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CONTENTS

7	Activities of Idara-e- Tahqee-o-Tasneef-e-Islami	119
6	Book Reviews 11	5
	Dr. Obaıdullah Fahad Falahı	
	Western Philosophy and Science	8 7
5	Maulana Maududi's Criticism on the	
	Mr.Yasır Farooque	
	on the differences of jurists	67
4	Disconnectivity of Hadith and and its impacts	
	Dr. Zafar Darık Qasmı	
	'Al-Wathaiq al-Siyasiyya'	41
3	Dr.Muhammad Hamidullah's work	
	Prof.Muhammad Yaseen Mazhar Siddiqui	
2	Did the Prophet (pbuh)pay the Zakat ?	19
	Syed Jalaluddin Umari	
1	Seerah Study in the Light of the Qur'an	5

Abstract of the Articles

Seerah Study in the Light of the Qur'an

Maulana Syed Jalaluddin Umari

President Idara-e-Tahqeeq-o-Tasneef-e-Islami
and Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Hind

This paper is in fact the keynote address Maulana Syed Jalaluddin Umari presented in the Inaugural Session of the two-day seminar on 'Seerah Writing in Modern India' held at Department of Islamic Studies, Aligarh Muslim University Aligarh on March 10-11, 2018.

In this paper the Maulana has brought to light some important aspects of the Prophet's Seerah in the light of the Qur'an. He has written that the most authentic and reliable source of the Prophet's Seerah is the Qur'an. The Qur'an at some places hints at and at others reflects in detail on the various aspects of the Noble Seerah. It describes from the various angles the religious, social and cultural conditions of the Prophetic era. It mentions his childhood, youth and annunciation. We also get in the Qur'an a great deal of his family life. His Dawah responsibilities have been mentioned repeatedly. There is mention of Hijrah; some details of Ghazwat are also there. It is also mentioned that in spite of the dead opposition of the unbelievers, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be to him) got political ascendance, thus achieving the very objective of his annunciation.

In brief, a comprehensive album of the Prophet's Seerah is there in the

Qur'an.

Did the Prophet (pubh) pay the Zakat?

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Generally scholars of Islam are silent on this critical question. Most of them are oblivious of the fact or dubious in their answers simply because they are obsessed with their misconceptions and pre-conceived notions, resorting to the overemphasized study or perception of the all envisaging poverty (faqr) of the Prophet (pubh) in Makkah and Madina. In the case of the former/ formative period of Makkah they are totally ignorant of the prescription of the Zakat /Sadaqat as well as the universal prescription of both the types from the immemorial times, although the Quranic surahs more than other sources of the Deen/Shariah and the sirah clearly substantiate their prescription in all the periods of Islamic Prophets; hence their conjectures, assumptions and ta'wilat of the Quranic Makkan verses.

The present article aims at providing an insight into the cosmic fact of Islam that all the basic beliefs and practices (arkan) of Islam, particularly the obligatory Zakat, remained operative in all the Islamic Shariah /Shara'i and early prophets paid the Zakat as they were ordered by Allah Almighty. The last Prophet Muhammad (pubh) did pay it in the Makkan period as well as Madinan phase of life and career; not only paid his due but also paid the Zakat due to his uncle Abbas as he was like a father figure. Evidences, reports and arguments with regard to the

affirmative answer to the basic question have been collected from the prophet's spending and performing the sacrifices for Eid-ul-Azha, Aquiqah, Umrah and the Hajj etc. showing quite convincingly that the Prophet was not only capable of paying his Zakat but also the first Muslim of his period for he always was the quickest obedient of the divine commands in order to stand as a Role-Model for his Ummah and the World.

Dr. Muhammad Hamidullah's work
'Al-Wathaiq al-Siyasiyya'
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Dr. Muhammad Hamidullah was a renowned scholar and great thinker. He had perfect command over Islamic branches of knowledge and arts. He made international law and Seerah writing centre of his research activities. He presented some such points that are not available in the works of the ancients. There is a long list of his works which cover important subjects like the Qur'an, Hadith, Fiqh, Prophet's Seerah, Islamic history and international law. One among his works is Majmua al-Wathaiq al-Siyasiyya fil Ahd al-Nabawi wal Khilafat al-Rashidah (An Anthology of Political Documents in the Periods of the Prophet and Rightly-Guided Caliphs). It was written in the French language. Later on it was rendered into the Arabic language. Its Urdu translation was also published.

In this book the author has compiled the documents and letters

written in the periods of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be to him) and the Rightly-Guided Caliphs. It is divided into two parts. One part of the book covers the documents of the Prophetic period while the other those of the periods of the Rightly-Guided Caliphs. This is a distinguished book of its sort, for it includes all important documents which throw light on the Prophet's home and foreign policies, issues of governance, protection of human rights, international relations, human brotherhood, religious freedom and the insight and approach towards Dawah and preaching.

This paper introduces this book in great detail, describes its salient characteristics, throws light on the writer's style, and mentions its sources. In the end, it presents, for example, some of the Prophet's accords mentioned in the book.

Disconnectivity of Hadith and and its impacts on the differences of jurists

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According to the jurists, muhaddithin and principalities there are many reasons for impracticability of hadith. Their status is because of diversity which is artificial. In fact, these from part of forwarded ahadith, with impacts of external reasons and elements. Such reasons, because of which some traditions are considered that kind of ahadith,

impracticable. Some are in the chain of narrators and others in the text of hadith.

When a muhaddith or jurist examines it in principal's view, he considers it unviable and defines it by 'malool' and the reason by which this hadith becomes unviable is called 'illat'. It is a hidden reason which causes the rejection of hadith by the muhaddithin. 'Inqita' is a kind of 'illat'. It is a cause of rejection of hadith in which it is found. It is also a basic cause of diversity of jurists in deriving of solution of matters.

In this article, the kinds of 'inqita' and their impacts on the differences of jurists are described.

Maulana Maududi's Criticism
on the Western Philosophy and Science
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A new Ilm al-Kalam (the study of Islamic doctrines and beliefs or Islamic scholastic theology) came into existence with the emergence of the culture born out of the western thought and philosophy. The Ulama and scholars, reformers and thinkers of the Indian subcontinent made concerted efforts to reveal the western enchantment, which resulted in a huge amount of ideological works. An important name from among those thinkers is that of Maulana Syed Abul A'la Maudoodi (1903-1979). The Ilm al-Kalam he produced carries in particular his criticism on the west.

Maulana Maududi has interpreted the western philosophy and science as jahiliyat-i-khalisa (pure ignorance), which is based on atheism and scepticism and rejection of divine revelation and prophethood. He interprets western materialism as a war against religion. He has criticised severely the ideas of western philosophy. For instance, he has criticised Darwin's theory of evolution, Hegel's theory of dialectic materialism and Marx's theory of historical materialism, and pointed out their weaknesses. Analysing the western system of education, he termed it detrimental to Muslims from Islamic point of view.

This paper deals with Maulana Maududi's criticism on the western philosophy and science and points out weak aspects of western ideologies in the light of Maulana Maududi's writings.

BOOK REVIEWS

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