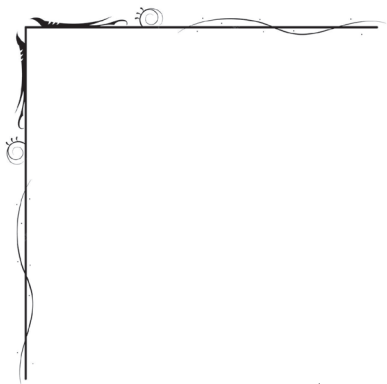
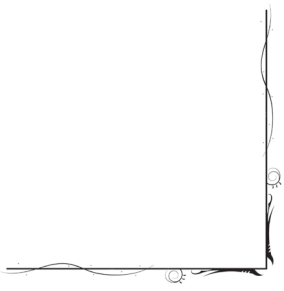




ملخصات البحوث باللغة الإنكليزية



The Birth and Martyrdom of Imam Abu Ja'far Muhammad ibn Ali al-Jawad (a)

Muhammad Baqir Malekian

Abstract

This article investigates the dates of the birth and martyrdom of Imam Abu Ja'far al-Jawad (a) in two main sections. Regarding the date of his birth, Imam Abu Ja'far Muhammad ibn Ali al-Jawad (a) was born on the eve of Friday, the middle of the month of Ramadan in the year 195 AH. As for the date of his martyrdom, it occurred on Tuesday, at the end of the month of Dhu al-Qa'dah in the year 220 AH. True knowledge ultimately rests with Allah the Exalted, as stated in the Holy Quran: "And you have not been given of knowledge except a little," and Almighty Allah speaks the truth.

Keywords: Imam Abu Ja'far al-Jawad (a), date of birth, month of Ramadan, date of martyrdom, Dhu al-Qa'dah.



A Treatise on the Principles of Religion

Al-Sayyid Muhammad Hashim al-Khwansari (d. ١٣١٨ AH); translated
and edited by Muhsin Mazahir Sha'ban

Abstract

This treatise on the principles of religion by the erudite scholar al-Sayyid Muhammad Hashim al-Khwansari (d. ١٣١٨ AH) is considered one of the distinguished works on Islamic theology produced by a prominent figure of the Islamic seminary during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries AH. In this work, the author sought to integrate rational argumentation with textual investigation. He presents clear rational proofs that consolidate faith and satisfy the intellect, subsequently supporting them with the transmitted narrations of the Infallibles, thereby utilizing textual evidence to corroborate rational conclusions. Consequently, the treatise is characterized by a methodological balance reflecting a clear vision: true religion does not contradict pure reason; rather, reason serves as the pathway to accepting the creed and comprehending its principles. Furthermore, the author's style demonstrates a concerted effort to simplify complex concepts and make them accessible to the mind. Instead of confining himself to specialized jargon or the highly meticulous style of philosophers and theologians, he formulated the discussions in relatively simple language, enabling the general public to grasp the fundamental features of their beliefs and revealing the pedagogical and homiletic dimensions of his scholarly persona. At the same time, he did not abandon profound investigation, resulting in a treatise that strikes a balance between brevity and expansiveness, encompassing the most significant theological issues without tedious elongation or detrimental omission. Ultimately, this treatise stands as a scholarly document that elucidates its author's methodology in presenting theology, masterfully combining rational evidence with scriptural texts, and profound analytical depth with simplicity of exposition.

Keywords: principles of religion, Imami theology, monotheism, eschatology, justice, Imamate, prophethood.



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The Values of Knowledge and Reason in the Thought of Imam al-Hasan al-Mujtaba (a) and Their Role in Building Society

Haider Abdul Hussein Zwain

Abstract

This research attempts to address two primary questions: what is the theological perspective on the values of knowledge and reason within the methodology of the Imams of the Ahl al-Bayt (a), and what is their role in building society? Furthermore, what are the values of knowledge and reason specifically in the methodology of Imam al-Hasan (a), and what is their role in societal construction? By answering these questions, the study aims to establish the values of knowledge and reason in the approach of the Ahl al-Bayt and demonstrate their role in building society through a doctrinal lens. It similarly aims to affirm these values within the methodology of Imam al-Hasan (a) and their societal impact from a theological perspective. The significance of this research lies in shedding light on a crucial era in Islamic history and highlighting the importance of knowledge and reason from the general perspective of the Ahl al-Bayt, illustrating their societal role through a theological examination of the texts, sayings, and wisdom disseminated throughout doctrinal sources. It specifically underscores the significance of knowledge and reason from the viewpoint of Imam al-Hasan al-Mujtaba (a) and their role in constructing society. To achieve these objectives, the study is structured into two main sections. The first investigates the values of knowledge and reason in Muhammadan Islam and the methodology of the Ahl al-Bayt (a), along with their role in building society from a theological perspective. The second section explores these same values within the sayings and wisdom of Imam al-Hasan (a) and their societal role, also through a theological lens.

Keywords: knowledge, reason, Imam al-Hasan (a), society.



The Reality of Prophethood and the Phenomenon of Revelation in Spinoza's Thought: A Presentation and Critique from a Theological Perspective

Ahmed Hussein Al-Nasri

Abstract

This research addresses the issue of prophethood and the associated phenomenon of revelation, considering them central themes in theology and scholasticism, particularly with the integration of philosophical thought into this domain. Considerable debate has emerged among theologians and philosophers regarding the nature of prophethood and the source of revelation, characterized by distinctly divergent methodologies and interpretations. The Dutch philosopher Baruch Spinoza stands out as one of the most prominent figures to engage in this debate from a Western rational-philosophical perspective. Drawing upon the foundations of Cartesian rationalism, he applied a critical methodology to the Jewish religious framework, attempting to rationally reinterpret the concepts of revelation, prophethood, and miracles. Despite Spinoza's boldness in dismantling numerous pillars of traditional theology, his analyses remained captive to certain religious concepts from which he could not fully liberate himself. This ultimately led him into evident contradictions and fallacies in his interpretation of these phenomena. Although he critiqued the notion of revelation as a supernatural occurrence, he failed to offer a convincing alternative outside the traditional religious framework, instead reproducing ancient theological visions within new rational paradigms. Consequently, studying Spinoza's positions is crucial for understanding the limitations of critical philosophy when approaching the issues of prophethood and revelation within the specific historical and religious context that shaped his views.

Keywords: reality of prophethood, phenomenon of revelation, miracles, divine law, natural light



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The Claim of Mahdism for Imam al-Kazim (a) among the Waqifa: A Critical Study of the Doctrinal Structure and Textual Evidence

Sayyid Zayn al-Abidin Hamid al-Muqaddas al-Ghurayfi

Abstract

The Waqifa is considered one of the most frequently mentioned and widespread sects in the historical, biographical, and hadith sources of Imami Shiism and beyond. Although it eventually disappeared despite its initial strength, it could not withstand historical recurrence (tawatur) and the explicit texts confirming the imamate of al-Rida (a) and the pure Imams who succeeded him. Furthermore, the claim of Mahdism for Imam al-Kazim (a) lacked any reliable textual evidence in terms of both its chain of transmission (sanad) and its signification (dalalah). Therefore, the Waqifi movement is regarded as a transient phase in the history of Imami Shiism that failed to establish a sustainable theological framework. The researcher reviews the circumstances of the Waqifa and their various factions, noting that they were not a homogeneous current; rather, they fragmented into multiple trajectories regarding the interpretation of Imam al-Kazim's (a) life, death, and alleged occultation. This fragmentation stems from the formative factors of the sect, which emerged within a complex context characterized by overlapping political, economic, and doctrinal dimensions. The study also discusses the evidentiary basis of the Waqifi stance and the alleged existence of reports supporting the Mahdism of al-Kazim (a), demonstrating their weakness in transmission and their inadequacy in signification. This inadequacy is due either to their susceptibility to multiple interpretations or to their overall ambiguity. In fact, most of these reports are likely fabricated, as they trace back to a single source affiliated with the Waqifa whose status is unknown and whose reports bear obvious signs of falsehood. Nevertheless, the emergence of this tribulation contributed positively to the clearer crystallization of the imamate theory among the Shia, particularly by affirming the principle of textual designation and appointment, deepening the methodology of verifying the issuance of narrations, and developing theological dialectics in defense of the continuity of the Imami lineage up to the Twelfth Imam (a).

Keywords: Waqifa, sects, al-Mahdi (a), imamate, Mahdism



Western Modernity and the Emergence of the Reformist Theological Method: A Reading of Structural Transformations

Mahmoud Ali Saraeb

Abstract

This article discusses the structural transformation engendered by Western modernity within the framework of traditional Islamic theology. Modernity has imposed new epistemological challenges—ranging from rationalism and human rights to shifts in understanding text and context—prompting theologians to develop a reformist theological discourse. This new discourse reformulates their intellectual tools with a contemporary mindset without compromising fundamental doctrinal tenets. The article addresses a core question: how did the intellectual transformations accompanying Western modernity contribute to the need for a renewed theological discourse? It seeks to demonstrate that the emergence of the new theology was largely tied to the response of theological thought to a set of epistemological and methodological challenges imposed by modern intellectual reality. This response, however, does not imply an absolute adoption or rejection of modernity's premises, as evaluating Western modernity and critiquing its foundations and outcomes remains an independent subject that requires a separate study beyond the scope of this article.

Keywords: Western modernity, methodological transformation, function of theological discourse, language of contemporary doctrinal discourse, Islamic epistemological identity, multidimensional epistemological reference, contemporary theological logic, renewed theological thought.



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