

Analysis of Murder of Apostates

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Abstract

Today, the problem of murder of apostates has led to a significant question to Muslim scholars. Sometimes, this problem is raised by some Muslims for attaining a rational response and sometimes opponents of Islam use it to discredit religion, and claim the oppressiveness and anti-rationality of Islam by referring to the decree of murdering apostates as their own reason. Quran as the most significant source of law-making in Islam does not talk of murdering apostates as it embarks on reasoning and rational approach to defend its teachings and claims against opponents. Study of evidence in narratives signifies that there are constraints and limitations which match the apostate's decree with Quran verses. These are authoritative constraints that are ignored in jurisprudential books.

Keywords: Apostasy, Punishment of Apostates, Freedom of Religious Choice, Conversion.