

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

GATEWAY TO THE QUR'ĀNIC SCIENCES

Based on

Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān

By IMAM JALĀL AD-DĪN AS-SUYŪTĪ

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TURATH PUBLISHING

Copyright: Turath Publishing 1438/2017

ISBN: 978-1-906949-12-9

Published by:

Turath Publishing

79 Mitcham Road

www.turath.co.uk

London SW17 9PD

+44 (20) 8767 3666

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

Arqahudān, Ṣalāḥ ad-Dīn

Gateway to the Qur'ānic Sciences

I. Title

Design & typesetting

ARM (www.whitethreadpress.com)

Printed by

Mega Printers, Istanbul

Distributors for UK and Europe

Azhar Academy Ltd.

54-56 Little Ilford Lane, London E12 5QA

trade@azharacademy.com

www.azharacademy.com

Distributors for South Africa

Darul-Ihsan Research and Education Centre

www.darulhsan.com



*Our Book the Qurʾān is the wellspring
and source of all knowledge;
it is the orbit in which the
sun of knowledge rises and sets.*

– Imam Jalāl ad-Dīn as-Suyūṭī –

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PUBLISHER'S PREFACE

In the name of Allah, the Most Merciful and Compassionate. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, alone without partners, and that Muḥammad is his servant and Messenger. I invoke the blessings of Allah and His peace upon His final Messenger, Muḥammad, his family and Companions, along with all those who follow them in goodness till the Day of Rising.

The primary objective of the Noble Qur'an, as the timeless book of guidance from Allah, is for people to understand and reflect upon its meanings. Allah says, "[This is] a blessed Book which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad] that they might reflect upon its verses and those of understanding would be reminded" (Qur'an, 38:29). In another place, Allah censures those who fail to reflect upon the Qur'an, and suggests it is disease in their hearts which caused their indifference towards His blessed Book. He Most High says, "Then they do not reflect upon the Qur'an or are there locks upon [their] hearts?" (Qur'an, 47:24)

With this objective in mind, Turath has embarked on publishing a number of Qur'anic exegeses (*tafsīrs*) for the English readership. Alongside these works, it was thought appropriate to bring to light a number of works from the Qur'anic sciences (*ʿulūm al-Qur'ān*) genre, which serve as an important prerequisite before undertaking the study of any particular exegesis (*tafsīr*). In this regard, Turath decided to abridge *Mukhtaṣar al-Itqān* of Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn Araḳān, which

is itself an abridgment of Suyūṭī's monumental *Al-Itqān*. This relatively short work, due to its conciseness, is perfectly suited as an elementary work in this area, and we are hopeful it will serve well to precede our forthcoming publication of the acclaimed *ʿUlūm al-Qur'ān* of our beloved shaykh Mufti Muhammad Taqi Usmani.

I would like to thank my dear beloved friend Dr Mufti Abdur-Rahman Mangera, director of White Thread Press, for introducing me to this work and the translator. I also extend my thanks to Dr Ashraf Dockrat of South Africa for his meticulous editing, Shaykh Andrew Booso for his diligent editing and proofreading of the text, alongside his very informative introduction, and also my silent friend Mufti Javed Iqbal from Birmingham, whose contribution may go unnoticed but is certainly not insignificant.

Finally, I thank Allah for blessing us with the ability to publish this work, and ask Him to enable us to publish more beneficial works, and ultimately grace them all with His divine acceptance. May He make them a means of our forgiveness and salvation, and the companionship of Allah's Messenger ﷺ in Paradise. *Ameen*

YAHYA BATHA
London 2016