ISLAMIC REVEALED KNOWLEDGE
DIMENSIONS OF THOUGHT

Edited By
THAMEEM USHAMA

IIUM Press
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The Concept of *Tawḥīd* in the Discourses of Muḥammad ibn ʿAbd al-Wahhāb and Sayyid Quṭb

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**Introduction**

Browsing through a number of websites on the Internet, one can notice that the terms Wahhabism and Qutbism, referring to the Islamic religious thoughts of Muḥammad ibn ʿAbd al-Wahhab and Sayyid Quṭb, are extensively used in the contemporary writings of Western scholars who discuss the above reformers’ interpretation of Islam, its principles, essentials, and characteristics; especially the doctrine of *tawḥīd* (unity, oneness of Allah), one of the most fundamental articles of faith that qualifies a person as a Muslim and differentiates him from an infidel. In religious discourses of Muslim scholars in general, these terms are widely used and often portrayed as dangerous and unfounded Islamic interpretations of the so-called ideologies that call for religious fundamentalism-cum extremism that support terrorist tendencies or activities across continents, thus creating a challenge to world peace, tranquility and harmony.

Consciously or unconsciously influenced by such writings, a number of contemporary academicians in institutions of higher learning frequently use these terms with the same