

Typology of Esoteric Narrations Related to Amīr al-Mu'minīn (as) in Surah An'ām

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Abstract

One of the teachings of the Ahl al-Bayt (as) in expressing the teachings of the Holy Quran is to open a new window in harmony with time called Tāwīl. Quranic verses have tāwīl (esoteric interpretation) in addition to what is used in their appearance. And the best way to achieve the tāwīl of the Qur'an is through the Ahl al-Bayt (as), because according to the hadith of Thaqaalayn, the Ahl al-Bayt (as) are considered as the counterpart of the Qur'an. In many narrations of the Ahl al-Bayt (as), the verses of the Qur'an have been interpreted in accordance with tāwīl, but in the narrative interpretations, the interpretive narrations have not been separated from the tāwīl; therefore, separating esoteric narrations from interpretive narrations and determining the type of their tāwīl becomes important and necessary. This research seeks to find the answer to the question of what type of tāwīl have been made about the Amīr al-Muminīn (as) in the esoteric narrations of Surah An'ām? In this regard, based on the idiomatic meaning of tāwīl of the Qur'an in verses and narrations, esoteric narrations related to Imam Ali (as) were extracted from the interpretive narrations of Surah An'ām; and by descriptive-analytical method, it was found that there are four types of tāwīl in these narrations about that Imam, which are: the esoteric meaning of the verse, the esoteric example of the verse, the example or generality of the verse and the fulfillment of the contents of the verse.

Keywords: Tāwīl of the Qur'an, Esoteric Narration, Imam Ali (as), Surah An'ām.

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