

SCIENCE OF TAFSIR: ORIGIN AND SIGNIFICANCE

Importance of Tafsir:

1. Allah uses the most clearly eloquent and conceit language in the Quran so the meaning is clear to those who are well grounded in Arabic language but not to those who are not well in it.
2. The Quran does not always mentions the events or references for which verse was revealed but these must be known for the verse be fully understood.
3. Some verse may have multiple meanings and it is the job of the person who does Tafsir to explain what is mean by the verse?
4. Tafsir is also important when it comes to driving out the laws of Islam from Quranic verses the Quran comes with instruction and when there are tradition of prophet Mohammad that also give instruction thus Tafsir combines both and gives a complete and comprehensible instruction to the reader.

Origin of Tafsir:

The first example of Tafsir can be traced back to the Islamic prophet Mohammad (S.A.W) he recited the verses to his companions usually explaining their meanings to teach them, this is one of his responsibilities these interpretation have not been collected independently in a book rather they have been recorded in hadith book under the topic of Tafsir along with other narration of Mohammad (S.A.W) after the death of Mohammad his companions undertook the task of interpretation thus starting a new age in Tafsir most of companion including Hazrat Abu Bakar refrained from commenting with his personal view and only narrated comments by Mohammad (S.A.W) others including Hazrat Abdullah Ibn Abbas used their own knowledge from the Arabic language to interprets the Quran on this stage Quran was not fully interpreted by the time of Tabain such wide range of sources were used to interprets the Quran.

1. ***The Quran itself:*** the first source of interpretation of Quran is the Quran itself that is some time its verses explains each other's something is left in a verse but said in detail in another verse or sometimes clarifies the meaning of other verse.
2. ***Hadith:*** the second source of Tafsir of Quran are the tradition of prophet Mohammad (S.A.W) the Quran has clarifies at many places that the real purpose of sending the prophet Mohammad in this world to explain the Quranic verses through his verse, deeds and actions, whenever during the life time of prophet Mohammad the companion found any difficulties to understand the Quranic verses they approach the prophet who explained it to them sometimes the prophet explained the Quranic verses without waiting for anybody to ask him to do so, after his death all such prophetic interpretation transmitted by the companion.
3. ***Saying of companions:*** it is the companions of the holy prophet who learn the Quran directly from him some of them had devoted their entire life to learn the Quran its interpretation and related knowledge directly from the saying and deeds of prophet their language was Arabic and they were fully aware of the environment of revolution of Quran therefore they are great source of Tafsir.

4. **Source of Arabic language:** Arabic language and its idioms is also a source of interpretation of Quran if anybody wants to interpret the Quran then the knowledge of Arabic is necessary without good knowledge of it interpretation of the is not possible.
5. **Common sense:** it is needed for everything in this world and it is required to draw interpretation from the above mentioned sources also, whenever Tabain interpreted the Quran and found any difficulties and did not found the answer in above mentioned sources then they use their Rai or opinions.
6. **Judio-christian Tradition:** Tabain also use the Judio- Christian tradition for the interpretation of the Quran, but according to some scholars it is not a reliable source of interpretation.

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