



The Qur'an: A Complete Revelation

Sam Gerrans

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The Qur'an: A Complete Revelation casts new and much needed light on the message of the Qur'an, light hitherto impeded by dogma originating entirely outside the Qur'an but required by Traditionalist Islam.

Traditionalist Islam claims:

- That the Qur'an may be understood only by reference to a later literature called the *hadith*
- That, taken together, the Qur'an and the *hadith* provide the foundation for what is called Islam
- That Islam is a religion in the sense of prescribed dogma, rite and custom
- That by adhering to Islam one aligns oneself with the guidance contained in the Qur'an
- That Islam's emphasis on a Caliphate under Sharia Law originates in the Qur'an

The Qur'an: A Complete Revelation illustrates where and how such claims - as well as others Traditionalist Islam makes - are at unambiguous variance with the Qur'an.

The Qur'an: A Complete Revelation employs a systematic method of lexical evaluation, one which accepts the Qur'an's internal definitions of key words as binding, and derives the meanings of other key terms on the basis of pan-textual comparison and analysis - which values it then enforces with rigid consistency across the entire translated text.

The Qur'an: A Complete Revelation also draws the reader's attention to the substance of the Qur'anic narrative in areas long disregarded by the religion which today claims monopoly rights over it, including:

- Muhammad as a fallible man, one whose knowledge of God was limited to the Qur'anic revelation
- The Qur'an's emphasis on piety and good works as desirable irrespective of group affiliation
- The absence - contrary to the Traditionalist's expectations - of an external saviour figure
- The existence and features of God's time-honoured protocol for destroying tyrannical systems
- The implication that God's warranted destruction of evil is contingent upon actions by believers

The Qur'an: A Complete Revelation (Reference Edition) features:

- The Qur'anic revelation presented in continuous Arabic-English parallel text
- Layout as an *aide-memoire* intended to benefit English-speaking students of the Qur'an in Arabic
- Largest possible font sizes for both Arabic and English in the parallel text
- Unobtrusive system of references linking 9,000 notes with the corpus of the translation

- Appendix comprising twenty-one articles which expand on points referenced in the notes
- Cohesive and -comprehensive explanation of the historically elusive *muqatta at*
- Logical numbering conventions designed to expedite navigation across content

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