



# Major Themes of the Qur'an

*Fazlur Rahman*

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*Major Themes of the Qur'an* is Fazlur Rahman's introduction to one of the richest texts in the history of religious thought. In this classic work, Rahman unravels the Qur'an's complexities on themes such as God, society, revelation, and prophecy with the deep attachment of a Muslim educated in Islamic schools and the clarity of a scholar who taught for decades in the West.

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## Major Themes of the Qur'an Details

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## From Reader Review Major Themes of the Qur'an for online ebook

### Muhtar Ahmad says

This book was the primary reference for my undergraduate's final paper.

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### Afiq Fikri says

A starter pack of what the author highlighted as the major themes of the Quran. A short, concise book with proper references and elaboration of each topic.

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### Ahsun says

this is a must read.

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### Ehtasham says

Without doubt, Mr. Malik has a very clear understanding of Quran and has gone to great depths to translate its message to a common man. Major Themes' explanations for some of the most complex ideas and verses in Quran is second to none. I highly recommend this to any muslim who knows the basic ideas of Quran but wants to gain a much deeper understanding of the 'whys' and 'hows'. Impeccable read.

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### Aamir Raja says

Very interesting explanation of the Quranic themes.

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### Hany says

The author in my opinion is a gifted scholar and I was impressed by the way he presented the major themes of the Quran and they are:

- 1) God
- 2) Man as Individual
- 3) Man in Society
- 4) Nature
- 5) Prophethood and Revelation
- 6) Eschatology
- 7) Satan and Evil
- 8) Emergence of The Muslim Community

The only disappointment was when he says and I quote: "The Qur'?n will tolerate strongman rule only as a temporary arrangement if people are immature, for how can a society whose people remain immature

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produce mature leaders?"(p. 29) Apparently his political views were still in the middle ages. Nevertheless, the book is very much worth reading and I highly recommend it to non Arabic speaking Muslims and non Muslims.

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### **Nermeen says**

the books shows that the author can not think or designs doctrines in a systematic thought, he had a leak of logic and order mind to determine ideas. for example in first chapter when he talked about God, he can not identify God, or who is he, he just explains God's attributes but the Natural of this God nothing at all.

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### **Nazmul Hasan says**

A great thematic overview of the quran unlike any book written in the English language. Dr. Rahman writes with an astute clarity and a sharp pen, and he assumes the reader can follow along. Each of the ideas are supported by a plethora of verse quotations and annotations. Even in his more controversial opinions (see the chapter on Prophethood and Revelation), Dr. Rahman maintains his scholarly clarity and illuminates his thoughts for the reader. Dr. Fazlur Rahman has produced a supreme achievement in this book for anyone interested in understanding and appreciating the Quranic plea. Not the 'Quranic world' it envisions for man, but the man it envisions for the world God has created: men with a deep awareness of moral and personal responsibility ...

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### **Sarip Dol says**

I think Fazlurrahman had great insights on how the Quran unfolds itself to us. To my surprise we share the same thoughts of taqdir, which makes me love him more and more receptive to his words.

However, I cannot shake off my disagreement to some of his views that I found rather eccentric. Perhaps, if only he has not neglected the Sunnah in a such a venture that offers quite a perplexed view on certain central themes of Islam, I would have been more persuaded. Still, I do not reject him categorically; I'm keeping him in view.

I also do not follow most of his counter-arguments to Islamicist (as he termed them so) in matters of understanding the Quran. Perhaps it is because I am not myself literate in these things, but certainly I must say, Fazlurrahman could have said things in better wording.

I wish to read more on him.

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### **Neil R. Coulter says**

Fazlur Rahman's *Major Themes of the Qur'an* was recommended to me as part of my continuing journey toward learning more about Islam. It looks like a small book, but I was amazed at how much thought-provoking content is packed into its brief 170 pages. I read generally a chapter a day, and even that was a too-quick tour through it; I will certainly return to this one again sometime soon.

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I liked Rahman's commentary, because it helped me see more clearly the differences between Islam and Christianity. The two faith traditions are so similar in so many ways that I think a Muslim and a Christian could probably talk together for quite a while and assume they're talking about almost the same thing, before finally coming to those points that distinguish them. The heart of the differences, of course, is who Jesus is, and also what the nature of divine revelation and "the Book" is. Rahman makes these fine, but crucial, points very clear.

As usual, reading a Muslim commenting on Christianity makes me think about all of the things that he just doesn't *quite* understand about Christianity. (And of course, the same is true when reading a Christian writing about Islam.) How I wish scholars and practitioners on both sides could understand more fully the other side, so that conversation could be richer and more to the point. Such greater understanding would yield better, more loving dialogue, not harsher, angrier dialogue. But as it is, most of us know just enough to talk right past each other, and I don't know exactly how to solve that. For myself, I'll just keep reading and learning. (And I'd like to have recommendations of any good books that present that kind of Muslim-Christian dialogue.)

I don't know to what extent Rahman's views represent "standard" Muslim beliefs, but I look forward to talking with other people about what I've gleaned from the book, to see how it relates to Muslim faith as it's lived out in daily life.

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## Mahmood Ali says

Zameen muntazir aasman muntazir,

Hai sarey ka sara jahan muntazir,

Imamat ka deedar in ko miley,

Ye mehrab o mimber azan muntazir,

Jahan main Ho shams e imamat tuloo,

Makan muntazir la makan muntazir,

Sunane ko noha Shah e karbala ka,

Har ik Shah ka noha khwan muntazir,

Chaley zulfiqar e ALI a.s aik baar,

Hain sarey he Peer o Jawan muntazir,

Areeze main MEHDI ne bas ye likha,

Aaiye MOLA hai ye madhha khwan muntazir.

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### **Muhammad Izzat Bin Solihuddin says**

I strongly suggest the readers to have a copy of the Quran or its translation to refer to when reading this book. In that way, the readers could see the examples and that would help them to better understand the context of the verses.

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### **Mohammad Javad says**

Ok, I think I may have said this a few times about other books previously, but now, this book earns the title of the best book I have read this year and also the best book I have read on the Qur'an and the history of early Islam so far. I will definitely come back to this book many times and will keep many of its points on mind for the rest of my life. Eye-opener, paradigm-shif-causer, and just a joy to read. A must read for anyone interested in the Qur'an imho.

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### **Shasta says**

Excellent book.

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### **'Izzat Radzi says**

Bagus, dan sangat disarankan kepada muslimin muslimat sekalian untuk baca.  
Bahkan, boleh disyorkan (pada pandangan saya) kepada yang belum islam.

Pun begitu, berhati-hati kerana ada beberapa tempat penulis merujuk kepada ibn Ishaq, yang periwayatannya boleh dipertikai dan diragui.

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