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#### **ABSTRACTS**

### A critical analysis on the conceptions developed from the interpretive traditions of "sab`an min all-mathānī"

Abdollah Feqhi-zadeh Mahdiyeh Dehqani Qanataghestani

Having merely relied upon the apparent meaning of interpretive traditions some of the exegetes deemed that the Opening Chapter ( $s\bar{u}rat\ al-f\bar{a}tihah$ ) is meant by the expression: "sab`an min all-mathānī" in the Qur'an (15:87), and have preferred this opinion to the others invoking certain traditions. The investigations, however, indicate that the interpretive traditions transmitted to us in this regard are not firm and strong enough to be ensuring or convincing, because they suffer from different problems from the aspects of denotation, isnad and source (i.e. informant). For instance, six of the narrations are weak from that aspect of isnad; in five of them the main pivot of the narration is the attempt for proving the validity of "inclusion of basmalah as one of the verses of Opening Chapter" and it is by itself somehow problematic. Moreover, contrary to these traditions, there exist other traditions that have introduced an issue other than the Opening Chapter or along with the Opening Chapter as the instance of "sab`an min all-mathānī".

**Keywords:** "sab`an min all-mathānī", Opening Chapter, criticism of tradition.

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A review of the viewpoints and disputes about the account of Shaykh Ṭurayḥī (d. 1087/1886) of Ḥadīth al-Kisā' (Tradition of the Cloak)

> Rasoul Ja'fariyan Rouhollah Towhidi-nia

Certain controversial events in the history of Shi'ism dates back to confrontation of two or more intellectual trends about the genuineness or content of traditions. The pivot of one of these disputes that dates two centuries back, is a different account or narration of Event of al- $Kis\bar{a}'$ . The mere tradition has been recorded in both Shi'a and Sunni sources, however, this tradition has been narrated with a structure and wording that is literary and in a narrative manner (like a fiction) in Lady Fatimah's words arousing the audience's sentiments and causing every now and then the confrontation between two intellectual trends, the last of which happened during the past decade. The goal of this article is not to approve or reject the above tradition, rather it tries to briefly investigate the personality of the first narrator of this tradition as well as his motivation, and then to mention major opinions and efforts of the scholars, researchers and the Shi'a in general in different periods in this regard.

**Keywords:** *Ḥadīth al-Kisā'* (Tradition of the Cloak), Shaykh Ṭurayḥī, elegy and fictional narrations, *Mafātīḥ al-Jinān*.

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### Semantics of abrogation in the light of the tradition of "al-Nāsikh wa al-Mansūkh" quoted from Imam `Ali (`a. s.)

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Abrogating and the abrogated (nāsikh wa mansūkh) is among the issues that has preoccupied the scholars of Qur'anic sciences for a long time so that they compiled certain books in this field. Reference of most of the researchers is a tradition from Imam `Ali (`a. s.). The Commander of the Faithful asked a man who was sitting in a mosque preaching the people, whether or not he was aware of "the abrogating and the abrogated", and he replied in negative. The Imam said to him, "You have perished and caused your audience to perish." By pondering on this hadith, it occurs to us that how not knowing the concept of some verses – based on the present meaning of abrogation – can cause perishing? Therefore, this hadith has a meaning beyond this.

The goal of this article is semantics of abrogation in the light of the above tradition quoted from Imam `Ali (`a. s.), prepared through a descriptive-analytical method and with a hadith-oriented and a historical approach, which after studying genuine sources, indicates the channels of transmission of the hadith and concludes: the conception of abrogation had a broad meaning at that time so that it encompassed different titles of Qur'anic sciences so that in the course of time its generality decreased and it was termed in its specific concept. On this basis, the person addressed by the Imam – in all probability – was a storyteller  $(q\bar{a}\bar{s}\bar{s}, pl. qu\bar{s}\bar{s}\bar{s})$ , and that the

formation of the trend of the storytellers, and the fact that they were not conversant with the knowledge required for interpreting the Qur'an, reinforces the probability denoting that "the abrogating and the abrogated" has a general inclusive concept.

**Keywords:** Imam `Ali (`a. s.), the abrogating (*nāsikh*), abrogated (*mansūkh*), storyteller, abrogation.

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#### A stylistic study and criticism of the concept of the phrase "waylu ummihī kaylan bi-ghayri thaman" in Nahj al-Balaghah

Ali Akbar Forati

The comprehension of the phrase "waylu ummihī kaylan bi-ghayri thaman" in Nahj al-Balaghah requires an integrated methodical approach (i.e. a holistic approach) and not a verbal atomistic approach.

The commentators followed by translators went astray when they explained or translated it, even when they provided it with diacritic marks, because they consider the term "waylun" as censure or a curse about the deniers of the Imam. For this reason, they held that the pronoun in "ummihi" refers to a referent preceding it and considered the noun "kaylan" in accusative (naṣb) as an unrestricted object (mafūl muṭlaq) for a verb that was omitted. However, considering the fact that this style is employed in Arabic, especially in poetry, one come to the conclusion that the verbal and conceptual integration of this phrase as a style of discourse. Contrary to its apparent meaning which is occasionally used, it means "praise, surprise and regret" in the Imam's words. There is no preceding referent for this pronoun; for its ambiguity is removed by means of the specification (tamyīz) that follows it (in the term kaylan). Thus, the meaning of the phrase is: Alas! It's a wonder that this measure becomes free of any cost, if only there was a vessel (good enough) to hold it!

**Keywords:** Nahj al-Balaghah, *waylu ummihī*, style, a praise applying words of censure.

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## A comparative study on Tafsīr al-'Ayyāshī and the works of Shaykh Ṣadūq pivoting on the isnads

Omid Pishgar Abdor-reza Zahedi

`Ayyashi's commentary on the Qur'an (Tafsīr al-'Ayyāshī) is a tradition-

oriented exegesis whose traditions – being at our disposal - are *mursal* (void of isnads). These traditions have been recognized by certain experts, however, being void of isnads is a serious weakness that cannot be overlooked. An analysis based on comparing traditions contained in similar works with the same traditions transmitted in other sources but enjoying isnads is one of the prevailing methods among the scholars of hadith in order for curing this defect. In this research, we benefited from the traditions remained as a legacy from Shaykh Ṣadūq (d. 381/991) to retrieve or to find isnads for the traditions contained in this commentary. We achieved fruitful results after this comparison: retrieval of isnads of 21 traditions of *Tafsīr al-Avvāshī*, and giving credit to 110 traditions of that book.

**Keywords:** *Tafsīr al-`Ayyāshī*, works of Shaykh Ṣadūq, comparative analysis.

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Recognition of the hadith "al-imām la-yughassiluhū illa al-imām" (Only an Imam may give ritual bathing to the dead body of an Imam) in the words of the Waqifites and the Shiites (Based on studying the background of the Infallibles' funeral in the Shi'a and Sunni sources)

Hossein Hosseiniyan Moqaddam Ebrahim Goudarzi

Interrelation between historical phenomena and hadith-oriented-theological theories is among inter-disciplinary studies that includes the necessity of giving ritual bathing to the dead body of an Imam – or any other funereal rituals – by the next Imam. This issue interconnected the three branches of knowledge namely hadith, theology and history, and caused different approaches to be resulted from facing it. Certain representatives of Imam Mūsā Kāzim (`a. s.) who became known as the Waqifites, claimed that he (i.e. Imam Kāzim) was the Mahdi; and this way they confronted Imam Riḍā (`a. s.). Invoking to the hadith denoting that "only an Imam may give ritual bathing to the dead body of an Imam", they produced a doubt on whose basis Imam Kāzim (`a. s.) was living and that Imam Riḍā (`a. s.) just claimed to be an Imam! Their reason was that Imam Riḍā's presence in Medina, prevented him from giving ritual bathing to the body of Imam Kāzim (`a. s.) in Baghdad.

Having applied a descriptive-analytical method, the present article has identified the agents giving ritual bathing to the body of the Infallibles (`a. s.) both in Shi'a and Sunni sources, and then based on the historical background and course, has investigated the discourse of the Waqifites as well as the

sequence of developments of understandings of that tradition among the Twelver Shi'a.

**Keywords:** arranging the funeral, the Waqifites, Imam Kāzim (`a. s.), Imam Riḍā (`a. s.), the hadith "*al-imām la-yughassiluhū* ...", the Twelver Shi'a, Allamah Majlesi.

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#### A criticism on the isnads and denotation of the tradition of "raf al-qalam" (lifting of the pen)

Ma'soumeh Shirdel

The present article examines the assessment of the reliability of a tradition called "raf' al-qalam" (... an yarfa'ū al-qalama 'an al-khalq kullihim fī dhālik al-yawm ...) [... that they would lift the pen (i.e. obligation) from all the people on this day ...] from the three aspects of "source", "isnad" and the "content". The earliest source for this tradition is the book "Majmū' ala'yād" (lit. total feasts), compiled by Abū Sa'īd al-Ṭabarānī, one of the ghulāt (extremists) of the Nuşayriyyah in the  $5^{th}/11^{th}$  century, from whence crept into the Imāmī sources in the 6<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> century. An analysis of its isnad through rijāl science suggests that the above tradition is mursal, and distorted and that all of its main transmitters are unknown. As for its denotation, the most serious criticism made against it is that it stipulates the inclusive trend of exemption from any obligation for three days, and this is an attempt to propagate a kind of Epicureanism (and evasion of responsibility of one's acts). It concludes that the above tradition is assessed as lacking authoritativeness because of: lacking validity of its source, lacking validity and authenticity of its *isnad*, that it proved opposing the explicit text of the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah (precedent) of the Infallibles (`a. s.), as well as the contradiction of its content with historical proofs, and the total agreement of the historians with the fact that the adventure of the Second Caliph's assassination took place in late Dhul-Hijja in the year 23 AH.

**Keywords:** the tradition of "raf` al-qalam" (lifting of the pen), criticism of isnad, criticism of denotation, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of Rabi` I.