



Seyed Abolqasem Khoee Allameh Tabatabaee

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Publisher's Forword

To begin and execute a research is like walking in the path of development and evolvement. When the seeds of the "questions" are planted, in the soil of the mind of the researcher, this phase initiates, and its end is culminated when the result and the outcome of knowledge and wisdom is gained.

Evidently, this end is a new chapter in itself, for growth, and announces beforehand this good news to humans. For the result of all those mental efforts will not only bring the blooming and flowering of talent and all kinds of Blessings to humans, but it also makes the mind of the researcher to ponder and shape new, more questions.

This will produce a great collection of growing plants and flowers for the seeking mind... Those "questions" are in fact, the seeds, which according to the necessities of Time and the strength of the researchers will grow and bloom by themselves. They will make Culture and Civilization to move forward.

In like manner, the increasing rate of transferring oneself from one place to another place and the decrease of the distances will make those seeds travel miles and miles, to faraway places, in order to install them inside the curious mind of other seekers. This will bring an amazing diversity and a novelty for another civilization...

It is true then, that the presence of knowledge and a good, capable management will help this project to develop itself and one has to admit indeed, that it has always played an important role...

Al-Mustafa International Publication and Translation Center, because of its global mission, and its special position among the Religious Schools and the colorful human diversity that it has developed inside itself, sees it as a moral duty to procure all the appropriate conditions for any research works, and takes its role in this matter, most seriously. To procure all kinds of necessary grounds, with an excellent management of all the existing possibilities and talents, and to care and protect all its researchers in religious fields; these are the most crucial responsibilities of the Department of Research in this International center.

We dearly hope that by being attentive to all these autonomous scientific movements, and by fortifying all the existing motives, we shall be able to witness the blooming of the Religious Culture in every part of this wide world!

Al-Mustafa International Publication and Translation Center

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Preface

Considering necessity of preparing appropriate Islamic texts in English for the modern world and aiming at satisfying that need, Al-Mustafa International Research Institute (M.I.R.I.) was established in 2009. This centre has accomplished that duty in the best way by producing, translating, and reprinting tens of such appropriate texts. As text books are of great significance in this regard, the institute has decided to give priority to producing text books on various Islamic sciences.

The present work is prepared for "Qur'anic sciences." The main part of this book is taken from *The Prolegomena to the Qur'an* (which is translation of *al-Bayān fī Tafsīr al-Qur'an* in Arabic by the great contemporary scholar, the grand Ayatollah, al-Sayyid Abulqāsim al-Mūsawī al-Khū'ī translated by Abdulaziz Sachedina), and then from *the Qur'an in Islam* (which is translation of *Qur'an dar Islam* in Farsi by the great contemporary scholar 'Allāma Ṭabāṭabā'ī translated by Sayyid Husayn Nasr). Texts were chosen on the basis of syllabuses of subjects first and then were divided into

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32 lessons. Then, purpose, introduction, summary, and questions were added to the lessons.

Here we should express our sincere thanks to Mr. Mostafa Hodaee and also to Dr. Farideh Amirfarhangi, who contributed to the first and second stages of this work, respectively.

We hope that this book would be an invaluable contribution to the Islamic thought and of great benefit for all readers in general and M.A. students as well as people of researcher in particular.

Al-Mustafa International Research Institute (M.I.R.I.)