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Abstract

It is undoubtedly unpleasant for Muslims to come across any form of misconception about Islam. Hadith, the second source for Islamic Jurisprudence which comprises variety of vast narrated texts is likely to be the most aimed target for mistaken thoughts and suspicions. Since Muslim Hadith scholars do not achieve sufficient efforts in clearing the cloudy air surrounding our divine legacy, we cannot blame people for their misconception especially those from other faiths. A misconception which prevails among ordinary individuals is considered a norm, on the contrary with the similar found in a realm of academicians which is supposed to be a pool of experts in the field. This paper is an attempt to shed light on misconceptions about hadith found in an article published in one of peer-reviewed journals titled ‘Where are the legal Hadith? A Study of the Musannaf of Ibn Abi Shayba’ written by Scott C. Lucas. For the purpose of clarifying the truth, this paper insists on unearthing the hidden facts about Hadith and pertinent areas. Notably, the vibrant interest and the good level of proficiency in the field of Hadith Studies the western scholar has been shown are very impressive. However, the credibility they proved needs a few steps forward to attain that breadth and depth of knowledge pertaining to Hadith. Surely, the further details needed for the matter of figuring out exact concept about Hadith remain in the hands of Muslim scholars, those of it’s origin. Hence, it is incumbent upon them to put an end to every single fallacy emerges.

Muṣannaf of Ibn Abi Shayba: An Introduction.

In the era of third and fourth centuries of Hijrah, the pattern of compiling prophetic hadiths instead of opinions is the dominance. Otherwise, some books written in that period hold steadfastly to the second century, the early era’s method of compiling all narration regardless of prophetic or non-prophetic. Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah which attracted Scott C. Lucas’s concern exemplifies a few books which did not keep pace with the change. To the genre of the period, belong the most important of all hadith collections, such as the Sahīhs of Bukhārī and Muslim, the Jāmi‘ of al-Tirmidhī, and also the Sunan works such as those of

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