

SOURCES OF RELIGION & LAW IN ISLAM

Monday, March 16, 2015

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Abd Naeem

Instructor: Prof.

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CONCEPT OF THE SOURCES

- Islam is a [complete code](#) of life
- It provides guidance regarding [every aspect](#) of human life
- Some of human actions result in [pleasure of Allah](#) and some make Him [unhappy](#)
- [Sources of Shariah](#) guide us about lawful and unlawful actions in the sight of Allah

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FOUR SOURCES OF ISLAMIC SHARIAH & LAW

1. Al- Qur'an
2. Al-Hadith/As- Sunnah
3. Al- Ijma' (Consensus)
4. Al- Qiyas (Analogy)

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STATUS OF THE SOURCES

Primary Sources

- Al- Qur'an
- Al-Hadith /As- Sunnah

Secondary Sources

- Al- Ijma' (Consensus)
- Al- Qiyas (Analogy)

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WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF THE HOLY QUR'AN?

(1) AL-QUR'AN (القرآن)

- The first and principal source of Islamic Shariah

Etymology

- Derived from an Arabic consonantal root "ق ر أ" which means "To read"

Two Important Terms

(1) Mutawatir (متواتر):

A [successive narration](#) which is conveyed throughout the time by narrators so [numerous](#) that it is not conceivable that they all have unanimously agreed upon [an untruth](#) and thus being accepted as [unquestionable](#) in its veracity

(2) Mushaf:

Copies of the Holy Qur'an collected and edited during the caliphate of Uthman (R.A.)

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SUHUF & MUSHAF

- Both words are derived from the same root Sahafa 'to write'. The word suhuf also occurs in the Qur'an (87:19) meaning scripture or written sheets.
- **SUHUF** (sg. saḥifa) means loose pieces of writing material, such as paper, skin, papyrus, etc.
- **MUSHAF** (pl. masahif) means the collected suhuf, brought together into a fixed order, such as between two covers, into a volume.
- In the history of the written text of the Qur'an, suhuf stands for the sheets on which the Qur'an was collected in the time of Hazrat Abu Bakr. In these suhuf the order of the Ayat within each sura was fixed, but the sheets with the suras on them were still in a loose arrangement, i.e. not bound into a volume.
- **MUSHAF** in the present context means the sheets on which the Qur'an was collected in the time of Hazrat 'Uthman. Here both the order of the Ayat within each sura as well as the order of the sheets were fixed.
- Today we also call any copy of the Qur'an, which has both order of Ayat and suras fixed, a *Mushaf*.

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DEFINITION OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

"The Last Divine book that has been sent down by Allah, the Almighty (to His Last Prophet, Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W.) from the heavens [from the preserved tablet], transmitted to us by way of *Mutawatir* and available in between the two covers of the holy *Masahif*."

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AUTHENTICITY OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

- The holy Qur'an is the sole revealed book absolutely safe from any kind of change, corruption and misguidance due to following reasons:
 - i) **Protection by Allah:**
Unlike all other revealed books, Allah Himself has taken the responsibility to safeguard holy Qur'an from any corruption

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STATEMENT OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

- Allah states in the Holy Qur'an:

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نُزِّلُ الْقُرْآنَ وَكَلَامَ الْغَايِبِينَ

Translation:

"Verily **We**: It is **We** Who have sent down the Dhikr (i.e. the Qur'an) and surely, **We will** guard it [from corruption]"

(Surah Al-Hijr, Ayah 9)

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Continuation...

II) SAFE IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS:

- It is one of the great miracles of the Holy Qur'an that [Million](#) of Muslims have [learned it by heart](#)

III) Transmitted as *Mutawatir*:

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INTELLIGIBILITY OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

- The Book of guidance
- Very easy to understand (Complete Grammatical Rules)
- Lucid Arabic language
- Miraculous book

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How the holy Quran is valid for human guidance after passing 1425 years?

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A BOOK OF PRINCIPLES

- **THE QURAN** gives guidance about basic principles of **Islamic Shariah**
FOR INSTANCE:
 - i) Principles of **beliefs**
 - ii) Principles of **worships**
 - iii) Principles of **individual & collective life**
 - iv) Principles of **social life**
 - v) Principles of **economic life**
 - vi) Principles of **Islamic jurisprudence** (The scientific study of law)
 - vii) Principles of **ethics**

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(2) AL-HADITH / AS-SUNNAH

- The second primary source of Islamic Shariah

ETYMOLOGY

- The word **السنة** is derived from an Arabic consonantal root “**س ن ن**” which means:
 - Customary action
 - Habitual practice
 - Style
- The word **الحديث** is derived from an Arabic consonantal root “**ح د ث**” which means:
 - Word
 - Conversation
 - Newly made thing

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AS-SUNNAH vs. AL-HADITH

COMMON DEFINITION OF HADITH:

Sayings of Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W.)

COMMON DEFINITION OF SUNNAH:

Actions performed by Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W.)

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Technical Definition of Hadith & Sunnah

- The terms **As-Sunnah** and **Al-Hadith** are used as **synonymous** in the field of Hadith Sciences
- The sayings, actions and silent approval **when related** to Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) is **Sunnah**, while the same sayings, actions and silent approval are known as **Hadith**, when some **companion narrates them**.

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DEFINITION OF AL-HADITH/ AS-SUNNAH

- A statement (قوله)
- An action (فعله)
- Silent approval given by the Prophet (إيمانه)

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KINDS OF HADITH

- (1) Hadith-e-Qudsi
- (2) Hadith-e-Nabawi

KINDS OF HADITH-E-NABAWI

- (1) Sahih
- (2) Hassan
- (3) Da'eef [Weak]
- (4) Mozo' [Fabricated]

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STATUS OF SUNNAH/ HADITH

- Interpretation of the injunctions of the holy Qur'an
- Practical demonstration of the injunctions of the holy Qur'an
- One of the primary sources of Islamic Shariah

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AUTHENTICITY OF HADITH (1)

TWO PARTS OF HADITH

(1) Matn-ul-Hadith (Hadith Text)

(2) Sanad-ul-Hadith (Chain of narrators)

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AUTHENTICITY OF HADITH (2)

TWO IMPORTANT BRANCHES OF KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO HADITH

- (1) Ilm-e-Asma Ur-Rijal (Study of biographies of Hadith narrators)
(complete biography of every narrator, Good & Bad habits, memory strength, honesty, knowledge, teachers, students etc.)
- (2) Ilm-e-Jarh wa Ta'deel (Critical study of Hadith text)

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AUTHENTICITY OF HADITH (3)

- Written in the life time of Holy Prophet
- Chain of Narrators from last narrator to the first narrator
- A thorough inspection about every narrator
- Detailed inspection of Hadith Text

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VIEWS OF DR A. SPRENGER

- Dr A.Sprenger has paid a glowing tribute to the scholars of the Traditions (hadith) in following words:
"The glory of the literature of the Mohammedans is its literary biography. There is no nation, nor has there been any which like them has during twelve centuries recorded the life of every man of letters. If the biographical records of the Musalmans were collected, we should probably have accounts of the lives of half a million of distinguished persons. and it would be found that there is not a decennium of their history, nor a place of importance which has not its representatives." (Sprenger vol.1, pg.1.

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Famous Books of Ahadith Compiled in the First Phase of Compilation of Hadith

<u>BOOK</u>	<u>COMPILER</u>
• Sahifah Sadiqa	Hazrat Abdullah
Bin Amr Bin	
	Al-A'as (R.A)
• Sahifah Ali	Hazrat Ali (R.A)
• Sahifah Abu Hurairah	Hammam Bin
Munabbih (R.A)	

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Famous Books of Ahadith Compiled in the Second Phase

<u>BOOK</u>	<u>COMPILER</u>
• Kitab-ul-Athar	Imam Abu
	Hanifah
• Muwatta Imam Malik	Imam
	Malik Bin Anas
• Jami'	Imam Sufyan Sauri

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Famous Books of Ahadith Compiled in the Third Phase

<u>BOOK</u>	<u>SIHAH SITTAH</u>	<u>COMPILER</u>
1) Sahih Al-Bukhari	Imam Abu Abdullah	
	Muhammad Bin Ismail Al-Bukhari	
	(Death 256 A.H.)	
2) Sahih Al-Muslim	Imam Muslim Bin Hajjaj Bin	
	Muslim Al-Qushairi	
	(Death 261 A.H.)	
3) Jami' At-Tirmazi	Imam Abu Isa Muhammad Bin	
	Isa Al-Tirmizi	
	(Death 279 A.H.)	

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OTHER BOOKS OF SIHAH SITTAH

<u>BOOK</u>	<u>COMPILER</u>
4) Sunan Abi Dawood	Imam Abu Dawood
	Sulaiman Bin Asha'ath
	(Death 275 A.H)
5) Sunan An-Nasaee	Imam Abu Abdur
	Rahman Ahmad Bin Ali
	Al-Nasaee
	(Death 303 A.H)
6) Sunan Ibn-e-Majah	Imam Abu Abdullah
	Muhammad Bin Yazid
	Ibn-e-Maja Al-Qazweeni
	(Death 273 A.H)

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