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**Noor Al-Amin**

**Toward an Islamic  
Model of Culture &  
Values Development:  
A Study of Sayyid  
Muhammad Baqir  
Sadr's Theory**

**Abbas Ali Shameli**

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!

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## Foreword

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This project is the outcome of an ad hoc research project utilizing an interdisciplinary method and relying on concepts from education, sociology and Islamic studies. In its socio-educational aspects I have received guidance from an advisory committee based in the Department of Culture and Values in Education, while as regards the Islamic aspect supervision was provided by a faculty member in the Institute of Islamic Studies.

Since this thesis contains many Arabic and Persian terms and expressions, I have employed the transliteration scheme for these two languages found in the *ALA-LC Romanization Tables: Transliteration Schemes for Non-Roman scripts* (1991), approved by the Library of Congress and the American Library Association. The two following tables represent this transliteration scheme for both the Arabic and Persian languages. For convenience sake, the names of Persian and Arabic authors who are frequently referred to are not fully transliterated, except when they are first mentioned. The complete transliterated form (Arabic or Persian) is presented in the bibliography.

Translations of the Qur'anic verses in this dissertation are based on those of Yusuf Ali (*The Qur'an*, 1995) and M.H. Shakir (*The Qur'an*, 1991). Sometimes a combination of these two versions is provided. I have made some alterations wherever I have felt it to be more appropriate. These instances are mentioned in the



footnotes. My Persian newspaper references are to electronic versions available on the internet,<sup>1</sup> for which fuller information may be found in the bibliography. My references to *al-Mizan fi Tafsir al-Qur'an* (the commentary on the Qur'an written by S.M.H. Tabataba'i) and other major Islamic sources like *Bihar al-Anwar (Oceans of Lights)* are also available on the Noor software (CD) provided by the Computer Research Center for Islamic Sciences, Qum, Iran.

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1. These newspapers are available on the internet at:  
<http://www.neda.net> or [irma.come](http://irma.come).