

DAVID SAMUEL
MARGOLIOUTH'S VIEWS on

**The Prophethood of
Muhammad (P.B.U.H) &
Revelation of the Qur'an**

A Critical Assessment

Akilu Aliyu Muhammad
Adibah Abdul Rahim



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The Prophethood of Muḥammad (p.b.u.h) and revelation of the Qur'Ēn have been the main themes in Muslim-Christian relations. Many works were and are published by Christian scholars regarding these issues. David Samuel Margoliouth (d. 1940) is one of the most prominent and intellectual Christian scholars who wrote extensively on these subjects. His works are amongst the most controversial treatises which depicted Prophet Muḥammad (p.b.u.h) and the revelation of the Qur'Ēn negatively. Researches on his views concerning these issues seem to be more descriptive than analytical and evaluative. Hence, in this research, a new and unique approach has been applied. The researcher has attempted, while investigating his evidence, to critically analyse and assess his various views concerning these areas. In an attempt to carry out this task, principal approaches, namely historical, analytical, evaluative and comparative have been widely used. Thus, after presenting a considerable account on his historical and intellectual backgrounds, the researcher has analysed his various views where Margoliouth has been found depicting the Prophet (p.b.u.h) as a superstitious, idolater, craven, immoral and even as a false Prophet whose main aim was to gain absolute power and personal distinction. Moreover, as regard to the the Qur'Ēn, Margoliouth has been found depicting the Prophet's experiences during its reception as epileptic fits. He has also been found attempting to figure out some difficulties or problems in it. However, evaluation of those and his other views has revealed that, he was a mere conjecturer since all his evidence could not withstand critical examinations.

AKILU ALIYU MUHAMMAD received his first degree in Islamic Studies, Bayero University Kano, Nigeria. Meanwhile, his master and PH.D degrees in Christian scholarship on Islam were obtained from International Islamic University (IIUM). Dr Akilu is currently attached with the Department of Islamic Studies, Faculty of Arts and Education, Bouchi State University Gadau (BASUG). His area of specialization is Christian scholarship on Islam and contemporary Muslim world. He is teaching in various subjects, such as, Orientalism and Islamic studies, Muslim-Christian relations in Nigeria, the Relationship between Islam, the West and the Communists, Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Islam, and Comparative Studies of Religion.

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