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Structure of Mahmud Zamakhshari's Work "Nukatu-L-I'rab"

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Abstract: This article briefly describes the life and scientific activity of Zamakhshari. It also provides information about the scholar's work "Nukatu-l-i'rab". The author analyzes the importance of this work as part of the scholar's scientific heritage. The article discusses the role of "Nukatu-l-i'rab" in linguistics and its relevance today. Copies of the work preserved in libraries around the world are also mentioned.

Keywords: Zamakhshari, Jorullah, Aruz Science, Nukat, Mukhafafa



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Introduction

Together with providing modern education, we must seriously think about properly explaining the humanistic essence of our sacred religion that runs in our veins to our youth, educating them in the spirit of noble ideals. In our beloved homeland, where great scholars and revered saints like Bukhari, Biruni, Termizi, Maturidi, and Khwarazmi originated, we must create all the necessary conditions for our youth to grow up worthy of their great ancestors. Studying the scientific heritage of our great ancestors and applying their high moral qualities in life is crucial for educating the younger generation in both national and universal human values. One of such scholars is Mahmud Zamakhshari, and fully researching his rich scientific heritage is still relevant today.

Methodology

After our homeland gained independence, the life and scientific legacy of Mahmud Zamakhshari, who earned titles such as "Ustozu-l-arab wa-l-ajam" ("Teacher of Arabs and Non-Arabs") and "Fakhru Khwarezm" ("Pride of Khwarezm"), began to be studied scientifically with deep respect. Zamakhshari, who grew up in the ancient land of Khwarezm and made a significant contribution to world culture, is well-known across the globe. His timeless works and the scholarly articles written about him can be found in

libraries around the world. The people of Central Asia take great pride in this great scholar who contributed priceless gems to the treasure of knowledge (Hayik, 2019).

Abul Qasim Mahmud ibn Umar Zamakhshari was born on the 27th of Rajab, 467 AH (March 19, 1075 AD) in the village of Zamakhshar in Khwarezm. He passed away at the age of 71 on the night of Arafah in 538 AH in Jurjon (Urgench). His writings are mostly found in medieval Arab sources. His father, although not wealthy, was educated, pious, and devoted, spending most of his time in Quran recitation and prayer, even serving as an imam in a mosque in Zamakhshar. His mother was also known as a pious, religious woman.

Zamakhshari was one of the most prominent scholars of his time, having written about seventy works on various fields of science, many of which have survived to this day. The number of his works is cited differently in various sources. German Orientalist K. Brockelmann mentioned 31 works in his "History of Arabic Literature," while Dr. Ahmad Muhammad al-Khufi stated there were 48 works in his pamphlet "Az-Zamakhshari." Academic A. Rustamov's book "Mahmud Zamakhshari" lists 39 works, and B.Z. Khalidov mentions 55. Another researcher, U. Uvatov, in his book "Nuances of Expression," lists 34 works.

Result and Discussion

Mahmud Zamakhshari's works have been studied by scholars from both the East and West. Notable researchers include German scholars K. Brockelmann, S. Schmidtke, and English scholars C. Horn and R. Jackson, as well as scholars from Uzbekistan, Russia, and the Arab world (Massry-Herzallah, 2019).

Zamakhshari's works in various fields such as Arabic grammar, literature, lexicography, linguistics, geography, logic, religious sciences, and Quran exegesis are crucial components of his intellectual legacy. His contributions to linguistics, in particular, hold significant value (Latif, 2021).

One of his notable works is "Nukatu-l-i'rob fi-l-g'arib i'rob fi-l-Qur'an al-Karim," where he explores the subtle linguistic aspects of the Quran through its verses. The manuscript of this work is preserved in the "Daru-l-kutub wa-l-wasa'iq al-qawmiya" library in Cairo.

Conclusion

In conclusion, "Nukatu-l-i'rob" is not a work of Quranic exegesis or Quranic grammar but, as Zamakhshari himself described, it is dedicated to uncovering linguistic nuances and rare issues. It deals with the grammatical intricacies, lexical, syntactical, and rhetorical aspects of the verses. In places where necessary, it also touches on fiqh and tafsir issues (Almekhlafi, 2021).

The book's structure demonstrates that Zamakhshari selected specific points from various surahs, not intending to provide a full tafsir but to explore the subtle nuances within those selected verses. This work serves as a valuable contribution to the understanding of Quranic language, focusing on the deep intricacies of its linguistic structure (Meda, 2021).

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