY - 12

JOSHUA
JUDGES
RUTH
1 SAMUEL
2 SAMUEL
1 KINGS
2 KINGS
1 CHRONICLES
2 CHRONICLES
EZRA
NEHEMIAH
ESTHER

MINOR PROPHETS - 12

HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH
JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK
ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MALACHI

NEW TESTAMENT - 27 Books

GOSPELS - 4

MATTHEW
MARK
LUKE
JOHN

PAUL'S LETTERS TO FRIENDS - 4

1 TIMOTHY
2 TIMOTHY
TITUS
PHILEMON

HISTORY - 1

ACTS

PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES - 9

ROMANS
1 CORINTHIANS
2 CORINTHIANS
GALATIANS
EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS
COLOSSIANS
1 THESSALONIANS
2 THESSALONIANS

GENERAL LETTERS - 9

HEBREWS
JAMES
1 PETER
2 PETER
1 JOHN
2 JOHN
3 JOHN
JUDE
REVELATION

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

OLD TESTAMENT

From the history of Israel we learn that in the time of Nebuchadnezzar the books of Israel were burnt and destroyed.

They were rewritten by the Prophet Ezra, and of Ezra we read in Jewish literature:

It was forgotten but Ezra restored it.

And again:

Ezra re-established the text of Pentateuch, introducing therein the Assyrian or square characters.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

OLD TESTAMENT

It appears that Ezra and the five scribes worked hard for forty days in seclusion and with the help of God composed 204 books. In verse 44 of this very chapter we read:

In forty days they wrote two hundred and four books.

From this we may conclude:

- (a) that in the time of the Prophet Ezra, who lived about 450 years before Jesus, the Torah and the books of the other Prophets had become mixed up;
- (b) that no reliable copy of these books was then in existence;
- (c) that Ezra wrote down the books again.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Contradictions in the Old Testament(7)

Genesis 1:27 we read:

So God created man in his own image.

And further on in 2:17 we read:

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it.

These two quotations are contradictory.

- God is ignorant of the knowledge of good and evil.
- God also will have to be assumed as devoid of the power of discriminating good from evil, the possession of which, in fact, constitutes the highest divine attribute.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Savage Teaching of the Old Testament(3)

Exodus 21:20-21 we read:

And if a man smite his servant, or his maid, with a rod, and he die under his hand; he shall be surely punished. Notwithstanding, if he continue a day or two, he shall not be punished: for he is his money.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Irrational Teaching of the Old Testament(3)

Genesis 19:26 we read:

But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

This seems like magic. Such an account is worthy of stories told to children about ghosts and fairies. They have no place in a Book of God. The account which the Quran has given of this incident steers clear of all superstition. It says:

She (Lot's wife) was of those who stayed behind.

She was not converted into a pillar of salt or any such thing. Only she refused to go with Lot and sacrificed love of God to love of relations.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Prophets Defamed by the Bible (3)

In Deuteronomy 25:5-6 we read:

If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her. And it shall be, that the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is dead, and his name be not put out of Israel.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

The New Testament Examined

We have seen that the Old Testament has suffered interpolations and changes in form as well as matter.

It is possible no longer to use it as a guide.

Let us turn now to an examination of

the New Testament.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

The New Testament Examined

- ☐ the New Testament do not constitute the utterances of Jesus nor of his disciples.
- ☐ Jesus was a Jew and so were his disciples.
- ☐ Hebrew language
- ☐ But no copy of the New Testament in ancient Hebrew exists in the world.
- ☐ The old copies are all in Greek.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

The New Testament Examined

Christian writers try to cover this grave defect by saying that in the time of Jesus the language in general use was Greek.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

The New Testament Examined

Christian writers try to cover this grave defect by saying that in the time of Jesus the language in general use was Greek.

- i) Nations which attain to any importance in history do not give up their language
- ii) The religion of the Jews was recorded in Hebrew, and for this reason particularly, it was impossible for them to give up their language.
- iii) In the scale of civilisation and refinement, the Jews did not regard themselves as inferior to the Romans, but rather superior, and this must have made them proud of their language and reluctant to give it up.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

The New Testament Examined

iv) Phrases such as the following which are preserved in the Gospels in their original form are all Hebrew phrases. (7)

- (1) "Hosanna;"
- (2) "Eli, Eli, Lama Sabachthani;"
- (3) "Rabbi;"
- (4) "Talitha cumi;"

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Jesus' Own Admission

Jesus declares clearly that he had come not to destroy but to fulfil the older books. Thus in Matthew (5:17-18) we read:

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 earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Testimony of Christian Scholars(10+3)

- i) Eusebius in his History of the Church writes that the first Epistle of Peter is genuine. His second Epistle has never been part of the Holy Book, but has been current in reading.
- ii) The New Testament is not free even today from interpolations and alterations.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Contradictions in the New Testament(12)

i) Birth of Jesus

❑ Matthew (1:1-22) and Luke (1:32-33) that the Messiah was to be one of ordinary human beings. Only, he was to be called son of God.

❑ John (1:1), however, we find that the Messiah is the word which was ever with God and was, in fact, God, so that all have been made out of him.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Contradictions in the New Testament(12)

- ii) Genealogy: Matthew we have from Joseph to Abraham 41 persons, but in the genealogy given by Luke we have 56 persons. Besides this, the names also in the two genealogies do not correspond.
- iii) Ascension: In Luke (24:50-51) we are told that Jesus was carried up into heaven at Bethany. But in The Acts (1:12) we read that the ascension took place on a mount called Olivet.

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Superstitions in the Gospels(5)

Matthew (14:25-27) we have:

And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spoke unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

This also is rank superstition. What man can ever walk on water?

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

Doubtful Ethics of the New Testament(3)

Mark (11:12-14) we have:

And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry; and seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find anything thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet. And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.

- (a) Jesus who lived in a country where the fig tree was to be found in abundance did not know when figs were in season;
- (b) he was, it seems, so devoid of good manners that instead of being sorry for his own mistake, he proceeded to curse a lifeless tree,

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

VEDAS

1. Interpolations in the Vedas
2. Savage Teaching of the Vedas
3. Superstitions in the Vedas
4. Contradictions in the Vedas
5. Number of Vedic Gods

The earlier books come to suffer from defects which called for a new book, which was the Quran?

OLD TESTAMENT, NEW TESTAMENT & VEDAS

They need to be replaced by another book which should be free from all immoral, contradictory, savage and superstitious teaching. That book, we claim, is 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?