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Abstract of the Articles

Purification of Individual and Organisation is Essential

Maulana Syed Jalaluddin Omari

President Idara -e-Tahqeeq-o- Tasneef-e- Islami

& Amir Jamaat-e-Islami Hind

In the beginning of the current term (April 2015-March 2019) Markaz Jamaat-e-Islami Hind decided to hold *Tarbiyatgahs* (training camps) in which selected members from the various states would be called for their academic, *ideological* and spiritual tarbiyah for a week. The sixth *Tarbiyatgah* was held from 3 to 9 September 2018. The speeches Maulana Syed Jalaluddin Omari addressed in the Introductory and Concluding sessions of the camp are being presented here in the form of an article.

The Maulana said that it is easy to make efforts for the reform and training of others but it is indeed difficult to do our own reform while the Qur'an and hadith have laid much emphasis thereon. There is very limited concept of *Tazkiyah* in certain circles. They concentrate only on obligatory and optional prayers and on some daily round of practice or recital incantation while *Tazkiyah* means a complete change of life and one's total surrender to the commandments of Allah and His Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be to him).

Evolution of individuals is the foundation stone of *Tazkiyah*. Unless the evolution of individuals is effected, social change is impossible. This is why the Qur'an basically addresses individuals and promises power to an organisation consisting of morally good persons.

Our ideological evolution is also essential. We should make a deep study of other views and ideologies and analyse them in the light of Islam.

A critical appraisal of Stephen Hawking's ideas

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The British physicist Stephen Hawking (1942-2018) was well known throughout the world. He was associated with Cambridge university. In spite of severe physical disability, he performed outstanding scientific work. He is certainly an example of sustained effort and strong will power. His book "A brief history of time" (1988) was a best seller. Besides scientific topics, he also wrote about God and nature of universe. Importance of Hawking's scientific contribution can be understood in the background of 20th century physics. In particular, quantum ideas played a critical role in his investigations.

Hawking worked on black holes. He predicted the famous Hawking radiation. This new idea changed the

popular picture of black hole and made the topic more interesting. In spite of novelty, the compelling logic led to wide acceptance of Hawking's idea.

Hawking was aware of the grand design in the universe. He wrote a book describing this marvellous grand design. He reached close to the truth and realized the illogical nature of atheist position. Even then, he continued to tilt towards atheism. His book "The grand design" amply demonstrates that the Almighty Creator indeed exists. The apology presented by Hawking, in support of atheist position, does not carry any weight. Any impartial student of grand design in the universe, will acknowledge the existence of God.

Islam and Protection of Environment-II

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The first part of this article was published in the July-September 2018 issue of Tahqeeqat-e-Islami. In that part some other aspects of the subject, Islam and Protection of Environment were highlighted. This part says that the Qur'an and Hadith command us to protect the earth and prohibit us from spreading dirt and filth therein. To remove filth and everything that can hurt people has been enjoined. Likewise, plantation has been commanded and cutting trees without any particular need has been prohibited. Allah has created even animals and beasts for the benefit of mankind. Therefore it has

been prohibited to kill non-beastly animals without any need. At the end, the article says that sound pollution affects the physical and mental health of people; therefore Islam prohibits us from such acts as can create din and bustle, produce harsh sound and thereby hurt people.

A Study of Certain Ahadith Related to Woman

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In some ahadith there are apparently certain negative utterances about women. For example, a woman is a source of misfortune; a woman's passing by a worshipper vitiates his Salat; there is crookedness in a woman; the existence of women is a source of mischief for men; mostly women will go to the hell; women lack in wisdom and religiosity; the rule of a woman is the source of destruction, etc. This article argues that there is importance of context in determining the meaning of a passage. Considering a passage out of context may lead to wrong interpretation. Then it analyses each hadith in this regard to highlight that there is no negative approach about women if it is studied in proper context, rather it will illustrate the correct position.

In fact this article was written in the Arabic language and was published in the Arabic quarterly Al-Dirasat Al-Islamiya, Islamabad in its October-December 2016 issue. This article presents its translation with precision.

Islamic Viewpoint on Advertisement of Businesses

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Doing business to earn livelihood has been enjoined. Man wants his business to flourish and his product(s) to be sold more and more. For this he takes the help of advertisement.

Generally such ways and means are adopted for advertisement as may introduce the products at mass level in a very short time. For this, newspapers, magazines, print and electronic media are used. To adopt different ways and means for advertisement of products and services is permissible from Shari'ah point of view, but the conditions therefor are that the products must be *halal* (permissible) and the time for business transaction as well as the merits and demerits of the products ought to be declared. While advertising Shari'ah rulings related to pictures must be followed in letter and spirit. Lies, fraud, deception and exaggeration ought to be avoided. Following all these conditions, every kind of advertisement can be adopted.

Hazrat Shaqiq Balkhi and his teachings

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Hazrat Shaqiq Balkhi (194H/810AD) was among the

great Sufis of the early Islamic period. He was, at the beginning, a fairly rich and successful tradesman. During his one trade journey he was influenced by some specific incident and his life was changed and he gave up all the worldly affairs and took the path of *Zahid* (renunciation). He became disciple of Ibraheem Adham and had also been in touch with some other Sufis of the time. The writers on *Tasawwuf*, compiled his words. Most of his sayings were about *Tawakkul* (Contentment), *Zuhd* (renunciation), concern of the life hereafter, negligence of the world, and so on and so forth. His *Tawakkul* (Contentment) was not ideological only but it was a practical one and was based on a balanced pattern. He has very minutely elaborated the characteristics of *Tasawwuf* and played a vital role in formulating the peculiar ideologies of *Tasawwuf* which was propagated by his disciples like Hatim Asamm.

This paper has precisely recorded the brief sketch of the life of Shaqiq Balkhi, his spiritual masters, his contemporaries and his disciples. Similarly, it mentions some of his sayings and the *Tasawwuf* ideologies he opted for.

BOOK REVIEW

A wraq-e-seerat (Essays on prophet Muhammad (SWA) Life and Teachings) Maulana Syed Jalaluddin Omari, MMI Publishers New Delhi-25, 2017, Pages: 384; Price: IRs. 250/-

Reviewed by Professor Masood-ul-Hasan