

Curriculum Vita of Prof. Dr. Nasr H. Abû Zayd

Birth: 10-7-1943, Tantâ, Egypt.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION:

1972: BA in Arabic Studies with Highest Honors from the Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University.

1977: MA in Arabic and Islamic Studies from the Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University, with Highest Honors.

1981: Ph.D. in Arabic and Islamic Studies from the Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University, with Highest Honors.

WORK HISTORY:

1972-1982: Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University.

1976-1978: Taught Arabic for foreigners (in addition to the teaching responsibilities at Cairo University) at the Center for Diplomats and at the Ministry of Education.

1982: Assistant Professor in the Same Department.

1987: Associate Professor for the Same Department at Cairo University.

1995: Professor in the same department.

1995- Visiting professor of Islamic Studies at Leiden University

2001-2004: Resource Person of ISIM project "Rights at Home"

2002- Ibn Rushd (Averroes)' Chair of 'Islam and Humanism' at the University of Humanistics, Utrecht

HONOURS and DISTINCTIONS:

1975-1977: Ford Foundation Fellowship at the American University in Cairo.

1978-1979: Ford Foundation Fellowship at the Center for Middle East Studies of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia USA.

1982: Obtained the `Abdel-`Azîz al-Ahwânî Prize for Humanities.

1985-1989: Visiting Professor, Osaka University of Foreign Studies Japan.

1993: the President of Tunisia conferred The Republican Order of Merit for services to Arab culture in May.

1994- Member of the Advisory Board for the "Encyclopaedia of the Qur'an"

1995-: Visiting Professor at Leiden University, The Netherlands.

1998: The Jordanian Writers Association Award for Democracy and Freedom.

2000-2001: The Cleveringa Honorary Chair in Law, Responsibility, Freedom of Religion and Conscience, Leiden University.

2002: The Roosevelt Institute Medal for Freedom of Worship

2002-2003: Fellow at the Wissenschaften College in Berlin.

A. PUBLICATIONS

I-Books: (in Arabic)

1. Rationalism in Exegesis: A Study of the Problem of Metaphor in the Writing of the Mutazilites (*Al-Ittijâh Al-'Aqlî fî al-Tafsîr: Dirâsa fî Qadiyat al-Majâz fî 'l-Qur'ân ind al-Mu'tazila*), Beirut and Casablanca 1982, 4th edition 1998.
2. The Philosophy of Hermeneutics: A Study of Ibn `Arabî's Hermeneutics of the Qur'an (*Falsafat al-Ta'wîl: Dirâsa fî Ta'wî al-Qur'ân ind Muhyî al-Dîn ibn `Arabî*), Beirut and Casablanca 1983, 4th edition, 1998.
3. The Systems of Signs: An Introduction to Semiotics (*Ilm al-'Alâmât*), co-editor, Cairo 1986.
4. The Concept of the Text: A Study of the Qur'anic Sciences (*Mafhûm al-Nass: Dirâsa fî 'Ulûm al-Qur'ân*), Beirut and Cairo 1991, 5th edition 1998.
5. The Problematic of Reading and the Method Of Interpretation (*Ishkâliyât al-Qirâ'a wa Aliyyât al-Ta'wîl*), Beirut and Casablanca 1995, 5th edition 1999.
6. The Foundation of the Moderate Ideology in Islamic Thought by Al-Shafî`î (*Al-Imâm al-Sh fî`î wa Ta'sîs al-Aydiyulujiyya al-Wasatiyya*), Cairo, 3ed edition 1998.
7. Critique of Islamic Discourse (*Naqd al-Khitâb al-Dînî*), Cairo, 4th edition 1998.
8. Women in the Crisis Discourse (*Al-Mar'a fî Khitbâ al-Azma*), Cairo 1995.
9. Thinking in the Time of Excommunication (*Al-Tafkîr fî Zaman al-Takfîr*), Cairo, 3ed edition 1998.
10. Caliphate and the Authority of the People (*Al-Khilâfa wa Sultat al-Umma*), Cairo, 1995.
11. Text, Authority and the Truth, (*Al-Nass, al-Sulta, al-Haqîqa*), Beirut and Casablanca 1995, second edition 1997.
12. Circles of Fear: Analysis of the Discourse about Women (*Dawâ'ir al-Khawf: Qirâ'a fî khitâb al-Mar'a*), Beirut and Casablanca 1999.
13. Discourse and Hermeneutics (*Al-Khitâb wa al-Ta'wîl*), Beirut and Casablanca 2000.
14. Thus Spoke Ibn `Arabi (Hakadhâ Takallama Ibn `Arabî,) The Egyptian National Organization for Books, Cairo 2002.

11-Books in English:

-*Voice of an Exile*, (coauthor: Esther R. Nelson), Praeger Publisher, Greenwood Publishing Group Inc. USA, 2004.

III-Articles (in English):

1. "Al-Ghazali's Theory of Interpretation", Journal of Osaka University of Foreign Studies, Japan, 72, 1986, pp. 1-24.
2. "The Perfect Man in the Qur'an: textual analysis", Journal of Osaka University of foreign Studies, Japan, no. 73, 1988, pp. 111-133.
3. "The Case of Abu-Zaid", Index on Censorship, London, 4, 1996, pp. 30-39.
4. "Linguistic Exposition of God in the Qur'an" in *Fundamentalismus der Moderne, Christen und Muslime im Dialog*, Evangelische Akademie, Loccum, Germany, 75/94, 1996, pp. 97-110.
5. "The Textuality of The Koran" in *Islam and Europe in Past and Present*, NIAS (Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in The Humanities and Social Sciences), 1997, pp. 43 - 52.
6. "Divine Attributes in the Qur'an: Some poetic aspects" in *Islam and Modernity*, edited by John Cooper, Ronald Nettler and Mohammed Mahmoud, I.B.Tauris, London, 1998, pp. 120-211.

7. "Inquisition Trial in Egypt", in Human Rights in Islam 15, RIMO, Maasstricht 1998, pp. 47-55.
 8. "Islam, Muslims and Democracy", in *Religion und Politik*, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, intere Studie Nr. 151/1998, pp. 103-12.
 9. "Literature and Heresy–Literature and Justice: The Critical Potential of Enlightened religion" in *Literatur, Menschenrechte in Islamischen Gesellschaften und Staaten*, Evangelische Akademie Loccum 22/96, 1998, pp. 18-32.
 10. "The Concept of Human Rights, the Process of Modernization and the Politics of Western Domination", in Politik and Gesellschaft: International Politics and Society, Herausgegeben von der Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, 4/1998, pp. 434-437.
 11. "The Modernization of Islam or the Islamization of Modernity", in *Cosmopolitanism, identity and Authenticity in the Middle East*, ed. Roel Meijer, Curzon Press, England 1999, pp 71-86.
 12. "Islamic Cosmology and Qur'anic Exegesis", in *Religion Wandel der Kosmologien*, edited by Dieter Zeller, Sonderdruck 1999, pp. 217-230.
 13. The Image of Europe in Modern Egyptian Narrative, in *Colonizer and Colonized*, Eds. Theo D'haen and Patricia Krüs, Rodopi, Amsterdam-Atlanta 2000, vol. 2, pp. 627-643.
 14. "The Qur'anic Concept of Justice", Polylog, forum for Intercultural Philosophizing', No. 3 (June 2001): Website address:
<http://www.univie.ac.at/wigip>/<http://www.univie.ac.at/wigip/>
<http://www.polylog.org/them/2.1/fcs8-en.htm>
 15. The Qur'an: God and Man in Communication, inaugural lecture for the Cleveringa Chair at Leiden University (November 27th, 2000)
http://www.let.leidenuniv.nl/forum/01_1/onderzoek/2.htm
 16. "Heaven, Which way?" Al-Ahram Weekly, issue No. 603.
<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2002/603/sc16-17.htm>
 17. The Dilemma of the Literary Approach to the Qur'an, ALIF, Journal of Comparative Poetics, the American University Cairo (AUC), No. 23, Literature and the Sacred, 2003, pp. 8-47.
- Entries in the Encyclopaedia of the Qur'ân:
- 18-Spricht Gott Nur Arabisch? (Does God Speak Arabic?), in Michael Thumann (ed), *Der Islam und der Westen*, Berliner Taschenbuch Verlag, Berlin 2003, pp. 117-126.
 - 19-Entries in the Encyclopaedia of the Qur'ân, Brill, Leiden-Boston-Koln:
- 1-Arrogance, Vol. I (2001), pp. 158-161.
 - 2-Everyday Life: Qur'an In, Vol. II (2002), pp. 80-97.
 - 3-Illness and Health, Vol. II (2002), pp. 501-502.
 - 4-Intention, Vol. II (2002), pp. 549-551.
 - 5-Opression, Vol 111 (2003), pp. 583-584.

111. Book Reviews:

1. "Beyond The Written Words: Oral Aspects of Scripture in the History of Religion" by William A. Graham, Die Welt des Islam, E.J. Brill, Leiden, 1995, 35, 1, pp. 150-152.
2. "Muslim, Jews and Pagans: Studies on Early Islamic Medina", by Micheal Lecker, Bibliotheca Orientalis LV No. 1 / 2, January-April 1998, Column 275-8.
3. "Paradise Lost, Reflections on the Struggle for Authenticity in the Middle East" by C.A.O. van Nieuwenhuijze, Bibliotheca Orientalis LVI No. 3/4, May-August 1999, Column 510-513.

4. "Image of the Prophet Muhammad in the West, A Study of Muir, Margoliouth and Watt", by Jabal Muhammad Bauban, Bibliotheca Orientalis LVI No. 3/4, May-August 1999, Column 518-522.
5. "Reforming the Muslim World", by M.A. Shoudhury, Bibliotheca Orientalis, LV11 No.1/2, January-April 2000 column 221-224.
6. "Islamic Banking and Interest: a study of the Prohibition of Riba and its Contemporary Interpretation" by Abdullad Saeed, Bibliotheca Orientalis, LV11 No. 5/6, September-December 2000 column 736-739.

111 – Translations:

1-Germany:

Books:

-*Politik und Islam: Kritik des Religiösen Diskurses*, translated by Cherifa Magdi, Dipa-Verlag, Frankfurt, 1996.

-*Ein Leben mit dem Islam* (Life with Islam) autobiography edited by Navid Kermani, translated by Sharifa Magdi, Herder 1999.

Articles:

- "Islam und Menschenrechte" (Islam and Human Rights)", Kas . Auslands-Informationen, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 5, 1996, pp. 51-59.

- "Die Frauenfrage zwischen Fundamentalismus und Aufklärung" by Salima Salih, in *Islam-Demokratie-Moderne, Aktuelle Antworten arabischer Denker*, Verlag C.H. Beck, München, 1998, pp. 193-210.

2- Dutch:

-*Vernieuwing in het islamitisch denken*, translated by Fred and Rob Leemhuis, Uitgeverij BULAAQ, Amsterdam, 1996.

- "Islam en democratie: convergenties of divergenties?" in *Dehamel Opaarde? De gelovige burger in multiculturele democratie*, Davidfonds Leuven 1998, pp.114-128.

- *Mijn Leven met de islam*, Becht. Haarlem, 2002

3-English:

- "The Sectarian and the Renaissance Discourse", translated and introduced by Mona Mikhail, ALIF, Journal of Comparative Poetics, The American University of Cairo, no 19, 1999, pp. 203-222.

4- French:

- "Le Discours Religieux Contemporain: Mécanismes et Fondements Intellectuels", translated by Nachwa al-Azhari, Edwige Lambert and Iman Farag, In: CEDEJ - Egypte / Monde Arabe, No.3, 3e trimestre, 1990, pp. 73-120.

- "Critique du Discours Religieux", translated by Mohamed Chairet, *Sindbad Actes Sud*, 1999.

5- Indonesian:

- *Imam Syafi'i: Moderatisme - Eklektisime - Arabisme*, translated by Khoiron Nahdliyyin, LKIS, 1997.

6-Italian:

Islâm e Storia, Critical del discorso religioso, Bollati Boringhieri, 2002.

7-Persian:

-“Mafhum al-Wahy”, by Muhammad Taqi Karmi, in Naqd wa Nazar, vol 3,no. 4, fall 1997, pp. 376-433.

-“Al-Tarikhyya: al-Mafhum al-Multabis”, by Muhammad Taqi Karmi, in Naqd wa Nazar, vol 3,no. 4, fall 1997, pp. 328-375.

8- Turkish:

-“Universal Principles of Shari‘a: A New Reading”, translated from Arabic to Turkish by Mostafa Unver, Journal of Islamic Research, Ankara, Turkey, vol. 8, n. 2, 1995, pp. 139-143.

-“The Problem of Qur’anic Hermeneutics, from Classical to Recent Period” by Omer Ozsoy, Journal of Islamic Research, Ankara, Turkey, vol. 9, no. 1-2-3-4, 1996, pp. 24-44.

-The Foundation of The Moderate Ideology in Islamic Thought by al-Shâfi`î, translated by M. Hayri Kirbasoglu, in *Sunni Paradigmanin Olusumunda*, Kitabiyat, Ankara 2000, pp. 89-148.