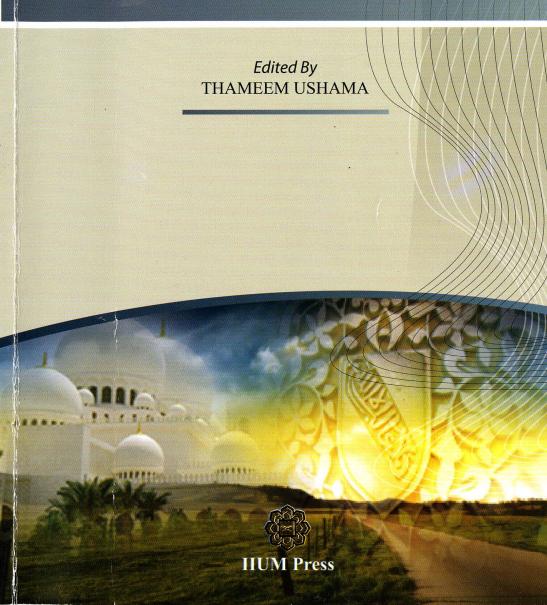
ISLAMIC REVEALED KNOWLEDGE DIMENSIONS OF THOUGHT



ISLAMIC REVEALED KNOWLEDGE Dimensions of Thought

Edited by Thameem Ushama



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Tel: +603-6188 1542 / 44 / 45 Fax: +603-6188 1543 EMAIL: iiumprinting@yahoo.com

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Amilah binti Awang Abd Rahman

Introduction

Faith is the core axis of all religions. In Islam, faith or 'aqīdah not only provides knowledge of the Unseen world and beings, but also of the worldview that guides Muslims in all walks of life. Therefore, the primary responsibility of Muslims is to ensure their correct understanding of 'aqīdah. In relation to this, 'ilm al-kalām or Islamic theology is considered an inseparable component of explaining 'aqīdah. 'Ilm al-kalām is regarded as an integral part of the development of thoughts to strengthen different concepts related to faith. It unveils contributions of Muslims who have shown their concern when facing internal as well as external challenges, threats of circumstances, and who took an uncompromising stand in defending the religion i.e. Islam. Indeed, contemporary opinions are formed as a result of the efforts and interpretations of early scholars.

Generally, 'ilm al-kalām is perceived as an area of knowledge dealing with basic religious beliefs, proofs and defenses against the attack on the foundations of the Islamic faith. Although several traditions of the Prophet manifest disapproval for it, especially discussing issues related to God, it is still believed by Muslim scholars that there is need for discussion after his time