

Pathology of Appreciative Interpretations of the Quran

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Abstract

The necessity of addressing Quranic topics in society and at the level of the general audience, or in other words, making Quranic discussions practical, has led some Quran researchers to go beyond conventional exegesis of verses and dedicate a section to lessons, insights, and Quranic messages. These interpretations are not based on the rules of Arabic literature or the principles of rational discourse; rather, they involve a mental transition from a verse or part of it to a concept whose validity is accepted by reason, religious law, human experiences, and common practice. This approach, which has gained attention from some instructors and speakers in recent years, can have positive functions provided certain requirements are met. This study, organized using a descriptive-analytical method, examines numerous examples of subjective interpretations and, while highlighting some of their positive functions, addresses certain harms associated with them. The findings of this research indicate that the most significant harms of such interpretations include attempts to prove obvious truths with Quranic verses, inconsistency with the implication and apparent meaning of the verse, inconsistency with the apparent meaning of other Quranic verses, and contradiction with the logic of the Quran and rational data.

Key Words: Subjective interpretations; personal opinion in exegesis; Quranic messages; methodology of interpretation.

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