

A Critical Analysis of the Major Interpretations of the Verse “Idribuhunna” by Quranic Scholars

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Abstracts

Abstract

This research aims to critically examine the prominent interpretations offered by Quranic scholars regarding the verse “Idribuhunna” (*Quran*, 4:34), within the ethical-legal framework of “Ma‘āshirat bi’l-Ma‘rūf” (consorting with them in kindness). The study employs a library-based methodology, drawing on linguistic sources, exegetical works, ethical treatises, and jurisprudential texts, analyzed through a descriptive-analytical and ijtihadi interpretive approach. Centered on the ethical-legal principle of “Ma‘āshirat bi’l-Ma‘rūf,” the paper evaluates the most significant and widely held views on the interpretation of the verse. Ultimately, the theory of gradual abrogation (naskh tadriji) of the apparent meaning of the verse is found to be most consistent with this principle. The Quranic ethical framework emphasizes flexible, kindness-centered strategies and moves away from physical punishment or striking. Thus, the verse progressively guides from initial measures to final, non-violent resolutions, opposing any behavior that undermines women’s dignity. This approach seeks to gradually curb and abrogate the domestic violence prevalent during the revelation era, steering spousal interactions toward compassionate, abuse-free relationships.

Keywords

The Holy Quran, Ethical Principle of Ma‘āshirat bi’l-Ma‘rūf, Nushūz, Striking Women.

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