

## ABSTRACT

Qur'ān and Its Interpretation: Study in the Meaning and Use of Hermeneutic in Understanding the Holy Text

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Al-Qur'ān, since it first time revealed to the Prophet Muhammad Peace Be Upon Him believed as the Divine word. For a long time all muslim has no doubt about this belief. They do their best to get a good understanding of this Holy Scriptural text by some methodological effort to reveal its true meaning that we call an interpretation, because Al-Qur'ān is the guidance of life for human. People seek the understanding of the Qur'ān until its born any interpretations. That why the first science appeared in Islam was *Ulūm al-Tafsīr* (sciences of Interpretation) while this effort (*tafsīr*/interpretation of holy Qur'ān) is always existed on the line of Prophet Muhammad's guidance which is root still well-kept related to him (PBUH) until now.

By the development of time, there is a new methodological interpretation of srriptural texts called as "Hermeneutic". Which it was born from the ancient Greek Mythology and then used as a methodological interpretation by Christian in about 17<sup>th</sup> century promoted by Schleiermacher (A Protesntant priest from Germany). Hermeneutic as a method of interpretation and assume all of the text can be the object of study of hermeneutics. Hermeneutics is a theory of translation and interpretation of the text and hold a traditional concepts of scripture and dogma. In contemporary times, the word *hermeneutic* is generally used to refer to interpretation of the Bible. Scriptural hermeneutics are used by religious scholars as a system by which to correctly understand the meanings of the Bible.

Nowadays, some muslims intellectual use the method of hermeneutic in understanding Qur'ān and its interpretation such as Muhammad Arkoun and Nasr Hamid Abu Zayd. But their thought meets some reaction from muslims. Some of them accept this method and instead some of them refuse it. Considered if hermeneutic applied in the Study of Holy Qur'ān and its interpretation the it will impact to the desecration of Holy Qur'ān. For they who receive this method, that because hermeneutic means the theory of interpretation, i.e. the theory of achieving an understanding of texts, utterances, and so on.

The conclusions from those who applied hermeneutic in their thought, they consider Al-Qur'ān as cultural-product (*muntaj thaqafī*) or equating the holy Qur'ān with other humans work. While Al-Qur'ān is Divine words (*kalāmullah*), it has not the writer/composer neither Prophet Muhammad PBUH who had received this revelation.

**Keyword:** Al-Qur'ān, Bible, Hermeneutic, Interpretation, *Tafsīr*.