

The Heritage of Sheikh Mahmoud Shabestari (Book Review)

Mahmoud Yousef Sani

The present article reviews the Leonard Loizon's book, *Beyond Belief and Disbelief*, and its translation by Dr. Majduddin Keivani. While reviewing the book, the author also offers a summary of each chapter. The article argues that paying attention to the political, social and cultural conditions of each era can facilitate our understanding of the thinkers of that era. The author also critically studies some of the ideas of the author of the book.

The Concept of Monotheism and the Unity of Expression

Seyyed Mohammad Moosavi Bojnordi

Explaining the concept of monotheism, the author explains the unity of expression and argues that unity of expression has been always an important issue among the mankind, in various religions and in Islam. Great importance was attached to the unity of expression during the era of the holy Prophet (S); and the ulema admonished the public to maintain it. The article also discusses the issue of global village and consensus on the unity of expression.

Traditional Islam

Seyyed Hussein Nasr

Tr. by: Nourullah Qeisari

During the past two hundred years the waves of modernism have reached the Islamic countries and modernist ideas penetrated the arenas of thought, culture, society and economy of the Islamic world. Certain ideas have also emerged in reaction to these notions in the world of Islam which are classified as "fundamentalism", "modernism" and "traditionalism". The present article studies traditional Islam in contrast to fundamentalist and modernist approaches, the conceptual framework of traditional Islam, its various aspects and its distinctions and commonalities with the said two approaches in political, cultural and social fields.

The Ideology of Islamic Revolution, Shiite Ideology and Its Reinterpretation

Abbas Keshavarz Shokri

The main subject of this article is to ascertain whether the basic concepts of Shiism, as the ideology of the Islamic Revolution, have been reinterpreted in a manner to make them suitable for mass mobilization. If the answer is in the affirmative, then the question is: What is reinterpretation? Two approaches have been forwarded in answer to this question. The first approach believes that the basic concepts of Shia were amicable and passive in nature, but the ideologists of the revolution reinterpreted them in a manner to make them compatible for mass mobilization. The second approach argues that all the concepts, whether amicable ones or those advocating movement, exist in the religion. During the era of establishment, those religious concepts which invite to peace, stability and order are applied; and during the time of institution, those concepts which call for the revolution -- although had been forgotten -- are revived by the ideologists of the revolution and prepare the masses for revolutionary mobilization.

St. Bonaventure: God's Existence

Ferderick Copleston

Tr. by Musoud Sadeqi Ali-Abadi

The proofs for God's existence have played a crucial role in the religious life. These proofs give a picture and a conception of God and reveal the relations existing between God and various aspects of the universe and also try to rationalize faith. While studying the proofs of Bonaventure for God's existence, the present article discusses the impact of his interest in soul's relation to God on the treatment of the proofs for God's existence. Bonaventure proves God's existence from the external sensible world and shows how from the knowledge of finite, imperfect, composite, moving and contingent being man can rise to the apprehension of the infinite, perfect, simple, unchanging and necessary Being.

The Islamic Revolution and an Alternative Modernization Model

Yahya Fouzi

While studying the discourse of modernization after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the present article argues that one can speak about a particular modernization model in the aftermath of the Islamic Revolution whose manifestation is the Constitution of the Islamic Republic. Elaborating on the basic theoretical concepts, the author studies the trend and practical results of the implementation of this modernization model in the economic, political, social and cultural fields. By analyzing the performances of this model, this article tries to study the conformity and unconformity between the theory and practice.

English Abstracts of Essays

The Issue of Usury

Seyyed Mohammad Moosavi Bojnordi

One of the noteworthy issues in Islamic Jurisprudence is usury. The author discusses the historical background of usury, particularly in the Arabian Peninsula, and then elaborates on the unlawfulness of usury in the divine religions, particularly in Islam on the basis of traditions and verses. He also discusses usury from social point of view, its indicators, its kinds - loan and transaction -- and also extensively discusses the philosophy of the unlawfulness of usury.

A Reflection on the Causes and Consequences of Cultural Revolution

Ali Mohammad Hazeri

The present article is an attempt to restudy the event that happened in the spring of 1980 in the Iranian university system under the title of "Cultural Revolution". Attempts have been made in this revisit to make a comparison between the meaning and objectives of this movement and its conceptual capacity in order to determine the compatibility between this movement and its conceived meanings. In this respect the cultural-political conditions of the universities and the political groupings in the universities on the threshold of the Islamic Revolution and the post-revolution developments are studied in order to understand the backgrounds which led to this event. This article briefly touches on the sequence of the events which culminated in the Cultural Revolution and also studies the performance and steps taken by the Cultural Revolution. It alludes to the shortcomings and failures of the Cultural Revolution and tries to analyze them. At the end the article, the author mentions some of the forces that make the materialization of the ideals of the Cultural Revolution possible in the near future.

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