

Abstract

The main objective of the book was to produce an integrated teaching material (book) for the course unit Philosophy of Knowledge. The book comprises nine chapters that include a general overview of the nature and scope of knowledge; Islamic theory of knowledge, classical Muslim philosophers' thought on knowledge, Western classical theories of knowledge, modern Western theories of knowledge, African theory of knowledge, modern Islamic thought, contribution of the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT), and the implication of integration of knowledge too. The book highlights three theories of knowledge from the Islamic, Western and African perspectives. This acquaints the reader with multidisciplinary theories of knowledge. The book points out that the Islamic theory of knowledge supersedes the other two theories since it encompasses all kinds of knowledge, that is, revealed and acquired knowledge. This enables one to understand the truth. The revelation teaches Man the knowledge of religion which includes knowledge of the unseen like life after death. On the other hand, acquired knowledge teaches Man that knowledge which is with in his environment. Both kinds of knowledge come from Allah, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. The acquired knowledge helps us to understand the laws of the Universe which are designed by Allah, and reflecting on these laws, and events leads us to understand Allah the Almighty. Therefore, both revealed and acquired knowledge complement each other. Any kind of knowledge which acknowledges only one of the two is incomplete and hence lacks the truth.

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