

## Hermeneutics of Quranic Norm Change

In the Qur'an, the belief in the divine message is achieved through a process of interaction between two seemingly opposing dimension of perception: understanding and admiration. The beauty, which is admired, originates from the fact that it eludes any attempt to understand its mysterious effect, whereas clarity is presupposed as a basic condition for inferring the divine commands and prohibitions. The rhetorical term «Bayān», that has often been used to denote the Qur'anic text genre and has been wrongly translated as «clear speech», reveals this paradox in a remarkable way.

Nonetheless, a contemporary comprehensive hermeneutical positioning of the relationship between beauty and normativity in the divine speech is still needed. The remarks presented in this conference attempt to illustrate some aspects of semantic polysemy in the Qur'an which are related to the so-called phenomena of normativity, with the aim of showing the way to a theological re-reading of God's word.

Since the Qur'ān was sent down in its entirety for all times and all people, there norm-verses are not related syllogistically to one another, but argumentatively. At the same time, the normative related Quranic argumentation should be understood as a metaphorical entrance to the revocable life of the believer, such that the verse Q 4:43 in no way loses its meaning for the believer in favor of the verse Q 5:90. This would mean the end of a history in which the possibilities of human action could arrive at a final goal, leaving hardly any room for reversal or regret. This interpretation goes hand in hand with the qur'ānic image of the human, in which the believer's life plans possess a flexible and revocable form, moving back and forth between theological ideals, some of which are closer and some of which farther away than others.

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