

Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. The question of his life and second coming:

The Jews are the only people in the world who say that Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. was crucified, killed and buried, following which he never returned to life. What happened really and truly has been clarified in verse 158 of Surah al- Nisa' in the Noble Qur'aan. This verse "And they planned and Allaah planned" points out that Allaah Almighty made the sinister move of the enemies of Hadhrat Isa ALY recoil upon those who had gone into the house to kill him. It was one of them whom Allaah changed to look exactly like Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. Allaah then raised Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. alive into the heavens. The words of the verse are: "They never killed him, nor did they crucify him, but they were cast into doubt"<sup>2</sup> Details of this will appear under the commentary on Surah Nisaa.

The Christians said that Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. was, no doubt, killed on the cross but brought back to life once again and raised into the heavens. The verse under reference has refuted this false notion as well. It is stressed here that similar to the Jews who were rejoicing after killing their own man, the Christians fell victim to the same mistaken identity by believing that it was Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. who was killed on the cross. The Christians have therefore also become the victims of mistaken identity. This is obvious from Qur'aanic statement "but they were cast into doubt.?"

As opposed to the view of these two groups, the Islaamic belief is stated here in this verse and in several other verses. It states that Allaah raised him alive into the heavens in order to rescue him from the Jews. He was not killed and He was not crucified. He is alive in the heavens and it will be close to the Day Of judgement when he shall come down from the heavens, lead the Muslims To victory over the Jews, and finally, he will die a natural death.

There is a consensus of the entire Muslim community on this belief. In his Talkheesul Habir, Haafidh ibn Hajar rah. has reported this consensus (Page 319). This belief, and the consensus of the ummah on it is proven on the Authority of several verses of the Noble Qur'aan and reports from Mutaawtir Ahadeeth transmitted through an unbroken chain of reporting. However, this is not the place for its detailed discussion, and it is not necessary either. The reason is that scholars of the Ummah have already taken up this question in special books and have given detailed answers to those who dispute the ascension of Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. For instance, there is the Arabic work, 'Aqeedatul Islaam fi Hayaati Isa Alayhissalaam. by Hujjatul Islaam Moulana sayyid Muhammad Anwar Shah Kashmiri RAH. 'Hayaate Isa? Alayhissalaam. (the life of Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam.) in Hadhrat Moulana Badre Aalam Muhaajir Madani RAH. 'Hayaate Maseeh Alayhissalaam. in Urdu by Moulana sayyid Muhammad Idris Alayhissalaam. and hundreds of other books or essays dealing with this question.

While carrying out the orders of his respected teacher Hadhrat Moulana sayyid Muhammad Anwar Shah Kashmiri RAH. this writer had collected more than one hundred Mutawaafir Ahadeeth that he identified to prove undeniably that Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. was raised alive and that he will. Return close to the Day of Judgement. This collection is in book form and entitled, 'At Tasrih bima Tawatara fi Nuzulil Maseeh' has been recently published in Beirut with marginal notes and commentary by Allaama Abdul Fattaah Abu Guddah RAH. a revered scholar of Aleppo in Syria.

While explaining the verse of Surah Ahzaab Haafidh Ibn Katheer RAH. says, There are Ahadeeth from Rasulullaah SAW. narrated in an uninterrupted succession that he proclaimed the coming of Hadhrat Isa Alayhissalaam. before the Day of Judgment as a just ruler.? (Ma' aariful Qur' aan V ol.2 Pg.78,79)

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