

## **Hujjat al-Islam-An Arabic Manuscript on the Orthography of the Qur'an**

***Muhammad Salahuddin Umari***

A very strong tradition of Quranic scholarship has existed in India. Contributions of Indian scholars are extremely valuable and rich and cover all branches of Quranic sciences. *Hujjat-al Islam* is one such book compiled by Nawab Badrul Islam Khan Farooqi of Gopa Mau (died 1170 A.H.). The book is in manuscript form and incomplete from both ends. In the present form it consists of 135 folios and the date of its transcription is 1172 A.H. Transcriber's name is Muhammad Zahid Akbarabadi. It deals with the orthography (*Rasm al Khat*) of the Qur'an. In this article , Dr. Salahuddin seeks to introduce this important manuscript and highlight some of its more salient features.

## **Bibliography of Quranic Publications in Urdu**

***Abu Sufyan Islahi***

This is the fifth instalment of Urdu publications in the field of Quranic studies and covers *Ilm-i-Qira't wa Tajwid*. The earlier four instalments have already covered *Usul-i-Tafsir*, *I'jaz-i-Qur'an*, *Tarikh-i-Nuzul wa Tadwin-i-Qur'an*, *Tahqiqat-i-Qur'an*, *T'alimat-i-Qur'an*, *Tafsir*, *Fiqh al Qur'an*, and *Qur'an wa Tarikh wa Qisas*

## **King Fahd Complex for Printing of the Qur'an**

***Safdar Sultan Islahi.***

This article is an abridged translation of an interview of Dr. Muhammad Salim al- 'Aufi, Director General of the Academy. This interview appeared in *Akhbar al-Madinah* and it highlights multi-dimensional activities of the Complex in the field of the printing of the Holy Qur'an and dissemination of its teachings through publication of its translations. So far it has published translations of the meaning of the Holy Book in 17 languages besides many editions of the Holy Qur'an. Among other things it also prepares Audio Cassettes of the Holy Qur'an. It is equipped with best facilities including a most advanced and sophisticated press.

could not be deemed to be complete without it. The past scholars have made significant contributions to this branch of Quranic studies and Rafi'i openly acknowledges their services. But it is also a fact that many significant aspects of this important theme have remained untouched. This book constitutes an endeavour on the part of Rafi'i to cover these aspects though the possibilities of this theme could never be fully exhausted. Mr. Habibur Rahman has attempted a critical study of this book taking note of its more significant aspects.

## Transcribing of the Qur'an in Medieval India

*Zafarul Islam Islahi*

The Holy Qur'an, doubtless, is basic source of guidance for entire mankind in general and Muslims in particular. The Muslims consider each and every work relating to this most sacred book such as recitation, memorisation, transcribing, explanation of its meaning and propagation of its teachings as a great source of Divine Blessing and Mercy. Transcribing of the Qur'an (*kitabati-Qur'an*) originated from the time of the prophet (S.A.W.) and the Muslims' interest in this noble deed continued through different periods of Islamic history, and medieval India (the period of Muslim rule in this sub-continent) was no exception.

The present article shows interest of Muslims of medieval India in this pious work and brings to focus their contribution to the Quranic calligraphy. In the light of original sources, the writer attempts to prove that different sections of Muslim Society- commoners, *ulama*, *sufis*, rulers, princes and princesses fondly took up the work of transcribing of the Qur'an and contributed in their own ways to this branch of *Ilm-e-Qur'an*. It also comes to light that during the Muslim rule in India the Qur'an was transcribed not only in simple way, the calligraphic art was also demonstrated in preparing copies of the Holy Qur'an. The masters of this art adopted different styles especially *Thuluth*, *Naskh* and *Nastaliq* for transcribing the Qur'an. In addition to using beautiful and fascinating styles for this work, some of the calligraphers of the period showed their calligraphic skill by preparing smaller copies of the Qur'an or transcribing the whole Qur'an within three days. The article also provides information about some rare copies of the Qur'an belonging to medieval India which are preserved in different libraries.

*Abdul Azim Islahi*

The *tafsir* literature is one of the important sources of Islamic economic thought. It is only natural to have discussions relating to economic problems in the exegetical literature. The basic reason for this is that the Qur'an contains many detailed economic teachings as also a number of principles applicable to economic behaviour. The Qur'an has also used many terms which are considered as key words in economics. But very little attention has been paid so far to examine the *tafsir* literature from this view point. In the present paper an attempt has been made to make a general survey of five leading *Tafsir* works written from early Islamic centuries upto 19th century. The *Tafsirs* of 20th century have not been touched as they require a separate study due to the vastness of the material. Some of the points emerging from this study are as follows : Economic phenomena guide to realities of the hereafter. Piety and good deeds influence our economic behaviour. Sins and disobedience cause decline and economic decay. Worldly means are no criteria for piety (*Taqwa*). Concept of scarcity is alien to Islam. Emphasis on expenditure. Economic efforts are not against trust (*Tawakkul*) in Allah. Honesty and ability are to be preferred while employing some one. Individual property right is recognised with certain limitations. Just distribution of inheritance is enjoined. Basis of foreign trade has been provided. *Zakah* is a means of social security. Moral and economic reasons for abolition of interest (*Riba*), etc.

### **I'jaz al-Qur'an of Mustafa Sadiq al Rafi'i- Analytical Study**

*Mohammad Habibur Rahman*

Mustafa Sadiq al-Rafi'i (1881-1937) is one of the foremost Muslim thinkers and scholars of modern times. His fame rests mainly on his bold and spirited defence of Islam in the face of western ideological onslaught. This was not confined to the writings of western scholars and orientalisists but it was also espoused by many Muslim scholars who were converted to their cause. Among the outstanding contributions of Rafi'i is included his seminal book "*I'jaz al-Qur'an*" which is second volume of *Turikh-u-Adab al-Arab*. He believes that *I'jaz al-Qur'an* constitutes an important aspect of the history of Arabic literature and it

**Wafa as one of the Foundations of  
Ta'alluq Bi-Allah**

**Amin Ahsan Islahi**

This article highlights the crucial significance of the original covenant and the imperative necessity to keep and fulfil it. The Holy Qur'an refers to this covenant in *Surah al A 'raf*: 172. This covenant is binding on every individual and in reality it follows from our very nature if it is pure and uncorrupted. Alongwith the fundamental concept of *tauhid*, it also embodies an innate perception about the goodness of all basic virtues and wickedness of all sins. The humanity was not left at that but Allah in His infinite mercy sent His prophets to explain and show the right Path to them so that no excuse is left for the wrongdoers. Fulfilment of this covenant and the obligations it entails on the mankind is an important foundation of love and devotion to Allah. This point is explained in a very lucid manner.

**Ibrahim's Example in the Light of the Qur'an**

**Mohammad Raziul Islam Nadvi**

Hazrat Ibrahim is one of those great Prophets who find frequent mention in the Holy Qur'an. His entire life was a relentless struggle against *shirk* and all its manifestations and upholding the concept of the unity of Allah without any compromise. But his people failed to recognise and accept the truth. Having performed his duty, he migrated from his native place and betook himself to other regions to preach the Word of Allah. He settled his offspring in the 'valley without cultivation' so that it could become a centre of monotheism (*tauhid*) in the future.

Qur'an has given a detailed and graphic description of his *dawah* and has commanded the Muslims to follow the example set by him. Qur'an has also highlighted his personal qualities and traits of his character and has put it forth as an exemplar. This article seeks to study these aspects of the personality and character of Hazrat Ibrahim.