

# Sayyid Qutb


## A STUDY OF HIS TAFSĪR

*from the author*

BADMAS 'LANRE YUSUF

*To His Excellency*

*Dr.* 

  
1/2/1431

**IBT**

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# Contents

Preface	vii
1 Definition, Evolution and Development of <i>Tafsīr</i>	1
2 The Life and Works of Sayyid Quṭb	52
3 History and Characteristics of <i>Fī Zilāl al-Qur'ān</i>	103
4 Social Issues in <i>Fī Zilāl al-Qur'ān</i>	156
5 Some Theological Issues in <i>Fī Zilāl al-Qur'ān</i>	202
6 Conclusion	261
Bibliography	283
Index	289

## Preface

This book is an attempt to introduce Sayyid Qutb and his voluminous work of *tafsīr*, *Fī Zīlāl al-Qur'ān* to the English audience. It evolves out of my Ph.D thesis presented to University of Ilorin, Nigeria in 1997 under the theme "A study of Sayyid Qutb's Approach to *Tafsīr al-Qur'ān*".

My conviction that students of sciences of the Qur'an and sincere seekers of the true message of the Qur'an will find the book handy and useful, motivated me to publish it. It is my hope that this will make it accessible to a wider readership.

The book captures Sayyid Qutb's rich intellectual and spiritual background, his effort in his *tafsīr* of the Qur'an as well as the way he expounds various theological, social, economic and political issues contained in the holy book, using authoritative sources and drawing inferences from the contemporary experience, to take the Qur'anic message to those who care to read the *tafsīr*.

Thanks are due to my teachers at the University of Ilorin, especially the supervisor of my first degree and doctoral theses Professor Yasar AbdulQuadri, Professor R. D. Abubakre, vice chancellor, Al-Hikma University, Ilorin, Nigeria, Professor Is-haq O. Oloyede, Vice Chancellor University of Ilorin, Professor A.A. Gwandu, former vice chancellor, Usmanu



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Lastly, profound gratitude goes to Almighty Allah without Whose favour nothing righteous could be accomplished.

Badmas L. Yusuf Ph.D

Abuja,  
Nigeria





On August 29, 1966, Sayyid Qutb was sent to the gallows by the Nasser regime of Egypt. The specific charge against him was based on his now-celebrated book, *Ma'ālim fī al-Ṭarīq* (Milestones), which denounces the existing order in Muslim societies. Sayyid Qutb's other works have been translated into virtually every language that Muslims read, and remain hugely influential. But it was *Fī Zilāl al-Qur'ān* (In the Shade of the Qur'an), the multi-volume *tafsīr* of the Qur'an which he wrote during his long confinements in prison, to which he owes his fame. Indeed, more than half-a-century after his death, the name Sayyid Qutb has become synonymous with *Fī Zilāl al-Qur'ān*.

The present work seeks to introduce both Sayyid Qutb and his *magnum opus*, capturing his intellectual and spiritual background, and his methodology of explaining various theological, social, economic and political issues in the Qur'an.

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