

Research Paper

A Study on the Specific Foundations of Exegesis Based on the Chronological Order of Revelation (Tafsir Tanzili)

Ruhollah Mohammadi^{*1} , Muhaddisa Kamribeigi² 

¹ Assistant Professor, Department of Quran and Hadith Sciences, Holy Quran University of Sciences and Education, Iran. (r.mohammadi@quran.ac.ir)

² M.A. in the Holy Quran University of Sciences and Education, Iran



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Extended abstract

1. Introduction

Revelatory Exegesis (Tafsir Tanzili) is a systematic approach to understanding the Holy Quran that relies on the historical order of its surahs' revelation. Although it has roots in the interpretative history of Muslims, in contemporary times, it has received less serious attention as an independent interpretive model with defined principles and foundations. This interpretive method, with a dynamic perspective on the gradual revelation process of the Quran, seeks to reread Quranic concepts within the framework of historical contexts and occasions of revelation. The

importance of this approach stems from its potential to open new horizons in understanding the gradual progression of Quranic teachings and addressing the needs of contemporary society. However, a research gap in the systematic explanation of the foundations of this interpretive method is keenly felt. This study, employing a descriptive-analytical method and an in-depth examination of library sources, aims to explore the distinguishing foundations of chronological interpretation across three domains – ontological, methodological, and teleological – and to provide a coherent theoretical framework for this interpretive approach.

***Corresponding Author:** Ruhollah Mohammadi

Address: Holy Quran University of Sciences and Education, Iran.

Email: r.mohammadi@quran.ac.ir

2. Research method

This research was conducted using a descriptive-analytical approach, drawing on library research and the examination of original interpretive and foundational texts. In this method, through the systematic collection of data from reliable sources and subsequent qualitative content analysis, the foundations of chronological interpretation were extracted and categorized.

3. Results

The findings reveal that the foundations of chronological interpretation comprise three interconnected domains. Ontologically, it demonstrates inherent compatibility with the Quran's gradual revelation, possesses legitimacy for understanding divine intent, contains inherent wisdom in its revelatory sequence, and shows no contradiction with the canonical arrangement. Methodologically, it adheres to the Prophet's educational approach, has historical validation through the practice of the Infallibles and the Companions, and allows for systematic scholarly presentation. Teleologically, it maintains a guidance-centric orientation, aligns with human nature (*fitrah*), and enables societal transformation. These foundations collectively establish chronological interpretation as a coherent system offering applicable horizons for both individual and social spheres, addressing contemporary needs through its structured approach to Quranic understanding.

4. Conclusion

The specific foundations of Tanzil-based exegesis are in three domains: ontological, methodological, and teleological. The findings indicate that, in the domain of

ontological foundations, the conformity of the *Tafsir Tanzili* method with the gradual revelation of the Qur'an as its distinguishing feature, the legitimacy and validity of this approach as an authentic means to comprehend the Divine intent, the wisdom underlying the Qur'an's descending sequence, the oral nature of Qur'anic language, the divinely ordained order of revelation, and the non-contradiction between *Tafsir Tanzili* and the canonical arrangement of verses and surahs, constitute the essential elements validating this method. In the methodological domain, principles such as adherence to the Prophet's (PBUH) pedagogical and instructional style, the existence of reliable historical evidence of the infallibles and companions employing this method, and the possibility of presenting *Tafsir Tanzili* within a systematic scholarly framework form the practical structure of this approach.

Moreover, in the teleological domain, the findings reveal that guidance-centeredness, the harmony of *Tafsir Tanzili* with human nature (*fitrah*), and the potential for societal transformation based on this exegetical method constitute its most significant foundations, providing a practical roadmap for the contemporary age.

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Conflict of interest

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