

A Muslim Jurisprudential Stance on Melodious Application of Music in Qur'ānic Recitation

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Abstract : The holy Qur'ān, due to its exceptional and unique rhythmic style of expression, seems to have a deep connection with music and elegance of melodiousness of voice, on the other hand, Islam has various authentic transmissions and expound teachings regarding the prevention of music and songs. In this context, there has been a remarkable debate among Islamic scholars, jurists and Qur'ānic scientist to whether it is permissible to use the principles of Arabic musical symphonies, Maqāmāt and melodies in the recitation of the Qur'ān? Some Muslim scholars are convinced of the Sharī'ah legitimacy of the use of music, Maqāmāt and melodies in the recitation of the Qur'ān but some scholars do not consider it permissible. This study is an attempt to discover the factual Muslim jurisprudential experts' stance on the subject by analyzing the arguments of both groups of scholars. It supports the viewpoint of the opponents, but also tries to reconcile the two positions. It maintains that there is nothing wrong with reciting the Qur'ān in a beautiful voice but it must be free from those forms of music which are not adored in Islamic Sharī'ah.

Keywords : Quranic recitation. maqāmāt, music, lahn, Uloom al-Qur'ān, Quranic sciences

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