
Editorial

By the grace of Allah Almighty, 55th issue of the quarterly research journal *Noor-e-Ma'rfat* is in your hands. Surely, believers in the existence, truthfulness and the monotheism of Allah Almighty are obliged to provide solid intellectual arguments for the eradication of atheistic and polytheistic ideas from human society. In fact, atheism and polytheism are beliefs rather than actions, and any change in beliefs, positive or negative, can be brought about only through intellectual reasoning.

In this context, the first two articles of the current issue were published under the headings of "Atheism: Introduction and History; An Analytical Review" and "The Polytheism of the Polytheists in Holy Prophet's Age: A Critical Review of Ibn' Abd ul-Wahhab's Point of View". These articles may acquaint the readers with the nature of atheism, the history and effects of the atheist movement as well as the nature and limits of polytheism. In the 3rd article of this issue, a critical examination has been made of Qadiani's claims about Imam Mahdi (as), and it is proved in the light of solid arguments that the Qadiani's claims are refuted as being baseless and contrary to the established Islamic beliefs.

The 4th article includes a critique of the theory of evolution in the doctrine of Imamate and infallibility of Imams (as). This is an important discussion and relevant scholarly discourse on the doctrine of Imamate. The 5th article of the current issue, entitled "Reaction to Hali's Thought: Religious & Literal Factors" examines the thought formation process of Maulana Altaf Hussain Hali. This article also evaluates the response and reaction of intellectuals to Hali's approach and indicates the literal and religious factors of resistance to Hali's thought. This article is expected to appeal readers as it combines in it aspects of both religion and Urdu literature.

As the commentaries and reviews on books are always accepted and published by quarterly *Noor-e-Ma'rfat*, an introduction to two important books of the 4th century is included in this issue. So, the 6th article introduces a specific chapter (*Kitab Al-Siam*) of Muhammad Ibn Ya'qub Al-Kalini's famous book *Al-Kafi*. A number of important commentary *ahadith* (traditions) is quoted about the virtue and importance of fasting. These *ahadith* reveal new angles of interpretation of 11 verses from Holy Quran. Some other *ahadith* demonstrate the virtues of fasting; so that we can better understand the greatness of this act of worship. The 7th article also introduces the bibliography of a famous commentary of the Holy Quran written by Muhammad ibn Ayashi.

The 8th article of this series under the title of "Massive Drop in the Rate of Silver Coins and its Impact upon Jurisprudential Matters (An Applied, Analytical Model Study for Pakistani Society)" contains a jurisprudential discussion. This article guides contemporary scholars in the modern application of jurisprudential issues in which the determination of the value of silver coins is of fundamental importance.

The last article in this issue, entitled as "An Analytical Study of the Theory of Separation between Religion and Politics", examines how Islam and politics are related to each other. This article reviews the issue both from Islamic and Western perspectives on the basis of rational arguments.

As usual, the diversity of the nature and scope of the articles makes the current issue of quarterly *Noor-e-Ma'rfat* so rich and appealing. I hope like previous issues, this issue would also introduce to scholars new perspectives. God willing!

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