



Introduction to the Translation

This is a translation of the well-known book, «Islam, A Creed And A Law» by Sheikh Mahmoud Shaltout (may Allah have mercy on his soul). The present volume is a translation of the part of the book dealing with the Islamic creed. We have taken the liberty of summarizing the chapter dealing with «Means of authenticating the elements of the Creed». It was felt that the extensive exposition in the Arabic original was of benefit only to the highly-specialized reader and may be somewhat daunting for the average reader.

We decided to avoid the awkwardness of persisting in using the inclusive «he/she and himself/herself» as well the use of the third person «one's». Instead we have elected to use «he» and «himself» uniformly with the understanding that both sexes are being addressed. There is considerable controversy about the use of language to minimize gender-exclusion. However, Creed in Islam is clearly equally applicable to both sexes without reservation or exception and we felt that the content rather than the form is sufficient to convey inclusiveness.

References to the Qur'an are by Surah (Chapter) and Aya (Verse) numbers, separated by a colon. We drew upon several English translations of which some are mentioned below:

1. The Meanings of the Holy Quran by Abdullah Yusuf Ali.
2. The Quran by M. H. Shakir.
3. The Message of the Quran by Muhammad Asad.
4. The Koran by J. M. Rodwell.
5. Interpretation of the Meaning of the Noble Quran by Dr. Muhammad Taqi-ud-Din Al-Hilali and Dr. Muhammad Muhsin Khan.

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