

# Journeys In Holy Lands The Evolution Of The Abraham Ishmael Legends In Islamic Exegesis

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generating precise comprehension of the quran and the true meaning of its verses is arguably the essence of the most important of the islamic sciences qur anic exegesis or tafsir since the passing of the prophet many scholars have worked hard to bring a proper understanding of the meaning of the qur an to muslims and indeed to the world at large as fully as possible in an attempt to widen knowledge of the guidance contained therein and how to live life in accordance with its principles the result has been a wealth of historical muslim literature on the subject which has come to be known as ulum al tafsir or the sciences of tafsir a systematic exegesis of the qur an following several methodologies this work traces the evolution of qur anic exegesis from the time of the prophet the companions the successors the early mufasssirun exegetes with independent tafsir works to the present day in doing so it addresses some major issues including to what extent has tafsir been influenced by differing theological traditions classical mystical sufi persian political and sectarian interests etc and how interpretation has differed in some cases mainly pertaining to juridical theological historical and linguistic issues certain scholars and qur anic commentaries have stood the test of time and stand in greater prominence to others their works are introduced and different methodologies compared and critiqued what we are left with is a broad yet important overview of a subject which otherwise can be too complex and extensive for the ordinary reader to grasp acting as a valuable addition to his her understanding and study of the qur anic text

the science of tafsir exegesis of the qur an was one of the earliest academic activities in islam since the qur an s revelation a variety of methods and approaches have been developed to interpret its verses this introductory textbook deals with the most important methods used in tafsir having made the distinction between exegetical methods and approaches the author focsues his analysis on the following exegetical methods tasfir of the qur an by the qur an narrative exegesis intellectual and reason based exegesis scientific exegesis allusive exegesis exegesis by personal opinion and comprehensive exegesis this is an ideal textbook for beginners to the subject there are useful summaries at the end of each chapter as well as questions research tasks and

suggestions for further reading the text abounds with examples from the works of leading exegetes and is written in a clear and lucid style

qur'anic exegesis has become the battleground of political islam and theological conflict among various muslim schools of thought using comparative and contrastive methodology examples from the qur'an are investigated in the light of various theological views to delineate the birth development and growth of qur'anic exegesis the political status quo in the past and at present has impinged upon qur'anic exegesis more than on any other discipline in islamic studies this book illustrates the dichotomy between mainstream and non mainstream islam showing how qur'anic exegesis reflects the subtle dogmatic differences and political cleavages in islamic thought chapters explore in depth the intrusive views of the compilers of early exegesis manuscripts the scepticism among western scholars about the authenticity of early muslim works of exegesis and of prophetic tradition and the role of exegesis as a tool to reaffirm the qur'an as a canon written to appeal to those with comparative exegetical interests as well as those focused on islamic studies in general this book will be an important reference for research students scholars and students of islamic studies theology religious studies and middle eastern studies

abu al qasim al qushayr b 376 the author of al risalah epistle to the sufis one of the earliest manuals of the science of ta'awwuf was also a mufasssir who wrote a complete commentary of the qur'an his work is regarded as the first original mystical commentary written by a man who was both a theologian and a sufi it is also considered a fusion of both the shar'ah and 'arqah bridging the gap between the 'ulam and the sufis during a time when the friction between sufis and traditional 'ulam was at its peak with both sides accusing each other of deviating from islam in studying this historic tafsir the author first discusses the science of qur'anic exegesis and its development from the earliest days he discusses briefly the history of early tafsir works the various kinds of tafsirs and their historical and political backgrounds he also aims to show how sufi scholars have given a new life to the interpretation of the qur'an book cover

relating the muslim understanding of mooses in the qur'an to the epic of gilgamesh alexander romances aramaic targums rabbinic bible exegesis and folklore from the ancient and medieval mediterranean this book shows how muslim scholars authorize

and identify themselves through allusions to the bible and jewish tradition exegesis of qur an 18 60 82 shows how muslim exegetes engage biblical theology through interpretation of the ancient israelites their prophets and their torah this muslim use of a scripture shared with jews and christians suggests fresh perspectives for the history of religions biblical studies cultural studies and jewish arabic studies

this text summarises and critiques the major positions on the issue of the authenticity of traditions hadiths which claim to preserve the words and deeds of muhammad and early muslim scholars in general and exegetical hadiths in particular

in this volume the author examines the origins of arabic linguistics on the basis of the earliest qur'anic commentaries 1st half of the 8th century and the material used includes both edited texts and manuscript commentaries various chapters analyze the exegetical methods of the early commentators such as muqatil and muhammad al kalb and their use of grammatical terminology these data are compared with the earliest grammatical treatises such as s bawayhi and farras the material presented here constitutes an important source of evidence for the development of linguistic thinking in islam and the origin of the grammatical schools of basra and kufa

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what was the name of noah s son who did not survive the flood why do pharaoh and haman build the tower of babel for what reasons does mooses travel to the ends of the earth who is the horned one who holds back gog and magog until the day of judgement these are some of the questions answered in the oral sources and quran commentaries on the stories of the prophets as they are understood by muslims designed as an introduction to the quran with particular emphasis on parallels with biblical tradition this book provides a concise but detailed overview of muslim prophets from adam to muhammad each of the chapters is organized around a particular prophet including an english translation of the relevant verses of the quran and a wide selection of classical medieval and modern muslim commentaries on those verses quran commentaries include references to sunni and shi i sources from spain central asia the middle east and africa an extensive glossary provides an annotated list of all scholarly transmitters and cited texts with suggestions for further reading this is an excellent book for undergraduate courses and students in divinity and seminary programmes comparisons between the quran and bible and among jewish christian and islamic exegesis are highlighted oral sources references adapted from apocryphal and pseudepigraphical works and inter religious dialogue are all evident throughout these stories of the prophets this material shows how the quran and its interpretation are integral to a fuller and more discerning understanding of the bible and its place in the history of western religion

this book analyzes the distinguished modern muslim scholar bediuzzaman said nursi and the methodology of qur anic exegesis in his risale i nur collection with special reference to the views of the early muslim modernist intellectuals such as muhammad abduh it seeks to locate nursi within modern qur anic scholarship exploring the difference between nursi s reading of the qur an and that of his counterparts and examines how nursi relates the qur anic text to concerns of the modern period

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in the current political and social climate there is increasing demand for a deeper understanding of muslims the qur an and islam as well as a keen demand among muslim scholars to explore ways of engaging with christians theologically culturally and socially this book explores the ways in which an awareness of islam and the qur an can change the way in which the bible is read the contributors come from both muslim and christian backgrounds bring various levels of commitment to the qur an and the bible as scripture and often have significantly different perspectives the first section of the book contains chapters that compare the report of an event in the bible with a report of the same event in the qur an the second section addresses muslim readings of the bible and biblical tradition and looks at how muslims might regard the bible can they recognise it as scripture if so what does that mean and how does it relate to the qur an as scripture similarly how might christian readers regard the qur an the final section explores different analogies for understanding the bible in relation to the qur an the book concludes with a reflection upon the particular challenges that await muslim scholars who seek to respond to jewish and christian understandings of the jewish and

christian scriptures a pioneering venture into intertextual reading this book has important implications for relationships between christians and muslims it will be of significant value to scholars of both biblical and qur anic studies as well as any muslim seeking to deepen their understanding of the bible and any christian looking to transform the way in which they read the bible

within the classical islamic tradition the field of qur anic exegesis more commonly referred to as tafsir occupies a revered place among the traditional muslim sciences although tafsir encompasses various approaches to the explication of the qur an and these include legal theological rhetorical linguistic mystical literary and philosophical treatments it is the technical tools and methodologies applied in qur anic exegesis and the history of their development which make the discipline so unique in its islamic context given the significance of tafsir within the religious tradition western academic scholars have devoted considerable attention to the field this interest remains vigorous today and represents one of the key areas of research in modern islamic studies this collection of articles on tafsir provides a definitive overview of the tradition of tafsir in its early medieval and modern settings tafsir interpreting the qur an includes works germane to the history and development of exegesis materials which focus on the tradition s great commentators and their commentaries articles which look at the genres themes and contexts of the tafsir tradition research on exegetical ideas sources and constructs and finally articles which examine the hermeneutic tools defined by scholarship for the explication of the sacred text it is an essential work of reference destined to be valued by scholars and students as a vital one stop research resource

angels are a basic tenet of belief in islam appearing in various types and genres of text from eschatology to law and theology to devotional material this book presents the first comprehensive study of angels in islam through an analysis of a collection of traditions had th compiled by the 15th century polymath jal l al d n al suy t d 911 1505 with a focus on the principal angels in islam the author provides an analysis and critical translation of hadith included in al suyuti s al haba ik fi akhbar al mala ik the arrangement of the traditions about angels many of which are translated into english for the first time the book discusses the issues that the had th raise exploring why angels are named in particular ways how angels are described and portrayed in the had th the ways in which angels interact with humans and the theological controversies

which feature angels from this it is possible to place al suyt's collection in its religious and historical milieu building on the study of angels in judaism and christianity to explore aspects of comparative religious beliefs about angels as well as relating muslim beliefs about angels to wider debates in islamic studies broadening the study of islamic angelology and providing a significant amount of newly translated primary source material this book will be of great interest to scholars of islam divinity and comparative religion

an examination of the features and methods of imami exegesis

the main reference source for questions of islamic philosophy science and technology amongst western engaged readers and academics in general and legal researchers in particular

this work brings together a collection of commentaries translated from the original arabic on some of the key passages of the qu ran presenting the views of classical and modern commentators it focuses on topics such as god muhammad revelation and muslim beliefs and duties

relating the muslim understanding of moses in the qur an to the epic of gilgamesh alexander romances aramaic targums rabbinic bible exegesis and folklore from the ancient and medieval mediterranean this book shows how muslim scholars authorize and identify themselves through allusions to the bible and jewish tradition exegesis of qur an 18 60 82 shows how muslim exegetes engage biblical theology through interpretation of the ancient israelites their prophets and their torah this muslim use of a scripture shared with jews and christians suggests fresh perspectives for the history of religions biblical studies cultural studies and jewish arabic studies

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