

An Analysis of the Contemporary Western Academic Works in the Genre of Quranic Studies: a Case Study of Encyclopaedia of the Quran

Authors : Iffat Batool

Abstract : An extensive body of literature produced by the contemporary Western academia is an indication of their grave interest in the field of Qur'ānic studies. What increases its significance is the writings of the western scholars that underscore the element of objectivity and impartiality in the recent western academic works on the Qur'ān. Moreover, the participation of some Muslim scholars in the western academia is also highlighted by western thinkers to ensure the objectivity of western Qur'ānic scholarship. More specifically, with the publication of 'Encyclopaedia of the Qur'ān by Brill' the western academia seems to assign these elements to this work vigorously. Being the foremost work of its nature, 'Encyclopaedia of the Qur'ān' has attracted the academicians from across the world yet, with multiple receptions. The present study aims at locating the status of this work in the recent Western scholarship and its contribution towards the subject of Qur'ānic Studies. Through a critical analysis of articles, various features of this work are highlighted. This work concludes that although Encyclopaedia of the Qur'ān presents wide-ranging and extensive study, yet, it lacks a perfect, rigorous and thorough scholarship of the Qur'ān. Besides, this work argues that because of the marginal contribution of Muslim researchers, the majority conclusions of this anthology are in contrast to the traditional Muslim standpoint

Keywords : academic, encyclopaedia, objectivity, quran

Conference Title : ICQS 2020 : International Conference on Quranic Studies

Conference Location : Dublin, Ireland

Conference Dates : December 21-22, 2020