**In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful**

ACLASSIFICATION of

ALMIZAN

**THE INTERPRETATION OF HOLY QURAN**

BOOK SIXTEEN

**GENERAL HISTORY OF**

**RELIGIONS**

**BY: Great Allameh**

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"Allameh" Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Hossein Taba-Tabaii

&

His Masterpiece:

" **ALMIZAN, THE INTERPRETATION OF HOLY QURAN**"



**Image of Allameh ( Oil Painting. Work: Seyyed Mehdi Amin, 1991 )**

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**PART ONE**

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**Chapter One**

**History in Quran**

**Expression of History in Quran**

***A Quranic and Scholastic Analysis***

**Recording the Events was considered an important matter to man from old era of his life on the earth; at any ages, there were a number of people that brought the events to their minds, and or made a note of it and edited a book. The human used to use history in many aspects of his life, and more often copied it as a model to build societies, took a lesson from their fates, and sometimes used it in his political and economic affairs.**

**However, with so much dignity and interest in Science of History, it has been the victim of two corruptions, that will also continue hereafter, unfortunately it has diverted the history from its true nature and expressing the truth to falsehood and lies.**

**Those two factors are first, the authoritarian regimes that spread out every news on their own benefit, and prevent from quoting everything that is against them. The second factor is the authors of Histories that were not away from ethnic or religious inclinations, and what they have quoted were within their own interests, skipping narrating the history of opposing views and feelings.**

**The major cause of scholars' inattention to the history today is the same factors. Even the archaeology that in the first place seemed to be safe from such factors, but unfortunately scientists who reveal the mysteries of archeology, have the same feelings as well as the historical authors, so they can also do conceal or change the facts, easily.**

**But what should it rely which is away from any hacking, personal feelings, ethnic and religious prejudices is the Divine Revelation which expresses the ancient nations' histories in the Holy Books.**

**Among the Holy Boos, the Holy Quran is the only source which is infallible, and the humanly hands and lies have no way in it, but other heavenly books like the Torah and the Gospel, because of the hacking of above-mentioned factors are not immune, and are nothing more than the ordinary histories. The historical stories within them have often been a victim of the above factors.**

**For example, nobody knows who is the Psalmist of Bible stories, such as the story of "Samuel and Charles"?**

**(Almizan, V.4, P.171)**

**Credibility of Histories Expressed in Quran**

***A Quranic and Scholastic Analysis***

**Now we consider the History-Retelling of the Holy Quran. First of all, we should notice this certain fact that Quran is not a history book at all! The purpose of Quran in expressing the stories is not only to tell story like the books of history, tales or narrations, but it is a Divine Word poured in the mould of revelation, its purpose is to guide people towards the way of God's Pleasure and human welfare.**

**Since the Quran is God's Word and its purpose is to guide people toward the salvation, happiness, and God's pleasure, so we find that it quotes the stories with no more details like other story or history books, but it quotes only the part of a history which contains an example of wisdom, an instructive lesson, a preaching, or what will be useful in human life.**

**For example, we examine the story of "Talut and Jalut(Saul and Goliath)" to see how the Quran recounted this history in Surah Baqarah Verses 246 to 253 .**

**At the beginning it Says:**

***"Have you not considered the chiefs of the children of Israel after Musa, when they said to a prophet of theirs …,"***

**Then it waives other details and Says:**

***"And their Prophet said to them: Surely Allah has raised Talut(Saul) to be a king over you…,"***

**Again it leaves the rest of the matter unsaid, and Says:**

***"Their prophet said to them, Indeed the sign of his kingship shall be that the Ark will come to you…,"***

**Then Says:**

***"When Talut(Saul) set out with his army…,"***

**Then leaves the details about David and Says:**

***"And when they encountered with Jalut(Goliath) and his troops…."***

**It is obvious that if it wanted to connect these sentences together there would be a long story**.

**It is evident in all the stories quoted in Quran, not only in one or two, but in general it highlights the most informative part of story containing a wisdom, preaching, or a tradition of Divine Traditions used in the past nations.**

**It shows this meaning in the story of Yusuf(Joseph) and Says:**

***"In this stories, Surely there are lessons for men of Knowledge and Understanding!" (Holy Quran: Yusef, 111.)***

**Elsewhere it Says:**

***"God wants to guide you, explain to you the customs of those who lived before you…." (Holy Quran: Nessa, 26.)***

**And or Says:**

***"Different traditions existed in the past. Travel in the land and find out about the fate of those who rejected the Truth. This Quran is a reminder for the people and a guide and advice for the pious!"***

***(Holy Quran: Al'Omran, 137-138.)***

**(Almizan, V.4, P.175)**

**CHAPTER TWO**

**EMERGENCE OF MAN AND RELIGIONS**

**Beginning of Human Emergence**

" كانَ النّاسُ اُمَّةً واحِدَةً فَبَعَثَ اللهُ النَّبِيّينَ مُبَشِّرينَ وَمُنذِرينَ... !" (بقره 213)

***"Mankind were a single community;***

***then Allah sent the prophets as bearers of good news***

***and as warners…!" (Holy Quran: Baqareh, 213.)***

**In this chapter, we mention a brief history of the creation of human quoted in Quran, and the demands of his social life leading to the appearance of religions and religious approach to legislation.**

**What we learn from the sets of Verses in Holy Quran regarding the creation of human and his early life is that the human race is an independent kind, not uncut from other kinds, not found his existence through the law of evolution, but God has created it straight from the Earth.**

**There was a time when there were the earth and the sky, and plenty of other animals lived on the earth, but no mankind, then God created a pair of human kind, who are the head of the human race.**

**The Holy Quran, did not mention clearly that before the human race of Adam and Eve, was there any other human beings on the earth or not?**

**Dual Composition of Human**

**According to the Quran, while creation of man, God Almighty composed it of two parts, having two essences: The physical essence which is the matter of his body, the other was the immaterial substance that is his spirit. These two are associated with each other continuously on his physical life, and the time of death the alive soul separates from body and then the man returns towards his Lord.**

**……………**

**(Almizan, V.3, P.159)**

**Legislation of Religion**

" كانَ النّاسُ اُمَّةً واحِدَةً فَبَعَثَ اللهُ النَّبِيّينَ مُبَشِّرينَ وَمُنذِرينَ... !" (بقره 213)

***"Mankind were a single community;***

***then Allah sent the prophets as bearers of good news***

***and as warners…!" (Holy Quran: Baqareh, 213.)***

**This Verse explains the main reason for legislation of the basic religion, and ordering people to obey it. Also states the cause of conflicts occurred in it. It shows that the human beings by their nature were the civil and social creatures; at the beginning of building the society they were *a single community*, unified and equal; later on, due to the requirement of their nature, conflicts arose among them in earning the living advantages. Thus the need to resolve these disputes required the legislation of appropriate laws.**

**Considering above God the Almighty has raised up Prophets, and by way of them sent to mankind the rules and regulations in the form of "Religion", and along with it declared good news and warnings. In addition, He completed the religion by means of a series of religious duties.**

***So, the reason for legislation of religion, was that innate differences found among the people from the secular and material aspects*.**

**(Almizan, V.3, P.159)**

**Chapter Three**

**Effect of Prophets in Evolution of Humanity**

**Prophets and Civilization**

***A Scholastic Analysis***

**Civilization and modification of world living condition, as well as worship and reform in peoples' condition of Hereafter, are what the Divine Revelation learned to former prophets and their nations. It was the Divine Inspiration that had led them to provide a variety of rites and laws that the common sense also understand it, such as statements relating to competent coexistence and avoiding cruelty, wasting, and helping the ruthless tyrants; and such other goodness and evils.**

**It is the Revelation that is the root of all equipments and means of modern civilization that inspired to the former Prophets, and it was the Holy Prophets who invited people to build society and form the communities. Prophets invited people to goodness and prevented them from evil, lewdness, and corruption.  In this issue no effect was from reulers of time or their being just or unjust.**

**(Almizan, V.14, P.17)**

**Effect of Prophets in the Humanities**

" ... وَ عُلِّمتُم ما لَم تَعلَموُا اَنتُم وَلا آبآؤُكُم …! " ( انعام /91)

*" … You have been taught what neither you yourselves*

*nor your forefathers ever knew…!"* ***(Holy Quran: An'am, 91.)***

All the rules and laws, which were or even are running among the people, carried out by Holy Prophets among them. Althogh the human emotions and notions may lead him to food, housing, marrying, proper clothing competent to life, and also to attract benefit and repel the loss, but the Divine teachings, ethical virtues, and laws acting to safeguard that teachings and moralities are not the matters that can be assumed to pour out from human mind, even one is genius and have the great social thoughts.

Where can the social consciousness can achieve such teachings and truths?

Social thought is not more than that to force man to employ the possible measures by which can provide the necessities of material life such as food, clothing, marriage, and other matters related to them.

It is the same thought if finds possibility to overrun orders the man to enjoy of material things, and to eliminate any powers against himself. And if finds the ground is not much appropriate, it forces the man to make a coalition with other powers and share with them using the profits and repelling losses, and divide the booties between themselves fairly.

So in the above Verse God makes argument with two things and proves that the essential for Lordship is to guide mankind to the right path and happiness through Heavenly Books and Prophets.

 Those two things are:

*1- Holy Books,*

*2- Divine Teachings, running among the people. Teachings not poured out of the human mind!*

**(Almizan, V.14, P.102)**

**Effect of Prophets in Social Thinking**

**and Governance Reforms**

**There is no doubt that "*Prophecy*" from the earliest times that appeared among the human beings, invited people to justice and dispensing the justice, and prohibited the injustice and tyranny;  and also called all people to worship the One God, on the other hand disgusted them obeying the Pharaohs and the arrogant rulers who had mastered the people.**

**This invitation was always continued among the human by the Prophets. Although the religions had development or narrowness in their teachings by the difference between nations and times, but it is a certain fact that all Prophets pursued the same invitations all the times.**

**How is it possible that such a great factor being active among the people for a long time, through the centuries, but do not help them in the way of their social progresses?**

**Holy Quran, through the revelations made in this regard to the previous Prophets explains a great part of this arguments.**

**Noah said:**

***" My Lord! They have disobeyed me,***

***following someone whose wealth and children only add to his loss.***

***And they plotted a great plotting.***

***And the chiefs of them have enjoined the people saying:***

***You should not Leave your gods…!" (Holy Quran: Nuh, 21-23.)***

**Hood said**:

***" Do ye build a landmark on every high place to amuse yourselves?***

***And you take for yourselves strongholds,***

***perhaps you will live forever?***

***And when you strike the subordinates***

***You strike like the tyrants!" (Holy Quran: Sho'ara, 128-130.)***

**Saleh(Shelah) said**:

***" So fear from the disobedience of Allah's Commands***

***and follow me! And obey not the commandment of the prodigal!"***

***(Holy Quran: Sho'ara, 150-151.)***

**Moses arose to defend Children of Israel, ane challenged with Pharaoh because of his outrageous conducts.**

**Abraham fought with Nimrod.**

**Jesus and other prophets from Children of Israel, each challenged with wicked kings of his day, denounced their corrupted morals, and enjoined people to leave their obedience.**

**There is no slightest doubt in the Invitation that Holy Quran made against the oppressors, prevented the people to obey those unjust rulers, and described the dire consequences of *oppression, corruption, hatred and rebellion!***

**And ... This is the Holy Quran that explains the sequel of unjust:**

***" Have you not considered how your Lord dealt with Aad(the tribe of Hood).***

***The Dwellers of Aram, possessors of lofty buildings.***

***The like of which were not created in the other cities.***

***And what He did with the Thamud People,***

***who hewed out rocks to build Safe dwellings?***

***And what He did with Firown(Pharaoh), The Owner of Pegs***

***who tortured and Nailed men with his pegs?***

***Those who rebelled [against Allah] in their cities.***

***And spread much corruption in the land.***

***So your Lord flogged them all with a whip of Chastisement.***

***Surely thy Lord is ever on the watch!***

***(Holy Quran: Fajr, 6-14.)***

**In the tradition of the Holy Prophet(PBUH) and his children we see that whenever found a chance they attempted against oppressors and tyrants, shedding their corrupted systems upside-down, and rose to the challenge on their rebellion and arrogance.**

**(Almizan, V.5, P.272)**

**Chapter Four**

**Parentage and Names of Prophets**

**Names of Prophets in Quran**

«وَلَقَد اَرسَلنا رُسُلاً مِن قَبلِكَ مِنهُم مَن قَصَصنا عَلَيكَ وَ مِنهُم مَن لَم نَقصُص عَلَيك!»(غافر/78)

***"And indeed We have sent Messengers Before you;***

***the story of some of them We have related to you,***

***and the story of Some of them We have not yet related to You."***

***(Holy Quran: Ghafir, 78.)***

**The Holy Quran explains that the number prophets is so much, but the stories of all of them did not mention in Quran.**

**The Holy Quran mentions the name of Twenty-six Prophets as follows:**

**Adam, Nuh/Noah, Idris, Hood/Hud, Salih/Shelah,**

**Ebrahim/Abraham, Lut/Lot, Ismael/Ishmael, Al-Yassa/Elisha, Zalkefl, Elias, Yunes/Jonah, Is'hagh/Isaac, Yaqoub/Jacob, Yussef/Joseph, Sho'aib/Jethro, Mussa/Moses, Haroon/Aaron, Davoud/David, Solayman/Solomon, Ayyoub/Job, Zakarya/Zachariah, Yahya/John, Ismael(true- promise), Yssa/Jesus, and**

**Mohammad (Blessings of Allah be upon him and his Descendents, and all Prophets!)**

**Prophet without names**

**The Holy Quran has only hinted to the names of some other prophets:**

***"Did you not see to the leaders of the Children of Israel***

***after Moses, they said to their prophet:******Raise up for us a king…! "***

***(Holy Quran: Baqareh, 246.)***

***"Or the like of him[Uzair], who passed by a town,***

***and it had fallen down upon its roofs…."* *(Holy Quran: Baqareh, 259.)***

***"When We sent to them two, they rejected both of them, then We strengthened them with a third…!" (Holy Quran: Yasin, 14.)***

***" So they came upon a servant of Ours whom We had given him mercy from Us and We taught him knowledge from Us."***

***(Holy Quran: Kahf, 66.)***

**In a few cases, the Holy Quran refers briefly to "*Asbat* *(Tribes)*" but does not give the names of them in detail.**

**At the same time, the Holy Quran mentions about persons whom have not been proven as Prophets. Such as the young friend and companion of Moses whom in Verse 61 of Surah Kahf refered to him. Or like the "Zil'Qarnein" or "Omran, the father of Mary. "**

**Number and Race of Prophets**

**The number of prophets has not been set by the Holy Quran. And no credible Hadiths has also been narrated in this regard. Only different and individual traditions have been narrated, of which the most famous story is Abuzar Ghaffari's narration from Holy Prophet.**

**According this narration the number of Prophets are one hundred and twenty four thousands. Out of which three hundred and thirteen prophets were Messengers.**

**The text of Narrative is as follows:**

**" It is narrated by Abuzar(pbuh), that he said:**

**I requested the Messenger of Allah: What was the number of prophets? He responded: One hundred and twenty four thousands**

**I said: - What number of them were Messengers?**

**He said: - A large group! Three hundred and thirteen**

**I said: - Who was the first prophet**

**He said: - Adam**

**I said: - Was he one of the Messengers?**

**He said: - Yes! God created him by His own hands and breathed His spirit in him.**

**Then he said: - O Abuzar! Four of the prophets were Syriac:**

**Adam, Sheith/Seth, Idris/Akhnukh (He was the first one who took pen in hand to write down.) and Nuh/Noah.**

**Four of them are Arabs:**

**Hud, Salih, Shuaib and Muhammad (Your Prophet!)**

**He said: - The first prophet from the children of Israel was Moses and the last of them was Jesus. There were six hundred more from children of Israel.**

**I asked: - O Messenger of Allah! How many Holy Books were descended?**

**He said: - One hundred and four books:**

**- Fifty scriptures on Seth,**

**- Thirty scriptures on Idris,**

**- Twenty scriptures on Abraham,**

**- The Torah, Bible, Zaboor, and Forghan(Quran.) "**

**(Quoted from "Ma'ani al'Akhbar va Khethal.)**

**In Safi Interpretion quoted from "Maj'ma'el'Bayan" that Ali (as) said: God has also sent a black prophet, but has not narrated his story for us!**

**(Almizan, V.3, P.203)**

The Translation is to be continued !