
The Inverse Sign of "Knowledge without Known Object" in Raḍavī Narratives

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Abstract

Explaining the quality of divine knowledge, especially the knowledge before creation, is one of the most important and difficult issues of divine wisdom. The most valuable narrations of the infallible Imams (as) in each period represent this profound knowledge, which, due to the miraculous nature of its system, has led to a disagreement among scholars in meaning, ranging from low to deep levels. Ṣadr al-Muta'lihīn is the founder of a new and innovative way of describing the traditions of monotheistic theology from the Imams of Ahl al-Bayt (as), as he causes the opponents and supporters to challenge, and influenced by him, describing on "Uṣūl Kāfī" continues. The explanation of narratives about divine knowledge, especially the quality of "knowledge before the creation", has many difficulties. Some explanations are not based on any firm basis, but they are established on elimination of the problem itself instead of solving the problem. In this regard, the separatists, in their explanation, have taken the principle of existence to be eliminated, and they have referred to it as "Knowledge without Known Object", and they considered it as the exact phrase in the traditions: "knowledgeable when there is no known object ". This phrase has been quoted first from Amīr al-Mu'minīn, and then Imam Bāqir and Imam Ṣādiq, and finally from Imam Riḍā (peace be upon them). The separatists effort in rejecting and delivering attitude is summarized by the explanation of Ṣadr al-Muta'lihīn and the magnification of their views. Their imitators, in the same way, have promoted their opinion and criticized the rival theory. In order to find out and benefit from the content of these narratives, the separatists' claims in this regard have been analyzed.

Keywords: Raḍavī Narratives, Knowledge before creation, Knowledge without known object, Separatists' theology, Narrative attitude.

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