

Research Paper

A Review of the Sudden Descent of the Quran in Exegetical Sources and an Evaluation of Allameh Tabataba'i's View in Al-Mizan

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10.22080/qhs.2025.28571.1184

Received:

July 9, 2024

Accepted:

October 8, 2024

Available online:

March 10, 2025

Extended Abstract

1. Introduction

The dating and explanation of the quality of the revelation of the Quran has long been a topic of discussion among interpreters and Quran scholars. On the one hand, the Quran mentions the descent of this heavenly book in the month of Ramadan and on the Night of Qadr, and on the other hand, it has been revealed gradually over the twenty-three years of the Prophet's (PBUH) mission. As a result, researchers have presented various viewpoints regarding the timing and manner of the revelation of the Quran, with some denying its definitive and one-

time revelation to the Prophet (PBUH) on the Night of Qadr and interpreting and justifying the presented evidence, while others insist on the acceptance of both definitive and gradual revelation, defending their evidence in this regard.

Since the gradual revelation of the Quran is an evident matter agreed upon by all Quran scholars, it must be said that the main point of contention lies in the realization and nature of the definitive revelation of the Quran. Therefore, this study examines and evaluates the reasons for accepting the definitive revelation of the Quran from the perspectives of various Quran scholars, including Allameh Tabataba'i, to clarify their evidence for

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accepting this definitive revelation. A review of Quranic studies indicates that proponents of the definitive revelation have sought to prove this claim by providing Quranic, narrative, and literary evidence. However, some researchers sometimes find these reasons inadequate and at other times raise objections against the definitive revelation of the Quran, thereby negating this form of revelation and justifying the arguments presented in this regard.

2. Methods

The present study has been conducted using a descriptive-analytical method. The authors first collected and categorized the evidence presented by interpreters and Quran scholars, then evaluated these reasons by explaining and analyzing the degree of implication of each.

3. Results

This research examines the concept of the Quran's sudden revelation (Nuzul Daf'i) by analyzing and re-reading the arguments presented by both proponents and opponents. It then investigates and critiques the reasons put forth by Quranic scholars to prove the sudden revelation of the Quran, concluding that narrations are the most significant evidence used by these scholars to support this concept. Furthermore, it demonstrates that some verses of the Quran have been interpreted through the lens of these narrations and that the morphological and linguistic evidence presented in favor of sudden revelation is incompatible with the analyses of literary experts.

4. Conclusion

Quranic scholars present verses 185 of Surah Al-Baqarah, 3 of Surah Al-Dukhan, and 1 of Surah Al-Qadr as arguments for the Quran's sudden revelation; however,

none of these verses explicitly indicate such a revelation. Consequently, most interpreters rely on narrative traditions to explain how these verses imply a sudden revelation. In fact, these narratives constitute the primary evidence cited by both proponents and opponents of the sudden revelation theory. Nevertheless, significant issues undermine the reliability of these narratives: many possess weak chains of transmission, while authentic hadiths often exhibit internal contradictions, discrepancies, or conflicts with the apparent meaning of certain verses. A third argument, which has gained attention in contemporary studies, centers on the semantic implications of the terms "inzal" and "tanzil." However, morphological and linguistic analyses do not support this claim. Therefore, the arguments presented to establish the sudden revelation of the Quran are insufficient to convince researchers of this conclusion."

Funding

This research received no funding from any source.

Authors' contribution

Davod Esmaeili (Corresponding author)

Hamideh Goli

Mohammadreza Hajiesmaeili

Conflict of interest

The authors declared no conflict of interest

Acknowledgments

The authors express their sincere gratitude to the esteemed editor and all contributors of the journal for their invaluable efforts and diligent follow-ups, which were instrumental in the successful completion of this article.

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