

appropriate methodology to address religious texts. He determines a number of points of weaknesses that mars some of the methodologies. He finally ends focusing on the importance of searching for the targets and aims of the Sharia to best understand its text. In the second part, the author gives some examples. He finds out that some religious texts address the momentary forms. He says we must not stop there but rather we must probe behind that to reach the form of the verdict among other issues related to time and place. He said that it is wrong to stress on these issues as absolute verdicts that must be followed anytime anywhere.

The scientific interpretation of the Qoran

Sheikh Mohamad Ali Rada'I As-fahani tries to seek the scientific goal of the holy Qoran. He studies the viewpoints of a group of scholars on the origin of this methodology and discusses their position from it. He stresses that this methodology is not entirely new. He mentions relatively advanced examples that to harmonize between the Qoranic text and the discoveries of the human mind in the various scientific domains. Among these scholars are Avicenna, Al Ghazali, Fakr Razi. He finds that for Al

Ghazali for example, many scientific fields such as medicine and astronomy have their origin in the Qoranic verses. Avicenna also tried to have the Throne held as in the verse (And eight will, that Day, bear the Throne of thy Lord above them) Razi also took as an evidence on the tranquility of Earth the verse (who has made the Earth your couch). On the other hand, Shatebi among other scholars renounced the scientific interpretation. In his article, the author tries to balance between the two viewpoints and evaluate them.

The Republic: from Islamic and Democratic Thinking Perspectives:

At the beginning of his article, researcher Ali Mu'min admits there is a common space between democracy and Islam. However, he points out vast differences in each launching pad and pillars. The author says both Islam and democracy concur in securing the freedom of belief and expression and the right of people to observe their commander, yet they part in the origin of this right. While Islam views this right as a divine gift, democracy finds another origin for that. The author depends on his approach to the republic in Islam on the Iranian example along with its intellectual and constitutional pillars.

with dignity and on this foundation must be based a group of methods and techniques. Opposite to dignity is another foundation: human weakness that could not but be observed in judging human behavior. There is also another foundation: the freedom of choice. From these foundations, a group of sources are derived such as: participation, counsel and the right to object and criticize the ruler by the subjects among other issues which the author lengthily elaborates.

in the educational system

Answering our question on evaluating religious education, Professor Ghulam Reda Siddiq Aurai' said his answer is linked to our definition to religiousness. If religiousness means believing in God, the status would be quite excellent as some researches say that 97% of the Iranians believe in God; whereas if religiousness is meant to mean something else as religious experience, the percentage would fall dramatically since many of those committed to Islamic rituals such as praying have not experienced undertaking a vow or an oath. Henceforth, he calls for a clear look for all educational plots that clarify the objectives and specify the policies leading to these objectives.

New changes in religious school education

Professor Abdel Azeem Karimi calls for altering the educational viewpoint to enhance the status of religious education through focusing on qualitative rather than quantitative dimension, considering the student the center of education instead of the teacher and adopting participation instead of automatic dictation. He further goes for altering the official governmental focus towards creating the appropriate atmosphere to developing the student's potentials. Evaluating the difficulties and problems faced by religious education at schools, he pointed out the most important among them:

- the hegemony of authorities speech
- the legal difficulties deterring such view alterations
- the inactivity of the human personnel currently working at schools.

Islamic Thinking and understanding the Goals behind Religion and Worshipping:

The article of Yahya Mohamad comes in two interconnected parts. The first has to do with methodological basis and the other with application. In the first part, the author poses a number of questions on the

is best manifested in the reformation attempts that timely yielded their fruits and are still successively having their positive impacts felt until our time. Among the important fields which the Hawza must take special notice of is theology taking into consideration the importance of this science as any development in this domain is reflected on the view of the researchers in other Islamic sciences.

Renewing the Islamic thinking: a prelude to religious education reform:

Professor Anwar Abu Taha commences his article expressing his belief in piety and its intact reservation despite the attack of modernity and modernization. Then he discusses the positions of some Western intellectuals on modernity and religion before ending with a question on the competence of modernity as being a prelude to religious education reform. Then he poses several questions on reform itself wondering whether it is necessary. He hints that the religious text still plays a prominent role in Islamic societies. Henceforth, no reform attempts can succeed without realizing the text and be founded on its piled intellectual heritage. Any other reform attempt

would prove a rootless tree.

On Education and Educational thinking according to Shaheed Mutaheri:

Professor Talal Atrresi discusses educational thinking according to Shaheed Mutaheri via studying his radiant thoughts in this domain. He finds out that Mutaheri is distinguished from many others in many ways: his encyclopedic attitude and his boldness in facing different viewpoints that have different interests via addressing the defaults that had marred the thought of Muslims as far as their beliefs and jurisprudence are concerned. The author pauses to say that Shaheed Mutaheri tries to mold his educational thought through the Koranic text as the first pillar next to which everything else comes. He gives several examples to elaborate his point.

A look at political education according to Imam Ali pbuh:

The author Mohamad Hassani presents a group of educational sources and methods, which are derived from the words of Imam Ali pbuh. He sees that dignity is the most important foundation for education. God has distinguished man



ses the elements of both forms to balance between them. He wraps his article with a call to choose the first form being more harmonious with human nature besides having a longer influence.

Education and the challenges of globalization: a study in the facts and the results

The influence and repercussions of globalization are starting to appear as great challenges for national cultures and religious characteristics. These challenges are most evident in the field of education where the dazzling aspects of globalization are trying to brainwash nations as a whole to paint them with a one-color-culture, that of consuming. This is the main base for paralyzing whatever attempts for confronting economic projects that seek to idlize the market. Pursuant to all mentioned above, Professor Rashid Abu Thur calls for focusing on the culture to confront globalization and its economic facets.

The needed educational change; Reform in performance or in viewpoint:

Ali Yusuf detects the change attempts called for by the international forces in what came to be known as

the Greater Middle East. He finds that the most important aspect of this change is educational.

According to the author, what is most remarkable is that the called for change is not limited on children as is expected but it extends to include grownups as well in an attempt to change their viewpoints and tendencies.

The author says that it is necessary to rethink our educational performance so the change be from within and be inspired by our values. This helps in blocking the way before the change coming from abroad to alter viewpoints while keeping the unsound performance as it is.

Modernizing Religious Teaching in the Religious School (Hawza):

Author Abed Jabbar Rifai starts his article with a brief history of the Hawza beginning with its first days in holy Najaf and Qom. He also points to the almost thirty years of stagnancy from which the Najafi Hawza suffered.

The author then expresses his viewpoint that the future of this Hawza is promising as it sets into a new launch. The author speaks about modernizing the Hawza which he sees as having great potentials for that. That goes back in history and

A Summary for the Published articles in issue no. :15

Education and Teaching in Islam: a study of terminology and the problems of the concept

Professor Mohamad Naqeeb Attas starts from an intellectual position that has its own supporters - the interest in the term and its significance. Hereoff, he focuses in his approach from this perspective to find that using the term (education and teaching) does not convey the original significance that it is supposed to convey in the Islamic thinking and heritage. Thus he calls for a return to the Islamic intellect and heritage. Before handling the terminological invasion that had led to the mingling of concepts and the dispersal of significance, he starts with this call of his to say that the Arabic language has a scientific nature with terms that have definite significance that can not come to mean something else and the alternative term he suggests for education is discipline.

Religion and its role in Education

In his article, the author probes into the importance of religion in education. He takes as a starting point

the many differences among the educationalists on this issue. Some highlight the importance of keeping many aspects of religion away from school; where else others underscore the important role that religion can play in this domain. The former group points out the negative aspects of religious education. The author concludes that it is better that we liberate religious education from some of its negative aspects that pertain to religious fanaticism for example and focus instead on the common points among religions especially on the multi-religious societies.

Education: an act of guidance or prevention:

Professor Abdel Azeem Karimi starts his article on a philosophical base on the concept of change according to the Greeks. He compares between two forms of education; one that depends on causing a change in the conscience of the receiver so as to harmonize between his nature and the values he is to be taught. The other form seeks to change the behavior only. The author then analy-