

GATEWAY TO THE QUR'ĀNIC SCIENCES

Based on

Al-Itqān fī 'Ulūm al-Qur'ān

By IMAM JALĀL AD-DĪN AS-SUYŪṬĪ

Translation by
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*Our Book the Qur`ān 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 (*'ulūm 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
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