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**ABSTRACT**

**Islamic Etiquette and its Fundamentals**

*الأخلاق الإسلامية و أسسها*

According to the author al-Maydani, this book is an unparalleled study of the fundamentals in Islamic etiquette, which is based on the Qur’an and the Sunna. The study is uninfluenced by Greek or contemporary Western thought. This abstract is based on the fifth edition of the book, which has two volumes (volume one, 850 pages; volume two, 679 pages).

The author did not review previous studies on the Qur’an and the Sunna, as he deemed them to taint direct personal reflection on Islamic ethics. He exhorts his readers to ignore the views of Islamic philosophers in order to avoid falling prey to interpretations of Islamic texts. He advises his pupils to be loyal to the pure sources of Islam which provide the right vision and explanation to our answers. .

The author presents general fundamentals (*ussus*) and refers to the Qur’an for examples. The Prophet of Islam is dscribed as a model for all people, and his social behaviours are adopted as rules of etiquette. One chapter provides the terminology related to morals, such as fidelity and reliability.

The last chapter looks at links between legislative texts and aspects of moral etiquette, occasionally quoting from the Qur’an or Sunna.

The book is poorly referenced or footnoted. However each volume has an index. In addition, volume one lists other books by the author. Both volumes include a synopsis showing sources from the Qur’an and hadith by the author.

Despite the fact that al-Maydani relies on personal analysis rather than any extant study or comparison, he is comprehensive and thorough in his use of most verses and hadith.

Dahlia Sabry

Translated by Saima Bhatti