



IMAGE OF THE MESSENGER MUḤAMMAD (PEACE BE ON HIM) IN THE ENGLISH LITERATURE FROM EARLY MIDDLE AGES TO PRESENT

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A B S T R A C T

This paper delves into the corpus of English literature written from the early middle ages to the present age to study the attitudes of English writers toward the Messenger Muḥammad (peace be on him) and examines how they varied during various literary ages in the English Literature. This paper argues that the image of the Messenger Muḥammad (peace be on him) passed through two phases in the English Literature. The paper shows that the image of the Messenger Muḥammad (peace be on him) which was created in early mediaeval times continued through the Elizabethan period without much change, which do popup every now and then in the western media and literary works even in the contemporary times. On the other hand, new literary images of the Messenger Muḥammad (peace be on him) which started emerging in the Victorian era are recurring in the Modern times with some ups and downs. The paper closes with the plea to western academy to do more academic efforts for making a truthful image of the Messenger Muḥammad (peace be on him) necessary for a meaningful dialogue of civilisations and for better Muslim Christian relations.

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